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LONDON, ONT., JANUARY, 1882.

NO. 1.

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

-AND-HOME MAGAZINE.

WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor.

Only Illustrated Agricultural Journal Published in the Dominion.

TERNS OF SUBSCRIPTION

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Old subscribers to both FARMER'S ADVOCATE and clubbing journals, can remit direct to us, and will have their papers continued. New subscribers receive clubbing papers free for balance of this year and the whole of 1882.

No commission or prize allowed on above rates, Cash (per registered letter or money order at our risk) must accompany all orders. Address

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, London, Ont., Canada.

A very happy and prosperous New Year to all. Bound volumes of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE for 1881 will be mailed, postage prepaid, to any address in Canada or the United States for \$1.50. Orders can now be sent in.

Our Prize Essay.

Our prize of \$10.00, given for the best essay on "The best and most practical method of preserving timber used for building and fencing purposes," has been won by Mr. P. E. Bucke, of Ottawa, Ont.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for "the best plan, description and specifications of a cow stable, 60 feet long by 30 feet, with walls of concrete." This plan must be in this office on or before the 6th February next.

The Montb.

Perhaps the month just past may have been the mildest December yet experienced in Ontario. We do not remember a milder one. Stock have been seen in many fields at Christmas. Very little fuel has been required in comparison with other years. The roads have not been as good as when we have had sleighing, but such a crowded display as the Christmas market afforded has never before been seen in this city. The prices received for all kinds of farm produce were higher than usual, and purchasers were more than usually fastidious about procuring the best. The large purchases made by mechanics and the laboring classes were a sufficient guarantee that money was easy. The storeeners had a rich harvest, an immense number of handsome presents having been purchased by farmers and citizens. The crowded state of the shops was such a sight as we never before witnessed. In many of the shops the business was kept up until midnight; in some lines of goods the stocks were entirely exhausted. A deserving poor or needy person would be a difficult object to find. In speaking to the Mayor of the city, he said there was no distress in the city. We think it would be difficult to find any city in the world where such a state of plenty and prosperity pervades the whole mass of the people as in this city. We never have seen or heard of anything to equal it. We should be pleased to hear such reports from every city and hamlet in this Dominion. We believe that peace and plenty prevail in our land. We should be thankful to the Giver.

The winter wheat is looking well. Stock are thriving. There has been a full share of fall plowing done, and there exists plenty of fodder for stock to withstand the coldest and latest spring we have ever experienced.

If you have not finished your marketing, do not think of keeping over a lot of grain. Prices are good. Sell all you can spare, but feed all your coarse grain to your stock, that is, if you have suitable stock to feed it to. If you have all your building and fencing material on the ground, your spring seed ready, implements and buildings all in order, and your ice-house ready to receive the ice when it freezes sufficiently thick (we expect you will have it thick enough before the 1st of March) —if all the above are attended to, and you live near a city, town or village, perhaps you might

find it profitable to devote a few days in drawing home a little manure. You have some land that would be improved by a little more manure. Get stable manure if you can; if not, see if you can get some gas lime, and if this cannot be had, perhaps you can get leached ashes for a trifle. Failing in any of these, perhaps you can get up a pile of swamp muck. Some of our Maritime Province subscribers can procure useful mud or sand. We wish our subscribers to secure as much of such materia's as they can. Purchase loads of manure of any kind, and secure a long engagement for the supply obtainable at hotels and slaughter-houses. The enrichment of your land is the best bank stock you can invest in. We have never seen a farm that was too rich to satisfy us—have you? We have seen many that are too poor to own.

Some of you can get sawdust to use as bedding or as an absorbent of the liquid manure. Some of you may be able to secure lime, which is one of the best fertilizers when it can be procured at moderate cost. Teams are not generally busy now; it might pay to go longer distances and give more for manure now. When summer comes you will have all the work you want to attend to on your own farm.

If your horses have been kept up without a run, you might find it beneficial to give them a clay sod to nibble at occasionally. We know some of you have not a good warm place for your hens, not as good as you should have; neither have they a nice bed of dry sand to scratch in, and perhaps neither lime nor shells in reach. Just see to it if you want early eggs and profit from your hens.

Subscribers are desired to send the name and address of any farmer who should take the FAR-MER'S ADVOCATE, and a sample copy will be at once mailed free to him. As our subscription lists swell, so greater improvements can be made. Our receipts so far for 1882 have been greater than any previous year. We thank our subscribers for their efforts, and ask for their continued support and good will.

"YES OR No."-Having made a very liberal arrangement with the publishers of the handsome crayon by the world-renowned J. E. Millais, R. A., entitled "Yes or No," we are now enabled to offer a copy of this fine picture as a prize to any subscriber who sends in one new name for 1882,

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE contains 36 pages this issue. As promised, this journal will, except during the dullest season, be enlarged at times to meet the requirements of the season and valuable information on hand, and will be much improved during 1882 in many

A few volumes of 1880 still on hand, and can be obtained at \$1.50 each per mail.