

# FARMER'S ADVOCATE

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## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

—AND—  
Home Magazine.

WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor.

The Only Illustrated Agricultural Journal  
Published in the Dominion.

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### The Month.

Since our last report there has been a good advance in the price of cheese and butter. We are now in hopes that the price will be fully maintained, and perhaps advance.

The enormous and unprecedented rise in butter and cheese has put a wonderful amount of life and spirit into our dairymen—not before it was needed, as the prices that have been paid have, up to within the past few weeks, been ruinously low.

Wheat has fluctuated but slightly. Farmers are not inclined to sell; they are holding in expectancy of higher prices. The immense crops in the Western States are moving faster than Canadian grain. We do not anticipate that there will be any decline in this cereal, or any other farm product; rather an advance may be looked for.

The shipment of wheat from this section during the past two weeks has been greater than at any time for the three years previous. Orders are now in for more than is procurable at present rates.

The great drain on our cattle and sheep for Europe must, we think, ensure higher prices in Canada, particularly for first-class animals. Farmers should be fined for killing the poor, fleshless and bony carcasses that are too frequently seen in our markets and called beef and mutton. It will not pay to kill such animals. We must aim to have the bones well covered, with an admixture of fat. It takes about as much of the valuable fertilizers from our soil to form the bones of an animal as it does to put the flesh on the bones. The loss in marketing these poor, thin, red-streaked

bones, for such does not deserve the name of beef or mutton, should be prevented. Every good farmer will have his animals well fattened. The shiftless ones that can not or will not fatten their stock well, should be compelled to dispose of them at home, and fined if they offer such improperly fed meat on any public market.

Good apples will bring a good fair price this year, if farmers will take pains and gather them carefully, and pack them properly, as the apple crop in England is very light.

The potato crop is so bad in England and Ireland that potatoes are now being purchased in Montreal for shipment to Liverpool. This opens another branch of business that the farmers of the Maritime Provinces and Quebec should profit by; and perhaps some of our Ontario farmers may find it profitable to ship from sections where the crop is good and they are situated at a distance from large towns or cities.

If you owe anybody a dollar, sell and pay it; pay every honest debt. It will not pay you to lose your reputation or pay interest on debts or accounts, therefore to all such we say—Sell! be men; owe no small debts to any one. Those that are out of debt may act on their own judgment, but as a general thing the farmer that sells early makes the most in the long run, as from loss in weight, interest, etc., it costs a farmer about 1½ bushels per month during the time he holds 100 bushels of grain.

Be sure to look after any sheep or cattle that may not be in as good order as they should be at this season of the year. Feed a little grain early; get them fat or in good order before the cold weather sets in, and avoid the poor man's banner—that is, hides and pelts hanging about in the spring of the year. Now is the season to prevent such an occurrence. If you cannot keep every animal well, sell or kill some now. You cannot keep too many sheep, if you can only keep them well; there is more profit in one kept properly than in a dozen that are neglected. See that ticks and lice are not troubling them, and give salt and brimstone occasionally.

Just look round and see if there is not some spot on your farm that wants a drain opened before winter sets in, so that you may be able to get on your ground a few days earlier in the spring. Would it not be well to put a few days' work on some bad places in the roads this fall? Could you not spare the time much better now than in haying and busy time next year? Besides, you could do much more good on the roads now with the same amount of labor.

A meeting has been held in Toronto for the purpose of forming a Horse Breeders' Association. A committee was appointed to take the preliminary steps for drafting a constitution for the Association. Mr. Sheriff Powell, of Ottawa, was appointed Chairman, and Mr. Williams Secretary.

### Profit for Some.

We extract the following from the Sept. number of the *Scientific Farmer*, published in Boston:

"There is so much competition among the starch-factory people in Aroostook County, Maine, that they are offering two dollars a barrel for potatoes, to be delivered this fall, and in many cases paying one-half of this in advance, notwithstanding the largely increased acreage planted this year."

Perhaps it would be well for some of our enterprising Canadians to enquire into the reliability of the above extract. Starch is extensively used in the manufacture of many classes of goods. England uses large quantities. Perhaps our manufacturers may be supplied through American dealers. Manitoba and Prince Edward Island can raise potatoes at half the price above named, and have a good margin for profit. We should look after all these apparently trifling things. The yearly demand for starch represents an enormous sum. It makes a great difference to our material prosperity whether we expend a million a year or receive a million a year. It is our opinion that profit would accrue to this Dominion if the starch industry were examined into. Who will give the farmers more light on this subject?

### Freedom or Chains—Which?

Let every reader ask himself the question "Am I free?" What is freedom? Is it to have the power to think and to utter unbiased expressions? Are there not many who are bound by some peculiar bond that prevents the free exercise of a personal judgment? Can a rabid Grit or dyed Tory look fairly and unbiasedly on the same question? Are there not altogether too many questions on different religious topics? Can an Orangeman or a Roman Catholic judge unbiasedly? Can any firm, private or secret society view without prejudice the acts of their opponents? Freedom and honesty are the greatest gifts to man. No class is afforded a greater opportunity of enjoying these great blessings than the farmer. Throw off all burdensome yokes and galling chains, and act, think and speak like fearless men. We have the power, but are apt to let others lead and guide us like mules and oxen. The *FARMER'S ADVOCATE* is, and always has been, open for farmers to talk to farmers, and to elevate them and their calling. If you are free, why this timidity? why not express your views as well through this journal as when speaking? There are many subjects to be discussed this winter, and if you have ideas, plans, or useful information to impart, use your pen, and talk through the columns of this journal to 100,000 people. Let not your light be hid.

Stagnant and impure water which cows drink while at pasture, is one of the most prominent causes of bad odors in milk.