

FARMING

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A Happy New Year

What a world of meaning is contained in these three words? To be truly happy for a twelve-month is to have one of the greatest blessings that this world can bestow. And this is the measure of our best wishes at this festive season to our many friends and patrons. We wish you a happy and prosperous New Year.

A Good New Year's Resolution

A good resolution to make at the beginning of the year is to renew your subscription to FARMING without delay. Like many other resolutions formed at the dawn of a new year, a resolve to remit your subscription early may be delayed. Do not let this be the case at the beginning of 1900. Renew your subscription at once, and make both the publisher and yourself happy.

FARMING for 1900 will undoubtedly continue to be the leading agricultural paper of the Dominion. It will contain all the important features that have been added to the paper during the past year, as well as many new ones. More space will be given to the "Farm Home," and that department will be made to do much greater service for the farmer's wife and the young people of the farm than has been the case since its inception in May last. The Farm Implement branch has already proven to be one of the most popular and useful features of FARMING. It will be given special attention during 1900, and if suitable arrangements can be made will appear oftener than once a month. The Agricultural Gazette department will not be neglected. The officials of the live stock associations and the Farmers' Institute system, who have full control of the pages comprising this department, are determined to make it more valuable than ever to Institute officers, breeders and others interested. Then there is the market review, the correspondence column, the editorial comment, the question and answers department, to be considered. These will in no way be forgotten and will be given more special care and attention than heretofore. Special attention will be given to the illustrations. Those which have appeared in FARMING during the past few months have received very favorable comment. We are open at any time to receive good photos of farm scenes, etc., for reproduction.

The year just closing has been the most successful, financially and otherwise, in the history of FARMING. From all sides come words of praise and commendation. During the past few days only we have been congratulated by many of the leading farmers and breeders for the excellent character of our publication. One farmer says: "FARMING is a grand paper." And scores of letters containing similar phrases have been received during the past few weeks. With this splendid record behind us and with energetic and well-laid plans for the continued improvement of the paper, is it any wonder that we look forward to 1900 with so much confidence, and with the strong conviction that FARMING will

be able to do better work than ever before for its readers? It is for this reason also that we would urge an early renewal of all subscriptions. No farmer can afford to be without FARMING during 1900.

Competition in Live Stock Breeding

The Hon. Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa, in addressing the live stock breeders at London a week ago touched upon a point in farming economics that is well worth further consideration. In discussing live stock conditions in England and Canada he showed that in the former breeders produced animals which had taken their names from the shires of England, and when one wanted a good animal of a particular breed he knew exactly where to go and get it. In Canada the opposite was the case. Everywhere animals of every breed could be found and there were no sections of the country specially devoted to the breeding of any one type.

The Minister's statement is no doubt correct. This condition as found in Canada may, however, be due to the fact that this is a new country and has not lived long enough for any one special line of breeding to be followed in one locality. But be that as it may, the fact remains that all kinds of cattle, sheep, swine, etc., are kept in every district, and a buyer wanting any particular breed cannot find a locality where it is produced nearly altogether to the exclusion of others. It would certainly be a benefit to the country, as well as to the individual, if this were as largely true in regard to Canada as to England.

There are some who are afraid of the competition that such a condition of affairs would give them. They fail, however, to recognize the fact that buyers of nearly any kind of commodity like to go where there is a large supply, and where there is a large number of good animals, etc., to choose from. Because the Niagara district is given up largely to fruit-growing, buyers of fruit like to go there when they want any. The cheese buyer does not locate in a section where there are a few factories, but where the most cheese is made in order that he may have a wider choice in making his purchases. The same thing holds good in nearly every line of trade. In discussing this question with a leading breeder the other day he referred to the time when his father purchased the first Shorthorn cow brought into the county in which he lived. He found a little trouble in selling her first calf and was beginning to wonder where he would get sale for his young stock if his breed increased and if his neighbors engaged largely in the same line of work. After a few years several of his neighbors went into the breeding of Shorthorns; but this, instead of glutting the market, was the means of creating a better and wider market. The section became known far and wide for good Shorthorns and buyers came from longer distances, thus greatly extending the market.

This line of reasoning will hold good in many instances as well for large districts as for small ones. Canada is to-day noted for her cheese production, and because of this we have very little difficulty in disposing of all we can make. The Canadian bacon trade is also capable of attaining to the same position if we obtain a reputation for