

# FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE

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WILLIAM WELD, - - EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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**The FARMER'S ADVOCATE and HOME MAGAZINE** 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.

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Subscribers to the FARMER'S ADVOCATE visiting London will find themselves welcome at our editorial rooms.

FARMER'S HAND BOOK FOR 1884.—Our stock of this book is now completely exhausted, and further orders cannot be filled. The Hand Book for 1885 will be issued early in December next; price, paper, 25c., and in cloth covers 50c. each. Orders can now be sent in.

We are now prepared to get up first-class engravings of live stock, buildings, implements, etc. These illustrations will be brought out by the best artists and engravers in Canada, and inserted, with appropriate descriptions, in reading columns of the ADVOCATE. Satisfaction guaranteed; extra copies supplied. Write for further and full particulars.

**The Ladies' Manual of Fancy Work.**

The price of above useful work is not 30c. as stated by a printer's error in July number, but 50c. per mail.

**Choice Premiums.**

Our subscribers should read our list of choice, new premiums offered in another column of this issue for sending in new subscribers. They consist of the latest varieties of fall wheat, strawberry plants, flower seeds, etc.

**Our Monthly Prize Essay.**

Our prize of \$5.00 for the best essay on "The Best Methods of Economizing Work on the Farm," has been awarded to D. J. Morton, Leith. The essay appears in this issue.

**Sheaves from Our Gleaner.**

- Bathe often.
- Drive, or be driven.
- Never sell your best cow.
- Keep an eye on the markets.
- Farming is a matter of details.
- Ventilate houses and stables well.
- Clean horses' shoulders and collars.
- Talk about exhibitions and farmers' clubs.
- Four corner-stones—cropping, stocking, manuring, draining.
- Why haven't you a soiling crop to keep up the flow of milk?
- No thieves in well guarded houses, no weeds in well guarded fields.
- A debatable question: Are rats more destructive than fire?
- Keep your bank account low and your manure heap high.
- The farm should compare in size and quality with the farmer's brain.
- The wheat midge is committing ravages in the vicinity of London.
- In this season idle boys and idle land will give you endless trouble in the future.

**Correspondents.**

Correspondents from all sections are cordially invited to send us their favors, when they have something to say; short, practical and readable articles, as well as seasonable ones, are always acceptable.

We want live, energetic agents in every county to canvas for subscribers to our paper, believing it will be of mutual advantage to patrons as well as to publisher. We pay a liberal commission to agents who devote their time to our work. Write about it and send for specimen copies. Address—  
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**Editorial.**

**Farmers' Exhibitions.**

A correspondent in another column complains of the efforts which are being made to destroy the township exhibitions, and build up those having a Provincial character. This is a question of vital importance to our farmers. It has been said that the township exhibition is a practical school for adult farmers. Although this is the grandest conception of it, yet there are other considerations which must not be entirely overlooked. It comes in a season of the year when the more youthful farmers, after a long siege of incessant toil, seek the long expected day of recreation mingled with pleasure; and then the business aspect must not be lost to the view. The tendency of the times necessitates the greater encouragement of the educating phase of exhibitions. The rapid spread of various breeds of cattle and sheep, and the consequent strides in our live-stock and dairying interests, the introduction of so many varieties of grains and fruits, all these have a direct bearing on the welfare of every progressive farmer and impel him to come into contact with his fellows in every possible manner for the purpose of mutual improvement. Moreover, it cannot be denied that the mass should be educated, not the favored few. If, then, our township exhibitions were abolished and the Provincials encouraged, the result might not inaptly be compared to the abolition of our public schools, and taxing the farmers for the maintenance of a Provincial University.

How many farmers have the leisure or the means whereby they can attend the Provincial or the Industrial? Those who are able to attend have it in their power to materially aid the township exhibitions in their localities, by introducing and exhibiting the leading breeds of cattle, horses, sheep, swine and poultry, or the newest varieties of grains and fruits for the benefit of themselves and their neighbors. But what do they usually do? They gamble in Provincial prizes, and if they condescend to compete in the townships, those farmers who have equally good exhibits, but can only afford to work for sure returns, are lost sight of in the competition. Such scheming would have some ground for defence if it could be proved desirable, in the best interests of the community, to encourage the production of huge and costly rolls of fat or abnormal growths of vegetable productions.

Assuming that every individual or corpora-