

NOTICE.

Many persons write to us, dating their letters from the Township in which they reside, and forget to send the name of their P. O. address. In writing be sure and state the name of your P. O. each time plainly. Even if we know your name we may not be able to judge your P. O. Remember, we send our paper to nearly 2000 Post Offices. In sending orders for seeds or implements, be sure and name the station and on what line of Railway.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.

No Act is more needed by State legislation, than that of establishing a Statistical Bureau, under a thorough and proper organization, and Government control, where annually should be collected a return from every farmer in the Dominion; the number of acres he farms, how many acres is cleared, the average under each variety of crop, and the probable quantity of yield per acre of every kind as near as he can judge and estimate thereon; and the number of horses, oxen, cows, sheep, hogs &c., he has on his place. The usefulness and value of an annual return of this sort, directly after harvest, is not to be estimated. It would at once show the produce of the country, its surplus, or its wants, as the case may be, would prove a guide to the farmer, as it would be a direct nucleus from which ideas could be formed, as to the probable rates of prices for the season. It would be of incalculable value to merchants and dealers, and be the means of preventing rash and undue speculation, which so often brings ruin to the parties concerned, as well as those fluctuations in prices that embarrasses everybody, and causes a panic in the monetary world, and its attendant consequences, which are vast and wide spread. These are times of heavy taxation, and it is a fundamental principle of the government, that the burden shall be as uniformly borne as possible by all the people. No doubt we shall hear and see opposition by our agricultural friends, to the establishment of a department of this kind. They will argue that the idea is one of a very inquisitorial sort, and no doubt think that it is some attempt in an indirect way to get hold of information, from which a basis will be made for future increased taxation. This was the argument that was long used against its establishment in the mother country. Farmers as a rule are ever suspicious, and put obstacles in the way of what they think is a scheme to pry into their private affairs. Individually they will ask, what right has the world to know the yield of my crops, and the number of animals I keep? we tell you the world has a right. It is a question of a most stupendous nature, and nobody will be more bene-

fitted by it than the farmer. It will bring about a more standing scale of prices, and the producer will not be under such perplexity as to whether it is best to sell or not. It is proverbial that when prices are rising, farmers generally will not sell their produce. They think the value is going to an extraordinary figure; it reaches a summit, begins to recede; let it retrograde a few cents in value, their intention not to sell becomes the more determined. They think it is going to rise again, but lo! it does not. The spirit of speculation is over, and it more often happens that after some considerable fall, they arrive at the conclusion that they have missed the mark, and have finally to dispose of their produce at a reduced value. Agricultural statistics will counteract this. We ask our readers and the farming community generally to coincide in these views, and should an attempt be made by government to bring in a measure of the sort, give it your cordial and generous support. Rest assured we as journalists will narrowly watch your interests, and we would not advocate or support a measure of the sort, if we were not more then confident, that farmers will be the greatest gainers. This annual information will be of the greatest importance to every inhabitant in the Dominion. It would tell the world of the wonderful fertility of our soil, and show the progress of the people in agriculture, manufactures, and the arts and sciences in general. It would moreover tend to influence a fuller settlement of our sparsely inhabited districts, and stimulate different counties and localities to rival each other, in the production of material wealth, and the progress of citizens in mental culture.

Finally we know of no argument against the establishment of such a Bureau, except it might be the expense of its maintenance; but if strict economy is practised, this will appear trivial to every candid mind that examines the matter. We hope to see a measure of the sort introduced at once, which shall have our cordial support.

ILEX.

For the Farmers' Advocate.

REPORT ON SEEDS.

DIAMOND, Fitzroy, 5th Nov. 1868.

WM. WELD, Esq. :—Dear Sir—I promised some time ago to report to you my success with the seed which I received from you last Spring. I sowed the Crown Peas on the 4th of May, and on account of the very dry season the straw was short, but they yielded exceedingly well, and I can confidently endorse your statement that "they will stand up to cut with the Reaper in good rich soil." I left them a little too long, before cutting, and consequently they were a little shrunk in the skin from being so very dry. I received 2d prize for them in the bag at our Agricultural Show Fair.

The Wheat I cannot report on quantity, as I have not threshed any of it yet, but both Chilian and Rio Grande looked very well in the sheaf. They were both free from weevil or midge. I sowed them on 6th of May. I think the Rio Grande will make the finest flour, as the Chilian seems to be a coarser and harder grain.

The Poland Oats I sowed on 6th of May, and they have done remarkably well. From the 15 pounds of seed I threshed and cleaned 15 bushels of good sound oats, that will weigh 44 pounds to the bushel. I received 1st prize for them at our Show Fair.

The few grains of Japan Wheat and Surprise Oats which I received from you. I sowed on 13th of May. I cultivated the wheat in drills as directed, but it was too late as the frost injured it very much before it was ripe, but I think I will have some seed safe yet; that will grow again. It grew about 7 feet high, with very large heads, and a great quantity of seed in each one.

The few grains of Surprise Oats did very well, but they did not seem to be anything extraordinary about them. However I mean to give them another trial.

The Goodrich potatoes yielded very well, and are an excellent potato for eating, but the Garnet Chillies were the largest potatoes but not so many bushels to the acre.

I took first prize for the Garnet Chillies at our exhibition—could supply you with a quantity if required.

Hope to be able to send you a list of subscribers before the 20th Dec. next.

I remain, Sir, your obedient Servant,
R. WALKER, Jr.

[It is the nature of the Crown Pea to indent or shrivel when ripe. We do not think the Japan wheat will answer in our climate. The seasons are too short. Having given it a fair trial we cannot commend it.

We are glad your wheat escaped the midge. Our early sown wheats of both the Chilian and Rio Grande were badly injured by it, but our late sown wheat of both varieties escaped. The Garnet Chillies are plentiful in many places, but we have not one tenth part enough of Early Rose, Early English Whites, Australian, Goodrich, Harison, Calicoes or Cuscoes, to supply the demand, that is to be able to sell them at any thing like a reasonable price. We paid \$3 per lb. for potatoes last spring, but we shall make money from the purchase.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

Anti-Burglar Association.

LOBO, November 4th. 1868.

SIR :—I send you an account of an organization for mutual protection against horse-stealing and robbery, which have been of frequent occurrence in this vicinity of late. The Society to be called the "North Middlesex Mutual Protection and Anti-Burglar