

# THE MONTHLY FARMERS' ADVOCATE



VOLUME V.

DEVOTED TO THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY.

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Editor and Proprietor.

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### TO DELINQUENTS.

We do not feel any pleasure in the task before us, as it is a poor commentary on the moral character of some of our subscribers that we are obliged to ask them in this public manner for what has long since been our just dues. Some are a long way behind in payment, and our printers must have money. We do not wish to put one of you to unnecessary expense, but your arrearages must be paid. We hope this notice will be sufficient. Every other step will add to expense.

**PAY UP! PAY DOWN!! PAY NOW!!!**

We do not want to offend one of our numerous punctual payers. We sincerely thank you for your consideration and promptness.

You can remit your subscriptions to us in registered letters, at our risk.

### To Our Subscribers.

We sincerely thank each of you for the generous support you have given to us during the past year. Many subscribers have kindly taken it upon themselves to get up clubs, and greatly increased our circulation. We most particularly thank them. Last, but not least, we thank our correspondents, who have written to us such numerous kind and endearing letters. These letters have stimulated us to greater exertions, and have cheered us onwards in our labors. Many very valuable contributions have appeared in your paper, written by the real practical, working farmer, whose experience is worth gold to others.

We have every reason to believe that you are satisfied with our exertions to improve your paper. We have even exceeded our promises by increasing the size and quality of our sheet,—which we deemed better than issuing extra sheets as supplements, as the low price of the paper, and the high rate of postage, has prevented us from adding supplements. But during the ensuing year we intend to issue supplements when necessary, and hope to increase the embellishments of our paper. Nor do we intend to relax our efforts to make the reading matter as valuable as possible.

We commenced the career of the Advocate as purely agricultural and non-political. Still sometimes if we happened to write an article against any person or practice that we deemed injurious to our agricultural interests, some of the papers have been highly praised by the Conservatives, and some by strong reformers; and sometimes strong party men have taken offence if their pet plan or pet person has not been lauded by us. However, we hope to continue free from party politics or sectarianism, and by a good, generous support we hope to remain untrammelled, and to be a useful servant to each of you.

### OUR REQUEST.

We hope that each one of you that added by any means one subscriber to our paper last year, will this year add two; and that those gentlemen or ladies who have not yet added a name to our list will do so at once. Each one has power and influence to add a few names if they would but exert it. They might talk of their paper to others, and might even show it to them. We will promise that if each of you will only add one name before the 1st of February, we will double the value of the paper to you ere the next year closes.

### WE CLAIM

That no one who has read our paper constantly can accuse us of being attached to, or a mouth-piece for, any political party, or any sect or society. We claim for the Farmer's Advocate that it is the only journal in Canada that is unbiassed; and that no paper has ever existed for such a length of time without being the tool to some sect, body, or party of politicians. We have not forfeited the name given to the paper, neither have our mottoes been departed from. It is of much greater importance to you than you may at first imagine, that the agricultural interests of our country should be advocated and conducted without party influence.

From the numerous letters received during the past month we quote the following, which is from one of our readers that we have never seen:—

Wyandot, Nov. 7th, 1870.

WM. WELD, ESQ. Respected Sir.—We received your ever welcome paper on the 5th. It not only contains useful correspondence in regard to seeds, implements and stock in Canada, but interesting accounts from Australia and Kansas. Of all the papers that we take, the Advocate is by far the best. The seeds that you sent have proved a great success: we will furnish quotations if you wish. Enclosed find

&c., &c. I intend getting up a club for your paper.  
Yours truly,  
J. JOHNSON.

We wish for accounts from all parts of the yield of seeds that we send out. But particularly we wish to hear that you are getting up clubs. If your own neighborhood is already canvassed, go a half day's journey from home, and send in the names early.

### Trial of Implements.

Every farmer must admit that labor-saving Agricultural Implements are of great importance to him. In no age of the world's history has there been so many really valuable inventions of, and improvements in these kind of implements as in the present century. When the Fanning Mill was first brought into use in Great Britain it met with the most determined opposition from prejudiced and superstitious minds, and was even denounced from the pulpit as an evidence of the want of trust in Providence by those who used it for the purpose of raising wind to clean their grain, instead of waiting for the natural breeze to do the work; and it was dubbed, by way of condemnation, the devil's wind, being raised by mechanical means. Almost in like manner every new invention has difficulties to contend with, before it can take its place among the household goods. Such is the tendency of the human mind, generally, to doubt and unbelief in what is most calculated to be of advantage. It is but a few years ago that men turned out to burn and destroy Threshing Machines, such being the prejudice against them. Reaping Machines have had to pass through a similar ordeal of condemnation, but where is the farmer now but admits them both to be of advantage? It has taken nearly half a century to get them fairly introduced,—to wear away the superstitions, and instruct the public in their uses.

There are many implements of recent invention that are not yet sufficiently known, but are destined to become as well appreciated as Threshing and Reaping Machines. The most important one that has been invented within the past 25 years is the Ditching Machine. It may truly be placed at the head of all Canadian inventions, as nothing can be of greater importance to agriculture, at the present time, than draining! The Horse Hay Forks are another great acquisition, and every farmer

that has a good one, properly adjusted, is highly satisfied with it. The Potato Digging Machine is another invention of recent date, but very few know anything about it. The new mode of hardening iron, so that a cast iron Plough will outlast two steel ploughs, is another invention that is not known to one farmer in a thousand as yet. There are improvements continually being made in various implements, and the only way to know which implement is the best, is by a trial with others that claim advantages. A show of paint, varnish, polish and putty, as too often seen at our exhibitions, are of no account to guide farmers in procuring the best, in comparison to real, actual trials. Occasional trials of Implements, in various parts of the Dominion, would tend to aid the farmers in making their selections. We do not mean a small township exhibition that may be got up and controlled by the local interest or influence of a single manufacturer; but what is required is a Provincial or Dominion trial, and a competent and honorable set of Judges. Judges should be selected, not because they belong to any particular body, or are particular friends to persons in power, but from a real knowledge of the implements on which they are to act as judges. Such a trial is much needed, and would be the means of aiding farmers in proving which really is good, and which is only a humbug—for humbugs there are, and far more than there ought to be. Many thousands of farmers are sure to be humbugged every year by some travelling agent for churns, washing machines, rollers, gates, plants, and a score of other things; and some even get pretty smartly bit with second quality reaping and threshing machines. We hope the attention of some of our leading lights in agriculture will be given to this subject, and ere the winter closes have due preparations made for a regular course of trials during the coming year.

Would it not be a good plan to have churns put in operation at the time of the Dairyman's Convention at Ingersoll. The Dairyman would be the best judges. Arrangements might be made to have cream supplied, and a fair trial given to each.—Cheese vats, cheese presses, and all dairy utensils, might be exhibited there, and due time given to attend to them, which is not the case at the Provincial Exhibition, as there is not time to examine the working