

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN  
THE DOMINION.

TWO DISTINCT PUBLICATIONS—ONTARIO AND MANITOBA EDITIONS.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY BY  
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).

EASTERN OFFICE:  
CARLING STREET, LONDON, ONT.

WESTERN OFFICE:  
MOUNTAIN BLOCK, MAIN STREET, WINNIPEG, MAN.

LONDON, ENGLAND, OFFICE:  
W. W. CHAPMAN, Agent, Fitzalan House,  
Strand, London, W. C., England.

JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on the first and fifteenth of each month. It 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, and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION—\$1.00 per year in advance; \$1.25 if in arrears; sample copy free. European subscriptions, 6s. or \$1.50. New subscriptions can commence with any month.
3. ADVERTISING RATES—Single insertion, 30 cents per line. Contract rates furnished on application.
4. DISCONTINUANCES—Remember that the publisher must be notified by letter or post-card when a subscriber wishes his paper stopped. All arrears must be paid. Returning your paper will not enable us to discontinue it, as we cannot find your name on our books unless your Post Office address is given.
5. THE ADVOCATE is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrears must be made as required by law.
6. THE LAW IS, that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrears are paid and their paper ordered to be discontinued.
7. REMITTANCES should be made direct to this office, either by Registered Letter or Money Order, which will be at our risk. When made otherwise we cannot be responsible.
8. ALWAYS GIVE THE NAME of the Post Office to which your paper is sent. Your name cannot be found on our books unless this is done.
9. THE DATE ON YOUR LABEL shows to what time your subscription is paid.
10. SUBSCRIBERS failing to receive their paper promptly and regularly will confer a favor by reporting the fact at once.
11. NO ANONYMOUS communications or enquiries will receive attention.
12. LETTERS intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
13. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve the Advocate, Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known, Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.
14. ALL COMMUNICATIONS in reference to any matter connected with this paper should be addressed as below, and not to any individual connected with the paper.

Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or  
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED),  
LONDON, CANADA.

### An Irishman on Bacon Pig Feeding.

The pig feeders of Ireland have in recent years been producing, on the whole, pigs of very excellent quality—well suited to the manufacture of high-class bacon. This excellence, we need scarcely say, is largely due to the judicious choice of feeding stuffs. Among these, the potato, when sound, is undoubtedly suitable. But when a bad season occurs like the present, it ceases to be a reliable food, both as regards quality and supply, and the farmer is compelled to look for some proper substitute on which to feed his pigs. If he wishes to maintain the quality of his pigs and the reputation of Ireland for producing the finest bacon in the world, it is absolutely necessary that he should be most careful in this respect.

Roots, such as turnips and mangels, which are temptingly abundant this year, will not do; they produce the worst class of pigs for bacon, besides being most disappointing to feeders in putting weight on pigs. Beyond all question, the very best food with which to raise pigs for the bacon trade is barley used as meal with fresh skimmed milk or separated milk. It need not be cooked, but can be wetted with water and the milk added.

In other countries, and particularly Denmark, which in a very few years has won for its bacon a high reputation, barley is the principal feeding stuff employed. So necessary do the farmers there consider it for this purpose that enormous quantities of it are imported every year, and it pays them well to buy barley and feed their pigs on it. If Irish farmers only knew the value of barley as a food for pigs, and how profitably it can be used in that way, they would soon grow much more of that grain than they now do, and they would not have to be anxious about its color as they must be for the distilleries. But even as an imported article they will certainly find it profitable if they once try it properly. What farmers in other countries are doing, they also can do, and they need not run the risk of ruining the bacon trade of the country altogether by ceasing temporarily to raise pigs, or, what is almost as bad, by feeding them on unsuitable foods. —*Alex. W. Shaw, Lunenburg, in Farmers' Gazette.*

### Canada's Coming Competitor.

Never before, perhaps, was a higher tribute paid the Canadian farmer than when the Government of the Argentine Republic decided to send to the Dominion several of its brightest young men to study the agricultural methods of the country from the vantage point of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph. It was a tribute as well to the wisdom of those far-seeing Ontariostatesmen who conceived and carried into effect the plan of a great school of agriculture, to be presided over by men who had made a life study of scientific farming. When one pauses to consider that the Argentine Republic is at the opposite end of the hemisphere, and that between it and Canada are numberless excellent agricultural schools scattered throughout the United States, the compliment becomes the more gratifying.

The circumstances under which Senores George Peltzer, Julio Pano, Alberto C. Fernandez, Cesarea Avila, Eduardo Ibainez, Saile Echegaray, Juan Rivara and Ricardo S. Bustamante came to Canada are interesting. The young men, who began their course at Guelph on Oct. 1st, are all graduates of the universities of their own land, and come of the oldest and best Spanish stock. Senor Peltzer alone is of German extraction, but a native of the Republic. Two years ago the Government of the Republic offered a scholarship, as we should call it, in agriculture to twenty young men. This scholarship included free tuition and expenses in a Canadian or American agricultural college. A national examination was set, and the man passing highest in each province received the trip abroad; while the six passing highest in the national capital, Buenos Aires, were elected to accompany them. The Republic is divided into fourteen provinces and nine territories, the latter not having representation at the national capital, the administrative head of each being a Governor appointed by the Federal Government, in which the provinces are each represented by a Senator and a Deputy Senator. Thus the party consisted of fourteen from the different provinces and six from the capital, making twenty. Senor Juan Rivara, who subsequently joined the other twenty, was not sent by the Government, but came on his own account, upon their recommendation.

The twenty students left Buenos Aires last March. They were then entire strangers to one another. They crossed the ocean to Southampton, visited the British Isles, and then came to New York, going from there to Washington, where they were received by the representative of the Argentine Government. They were there furnished with a prospectus of each principal agricultural college in the United States, as well as that of the Ontario college. After careful consideration, it was arranged that seven of the party should go to Guelph, and the remainder to United States colleges. When Senor Rivara decided to accompany the Canadian party, the number was brought up to eight. The proportion of eight out of twenty-one in favor of Ontario is flattering, to say the least. It should be borne in mind that no one of the American colleges will be visited by more than two of the remaining thirteen.

There are but two agricultural colleges in the Argentine Republic, one situated in the national capital and the other in the southernmost part of the country. When these young Argentinos have completed their course at Guelph and at the United States schools, they will return and remain in the Government employ for three years. At the expiration of this term, several colleges will be established throughout the provinces, in which the advanced science of agriculture, as demonstrated in the Canadian colleges, will be taught to native students.

With the exception of Mexico and Japan, probably no other country in the world has made more rapid and substantial progress during the past two decades than the Argentine Republic, and this despite revolution and long periods of political unrest. This development is most noticeable in agricultural and stock-raising pursuits; and if the productive resources of the country continue to be developed during the next twenty years at the same rate as they have during the past twenty, Canada may well look to her laurels. According to the census of 1895, the Republic had a population of 4,022,990, distributed over an area of 1,190,000 square miles. Of the vast area of land available for agriculture, but 15,000,000 acres, or six per cent., are actually under cultivation. The possibilities of this great undeveloped country, under a Government that is stable enough to defy revolution and progressive enough to send out students into the four corners of the world, are enormous. This resolve to learn the methods of more advanced nations made Japan the England of the East, and will eventually make the Argentine Republic the Canada of South America.

Although the analogy does not extend to its people and their customs, there are many curious points of similarity between the growing young Republic, whose southernmost territory nearly reaches the antarctic circle, and the young Dominion, whose northern shores extend into the arctic twilight. The one first settled by Spaniards, the other by French, both have witnessed the decay and overthrow of an old civilization and the growth of a new. Both are rich in forests, in vast tracts of arable land, and in minerals; both possess a boundless extent of seaboard and great inland waters. While, however, the growth of Canada has been steady, that of the Republic has been spasmodic,

though not less rapid. Prior to 1880 the country was in a comparatively wild and chaotic condition. According to the returns of this year, it now has 9,183 miles of railway in operation, and 25,000 miles of telegraph lines. The Canadian Northwest has been frequently termed the granary of the world, but the term may be applied with equal propriety to Patagonia, the great fertile and almost wholly undeveloped territory of the Argentine, which but a few years ago was an unknown land. A year or two prior to 1880, General Julio J. Roco, who succeeded President Nicolas Avellaneda as the administrative head of the Republic, led an expedition into Patagonia and freed the entire country from Indian domination, opening it for pastoral and agricultural uses up to the Rio Negro river. The possibilities of this immense tract, with its temperate climate, its vast grass-covered plains so admirably adapted to stock-raising, and its fertile soil, are almost beyond the bounds of conception. The country has, however, been under the disadvantage of having been developed almost entirely by Europeans. There was no healthy influx of intelligent, hardy settlers from the older provinces, as was the case in the Canadian Northwest.

The stock-raising industry of Argentina, which has already reached great dimensions, promises, with the success of the sterilized-air method for shipping dressed meat, to assume still greater proportions. The country is essentially one of grazing lands, but it is doubtful if it possesses, as such, any advantages over the Canadian Northwest Territories. To follow up the parallel between the two countries, it is interesting to note that the best foreign horses used by the British army in Africa came from Canada and Argentina.

For purposes of comparison, some statistics of the development of the Republic's export trade, as obtained from the Customs House and Statistical Department at Buenos Aires, may prove interesting. The quantities in these calculations are expressed in tons of 1,000 kilograms, say 2,200 English pounds. The values are expressed in dollars worth about 95 cents in gold.

The total exports of wheat in 1899 amounted to 1,713,429 tons, or 62,825,730 bushels, valued at \$38,078,343, a total which was only exceeded in the years 1893 and 1894. The exports of wheat during the first three months of the year were nearly double those of the corresponding period of 1899. During January, February and March, 1900, they amounted to 674,717 tons, or 24,739,623 bushels, valued at \$15,451,010; as against 364,372 tons, or 13,360,306 bushels, valued at \$9,182,167 for the same period in 1899.

The exports of maize increased from 62,160 tons during the first quarter of 1899, to 99,048 tons for the corresponding quarter this year.

During the first three months of 1899, 90,005 tons of linseed, valued at \$3,060,777, were exported. The figures for the same period of this year were 148,411 tons, valued at \$6,530,063.

Wool, the most important of the Republic's exports, showed a falling off in the export returns for the first quarter of the present year, but there has nevertheless been a steady increase in the export trade since 1893. In that year 123,000 tons, valued at \$25,000,000, were exported; and in 1899 the trade had grown to 237,111 tons, valued at \$71,283,619.

The export trade in sheepskins has steadily increased since 1893, when it amounted to 25,000 tons, valued at \$4,200,000. In 1899 it had reached 42,250 tons, of the value of \$6,195,000.

Of dry cowhides, there were shipped in 1899 23,956 tons, valued at \$8,001,132.

In 1893, 71,000 live sheep, valued at \$363,000, were exported. The trade has increased rapidly, and last year's returns show that 578,000 live sheep, valued at \$1,734,000, were shipped out of the Republic. There was a slight falling off in the number of animals shipped during the first quarter of this year, but the value of the shipments had, nevertheless, increased from \$152,178 to \$175,280.

The law prohibiting the landing of Argentine live stock in Great Britain has probably had something to do with the falling off of shipments of live steers this year. During the first quarter of the year, 58,752 animals were exported, as against 67,299 during the corresponding period of 1899; but the value of the shipments increased from \$1,790,090 to \$1,846,920. The total for 1899 was 360,000 animals, valued at \$7,700,000.

In the first quarter of the present year, 13,115 tons of wethers, valued at \$721,311, were exported, as against 13,688 tons, valued at \$347,510, in the same period of 1899. The total for 1899 was 56,627 tons, valued at \$2,265,069.

What the next quarter of a century will show in the way of development of the Argentine Republic as a great food-producing country can scarcely be conjectured; but that it is bound to become the greatest of Canada's rivals cannot be doubted. It is a country of vast expanse and wonderful fertility, and its people are only now awakening from that Rip Van Winkle sleep in which all South America has been wrapped for so long a period. The English language is daily becoming more popular in the Argentine, as it is the world over; and it is the expressed belief of the young Argentinos now in Guelph that its more general use as the language of commerce will be attended by a quickening of the national pulse. However, proximity to the British markets, the variety and richness of Canada's natural resources, and the general advancement of her people in agriculture, give the Dominion a great vantage ground. The distinguished