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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

W. E. WELD, PROPRIETOR.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL PUBLISHED
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The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the first of each month. It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.

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Our Monthly Prize Essays.

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

1.—No award will be made, unless one essay at least comes up to the standard for publication.

2.—The essays will be judged by the ideas, arguments, conciseness and conformity with the subject, and not by the grammar, punctuation or spelling, our object being to encourage farmers who have enjoyed few educational advantages.

3.—Should one or more essays, in addition to the one receiving the first prize, present a different view of the question, a second prize will be awarded, but the payment will be in agricultural books. First prize essayists may choose books or money, or part of both. Selections of books from our advertised list must be sent in not later than the 15th of the month in which the essays appear. Second prize essayists may order books for any amount not exceeding \$3.00, but no balance will be remitted in cash. When first prize essayists mention nothing about books, we will remit the money.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on "The Best Varieties of Small Fruits, and Methods of Cultivating the same." Essay to be in this office not later than the 15th of December.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on "Whether is July or October the better month for holding Agricultural Exhibitions in Manitoba and the Western Territories." Essay to be in this office not later than the 15th of November.

Our prize of \$5.00 has been awarded to Mr. Hilliard Taylor, of Crystal City, Man., for the best essay on "The Treatment and Care of Manure During the Feeding Season, to Render it Available for Use the Following Spring or Summer."

The McKinley Tariff, and What Will be its Effects upon Canada and the United States.

BY JOHN S. PEARCE.

Now that the McKinley Tariff Bill has become law, we shall endeavor to review the situation and see the way it is going to affect Canadians. This question has now been pretty thoroughly discussed, both pro and con, and we shall now try and take an impartial view of the question, and see whether the effect of this Bill or Tariff will not in the main be as much if not more to our advantage and to the disadvantage of the United States, as in the eyes of the United States people it will be to their advantage. We do not for one moment believe that this measure was framed with any special view to hurt Canada in any particular way. The ends in view were purely political and selfish motives. But if there is any unfriendly feelings among a few of the United States law-makers, or if they thought that by framing such a tariff and making it law they were going to drive or force Canada into

ANNEXATION,

they never were more greatly mistaken. One of Canada's ablest and most advanced thinkers said in a recent speech, "During the past fifteen months I have been in every province of the Dominion, and after inviting the frankest interchange of opinion everywhere, I came to the conclusion that there is less thought of annexation now than at any time during the past forty years. The growing sentiment of

CANADIAN NATIONALITY

is quietly killing it out."

We think the United States people have made a great mistake in passing such a Bill, and we look upon this measure as one that will be largely instrumental in bringing about a reaction on this tariff question, and the result of the next general elections in the United States may be a surprise to some of the ardent advocates of high tariffs and protection. That the general effects of this high tariff will not be for the benefit of the masses as claimed for it, is very plain to any clear headed thinker, but the ultimate result will be to benefit the

MANUFACTURERS

and large corporations and syndicates. The loss of our products, such as poultry, eggs, potatoes, &c., to the American consumer will be more severely felt by him than the loss of their market will be felt by the producers of these articles in Canada, and the day may come when

the loss of the

AMERICAN MARKET

will have proved beneficial to Canada.

The Montreal Trade Bulletin, commenting on the new tariff, says:—

"The United States Customs authorities along the border will have to double their vigilance if they intend to cope with the many difficulties they will now have to contend with, in preventing the smuggling of farm products from Canada into the United States. Owing to the exceptionally high McKinley Tariff, there will be found parties on either side of the line willing to take the chances of shipping and receiving goods by the old-time 'underground railway,' to the detriment of the Government of the United States. If smuggling was carried on between Canada and the United States immediately prior to the enforcement of the McKinley Bill, what may not be expected now that the duties are so much higher. New England importers have already made statements to the effect that they are bound to have Canadian produce in spite of McKinley. The meaning of this, of course, can be construed in two ways, but as it had reference to certain products on which the duty is virtually prohibitory, it looks as if its significance hinted at evasion. It will be something extraordinary if some very high jinks are not played by American smugglers now that such splendid opportunities present themselves to that class of contraband operators. The border line dividing the United States and the Dominion of Canada is larger than that of any other two countries in the world, and brother Jonathan will be sorely tested in putting down a horde of smugglers which the McKinley Bill will undoubtedly bring into existence."

The Huntingdon Gleaner, commenting on the McKinley tariff, says:—"The chief products of the county, cheese, butter, peas and cattle, are unaffected by the McKinley Bill, which leaves untouched such small items of our farmers' revenue as tan bark, hides and pulp wood. Those who talk in an alarmist strain about the effects of the McKinley Bill on Canada, forget that a succession of preceding tariffs has restricted trade to such a degree that little was left to this new one to do. The underlying cause of the fears expressed of severe injury to Canada resulting from the McKinley Bill is the notion entertained by many who live at a distance from the frontier, that the United States offer an unlimited market for produce and at much better prices than can be obtained in Britain. The truth is, that depressed as our own farmers are, those across the line are in worse plight. Daily we see American cheese and butter on its way to Montreal for shipment, the market of sixty millions failing to require it, while the price of