

# THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

WHERSEVER AN SUGGESTION

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## New Seed—Spring Wheat.

In this Western peninsula of Canada, spring wheat has not been as profitable to farmers for a number of years as the winter varieties. In the northern and eastern parts of Ontario it has been raised with more profit. We have procured and tried every variety we could hear of, and sometimes even tried fall wheats that have been introduced as spring wheat. The results in the last named trials have always been failures. The old China wheat, although tough to thresh, used to yield us remunerative returns, but for many years has been discarded, as it only proved a dead loss to those that persistently attempted to grow it. The time may again arrive when that wheat, with its short thick-set bearded head, may come into profitable cultivation. The Siberian superseded it; it lasted but a few years. The Rio-Grand or McCasling or Red River wheats, as they were called, succeeded also for a time; the Club, Morden and Baltic wheats also have nearly run their course; the Scotch Fife or Glasgow wheat, which has had a general cultivation, has shown strong symptoms of degenerating. The mind's eye of the progressive farmer is looking forth for a variety that may again prove profitable. We do not pretend to say but many of the above named varieties are doing a good service in some places particularly in localities where wheat has not been much cultivated. In many old sections, where wheat has been continually cultivated, each of the above varieties is being abandoned, and so much has been lost by some of them already that many good farmers would not sow either of them if one would give the seed and guarantee \$4 per bushel for the crop. The spring wheat that appears to have given most general satisfaction this year, has been the Farrow wheat, a bald, red-chaffed, red wheat.

This wheat is now sown to a considerable extent in some parts of Canada, and can be procured at reasonable rates; we have tried this wheat and seen some very good fields of it raised. For general cultivation, where it is known and can be procured, we believe, it will be preferred to any of the other above named varieties.

There will be two new varieties introduced this spring; or at least new to us, and most probably to all our readers; one of these, the Egyptian wheat, a peculiar variety, having very small heads growing from the main head; the wheat is white. We understand its greatest fault is its liability to rust; this is the report we hear of the grain from as reliable a source as we could wish. The head is long heavy, and bearded; the grains are short and thick, and rather wide set on the head. This variety was found growing by a person whose name it bears, seven years ago. He carefully sowed the head. He has continued raising it, finding it answered better than any other variety. It has in some instances yielded double the crop the Fife did in the same field; the quality of the flour is unsurpassed. It has been grown on stiff clay and on loamy and black soil; in the last mentioned instance it grew 4½ feet high, and

stood well up without lodging or rusting. The great desideratum in this wheat is claimed, that it is less liable to rust or lodge than any other variety, and in yield of grain and quality of flour is unsurpassed. These are the accounts we have of it; there is, as yet, but a limited quantity in the country.

## Clawson Wheat.

In some of the United States there has been considerable excitement raised in regard to the Clawson Wheat. The engraving alongside represents one of the heads. It is a white winter wheat; it takes its name from the person who first disseminated it. In some places it is called the Seneca Wheat.

Some of the writers in the American papers claim that it yields 25 per cent. more profit than any other winter variety. It is our opinion that it will not be found as profitable as the Scott Wheat. To give our subscribers an opportunity of trying it, we sent out a lot of 4 oz. packages to various parts of the Dominion. Should it prove more productive than other varieties, we shall be able to import with confidence for next fall's supply.

Our artist is now engraving a head of the Egyptian Spring wheat, which will appear in the next issue. The wheat has a most peculiar head, having several small heads growing from it. Its appearance is most remarkable; very few have ever seen anything like it.

## To Our Subscribers.

The present number closes the volume of the ADVOCATE for 1874. We return each one of you our thanks for your aid in enabling us to make greater preparations for improvement for the incoming year.

We believe we have filled our engagements with you in the past. In regard to next year's paper, we feel confident that you will be better pleased with its appearance. A handsome cover will be placed on each paper, and we trust better matter will fill its pages.

The circulation has increased during the past year from 6,800 to 9,975, and is in-

creasing at the present time faster than ever before. The increase of circulation enables us to improve. We hope to have such an agricultural paper in Canada that will be at least equal, if not superior to any agricultural paper printed on the Globe. We now ask your aid to accomplish the undertaking. We have brought before your notice such things and plans as we have thought advantageous to you; we have exposed and condemned such things and acts as we have deemed of injury to you. We purpose keeping true to our standard—the Farmers' Advocate—and ask your aid in upholding it.

## Our Chromo—The Little Wanderer.

When we were in England, we examined a great many pictures, with a view of making a present to such of our subscribers as aided in extending our circulation. We selected a fine steel engraving, but on our re-



turn we found on this continent a chromo lithograph of a portion of the same subject, but over twice its size, and so beautifully finished, that, notwithstanding its price, we determined that each one of our subscribers should have a chance to obtain it. The accompanying engraving gives but a very faint idea of the chromo. It merely shows what figures are in it, but, of course, we cannot attempt, with an engraving, to give any idea of the beautiful coloring and finish. The subject is a good one, pleasing to old and young, and can offend no one. We give the chromo to each one of you that will send in one new subscriber, accompanied with the \$1.00. The size of frame that should be used for it is 20x16 inches, to allow for a proper margin of white at the sides, which should in all cases be shown. We guarantee every one satisfaction that procures one of them. One of the best artists in Canada says the picture is worth \$2.00. See prospectus for 1875 on page 190.

## Agents Wanted.

We wish to procure a really good active agent in nearly every County in Canada, to obtain subscribers for the ADVOCATE. We want such agents as have the ability to lay the merits of the paper before the farmers, and show the advantages of taking it.

We will either pay a salary or allow a very large commission to those who show themselves capable. Good men may rely upon steady employment. To those farmers, or farmers' sons, who wish nice work for the winter, there is a good opportunity. Old subscribers or their sons will receive the first chance; send for specimen copies and terms to agents.

## Colorado Potatoes.

Although the Colorado potato bug has been so destructive to the crop with us, it has done but little damage in Colorado. It is generally admitted that the bugs were first discovered there in the low and flat lands, but the high lands are, and have been, entirely free from their ravages, and the potato is the leading crop raised there. One farmer near Denver, this year raised 30,000 bushels. We notice this in one of our exchanges.

## Prize Essay.

A prize will be given for the best essay on Selling Stock in Canada. Essay to be in this office by the 1st of January. The Prize Essay—Fence or no Fence—will appear in next issue.

## Handling Butter in the Irish Fashion.

The following extract is from a letter received by Mr. Richards, of the firm of Richards & Cooch, Chicago, Ill., from his partner who is now in Europe, and gives an interesting account of the manner in which butter is handled in Ireland: I visited Cork and saw the most systematic method of handling butter I have ever seen. They handled from 1,500 to 3,000 firkin per day. All butter is taken to the butter market for inspection, before going to the party's store to whom it is consigned. This market is a large stone building—large as our Board of Trade—but only one story high. It is divided off in five sections, A, B, C, D, and E. These sections are filled with butter as it comes from the depots. There are five inspectors, sworn by the company to perform their work faithfully. They ballot every morning to see which section they are to inspect, so they never know which butter is to be looked at by them. I inquired of several merchants whether they ever had any difficulties with inspecting butter in this way, and they informed me they did not. I think it is the best system in the world. The market is cleared up every day. I find our medium grade of Western sound butter would inspect about fourths.

One of the Russian papers has a correspondence descriptive of a queer element of our Western population. They are Russians who were sent to Siberia as convicts, but who, having made their way to the eastern coast of Asia, have got over Behring Straits on American whalers and are now employed as herdsmen on the plains.