

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

—AND—
HOME MAGAZINE.

WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor.

The Only Illustrated Agricultural Journal
Published in the Dominion.

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THE ANNUAL EXHIBITION NUMBER OF THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, for 1882, will be issued in three special editions. The first edition about the 15th Aug., the second on the 15th Sept., and the third on the 15th Oct. next; 25,000 copies will be mailed before the leading exhibitions and fairs to leading well-to-do and enterprising farmers only, throughout our Dominion.

Our Fifth Annual Issue of this fast increasing and most successful advertising medium will be the best one ever issued.

This issue affords special advantages to advertisers who wish to push their business in Manitoba and Maritime Provinces.

Sow asparagus seed.

Late plantings of celery may be made until mid-August.

Coburn thinks that black hogs are gradually taking possession of the field.

This is the season of the year when the farmer loves a drink of good pure water. Do not forget that animals, including your hot chickens, thrive on the same innocent beverage. Healthy fowls cannot be raised on filthy water.

According to my observation, wherever the soil was kept finely pulverized and stirred by the horse hoe or cultivator, or if in the garden with a good steel rake, at least once a week, the most severe drouths we ever experienced here have done very little harm. I have never seen better growth of nursery trees than during last summer, and this is always the case in a dry season, with thorough cultivation.

Our Prize Essay.

A prize of \$5.00 will be awarded for the best essay giving "the most correct account of the apple blight, and the best remedy or preventative for the same." The essay must be in by the 24th inst.

To the Ladies.

We have received many useful, well written articles from the wives, daughters and sisters of our subscribers, in response to the question regarding the diet of farm laborers during harvest. We consider several of them deserving a space in this journal, as the subject is of importance to you all. The information they contain should and will be read with interest by each one of you, and with profit to most of you. As there are differences of opinion in regard to the merits of each, we purpose publishing a few of the best of them, and after publication, we will make a call by mail on some of you to aid us in awarding the prize correctly. We insert No. 1 and No. 2 in this issue; others will follow. Keep them and mark well the merits and demerits of each. Perhaps you may be called on as one of the judges to decide. As they are not all from Ontario, surrounding circumstances should cause us to weigh all subjects in connection with the essays. We shall award a prize to all that we publish, and shall require them to be classed according to their merits, trusting that you will be prepared to aid us if called on.

Our Exhibition Issue.

The first edition will be issued about the 15th inst., and our friends will kindly forward copy for advertisements and communications as soon as possible.

One of the most important operations in mid-summer is that of thinning fruit. A tree carrying too heavy a crop to ripen properly should receive early attention, and at least every imperfect specimen should be removed. The quantity to remain should be governed by the vitality of the tree. Frequently a weak, delicate tree will produce heavily whilst one adjoining, in perfect health, will have but little fruit.

The best summer beverage, no doubt, is pure water of a temperature of 55° or 60°. It may be made positively nutritious by stirring into a quart of it one or two ounces of oatmeal very finely ground or powdered in a mortar. Any beverage whatever that encourages drinking in the field or the house in the hot weather is injurious. There is no necessity for drinking much more in the summer than in the winter, unless perspiration is very profuse, and to drink largely encourages this and weakens the system. An effort should be made to drink as little as possible and to use every means to avoid creating thirst, which, when it is excessive, is really an indication of disease or unhealthy action of the system. All fermented and aerated drinks are to be avoided; even the spruce-beer or ginger-ale or other home-made drinks are better in the bottle than in the stomach, where, in fact, they do not stay, but pass into the blood and out through the skin of the kidneys, and carry with them some matters which the body can ill-spare.

The careful gardener will remove the decaying flowers of roses and hardy plants as soon as their beauty is past, unless a few seeds are needed. If allowed to remain on, they impoverish the plant and create an untidy appearance.

Our readers will be interested to learn that from the seed of the Early Amber Sorghum there can be made a splendid article of buckwheat flour. In fact not one person in a million could tell the flour made from sorghum seed from that made from buckwheat. The sorghum flour is the better of the two, as it does not, to the same extent as does buckwheat, furnish the consumer of griddle cakes with an insatiable longing to wear out the back of his shirt against the gate-posts.

Wilson, Crescent and Charles Downing were lately voted by the Wisconsin Horticultural Society the best three strawberries for general culture.

I had a fine lot of squashes upon which the striped beetle came down one day "like the wolf on the fold," bidding fair to destroy the last vestige of a plant within a few hours. But I dusted the plants with pyrethrum powder, and the depredations ceased co-instantly! The bugs that were able to get away must have reported the fact through the neighborhood, for I have had no further trouble from them.—[Charles Aldrich, Hamilton Co., Iowa.

Vines are at present in the height of their growth; a minute occasionally bestowed upon the shoots disposed to ramble out of bounds will add greatly to their neat appearance.

Everyone is aware that the lawn-mower should be used often, excepting in very dry weather, and that weeds should never be allowed to grow in the flower-beds, but everyone does not attend to these little requirements.

As soon as the fruiting canes of raspberries and blackberries have fulfilled their mission they should be removed, so as to allow their successors to receive proper attention. The present season's shoots ought to be pinched back, and tied up carefully to stakes. Do not allow more than three or four canes to remain in a hill.

Shrubbery may now be trimmed into proper shape, especially such species as have passed the blooming season. This will cause them to grow more compact, produce more flowers, and render the plants more sightly.

Mrs. D. C. Joscelyn recommends in The Fruit Recorder the following way to put up sweet corn for winter use as giving very much better results than canning or drying: "Take the corn when just in the milk; scald it just enough to set the milk; cut it off and pack it in a stone jar with a layer of corn and a layer of salt; one pint of salt to a gallon of corn in layers alternately; fill the jar and weigh it down, and cover to keep out dirt, flies, &c., and when one wants to use it, freshen it and season to taste. I like butter and cream."

Mr. J. H. Sanders, of Breeder's Gazette, once owned an important Percheron-Norman stallion that when brought to this country had well-shaped but very rotten, brittle hoofs. He could not go unshod for a mile without serious inconvenience. By careful trimming and watching, however, he came finally to possess feet like iron; and, although he has repeatedly made trips of twelve to fifty miles, to fairs, etc., and has been driven much on the road, he has not carried a shoe in six years.