

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER

AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL,
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1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE
is published every Thursday.

It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely
illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most
practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairy-
men, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication
in Canada.

2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, England, Ireland,
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We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as
we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed
matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve The
FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, Descriptions of
New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known,
Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of
Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us
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with this paper should be addressed as below, and not to any
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LONDON, CANADA.

But it does almost always result in such raising
of price where the article is not produced in suffi-
cient quantity to supply the home demand, and,
moreover, it gives an effective lever to monopolists
and combines. The spectacle of powerful monopoli-
es, such as the United States steel trust, selling
more cheaply abroad than at home, is significant.
The danger of such restrictive combines Mr. Big-
gar lightly passes over to the ingenuity of law-
makers. Well, the law-makers do not seem to be
making much headway regulating them in the
United States. We submit that it is vastly bet-
ter to keep weed seeds out of an onion bed than to
trust complacently to some easy means of ex-
terminating them after they are in. We can not
and do not desire to prevent the formation of com-
bines. They may be of much advantage in a
country where they are not given opportunity for
price extortion by protection from legitimate for-
eign competition. Free trade is the proper for-
ceps to use on trusts. Then, their economic ad-
vantage may be conserved, with a minimum of op-
portunity for extortion.

Coming down again, then, to the specific case
of the woollen industry, we desire to ask Mr. Big-
gar once more whether he has ever in his own
mind essayed to compute the staggering cost to
the United States of fostering its woollen industry?
And all for what? To build up a powerful wool-
len trust which seeks to bear the price of wool
and bull the price of woollen goods. Witness the
recently issued minority report of the United
States Senate Committee on wages and the cost
of living:

"In all the United States there were five per
cent. of the people directly financially interested
in maintaining the exorbitant tariff on woollen
goods, and perhaps less than one per cent. of this
five per cent. got 95 per cent. of the spoils beyond
a living, and yet every citizen must have woollen
garments and blankets."

The ingenious palliation of the burden of a
protective tariff, the eye-filling magnification of
the benefit to the Canadian farmer of having a
woollen industry in his midst, we have space only
to point out. It is just such reasoning that has
built up, little by little, our present burdensome

protective tariff. We want no more of it. It is
time to whittle down the schedules.

We say nothing of the imputation of bad qual-
ity in English woollens. That has been already
met by English manufacturers, as well as by the
experience of readers who have worn English
cloth, in comparison with Canadian or American.

The one important point Mr. Biggar has con-
tributed to the discussion is that the free admis-
sion of tops and noils would counteract the effect
of a tariff on wool, even if such were provided.
He has made out a strong case for the taxation of
tops at as high a rate, at least, as the nominal
duty on wool.

The abuse of wool, tops and noils coming in
free, in virtual evasion of the supposed duty now
imposed on wool, we agree, should be ended. But
that must not be accompanied by an increase in
the tariff on woollen goods. It is too high al-
ready.

The Best Investment.

While Canadian farms have a more or less
steady income throughout the entire year, yet the
surplus of the annual earnings accumulate largely
during the summer and autumn, and as the end of
the season approaches, considerable figuring is be-
ing done now to determine the ultimate disposal
of this accumulated cash. It may be placed in
the banks at four per cent.; much will be in-
vested in Western lands or New Ontario mines,
some of which will pay well, some not at all, and
some will be a total loss. We like to feel that
we have money in the bank that we can get the
benefit of at any time—but never do; and many
of us, indeed, cannot resist the opportunity of
putting some money in a chance game either of
the fortune wheel, mining stocks, or Western lands.

But, before you decide what to do with this
year's accumulation, try to find out what the boys
feel to be most urgent, learn the girls' opinions,
and consult long with your wife. Are there no
fields needing underdrainage? Are all the fences all
they should be? Is the home well provided for
in those things that make the young folks love
to linger in it, and the mother happy? Have the
sons good work teams to drive? Think it over,
long and well. A bank account drawing interest
to make a larger bank account, or an investment
in more land to make money to buy more land,
does not add one whit to the pleasure or satisfac-
tion or fulfilment of a life, and when the end of
it all comes, it is hard to see what good it can
then do; but judicious investment in improve-
ments for the home, the farm, the stock, add to
the joy of everyday living, and to the financial
account, as well.

Tariffs, Trusts, Prices and Wages.

The minority report of the United States Sen-
ate Committee on wages and the cost of living,
which has been recently issued, takes the form of
a reply to the majority report. The report, of
course, has a political aspect, and is designed to
serve political purposes, but the following three
paragraphs are quoted for what they are worth:

"There are few trusts that could survive a
revenue tariff. So enormous have been their prof-
its that we find organizations springing up all
over the country, like the Elgin Board of Trade,
the wholesale grocers, lumber dealers—associations
that have contributed largely to the advance in
prices and the frauds perpetrated by manufactur-
ers of certain goods in reducing the weight or con-
tents of packages from 20 to 50 per cent., and
maintaining the same price."

"It is difficult to understand how anyone can
favor high rates of duty if he does not honestly
believe that it will increase the prices to be realized
by the manufacturers producing the article affected
by diminishing or destroying competition, and
thus necessarily increasing the cost to the con-
sumer. Then, we were many times mournfully
warned that any reduction in rates would flood
our country with lower-priced German products,
and that the smoke of American manufacturers
would disappear from the heavens. Now we are
informed that the tariff has not increased the cost
of those articles entering into every household and
administering to the health and comfort of every
family."

"Great Britain is a free-trade nation, and it
is the most prosperous nation in the world, ex-
cept our own. Shoals of emigrants from the tar-
iff-ridden nations of France, Germany, Italy, and

Russia go to England to work. But Englishmen
do not emigrate to those countries, because the
standard of living is lower. The general testi-
mony is that the rate of wages for all mechanical
trades is substantially higher in Great Britain
than in those protectionist countries, while the
prices of necessities are lower, leaving the Eng-
lishman a wider margin to live upon. It is about
sixty years since Great Britain adopted free trade,
and, during that time, according to a table pub-
lished in Whitaker's Almanac, wages have increased
81.7 per cent., and prices only 3 per cent.

Appreciation from a Reader.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have frequently had reason to express my
gratitude to you for the continuous feast of good
things supplied by your paper, and a recent edi-
torial, "The Glory of the Corn," has so aroused
my admiration that I must ask you to accept
my congratulations on your ability to pen such
an article.

After reading it over several times with grow-
ing admiration, I read it aloud as we were
gathered around the breakfast table Sunday morn-
ing, after which we adjourned to the cornfield,
where my thirteen-year-old nephew, who is rusti-
cating with us just now, read it aloud, while we
had an enjoyable little nature-study together.

Next to the ability to produce literary gems,
comes the power and intuition to select skillfully
from other writers, as when Dora Farncomb, in
her exceptionally helpful talk, in issue of August
18th, quotes from "The Romance of Medicine,"
we, who are not wide or deep readers, feel grate-
ful to her for culling this gem and setting it be-
fore us in such a way that we are compelled to
think big thoughts, and lead true lives.

And all this strength and beauty of expression
never in any degree impairs the purely practical.
It is no easy matter to conduct a farm according
to the high ideals set before us in "The Farmer's
Advocate," but I can assure you, Mr. Editor, that
it is a remarkably good thing for us to have these
ideals before us—we "tag along" after them as
best we can—and frequently last year's ideal be-
comes a reality this year, while this year's ad-
vanced ideal is tempting us upward and forward.

For instance, at "Farmhill," a cement-block
silo, alfalfa hay, improved stock, and other good
things have become realities this year, and we
are steadily endeavoring to do something towards
improving the general appearance of the place, in
the way of care of trees, garden and roadside, and
expect to find time during September to thorough-
ly clean and whitewash all pens and stables, and
while much must still remain to be done at some
future time, we feel that we can always depend on
"The Farmer's Advocate" to tell us what to do,
and how to do it.

I wish to congratulate you, Mr. Editor—or,
rather, shall I say, Messrs. and Mesdames Editors
—on the exalted position you undoubtedly occupy
in the hearts and homes of the farmers of Can-
ada, whose physical, mental and spiritual welfare
is constantly advanced by your combined efforts.

Brant Co., Ont.

DAVID PATTON.

The Country Church.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

"The Farmer's Advocate" has done good
work by calling attention to the problem of the
country church. Especially is it right when it
points out the need of ministers who are specially
trained and qualified for ministerial service in
rural communities.

To begin with, church leaders are generally
city men, who see the church's work from the
point of view of the city man. It naturally fol-
lows that the church's policy is city-born and city-
bred. The country churches are regarded as be-
ing of but secondary importance, and are expected
to accept the policy of the city churches, and to
adapt such policies as best they can. Further,
there seems to be a sort of stigma attached to the
work of the country minister. Chaucer and Gold-
smith did not see it that way. The Church's Head
and Founder, and His apostles, were countrymen,
but the bald, unpleasant fact remains that, for a
man to choose the lot of a country minister,
means that city ministers and city church-goers
will in their hearts regard him as a man of in-
ferior parts.

The fault lies in the country minister as much
as in anyone. Too often he takes the country
charge with great reluctance. His hope is that
one day he will be called to the big city church.
His sermons are prepared and preached in view of
the great future that he feels he deserves. He
regards himself as but a sojourner among the
country people. The city is his home. He busies
himself with city problems. His church policy is
an aping of some city policy. In the meantime
he fails to realize the fine opportunities of service
in the present. Without being aware of it, he
becomes an actor, and before he knows it he is an
imitator, an echo, and not a voice, and his whole
life is touched with hollowness and artificiality.
Little wonder that such a minister soon finds himself
out of touch with everything red-blooded and hu-