

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL.
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1. **THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE** is published every Thursday.
It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
2. **TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.**—In Canada, England, Ireland and Scotland, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 per year when not paid in advance. United States, \$2.50 per year; all other countries 12s. in advance.
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or changes in the old house, as well as those arranging to build new ones, as it is quite practicable in the case of most old houses to instal a heating furnace in the basement. These hints are thrown out with the hope that our readers may consider them, and that those who can afford it may be led to adopt some of the suggestions offered. Another purpose in view has been to lead to a discussion of the subject in our columns by those of our readers who have adopted any of these improvements in old houses or new ones, and who are willing to give others the benefit of their plans and experience.

Let us submit for discussion a few questions which those having experience are invited to answer. Replies to any or all the questions will be acceptable:

1. Have you ever remodelled an old house? What did you have to start with? What changes were made, and what did it cost?
2. Have you a water system, bath-room and closet in your house? How is it arranged, and what did it cost to instal?
3. How is your house ventilated? Give details and cost, if possible.
4. How is your house heated. Give cost of installation and amount of fuel used per year.

Insulation and Ventilation.

In building our houses and stables, economize heat by as thorough insulation as possible, building double walls, or walls with air-spaces in them, or else lining solid cement and stone walls with lumber. Avoid, so far as possible, the chilling of the stable air by radiation of heat from the walls, in order that you may the more freely admit cold, fresh air without unduly lowering temperatures. A tight shell of a house or stable is the very worst kind. The ideal structure is one with well-insulated walls (broken by many large, double-paned windows), and provided with a free-working system of ventilation. If no ventilation has been installed, keep some of the doors and windows open, protecting them by cotton curtains on windy days to prevent too strong a draft.

Prevention of Disease.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," is an old adage not lived up to by a good many stockmen. It is within reasonable limits to state that at least fifty per cent. of the ailments in flocks and herds are due to improper handling or to injudicious feeding. All too often the stabling facilities and equipments are at fault. Fresh air is an essential to sound bodies. When live stock are crowded into comparatively small stables, not equipped with ventilation systems, and with no fresh air admitted save that which steals in around window frames or through doors which are opened occasionally, their systems are bound to be affected in one way or other, with evil results. It may be that disease does not become apparent, but the animals are not as thrifty as they would be if plenty of fresh air were provided at all times. Economical use of food consumed cannot reasonably be expected.

The experienced stockman has learned that, while his herds and flocks require protection from storms during the winter months, they also must be kept in thoroughly-ventilated stables and pens. He also has learned that liberal rations of mixed feeds, with the absence of excesses either of bulky or of concentrated diet, given regularly, are necessary for satisfactory gains. Sudden changes, either in environment or in feeding, are avoided. Weather conditions, age of animal, uses to which the animal is put, and work done each day, are factors that receive due consideration. It is only by making a study of these questions, and by suiting the food to the requirements of the animal, that the results will be satisfactory. The exercise of due caution and judgment will avoid much of the trouble and expense in doctoring sick stock.

One Department Worth the Price.

Nearly three thousand questions a year are answered through "The Farmer's Advocate" for its subscribers, absolutely free of charge. An enormous amount of practical veterinary, legal and miscellaneous information is published in this way, subscribers often benefiting by a single answer to the extent of five, ten or twenty dollars each, while anyone who follows the replies from week to week cannot fail to derive advantage worth much more in cash than the price of a year's subscription, to say nothing of the satisfaction of being informed. The answers to questions are carefully prepared by a large staff of experts, our editors being assisted by a large consulting staff of specialists. This one department alone should abundantly recommend our paper to the discerning reader, apart from the many other valuable features contained. Subscribe or renew now, and keep the year's files complete.

A Citizens' Vigilance Committee.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In a recent issue you recommend rural police protection. As a remedy for thieving, there is an association in this township which works admirably. It is called the "Pickering Vigilance Committee," and was formed about 1902, at which time considerable horse and petty thieving was going on. It was formed with a large membership, each member paying a fee of \$1.00. Since its formation, practically nothing has been stolen from members. Each year a list of members is published in the local paper. No further call has been made on members for money. In case any member has anything stolen, one of the committee is notified, and everything possible is done to get the stolen property and prosecute the felons. Ontario Co., Ont. F.

Principal Tice, of the Picton (Ont.) Public Schools, in a recent address, declared, with regret, what many others believe, that the "little red schoolhouse" was not now the center of intellectual and social interest in the community that it was in the early days. He hoped for improved buildings, made attractive to both teacher and pupil, as the average school of the country now was a public disgrace.

Who is the Tyrant?

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

There is a letter in your issue of December 17th, "Argument for Higher Protection," signed "Pro Bono Publico," which contains many misleading statements that should not be allowed to pass for truth without him giving some proof for what he states.

First.—He says your views on the protective tariff of the United States are at variance with those of the best minds both in Canada and the United States. This he cannot prove, and I would like that he would give us the names of some of those men who possess these best minds.

Second.—He says that he could prove that it was the most rigid and extremely high protective tariff that gave Great Britain her immense wealth and great population. Now, I think this is so far at variance with facts that it needs no comment.

Third.—He says the United States Government have applied a similar trade policy, and have succeeded in building up, in an almost incredibly short time, one of the greatest and wealthiest countries in the world. Quite true, the United States is a great country, but the tariff had nothing to do with that. But what of the wealth? Is it not a fact that the United States trade policy has created more millionaires, at the expense of the masses, than any other country in so short a time, thus showing the curse of the protective policy pursued by them? I say a curse, because protection is simply robbery of the masses for the benefit of the few.

Fourth.—He says that the farmers of Canada have lost confidence in the National Policy, because their interests have been neglected, and that they have not yet adequate protection. Now, what does he mean by adequate protection? What I think the honest farmers of Canada want is to be relieved from the unjust burdens imposed on them by a protective tariff.

Fifth.—He says Canada wants men who know their rights, and, knowing, dare maintain. Prevent the long-aimed blow and crush the tyrant while they rend the chain. Let him tell us who the tyrant is; I say it is protection.

Parry Sound, Ont. JAMES S. MILLER.

A Kick from the "Cow."

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I notice in your issue of December 17th a letter from "Pro Bono Publico" on higher protection. The gist of his contention is that, had the Government of Canada adopted high protection as tit-for-tat against the United States, our wealth would in all probability be double what it is to-day. Now, this statement is very improbable. The Government of Canada had a high tariff in 1895 and 1896, and our finances were down to zero. Perhaps I can give you a case, and I will endeavor to make it so plain that he who runs may read. An agent is trying to sell to a farmer a binder. The agent has two, one is made in Chicago, the other in Toronto; the price for each binder is \$125. The farmer cannot distinguish any special merit in one more than the other. Now, which machine should the farmer buy? The high-protection man would say, by all means buy the Toronto machine, and the \$25 duty will go—where? Into the pocket of the Toronto man, and he will have \$25 that he never earned. On the other hand, if the farmer buys the Chicago binder, the \$25 duty will go into the Dominion treasury, and will benefit all. The farmer, of course, will be out his \$25 in either case.

Your correspondent swells out his breast and points to the rich men of the United States who have made their pile under high protection. It may be well to note how those men made their riches. They live in a place which is the breeding-ground of trusts of all kinds, and the poor are ground under the millstone of rich combines, so that they are fleeing to Canada in thousands. We have rich men in Canada that are being spoon-fed on pap by the Dominion Government who would starve were it not for the farming community. But the milk cow has an inclination to kick over the pail; the worm will turn on the enemy. Mr. Publico has sympathy to burn for the poor wool manufacturer; he would like a tariff equal, at least, to the American brand. It may be interesting to that gentleman if the writer would whisper in his ear, in a confidential way, his experience in buying an inner garment, known as a pair of drawers. The price, in cash, was \$1.25, and the garment in its entirety weighed exactly 10 ounces. The farmer who spent a year in growing the wool would get about 10 cents; the manufacturer the balance.

Does Pro Bono Publico not think that his sympathy is misplaced? It would be a disadvantage to the farmers of Canada if a duty were put on corn; they are in need of all the cheap feed they can get. The man who cannot live in a free-trade country is not worthy the name of man. When any combine is formed to enhance the price of an article, the duty should be taken off that article at once.

Wellington Co., Ont. G. BEER.