

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published every Thursday (52 issues per year). It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical, reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.
 2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, United States, England, Ireland and Scotland, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 when not paid in advance. All other countries, 12s.
 3. ADVERTISING RATES.—Single insertion, 50 cents per line, agate. Contract rates furnished on application.
 4. 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.
 5. THE LAW IS, that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrears are paid and their paper ordered to be discontinued.
 6. REMITTANCES should be made direct to this office, either by Money Order or Registered Letter, which will be at our risk. When made otherwise we will not be responsible.
 7. THE DATE ON YOUR LABEL shows to what time your subscription is paid.
 8. ANONYMOUS communications will receive no attention.
 9. LETTERS intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
 10. CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Subscribers when ordering a change of address should give the old as well as the new P. O. address.
 11. 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.
 12. 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.
- Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED),
LONDON, CANADA.

Camera Competition.

Now that the holiday season is here, cameras and kodaks are greatly in evidence, and as our previous competitions in photography have proved so successful, we have decided to announce another open to all amateurs. Our range of subjects will be wide, so that competitors may pursue the special line for which they are particularly adapted.

Our offer is:

1st Prize	\$5.00
2nd Prize	4.00
3rd Prize	3.00
4th Prize	2.00

for the best photographs of country homes, home or garden groups, interior views, field scenes, fruits or flowers, choice bits of scenery now at their best, children, animals, and so on.

RULES GUIDING COMPETITORS.

All photographs must be mounted, and preference will be given to those not less than 4 x 5 inches in size.

They must be clear and distinct. In making the awards, consideration will be taken of the artistic taste displayed in the choice of subjects.

They must reach the office of the "Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine," London, Ont., not later than October 1st, 1904.

The name of competitor, with P. O. address, must be marked on the back of each photo, as well as the name and location of the view photographed.

Any competitor may send in more than one photograph, but can only obtain one prize.

All photographs competing shall become the property of the "Farmer's Advocate."

No photographs from which any engraving has been made is eligible for competition.

Worth Double the Price.

Mr. J. D. McInnes, Stormont Co., Ont., says: "I like the "Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine" very much, and would not do without it for double the price."

Letters to a Young Farmer.

The question has been asked: "In view of present prices and prospects, would you advise a young farmer to take up dairying as his specialty?" That depends to a considerable extent upon the circumstances and the tastes and preferences of the man, and also, to some extent, upon his location as to readiness of access to a good market for his products, although, with the favorable transportation facilities of these times, the latter consideration cuts less figure than formerly, and will probably count still less as a factor as railways radiate more generally throughout sections not now so well served as others. With a farm fairly well adapted to grazing, as well as grain-growing, and where the water supply is sufficient, either from a running stream or wells, and the distance from a good market is not too great, dairying, as the principal feature, is doubtless the safest and surest branch of farming for profit, taking the years and the markets as they come. There are no products of the farm more certain, with reasonable foresight in the management, than grass and milk, and none that varies less in selling price than milk.

The constantly increasing population of our cities, the growing popularity of milk as a combination with the cereal breakfast foods now so generally used, the fact that butter never goes out of fashion and that prices, both in the home and British market, for this product are more uniformly good than ever before, and that the capacity for production of our principal competitors, the small European countries, has nearly reached its limit, all point to a strong probability that the markets and the prices will make dairying profitable. The abnormal price of cheese last year rather spoiled the patrons of the cheese factory, and we find them complaining, as is the privilege of the farmer, when prices become normal, forgetting that they were too high only a little while ago, and that the average should be considered satisfactory. Where the grain and fodder crops of the farm are principally grown for the feeding of stock, it is seldom that most of these are not fairly productive. By the feeding of cows, a large amount of manure is produced, and this, together with the growing of clover where it succeeds, furnishes the readiest means of maintaining the fertility of the land. And clover is also one of the most complete stock foods produced on the farm. The purchase of a herd of good dairy cows to begin with would require, perhaps, more capital than the average young farmer commencing business could command. In that case, he will wisely commence with a few, and add to them as his means will allow, meanwhile raising the heifer calves from his best cows to increase the herd or take the places of any that may fail to be profitably productive. In the meantime, if more grain than the live stock on hand can utilize, it may be sold for cash on the market. Dairying as the main feature may safely be recommended for the reason that with it, as side lines, the feeding of pigs and the raising of young cattle may be carried on, largely upon the by-products of the dairy, such as skim milk, buttermilk or whey. Another reason is that, while the average farmer is more likely to be able to make a profit from cows than from the raising, buying and feeding of beef cattle, yet the most intelligent, ambitious and progressive of farmers can find scope for their skill in up-to-date dairying as breeders, feeders and manufacturers. And it is taken for granted that the young Canadian farmer of the twentieth century will not be content to rank as an "average" farmer, but will aim at a higher standard than that of mediocrity. The objection to dairying, now becoming rather common, that it involves much labor and close confinement to home and business, and that it is difficult to secure satisfactory help, while it has some foundation, should not be considered sufficient to decide one against a line of farming so safe and sure. No part of the work of dairying can properly be called hard work for a man, as compared with much of the other work on the average farm, and where female help can be had in the house, or there are grown-up daughters trained to share the work with the mother, there is no valid reason why they may not assume part of the dairy work. Milking may not be considered suitable work for women, and we do not think it should be all assigned to them if it can be avoided, but the unpleasantness of milking may be greatly lessened by a little forethought and management in providing clean walks to the stable, keeping the stables and the cows clean, and giving assistance in the carrying of the milk to the dairy, in case a cream separator in a clean compartment of the barn is not used. In some families, among the most thrifty and cultured that we know, the daughters are not above doing their share of the milking and other work of the dairy, and have no cause to be ashamed of their part in it, but show an intelligent interest in the work that raises rather than lowers them in the estimation of sensible and right-thinking people. It goes without saying that their work may be greatly and reasonably lightened by allowing them to share in the cash profits of the

business, a consideration that too often fails to enter into the calculations of farmers, and doubtless accounts, in a large measure, for so many of their sons and daughters finding their way into factories and other sources of employment in towns and cities. This digression the young farmer will please pardon, since he is not supposed to have reached the stage at which grown-up daughters figure in his proposition. It has been taken for granted, however, that our young friend has taken an active partner into his business in the person of a well-chosen wife, for without this happy combination dairying on the farm can hardly be successfully conducted, and without this relationship he will fall to realize the true philosophy of life. Then, if help is needed to carry on the work of the dairy farm he will have to wrestle with that problem as best he can, and, judging from examples that have come under our notice, this is a matter the successful solution of which depends largely upon the judgment and tact of the man at the helm, but that is another story that may possibly come up for consideration at a later stage in the game.

Death of Mr. John Miller.

The veteran stock breeder and importer, Mr. John Miller, of Brougham, Pickering Township, Ontario, died at his home, "Thistle Ha," on Monday, August 29th, at the age of 87 years. He was born May 12th, 1817, near Hodden Castle, Annan, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, and in 1835, at the age of 18 years, emigrated to Canada in a sailing vessel in charge of a shipment of sheep and swine for his uncle, George Miller, of Markham. He was joined later by his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. William Miller, of Pickering, and continued to reside on the farm, purchased in 1848, of 165 acres, the nucleus of "Thistle Ha," now an estate of over one thousand acres. Mr. Miller showed stock for his uncle at a Toronto exhibition in 1836, just sixty-eight years ago, and through the fifties, sixties and seventies, of last century, he was one of the leading importers and breeders, and one of the most successful exhibitors of pure-bred stock at the Provincial and other principal shows in Ontario. So far as we know, Mr. Miller was at the time of his decease the oldest importer of pure-bred stock in Canada, and we think it safe to say that no other breeder of his time made so many importations or brought to this country a better class of stock. His sons, Robert Miller, of Stouffville, and John, of the firm of John Miller & Sons, Brougham, are reckoned among the most competent judges in the Dominion today. Mr. Miller was twice married, and is survived by Mrs. Miller and ten of twelve children. Two brothers, Robert, of Pickering, and William, of Storm Lake, Iowa, and one sister, Mrs. William Scott, of Pickering, also survive. John Miller was a man of sterling character and worth, generous, genial and kindly in his manner, and blessed with the happy faculty of looking on the bright side of things. The older generation of stockmen entertain only pleasant recollections of his cheerful companionship and rich fund of humor and anecdote told in his inimitable Scottish accent, which remained with him till the last, and made a visit to "Thistle Ha," with its generous hospitality, the Mecca of stockmen for half a century, one of the most refreshing experiences. It is impossible to estimate the value to the livestock interests of Canada of the enterprising spirit and work of this pioneer in the field of the importation and dissemination of high-class pure-bred animals, for the blood of his importations runs like a red line through thousands of herds and flocks throughout the American continent.

Breeding New Grains.

Readers of the "Farmer's Advocate" will note with appreciation the illustrated article elsewhere in this issue, from the pen of Dr. Chas. E. Saunders, Experimentalist at the Central Experimental Farm, which describes the remarkable process through which a new variety of grain is produced by crossing. This is a branch of agricultural research which well deserves the very careful and continuous attention which it is now receiving. Our readers will remember, from a series of articles published some time ago, that Stanley and Preston spring wheats are two varieties of note evolved very recently by the process described at the Dominion Experimental Farms.

Work for Premiums.

Our readers, young and old, should look up the premium announcements on two pages elsewhere in this issue, describing the splendid articles which may easily be secured by obtaining new subscribers to the "Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine." Look them over carefully, and begin to canvass to-day. With the most popular and helpful farm and home paper published in the English language in your hand, you will have no trouble in obtaining a good list of subscribers, and earning one or more of these beautiful premiums. If you need a sample copy for use in your canvass, write us for it at once.