

and we believe it can yet regain the confidence that was placed in it. If we continue to find symptoms of a desired improvement, we will lend our aid to its encouragement. All that it requires is the encouragement of the dissemination of light for the promotion of truth and justice, confining these three cardinal points to the main interest of the prosperity of agriculture. As the present Board have condescended to enquire of us for information, we will with pleasure aid them to the best of our abilities. At the same time we will not refrain from exposing any erroneous steps that may be taken by the Board as fearlessly as heretofore.

The following correspondence has passed from the office of this paper to the Board of Agriculture in Toronto on this subject:

Office of the F. A., London,
22nd March, 1882.

To the President and Members of the P. B. of A.
& A., Toronto:

GENTLEMEN,—I was much pleased to observe at the last meeting of your Board what I conceived to be a stronger desire to act in unison with the wishes of the farming community, than I had noticed at any previous meeting during the past 14 years; and when you put to me the question what would be the proper steps to be taken with reference to the Herd Book, I considered the point so important and your request for advice so proper, that I would not answer without due consideration. I have in the interim studied the subject, and think that I can now suggest a plan. As its elucidation will involve the discussion of many minor details, I ask you to appoint a committee of say two, to meet me, and I will lay the whole subject before them and will endeavor to place them in a position to obtain the verdict of the farmers themselves upon that and any other subjects which come under your control, and by this means bring your Society into more cordial co-operation with the whole farming community.

I remain, gentlemen, your obt. servant,
W. WELD.

FARMER'S ADVOCATE OFFICE,
April 10th, 1882.

GENTLEMEN,—In compliance with your request, I now submit the following propositions in regard to publishing the transactions of or other matter selected by the Board of Agriculture in my journal:—1st. I will publish monthly any useful and important information which may be gathered or selected by your Board, or by the School of Agriculture, such matter to be revised and approved by two members of your Board appointed for that purpose. 2nd. That I will make no charge for the publication of such matter, provided it is free from special notices of an advertising character, and contains nothing injurious to the interests of our farmers or to my journal. 3rd. The space to be occupied by these selections not to exceed three pages in consecutive order, chosen by myself, and the whole to be under a special and distinctive heading.

Yours respectfully,
W. WELD.

To the President and Council of the Board of Agriculture, Toronto, Ont.

In compliance with this the Board of Agriculture have appointed two of their members to act in this capacity.

English Letter—No. 36.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Liverpool, April 6th.

The season so far has been quite abnormal; a fine, dry March has enabled the farmers to get in the spring corn well, and there is more grass than I ever remember at this time of the year. At length, however, we are having a taste of our old spring enemy, the east wind; and as the plums, cherries, &c., are in full blossom, mischief is sure to be wrought,

The interest in your Great North-West gathers momentum every week. A land corporation, of which the Marquis of Lorne's brother is at the head, is being formed for the purpose of colonizing lands in the North-West, and I understand that Captain Wyatt is engaged as a pioneer to go in the course of a few weeks to the lands which they intend securing. A whole host of land and stock raising companies, with the Canadian North-West as their base of operations, are being promoted; but like all new ideas, there is great danger of the thing being over-done, and intending investors will need to use all their discriminating powers. Some cannot possibly succeed; and I see that Colonel McNeil, so well and favorably known in Canada, has joined the directorate of one of the cattle companies. Perhaps the gallant Colonel may pilot it to success; otherwise I cannot see how it can possibly hope to compete successfully with the private enterprise which now commands the trade, and has the great stimulus of private interest—always more likely to make the best of a market than the most conscientious of agencies, on which, over so vast and thinly stocked an area, the company must mainly rely for its supplies. Stock ranching seems a more promising speculation for the Dominion, and is receiving a proportionately large share of attention. W. Stavely Hill, M. P., who visited Manitoba last year, has joined several capitalists for the purpose of forming a large ranch.

It has not yet been decided, yet I believe that many special farmers' delegates shall be sent to Canada from this country during the coming season; but I understand that W. Dyke, the energetic representative of the Dominion Government at this port, has arranged with several of the tenants of Lord Derby, Lord Sefton and other of our great landed magnates, to visit Manitoba. A party of well-to-do farmers from Lord Sudley's estates in the west of England, are also arranging for a run over with the intention of thoroughly examining into the advantages of your Province before going farther west.

The emigration is realising, and more than realising my expectations; which, founded on the enormous proportions of the inquiries addressed to the various agents here, were, as you know, considerable. I think I am right in saying that the number of persons now leaving for the Dominion far exceeds, and indeed at least doubles, the figures of any former corresponding period of the year. The real difficulty is to get adequate steamer accommodation. Yesterday the Allan Co. had to put on an extra steamer.

Polled Aberdeen cattle are getting more into favor with English breeders, and very heavy prices are being obtained for choice animals, three figures in pounds being frequently reached.

Mr. Geo. Wilkin, one of the recent delegates from Aberdeenshire, has bought 140 polled cattle for the Dominion. They are to leave in the Dominion steamer, "Texas," for Quebec, on the 16th inst. I hope to be able to refer to this lot again.

The London and North-Western Railway Company are making attempts to establish a great cattle market at Crewe, in the heart of Cheshire, but the government are not likely to relax their regulations, which might admit diseased cattle from abroad into the heart of one of our greatest dairy districts.

Some very fine cattle from New Brunswick arrived here the other day, and though rather knocked about by the rough passage, they realised a good profit.

Sheep here are very dead; and the lambing season, notwithstanding the favorable weather we have had, has not been altogether prosperous. The ewes do not appear to have recovered the bad times they

have had; and one friend of mine has lost two-thirds of his stock. Many which appeared well died suddenly, and on examination their livers were found to be quite rotten. I am by no means sure, therefore, that those of your exporters who can send a good supply of well-fed mutton will not have as good a result as their compeers in horse-flesh, beef or corn.

The horse trade is decidedly improving here. Messrs. Hendry & Douglas recently landed a few lot of Canadian carriage horses shipped from Hamilton, and not one remained unsold in 48 hours. The demand for Canadians of the right class is, in fact, exceedingly good; and their reputation is now fairly established here. At the same time your breeders cannot do wrong in getting as many of our first-class stallions as they can possibly afford; all your best class of horses appear to lack is a touch of quality or breeding, which our best blood will supply.

Anything relating to Ireland must almost of necessity trench on politics, but the foolishness and nearsightedness of agitators who try for impossible things, whilst you and your neighbors are quietly taking their place in our food markets, cannot be too much deprecated. If, as Robbie Burns said, "if some of them could only see themselves as others see them," they would soon change their tactics.

Manitoba Letter.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

WEST LYNNE, MAN., March 18th, 1882.

The weather this month, up to the present time, has been quite changeable, with frequent falls of snow, and the farmers are taking advantage of good sleighing to market the remainder of their produce. The roads continue to be fairly animated with teams, and strangers wonder at the life which is thus in a constant stream from morn till night. Prices for all kinds of farm produce remain firm, with the exception of wheat, and the price of that commodity has had a downward tendency. The ruling price during the month has been 82c. per bushel. Flax will be extensively cultivated this season, as our soil and climate have proved admirably adapted for the growth of that product. Mr. Piper, successor to Mr. Erbach, late representative of the firm of Livingston & Co., intends to distribute over 3,000 bushels at this place for seed to sow the coming season. Parties obtaining seed from Mr. Piper bind themselves to return five pecks in the fall for each bushel of seed obtained from him in the spring, and also agree to sell at the highest market price the product of the seed thus obtained to the above named gentleman. Farmers that obtained seed last year on those conditions from the same firm, have been well satisfied with the result. Mr. Piper is also endeavoring to get farmers to grow it for the fibre, and is going to test it on a small scale for that purpose, in different sections and localities of the Province. He thinks that the only difficulty as regards manufacturing the fibre will be the rotting of it, as the atmosphere is so dry in the fall that the rotting process will have to be deferred until the following spring. The farmers are making calculations and preparing for seeding, and if the season is at all favorable for farming operations, nearly double the quantity of grain will be sown this spring than in any previous season. Yet, the mind cannot fathom, nor the fondest anticipations foreshadow, the future agricultural resources of this young and growing Province, with its limitless wheat-fields and thousands of acres of rich and fertile land, lying awaiting the husbandman, and homes without number beckoning the sturdy immigrants who are only just now beginning to realize the great