

# The FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE

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## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

—AND—

### HOME MAGAZINE.

WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the 1st of each month, is handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for dairymen, for farmers, gardeners or stockmen, of any publication in Canada.

**TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:**

1. \$1.00 per year, in advance, postpaid; \$1.25 in arrears. Single copies, 10 cents each, postage prepaid.
2. Subscriptions can commence with any month.
3. Remittances at the risk of the subscriber unless made by registered letter or money order.
4. Subscribers who desire to change their P. O. address will send both old and new address.
5. The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is continued until otherwise ordered. The name of a subscriber is taken off from our list with the same promptitude in all cases that it is put on, provided all arrears are paid up, but we cannot stop a paper unless the name of the Post Office, as well as that of the subscriber, is sent to us.

**ADVERTISING RATES:**

Will be furnished on application, and manufacturers, seedmen, stock breeders and others will find this journal an unrivalled advertising medium.

The ADVOCATE has the largest circulation among the best people in Canada. Its advertisements are reliable and are read.

Address—  
**THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE,**  
 360 Richmond Street,  
 LONDON, ONT., CANADA.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE refuses hundreds of dollars offered for advertisements suspected of being of a swindling character. Nevertheless we cannot undertake to relieve our readers from the need of exercising common prudence on their own behalf. They must judge for themselves whether the goods advertised can in the nature of things be furnished for the price asked. They will find it a good rule to be careful about extraordinary bargains, and they can always find safety in doubtful cases by paying for goods only upon their delivery.

**Our Address Labels.**

Our subscribers will bear in mind that no notice is now given of expiration of subscription, as the "address label" is a sufficient notice, showing as it does the date up to which the subscription is paid, or from which the subscription is due.

Receipts are no longer necessary. Each subscriber can ascertain by the change of his date on his "address label" whether his remittance has been received. If forwarded after the 25th the change will not probably be made until the second issue from date of remitting.

**Spring Showers.**

Our friends continue in their canvass, and new names are pouring in from all parts of the Dominion. We are very anxious that these "spring showers" should continue abundantly; they are refreshing and substantial. Our new premium list will be issued, we hope, about the 1st of May, and will contain an altogether new class of prizes for your selection. All new names sent in from this date can await your choice from our new list. The FARMER'S ADVOCATE has never been surpassed for the usefulness and merit of its premiums, and our new list will in no way detract from our reputation.

## "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE" PRIZE OF \$100

given annually by Wm. Weld, Editor and Proprietor of this paper, will be awarded at the next Provincial Exhibition, to be held at Guelph, Ont., from the 24th to the 29th of September, inclusive, for the best samples of wheat.

The prize will be divided as follows: Two prizes of \$30 and two of \$20 each. The first prize of \$30 to be given for the best variety of fall or winter wheat for the general farmer to raise, and \$20 for the second best variety of fall or winter wheat; \$30 for the best variety of spring wheat, and \$20 for the second best variety of spring wheat.

**RULES.**

Two bushels or 120 pounds of the wheat to be exhibited. The name of the wheat, together with a written description, to be given, stating where the wheat was procured, how originated or introduced, as far as can be ascertained, a description of the soil and situation on which grown, what fertilizer used, and general history of cultivation. (The wheat must have been grown in the country for at least three years.) Also a report as to its milling and marketing qualities—a practical miller to be one of the judges.

The prizes will be given to four distinct varieties, and the descriptions and reports must be furnished to the Association before the bags are opened, the reports of all competitors to be the property of THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE. It is not necessary that the finest sample of wheat should in any way effect the award of the prize except that the wheat should be pure, clean and unmixed, the object being to decide the most valuable variety from actual yield and general qualities.

**Our Monthly Prize Essay.**

Our prize of \$5.00 for the best essay on "The best five varieties of potatoes grown in Canada, and which are best adapted to the soil," has been awarded to Mr. George Nixon, of Hyde Park, Ont.

Our next prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay showing the advantages and results derived from the application of artificial manures to grain, grasses and roots. The essay to be the practical experience of the writer, and must be handed into this office before the 20th of April next.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on the treatment of milk cows. The essay to be from the actual experience of the writer, and must comprise the following subjects:

- Treatment of cows running repeatedly.
- " " before and after calving.
- " " that don't clean at once.
- " " that eat cleaning.
- " " udder before and after calving.
- " " calves if weaned.

The essay to be handed in to this office by the 20th May.

Scan our advertising columns and give our advertisers a trial. If you don't find there what you wish to purchase, drop a card to this office.

**The Month.**

The winter wheat looks well where it is uncovered. Stock generally have come through the winter well in good farming localities, but on poor land there has in some neighborhoods been a scarcity, and cattle are thin and will take some time to pick up to make a good flow of milk or good thrift in growth; in fact they never regain their lost position. One well fed animal will produce more profit than two or three half-fed animals. Complaints are made that the peach buds have been destroyed. The solid coat of snow we have had has kept our meadows in good order. Grass is king, there being no complaint of the grasses being heaved out and killed. This winter should give us every hope for a very profitable season. Sales are numerous and cattle bring good prices.

**Foot and Mouth Disease.**

From recent advices which have reached us through English exchanges, we find that this dire disease is making sad havoc amongst the herds of cattle throughout the United Kingdom. In Scotland, where the disease was supposed not to exist, it has recently broken out with baneful effects. In England and on the continent this disease has existed for years, and all the efforts of the Governments and private individuals appear to have been futile in stamping it out. No sooner do we find it abating in one district than it suddenly breaks out in another. The responsibility of the continuance of this malady appears to rest with the slipshod manner in which inspectors do their duty, and a mistaken conception of the dangerous character of the disease. Although it has existed for at least a quarter of a century in England, and the nation has sunk millions, yet we find the majority of British farmers, and, indeed, the political press, indifferent to its ravages.

This appears to arise from the interference of the governmental regulations with the regular established markets for stock; and the motto upon which stock raisers and buyers appear to have been going on is, that they would rather put up with the disease than to have all their markets closed, and their prospects of making a fair return from fat stock ruined.

Although there is no immediate danger in this country, yet our authorities and farmers should take a warning and a lesson from its present spread in the United Kingdom. Only recently the London Standard pooh-poohed the idea of the foot and mouth disease as existing only in isolated cases of a few poorly-fed and hardly-driven animals, notwithstanding it was pointed out by the agricultural press and veterinary surgeons at large. Yet it did exist in face of a strict adherence to the quarantine regulations. The ADVOCATE has always sounded a warning note against introducing the foot and mouth disease in this country, and we hope if any cases are found to exist, that, for the sake of the public good, our authorities and farmers will take prompt measures to stamp it out.