

*in Honour*

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# The Carleton Sentinel;

AND

## FAMILY JOURNAL.

Devoted to Agriculture, Literature, and General Intelligence.--Neutral in Politics.

NUMBER 22.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1849.

VOLUME 2.



### AGRICULTURE.

#### REPORT OF THE SAINT JOHN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Directors of the St. John County Agricultural Society beg to submit the following report to the annual meeting. During the past year, monthly meetings have been regularly held, and have been well attended; the consequence of which has been, that much discussion has taken place, and considerable efforts have been made to advance the interests of Agriculture. Most of the remarks which will close this report are the fruit of such discussions.—The action taken by the directors will be narrated in detail.

Impressed with the importance of obtaining and diffusing sound knowledge on the subject which they have in hand, the following publications have been received and circulated.—"Johnston's Lectures on Agriculture." "Stephen's last of the Farm." "The Journals of the Royal Agricultural Societies of England and Scotland." "The London Gardeners' Chronicle." "The North British Agriculturist," and "The Albany Cultivator."

Having learned, early in the year, that Professor Johnston, of the University of Durham, and Lecturer to the Agricultural Society of Scotland, had been invited to visit the United States, the Directors brought the matter under the notice of the Government, and petitioned his Excellency to invite the Professor to visit this Province on his route and give his opinion on its agricultural capabilities. This request was complied with. The Professor is now with us and is making himself acquainted with the soil and produce of each section of the Province. It is to be hoped that his Report will be carefully studied and his directions followed by every farmer. As to his ability to teach, it need only be said, that his opinions are valued wherever scientific agriculture is known; and the best farmers of Britain and the United States have been glad to come before him in the attitude of learners.

For the purpose of inducing the farmers of this County to test the utility of *thorough draining*, the Directors offered premiums to such as would undertake the experiment and on the results. A copy of the conditions and directions will be found in the appendix. As the Directors have reason to hope that the Commissioners of the Provincial Penitentiary will import a tile machine to manufacture draining pipes during the next season, they will allow another year to intending competitors. For their information it may be remarked, that in England, tile draining is done at less than half the cost of stone draining, even when stone is on the land, and is more effective. The former costs in England from £3 to £6 per acre, with drains from three to five feet deep, and twenty to forty feet apart; the latter from £10 to £30. The bottom of the drain is cut exactly to the width of a two or three inch pipe. After the pipes are securely fitted, the clay is packed closely back upon them, without any stone, brush, or other material; and however singular it may seem, experience has proved, that by this simple and cheap drainage, not only are springs and wet lands dried, but that even the surface water finds its way to the conduits, rendering the land more permeable, easier worked, and earlier ready for the seed than before, and the crops healthier, more abundant, and fully three weeks sooner ready for the sickle.

The Directors caused a large quantity of turnip, carrot, beet, and parsnip seed to be imported last season, together with wheat, barley, and oats, all of which were readily sold without loss. They would recommend that a still larger quantity be imported, as many this season were unable to obtain a supply, and the necessity for an increased cultivation of root crops is becoming better understood.

The Directors offered premiums for the best fields of turnips, carrots, mangold wurtzel and parsnips, "quantity, quality, and cultivation considered," also for the largest quantities of wheat, barley, oats, buckwheat and potatoes.

The reports of the competitors will be found in the appendix. The annual fair and cattle show was held on the 27th September. The list of successful competitors has been already published.

(For continuation see next page.)

### PROTESTANT CORNER.

#### MR. BENJAMIN'S ADDRESS.

TO MY BROTHER ORANGEMEN OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA. In consequence of the present excited state of the country, and because you with the rest of the inhabitants of this Colony have been called upon to take into your serious consideration, the question of annexing these colonies to the United States of America, I feel it to be my duty to address you; and at the same time to disabuse the public mind as to the feelings and opinions of the members of the Loyal Orange Association, upon this question, which, were we to adopt, would be a palpable violation of our obligation.

With you, my Brethren, there is no necessity to argue, because in addition to your obligation to maintain the connection between the Colonies and Great Britain, your indication and desire lead you to do so. You have ever made it your boast, that you support the constitution as established in 1690, and you will not at this late period embrace doctrines and principles subversive of it.

Fortunately, I need not take up the past, in order to call your attention to the question of annexation; because those who have undertaken the championship, have abandoned all political and moral considerations, and have taken their stand upon the single point of interest. The past is to be forgotten and forgiven—they have joined hands with those whom they solutely denounced for their insults to the loyal, and said, (I will not bring the past before you,) but they ask you, with the proceedings of the last six months still fresh in your minds, to join them, and those they have heretofore denounced, in throwing off your allegiance to the Protestant Crown of Great Britain, and to declare yourselves Republicans. And you are asked to do this, not because they have cause of complaint against the Mother Country, for they admit her kindness, but because they believe it is to their interest to throw off their allegiance.

Our forefathers of 1688 effected the revolution of that period, to establish constitutional Government with civil and religious liberty. The privileges of the Crown were defined, as well as the rights of the people. The former were sworn to maintain the Constitution and the Protestant Throne, the latter to legislate constitutionally. The voice of the majority was to govern, and the crown became the arbitrator and pacificator between the contending parties in the state. Whatever grievances the public may have, still the constitution is there, and provides the necessary means for redress; and Orangemen are not the men to subvert the constitution. Nor are Orangemen the men to submit to the proposed change, while England will stand by them. They will assemble, they will deliberate, they will petition for redress of their grievances, but they see nothing British or honourable in seeking for a new state of political existence, upon every turn of adversity that may come upon them; and while they condemn the acts of their opponents they will not in themselves exhibit the same condemnatory doctrines and principles.

A great deal of indignation has been vented against a certain portion of the English Metropolitan Press, for what is very justly conceived to be insulting language towards the loyal of this land. Did the writers of such papers live in a country where one's allegiance is frequently forced upon one's closest consideration, they would then know how to appreciate the allegiance we hold to the Protestant Crown of Great Britain. But is it because a party press sees fit to assail the loyal, that therefore we, a portion of the loyal should forego our allegiance and seek to prove the destinies of what might become a Protestant nation? No, no, my Brethren, there is no cause for annexation in this. The whole basis of the demand for annexation is interest, and even this is so exceedingly problematical, that its advocates call for publications to convince them of their true position—offer rewards for seditious writings, and are ready with what means they have to promulgate Treason, and all, as they tell you, for interest—for lucre. It is not a matter for consideration for us, as to whence this appeal comes. When the enemy is at our gates, we stop not to enquire who conducted him thither, but we rally forth to meet him and if it be found that the citadel has been betrayed from within, our indignation only becomes the greater, from the difficulty being the fruits of treachery; and so far from this being a consideration for the abandonment of our position, we find ourselves constrained to use extraordinary exertions to throw off the calumny from that portion which remains true to their colours. Who amongst them will consent to see the glorious old flag of England pulled down, and the stars and stripes run up in its stead? who will ever consent to this degradation? I am sure Orange-

men will not. When after ages shall speak of us, as a people as well as a nation, we cannot wish that it shall be said of us, that we consented to change our political state from sordid politics, devoid of any accompaniment of those nobler sentiments, which show the patriot and the lover of his country.

What will render this step more obnoxious in your eyes is, the assumption on the part of its promoters, that no redress can be obtained from England, for our present embarrassed condition. I would ask, what right have these men to come to such a conclusion? It is not the past conduct of the Mother Country that induces this belief, for has she not at our solicitation thrown open the navigation of the St. Lawrence, which can only prove injurious to her own shipping interests, and beneficial to us? At our request she has rendered up to the Colonial authorities the Post Office Department, after having established a rapid intercourse between the Colonies and the European continent. Is this a reason why we should come to the conclusion, that she will not listen to us? Ought we not rather to address our parent, and lay before her what really are our feelings, and what our grievances, and solicit a renewal of her kind offices to remove the difficulties of which we complain? Were this done, it would soon be found where lie the sympathies for Canada; and well assured am I if they are not with England, they will not be found with that nation, to which these thoughtless persons desire to annex us.

#### MY FRIENDS AND BRETHREN.

There can be no doubt, that in all matters which are brought under your notice for discussion, there is, or there ought to be, a link of connection in cause and effect; but where is the link which can couple an appeal to your loyalty with a demand upon you to throw up your allegiance? When the present excitement commenced, you with the rest of your fellow subjects, who have proved their loyalty to the crown of Great Britain, were appealed to upon your loyalty; and now, in less than six months, you are called upon to forego your allegiance, to sacrifice your love of country and our country's government, and to declare yourselves rebels to those principles which you have cherished as the life-stream of your existence,—you are called upon to prove yourselves recreant to the laws, civil and religious of the country of your birth, of the country of our adoption, and of the country of your forefathers.

I call upon you, and the call will not be in vain,—upon you who were the first to establish the elements and principles of an extended and beloved empire and upon your descendants, to meet this cry of annexation by a declaration to extend and perpetuate the wisdom and glory of that country from which we have all emanated. I call upon you to extend the comforts, enjoyments, and privileges of that Society which had its origin in the Parent State. By the blood of your forefathers—by the energy of your brethren—by the steady, unflinching loyalty of yourselves, the principles of your government have taken root and blossomed under the shelter of the Parent State—and until now we have received all nourishment from the same source, with sentiments of gratitude and respect. In short, England never abandoned or neglected us, but ever at our prayer yielded to our frequent, and oftentimes unwise demands; and I have no hesitation in saying, that the present insult offered to her is more the result of paternal indulgence and partiality, than of rigorous austerity. And shall we, with these undeniable facts before us—we, who have voluntarily taken upon ourselves to support and maintain the connection between Great Britain and the colonies of British North America—we, who have sworn to defend the throne, so long as it shall be protestant—shall we hesitate in at once declaring our determination to adhere to our obligation and denounce the monstrous project of annexation?

Look, my brethren, at the facts of the case, and ask yourselves the solemn question, if it is right that because we quarrel amongst ourselves, as wayward children will quarrel, that therefore we are to offer insult, indignity and ingratitude to our good parent for all she has done? Has not good old England fostered and protected us—has she not, when our credit failed, lent us her own unbounded credit—has she not given us the disposal of our own resources and from the coffers of the Imperial treasury maintained her own authority, and defended our homes and firesides from the traitor and the assassin? Has she not imparted to us, year after year, the advantages and improvements in the arts and sciences, and aided to extend civilization amongst us, by giving us the benefits of her experience? What improvements by legislation—what in the amelioration of her own country by means of her wealth has she enjoyed, that she has not bountifully divided with, and extended to us? And shall we, because she seeks to feed