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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & 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 ach month. Is impartial and independent of all cliques or arties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and unlishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners and stockmen, of any sublication in Canada.

publication in Canada.

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE,
360 Richmond Street,
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Our Monthly Prize Essays.

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION,

1.—No award will be made unless one essay at least comes up to the standard for publication. 2.—It is not necessary for essayists to agree with ur policy, so long as they give sound reasons for our poncy, so long as they give sound reasons for differing from us.

3.—The essays will be judged by the ideas, argu-

ments, conciseness and conformity with the subject, and not by the grammar, punctuation or spelling, our object being to encourage farmers who have en-

our object being to encourage farmers who have enjoyed few educational advantages.

4.—Should one or more essays, in addition to the one receiving the first prize, present a different view of the question, a second prize will be awarded, the sum being decided by ourselves in each case, and will appear in the same or in a succeed-

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best original essay on the following subject: Can Mixed Farming be so Changed that more than the Ordinary Amount of Work may be Profitably Done during the Winter Months? Essays to be handed in not later than Nov. 15th.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best original essay on the following subject: Is Our Future Husbandry to be Special or Mixed? Essays to be handed in not later than Dec. 15th.

Our prize of \$5.00, offered for the best original essay on How can Greater Economy be Exercised in the Use of Fences? has been awarded to Jos. Mountain, Avonbank, Ont. The essay appears in this issue.

Reliable Agents Wanted.

Good reliable agents wanted in every county in Canada to canvass for the FARMER'S ADVO-CATE AND HOME MAGAZINE. Subscribers or parties well acquainted with the paper pre-ferred. Liberal terms offered to those willing to work. State particulars of former mployment, and address this office.

Editorial.

On the Wing.

EXHIBITION JOTTINGS.

Exhibitions are the educators of the present age, and have been in past ages. We have seen the Crystal Palace in England, we visited the Centennial at Philadelphia, and the Paris Exhibition. This year we have seen the Colonial in London, the International at Edinburgh, the Marine at Liverpool, the Royal Agricultural at Norwich, Eng., the Agricultural Exhibition at Edinburgh, Scotland, the Industrial at Toronto, the Provincial at Guelph, and the Western Fair at London, Canada. Space will not permit of long descriptions, nor of filling our pages with the statistics or the prize lists. Our sphere is to deduce from impressions received remarks that may be of some benefit to our farmers in Canada.

A quantity of the fruit and vegetables from some of the largest exhibitions have been sent to the Colonial to show what Canada can raise. We highly approve of the plan, and much good should result from it. The best has been done that at the time of the choosing would permit; but we trust that all interested in the welfare of Canada will remember this fact, that good as our roots, apples, pears and grapes may have appeared, they were not fully matured, and had not therefore their brightest appearance There was a very marked improvement in color and quality of the apples and pears exhibited then; the fine sunshine and warm weather had so much improved the appearance of some of the apples exhibited that it would require an expert to admit that they were the same as the colorless varieties that had been selected at previous exhibitions.

DELAWARE EXHIBITION.

Delaware is only a small township, twelve miles from London, and yet it has two exhibitions, one held by the Oneida Indians. If this exhibition could be taken as a specimen of Township exhibitions, no honorable person who has the interest of the farmer or the welfare of the agriculture of our country at heart, can say or do anything that would tend to injure them or break them down -selfishness and monopolists may desire to break them. Nearly every farm for a radius of ten miles was represented there, as the ladies and children desire to go to this exhibition to see, be seen, and have a chat with their neighbors. The prizes are necessarily very small, as no admittance fee to visitors is | bitions. There was no political harangue,

charged; no heavy expenses are incurred; the real practical farmers are the officers, and they give their time and attention to it with out pay; they select good judges from neighboring townships, and the name of taking a prize at this exhibition is by some considered more meritorious than even the name of a Provincial prize, because the prizes are considered honorably awarded. Party politics have not as yet contaminated this exhibition, and it is a remarkable fact that some of the best stockmen, grain growers and fruit growers who have not exhibited at either of the large exhibitions, exhibit here. For instance, Mr. A. G. Deadman has long been known as one of the most extensive and most honorable fruit growers in this Western Peninsula. He is to be met here, and on being asked why he did not exhibit at the Provincial and Western Fairs, said, "Because of the injustice and unfairness practiced at them." We asked in what manner, and he replied that a party or parties who were not fruit growers went around and bought or stole fruit, and exhibited it and carried off the prizes; also that at the Provincial even worse than this was done. He had complained and protested against such vile practices, and the officials so d sregarded these useful hints that it was of no advantage to him to show, and no honor or merit to exhibit. Mr. McNames, the exhibitor of the largest variety of pears, was there and corroborated Mr. Deadman's statements. Mr. Richard Gibson, the noted Shorthorn breeder, formerly manager of the New York Mills Herd, exhibited his fine herd of Shorthorns at Delaware, but he did not exhibit at the Provincial or at the Western Fairs. Why? Probably it may be for the same reason that the Hon. H. M. Cochrane would not exhibit at the Provincial for a number of years, when all knew he owned the most valuable Shorthorns ever owned in this Dominion, and had not been honorably treated by the Provincial Board. The celebrated Bow Park Herd have been withheld from exhibition. Mr. Stone's magnificent herd of Herefords may perhaps never be seen again in London, unless great changes take place. Mr. Dawes' magnificent stock is to be seen on his own farm. But this should suffice to show that even a Provincial, or Industrial, or Dominion first prize may be held by individuals who have not by any means the best stock or products of our country. This tends to militate against the popularity or utility of the large exhibitions, and it will increase unless they take a pattern from such exhibitions as well conducted Township exhi-

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