



VOL. VI. { WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor. }

LONDON, ONT., JULY, 1871.

{ \$1 Per Annum, Postage Prepaid. } No. 7.  
{ Office—Dundas St., opp. City Hotel }

**The Farmer's Advocate.**

Published in London, Ontario, Canada, W. Weld, Editor and Proprietor. Terms, \$1 per annum in advance. Subscriptions commence at any time. The paper is continued to subscribers after the expiration of the year, and charged accordingly. Any person not wishing to continue the paper, must refuse or return it after their term of subscription has expired. 25 per cent. will be added if allowed to run one year on credit.

TERMS OF ADVERTISEMENTS.—10 cents per line. Agate space. Specials, 20 cents per line. Seasonals 50 cents per line.

**Two Airing Trips—Political and Agricultural.**

STRATHROY AND PARIS.

It is absolutely necessary for health, to leave our office occasionally. We went to Strathroy on the 6th, taking the carriage road there, and returning by rail. Hay crop must be light; Fall Wheat will be a fair crop; Spring crops wanting rain.—Strathroy is growing finely, and will be a city some day. The great reform meeting was held that day; the leading reformers were there from 30 miles round. No seats were provided, even for the ladies. The Grit bugbear was the fishery question and the navigation. Not one word was said about the postage on agricultural information or Seeds, nor about the importation of swill fed American pork, and not much about reciprocity or free trade, subjects that are of importance to the farmers, and which they might understand something about, if explained to them. A large and attentive audience was assembled; there was no quarrelling, no drunkenness, no horse-racing, and all appeared satisfied with the information they had received.—It is beneficial to the farmers to attend meetings where addresses are given.

PARIS.

We paid a visit to Paris to examine some Wheat fields in that vicinity. This section of the country has suffered more from the drouth than west of London.—The meadows are worst. The Fall Wheat has been badly winter-killed, or rather killed by the frost after the snow had melted. Many large fields will not yield eight bushels to the acre. Hundreds of acres will not pay for cutting. Some va-

rieties are worse killed than others. The fields have been well put in, and clean and pure varieties are to be found there, but the majority will be shrunk and deficient on account of having been killed or set back; some pieces of oats do not look as if they would be worth cutting; and barley does not look better than it ought.—The fruit prospects are rather better here than in the vicinity of London.

We called at Woodstock, and found the best Horse in Canada there. He was looking well and doing well, and will increase the value of the horses in the county of Oxford. The County Council was sitting; we addressed them in regard to the potato bug, &c., and received a vote of thanks from them.

There are not as many new houses going up in Woodstock or Paris, in proportion to their size, as in Ingersoll or Stratford.

WOOL.

While in Paris we saw their apology for a market. Some wool was offered for sale and farmers appeared highly jubilant over what they considered the great competition among wool buyers, and considered they were receiving more than the real value for their wool—namely, 34 cents.—They were quite taken back when we told them we had sold ours a few days before in London, at 36½, without being culled, and were offered 38 if we allowed it to be culled. They had some doubts as to our veracity, as the Globe quoted it but 31 in Toronto—and the Globe is gospel in Paris, as well as in some other reform sections.—On returning to our office we examined the quotations, and found

LONDON AHEAD IN WOOL.

A guide to American Stock Men.—Market quotations of the Globe, June 9th:—Hamilton, 27 to 35 cents; London, 30 to 35 cts.; Chatham, 28 to 29 cts.; Guelph, 34 to 34½ cts.

Telegraph—Toronto Market, 30 to 31c. Advertiser, London, 30 to 37c. London Free Press, London, 32 to 38c.

We walked into the London market this morning, June 12th, and stepped up to the first load of wool we came to; it was just sold as we arrived at 38½ cents without being culled. We looked at the quotations of the Globe of the 12th, and found

the following remarks about the Toronto Market: "Competition in wool keen, price 32 cents." We would advise some of the Toronto farmers to come to Middlesex and procure a better class of Sheep, as we find wool very profitable here.

**Electioneering Tactics.**

As McKenzie and Blake are now traveling throughout the country explaining their views preparatory to the coming election, we deemed it our duty to listen to their remarks when in this county, as no one can form a correct judgment on any subject, unless they hear both sides of the argument. They are both eloquent and studied orators, and we believe would make good statesmen (in using the word *statesmen* we do not wish it to be inferred that they are Yankees). The great plank in their platform appears to be the result of the High Joint Commission. They lay very great stress on some points which it is not our duty to discuss; and whether right or wrong, you must be guided by circumstances and your own judgment. The political papers will keep you posted on these matters, each party to suit its own purpose.

However much we may respect McKenzie and Blake for some things, we think they would be the better of a little spice. We will therefore pepper them a trifle and we trust it may do them more good than any spice we may have applied to the Minister or Board of Agriculture.

The audience addressed by Blake and McKenzie at Strathroy was as intelligent a lot of farmers as will be found at the average of such gatherings. They listened attentively to all that was said in regard to the Fisheries, Coal, Petroleum, Navigation, Lumbering, &c. They must hear the other side before they can form an unbiased opinion. These subjects should all be considered, but where McKenzie and Blake failed to tell as effectively as they would otherwise have done, was in ignoring agricultural matters, which were immediately pertaining to the interests of the audience. We very much doubt if either McKenzie, or Blake, or McDonald, have ever condescended to look into the agricultural affairs of the country. The

following subjects might have been touched on, and should be explained at every meeting: Why should Canadian cattle be compelled to pay duty when going into the States, and American sloop fed hogs be admitted into Canada free of duty, and shipped from Canada to Europe, to the ruin of our reputation? Why should not the postal arrangements between Canada and the United States be adjusted? We have seen letters that cost between \$2 and \$3, that ought not to cost a tenth of the sum; and packages that ought to pass for 1 or 2 cents, for which 30 cents had to be paid. We believe that hundreds of thousands of dollars are annually lost to Canada just for the lack of a proper understanding with the Americans. We do not believe that the Americans desire such almost prohibitory postal arrangements as now exist. This matter only requires to be agitated, and it will be rectified.

Leading gentlemen who address agricultural audiences should draw the attention of farmers, and explain to them, if they can, why agricultural information should be nearly suppressed by the present postal arrangements and other causes. Are the inhabitants of Canada disloyal to the mother country, or is our government endeavoring to bring on annexation by the slow process of checking agricultural publications, thus encouraging American literature? We understand that the present oppressive taxation on Canadian agricultural papers has reduced the circulation of the Canada Farmer about half, and has doubled the circulation of American agricultural publications. Has the press power and can it be used in time of need?

The farmers of this western section of Canada pay as much towards the revenue of the country as fishermen, lumbermen and miners; and the farmers of the dominion must pay the principal part of all expenditures. Have their interests been looked after? Are the large expenditures about to be made intended chiefly for the benefit of farmers?

From experiments made at the Iowa agricultural college during the past year, it appears that the Peachblow, Peerless, and Chili No. 2, potatoes, are less subject to attacks of the Colorado potato beetle than other varieties.