

## The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE  
DOMINION.

Published weekly by  
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY, (Limited).

JOHN WELD, Manager.

Agents for "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine",  
Winnipeg, Man.

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upbuilding of agriculture. We realize that the U. F. O. has enemies, and a great many obstacles will be cast in its way by those who would rejoice in its downfall. However, every man's hand is not against them, and the right kind of an organization will never be built up through an endeavor to discredit constituted authority.

We have made these references not to harm the organization, but to help it. Many of the foremost men in the U. F. O. have admitted in conversation, and in correspondence with this office, the justice and reasonableness of our previous criticisms. They have been endorsed by farmers generally.

Our policy embraces a wider and more complete amalgamation than can be carried out in any province. We desire to see the provincial organizations grow strong and unite in a larger Dominion-wide union, made up of the organized provincial units. Then the Canadian Council of Agriculture, the Canadian National Live Stock Council, the National Dairy Council, the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers, Ltd., and any other national association of producers can all unite in one strong Supreme Council to speak for the agricultural industry of Canada. This is where we stand; this is our attitude.

The United Farmers of Ontario has made substantial progress, and we are pleased to record here that the last annual convention was an improvement over any of its predecessors. That body of men representing a membership of nearly 25,000 was ample evidence that the farmers of Ontario are awake to their responsibilities, and will see that an effective organization is firmly established in this Province. The United Farmers' Co-operative Company is also gaining in strength and becoming a medium through which the farmers of Ontario can right many wrongs from which they have suffered in the past.

So far as the U. F. O. is concerned, we shall continue to assist it and do all in our power to foster agricultural organization in the Province of Ontario. We will help what we believe to be right, and condemn what we believe to be wrong. This has always been our aim, and readers of "The Farmer's Advocate" know how well the following declaration from the issue of January, 1869, (which we again endorse) has been lived up to:

"In the future we shall not hesitate to speak—as we have hitherto spoken—boldly of what we believe to be

abuses, and if we do not command support, will, at least, endeavor to deserve it. In laboring faithfully for the interests of agriculture, we shall proclaim plain truth without fear or favor, and will never shrink from the post of duty because it is unpopular. We know no compromise with wrong and will vindicate the right without regard to party or high station, with unquailing vigor."

### Are Women Dishonest?

BY ALLAN MCDIARMID.

A short time ago I read a letter written by a city business man to the editor of a certain monthly magazine in which he made a statement to the effect that women were less honest than men, and he wanted to know why it was. In support of his insinuation in regard to the honesty of women in general he said that during the last twenty-five years he had lent women money in large and small amounts, altogether about fifteen thousand dollars and not a single cent of this had ever been paid back. His willingness to oblige had been taken advantage of in every case. He gives several instances. One is that of a woman who had lost some valuable papers belonging to her husband and not wishing to have him find out about it she went to this man who is telling the story and asked him to advertise for these papers in his own name. He did so and it cost him two hundred dollars before they were recovered. But not a cent of this amount did he ever get from the woman for whom he did the favor.

He gives another experience. A friend of his was leaving for South America and was advised by this man to have his life insured in favor of his wife and family before going. He was unable to pay the premium but our friend, the business man, advanced the money to the amount of three hundred and forty-five dollars, the amount of the policy being ten thousand. As it happened, this man died while abroad and although he left a letter informing his wife of the amount he owed his friend and of all the circumstances of the case, she refused to pay any of it. She had consulted a lawyer who told her she was not legally bound to pay the money, so that settled the matter for her.

His other experiences with women have been much along the same line. He looked on them all as being honorable and trustworthy, as their standing in the Church and society was as good as the best. He is at a loss to explain the nature of the twist that has been given to their mental and moral make-up to make their course of action possible. In other words, he says women are dishonest but they don't seem to know it.

He concludes by saying that it's very true that if you lend a man money you are apt to lose him as a friend but if you lend a woman money you don't necessarily lose her friendship but you lose your money.

Now this seems to be coming down pretty hard on the poor women. If it is true it comes as something of a surprise to the most of us. We have always been told that woman's moral standards are higher than that of most men and along certain lines we know that this is true. Such habits as drinking, smoking, swearing and gambling, for instance, are certainly less common among the "female of the species" than among the opposite sex. But this question of honesty might be another matter. It's something that we haven't given much attention to. We have heard of a certain farmer's wife who filled the first few layers of the egg-crate she was going to take to town with eggs that had failed to develop into chickens and of the other one who put salt into the butter she was selling until it was just about "half and half." And of still another case of the kind where mill-teeth were found in dressed turkeys. These things look bad for the woman's side of the argument, but, of course, there's always "two sides to the story."

As far as our own experience goes we are inclined to think we would, on the whole, rather do business with women than with men, especially where the woman has had to shoulder the responsibility of carrying on, say the business of a farm, on her own account. If she has to borrow from you she is generally very prompt about returning the article, or whatever it may be, and any little buying and selling transactions are always carefully kept track of and squared up at the time agreed on. In this respect my experience seems to be somewhat different to that of our friend the business man, whom we quoted at the beginning of this article.

On the whole I'm inclined to think there isn't so very much difference after all, between men and women in this matter of honesty. It's partly a case of training in early life or of the development of commonsense later on. Any person with brains enough to enable them to profit by experience generally gets a good many lessons in the course of a life-time on the value of square dealing and on the folly of crookedness. Admitting this we might go on and say that perhaps this is the secret of the reason for woman's undeveloped sense of honor, if it is comparatively undeveloped. Her brain being smaller than that of man and consequently less capable of grasping the truth in life's object lessons, she has naturally failed to grasp the vital importance of absolute honesty in transactions of any kind, whatsoever.

Looking aside, is there really a keener sense of honor among men than among women? Have women failed to develop the strength of character that would put them on an equal footing, morally and mentally, with the opposite sex?

One of the old sages, to whom has been attributed

a good many things worth saying gives expression to his idea on the question this way; "I will not affirm that women have no character; rather I would say, they have a new one every day."

### Nature's Diary.

A. B. KLUGH, M. A.

The Moose—(Continued).

When the snows melt the Moose family which has spent the winter in the "yard" breaks up. The bull may have travelled a dozen miles or so in seeking a mate in the fall, but in the spring he returns to his own range. The cow is accompanied by her calf, or calves, for some weeks, but leaves them just before the birth of her new babies. A young cow produces one calf the first time, the older cows two and sometimes three. The mother keeps her babies hidden away in a thicket for a few days, visiting them two or three times a day, after which time they follow her about.

As the warm weather comes on the Moose are driven out of the thick woods by the flies and the heat, and now gather at the lakes and beside large rivers, where they can enjoy a cool bath, get what breeze is moving, and feed on the lily-pads.

The antlers of the bull begin to grow in April, and in three months they are complete and the velvet begins to shed, showing the white, bony structure beneath. By September they are sunburnt to a deep brown, except the tips, which are white and polished from rubbing them on trees and brush.

Early in September the mating season sets in and the bull devotes all his energies to the seeking of a mate. As he travels about he frequently utters his challenge—a deep long grunting. There are two usual answers to this—the long ringing reply of a cow or another deep grunt like his own. In the case of the latter response there is usually much grunting and manoeuvring before they actually come together. As they approach one another they often express their defiance by slashing the brush with their antlers, and at last they meet with a crash. It is very rarely indeed that one of the combatants is killed or severely wounded and the weaker usually saves himself by flight.

It is at this season that "calling" is used to decoy the bull within shooting distance. There is great diversity of opinion as to the most effective method of calling, some hunters maintaining that the call of the bull should be imitated, while others contend that the imitation of the call of the cow should be used. As a matter of fact it seems as if the cow-call is most effective at the beginning of the mating season, that is before any of the bulls are mated, but that later while they will no longer respond to the cow-call they will still accept the challenge of a rival male.

The bull Moose often makes a "wallow" by digging and pawing up the mud in some thicket, and in this he wallows and plays evidently to his entire satisfaction.

The food of the Moose consists of the twigs and leaves of many hardwoods, their particular favorite being those of the Striped Maple. They also eat grass, sometimes kneeling in eating it but usually cropping it easily if it is high or straddling widely to reach it if it is low. In summer they feed largely on the rhizomes of the water-lily and on other aquatic plants. When feeding on twigs they frequently rear up and ride down a sapling so as to bring the upper branches within reach.

The gait of the Moose is a swinging trot. When travelling rapidly it takes immense strides and appears to be about to break into a gallop at any moment—but never does. It is a strong swimmer, swimming with the head and neck and often part of the shoulders well out of water, and I should estimate its speed in the water at somewhat over three miles per hour. I have seen one swim a river three miles wide and then on being alarmed plunge in and swim back again.

The senses of smell and hearing of the Moose are wonderfully keen, but its sense of sight, like that of most wild animals, seems to be employed mainly for the perception of moving objects. Lockhart records that "They generally lie down with their tails to the windward, trusting to their senses of smelling and hearing to warn them of approaching danger from that quarter; they can use their eyes to warn them of danger to leeward, where hearing, and especially smelling, would be of little use. They also have the remarkable instinct to make a short turn and sleep below the wind of their fresh track, so that anyone following it up is sure to be heard or smelt before he can get within shooting distance."

The Moose is a very important animal to the Indians of the northern woods. Its delicious steaks are their staple food, and its nose is their delicacy. Its hide provides the best clothing and moccasin leather and its webs of their snow-shoes. Its back sinew is their sewing-thread, its horns and bones make tools, and its coarse bristly mane furnishes material for embroidery.

The Moose, while a large and very powerful animal, cannot be regarded as a dangerous one, and the only cases on record of attacks on man are in instances where a hunter has been using the challenge call to decoy the Moose, and has been charged for his pains—a just retribution many of us are inclined to think.

It is always a matter of difficulty to ascertain the age to which a wild animal lives, but the Moose is usually supposed to be in the prime of life at fifteen years and to live some twenty-five years or more.

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