

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, dairy-men, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, Newfoundland and New Zealand, \$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.
3. ADVERTISING RATES.—Single insertion, 25 cents per line, agate. Contract rates furnished on application.
4. THE FARMER'S 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.
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12. 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 FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, 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.
13. 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.

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them are still living in daily contact with the soil.

Everything recommended through this paper—except some things advanced by volunteer correspondents on their own responsibility—is first passed through the crucible of the editors' experience and judgment, the opinions of the whole staff being not infrequently invited on new or debatable points. In addition, advice and information is regularly obtained, at considerable outlay, from the foremost scientific and practical experts, so that we know our advice is practical and sound before giving it to the public. Some partial exceptions to this are those instances where we recommend new ideas for trial only, believing them to be good, but not possessing sufficient knowledge to advise them with absolute confidence. The use of raw ground rock-phosphate as a stable absorbent, is a case in point.

A further exception are those cases where peculiarity of local conditions requires modification of general advice. For example, corn-growing and silos. While these are strongly advised for the stock-raiser and dairyman in the corn-growing regions of Ontario and Quebec, they are not recommended particularly for the Maritime Provinces or for the extreme northern regions. Such exceptions are frequently stated in our editorial columns, and special recommendations made for special cases; while our correspondence columns contain many illuminating contributions of experience helpful to the farmer exceptionally circumstanced. The general principles underlying good farming are much the same everywhere, but, of course, each farmer is expected to use his own judgment in applying them to his own conditions.

Objection is sometimes raised to advice that is quite applicable to the conditions for which intended, but which is condemned, perhaps, without trial, or with but a half-hearted attempt. In such cases, if the new idea were as persistently and patiently tried as the old and inferior methods have been, it would be immensely to the reader's advantage. We cannot assume responsibility for failure to apply recommendations faithfully, but this we do know, that everything editorially en-

dorsed in our paper is practicable for the general conditions for which it is advised.

A great many thousands of dollars a year are paid out by the publishers of "The Farmer's Advocate" for editorial services and contributions. Practicability is the editorial watchword six days a week, and fifty-two weeks a year. More time is expended verifying, revising and proving out the soundness of matter printed in these columns than is devoted to the preparation of what appears in the majority of agricultural journals, so-called. Our aim is to maintain the reputation of this paper for reliability, and readers may rest assured that what they see recommended editorially through these columns is practical and sound.

The Lawyer and the Farmer.

"God, what a world, if men in street and mart Felt that same kinship of the human heart. Which makes them, in the face of flame and flood, Rise to the meaning of true brotherhood."

A while ago, the newspapers were telling of a \$10,000 lawsuit, started over a twenty-cent rabbit. For equally frivolous causes, the records of the courts are burdened with the details of actions that have embittered lives, disrupted neighborhoods, and wasted farms. The notion may yet obtain in some quarters that the chief delight of lawyers is in fomenting litigation, but this is not the case. In a discussion before the annual meeting of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, on "The Lawyer and the Farmer," the chief speaker pointed out that, while there are black sheep in the legal fraternity, other callings have them, also; and, as a matter of fact, the lawyer is subjected to a good deal of unmerited abuse in that respect. A farmer, he said, seldom consults a lawyer unless he is in trouble. The thought of taking a lawyer's advice as a means of avoiding trouble, does not usually occur to him. It is seldom that two neighboring farmers can afford to have a legal controversy. When there is no great principle involved, and the controversy will simply result in the gain or loss of a few dollars, either litigant can afford to pocket his pride, and have an amicable settlement of the difficulty. As a matter of fact, lawyers of good repute are constantly saving their clients from becoming involved in actions by wise counsel; while their timely advice and aid in the drawing of wills and other documents are the means of saving endless trouble and loss. The lawyer who advises, or even forces, his client to settle out of court, is not simply "laying up treasure in Heaven." He is doing the best for his fellow men, and conducting his business in a way that will not bring him to want. A large proportion of the best legal business of the country is not connected with litigation at all, but makes for its avoidance.

A farmer seldom needs a lawsuit. If his rights have been infringed, and he consult a lawyer early enough, a suit may generally be avoided. A man may invoke the aid of the courts when valuable property rights are involved, but he should be first convinced that he has exhausted all reasonable efforts to secure a settlement, remembering, always, that "thrice armed is he who has his quarrel just." Life is too short and peace too great a boon to spend the one or lose the other in wasteful wrangling with our fellows.

The Christmas Number Treat.

To those of your neighbors who subscribe now you may promise a Christmas Number that cannot fail to please everyone interested in any phase of agriculture. As the date of publication draws near, with manuscript and illustrations pouring in to the office, the editorial mind is relieved of a strain of anxiety by the assurance that contributors and illustrators have risen to the occasion with efforts worthy alike of the subjects and the occasion. True to our former decision, we refrain from unveiling the secrets in advance, but this, so far from indicating a fear that the number may not please, is rather due to the knowledge that it will be accounted in many ways a notable advance over any previous special number delivered from a press which has already printed many handsome issues. And to every regular subscriber, new or old, it goes as our Christmas present.

A Woman's Idea of Thanksgiving.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

We have been hae'in' anither Thanksgiving Day recently, an' although it seems unco' strange that we maun be made thankfu' by act o' Praliament, yet I'm dootin' that a guid mony o' us wad na' be thinkin' muckle aboot it gin we werna' reminded in this way. Anyway, I dinna' ken that mair than a sma' percentage o' oor population tak's the Government's orders muckle tae heart, unless it be in the toons an' cities, where onything that looks like a holiday gets mair attention than it does in the country. We farmers dinna' seem tae hae time tae be thankfu' for onything, unless it be that we a' ken how tae rin oor business better than oor neebors can rin theirs. There's cause for gratitude in this, na doot. But at the same time, gin we wad juist stap a while an' think, we micht, maybe, see twa or three ither things that hae been comin' oor way, that mak' things a wee bit mair like they wad be gin we had had the makin' o' this auld warl' oor selves.

I was no' great on this way o' thinkin' mysel', but last Thanksgiving Day me an' the auld wumman had a lang talk on the subject, an' bein' mair o' a talker than mysel', she naturally had some efluence in the shapin' o' ma opeenions. I says to her, "Jean," says I, "what kin' o' foolishness is this, makin' a special Thanksgiving Day, when we hae nothin' to be thankfu' for but oor porridge, an' we wouldna' hae that gin we didna' wark like niggars."

"Weel," says Jean, "ye ought tae thank the Lord that ye hae the health an' strength that enables ye tae wark. An' I'm thinkin'," she went on, "that, gin ye wull figure it oot, ye'll find ye hae a wee mair than ye're porridge doon on the books against ye."

"A' richt," says I, "let's hear frae yersel'."

What a' hae ye tae be thankfu' for?"

"Weel, in the first place," says she, "I'm unco' glad I was born a wumman."

"That's richt," I put in, "for gin ye had na' been born a wumman, ye wad never hae kenned hoo tae rope in an auld Scotchman like me."

"It isn't that," says Jean; "there are ither reasons that ye wouldna' understand, gin I tauld ye them."

"An' I suppose," I went on, "that ye are also thankfu' that I was born a man, sae that I micht be able tae support ye."

"Sandy," says she, "so far as the supportin' goes, I hae noticed that generally both parties tae a marriage contract are inclined to dae a little leanin' at times. Gin it isn't a case o' mutual support, it's na guid. But that's gettin' awa' frae the subject," she went on, like she wull when ye gie her a wee bit start. "Can ye no' think o' mony anither cause for gratitude the day. First o' all, tae mak' anither start, tak' oor ancestors. Where wad we be, gin it werna' for them?"

"I dinna ken," says I; "we wad a' be in the melting-pot yet, mair than likely."

"Hoots!" says Jean, "I mean where wad we be gin oor forefathers hadna' been sic bonnie fighters awa' back in auld Scotland, an' made their children free men an' women by layin' doon their lives for them an' their country? That's something tae be proud o', an' thankfu' for, I can tell ye. It's a lucky thing, Sandy, ye dinna' hae tae pay a' yer debts, for what ye owe tae yer grandfather wad swamp ye entirely, gin he made ye settle the account."

"An' noo," says Jean, beginnin' tae get warmed up, "what's the next thing on the list? What aboot life itsel', an' life on the farm at that. Are ye no' a bit gratefu' for the gift o' life?"

"Weel, I suppose so," I says, "but it ends in death."

"Are ye sure?" interrupts Jean; "that's anither thing we hae tae pit amang oor blessings. Gin ye didna' hae the hope o' anither life beginnin' at the end o' this aye, what inspiration wad we hae in gaein' tae oor roond o' work ilka day o' the year? But, as I was sayin', we hae life, an' life on the farm. The man wha can appreciate the privilege o' warkin' han' in han' wi' nature, an' tak' the pleasure he may oot o' the growin' o' his crops an' cattle, an' so on, besides helpin' nature in her attempts tae beautify his hame, is the man o' all men wha should be thankfu' for what life has given him. An' the hard wark that ye are sae apt to be complain' aboot. Can ye tell me onything that is mair likely tae keep a mon sober an' honest than haein' plenty to dae? So be glad ye canna' afford to be idle, an' we'll eae on tae the next thing, whatever that may be. What aboot the responsibility? Ye may think ye could get along fine wi'oot that, but I ken what it's done for a guid mony men, tae say naething o' yersel'. Hae ye never heard that, gin ye get a mon married an' in debt, it will straighten him up, or naething will?"

"Aye," says I, "that's responsibility eneuch tae sober a mon that wouldna' care for hangin'. I'm thankfu'. Gae on tae yer next."

"Weel, then, what aboot a' the guid friends ye hae?" she continued.

"An' enemies, too, I suppose ye'll be sayin' next?" says I.