

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

Home Magazine.

WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor.

The Only Illustrated Agricultural Journal Published in the Dominion.

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The Month.

Our great body of snow has gradually passed away without much damage to bridges and fences, as many feared. The wheat has been well protected; the plant looks all right. There are some heavy drifts yet lying near the fences. There may be damage done to the wheat so covered, as it is not yet visible. Give it air by punching holes through the snow. Perhaps it may all be gone by the time this reaches our northern readers. In this part of the peninsula there was not half as much snow in drifts as to the north of us. Run over your wheat-fields with a harrow and roller when the ground is fit. Try part of a field, if you doubt its efficacy, and watch the results at harvest time. Do not be in a hurry to plow up a field if it looks thin. The recuperative powers of thin, poor, miserable looking pieces of fall wheat have astonished us more than any crop we have seen. Sow salt and plaster liberally. The English farmers find it profitable to send here and purchase our superphosphate. A few judicious experiments in each neighborhood might be beneficial. Good seed wheat is scarce; reports of different kinds are so conflicting that we are at a loss to know which to recommend as the best. Most varieties are badly shrunken.

Try and raise as much young stock as possible this spring. If we can keep infectious diseases from this Dominion, we may expect a great increase in the prices of all classes of stock.

Young calves generally do well this month; but have a care for them. A little extra mash for the cows, and a few roots and a little grain will tell well on your stock during the summer.

There is a difficulty in procuring peas free from

bugs this year. Do not sow buggy peas if you can procure sound ones.

We hope our readers are fully prepared for the labor of the month, having everything in readiness to commence with the opening of spring. See that your implements are all ready, so that it won't be necessary to waste half a day visiting the blacksmith shop.

Select the best seed grain. Have you a change of seed? If not, it is very necessary to do so. Sow none but the best. Always try to be a little ahead. In keeping well ahead with your work this month greatly depends the keeping ahead the whole season.

We need not caution you about sowing too soon this spring. The season is getting well advanced. Sow when your land is in order.

See that the fences are made up good and strong, so the cattle will not be troubling you during the summer by breaking into your crops. Do not let the cattle go tramping all over the meadows in search of a bite of grass; it will do both the cattle and the meadows more harm than good.

The ladies may soon be in the garden. Have it well dug and manured for them. Arrange your flower-beds, and sow your onions, carrots and lettuce as soon as possible. Be sure and buy good stocks, from reliable men. You can have any garden seeds sent direct to your post-office, from any part of the Dominion.

Send to any of our reliable seedsmen, whose advertisements are in our usual columns, for one of their catalogues. They give much useful information, and you can there see all the new and staple varieties of field, flower and garden seeds.

Manitoba.

We are pleased to record the completion of the through railroad route to Manitoba. — Trains now run through from this city in four days, and the fare is placed at about \$50 for first-class, \$37 for second, \$23 for third; a car loaded with freight costs \$220. On the 25th and 26th of March 395 emigrants left London station for our Far West. Many of them were from the counties of Huron and Bruce; some were from near Brockville and others from Ottawa. We passed through the cars and conversed with many of them. The majority are young men; there were some farmers with their families. A finer lot of enterprising and energetic emigrants we never saw; they are just the right sort to develop the country. Many took their horses and implements with them. Some had been up there and selected locations; others had friends there. Some had no idea of where they were going, or what they were going to do—mere adventurers. Of this class some were well-to-do. We have no doubt that some will soon become disgusted if they do not meet with immediate success; they will come back if they can, write all manner of disparaging letters, and tend to do more harm than good. Others will put

their shoulder to the wheel, meet hardships and conquer them, and build up permanent homes of comfort for themselves and their families. Some have left their wives and families in Ontario, who will follow them as soon as houses are erected for their reception. We hope to go there in the summer, and give you our opinion about it from observation. We know of hundreds who will leave in a few weeks, or as soon as the weather is a little warmer. We have heard it estimated that 20,000 will go there from Ontario this year; large numbers will also go from Quebec. We hope the Manitobans will have ample accommodation for them, at reasonable rates, and that fleecing and robbing of immigrants will not be countenanced there, and that sharpers who attempt extortion, such as we have heard of in Ontario and the States in former years, will be looked closely after.

In our next issue we hope we may be able to report arrangements made by the railroad companies for excursions to and from Manitoba, as there is now a strong desire expressed by many to visit that part of our Dominion. Many wish to make homes there for themselves and families. We trust that success may attend the pioneers and those who may follow.

The Agricultural Exhibition in London, Eng.

The Royal Agricultural Society of England will hold a great agricultural show in London, June 30 to July 7 next. Special efforts are making to insure a successful exhibition. Several classes are open to Canadian competition. Entries must be made on printed forms, to be obtained of the Secretary of the Society, Mr. H. M. Jenkins, No. 12 Hanover Square, London, W., England. No entry fee is required for Canadian exhibitors. In view of the importance of England as a market for our farm produce, the advantage of being well represented at the coming exhibition need not be enlarged upon. In most cases the entries must be made by producers and owners, so that farmers cannot rely on dealers and exporters to make a display for them.

The Western Fair.

The Western Fair Association met on the 27th ult. as usual at London, Ont., to discuss the coming Exhibition. The President, Mr. Andrew McCormack, with Mr. William McBride, the Secretary, and a good representation of directors and members were in attendance. Great interest and spirit was manifested, the standing committees were struck, and considerable routine business accomplished. The Exhibition will be held the week after the Provincial at Ottawa. The Governor-General and Princess Louise are invited. A most tempting prize list will be offered, and a great success will be scored for the pioneer Fair of the West.