Jan., 1877

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VOL. XII.

LONDON, ONT., FEBRUARY, 1877.

The PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY WILLIAM WELD. OFFICE: RICHMOND STREET, EAST SIDE, BETWEEN THE MARKET AND G.W.R. STATION, LONDON,

ONT. TO SUBSCRIBERS :

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TO ADVERTISERS: Our rates for single insertion are 20c. per line—\$2.40 per inch, space of nonpareil (a line consists on an average of eight words).

eight words). Manufacturers and Stock Breeders' cards inserted in "Special List" at \$1 per line per annum. Condensed farmers' advertisements of agricultural imple-ments, seeds, stock or farms for sale, or farms to let, not to

exceed four lines, 50c., prepaid. Advertising accounts rendered quarterly. Advertisements, to secure insertion and required space, should be in by 20th of each month.

Letters enclosing remittances, &c., only acknowledged when specially requested. Our correspondence is very heavy, and must be abridged as muchas possible

The American Dairymen

Held their Twelfth Annual Convention on the 9th, 10th and 11th of January, 1877, in Ingersoll, County of Oxford, Ontario. This is the first time the Americans have held their convention in our Dominion. The meeting was of great interest, as a vast amount of the most valuable information was disseminated; in fact, we consider this meeting one of the best, if not the best, that has ever been held in Canada. Not only was the amount of useful information great. but the friendly feeling displayed between the American and Canadian dairymen was of the most satisfactory nature. The best informed and most practical and scientific men were assembled to add their knowledge and experience, and to impart it to all that chose to attend. Among the most prominent we may mention the name of Prof. Arnold, of Rochester, N. Y. His great knowledge on dairy subjects, and his unassuming way of imparting it, make him respected by all that listen to him. The Hon. Francis Lewis, of Frankfort, N. Y., gave much valuable information. Professor E. Stewart, of Erie County, N. Y., the present editor of the National Live Stock Journal, gave much valuable information. Mr. D. P. Birrell, of Herkimer County, N. Y., also added to the useful remarks. Messrs. Farrington, Ballantyne, Caswell and Chadwick were the principal Canadian speakers. There was a large attendance of Canadian dairy men; three-fourths of them were from Oxford. We do not doubt but far more would have attended had greater publicity been given to the Convention; the railroad fare was reduced to one fare and one-third for return tickets, but few were aware of the fact and many paid the usual rates. It is our impression that if the facts regarding the great utility of these Conventions were made known to railway managers, that they would carry persons attending the Dairymen's Convention and other agricultural meetings quite as cheap as they carry passengers to pleasure or political meetings, as the agricul-

Farmer's Advocate I tural meetings tend to develop the production and traffic of the country, and increase the freight traffic. The cost of the railway fare to Ingersoll to attend the Dairymen's Convention was just about double what it cost to attend a political meeting. The railway fare to attend the Provincial Plowing Match at Wyoming was four times as much as was charged to attend a political gathering in the same vicinity.

From the States the attendance of dairymen was very sparse; in fact, only the officers of the Association attended. A heavy snow storm at the time prevented many from attending, as the trains in the States were storm-stayed.

The corporation of Ingersoll deserve great credit, as they not only liberally encouraged the American Association to hold its meeting in Ingersoll, but also prepared a sumptuous repast, and a very pleasant and friendly time was spent, at which friendly and general good feeling existed.

In another part of your paper you will find some of the addresses, and much will be given you in future numbers regarding this, perhaps the most important agricultural meeting held in Canada. Many of our great political guns were expected to attend the meeting; some had been advertised. Our opinion is that the less politics are allowed to Our opinion is that the less politics are allowed to interfere with agriculture the better. Many of Mr. Caswell enquired about a report spread in good in developing the great interest, and have for years labored to impart information. deserve our thanks. One of the most important statements made was that twelve years ago Canada imported between two and three thousand dollars' worth of cheese annually; now Canada exports between three and four million dollars' worth annually, and wherever the dairy business is entered into, a marked increase in the value of land is noticed. It is also shown that dairy farming has paid better than grain raising, and that there is no danger of our producing more butter or cheese than there is a demand for. Some of our Canadian speakers were desirous of showing to the Government the necessity of establishing an experimental dairy at the Government Farm. Mr. Stewart, of the Live Stock Journal. made some most appropriate remarks on this subject. Our Government and our farmers should consider it. He instanced the Bussy Farm, in Massachusetts, as a case in point. An experimental and instructive farm was given to the farmers; a verv able professor was engaged, and the school and farm is carried on without any cost to the farmers, vet not more than one farmer in ten knew anything about it. The farmers take no interest in what costs them nothing. Mr. Stewart said to obtain a benefit from such an institution the farmers should feel an interest in it; the farmers should pay onehalf, and the Government might pay half, or subsidize such an institution.

ernment Farm will always be a political sop for either party unless it is endowed in some way. If a body of farmers were to purchase this farm, say at quarter what it cost the Government, and let the shares be apportioned evenly to farmers that chose to take them in every township in Ontario, the Government might then give a small subsidy to it. The farmers would become interested in it and attached to it; watch its progress, and satisfaction

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might be given to both political parties. Prof. Arnold stated that the Canadians had beaten the Americans in square and fair competition in cheese. A scale of 100 points was the grade for perfection; Connecticut only obtained 50, Wisconsin 60, United States 76.82, New York 79.5, Pennsylvania 83.22, Canada 87.36. Thomas Ballantyne, M. P. P., of Stratford, Ontario, carried off the sweepstakes prize for the best cheese. Great praise was given to Mr. Caswell, of Ingersoll, for the energy displayed in selecting and forwarding the cheese. In butter making Canada is far behind the United States ; this is a branch of dairying that Canadians must improve in.

Mr. Farrington, of Norwich, stated that the superiority of Western butter over ours was attributed in a great measure to the fact that they had fewer weeds in their pastures, and refrigerator cars

Mr. Stewart is a gentleman we had never met, had never spoken to, and yet the first man that we had heard express our views so clearly. Our Gov-

American papers that a ring had been formed. The Hon. H. Lewis, of Herkimer Co., N. Y., said it was raised by disappointed and dissatisfied exhibitors.

The Month.

The increase of murders, burglaries, incendiarism, forgery and insolvency (we may include the latter) should convince us that the law should be more rigidly enforced or be strengthened. Too much money has been paid for real and fictitious injuries to passengers on railroads; it is unjust to the stockholders. The railroad companies have created a feeling against them by their indiscriminate charges to Canadian farmers. Insurance companies cause a much greater loss by fire than we should otherwise have. There is room for improvement in the above named particulars.

During the past month on the G. T. R., the mail and freight trains were all stopped by the striking of the engine drivers. This caused great inconvenience to the public, and loss to capitalists who have invested their money in developing our country. The party or parties who have interrupted the business of the country should be made to suffer smartly for their acts, but the British capitalists, no doubt, will have to suffer the pecuniary loss. More stringent laws are required, or more prompt action should be taken to prevent the possibility of any such occurrence happening again. The innocent capitalists should not be the only ones to suffer; an example should be made, and an injured public should see that the punishment merited should fall where it is deserved. This act should not be passed silently over by our legislators,

STEAMER Food of ATTLE. t to RD & SONS, London.