

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, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, England, Ireland and Scotland, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 per year when not paid in advance. United States, \$2.50 per year; all other countries 12s.; in advance.
3. ADVERTISING RATES.—Single insertion, 25 cents per line, agate. Contract rates furnished on application.
4. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrears must be made as required by law.
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scab, to guard against which it was that the sheep quarantine was imposed.

Dr. Rutherford assured his hearers, in an address at Toronto, that no case of scab had been reported to his department from any point in Canada for some months past.

Suitable Varieties by Grafting.

In all parts of Eastern Canada there are farmers who have apple trees or other fruits in their orchards, of varieties that they know are not the most desirable. They do not care to uproot the tree and wait for the development of a young tree. All have heard of the possibilities of top-grafting, but many neglect this important line of work because they never have seen it done, and consider themselves incapable of making a success of it. Perhaps a neighbor has tried it and failed. Without allowing for unfavorable conditions, such as worthless scions or wrong methods, due to being ill-advised, the practice is condemned. Farmers throughout the community neglect this work, and allow the old and comparatively worthless varieties to remain.

In the Garden and Orchard Department this week particulars are given that should enable any man of ordinary intelligence to obtain satisfactory results from top-grafting. Try a few this spring, and in the near future make the work so extensive as to do away with inferior varieties.

Appreciation Grows with Reading.

I beg to thank you for the splendid knife which I have received as a premium for sending you a new subscription to "The Farmer's Advocate." I can say it is really better than I expected. The new subscriber is perfectly satisfied with your paper. I will do my best to secure more subscribers for you. The more I read your paper, the more value I see in it.

Russell Co., Ont. JAMES B. CUDMORE.

Fraud in Apple Business.

For several years, prominent fruit-growers and buyers have supported the Government in laudable efforts to insure the packing and the export only of such fruits as would give satisfaction to the consumer, and so result in the development of Canadian fruit trade. In spite of legislation and precautionary measures, the acts of unscrupulous men escape detection, and Canadian fruits are given a black-eye that discredits Canadian-grown stock. In South Africa, a severe setback was administered recently by the arrival of a cargo from Montreal, in which were over 1,000 packages of apples. Close inspection on landing revealed the fact that eight per cent. of these were infected with scab (*fusicladium denitricum*). This may have developed during transit. In addition, consignees claimed that barrels contained small and inferior fruit in the middle of the package. Some, too, were disappointed in not getting the varieties they ordered, but this could not be considered a grievous offence, provided the shipper wrote to explain the matter, and made the price right. It is not always possible to secure the quantity of certain varieties that are required to make up an assortment.

Canadian packers and shippers can furnish no plausible excuse for putting up apples noticeably infected with scab, or for facing low-grade apples with specimens of higher standard. Every sane man in the business knows that it is not only contrary to law, but also that it results in serious injury to the apple trade in the country or countries to which the fruit is sent. No doubt the man who consigned these apples to Cape Town lost heavily on the shipment, and perhaps later developments will show that a fine has been imposed. However, the loss to other shippers and to the orchardists never will be known. When such offences are ferreted out, the greatest possible publicity, with name and address of culprit, should be made through the press. In the future, producers should refuse positively to sell a barrel of apples, or to have anything whatever to do with the man or men responsible for such damage to a worthy industry.

Some may feel inclined to lay the onus upon the inspectors for allowing such apples to escape them. It must be remembered that, to open every barrel, and to go half-way down into every barrel, would entail enormous expense. It is quite possible that eight barrels out of every one hundred may escape the eagle eyes of the most expert. Defects frequently are detected, and in every case steps are taken to trace the matter to its source, and to mete out consistent punishment. The growers must do their part to insure satisfactory pack. Spurn the man who has been found guilty of fraudulent practices, and do business only with reliable buyers who employ competent and trustworthy packers, if you would establish a healthy market and procure maximum prices. Better still, form a co-operative association.

Why the Boys Leave.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

"The Farmer's Advocate" has for years been working to convince the farmers of Canada that farming is the most independent, the healthiest, the happiest, the most profitable, and, in short, the most desirable occupation to be found. And yet, while this is a proven fact, it is well known that the boys by hundreds leave their country homes.

The farm needs the boys, and the boys need the farm. No one is so suited for farm work as the farmer's son, and the best place for most boys is on the farm. If the boy leaves the farm, and becomes a tinker, tailor, soldier or sailor, who will work the farm? Will tinkers, tailors, soldiers and sailors jump their jobs and begin farming? It will be a poor outlook for the farm if we have only these to depend on to work the land.

It has been stated that boys are getting educated for anything but farming. It is also true that our Canadian railways and industries are heavily bonused, and get exemption from taxation, etc., so that they are able to offer higher wages than the farmer can afford to pay, and thus the boys are taken from the farm, and the farmer has to hire the cull workmen which the manufacturer will not have. No one pays farmers a bonus; the farmers have to pay the bulk of these bonuses.

I left the farm myself, and so did many of my schoolmates and friends, and I met many more farmers' sons in our industrial establishments, and I can truthfully say that they were, almost without exception, the pick of the men, and the main dependence of the foremen. The manufacturer well knows that a farmer's son is not afraid of work, but is well used to it. He is also brought up in pure air, on good plain, ordinary food, and usually is kept away from the vices of city life. Consequently, the farmer boy has a clear brain, powerful muscles, and usually an honest, clean character. The city boy seldom worked before. He has an appetite for little else than lemon pie and jelly-cake, and has spent his boyhood days loafing about, smoking cigarettes and learning all manner of evil. Hence, he has not the brain and muscle possessed by the farmer boy, and often is idle and impudent. Need I explain why farmer boys are preferred?

I am sure many boys would not have left the farm if the father had tried the right way to keep them home. I ask boys why they quit farming, and most of them tell me they like farming first-rate. Few have a taste or gift for mechanics or some other trade. Others say that father wanted them to work for nothing, but that they were willing to work for less wages for their fathers than for anyone else. When they asked for a small wage, they were answered thus: "My father never paid me anything, and I will not pay you." They say to me: "Boys come back from town on a visit, all dressed up fine, and we feel small. I knew if I had even a small wage I could dress like that too, and bank money as well. I asked for a share in things, but 'No!' was the answer; work for nothing or get out." "Father said farming does not pay, and there is nothing for you. Well, said I, this is a poor business, and I will seek employment that does pay."

Others said that there was so much choring night and morning that they never could get away. They wanted to have at least regular evenings off, and have a holiday occasionally. They objected to a life consisting of nothing but work, eat and sleep. They would like an hour or so before bedtime to read or play games.

Again, others complained that, when at work, the farmer plows with the good team, and works with good tools, while the boy has to drive the balky team and use the plow with a cracked handle and broken point; chop with the dull axe, saw with the dull saw, use the fork with the bent prong, and milk the cow that kicks or is desperately tough to milk. If the boy complained, he was told that the poor workman always quarreled with his tools. "You would do nothing, anyway; if you were any good I would get you something else, but it is not worth while." Finally, the boy gets sick of it, and leaves, and then the old, broken tools are thrown away, and the tough-milking cow and balky team are got rid of. The hired man uses new tools, and takes the wages which would have been more than sufficient to keep the boy at home.

There are several other reasons why boys go, but this is enough for now. In conclusion, let me say that we boys know many farmers who treat their boys right, and we greatly admire such a man, and envy his lucky boy. And, although the other kind does not understand boys as he might, he is usually a fine fellow, anyway. Every boy spoke highly of his father. Around too many farms there are some "Leave-the-farm-and-get-rich" story-books. I advise farmers to light the fire with such trash, and get the boy something to read that is sensible, like "The Farmer's Advocate"—something to teach him the dignity of farming, and how to make money at it.

THE BOY WHO LEFT—AND CAME BACK.

HORSES.

Clydesdale Certificate of Service.

As the season for collection of stallion service fees has arrived, breeders of Clydesdale horses, as well as owners of Clydesdale stallions, should remember the changes in the regulations governing the registration of Clydesdales in Canada, which were made last year.

In order to record young animals in the Canadian Clydesdale Records, it is now necessary to forward, along with the usual application, a certificate of the service of the dam, signed by the owner of the sire at time of service. This certificate may be furnished simply in a written letter, or the common transfer blank may be filled in as a certificate. Probably the more common plan will be to give the certificate as a receipt for service fee.

It should not be forgotten that the service stallion must be recorded as the property of the owner before his certificate of service can be accepted. Very often this matter is neglected, and when the animal has changed hands several times the situation becomes very difficult to straighten out.

Vigilance in all matters relative to the regis-