

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

Home Magazine.

WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor.

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The Month.

In taking a drive in the country the other day, we noticed that some of our subscribers have adopted the plan we have for years suggested—that being to plant more trees. We noticed a fine young row of maples, which were planted a year or two ago. This lot, we know, were planted from our suggestions. We were pleased to know this. It is a step in the right direction, and in time the owners of these farms will be delighted with the result of their labor expended in that way. But the maples were of a great diversity of length and shape; some were so low that cattle might destroy them, others were towering high in the air. Some had branches on one side and none on the other. We would suggest that each of you having young orchards, or young ornamental trees, would take your knife, and, if needs be, your saw, and aid nature to balance the trees. Too much wood on one side will cause a tree to lean in that direction; an evenly balanced top will keep your trees straight. If your maple trees are uneven in height cut off the tops of some of the long ones. If some are making too great a growth take off some of the wood. Endeavor to have an even row, about the same size and same height. You will be well repaid by a little attention to these remarks. June is the right month to summer trim your trees. Make a smooth, clean cut with a sharp knife. The sap will not ooze out as in the spring. New wood will immediately form around the wound, and it will heal up so that in a year or two you would not be able to see where you cut the wood from. Evergreens may now be trimmed

back and brought into any desired shape or form.

Keep a good lookout for the potato bug. Paris green is the best feed for him. Most of you apply this too freely, and waste your money and injure your potato vines. A teaspoonful is enough for a gallon of water, and then the water only requires to be sprinkled with a light spray. If you mix it in plaster one pound of Paris green is sufficient to mix with fifty pounds of plaster. We have heard of it having been found efficient when put in sixty pounds of plaster. Then dust the vines as lightly as possible with it. Some people use a machine. We have tried a machine and prefer its use to Paris green in fields.

The winter wheat west of Oshawa promises an abundant harvest if no mishap overtakes it. We presume we shall have a larger yield in this western portion of Ontario than has ever before been harvested. East and north of Oshawa the accounts of the winter wheat are not encouraging. The season for spring seeding and planting has been as favorable for these operations as could be required—fine genial rains have descended at more suitable intervals than man could appoint, and everything betokens a good and bountiful harvest. Fruit of all kinds promises good returns except strawberries.

Be sure and keep the weeds well under control this month. There is only one boss on a farm, which will be you or the weeds. If they conquer you the farm demands another boss, and will have it, too.

Are your haying and harvesting tools all in order? Do not let your hay get woody nor your grain get dried up. There is more grain and grass cut too late than too early. If you have a large quantity of hay write to T. Brown & Co., of Ingersoll, Ont., and get his circular about his Hay Loader. Every farmer that we have seen that has one would not easily part with it.

In our correspondence department of this month our English letter should be read carefully by all that have an interest in the future prosperity of Canadian agriculture.

The communications about salt are of importance to you. We are pleased to note that our Canadian salt must be better appreciated than it has been, not only for dairy and stock and land purposes, but for preserving our fencing and building timber. It may not pay to use it for all common fences, but where we set good solid posts for gates, wire fencing or building timber, we have no longer doubt of its utility. We heard it had been tested by applying it at the base of telegraph poles, and on inquiring of the person who applied it, he informed us that seven years ago he set telegraph poles with and without salt. On examination this year he found those that were set without salt were now decayed two inches into the wood, while those that had salt applied to them were just as sound as the day they were put in. Read about salt in May issue.

"Brant Farmer" takes us to task because we anticipate that good will be done by the Agricultural Commission. "Brant Farmer" may be right or wrong. We do not pretend to infallibility, but trust and believe there are some gentlemen on that Commission that will not act against the dictates of conscience to the injury of the farmers' interests, for which they receive their pay, even though that should not exceed their necessary travelling expenses. In regard to the Agricultural College, legislators and farmers know our opinion about it, its origin and its intended work, but as neither the legislators nor all the people coincide with our views, it is our intention to glean what information we can obtain from this institution and the Agricultural Commission and furnish it to you, avoiding as much as possible all party political subjects. Mr. Brown, the farm manager, we believe, is desirous of producing and teaching profitable results. No doubt he meets, as most farmers do, with some results that are not satisfactory. We do not condemn "Brant Farmer" for differing from our views.

Death of Hon. George Brown.

The Hon. G. Brown's demise from the fatal wound of a low, debased assassin has thrown a pall of mourning over the country. The honorable gentleman possessed a firm mind and a wonderful memory. He was an able writer and fluent orator. He commanded more power than any other person in Canada. His unflinching loyalty to the British empire remains a pattern for others. In his death every Canadian may read one grand lesson, which every office-holder, every subscriber, and every honorable and honest man might with credit to themselves, and to the country, adopt—that is, never to sign a paper or give sanction to any document that conscience informs you is undeserved, or may give positions to unprincipled men, and do much injury to the community. Perhaps it may suggest that our laws are not as rigidly enforced as they might be. Are not pistols too often in the possession of lawless characters that have no property of their own to protect. Would not a \$5 or \$10 license on any pistol kept produce a revenue sufficient to reduce the working men's cotton shirting ten or fifteen per cent.

The pistol killed Abraham Lincoln, perhaps the best President that ever ruled the U. S. D'Arcy McGee's death was from that weapon, and even our Queen's life has been attempted with it.

INFECTED CATTLE.—The Veterinary Department of the Privy Council of Great Britain reports that the orders enjoining the slaughter of cattle from the United States has been fully justified. The number of infected cattle last year imported from the United States largely exceeded the number of cases of disease detected among the cattle imported in the same period from European countries.