

# FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

VOL. XIV.

LONDON, ONT., NOVEMBER, 1879.

NO. 11.

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875.

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

Home Magazine.

WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor.

The Only Illustrated Agricultural Journal Published in the Dominion.

### SUBSCRIPTION:

\$1.00 in advance; \$1.25 in arrears, postpaid. Single copies 10 cents each. Subscriptions can commence with any month. Subscriptions forwarded by Registered Letter or Post Office Order are at our risk. The *ADVOCATE* is discontinued on notice and all arrears must first be paid. Subscribers who desire to change their P. O. address will send both old and new address.

### ADVERTISING RATES:

Twenty cents per line of nonpareil, and fifty cents per line for special notices in reading column. Special contracts made for definite time and space.

### CONDENSED ADVERTISEMENTS:

Farms wanted, for sale or to rent, under twenty words and not exceeding four lines, 50c. each insertion. Live stock wanted or for sale, under twenty words and not exceeding four lines, 50c. each insertion. Stock Breeders' Cards at \$1 per line per annum, in advance. For Commission to Agents on new subscribers, &c., address THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, LONDON, ONT., CANADA.

### The Month.

The past month—we may say the past two months—have been unequalled in the annals of our country for the rapidity with which prices of all farm products have risen in value. The most remarkable has been the rise in cheese; two months ago it was a drug at from 5 to 7c.; last week it was in great demand at from 12 to 14c. When the dairy interest was at its lowest ebb we advised our readers not to abandon the business, but to continue, and prices would be sure to rise. But some factories ceased to make, and now they regret the abandonment of the business which has lately been paying so well.

One of the causes of the great advance in the price of cheese may be attributed to the great drouth that has continued in all the dairy districts of the United States. While our dairymen have been enriching themselves the American cattle have lacked food and water, and therefore their usually large production must be very materially diminished, and ours increased by the most favorable season for grass that we have had for some time. It is certainly very remarkable. See X. A. Willard's article on the crop reports.

We never had a finer autumn for a luxuriant growth of grass. The weather has been so unusually fine that all kinds of live stock have taken on flesh and fat at a rapid rate, and all must now be ready to go into the shambles or into winter quarters in fine order. This fine growth of grass must tell, not only on our present stock that is ready for sale, but more particularly on the meat crop of next year. If our farmers will only keep them thriving during the winter, as they should do, they will make more profit next season from

beef, mutton and pork than they have ever previously done. We repeat—don't sell your young stock if you can possibly keep them growing well.

### WHEAT.

Sell, sell, sell! is our advice now; the price is good and it is highly remunerative; do not hoard it in your granaries. There are some farmers who say when wheat is low: "I want a dollar." Now some say they want two dollars. Perhaps they may get it but the chances are, in our estimation, that the price is just as likely to fall as to rise, in fact more so. Speculation in everything is now reigning. The present we think is the right time to sell. A drop may come and most likely will; you may depend it will catch some greedy farmer with his wheat in his barn and his cheese on the shelves. Now the prices are good the holder runs ten times more risk in holding his crop than when they are low. The largest exporters of wheat that we know do not hold one bushel in their own names this day; they would not invest a dollar in it now; they will only purchase to fill orders that are sent. They have shipped many hundreds of car-loads this fall already, and they are in a better position to know the prospects; they have telegrams several times a day. Still some farmers who sit by the fire and read nothing think they know better than such men, and still hold on to their produce. If you think you can view the situation of Europe, Asia and Africa better than European capitalists, or if you can command money at a lower rate of interest than they can—then, and not till then, will you be justified in holding your crops in speculation when they bring such high prices as at this time. Hitch up your team and take out another load before the roads get bad and winter rates of freight set in.

### WINTER WHEAT.

The beautiful weather has given the winter wheat an unusual rampant growth—so much so that some have cut the tops of the wheat with the mowing machine; most farmers have their stock on the wheat to eat it down. If you have not topped yours, and it is rank, put in all the stock you can while the ground is dry, or even when the ground is frozen sufficiently to bear the stock. Do not let your stock eat too much of it at first; it will be apt to scour them if you do, perhaps bloat them. The root has now a good firm hold in the ground; that is all it wants for the winter; it will make top enough in the spring. We think it safer to have the top taken off too close than to leave too rank a growth on it for the winter.

One of the best farmers in Markham township accosted us when in Toronto at the Exhibition time. He said he liked the *ADVOCATE*, but he did not agree with us in our advice to farmers to sow the fall wheat late; he always liked to have his in early. In this locality many fields are affected more or less by the Hessian Fly. Some fields, we

are sorry to say, have been plowed up and re-sown, but we are glad to say, as far as our observation goes, they have invariably been fields belonging to non-subscribers, and have all been sown early.

There has been an unusual breadth of winter wheat sown this year. The Hessian Fly no doubt will reduce the yield of some pieces from what it would be if not attacked; notwithstanding the injury that may be done by this pest, from the present prospects we should estimate that there will be much more winter wheat to market next autumn than we have ever had before. The Russian war cloud that has been looming in the horizon for some time has no doubt stimulated the present prices; should that cloud disperse, down go the prices. It is estimated that the surplus crop raised on this continent this year is more than sufficient to supply the great deficiency in Europe. There is also a larger surplus in our Australian colonies than ever before; they will now ship to Europe. Corn is a great crop this year; it will be used in the place of wheat more than ever before.

### APPLES.

We have had a fine crop of apples this year, while the British crop has been a very poor one. Immense quantities have been shipped and good prices realized; good prices will still be realized for good apples in good condition. Some fruit-growers may obtain a higher price by holding, but the chances are much against a good profit being made in late shipments. The unusual warm autumn weather must have impaired the keeping qualities of our apples. They will decay much sooner, and there most probably will be a heavy loss in apples that are kept this season. Now the prices are good, and while your apples are sound sell them. There are plenty of experienced buyers and also lots of speculators operating. Get your money in your pocket and let some other person run the risk of keeping apples this year. Still, we believe that apples will bring a good price later in the season.

### INTERNATIONAL DAIRY FAIR AT NEW YORK.

The Exhibition will be opened to the public December 8th, at 6 o'clock a.m., and thereafter daily for two weeks. Exhibits from all parts of the United States, Canada and Europe are invited, and entries may be made any time before Dec. 6. Blank applications will be furnished gratis by writing or sending to the General Superintendent. Of the premiums offered in which the Canadian manufacturers may compete are—Dairy butter, for the best made in Canada, 1st prize, \$50; 2nd, \$25; 3rd, diploma. Sweepstakes, for the best butter of any kind, made at any time or place, 1st prize, \$100; 2nd, \$90; 3rd, \$80; 4th, \$70; 5th, \$60. Cheese—For best cheese made in the Canadas, 1st prize, \$50; 2nd, \$35; 3rd, diploma. For the best fancy shapes made anywhere, 1st prize, \$50; 2nd, \$25; 3rd, diploma. Sweepstakes, for best cheese made anywhere, 1st prize, \$100; 2nd, \$90; 3rd, \$80; 4th, \$70; 5th, \$60. Special premiums, offered by Nicholas Ashton, Liverpool, for the best lot of butter (if creamery, not less than 200 lbs., and if dairy not less than 50 lbs.) salted with Ashton's factory filled salt, made in New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia and Canada, prize \$75.