

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE

* AGRICULTURE, STOCK, DAIRY, POULTRY, HORTICULTURE, VETERINARY, HOME CIRCLE.*

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Take Heart of Hope, O Farmer!

(Written for the "Advocate.")
 BY ROBERT ELLIOTT, FLOWER MILLS, ONT.
 The white field, the green field,
 The field all yellow gold,
 Have grown and gone in magic-wise
 Till now we see with wistful eyes,
 And something of a sad surprise,
 The year is growing old.
 Some glad days, some sad days,
 Some days that woke despair,
 You gave to us—you strange old year—
 And yet to prove your heart sincere,
 And our long-doubting souls to cheer,
 Your closing days are fair.
 Yes, now dear, we know dear,
 Your gloom was sent to show
 How more than passing fair would shine
 Above the somber-shadow'd pine,
 Sweet earnest of a day divine,
 The rosy sunrise glow.
 Erst blind dear, unkind dear,
 We reach adown the slope
 To grasp your hand before you go,
 To bless you kindly for the flow
 Of good to us, and most you know,
 For our new heart of hope.

O farmer! strong farmer!
 Anear and far away,
 O'er prairie wide, by singing sea;
 On hill and dale and sunny lea,
 Lift up your eyes wh'er you be—
 Behold the better day!

You toiler! you moiler!
 Take heart of hope once more;
 Our Canada is good and true,
 Be kind to her in all you do,
 And she shall still prove kind to you:—
 Kind, kinder than of yore.

Her heart is with you, farmer,
 For when you slip she sighs,
 And when you fall she trembles, reels,
 Half-dazed 'mid fortune's whirling wheels,
 And when she sees you rise she feels
 The heart within her rise.

From Christmas to Christmas;
 From smiling May to May,
 Sift well the seeds of time and sow
 Good deeds until your harvests grow,
 To catch the smiles of heaven and show
 Bright gleams of perfect day.

Announcement.

"CORN AND GOLD" THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE COLORS FOR 1897.
 TO OUR READERS.—The present being the Christmas issue of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, it appears with a special cover in colors. As the central feature of the frontispiece, our artist has utilized a lifelike "morning meal" farm scene, with an appropriate setting representative of the glory of Canadian grain fields. A jocular friend at our elbow suggests that the wistful-looking individual with lengthy ears in the background is like the non-subscriber to the ADVOCATE, for the simple reason that "he is not in it." Among the many other illustrations, that of Mr. Crossley's "Sandy Bay Farm," sketched last autumn by our artist, is typical of Muskoka, that picturesque portion of Ontario. We also give engravings of several typical Canadian farm scenes, a couple of beautiful Western ranch views, two glimpses of farm steadings in "Auld Scotia" which will awaken tender memories in the minds of many of our older readers. To make room for the engravings and numerous special articles, we have enlarged the paper materially and surrendered most of the space usually devoted to everyday farm subjects, which we will resume in our January 1st issue, with an increased contributing staff of the most practical men in Canada.

We take pleasure in announcing that, beginning with January 1st, 1897, the Ontario and Eastern edition of the ADVOCATE, and Manitoba and Western edition, respectively, will appear bound in colors of

gold and corn, which we trust our readers will regard as appropriate to Canada's first industry. A large number of our subscribers retain and bind the papers year after year, and the cover will assist in their preservation.

For lack of space, our premium announcements do not appear in this issue, but may be found in any back number from Nov. 2nd to Dec. 1st.

New subscribers will receive a copy of the handsome Christmas Number and all of 1897 for \$1.00. Single copy, in strong tube for mailing, 25c. Subscribers desiring extra copies for sending abroad, or to friends away from home, will be supplied at reduced rates.

To our many friends throughout Canada and elsewhere, who have done so much in extending our circulation and giving their best experience in letters for publication, we are greatly indebted, and rely upon their co-operation for the future.

To all we extend the greetings of the Christmas season, with the assurance that they will have the best services of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE in 1897.
 THE WILLIAM WELD CO., LTD.

The Outlook for Canadian Farming.

Probably the most comprehensive review of Canadian farming ever published is that presented in this issue of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE from the pens of writers competent to speak in all the different Provinces of the Dominion. They have discussed in turn its Tendencies, Needs, and Prospects. The importance of a survey of this kind is readily seen. It broadens the view from a mere localism and enables us the better, as farmers, to take stock of the present situation and our bearings for the future. The testimony of Hon. Mr. Greenway and Mr. Mackay clearly emphasizes that the tendency of the Great Northwest is towards diversified or mixed husbandry, in which unquestionably lies safety. When, however, we consider the peculiar adaptability of Manitoba and the Northwest for producing the world's finest wheat and the vast areas there yet unbroken by the plow, it can readily be understood that wheat will be one of its greatest exporting staples for years to come, but with other products steadily increasing. The stall feeding of cattle is developing wonderfully in Manitoba, and when coupled with that is the natural luxuriance of the Western plains for grazing, as one of our ranch scenes indicates, we need not wonder at the immense train loads of cattle on the hoof every summer rolling Britainward. One of the special needs of Manitoba at the present time is a practical school of agriculture, with the dairy school in conjunction, where young men could take a winter course. Mr. Gosnell presents the situation in British Columbia with a trenchant and suggestive pen, and with a degree of frankness that is begotten of absolute confidence in the future of that wonderful Province, the mountains, the forests, the soil and the waters of which are alike teeming with half-developed wealth. Among the many "needs" of that Province are railways into the mining country. Ontario pursues the even tenor of its way with increasing attention to specialties, to which there is a growing tendency generally in Canada. Specialty farming is doubtless the most profitable, but natural conditions and markets must be favorable and there must be special knowledge and skill. The bulk of the year's returns may come from fat cattle, or dairying, or fruit, but all lines should be so conducted as to contribute to the general fund, each being managed as though it were a specialty. Ontario holds its position *par excellence* as a breeding ground for pure-bred stock. A section of Quebec, too, has a progressive band of breeders. In some sections, like the Niagara Peninsula, fruit-growing is forging to the front; Quebec, ditto; while the Nova Scotia Annapolis Valley has become world-famed in that regard. From every Province and the Territories comes the refrain—dairying, dairying, dairying. With so many other countries on the same tack, we do not wonder that the battle ground is shifted to quality and in crowded markets prices tend downward, and the lower grades go to the wall. But Canada will hold her own. The Maritime Provinces are enjoying a distinct agricultural revival. One of the practical "needs" which is overlooked is that of forest preservation and tree planting. From Quebec comes a plea for better educa-

tion and a guiding hand to better methods in matters of the farm that might seem a trifle strange to the self-reliant independence of the Westerner. Mr. Chipman, of Nova Scotia, voices the demand for the better transportation of farm products to the best markets. For the individual farmer, he avers, it (the Government) can do little but let him alone; i.e., leave him unhampered and keep down his burden of taxation. There is an astonishing willingness nowadays on the part of the office and contract seeker "to help the farmer." From every quarter comes a cry for improved stock, to which Hon. John Dryden—than whom the Continent has no better authority—gives in his article on "Canadian Live Stock Husbandry" a splendid response, which we hope will sink deep into the consciousness of every farmer, because his advice, properly applied, will mean millions added to the agricultural assets of Canada. We have a bright glimpse of American farming, and one of the ablest reviews of British agriculture, where the situation is none too comfortable, that we have read for a long time. To the consideration of our legislators, both Provincial and Federal, we commend the expression of the needs of agriculture given by those able and representative writers from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The past dull times and low prices have been an education to "thriftiness," better and more discriminating methods begotten of increased knowledge, an ever-growing "need." The prospects are most assuredly brighter—the testimony is a unit on that point, and is aptly and poetically expressed by Mr. Robert Elliott himself, a true son of the soil, in his beautiful lines, "Take Heart of Hope, O Farmer."

Canadian Agricultural Exports Since 1867.

Nearly three decades have passed since Confederation. The Imperial Parliament passed the British North America Act on Feb. 10th, 1867, and on July 1st of that year the Dominion of Canada became an accomplished fact. The record of our progress is an interesting and profitable study. Figures are not always dry reading. The following tabulated statements, for which we are indebted to Mr. Geo. Johnston, Dominion Statistician, Ottawa, are quite the reverse. Statement No. 1 shows (a) the total value of exports (the produce of Canada) to all countries, and (b) to Great Britain and the United States. Statement No. 2 shows total animal and agricultural products (produce of Canada) exported respectively to Britain and the United States. Statement No. 3 gives details of the quantities and values of the principal animal and agricultural products exported in 1867 and in 1896, showing at a glance what progress has been made in different lines. We might add that the present season of navigation recently closed showed an export of cattle amounting to over 100,000 head, or nearly 4,000 more than last year, but there was a falling off in sheep and horses. There were large increases in wheat and other grains, and nearly half a million more barrels of apples than in 1895. Some 1,725,000 boxes of cheese were exported, an increase of 16,000 over 1895, and of butter, 167,321 packages, compared with 69,664 in 1895. The exports of eggs also increased from 94,807 cases to 125,291.

STATEMENT NO. 1.

Year ended 30th June.	Value of Total Exports, Produce of Canada.	Value Exported to—	
		Great Britain.	United States.
1867	\$ 43,892,026	\$ 13,253,906	\$ 26,275,008
1868	45,504,599	17,905,308	25,349,568
1869	52,400,772	20,485,838	26,718,207
1870	59,043,590	21,160,987	31,734,710
1871	57,630,024	21,579,427	29,320,987
1872	65,831,083	25,223,785	32,814,174
1873	76,538,025	31,431,177	36,708,688
1874	76,741,997	35,580,330	33,132,394
1875	69,709,323	34,173,687	27,928,197
1876	72,491,437	36,398,584	28,061,155
1877	68,030,546	35,491,071	24,326,332
1878	67,969,800	35,861,110	24,381,009
1879	62,431,025	29,398,424	25,492,029
1880	72,894,097	35,208,031	29,568,311
1881	83,914,701	39,816,513	34,058,431
1882	94,137,660	42,637,219	45,782,584
1883	87,702,431	39,672,104	39,379,188
1884	79,833,098	37,410,870	34,332,641
1885	79,131,735	36,479,051	35,568,810
1886	77,756,704	36,694,263	34,284,490
1887	80,960,909	38,714,531	35,263,922
1888	81,382,072	38,646,284	40,407,483
1889	85,257,588	35,594,281	39,519,940
1890	80,272,456	41,499,149	36,213,279
1891	88,801,066	43,243,784	37,872,758
1892	99,338,913	54,949,055	34,972,517
1893	105,798,257	58,409,606	37,695,599
1894	104,161,770	60,878,056	32,572,515
1895	103,085,012	57,905,594	35,890,434
1896	109,923,752	62,718,941	37,985,928