

# 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.

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## Our Monthly Prize Essay.

Our prize of \$5.00 for the best essay on "How Many Successive Crops of Green Fodder can be Raised in one Season," has been awarded to Mr. William Rodden, of Plantagenet Springs, Ont.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on the "Cheapest and Best Method of Fencing, and how can the cost of such be lessened." The essay to be accompanied by a rough sketch of the fence recommended. The time for sending in this essay has been extended to the 15th March.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on *The Causes of the Recent Failure of the Clover Seed Crop*, in different parts of Canada, and the best suggestions for the remedy. The essays must be as brief as possible as to the causes, but must go thoroughly into the remedies. The essay must be sent in before the 15th April next.

## By the Way.

Arrange for plenty of early vegetables. Pork salted when frozen will not keep. Mature plans for the spring campaign. How about painting implements, etc? Allow no decaying matter in the cellar. Good time to plan farm improvements. Watch your farm hands and note their treatment of cattle.

Smoking and lighting lanterns in barns should never be permitted.

Skim-milk contains all the elements for growing the muscle and bones of young animals.

Colts and other young stock love the fresh air and sunshine as much as romping boys and girls.

Soapsuds are a valuable fertilizer for small fruits, and in the fruit garden will never be wasted.

Look after the young lambs with special care, as they are dropped in the early and inclement part of the season.

At the late English Fat Stock Show, at Birmingham, three Lincolnshire wethers aggregated 806 pounds, at the age of twenty-one months.

Never allow any one to tickle your horse in the stable. The animal only feels the torment and does not understand the joke.

For every bird that dies millions of insects are spared from death, and millions of insects mean famine. The people of this country will ere long see the advantage of protecting all insect destroying birds.

Keep a lump of rock salt in the feed box of each horse and cow.

Give the pigs a little powdered charcoal. This is essential to their health.

All stalls and stables for live stock should be open to the entrance of light and air. Darkness is too frequently one of the conditions of diseases in the stables.

Mr. George McBroom, of the City of London, has been elected Secretary to the Western Fair Association. The appointment has given satisfaction to the farmers and others of the locality, with whom he has been so long and intimately connected. Mr. McBroom is a thorough business man, and we are convinced will make a most efficient Secretary. We are also pleased to notice that E. R. Robinson, Esq., was elected President of the Association.

## Agricultural Interests.

Recently when in Toronto, we had some conversation with Hon. O. Mowat, regarding the agricultural affairs of the Province of Ontario; also interviewed Mr. W. R. Meredith. We gave them some hints that, if acted on, we believe would be of very great benefit to the farmers of Canada. But there exist difficulties in dealing with agricultural affairs independent of party lines that appear almost innumerable; but "where there's a will there's a way." We also spoke to Mr. Ross, the newly appointed Minister of Agriculture. He appears a very canny, cautious gentleman, and is evidently desirous of improving and popularizing the Guelph College. We think it is to be regretted that he has not previously taken some interest in agricultural affairs. We deem it of very great importance that more information regarding the Model Farm should be furnished to him before any important steps are taken. We regret that some, opposed to the farmers' interest, have attempted to make parties believe that this journal has been a party paper, and that Government officials have been using their positions to thrust on the public one or more publications for partisan purposes. We trust that gentlemen in public positions who have either written or asserted that information furnished by the ADVOCATE was incorrect, untrue and unreliable, on being convinced of their error, will have the honor to retract, and the journals that have published such will give us due credit.