

HINTS ON THE MONTH.

This is the month in which we have most leisure, the farmer's work being now comparatively light. Now is the time to decide what plans are best to be pursued for the next busy season, as work alone, or reading alone will never make an intelligent successful farmer—it requires knowledge and practice combined. The reading of Agricultural works will add to practical ideas. We would now urge the necessity of warm shelter and good feed to all animals that should be on the farm, but while taking care of these we would strongly recommend the cultivation of the mind as being of more value than horse or steam power, and must guide all other powers.

Now is the time to square up all accounts, prepare for spring building, collecting firewood and fencing materials; look over the vegetables and fruit in the cellars; feed hogs a little warm feed daily, give them plenty of bedding; feed a little fresh meat to the hens, if you want eggs; do not forget to give the sheep and cattle a little salt occasionally. Do not prune your trees before March. If you have not removed all grass and weeds from the roots of young trees, put a little manure close round the roots and stamp it down, or stamp the snow tight round the roots if you do not want them destroyed by mice. Attend to agricultural meetings and enquire about Cheese factories; turn your attention more to fruit culture, raising better stock, or cheese—it will pay better than wheat raising.

Do not forget to call or send to this Office for the *Farmer's Advocate*, remember that it is the only Agricultural paper that we have in Upper Canada, that is edited by a person that follows Agriculture for a living. Who would not support the enterprise, and who would not gain ten times its value from useful and practical hints in one year? What is 50 cents per annum in comparison to the utility of such an undertaking to this section of the country?

ANNUAL MEETINGS.

The annual Agricultural meeting will now soon be held. Would it not be well to endeavor to establish a monthly or quarterly market in London, and in other cities and towns where they are not yet established. A subject will be brought up in East Middlesex about disposing of the Agricultural grounds in this city. We expect and hope it will be easily settled by retaining the land.

OUR EMBLEM AND MOTTO.

Our motto as seen below our emblem at the heading of our paper is Persevere and Succeed. Who can say but success is crowning our labors. There are but very few that know what difficulties we have had to encounter; there are but few if any have had greater obstacles to surmount. We have much yet to do before the full benefits of our undertaking will be seen or acknowledged by many, but we consider we are safely, surely, and steadily completing our plans. In our emblem at the head of the paper will be seen Canada represented in the form of a Beaver, industriously working away at the foot of a tree; on the right hand is England in the form of a Lion coolly and calmly watching with interest and admiration our steady progress. America is represented on the left under the form of an Eagle, in considerable of a flutter, eyeing with envy and jealousy the prosperity with which we are advancing—despite her self-injuring policy of non-Reciprocity. We feel satisfied despite the little difficulties that have arisen between the Lion, Beaver and Eagle, that a friendly and profitable intercourse will be extended between the three ruling Powers of the earth, and no mean position are we destined to occupy, with our vast tract of fertile land; our great mineral, lumbering and fishing resources, which must take generations to develop. Work away old Beaver, and may you always enjoy the peace and prosperity that has been granted to you by the Almighty Ruler of destinies.

In our next paper we intend to commence a true and original account of the clearing, building, cropping, and general management of the Westwell Farm, in Delaware (touching first on the Westwell Farm in England), and take you to the present state as it now is, calling attention to our young and rising family, and dwell on different topics of interest as we proceed, endeavoring to make it of moment to young and old.

On the other side of this paper will be seen the Westwell house, the editor and some of the family. Two first prize animals are also in the engraving. We had not room for others that we should like to have represented, but we hope to give you other engravings in future numbers. We would recommend you to subscribe at once as back numbers may not be easily procured.

As we have frequent applications from parties in want of good horses and good cows, farmers having any of good quality to dispose of would do well to apply at this Office, as we keep a register for such.

The Office of the *Farmer's Advocate* is the next door to Mr. W. H. Davis' Photographic Gallery, opposite the City Hall, Richmond St.

CANADA AS A FRUIT GROWING COUNTRY.

It is not sufficiently known that Fruit exportation from Canada is destined to become a trade of great importance, and that we have a good field for export, and a good climate and suitable soil for the production of fruit, especially the apple. This year the export per rail from Brampton Station alone was 5000 barrels, the price paid was \$1 50 per barrel exclusive of barrels. Brampton is only an inland station on the G. T. R. R. Last year a friend of ours, Mr. Alway of Lobo, sold \$300 worth of Apples from four acres of land, and the trees are only just beginning to bear. Mr. Deadman of Delaware realized \$420 for Strawberries from an acre and a half of land. The profits from grape culture are great, but we are not able to quote statistical on them. Some grape growers might furnish us with accounts before the next number is issued; however the grape culture is rapidly extending, and we have had them ripen perfectly, and crop well for the last five years in the open air and without covering the vine either in winter or Spring. The apple we consider to be the main fruit for export—they are now sent from Canada to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, England, West Indies and China. A friend of ours now staying in this County has purchased apples in Lancashire, in England, that were sent from this Continent, and they bring higher prices than the Apples raised in England.

We have long since been convinced of the profits of Fruit raising, and increased the size of our orchard from two to eight acres. Since the close of the American war there has been a very great demand for all kinds of fruit trees—the wholesale price has increased four-fold from what it was two years ago. In Rochester some kinds are not procurable at any price.

Our friend, G. Leslie of the Toronto nurseries, has, not long since supplied us with trees to our satisfaction. He informs us that he never had such a demand for fruit trees as at present. Some kinds he cannot supply, although his is the largest nursery we have ever been in.

We understand that Mr. Beadle of St. Catharines is going out of the nursery business, and paying attention to fruit and stock raising. We are also informed that Mr. Ponty is about establishing a nursery and hot-houses near this city. He is highly spoken of and we feel confident that a good nursery in this section would be profitable to any one understanding the business as Mr. Ponty does, and will be a great advantage to our County. To our farmers I would strongly recommend planting fruit trees to ten times the extent now planted. To those who intend planting next Spring, we would also advise to purchase as soon as possible. If orders are delayed until the Spring many may be unsupplied, and if supplied they may only get inferior trees.

As we did not commence our first number at the beginning of the year, we consider it best to close it, and commence this volume on the 1st as other journals generally commence with the New Year.