

Contributors, &c., to the "Canadian Farmer."

HORTICULTURE.

T. O. Robinson, Owen Sound.
O. L. Whitney, Lecturer Michigan State Grange, Muskegon, Mich.
P. H. Henderson, Bertie Vineyards, Stevensville, Ont.

POULTRY.

Geo Elliott, a taker of eight prizes at the Provincial Poultry Show—Port Robinson Ont.

APIARY.

D. A. Jones, of the Beekeepers Association of Ontario, Boston Ont.
R. McKnight, Bee-Keepers Association, Owen Sound.

MAPLE SYRUP, SUGAR, &c.

Levi R. Whitman, an extensive manufacturer Knowlton, Quebec.

GRAPE CULTURE.

Dr. Joy, Tilsonburg, Ont.

VETERINARY.

O. Elliott, V. S., St. Catharines, member Ontario Veterinary College.

GENERAL FARM SUBJECTS.

M. McQuade, Edmondville, Ont.
S. T. Pettit, Belmont, Ont.
E. S. Ureod, Newport, N. E.
George Creed, South Rawnson, N. B.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Mrs. E. H. Nelles, Grimsby, Ont

The Canadian Farmer.

The Only Weekly Agricultural Paper in Canada.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 1884.

WORK FOR US.

The circulation of the FARMER is every day greatly increasing, and the proprietors feel greatly encouraged in the work; but we are bound to increase the circulation during the next five months to fully twice the large number it already is. We publish the BEST, CHEAPEST and SPIRITEST agricultural paper in Canada—the ONLY WEEKLY in the Dominion, and are receiving every day dozens of compliments and good wishes. Now friends, we are glad to have your good opinion, glad to receive your expressions of interest, and we shall be equally glad to secure your assistance. You can make money at it and can assist us to send our paper into every home in the country. You need not be afraid to recommend the CANADIAN FARMER. The improvement which has marked its pages for the past few months will continue, until it is without a peer, as a farm and home paper. We don't want your work without paying for it, but will pay all to act as agents for us. Next week or the week following we will publish our list of premiums to all who will secure us subscribers. In the meantime we desire all to go to work for the FARMER. Remember, we will pay cash to our agents. Begin at once, by writing to us for blank forms, sample copies, rates, etc. Address the CANADIAN FARMER, Welland, Ont.

FAIRS TO BE HELD.

Industrial at Toronto, September 10th to 20th.

Provincial at Ottawa, September 22nd to 27th.

This list will be made complete in future issues. Secretaries and others will confer a favor upon us by sending particulars as to their fairs, for publication in the CANADIAN FARMER.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

In our notice of the Industrial Exhibition two or three slight errors were made. The Exhibition will begin on the 10th of September and end on the 20th; and the railways will give return tickets at single fare instead of a fare and a third.

AGENTS.

We want agents for the FARMER in every county in Canada. A liberal commission will be paid to good, live, reliable parties. The FARMER is increasing its circulation every day, and we intend to double its already large circulation in the coming six months.

Your assistance is solicited. For terms, etc., write to the CANADIAN FARMER, Welland, Ont., Drawer A.

PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.

The Provincial and Dominion Exhibition, under the auspices of the Agriculture and Arts Association of Ontario, will take place this year at Ottawa during the five days from September 22nd to 27th. The prize list is an exceptionally good one, and the management have made extra efforts to have a show this year that will even surpass former efforts. Being held in the city of Ottawa, the capital of the Dominion, no doubt a very large number will regard it as an excellent opportunity to visit the seat of government.

The railways will issue railway tickets at single fare and thus all will be enabled to be present at the exhibition with very little cost. The Editor of the FARMER will be present and shall be most happy to meet there many of our weekly readers.

RAMBLES HERE AND THERE.

In the early part of June we visited the fruit farm of Mr. Morden, near Southend, Stamford Township, Welland County. We had expected to see a fine place nicely kept with a thrifty growth of nearly all kinds of small fruits in very great variety, and we were not disappointed. The farm has evidently been carefully prepared and tilled for some years, and presents a beautiful homelike appearance. Strawberries were ripening, and pickers were gathering the first for this seasons market.

Mr. Morden has tried nearly all varieties and considers the Crescent seedling one of the most profitable berries for marketing. Although Mr. Morden courteously showed us his fine plantations of raspberry, blackberry, gooseberry and other small fruits, and interested us with the knowledge he has gained of the value of the various varieties, we did not make note of or attempt to gather his remarks, hoping in the near future to have his experience from his own pen on their cultivation. We were shown what to us was a new variety of currant, called the Ruby Castle. The foliage of it resembles that of the black, and is retained by the bush during the entire summer, consequently protecting the fruit and aiding in ripening it full flavor. The growth of wood is very rapid, fully equal to that of the majority of black currants. The berry when ripened or matured is but little larger than the Red Dutch, and not much better in quality, but as the Red Dutch has few superiors, a little means a great deal.

The Ruby Castle is an immense bearer, in fact has few equals, and has so won upon Mr. Morden that he considers it the

best and most profitable currant for marketing, and is planting it in preference to all others. The Ruby Castle is an English variety, entirely new to us.

FROM OUR COLUMNS.

We are pleased at all times to have our contemporaries select some of our excellent articles on farm and kindred subjects for use in their columns, but we would be much obliged if credit were given the CANADIAN FARMER for the same. Every week the FARMER supplies for its readers a rich variety of reading, among which is a large amount secured at considerable pains and expense, especially for our columns. We are glad to know that such is highly appreciated, not only among our readers, but also among our exchanges. We invite all to partake, but ask that credit be given us.

EUROPEAN CROP PROSPECTS.

In England the weather has been reversed; instead of being too wet, as usual, it has been too dry, and excessively warm up to the last of May, when it set in cold again. Grass and barley suffered most, and the former will be a very short crop. In Scotland prospects are just fair. Wheat was growing finely, potatoes promised well, and barley improving. The foot-and-mouth disease is reduced to the lowest point for years, and cattle generally are in good condition. In France the general prospect was good. Cereals promised a medium crop. The Government has decided to introduce a bill into the Chamber of Deputies, more than doubling the duty on foreign flour—from 32 cents to 74 cents—and also doubling the duty on cattle and sheep. The land assessed in France embraces 123,036,873 acres, valued at \$144.08 per acre.

Advices from all over Germany represent a cheering prospect for the year's crops. The weather has been excellent, and vegetation is everywhere vigorous and healthy. Dry weather in Russia, in the Odessa district, and the want of snow covering last winter have injured the wheat crop. The Russian Government has decided to increase the duty on foreign agricultural machinery. In Italy, Holland and Belgium prospects are good, but heavy rains in Spain done considerable damage.

Advices from England up to June 23 represent the weather as still dry. The *Mark Lane Express* of that date says it is impossible, yet, to estimate the result of the wheat harvest. "Broadly speaking, the weather has favored the strongest and most forward wheats and prejudiced other growing crops. Present indications tend to making the best better and the indifferent worse."

CANADA AHEAD.

It is no new thing for Canada to beat her rivals in the production of fine quality cereals. At the industrial exhibition now being held in Amsterdam she has received the gold medal for the best wheat, oats, barley, etc., on show. This is indeed an honor since she came in competition with almost every cereal producing country in the world. Of course these and their level best had sent their best samples. Canada did the same, and has come off victorious. This is another evidence that ours is one of the greatest agricultural countries beneath the sun. With the high state of cultivation in which the land of some of her competitors has been placed, the Dominion of Canada would take an infinitely higher place than she now takes.

PRESIDENT MILLS AND THE CANADIAN FARMER.

In his address at the closing exercises of the Agricultural College, President James Mills spoke plainly and sensibly upon some points of defect in our educational system against which the FARMER has directed its columns at various times during the past few months. Mr. Mills recognizes, as we have repeatedly urged, that the manner in which the young men of the Province of Ontario are being educated is in itself a force to lead them from the farm and into the professions of the mercantile house or the workshop. The main incentive held out to boys at school is the hope of passing some examination into some particular calling other than farming. Pupils are first urged to try the entrance examination into high schools. After a certain amount of exclusive training they are possessed of enough book knowledge to pass the required examination and as soon as they get there the glories of a University course or a professional studentship are held before them until they come to believe that such are the only true ends of youthful education. Not a word is said to them to encourage them to become intelligent for the sake of the benefit and pleasure it bestows; and not a single effort is made to educate them so that every day they may be learning something which may be of real benefit to them in after life. We defy any man to say that the system of education as at present used, does not lead boys and young men to look down upon labor. Farther and worse than that it favours indolence.

Mr. Mills is right when he says "the high schools are first-class schools, but they educate men for the professions—not the farms." We have on different occasions called attention to the fact that the so-called higher education dispensed at the high schools was, so far as the masses are concerned, chiefly a myth; and Mr. Mills is just as correct when he says "and if a farm boy did enter them he would be gradually led to change his mind and seek some other occupation." This is a deplorable fact and yet it is a fact. There is nothing in the public school system to entice a boy to become an agriculturist, and there is everything in the high school system to lead him to not be one. The farmers of the country are really supporting a set of institutions that are in reality destroying the prospects of numbers of the young men by killing them with a desire to leave the farm and to enter some other and more fancy employment.

We have referred at length on various occasions to the necessity of teachers being prepared to teach agriculture by a course in it at the Normal School, or at the Agricultural School. Mr. Mills also advanced the same idea. There is no use putting the subject of agriculture on the list of studies if it is to remain there a dead letter, as it certainly would remain, with teachers as ignorant upon it as the large majority of them are at present. Let every teacher before graduating be compelled to pass a thorough examination in such branches as can with benefit be taught in the public schools; and let no teacher be engaged in a rural school who cannot present a special certificate of fitness for the post. When this is done benefit will be derived from the placing of agriculture upon the public school curriculum.

Another strong point urged is this: That there should be fewer high schools, and that