

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

the PERSEVERE & SUCCEED.

AND HOME MAGAZINE

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE —AND— HOME MAGAZINE.

WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the 1st of each month, is handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for dairymen, for farmers, gardeners or stockmen, of any publication in Canada.

Impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, the FARMER'S ADVOCATE aims to present to the farmers of Canada with an unbiased judgment the agricultural news of the day.

Voluntary correspondence containing useful and seasonable information solicited, and if used, will be liberally paid for. No notice taken of anonymous correspondence. We do not return rejected communications.

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- \$1.00 per year, in advance, postpaid; \$1.25 in arrears. Single copies, 10 cents each, postage prepaid.
- Subscriptions can commence with any month.
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- The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is continued until otherwise ordered. The name of a subscriber is taken off from our list with the same promptitude in all cases that it is put on, provided all arrears are paid up, but we cannot stop a paper unless the name of the Post Office, as well as that of the subscriber, is sent to us.

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Circulars describing our premiums more fully, with extra copies, illustrated poster, &c., sent free on application. Address simply

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All our premiums have been duly mailed. Any subscribers, whose premiums have not been received, will kindly notify us when money and new names were sent in, and give what premium was chosen. If now too late to mail, the premium will be duly entered for fall or spring delivery.

Our Monthly Prize Essay.

Our prize of \$5 for the best essay on *The treatment of milch cows before and after calving*, has been awarded to Mr. John McClure, Brampton, Ont.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay upon *the home curing and best method of keeping hams and bacon*. The essay to be the actual experience of the female members of the families of our subscribers, and must be handed into this office on or before the 15th of June, 1883.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best essay on *drying small fruits, apples, &c., the best method of keeping and preparing for market, and the profits to be derived from such*. The essay to be handed into this office by the 15th of July next.

A Munificent Offer.

Mr. George Whitfield, of Rougemont farm, P. Q., has made a princely offer to the Legislature of Quebec, namely: That he would keep, for the free use of the inhabitants of that Province, 15 pure-bred bulls and one stallion; also to board and instruct 20 students on his farm free, and to pay each student from \$30 to \$100 per annum for the work performed by them. Mr. Whitfield has engaged five efficient instructors for the different departments; a certain proportion of the students are to be from the French-speaking population. The price asked for these great advantages is \$6,000 per annum; this the Government consented to give. We think it would be well for some of the sons of our subscribers to make inquiries, and a short sojourn there would be found beneficial in after life.

Harvesters.

A trial of harvesting implements will take place on the Model Farm, Guelph, during the Provincial Exhibition, from the 24th to the 29th of September next. We hope that the Provincial Board and the citizens and others will make arrangements for the sufficient lodging of visitors. In small cities it has hitherto been difficult to provide adequate accommodation for the large numbers who usually attend our exhibitions. We think it would be advisable for the authorities to provide special fast trains to the neighboring towns and prominent villages. Special trains east and west for two days—Wednesday and Thursday—leaving Toronto and London respectively at 7 a.m., and returning from Guelph at 7 p.m., would be a great convenience to the public, and would tend to the success of the Exhibition. We trust that the managers and Government officials will not again leave themselves open to any accusations of unfairly granting certificates to worthless machines, manufactured by political partisans, as we have already heard complaints of this nature.

The Month.

The season is backward, and, comparatively, vegetation has made but little advancement, and is two or three weeks later than last year. The fall wheat still looks unpromising and as yet has not made a good start to tiller. From various sources in Ontario we hear a quantity has been plowed up and sown to other crops. There have been several causes conspiring to make the wheat crop a failure, but one of the most fruitful, in our opinion, was the condition and temperature of the soil during the winter, and the coating of ice and snow which covered the plant. When a heavy coat of snow covers the land early in the fall and the ground does not freeze so as to check the growth of the wheat, it continues to grow under the snow during the winter, when in reality there should be cessation of all growth until spring. As the functions of life continue and the conditions requisite for plant growth are not present—that is, the plant is excluded from free communication with the air—ard as 95 per cent. of a plant's nutriment is derived from the atmosphere, the plant dies from want of air. We should like to hear if any of our subscribers followed our advice of perforating the crust of ice and snow with a stick, as given in our March number, and if so we should be glad to hear from them.

The continued wet weather in this part of Ontario is another warning call to our farmers to drain more—not only sloughs and ponds, but every part of the farm. On heavy, undrained clays, the cold, wet weather has prevented farmers from getting in the potato and corn crop, and hence these are backward. Farmers must drain more if they intend to meet the exigencies of seasons like this.

The humid weather has produced a fine growth of grass, and stock are doing well.

Owing to the cold weather, sheep-washing has been delayed and the wool season has not yet commenced. Spring crops are backward and but little growth has been made as yet. A spell of hot weather this month, with the present rains, will rush on vegetation and crowd the work, but farmers should be equal to the emergency and secure their hands now for the summer's work. From now to the end of August is when our farmers reap the greatest reward for their labor. The season will be short, so farmers should be up and doing.

The question of the "milk supply of cities" is solved by an ingenious Scotchman, named Bowick, who has invented an artificial milk that costs only one-sixth as much as the genuine product of the cow, but yet resembles it so closely as to "deceive even the taste of the calf." With this and oleomargarine to fall back upon, the most conscientious of boarding-house keepers need not worry about the high price of dairy products.

FOR ADVERTISERS.—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is an unrivalled medium on account of its large circulation, its high reputation for conscientious principles, and the character of its readers.