

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE

VOL. XIX.

LONDON, ONT., APRIL, 1884.

Whole No. 220.

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875.

FOUNDED 1866

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.

Voluntary correspondence containing useful and seasonable information solicited, and if need, will be liberally paid for. No notice taken of anonymous correspondence. We do not return rejected communications.

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Please examine the date on your address label, which shows the time your subscription is paid up to, and if you have not paid in advance, please forward the amount of your indebtedness. Our rate, as you are aware, is \$1.25 when in arrears. We do not send receipts, as the change of date on the label answers.

Our Monthly Prize Essay.

Our prize of \$5.00 for the best essay on the "Cheapest and Best Method of Fencing, and how can the cost of such be lessened," has been awarded to Mr. T. E. Washington, of Solina, Ont. The essay appears in this issue.

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.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on "How Can Farmers Make the Best and Cheapest Cheese for Their Own Use." The essay to be from the practical experience of the farmers or female members of their households, and must be sent into this office before the 15th May.

Sheaves from our Gleaner.

Tillage increases plant food.
Let cattle drink when they please.
Soil is enriched by exposure to air.
Look out for your hired help early.
Good hen manure is as good as guano.
No food is so rich (nitrogenous) as veal.
Nothing so profitable as a good compost.
Of all tillage operations, the most effective is frost.
Weeds steal nourishment from the crop's mouth.
Matter composed of carbon is no use as a fertilizer.
Kainit or ashes should be put on land deficient in potash.

If you want good farm implements, now is the time to look through the advertisements. Pulverize your surface soil fine; it will hold more plant food, and give you an even seed-bed.

The biggest bonanza within the reach of the farmer is knowing how to feed stock and utilize the stock most profitably.

Sheep breeders in England have ascertained that mutton pays better than wool, and that fat lambs are more profitable than mutton.

Farm yard manure, although a general manure, contains too much potash for clay soils. Hence the benefit derived from mixing special fertilizers with it. If well cured, it contains the same quantity of plant food as five dollars' worth of artificial manure.

Feed your fowls charred grain occasionally
Buttermilk is good for causing poultry to lay eggs.

Ireland is said to be now almost entirely free from foot-and-mouth disease.

Treat your young animals with kindness if you want them to thrive. Food isn't all.

Count the cost of letting your cattle lose in winter what they gained the previous summer.

Don't eat raw hog flesh. It may be infected with trichina spiralis, which may prove fatal to the eater.

The U. S. Congress has passed the long discussed bill for the prevention and cure of pleuro-pneumonia.

Experiments have proved that wheat flourishes best when the seed is sown two inches deep.

Saw-dust and peat are better for littering than straw; they absorb more urine, and fermenting the manure is not necessary.

Don't allow any sudden or extreme change of temperature to affect your milk or cream; it will spoil the keeping qualities of the butter.

During the winter 300,000 bushels of turnips have been shipped from one locality in Canada to be manufactured into jam.

In experiments with pigs conducted at the State Agricultural College, Kansas, Prof. Shelton arrived at the conclusion that milk is the most profitable food.

It is unsafe to use old eggs for nest eggs. China or glass eggs are cheap enough, and there is no danger of them being gathered along with the nest eggs, and they are not liable to break and make a mess of the nests.

CREAM SEPARATOR.—In an advertisement appearing in this issue will be found a cut of the De Laval Cream Separator. In Quebec Province several of these separators are in use, but we are not aware that there are any used in Ontario. The great advantage of the separator is that it can extract the cream from the fresh milk. In the vicinity of towns where there is a great demand for sweet milk, these separators are of very great importance, as the milk will command within a trifle of the price of unskimmed milk. Numerous testimonials are given showing the benefits of these machines in butter factories. We would commend all interested parties to send for a catalogue. See methods of separating cream, page 102.