

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE —AND— HOME MAGAZINE.

WILLIAM WELD, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

The Leading Agricultural Journal Published
in the Dominion.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the 1st of each month. Is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners or stockmen, of any publication in Canada.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

1. \$1.00 per year in advance; \$1.25 if in arrears. Single copies 10 cents each.
2. Subscriptions can commence with any month.
3. Remittances at the risk of the subscriber unless made by registered letter or money order.
4. Subscribers who desire to change their P. O. address must send us both old and new address.
5. The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is continued until otherwise ordered. The name of the subscriber is taken off the list with the same promptitude in all cases that it is put on, provided all arrears are paid up, but we cannot stop a paper unless the name of the Post Office, as well as that of the subscriber, is sent to us.
6. The address label shows when your subscription expires.

ADVERTISING RATES:

Single insertion, 25 cents per line.
Rates for contract advertisements furnished on application.
Rates for farmers, seedsmen, stock breeders and others will find this journal an unrivalled advertising medium.
No advertisement inserted for less than \$1.00 cash.
Terms for Breeders' Cards at head of column.
The FARMER'S ADVOCATE has the largest circulation among the best people in Canada. Its advertisements are reliable and are read.

Address—
THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE,
390 Richmond Street,
LONDON ONT., CANADA.

Our Monthly Prize Essays.

Our prize of \$5.00 for the best original essay, on *How can Public Expenditures for Agricultural Purposes be Turned to the Best Interest of the Farmers?* has been awarded to Mr. J. S. Pearce, London, Ont. The essay appears in this issue.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best original essay on *The Advantages of Planting Nut bearing Trees.* Essays to be handed in not later than December 15th.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best original essay on *The Agricultural and Social Elevation of the Farmers.* Essays to be handed in not later than Jan. 15th, 1886.

We find that our illustrations have been copied without due credit in Canada, England and the United States, and that our writings have also been used without due credit, notwithstanding our copyright. Even the form of our paper, the color of cover, and in two instances the very name of our paper, have been adopted. This last infringement was the only one we stopped, or attempted to stop. Even the seeds we have introduced have been infringed on in one way by persons sending out wrong varieties under the improper names, sometimes by altering the names entirely. We wish to do good; we wish you to have the best. We spare no pains to secure the best, and to attempt to prevent these injurious practices as much as possible, we prefer withholding the names of some of our choicest prizes for a time. We must, in self-defence, use the common weapon, closer secrecy in our business with our subscribers.

This year the Agricultural Emporium may be placed on a properly organized footing. This year we hope the reports of the Farmers' Council may be read with pleasure and profit by you. This year we trust greater improvements will be made in your ADVOCATE than ever before. Have not the seed and plant prizes heretofore been the most advantageous and cheapest the country ever had? Has not your ADVOCATE been improved every year?

Editorial.

The Farmer's Advocate for 1886.

"THE GOOD SHIP TIGHT AND FREE."

Your ADVOCATE will next year attain its majority, the age of 21. We trust it will not then be at its maturity, but, as during the past 20 years, be yearly improved or enlarged in size, circulation and utility. Do any of you know of any other publication in Canada that has been improved every year for 20 years in some way or another? Have you any other publication that has advocated your interests so faithfully and independently? Is there any other publication that furnishes you with such a variety of the most useful and valuable information for yourself and your family? Is there any dollar expended from your farm that is doing you and your family more good? Is there any way in which you can expend \$1 in obtaining reliable, unabridged, valuable and timely information in regard to your calling, that is more important to you? Who is to own your farm—the sheriff or your children? Every publication has some main object in view. If your ADVOCATE has been true to its name during the past twenty years, why doubt its future course? These are questions that you should consider.

Perfection has not yet been accomplished in your farming operations, neither has it been attained in any editorial chair. If we aim to conquer we can accomplish something. You must either be advancing or retrograding; perfect rest is not attainable here. We hope to do much more good in the future than in the past. We now place the annual envelopes in this journal and have every confidence that they will return in such a manner as to enable us in the incoming year, as in the past years, again to improve your journal.

On the Wing.

JAPAN IVY.

When in Ohio years ago in quest of the Democrat wheat, we passed through the main street of Cleveland. Here the residences of the wealthy were located; all the devices for the decoration of their mansions and lawns were here displayed; but among all the splendor of these floral devices, statuary and trees, nothing arrested our attention so much as the sight of a cross on one of these lawns. It was high, and completely covered with the Virginia creeper. From the arms of the cross the long pendants of this creeper were waving gracefully in the air. When in Mr. Landreth's 30 acre park at Bristol, Pa., the oldest and finest on this continent, being shown magnificent trees planted over 100 years ago, no plant or tree secured so much admiration from us as the Japan ivy, covering the gable end of a three-story Elizabethan mansion. The foliage appeared to us to surpass that of the English ivy, as seen covering the ancient castles of our native land. When in Rochester this fall, in the centre of the street in front of Mr. Vicks' seed establishment, was erected what we thought the largest and most perfect model of a cross we had seen. It was erected on a pedestal, was about thirty feet high, and covered with evergreens. It appeared to us much more effective than the usual arches erected for decoration. We instructed our engraver to make a cut of the cross as if covered

with Japan ivy (see first page). By the side you see the young tendrils and the full grown leaves. It takes three years growth to produce a perfect leaf. This plant was introduced a few years ago by Mr. Landreth, and is found perfectly hardy by him. Messrs. Ellwanger Barry's office, in Rochester, is already nearly covered by it. Mr. Ellwanger considers it perfectly hardy after the first year. Some of the best houses in Rochester now have it crawling up their sides. In Boston a large proportion of the best houses are now getting their sides covered with it. When in Boston we went to Mount Auburn Cemetery. The beautiful appearance of this, we might almost term the paradise of terrestrial resting places, cannot be described in the limited space we can now spare to it, but here, while leisurely walking among the profusion of grass, flowers, shrubs and tombs, a grey squirrel ran along the low stone enclosure of a monument, and ran up a tree. This drew our attention more particularly to this spot. We read the name Longfellow. We were really standing by the side of the tomb of this man, who we consider the best American poet, because he wrote that, to us, the most beautiful poem, "The Psalm of Life." Every child in our land should know it. In case you have forgotten, we will reproduce it here:—

A PSALM OF LIFE.

WHAT THE HEART OF THE YOUNG MAN SAID
TO THE PSALMIST.

Tell me not, in mournful numbers,
"Life is but an empty dream!"
For the soul is dead that slumbers,
And things are not what they seem.

Life is real! Life is earnest!
And the grave is not its goal;
"Dust thou art, to dust returnest,"
Was not spoken of the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
Is our destined end or way;
But to act, that each to-morrow
Find us farther than to-day.

Art is long, and Time is fleeting,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums, are beating
Funeral marches to the grave.

In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of Life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!
Be a hero in the strife!

Trust no Future, how'er pleasant!
Let the dead Past bury its dead!
Act,—act in the living Present!
Heart within, and God o'erhead.

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time:

Footprints, that perhaps another,
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labour and to wait.

By the sides of the curb stones several plants of the Japan ivy had been recently planted; our hands were almost inclined to commit a sacrilege by taking a slip, but we went to the gardener and purchased a plant to bring to Canada. The gardener informed us it was perfectly hardy after the first year. We can not claim to be the first to introduce it into Canada, as two plants are thriving in this city. This ivy sheds its leaves in the fall. We do not think this will answer only in favorable parts of the Dominion, and will thrive best in the southern part of Ontario. There are those that desire the best of anything, and to be the first to introduce any new improvement. We want every one of you to have a creeper of some