

The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine.

"PERSEVERE AND SUCCEED."

ESTABLISHED 1866.

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875.

VOL. XXXVII.

LONDON, ONT., AND WINNIPEG, MAN., OCTOBER 15, 1902.

No. 560

EDITORIAL.

Give Thanks.

A day of national thanksgiving has again been proclaimed, and in all corners of the Dominion a prayer of gratitude will go up to the Giver of all Good for His munificent blessings during the year. Canadians have ever been regarded as a righteous and God-fearing people; a race proud to own their motherland, the secret of whose national greatness has been and is the Book of Truth; they have ever cherished within their hearts a feeling of thankfulness to the Almighty for the measure of prosperity which has attended their efforts to produce the necessaries of life and build up a great country; but this year, more than any other for more than a decade, can Canada's history be written in letters of progress. All classes of people are prosperous. The era of good times which dawned a few years ago has grown until, shall we say, a climax has been reached. Expansion and development are in the air; improvement and enlightenment are watchwords everywhere, and the thirst for knowledge is becoming more general.

The eyes of the world are turned to this country. The vastness of our natural resources is beginning to be known and admired. Capital is flowing in from other lands, and with it is coming enterprising and ambitious men, ready and willing to take the vow of Canadianism.

Great advances have been made, and grand are the prospects which the future holds to view. Looking backward but a few years, we see Western Canada a vast uncultivated prairie, a wilderness, where the red man and the buffalo roamed supreme. To-day we have one grand expanse of productive soil, a wheat field unsurpassed on the globe, with possibilities unlimited. Above all we have a happy and contented, though aspiring people, proud that on this day of thanksgiving our own and the mother country across the sea is at peace with the world. We rejoice that the bloody contest in which our flag was unhappily engaged for many months has terminated in a peace honorable to all concerned, and with magnanimous hearts we look upwards and breathe a prayer that, though lately at death's door, the life of His Majesty King Edward VII. has been spared.

Among those engaged in agricultural pursuits there is great reason to be thankful. The harvest of 1902 has been a most bountiful one. Excessive humidity during the early and middle summer did damage in some quarters to certain crops, but, nevertheless, granaries everywhere will be filled to overflowing. It has been a grand season for grazing. Parched pastures have been seen nowhere, and dairymen have had full milk-pails, with the price of their product very satisfactory. Live stock of all classes have been benefited by the luxuriant herbage, and cattle will go into the stalls this winter in better condition than usual. The large supply of grain and roughage, too, will

make the formation of the fattening ration easier than usual, and the prospects of good profits in feeding are bright. Canadian bacon still continues to gain popularity in England. Hog raising has been making large money for farmers, and there is no apparent reason why it will not continue to do so for some time to come. Breeders of pure-bred stock have likewise been enjoying good times in a degree seldom equalled in the past. The surplus of Ontario herds, in response to an ever-increasing demand from the far West, the Maritime Provinces, and the United States, has sold at remunerative prices. Thus a great stimulus has been imparted to this industry. Much new blood was imported during the last year, and altogether the improvement and development of our live-stock trade has a most promising outlook.

The same favorable report might be written of poultry-keeping, fruit-growing and other branches of the farm. It is meet and proper, therefore, that farmers should for a moment pause to consider the favorable position which they have been and are now enjoying, and in doing so, be ready to give due thanks to the Great Architect of the universe. The one shadow of the closing year upon the fair skies of Canada has been cast by the tremendous industrial struggle in the neighboring Republic, and it comes as a needed reminder to our people of their dependence upon Divinely-given bounties; a warning of the dangers of becoming intoxicated with prosperity and the lust of material achievement and of departure from the principles laid down by the Great Teacher to govern the relations of men.

Pointers.

What did you observe at the Fall Fair that will help you to become a more successful farmer?

A Boston paper states that Canada has just discovered itself. It would be nearer the mark to say that Canada has just been discovered by the United States.

No investment that the farmer makes will give a more certain and satisfying return than improved live stock, and the better he cares for it, the larger will be the dividends.

On account of the present and prospective prices for good horses and animals and their products, the outlook for live-stock husbandry in Canada was probably never as good as at the present hour. The Canadian farmer knows and is every day seeing more clearly the worth of well-bred stock, and we predict that one result of the year's big and profitable crop will be a general improvement in the herds and flocks of the country.

The Prince Edward Island public, with United States object lessons in sight, as well as others nearer home, naturally views with alarm the advent of a "meat trust" controlling both ends of the business.

It is reported that the new Postmaster-General of Great Britain will lower the newspaper postal rate to Canada, thus giving us more British publications. The Canadian Magazine wants to know what the Canadian Government will do? Will it continue to discriminate against Canadian periodicals by taxing unprinted paper 25 per cent., and allowing printed paper to come in free? Are the Canadian people willing to have this country flooded every week, every month, with anti-British and anti-Canadian literature?

Hiram—"Has your son given up farming?"
Obadiah—"I guess so. He's attendin' one of them agricultural colleges in ther city."—[Harper's Bazaar.

As soon as the corn, root and apple crops are secured, see that all outbuildings, especially those in which live stock are to be housed, are put in good shape for cold weather. Don't waste good food keeping animals warm when a little glass, building paper and boards are in order. Clean the cow stable walls and ceilings and apply a coat of whitewash.

The coal strike has enhanced the value of Canadian wood and awakened the farmer to a fresh realization of the worth of his timber land. In most cases the little bush lot is used as a cattle run, with no care whatever, or else is sacrificed out and out to the first timber buyer that comes along in the winter. How many ever think of caring for the present growth or providing a new plantation?

The president of a St. Louis, Mo., concern sends the "Farmer's Advocate" a letter and booklet telling how to make a fortune by speculating in "December" corn. If a similar bait is held out to any of our readers, we advise them not to swallow it. If you need it, better buy a carload of corn and feed it to a bunch of good steers.

A New Zealand man of means, Mr. Daniel J. Willis, writes us for information about the wheat lands of the Canadian West, in the fertility and resources of which his interest was aroused by a copy of the "Farmer's Advocate" for June 2nd last, which a friend travelling through Canada sent him. The facts asked for have been duly forwarded, and we trust that ere long Mr. Willis will find himself comfortably settled in this new "Promised Land."

Prof. W. J. Kennedy, of the Iowa Agricultural College, has undertaken an experiment which should prove of value to the feeders of the "Middle West" or "Corn States," in order to determine the comparative values of soft or frosted corn and properly matured corn in fattening cattle. By the way, Canadian feeders would be interested in knowing the results of investigations at some of our experiment stations regarding the comparative returns from feeding cattle roots whole or pulped, the feeding of hay or other fodder cut or uncut, and the feeding of straw, hay, roots, grain, etc., separately, as against cutting and mixing as many do. There is wide divergence on the part of good feeders on these points, and some fresh, reliable data from our Guelph, Ottawa or Nappan investigators would be appreciated. Experimenters who keep useful live-stock work to the front will lead the van in Canada.