

# FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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## The Farmer's Advocate

—AND—

### HOME MAGAZINE.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY.....WILLIAM WELLS.  
 OFFICE:—ADVOCATE BUILDING, LONDON, ONT.

**TO SUBSCRIBERS:**  
 TERMS.—\$1 per annum, postage paid; \$1.25 when in arrears. Single copies 10 cents each.

We cannot change the address of a subscriber unless he gives us his former as well as his present address. Subscribers should always send their subscriptions by registered letter, and give their name and post office address in full. Subscriptions can commence with any month. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary, are considered as wishing to continue their subscriptions.

**TO ADVERTISERS:**  
 Our rates for single insertion are 20c. per line—\$2.40 per inch, space of nonpareil (a line consists on an average of eight words).

Manufacturers and Stock Breeders' cards inserted in "Special List" at \$1 per line per annum.

Condensed farmers' advertisements of agricultural implements, seeds, stock or farms for sale, or farms to let, not to exceed four lines, 50c., prepaid.

Advertising accounts rendered quarterly.

Advertisements, to secure insertion and required space, should be in by 20th of each month.

Letters enclosing remittances, &c., only acknowledged when specially requested. Our correspondence is very heavy and must be abridged as much as possible.

1877 ADIEU!—The past season has been one of the most favorable for Canadian farmers. Peace and plenty now reign supreme; the crops, with but a few exceptions, have been most abundant, and prices highly remunerative. During the past three years many have been ruined, and farmers were obliged to economize and work harder than they would otherwise have done, on account of bad crops and low prices. This season farmers have made money; many will make as much as \$2,000 this year, some much more. The prices of nearly all farm products are now high, and the prospects are that we are not likely to see prices as low as they have been in the past three years. The opening of the markets for live stock in Europe enhances the value of every acre of land in the Dominion. We think the position of the Canadian farmer when he has good land, is quite as good as in any part of this continent. We may expect a larger number of English, Scotch and Irish farmers, with capital, to come to our country than we have yet seen.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE FOR 1878.—Our aim is to give the best and cheapest agricultural publication procurable. Great improvement in this journal has taken place every year since its commencement. Every exertion will be made to make the volume for 1878 far superior in every respect to any volume yet published. Every year our circulation has increased; every unprejudiced, enterprising farmer who has once taken it, continues to take it. The more subscribers we get the greater improvements we are enabled to make. We wish every friend of the ADVOCATE to aid us and his fellow farmers, and aid the advancement of our agri-

cultural prosperity by using a little exertion to induce one more farmer to subscribe. Is there any more useful manner in which you could employ a few hours, or even say a few words, than to increase the spread of agricultural information? Let everyone try what they can do; if there is a will there is a way. We would like to see our two handsome presents hanging in every house in the Dominion, namely, the large and handsome pictures, "The Offer" and "Accepted." We will give either of these pictures to any old subscriber who sends us one new subscriber, accompanied with the cash, or the pair for two new subscribers. We have not yet seen such handsome and refined pictures, suitable for the finest parlor or the family cottage.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Many communications have not been attended to because writers have not signed their names. We must have the right name and address in our office. It is not necessary that the name should be published. If you have a friend or two that you consider the ADVOCATE would benefit, send the names to this office and we will send them a sample copy.

### On the Wing.

When last in Hamilton our curiosity led us to see a clock factory, as one has been established there for about a year. This factory will enable us to have clocks in our houses made in our own country. It gives employment to labor and capital, and will help to build up our country. There are nearly a hundred hands now employed, and the proprietors expect ere long to have one hundred and fifty employed. They find that they are enabled to supply the Canadian trade with clocks which are quite as good and cheaper time-pieces than the American manufacturers can supply.

It is very interesting to see all the hands at work. The wheels are all shaped from long, thin flakes of brass; these appear before being stamped just like pieces of hoop-iron, differing only in color. The pieces are then strung on iron bolts in bunches of one or two hundred; the teeth or cogs are made by passing these bundles below a saw, which cuts out the grooves, leaving the portions forming the cogs.

Perhaps the part of the establishment that appeared to draw our attention the most, should we be ashamed to print it, was that department they call the "Dentistry." Here the fair sex are employed in packing up little short pieces of wire, and making the pinion wheels. Men are employed in fitting up the clocks. The clocks are then all set in motion and run for two days to a week, to be sure that all are right before sending any out. They are then packed and sent to the different wholesale and retail dealers in different parts of the Dominion.

These Canadian made clocks may be seen at Mr. A. S. Murray & Co's jewelry establishment in this city, who are agents for this Western District. This Canadian Clock Company is aiming not only to supply Canadians, but to extend the sales to the other British possessions. We wish all such enterprising prosperity.

### Choice of Seeds.

There is no need of adducing proofs of the benefits to be obtained by the change of seed. Experience has proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that by a judicious change the best results may be obtained. "An exchange of seeds grown on barren or gravelly land for those grown from a limestone soil will, it is claimed, have a good effect. Make an exchange of seeds; get good seeds, and better results will be plainly wrought out." Select the best for the parent grains if you would have the product of the best quality. Seed, perfect of its kind, fully grown, and thoroughly ripened, is an absolute necessity to the obtaining of a crop of superior quality and satisfactory quantity. These three conditions are requisite. Though fully grown and ripened, there cannot be a good quality if the seed be not perfect of its kind; and it is in vain to expect a crop from seed even perfect of its kind if it has not ripened thoroughly. It is well, then, to select our seed grain from such localities as are best adapted, from climate and soil, to bring it to the greatest perfection. But we must also bear in mind that a sudden transition from a temperate climate to one of great extremes cannot be conducive to favorable results. Plants can be acclimatized by time and care only. In maize (Indian corn) we have a well-known instance of the necessity of full growth and thorough ripening. We sometimes see samples of corn that appear in every respect perfect and fit for seed, and yet when they are planted they do not germinate, but rot in the soil. Such seed has not ripened thoroughly; it has been prematurely checked by an extreme lowering of the temperature.

The farther north, within the wheat-bearing region, that wheat is grown, so much the better is the quality of the grain produced. The extremes of temperature render it hardier, and the uninterrupted heat, with almost continued light, cause an early maturity. It has also been proved by repeated trials that seed from high northern regions having a property of early maturing retains for years that precocity of habit, and matures and ripens in a shorter period than that from a more southern and temperate clime. This great precocity of seed from the far north is well known in Europe. Scotland produces the best seed grain for the more temperate regions of England and Ireland. In an article on "Vegetation in High Latitudes," this precocity is well illustrated from the growth of cereals in Norway. In that extreme northern country wheat is raised as far north as our territory around the Hudson's Straits, oats still farther north, and barley within the Arctic Circle. The most striking point is the singular precocity of the native grains and the short period required for perfect ripening. Wheat, for instance, sown in the last week of May is reaped toward the end of August. The native grain indeed has been known to mature in 74 days, but 105 are demanded by the varieties imported from southern