

For the Farmer's Advocate.

MAKING BREAD.

Willowdale, Downie, 1868

Dear Sir:—As you have invited the young folks to write for your paper, I will give you some of my experience in breadmaking. I set it at night. I take a large pan, and put some flour in it, then add 3 quarts of water to one large tea cupful of yeast, and a tea spoonful of salt, and set it beside the stove, where it will be kept warm; then the next morning mix it up with some more flour, let it stand until it rises and then knead it down, and let it stand until it rises again, then I mould it into nice round loaves and let it stand until perfectly light, then put it in the oven with a moderate fire a little over an hour.

PRIZE.] J. C. LONG, (aged 12,) St. Mary's.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

HINTS ON HOUSEKEEPING.

A good housewife should keep a regular account of income and expenditure. This is most essential in the routine of domestic duties. When properly and methodically managed there is little or no trouble in this process. Some have one mode and some another. The following is a simple plan: Procure a small book of three leaves, bound in a plain cover. This is your day-book, it is always by you to scroll down any outlay and will keep a week's account at a time. At any opportunity carry the entries from the book to a small ruled ledger. One page of this is used for money received and the opposite page for money expended. By doing this regularly, and comparing the entries of sums received, with the entries of sums laid out, you will have a complete record of expenses, satisfactory both to yourself and husband, should he make any enquiry into the subject. This plan will check a tendency to over expenditure, or living beyond your means, or, at least you will not be deceived as to the state of your circumstances, and much future distress will be avoided by adopting this simple plan. The mischievous practice of buying on credit, and running up bills, cannot be sufficiently deprecated in all, especially young housekeepers. Pay for every article with ready money, you will then get everything cheaper, and can go to the best markets. Those who run up bills become the slaves of the merchant, the store-keeper and tradesman. To show the necessity of observing the above hints, you are referred to the household proverb, "store is no sore," &c.

Yours,

M.

PRIZE.] Bothwell Co., March 1868.

P. S.—Will you please inform me through the columns of the "Advocate" the several proportions of gravel, or sand, and lime, used in erecting a GROUT WALL or building, and if such a wall, would answer for the foundation of a side-hill barn or drive-house, occupied

as an under apartment for stock, sheep, and cellar, for storing roots, &c.? Would a wall built of such material, answer as a receptacle or reservoir, for holding water or liquid manure? Any information on the above will be thankfully received.

J. M.

Some of our friends will please communicate on the above queries, as our time is entirely taken up with other matters.—Ed.

For the Farmer's Advocate.

ENCOURAGEMENT.

The following letters from highly respectable farmers, are but samples of numbers received daily. It is pleasing to know that our efforts to advance the interests of the farmer is beginning to be appreciated. We publish them entire, hoping the writers will not consider we are taking too much liberty;—Ed.

HILLSDALE, March 11th 1868.

MR. EDITOR,—Dear Sir,—I am greatly pleased with the scheme you have taken to introduce and disseminate the best varieties of seeds and stock throughout the New Dominion. Our agricultural prosperity has been greatly retarded from the want of attendance to this very important subject; but we are glad to know that one who knows from experience the importance of suitable seeds and good stock, has taken the matter up in earnest. I am of opinion, that if your Emporium scheme is encouraged, that the farmers of Canada, will, in a short time, not need to complain of their wheat being destroyed by the midge and their other grain crops deteriorating. The stand, likewise, that you have taken in your valuable journal against horse-racing at our exhibitions, I consider to be very suitable for Canada at the present time.

Enclosed, you will find \$1 subscription for the "Farmers Advocate," Direct Wm. Johnston, Dalston P. O. You will likewise find enclosed \$5 for the following seeds for myself; viz: 1 bushel Crown Peas, 1 bushel Westwell oats, 1 peck Emporium oats. Direct the above seeds to John Johnston, Barrie Station Northern Railroad.

Yours truly,

JOHN JOHNSTON.

CARTHAGE P.O., March 11, 1868.

DEAR SIR:—I have been in receipt of a number of the "Advocate" for some time past with instructions to forward to the Reeve and to the members of the Agricultural Society, which I have done—with what effect I cannot state.

I now wish, for my own part to support the paper, believing as I do, that the agriculture of the Province, and its best interests, are fearlessly advocated therein. I glory in independent statements, and exposure of rascality. You are the one can do so, being unfettered by Red Tapeism, that so often binds our would be Advocates.

In the event of all this, you should be supported by the farming community, whose

interest is maintained in the most direct manner.

Enclosed please find \$4. Pay yourself in the first place, and send the worth of the balance in Chilian seed wheat, directed to Stratford Station. If you have not Chilian to send, make it Rio Grande. I would prefer Chilian if you can spare it. The cheapest bagging will do.

I remain, yours truly,

JOHN BEATON.

P. S.—I will endeavor to raise a small club for the "Advocate." I think I can do a little. We will see.

J. B.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

HORTICULTURE.

Where not done last month, all pruning should now be attended to, having an eye in the operation so to open up the centre of the tree that the sun and air may penetrate equally throughout the whole. Any choice varieties of fruit may now be grafted on others less desirable. Old orchards, if not too old, composed of seedling varieties, may, by judicious management, in this respect, be made to produce apples of the best varieties. Scions for grafting should be cut when the tree is in a dormant state, and inserted just as the stick is about to burst forth into leaf. American Golden Russet, Ribston Pippin, King of Tompkins Co., Rhode Island Greening, Baldwin, and Holland Pippin are six very desirable varieties of apples and deserve the attention of any one either planting a young orchard, or renewing an old one. Search for borers and wherever found, cut out with a sharp penknife, and wrap tarred paper round the stem at the collar, to keep them out for the rest of the season. Lists of small fruits, &c., required for the Spring's planting, should be made out at once, and sent to the nurseryman, and the garden laid out according to a plan made in the long winter nights, prepared for their reception, not forgetting to appropriate a place for that fruit which through all ages has been the symbol of plenty and happiness, whose juice has been lauded in song from the earliest ages of the world's history, "The Grape." The idea that the grape can only be grown by an expensive process of deep border-making and heavy manuring is fast being exploded by experience to the contrary.

Shallow planting, in moderately poor soil with top dressings of manure and mulching as required, is now considered the requisite treatment for the vine, considering it to run less to wood and produce more fruit than if forced by deep trenching and heavy manuring.

The following six varieties can be safely recommended; Concord Clinton, Delaware, Isabella, Hartford prolific, Adirondac, and Diana; many newer varieties are out, but the above have been tested and found to succeed all over the Province.

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