

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN
THE DOMINION.

PUBLISHED BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).
LONDON, ONT., and WINNIPEG, MAN.

JOHN WELD, Manager.

1. The Farmer's Advocate is published on the first and fifteenth of each month.
2. 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.
3. Terms of Subscription—\$1.00 per year in advance; \$1.25 if in arrears; sample copy free. European subscription, 6s., or \$1.50. New subscriptions can commence with any month.
4. Advertising Rates—Single insertion, 30 cents per line. Contract rates furnished on application.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. The Law is, that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrears are paid, and their paper ordered to be discontinued.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. The Date on your Label shows to what time your subscription is paid.
11. Subscribers failing to receive their paper promptly and regularly will confer a favor by reporting the fact at once.
12. 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.
13. Replies to circulars and letters of enquiry sent from this office will not be paid for as provided above.
14. No anonymous communications or enquiries will receive attention.
15. Letters intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
16. 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.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
THE WILLIAM WELD CO.,
LONDON, ONTARIO, CANADA.

CONTENTS.

- EDITORIAL:—
65—Illustration. 66—Editorial Notes: Lessons from the Conventions; Our Illustration. 67—Encouraging Words; Death of Mr. F. W. Stone; Profitable Meat Production.
- STOCK:—
67—Our Scottish Letter. 68—Chatty Stock Letter from the States; Canadian Breeders' Associations Hold Their Annual Meetings. 69—Scrubs vs. Beef Breeds for Beef.
- FARM:—
69—Our Water Supply; The Road Question and Narrow Tires. 70—Making Maple Sugar.
- FARMERS' INSTITUTES:—
70—Practical Gleanings from Division No. II.; Practical Gleanings from Ontario, Division No. VII. 71—The Manitoba Central Institute and the Freight Commission.
- DAIRY:—
71—Western Buttermakers take "F. J. S." to Task; Western Ontario Dairymen's Association. 72—Care of a Dairy Herd.
- POULTRY:—
72—Port Hope Poultry Show; The New York Poultry Show.
- APIARY:—
73—Bee-keepers Meet in Convention.
- VETERINARY:—
73—Milk Fever.
- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:—
74—Legal; Veterinary; Miscellaneous.
- FAMILY CIRCLE:—75.
QUIET HOUR:—75.
MINNIE MAY'S DEPARTMENT:—76.
CHILDREN'S CORNER:—76.
UNCLE TOM'S DEPARTMENT:—77.
NOTICES:—77, 78 and 82.
STOCK GOSSIP:—78, 81, 82, 83.
BOOK TABLE:—81.
ADVERTISEMENTS:—77 to 84.

Encouraging Words.

GENTLEMEN, Your valuable paper, the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, reached me on February 2nd, and I am more than delighted with your new departure,—it just teems with good things for farmers; and to read that issue was surprising. A man who pretends to be a dairyman or farmer, and does not take your wide-awake, progressive journal, to help him put dollars in his pocket, simply stands in his own light. I return to my farm and factory about April 1st, and will do what I can to assist you in your noble work.

WM. MELROSE.

Hartford, Conn., Feb. 3rd, 1895.
[NOTE.—Accompanying the above was a list of nearly two dozen addresses of Quebec farmers, to whom we were requested to send sample copies.]

Another reader, in the Province of Ontario, writes that he is greatly pleased with the improvements that have recently been made in the ADVOCATE, and hopes they will continue.

Dr. McNaught, M. P. P., Rapid City, Man., writes: "I read the article by 'Plowman' (in Jan. 15th issue) twice; it really hits the nail right on the head."

Profitable Meat Production.

At this juncture in the history of live stock husbandry, particularly as it relates to meat production, men should realize as never before the absolute necessity of improving the quality of their stock, whether it be cattle, sheep, hogs, or poultry,—the quality that converts the least food, with the least outlay, into the most profitable carcass; the quality that reverses the old order of the "man keeping the critter" to the "critter keeping the man;" the quality that tops every market, instead of going a-begging at the bottom. This quality can only be secured by a judicious introduction of pure-bred stock. In the production of beef or any other product, this is no time for a retrograde movement. With the expansion of dairying there is naturally less attention paid to the production of ideal beefes; in fact, in such localities the supply of beef cattle falls off, and certainly does not improve in quality. Hence the necessity for those with whom beef-cattle rearing is still the "mainstay" to keep their ideal type well in view, breeding and feeding according to such a plan as will keep up the highest degree of quality and keep down the cost of production to the lowest possible notch.

Death of Mr. F. W. Stone.

We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. Frederick W. Stone, of Guelph, Ont., one of the pioneer importers and breeders of pure-bred stock on this Continent. Live stock husbandry in Canada owes a distinct debt of gratitude to the man who did so much to lay the foundation of the position of pre-eminence which the country enjoys to-day, the good influence of his enterprise naturally extending to the neighboring Republic as well. He was a fine representative of an old and worthy type of agriculturists too fast disappearing from view in these days of constant change and ceaseless activity. Deceased was born on the 17th of September, 1814, at Barton-on-the-Heath, Warwickshire, England. In company with the late Messrs. John and Thomas Arkell, he emigrated to America, arriving in New York at Christmas, 1831. From there he came to Guelph, and purchased a block of land on the Puslinch plains. He continued to farm the original homestead until his death. He at one time owned the land now used as an experimental farm in connection with the Ontario Agricultural College. He began importing Shorthorns about the year 1850, but, unfortunately, the animals all went overboard in a hurricane. Later enterprises were successful, and Mr. Stone soon became widely known as a breeder of Shorthorns. In 1855, Mr. Stone imported Cotswold sheep and later Southdown sheep, Berkshire and Yorkshire pigs. His initial importation of Herford cattle took place in 1860, and in 1865 he brought to this country Suffolk horses. Other importations were made at later dates with considerable success.

For many years, when there were scarcely any importers or breeders in the country to speak of, his yearly sales, held for many years at Moreton Lodge (the name of his farm), were attended not only by the leading breeders in Canada, but from all parts of the United States. He was thus the means of spreading pure-bred stock throughout the country, and in this way did an immense amount of good in improving the native stock of the country.

He took a great interest in everything pertaining to agriculture, and was for years a member of the Ontario Board of Agriculture, and President of the Agriculture and Arts Association. He was also President of the Wellington Mutual Fire Insurance Co. for 22 years, and represented the Canada Life almost from its inception up to the time of his death. He did not seek public office at all, although in 1867, in the Confederation election, he ran in the Conservative interest against Mr. D. Stirton, postmaster, but was unsuccessful.

During his long residence in Guelph, Mr. Stone had the respect and esteem of the community for his public spirit, his upright character and probity in all business transactions.

Mr. Stone was married to Miss Eliza Caulfield, step-daughter of the late John Caulfield. Mrs. Stone died about two years ago. The surviving members of the family are Mr. F. W. Stone, jr., Holmhill Ridge, Barnett, Herts, England; Mr. A. Stone, Miss Stone, Mrs. W. G. Bond, Miss A. L. Stone, and Miss S. E. Stone, Guelph.

According to the census of 1891, the agricultural population of France comprises 46 per cent. of the whole population, numbering 17,435,388, as against 38,343,192 inhabitants. Twenty-four per cent., or 9,236,218 souls, are found in cities and towns of over 10,000 inhabitants. In 1891 this proportion was only 17 per cent., thus showing that in France, as everywhere else, the movement of population is to the towns and cities.

STOCK.

Our Scottish Letter.

The month of January, 1895, will long be remembered for its prolonged frost and snow. Not for many years has there been such a spell of good, old-fashioned winter weather, and the present is one of the few winters within the memory of living persons in which Loch Lomond has been frozen over and steamboat traffic on it suspended. Canadians will think nothing of this. There is, however, this distinction between the winters on either side of the Atlantic: the Canadian winter, although cold, is dry; here we have both cold and damp. The frost was eagerly longed for at the beginning of the year, but latterly we have had enough of it, and should it continue many days longer a serious state of matters will ensue for sheep breeders, especially on the highlands. Already hand-feeding (which is a most expensive process) has been resorted to, and hill farmers are eagerly longing for a change.

Cattle breeders are preparing for the spring bull sales, and much of the success of these events is due to the care with which the young bulls are wintered. January is a month in which a large number of the principal societies hold their annual meetings, when accounts for the past year are squared up and the prospects for the coming year discounted. A subject of some interest is a proposal to institute a Scottish Smithfield show. A national show of fat stock, under the auspices of one of the larger agricultural societies, would be a great attraction in the weeks preceding the London Smithfield, and would form a good testing ground for Scottish cattle. The results of slaughtering the prize cattle at Smithfield have not been as favorable as could have been desired. In not a few instances, in the "block test," the appearances of the carcasses are strangely at variance with the awards of the judges, and it might be said, without exaggeration, that in some notable cases the results have been in reverse order to the awards. This points to a decided lack of sympathy between the butchers and the feeders and judges. What the judges regard as the best animal is not necessarily the most profitable for the butcher, and yet, unless the butcher is satisfied, there is small use in feeding fat cattle. The butcher is the final court of appeal. A prize bullock or heifer which the butcher condemns as unprofitable can teach the feeder or breeder nothing. Instead of feeding animals of that sort he should avoid them. Generally the animals to which the judges gave but moderate recognition killed better than those which wore the red tickets, and the breeds which command the smaller prices as pure-bred stock killed better and sold more readily than the prize fat cattle. Highlanders, Galloways and Welsh, as a whole, made better carcasses than some of the other breeds, but as far as we have seen the best individual animal in every respect was a two-year-old Aberdeen-Angus steer of the choicest breeding. He killed well and made a good carcass. The importance of keeping commercial profit in view is being more and more realized, and in connection with all breeds, whether of horses, cattle or sheep, this can no longer be overlooked.

An important discussion has arisen over the breeding of draught horses for street traffic. Mr. MacNeilage, the secretary of the Clydesdale Horse Society, in a lecture in Edinburgh, and in a series of articles, has been giving the views of contractors and dealers on this important question. One of them has avowed his belief that the best animal of this sort can be got by crossing the Clydesdale and the Shire, and the lecturer has indicated his agreement with this in so far as the breeding of street geldings is concerned. His remarks have, however, been twisted into an admission that Mr. Drew's theory was correct, but in the case of those who have done this, the wish has been father of the thought. There was no reference throughout the lecture to anything but commercial stock, and the speaker argued wholly on the analogy of cross-bred cattle being profitable for the butcher, and insisted that the Merryton horses were a tribute to the breed properties of the Clydesdale, because the best of them took after their Clydesdale sire, and were as unlike their Shire dams as might be. Whatever may be said as to the possible success of geldings bred by crossing the two breeds, there is no doubt in my mind that the best geldings ever seen in Britain have been Clydesdales, and that the best class of horses for the London market can also be found in the Clydesdale breed. A step has been taken by the Shire Horse Society which cannot but be of advantage to the Clydesdale breed. The portraits published in the newly-issued volume of the Stud Book are photographs, and the animals represented are Bury Victor Chief, the most distinguished prize-winner of recent years, and the solid, low-set champion mare, Rokeby Fuchsia. No amount of criticism in the past has availed to make the Shire Horse Society acknowledge the absurdity of the portraits which, for the past ten years, it has been publishing, but now the scene is changed, and the Clydesdale can be compared very successfully with his southern rival. The future of draught horse breeding in this country is in the hands of the Clydesdale breeders, if they be only wise enough to avail themselves of their opportunity. Their horses have more quality than the Shire horses, and the weight is not less. Their judges have to be aware of the trend of fancy judging—and we doubt not there is a great future in store for the Scottish breed.