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FARMER'S ADVOCATE
 AND HOME
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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

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The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the first of each month. Is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.

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Our Monthly Prize Essays.

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

- 1.—No award will be made unless one essay at least comes up to the standard for publication.
 - 2.—The essays will be judged by the ideas, arguments, conciseness and conformity with the subject, and not by the grammar, punctuation or spelling.
 - 3.—Should any of the other essays contain valuable matter, not fully covered by the one awarded the first prize, or should any present different views of the same topic, and we consider such views meritorious, we will publish such essays in full, or extracts from them as we may deem best, and allow the writer ten cents per inch (one dollar per column) printed matter for as much of such articles as we publish. By this rule each writer who sends us valuable matter will receive remuneration for his labor, whether he be the winner of the first prize or not.
 - 4.—We invite farmers to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch (one dollar per column) printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve the ADVOCATE, Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known, Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.
 - 5.—Replies to circulars and letters of enquiry sent from this office will not be paid for as provided by rule 4.
 - 6.—No anonymous communications or enquiries will receive attention.
 - 7.—Letters intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
- A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on "The Care and Feeding of Breeding Ewes in Winter and Spring". Essay to be in this office by November 15th.
- A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on "The Breeding, Care and Feeding of Hogs for Profit". Essay to be in this office by December 15th.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

—TO BE—

Published Semi-Monthly.

ENLARGED! NEW FEATURES! NEW TYPE!

Since making the announcement in our last issue that the FARMER'S ADVOCATE would be issued twice a month after 1st of January, 1893, without any advance in price, we are pleased to inform our friends that we have received many expressions of encouragement, showing the appreciation in which this advanced step is held. Many of our patrons have expressed their willingness to aid us in extending our already immense circulation.

This change will involve a large additional expense, but it is undertaken with the confidence that it will largely add to our subscription list. Now is the time to obtain new subscribers, and we trust each of our old friends will endeavor to send us a few new names, and, if possible, sufficient to secure some of the valuable prizes offered in another column.

Lessons from the Shows.

There can be no source through which the same amount of instruction can be acquired within a given space of time as that which may be gained by attending one of our high class exhibitions. And through no other medium can anything like as good an idea be formed of the high class of productions from both farm and factory that our country is producing, and which are brought together for public inspection on these occasions, while at the same time attendants are at hand to give any information desired concerning the animals or articles under their care. Amid so much that is useful and highly instructive, it is a reproach to our modern show system that so much of an objectionable character should be allowed to be carried on, to the injury of the young people who attend these gatherings. The hope of our country's progress is in this class; yet they are learning evil under the cloak of instruction at agricultural fairs, and are induced to squander their earnings and corrupt their morals by practices that are not countenanced under any other circumstances. The Toronto Industrial has always catered to the public taste by giving special attractions a large share in their programme. Most of these at the recent show were interesting in character and original in design, and not of that gross description which distinguished those of former years, while there was an entire absence of any of the immoral "fakir" element that is a disgrace to so many of our agricultural exhibitions. The Quebec Provincial Fair held at Montreal was conducted more nearly as the ideal of an agricultural and industrial exhibition than any of the year. The side attractions were conspicuous

by their absence, while the citizens of the metropolis patronized their exhibition in the most liberal manner possible, and displayed the deepest interest in the productions of the industrial and enterprising people who had contributed to this exhibition. Ladies and gentlemen and every class of society inspected the stock and other departments with a zeal not often witnessed in these days of circus performances. Altogether the vast attendance brought together so swelled the receipts that the board of management are to be congratulated upon the financial success achieved. Montreal does not make the pretence to moral supremacy that some of her rival cities claim, but the executive of her exhibition deserves credit for the conduct of the cleanest show of the season.

In the above particulars London and Ottawa can well afford to borrow a pattern from their sister city. The least said the better of the numberless modes of extortion allowed to be carried on in the most prominent parts of the exhibition grounds at both these places. That these demoralizing practices are allowed to be operated upon the exhibition grounds of a country that prides herself upon the high tone of her morals speaks very little in behalf of the scruples of the men who form the executive of many of our fair associations, and who for the paltry toll derived from the right to operate these infamous devices place the morals of our youth in danger.

Directly or indirectly all our exhibitions obtain some assistance from government funds annually paid to the local societies. Now the question arises, Cannot the law be so amended that the exhibitions that allow gambling devices to be carried on within their limits be debarred from receiving any government grant whatsoever?

The ADVOCATE has all along pointed out the fact that years ago our most successful exhibitions were carried on purely in agricultural character. At that time more than double the money was offered in the live stock and other classes at many of our most prominent exhibitions, yet far better financial results were obtained. The Montreal exhibition proves that this is still the case, and that it does not require objectionable attractions to draw a crowd. At least let them be free from a host of gambling fakirs, who are the worst parasites that can possibly prey upon a pleasure-seeking public.

Valuable Premiums.

Your attention is directed to the valuable premiums offered in another column. Any enterprising man or woman can soon get sufficient new subscribers to entitle them to any of our prizes of live stock. We have also made exceedingly favorable arrangements for offering one of the best sewing machines manufactured, embracing all the latest improvements.

We want agents to canvas in every section. To good men we will give most liberal terms, either commission or salary. Permanent employment, when desired, will be given to suitable persons, male or female. Our readers who cannot take up the work, but know a reliable person who can, will confer a favor by sending their name and address.