

# FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

FOUNDED 1866.

VOL. XXI.

LONDON, ONT., JANUARY, 1886.

Whole No. 241.

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## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE —AND— HOME MAGAZINE.

WILLIAM WELD, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

The Leading Agricultural Journal Published in the Dominion.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the 1st of each month. It 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 or stockmen, of any publication in Canada.

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## Editorial.

### On the Wing.

PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE.

This number is the first of the 21st volume of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. No one, not even the writer, imagined that this journal was destined to attain its present position, commenced as it was by one totally unacquainted with typography or editorial labors—a backwood's farmer over 40 years of age; that it should have attained the position held for the past seven years—that of being the best agricultural paper published in this Dominion—is something of which its supporters may justly be proud. Your editor feels thankful and grateful to each one of you, and hopes to see it made a greater power for your good than it ever has been.

When the FARMER'S ADVOCATE was first commenced, the majority of farmers took up the cry raised by place-seekers, namely, that it could not exist one year, and various disparaging remarks were made concerning it. And notwithstanding its great success and annual improvement, there still exist defamers even among those who have been directly or indirectly benefited by it to the extent of many times its cost. No one can deny the fact that we have done something towards the improvement of the live stock of the country. The best dairymen in Canada have said that no more valuable information on the dairy interest was to be found on this continent than that furnished by our writers. Every farmer who has raised the most valuable cereals knows or should know that many of the most popular and most profitable varieties have been imported directly at our expense and disseminated by our personal expenditures. In vegetables, fruits and arboriculture your ADVOCATE claims many laurels.

The Executive Committee of the Legislature of this Dominion, in stamping out diseases of farm stock, have on more than one occasion acted on information furnished by the editor of this journal by telegraph and otherwise, which has not been published. If the quarantines have not been established through our instigation, they have been made more effective from information furnished by us. The Model Farm was established from suggestions taken from our plans; this we can prove to the satisfaction of any unbiassed person. We were the first to aid in the establishment of the Grange, in the hope that good

might result from it. We strongly supported the Provincial Agricultural Association. We have done our duty in attempting to prevent the introduction or spread of contagious diseases among our farm stock in this Dominion to a much greater extent than we have thought it judicious to publish. We have advocated the judicious opening up of our North west, and the interests of the farmers and our Dominion in various ways, and have kept the pages of this journal open for criticism of any of its statements. For the past twenty years no subscriber sending information suitably prepared, new and of importance to the farmer, has been willfully overlooked. No one has ever doubted our loyalty to our Queen or our country. We believe that no journal of twenty years' standing in Canada has tended more to the elevation of the farmers, their interest, and the general welfare, prosperity and happiness of the nation than your ADVOCATE. No doubt errors have occurred; perfection is not obtainable here.

Up to the present day it has been our desire to conduct this journal independent of party lines, and it is to be regretted that some of our most important remarks tending to the best interests of the country, should have been misinterpreted by partisans. For instance, our condemnatory remarks of the mismanagement of the emigrants and the lands in Manitoba, were a cause for indignation and even falsehood. Had they been regarded, we should not have had bloodshed, and the existing dissatisfaction, taxation and uncertainty that now exist. Had the Provincial Board of Agriculture and Arts regarded the light censures intended for the farmers' good, the members of that body would feel stronger and more useful in their positions than they do.

The Government is so dissatisfied with the past management of the Model Farm that a re-modelling is taking place; and this institution must be re-modelled every year, as the Board of Agriculture and Arts has been, with a greater cost and greater loss of prestige each time, which must continue until they both become extinct, unless the suggestions already published in this journal are adopted.

We are not entirely ignorant of the existing feelings of the inhabitants of our different Provinces, of our sister colonies, and of Great Britain. We anticipate a change; everything is pointing to it. The numerous organizations and factions, with their various modes of boycotting, silencing, dynamiting, etc., may soon