

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

WM. WELD, PROPRIETOR.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL PUBLISHED IN THE DOMINION.

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

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

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.—The essays will be judged by the ideas, arguments, conciseness and conformity with the subject, and not by the grammar, punctuation or spelling, our object being to encourage farmers who have enjoyed few educational advantages.

3.—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, but the payment will be in agricultural books. First prize essayists may choose books or money, or part of both. Selections of books from our advertised list must be sent in not later than the 15th of the month in which the essays appear. Second prize essayists may order books for any amount not exceeding \$3.00, but no balance will be remitted in cash. When first prize essayists mention nothing about books, we will remit the money.

Our second prize has been awarded to John Robertson, Gladstone, Ont., for essay on *What Steps Should be Taken to Improve the Quality of Milk delivered at Cheese Factories.*

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best essay on *The Cost of Rearing a Sheep to the Age of Twelve Months, Eighteen Months, and Two Years Old Respectively, and the Profit Realized at the Various Ages.* Essay to be in this office by the 10th of February.

We want Good, Live AGENTS to Canvass for the "Farmer's Advocate" in every locality in the Dominion and United States. Sample copies and subscription blanks free to canvassers who mean business.

Editorial.

Free Corn.

Sir,—While remitting my subscription for the current year, I wish to bear testimony to the excellence of your journal. Among the many American and Canadian publications I have examined, I can find none which, in my opinion, is so well adapted to the special needs of the Canadian farmer. Your editorial in the January number on free corn, touches a responsive chord in the hearts of, I think I may say all, Eastern Township farmers. Free corn and other feeding stuffs would be a great boon, indeed, to us in this Province. We are beginning to feel keenly the close competition of the great new lands, which are being so rapidly opened up, and stimulated by the direct aid of our government. We have not the soil and climate to grow cheap corn and grain. We can no longer make beef at a profit; 'tis a dead industry here. We are, per force of existing conditions, almost confined to dairying and pork-making; and we need more concentrated food to go with our hay, straw, bran, whey, and skim milk.

There is a movement on foot now which will show the Government what we want in this Province. The directors of the different agricultural societies, in the name of the societies, are memorializing the Government in favor of putting corn, cottonseed meal, etc., and some fertilizers, on the free list. I hope that the institutes and clubs, the press and all who appreciate the fact that upon the prosperity of the farmer largely depends the welfare of all classes, will take up and continue this agitation with "no uncertain sound" until our rulers, feeling that we are in earnest and seeing the justice of our claims, will make the required change. I have reason to think that I but voice the feeling of your many friends in this section in saying that we hope and believe that you will in the future, as you have in the past, continue to push the editorial pen with zeal and intelligence in the interests of your subscribers, and believing that the gain to the farmers of the Dominion from free corn, cottonseed meal, etc., would so greatly overbalance the loss which could only be felt by some very limited sections. We hope to find, from time to time, that the movement has a staunch supporter in the ADVOCATE.

C. W. CURTIS, Warden, Que.

SIR,—In the last issue of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE you wanted the opinion of farmers on the question of "Duties on Corn." I say take it off, and that is the general opinion in this part of the country. If there is not something done for

us farmers soon I do not know what we will do, for they are sending beef here from Chicago cheaper than we can raise it, where we have to pay so high for meal and shorts—we pay from \$25 to \$30 per ton for bran or shorts, and \$3 per barrel for corn meal at present, which is as cheap as it has been for some time.

Enclosed you will find \$1 for the FARMER'S ADVOCATE for another year. I like it better every year, for it really is what it aims to be, a farmer's advocate.

WM. E. ARMSTRONG, Granville Ferry,
Annapolis Co., Nova Scotia.

Dominion Associations Convene.

FRUIT AND DAIRY.

A Dominion Convention of Fruit Growers will be held in the City Hall, Ottawa, on the 19th, 20th and 21st of February, 1890. Prizes are offered for seedling apples and pears, also a large list for the standard varieties of each, as well as for bottled fruit and winter keeping grapes. Manitoba fruits come into the list. Papers will be contributed by delegates and others from Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia, Manitoba and the Northwest Territory. Among the subjects to be discussed will be Transportation of Fruits—Packing and Selecting Fruit for the Home and Foreign Market—Express and Railway Freights—Fungus Disease and Blight—Small Fruits and their Commercial Value—The Commercial Apple Orchards of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia—Relation of Insects to Fruit Culture—Export of Winter Apples—Profits, Drawbacks—Utilizing Surplus Fruit Products: Canning, Evaporating—Injurious Insects Affecting Fruits: Remedies to Prevent Ravages—Profitable Forest Planting—Adaptation of Russian Fruits to Canadian Requirements, etc., etc.

The convention of the

DOMINION DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION will be held at Ottawa on 18th and 19th February. A joint meeting will be held on the evening of Wednesday, the 19th, for the discussion of subjects of interest to both. Special railroad and hotel rates will be obtained for those desirous of attending. A cordial invitation is extended to the associations in the United States to send delegates to this convention.

Samples of new or little known fruits are specially solicited. For fuller particulars write to the Secretary, W. W. Dunlop, P. O. Box 1145, Montreal.

We want all of our old subscribers to send in some new subscribers and get some of our premiums.