

The Canadian Cultivator.

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THE CANADIAN CULTIVATOR AND HOUSEHOLD MAGAZINE.

FIRST-CLASS AGRICULTURAL AND HOUSEHOLD JOURNAL.

THE CANADIAN CULTIVATOR a monthly journal—is devoted entirely to the interests of the Farmer and the Household.

The subscription price is \$1.00 per year IN ADVANCE.

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Address all letters to the Publisher.

GEO. H. BRADFORD,
Sherbrooke, P. Q.

Many of our prominent and enterprising farmers having repeatedly expressed the desire to see a journal established here specially devoted to the conditions of agriculture in the Eastern Townships, we have given the subject a good deal of consideration, and have decided to endeavor to meet the want, and now present as a candidate for public favor, the first number of the CANADIAN CULTIVATOR AND HOUSEHOLD MAGAZINE.

Our aim will be to give such information as will be found practical and useful to farmers and stock-raisers, and to this end we shall be glad to receive articles and items based on experience rather than on theory. We hope our farmer friends will take advantage of the opportunity thus afforded to make free use of our columns in discussing matters relating to the farm, and so add materially to the usefulness of this journal and the advancement of agriculture. We also invite all farmers, clubs to send in reports of their meetings and to remember that we wish them to consider the CULTIVATOR the farmers own paper.

The Household Department will contain a large amount of choice reading for all the members of the family, as well as valuable suggestions and information for the housekeeper, reliable recipes for the kitchen, remedies for the sick, and various other matters of interest to the household.

This number is sent you free, in order that you may judge of its merits. If you should decide to become a subscriber, we shall have pleasure in entering your name on our list on receipt of one dollar, the

subscription price for one year; or the Sherbrooke GAZETTE and the CANADIAN CULTIVATOR will be sent to the same address for \$1.50 paid in advance.

A NEGLECTED POINT IN AGRICULTURAL PRACTICE.

The gradual retrogression of all soils under continued cropping is a fact before every farmer, and the ultimate exhaustion is a certainty which he has hoped to ward off by mixed; stock-raising, and farming; making as much manure as possible, and buying cattle food, rather than sell any hay, clover, or grain off the farm.

This is certainly commendable practice but in spite of all such precautions there are few even of our greatest stock-raisers, who do not see a growing decrease in the average yield per acre as the years pass.

The best that can be done, does not fill the bill, and the land cries out for something more, by refusing to do better, till more is done for it. As experience is gained and our knowledge of scientific facts is increased, the soil shows itself to be the more natural; just making the demands we do: sunshine, food, and drink, and a clean body, which means health.

How beneficial a change of manure is, most have noticed, just as much as rotation in crops, and just as a change of diet is good for the animals on the farm.

The more work tilling the soil and bringing it into fine culture, the better the results, just as a showy horse calls for much grooming and attention.

It pays to closely watch the progress of the crops, to weed and cultivate them in good season with the proper help when it is required, taking advantage of every moment. From the purchasing of the seed till the crop is housed, every bit of attention will be rewarded, and only he who gives it combined with education and experience can be a successful agriculturist.

It is very easy to raise a foal or calf, but how much room there is for a wide edu-

cation, how many sciences may be embraced, all applied with good practical common sense, and even then difficulties present themselves, which have to be overcome. It is the same in every business and profession, an easy matter to stand in the crowd, but to be distinguished or even successful a very different thing; and how few really do as well as their faculties and talents would have permitted.

Now, very few farmers in Canada can be brought forward who have really made a study of their soil and how to treat it, however much attention they may have given to stock raising or dairying. How to feed the soil, how to raise the largest and the best paying crops has not received the attention that is required.

From the time the manure is thrown out on an open uncovered pile—when the first disregard of what must ever be an indispensable fertilizer is shown, till the seed is sown; often in dirty and hastily prepared land, one half supplied with the nourishing elements essential, an utter contempt for nature's reasonable demand is shown. Can surprise under the circumstances be expressed when diminishing average crops are spoken of?

Barn manure is firstly valuable because of the fertilizing elements it contains. The largest and most valuable percentage of these is soluble in water and must be washed out by the rain, when exposed as it is, to all weathers. It is just as utterly foolish to leave the pile uncovered as it would be to put the cheese outside unprotected while it was maturing; both have a value, high or low according to the quality of material used in the manufacture, and both are susceptible to loss when exposed; indeed it is doubtful if one more than another, if value for value be considered.

The manure pile must be looked upon as the home fertilizer factory, and the money put into it, will only pay a dividend if the business is well managed.

The first and most urgent thing wanted on very many of our farms is a good shed to cover the pile. Where wood is as cheap