

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

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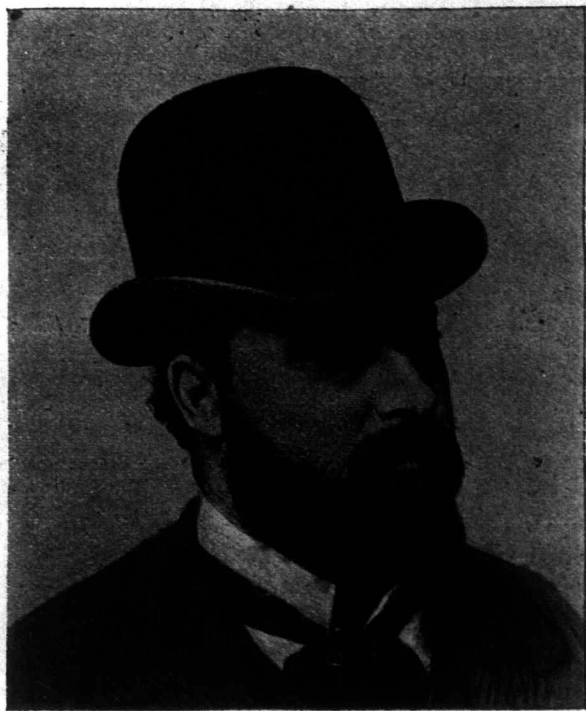
JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

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upon a level with the home producer, with his greater expense in the cost of production.

The Auspicious Present.—On the whole the retrospect of farming in Canada, though varied and chequered, is not without cheerful promise for the future. The present conditions may not be as satisfactory as could be desired, and it is idle to sigh for the return of the so-called good old days. If they could return we should no doubt find many things in them which would not be so agreeable as we imagine. The times have changed, and farmers, like other people, change with them. The best thing we can do is to change our methods to square

for an outfit and instructions. The outfit consists of a paper-covered dictionary, miserably printed on poor paper similar to a three-cent school scribbler, and another pamphlet of 40 pages containing a few recipes, prescriptions, etc., worth at a high estimate seven or eight cents. The instructions are to insert in local newspapers an advertisement similar to the one first answered, and thus conduct a branch business, receiving for remuneration half the 48 cents received for outfits as a result of the local advertisement; the other 24 cents is sent to the headquarters or "Publishing Co." for the outfits ordered. The agent must pay for advertising out of his 50 per cent. commission. It will be seen that every employee of this publishing firm makes it his exclusive business, so far as this line of work is concerned, to sell these trashy outfits, and, we presume, start other agents doing the same, who are continually starting new tributaries. Even this might be some inducement to unscrupulous people were they to retain the 24 cents on each order clear, but when the expenses of advertising and postage are deducted there can be no money made at it, because enough people who would care for such work could not be induced to buy outfits. The whole scheme is evidently a delusion and a snare. We understand the same Publishing Co. conduct other lines of a similar character, which are no doubt being worked off upon unsuspecting people whose addresses they secure through the many agencies or branches formed. We would warn our readers to beware of such fakes, and of various so-called "associations" that are imposing worthless articles or attempting to work positive swindles upon the people.



HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

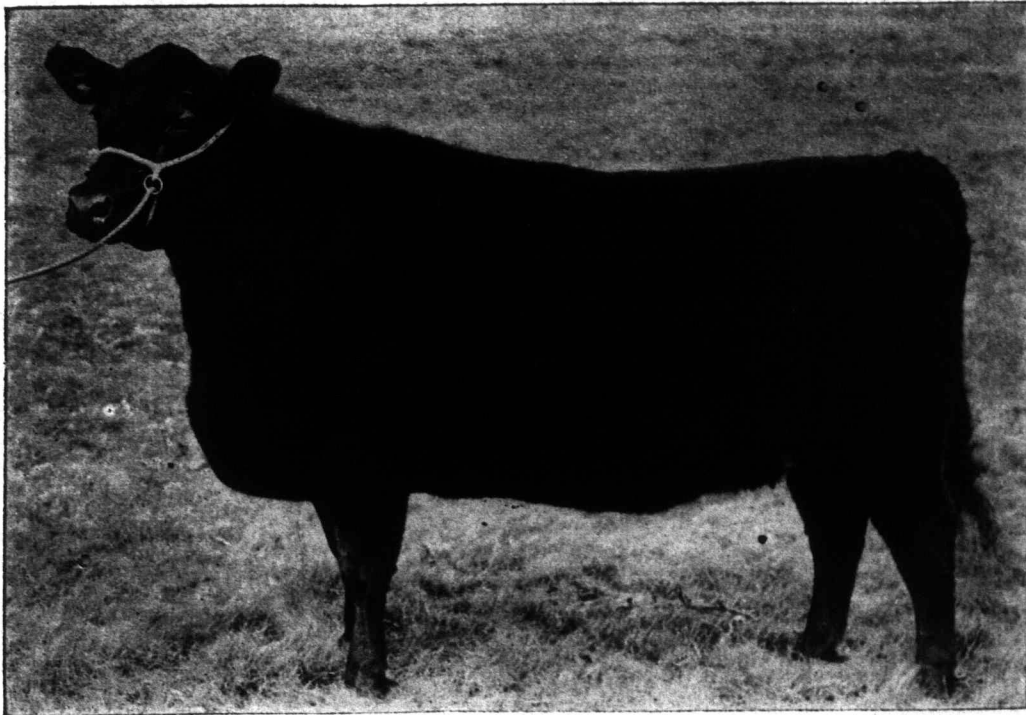
with the times. Patience and faith, backed by good works, still accomplish good results in farming, and the indications for the future are more hopeful than they have been in the past few years. The pluck, intelligence, and endurance of the Canadian farmer will enable him to meet new conditions boldly and, we believe, successfully. Canadian farmers all over this great Confederation of Provinces will join in loyal good wishes for the Queen of the record reign, who, by her many virtues and her genuine interest manifested in their special calling, has secured a large place in their affections.

STOCK.

"A Farmer Queen the World to Farming Draws."

AN AGRICULTURAL MEMOIR.

Readers of British history during the past sixty years gather much information regarding the government of the country and the influence which Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal family generally have exercised in quite a constitutional way on behalf of all that is best and noblest in human nature. When so many things that bear on the prosperity of the empire are being recalled, no apology is needed for looking at the work of the Royal family in connection with agriculture. Their patronage of this ancient industry is somewhat hereditary, and yet it is the bare truth that in their advanced and enlightened state the agricultural enterprises of the Queen are due to the genuine interest which H. R. H. the late Prince Consort (portrayed elsewhere in a group with Her Majesty) took in all that concerned the well-being of his adopted country. Precluded, with the exigencies of his position as husband of a limited monarch, from active participation in affairs of State, Prince Albert devoted himself with all the greater enthusiasm to works of beneficence and philanthropy. His position in English history is somewhat unique. Too often the innate toadyism of the Anglo-Saxon manifests itself in an assumed admiration for all that royalty accomplishes. Sometimes we are almost made to believe in the infallibility of kings, and even of all who bear the royal name; and authors when dealing with the careers of such folks indulge in a high-faluting, grandiose style which only makes the subject of their observations ridiculous. There has been a deal too much of this in connection with the Prince Consort, and it has tended to obscure and in some quarters create a prejudice against his more than respectable abilities and genuine public spirit. Had he been a simple commoner—bearing the plain title of Albert Gotha—His Royal Highness would have made his mark as a public man. The same may be said of several of his sons and daughters. There are some folks who can see nothing wrong in the work of royalty, and by the same token there are others who can see nothing right in its work. Prince Albert's work has suffered from the latter as much as from the former. He was a sober-minded, sensible, level-headed man who understood many things well, but was by no means a genius. In nothing was the common sense of the Prince Consort better seen than in his farming operations. Coming from a country in which everything is done by the State to Great Britain, in which more than in any other country in the world private enterprise and voluntary association does almost everything, he early adapted himself to his surroundings and became a life governor of the Royal Agricultural Society of England in 1841, a member of the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland (an institution wrecked during the terrible days of the Land and National Leagues) in 1844, the Smithfield Club in 1840, and the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland



THE QUEEN'S CHAMPION ABERDEEN-ANGUS HEIFER, "GENTIAN OF BALLINDALLOCH."

score, by a man laying a line across the field and walking backwards with a long stick in each hand, making holes for two boys following to drop the wheat into them.

Of all the mechanical appliances the implements required for the tillage of the soil are probably the oldest, yet there are none which have improved so slowly. The plow, the most ancient of them all, has practically remained unchanged through all the centuries; and while many different styles of implements have been invented for the cultivation of the soil, we venture to say there is not one among them all which fully answers the purpose for which they are intended, namely, the thorough preparation of a perfect seed bed. There is certainly much room for improvement in this direction, and a wide field for the work of the inventor and experimenter is open. Steam plows were introduced some 40 or 50 years ago, and it was confidently anticipated that they would fill a large place in the work of cultivation, but these expectations have not been realized, and the use of steam power in cultivation has made little headway. The great prairie lands of Western Canada, where immense areas are employed in wheat growing, would seem to be a specially favorable field for steam cultivation, but as a matter of fact there is less confidence entertained as to its profitable application now than there was 20 years ago, when it was much thought of in this connection.

Competition.—From a farmer's standpoint, no doubt the most striking fact in the Victorian era is that he has witnessed a revolution in the world's markets. He has found himself confronted by an amount of keen and persistent competition which was unexpected and unforeseen (coupled with demands for food products of higher quality), but is, nevertheless, real and abiding, and has come about mainly through the two causes to which we have referred, the opening of new lands and the improved facilities for communication and transportation practically annihilating distance and bringing the world's productions together on common ground, but to the decided disadvantage of the farmers of the older lands in regard to cost of production, the difference in freight rates between the long haul and the short haul being such as to favor the cheap producer and to place him quite

Another Humbug Brought to Light.

Seeing an advertisement of a so-called Publishing Co. in a Toronto daily paper for men or women to conduct business at home during spare hours, in which could be earned \$6 or more weekly without previous experience, we undertook to investigate the nature of the business, and found it to be as we expected—a clever scheme on the part of the company to gain something of value for next to nothing from all those who replied and undertook to do business for them. The scheme is conducted somewhat as follows: The applicant for employment upon answering the advertisement was first told that all he or she had to do was to copy addresses, but in the meantime 48 cents was required to pay

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