

THE NEW AGRICULTURAL BILL.

We are so much occupied in shipping seed grain, corresponding about it, and attending to the different demands on our time, which would be almost incredible were we to mention them, as the whole Emporium success depends solely on our own exertions, that we have not a day to spare to write on the above subject as we would wish. Writing takes time, thought and reflection, and often we go over an article three or four times before it suits us, and sometimes even then condemn it to the flames. We have received a copy of the new Bill and have no hesitation in condemning it as a miserable abortion. It is nothing but a rehash of the old one. The improvement in it does not amount to a row of pins. It is evidently giving us farmers a penny to catch a pound. The old Bill was just as good as this. Had it been placed in the hands of the farmers of the country to manage it would have more been satisfactory. We believe that whole country would have been in a more prosperous state without it. Had it not been for the miserable, narrow, contracted, tyrannical spirits that have had the management of the whole concern, our country would have been saved the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars this year alone. The Bill is framed to take the power out of independent and enterprising farmer's hands, and centre it in the hands of a few lawyers and supporters of the Government, to allow of large salaries and large public expenditures, to be in the hands of a few, and that few, without knowledge of the requirements of the farmers. They know but little about them and care less. What knowledge had D'Arcy McGee, the late Minister of Agriculture, of our requirements? He wouldn't know wheat from barley, or wool from thistle-heads. What good did he do?

The small sum of \$5,000 was expended by our Minister on a trip to Europe last year, and not one red cent expended to obviate the loss of our wheat crop. What good might have been done by \$1000 being expended judiciously in new and proper seeds. We are to be taxed to establish a Museum of old stuffed hawks, and such nonsense. Another pretty little sum for a library, to be stuck up in some place, costing the country \$60 a book. The poor backwoods settler is to be taxed for such a paraphernalia, and his crops to

be ravished for the lack of fresh importation of seed, or the lack of knowledge about them, yes, knowledge about agriculture. We are taxed in every way imaginable.

Here is the *Canada Farmer*, in receipt of thousands per annum, of cash raised by public taxation, and what good has it done? Has it given the necessary information about the crops and seeds, that it has been paid for doing? Has it given the receipts and expenditures of the Agricultural Board? Should we know what they are, or should we be kept in the dark not about these things? Why did it give to the public the necessary changes deemed proper by the old rotten Board? Why has it not shown up the mismanagement that has caused so much dissatisfaction throughout the whole Dominion? Because it has always gone hand in hand with our spoilers, and they get their fat from our hard worn sinews. They are bound firmly together and are part and parcel of the same lot. No sane reader of that journal can peruse the back volumes of that paper and say that it has done its duty to the farmers. Let all support it that are satisfied with the dishonorable and dishonest practices of the old Board; let all support it that are satisfied with having their crops destroyed by the midge; let all support it that wish to see the cities reap the principal advantages of an Agricultural Bill, that only pretends to benefit the farmers.

Some may consider we are intending to censure the present Minister of Agriculture or Hon. J. S. McDonald, but that is not our intention, nor do we think the errors either rest or originated with them. We believe they wish to act in a manner that will be most conducive of agricultural prosperity. We do not pretend to say that the Provincial Exhibition should be abolished, far from it, but will show you that the main managers of it have acted in such a mean, tyrannical and dishonest manner, that the real benefits of the institution have been sacrificed in a great measure for the sake of cash and power, and that the disreputable manner in which it has been managed for the last four years, has caused a loss to the farming community of hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, and that it has tended to check and trample down all private enterprise that may be evinced, unless the individuals are entirely under the guidance and patronage, bought from some

of the persons in power. All that we ask for the farming community is freedom and fair play. It would have been and will be far better not to tax us for agricultural improvements, than to have that money expended as it now is, in pampering the favored few, and the suppression of private enterprise, and checking the progress of prosperity.

Farmers, if you wish to have one paper in this Dominion to advocate your cause, rally to the standard. Exert yourselves in each vicinity, send in your club list. You each have some power and influence, spend one half day in obtaining subscribers for the paper whose editor is fearlessly advocating your cause, and who is expending all the money he can control in introducing proper seeds into this Dominion. Let us throw off the yoke that is binding us down, and be no longer the ruled but the rulers of this Dominion. Show yourselves vigilant, watchful and active in your own interests. We quote the following from Tennyson:

Still let us be up and doing,
With heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labour and to wait.

HURRAH BOYS.

ALL ABOARD ON THE OPPOSITION LINE.

Our undertaking is intended to improve the condition and position of the farmer, morally, intellectually and pecuniarily. Our plans are to procure the best and disseminate them over the Continent. We now hold many of the best animals in this Dominion, and the most profitable and suitable kinds of grain.

We wish the Emporium farm to show the best system of cultivation, and to test the merits of different kinds of grain before disseminating, and to afford one place in the Province, where the young farmers of Canada might spend a day, a month, or year with profit to themselves and to the country.

OUR OPPOSITION consists in attempting to do more good than the Board of Agriculture is doing, and to publish a more useful, more interesting and more practical agricultural paper in this Dominion, than any before in it. Farmers should rally to our standard, and show that we are free and independent, and have spirit and knowledge sufficient to manage our own affairs, without so much red tape, fettering frittering and pilfering.

Up! Up! with our flag,
Wave it o'er land and sea,
And sing with one voice,
The Farmer's are free.