

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

VOL. XV.

LONDON, ONT., AUGUST, 1880.

NO. 8.

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875.

THE EXHIBITION NUMBER

—OF THE—

Farmer's Advocate

AND HOME MAGAZINE

FOR 1880

WILL BE ISSUED ON OR ABOUT THE
TENTH SEPTEMBER NEXT.

60,000 Copies to be Issued.

Our fourth annual issue of this fast increasing and most successful advertising medium will be the best one ever issued. While thanking our patrons of former years, and the patrons of the ADVOCATE, for their confidence in our endeavors to promote their interests, we can assure them that our endeavors will not be relaxed, and that the increased facilities now in our hands will be used to the utmost for their benefit.

The circulation will be carefully divided among the leading farmers throughout the Dominion.

Prospectuses are now ready, and space can be reserved.

Send for a Circular at once.

Our Prize Essays.

A prize of Five Dollars will be given for the best essay on the "Management of Agricultural Exhibitions." The essay which contains the most practical hints on improving their utility and practical efficiency will be awarded the prize. We will allow all to compete for this prize, whether subscribers or not. The essay must be in our office by the 15th of August.

Competitors must write on one side of the paper only. The essay receiving the prize is to be the property of this journal. Unsuccessful essays will be returned on request by sending stamps for return postage.

The Month.

Another month has passed by and it has been a busy, and in some cases an anxious one, to the farmer. The winter wheat crop throughout Ontario is now pretty well secured, and in some cases the barley as well. The weather has been somewhat uncertain, causing many farmers to be rather hasty housing their grain, and others who were not careful in binding and shocking-up close after the machine have suffered more or less damage. Still, on the whole, there is no real cause of complaint.

In Ontario and Prince Edward Island the hay and grain crop is heavier than in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick or the eastern portion of Quebec.

In the midland counties of Ontario the spring wheat promises a fair crop, while in the west it is hardly worth cutting.

The barley crop is good.

The acreage sown in peas is not as large as usual, but the crop looks exceedingly promising, and where there are no bugs the yield will be heavy.

Oats are a very heavy crop nearly everywhere in Ontario.

The live stock trade between Canada and England is showing a marked development; the shipments to Liverpool in June, 1880, being about double that of June, 1879.

Root crops of all kinds are above the average of previous years. Pass the scuffler frequently through the rows, keeping the surface mellow.

After the early crops are removed rye or rape may be sown with profit for fall feed. As soon as the crops are removed the land should be worked thoroughly; if this can be done during the hot dry weather which generally occurs from the middle of August until the middle of September, good results will be obtained.

Potatoes are better harvested as soon as ripe, which may be told by their tops dying down.

In marketing fruit care should be taken to pick the fruit without bruising. Sort carefully, putting each grade by itself—3 grades should be made. More permanent profit will be derived than by selling in an unsorted mass. In picking fruit care should be taken not to injure the tree; no picker should be allowed to climb about in a tree with heavy nailed boots. Pick from stands or ladders if you can, but if you must get up in the tree it is better to wear rubbers.

The worms of the codling moth are in the windfall apples now; pick all up and feed to stock.

Hurry up the threshing and roll the grain in to market, now the price is good. Early prices are likely to be the best.

Which is the best kind of winter wheat to sow, will be again asked. Sow that variety that thrives best in your locality. Each kind has advantages and disadvantages. We will give particulars in next issue.

Our regular subscribers are freely invited to send for as many copies of the Exhibition number as they may be willing to distribute among those who are interested in rural affairs. All our friends who are satisfied with the efforts we have made to please and instruct them, are solicited to aid us, through this Fair number, in so extending our circulation that further improvements may be inaugurated and sustained during 1881.

Any subscriber may become our agent.

Postmasters are requested to act as our agents. A cash commission of twenty-five cents will be allowed for each new subscriber paid for one year, sent in singly. Increased commission for ten new subscribers and over.

Our new premium list will appear shortly, and will be found liberal and attractive.

One name or a dozen may be forwarded at any time. Subscriptions can commence with any number of the ADVOCATE.

Home Again.

We have just returned from a rapid tour of six weeks through Quebec and the Maritime Provinces. We have taken this journey for the purpose of learning more about our sister provinces and their agricultural resources and requirements, so that we may be enabled to impart more suitable information to them and about them. We believe we have gained much information from them that will be of benefit to our readers in Ontario and in our west and north-west provinces. It would fill a volume to impart to you even half of what we deem would be of interest and importance for you all to know, but we hope in future numbers to impart much that will be interesting and valuable to every reader in any province of the union. We have met with very courteous, kind and generous treatment from all the editors and leading farmers we have met. We return our sincere thanks to those that have shown us such great kindness. Steamboats, sailing craft, railways and horses and carriages have been placed freely at our disposal—almost always unsolicited—to enable us to see the different parts we visited. We have used 10 different lines of railroads, 9 steamboats, 1 sailing craft, 12 rowing boats, and 23 private carriages, besides a host of street cars, omnibuses, cabs, &c.

There are numerous invitations in many of the Provinces that we have not been able to accept. We know any reasonable person who has invited us, and many besides whom we would fain have called on, will pardon our inability to visit them more, but we hope to be able to take another flight some day. When on the wing we generally fly swiftly and call unexpectedly, and in every agricultural locality we are pleased to find lots of friends.

A gentleman experimented with peas in this way:—He saved at the time of picking all the early full pods as they ripened, and planted the seeds saved from these pods year after year, for three years, and the fourth year had peas of the same name, that were more than two weeks earlier than the seed of the same name purchased in the store. Seeds of cabbage, lettuce, tomato, cucumber, peas, corn and many others can be much improved by the same care.

THE ARMY WORM IN NEW BRUNSWICK.—The Maritime Farmer says there are alarming accounts from a number of the farmers of Sunbury and Queens of the ravages of a new enemy—the Army Worm. Their depredations as yet have been along the river at intervals, and though they have been at work but a short time, already hundreds of tons of hay have been destroyed by them.

Something new in Canadian exports to Great Britain is baled hay. Large quantities have been exported to the United States for several years past, but this is the first year that any has been sent elsewhere. Over 180 tons have already been despatched by two of the Allans' sailing ships from Montreal, and some 200 tons more are now being loaded at the same port.