

THE MONTHLY FARMERS' ADVOCATE

PERSEVERE DISGUELD

VOLUME V.

DEVOTED TO THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRY.

NUMBER 4.

WILLIAM WELD,
Editor and Proprietor.

LONDON, ONT., APRIL, 1870.

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The Farmer's Advocate

(ENLARGED)

Is published in London, Ontario, Canada. It is edited by WILLIAM WELD, a Practical Farmer, who has established

THE CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL EMPORIUM

Where seeds are Imported, Tested and Disseminated. A Farm and Ware-room are in connection with the establishment. Implements are Tested, and the best kinds are procurable there. The ADVOCATE furnishes accounts of the best Stock, and general Agricultural Information, and is non-political.

County Councils, Agricultural Societies, and the Canadian Dairymen's Association, have passed resolutions recommending this paper to their patrons, and farmers generally.

The Board of Agriculture, at its last meeting in 1869, awarded Mr. W. Weld a Special Prize of \$50.

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LONDON, ONT., APRIL, 1870.

NOTICE.—Our Office is removed to Dundas Street, nearly Opposite the City Hotel.

TO OUR PATRONS.

Farming is one business; Editing is another; and Printing is another: each separate. Your farming editor has been compelled to learn something of the two last-named branches of business—although too advanced in years to become a proficient in either. Up to the present issue we have had our printing done by Mr. Dawson, a gentleman who has many good qualities, and who is an expert at type-setting; and many a quarrel we have had with him for neglecting our paper for other work. He has often excused himself by saying that anything and any time is good enough for farmers. The last issue of our paper was terribly mis-managed; and not having seen the proofs ourselves, articles were inserted without our consent, and our own writing, which we deem of importance, has been in some cases left out. Many

very serious errors have occurred, and the paper, generally, has not received justice at the hands of the printer. For these reasons we have concluded to change, and our paper will now be printed by Messrs. Blackburn, at the FREE PRESS Office, and their well-known facilities for the execution of first-class work, is a sufficient guarantee that the FARMER'S ADVOCATE will receive that attention which its importance deserves.

The March number of our paper gave us such disgust that we had a great mind to alter our heading and make a fresh start. On consideration, however, we concluded to continue our old name, and hope, ere the year is closed to have a new and handsome head for our paper.

Our friends will be pleased to observe that the size of the ADVOCATE has been greatly increased. We were compelled to enlarge, as our advertising patronage is rapidly increasing, and many are complaining that they require more reading matter. This number will give greatly increased space, as we add one column to the width of each page, and about two inches to the length of the columns. We feel greatly flattered by the numbers that speak so highly of the improvements that have taken place; and we feel confident that if we are spared in health we will shortly be able to present to you a paper that will throw into the shade all other agricultural papers now afloat in the Dominion.

Notwithstanding the great increase in the size of our paper (nearly one half) the price will remain the same. In order, therefore, to meet the additional expense, our friends and well-wishers, whose name is legion, should use a little active exertion to add new subscribers to our list.

Some few persons may not be pleased at our altering the size during the year; but the expense of adding pages to the former size would have cost more than to increase it to the present form. The year's numbers may be bound together but will not make such a neat job as if they were of uniform size. We believe, however, that before the year closes all parties will be satisfied with the change.

It is possible that in time we might equip a printing office on our own account,—as we believe there are quite farmers enough in Canada to give a generous support to an independent Agricultural paper.

Provincial Agricultural Affairs.

At the last meeting of the Board of Agriculture in Toronto, it was moved by Mr. E. L. Shepley,—

That this Board recommend to the Legislature that W. Weld of London be paid the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars for his labours, and the great expense he has been put to in furthering the interests of Agriculture throughout the Dominion.

The motion was seconded by the Hon. J. Skeed, who said that he had for years past taken the FARMER'S ADVOCATE; that Mr. Weld had brought forward a highly beneficial plan, which had cost him near double that sum; that he had done much good to the country; and that it was not right he should be a loser by his undertaking, which at the present time he was to a great extent.

There were objections raised against the motion merely by non-agriculturists such as Rykert, who brought forward in preference a grant to the Poultry Association, among whom same Rykert is conspicuous. Other objections to it would most likely come from persons who had a voice in the Association, but who have not been elected by the people. Rykert also spoke sarcastically of subsidising a wheat-raiser, of whom no one knew that he had ever done any good. Some of the farmers who might have supported the motion, had left for home by the previous train; consequently it was withdrawn for the present, but will be discussed at the next meeting.

Dominion Matters.

A very important letter from the Hon. John Carling was read at the last Agricultural meeting in Toronto. It was interpreted by the Board as having for its object to make agricultural affairs a political scheme. If such be the meaning of it; and should it ever be carried out, your Agricultural interests and your hard-earned cash will suffer fearfully. We see the reckless expenditure of money when taken in hand by either political party. Had one hundredth part of the money that must now be expended for the various Asylums, been devoted to aid private institutions of that kind, we believe that patients would be better cared for, and the public interests would be better served.

Only fancy one Registrar in this county (a man who has never yet done any public

good that we ever heard of, either by his private means or in his public capacity) who receives, or has been receiving \$10,000 per annum. How many salaries of a similar kind, and for similar services, would be paid if Government took the Agricultural affairs of the Dominion under its patronage, and had control of the public purse for the advancement of Agricultural interests? How many hundreds of thousands of dollars would be expended for land, for buildings, seeds, stock, &c., if we take the London Lunatic Asylum as a specimen. And what good would they do? We say, none. If a government cannot grant \$100, when asked, to import a new variety of spring wheat, when the whole country demands a new kind, little good will be accomplished if fat offices are made to be filled by such hungry useless dogs as Rykert, Johnston & Co. But the poor creatures are hungry, they have barked, and howled, and whined for their political party; but they have done more injury to the prosperity of Agriculture than any other men in the Dominion. We suppose some salary must be given to them, or their friends, not for the good, but the evil, they have done, and will continue to do.

The Silver Question.

We look on this attempt to circulate Canadian shin-plasters (for such we must consider the best of our paper money, when we remember how many of our leading banks have failed) as a huge political swindling monster, which is made a great handle of for the benefit of bankers, brokers and wire-pullers, who will enrich themselves at the expense of us poor dumb cattle. Farmers, we have no safer, or better, or more valuable money than the American half dollar. Gold farmers cannot touch. It is not in circulation in Canada. A little may be bought if required, but it is too valuable for us. We never lose any thing on silver by the breaking down of banks. The Americans are our principal customers, and we want their half dollars; we are quite satisfied with them; the silver is of better quality than our Canadian currency, and this compelling us to take it below its value, is a bare-faced legal robbery, committed by our legislature. Our interests are only looked after to the extent of finding out the different modes in which we may be fleeced, and this is only another way of doing it.