

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

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It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.

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Every Copy Highly Prized.

Archibald Oswald, "Hill Farm," Quebec, in sending his renewal remittance for the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, adds: "We would not like to miss a single number."

SPECIAL FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE.

- Review of Former Fat Stock Shows. Agricultural Conventions at Washington. Transportation of Farm Products. The New York Horse Show. A Reform in Provincial Dairy Work. Common Ailments of Dairy Cows. Trouble in the Rape Field. Churning, Salting, and Working Butter. Grape Culture and Pruning--Illustrated. Prize-Winning "Ingleside" Herefords--Illustrated. A Case of Milk Fever Cured. Distemper in Fowls Followed by Roup. The Helping Hand--Illustrated. Practical Questions Asked and Answered. Our Christmas Issue that Everybody Wants.

Our Illustration.

"TWO PRIZE HEREFORDS OF 1896," BRED AND OWNED AT "INGLESIDE FARM," COMPTON, QUE.

The illustration on our front page of this issue is indeed a very good representation of two Hereford heifers, owned by Mr. H. D. Smith, that attracted a good deal of attention at the Toronto Industrial and other leading fairs this last fall. Herefords were out in larger numbers and much better form than we have seen them for some years past. There has been a marked increase in the demand for young bulls of this noted beef breed, and at very satisfactory prices. In fact, the future of Hereford breeders begins to look quite bright again.

But to return to our illustration. The heifer in the foreground is Sylvan 3rd of Ingleside (58495); sire Pinkham of Ingleside; dam Spot 3rd, by Anxiety 4th. She was calved March 26th, 1894, and is a remarkably well-developed heifer, with fine character and carries a great wealth of flesh, weighing 1,330 lbs. as a two-year-old, and winning 1st in her class at Toronto and Montreal fairs. The other heifer is Jessie of Ingleside (63622), calved Oct. 4th, 1894; sire Young Ingleside; dam Jessie, by Magistrate. This is a heifer of extra merit, and was an outstanding winner in the yearling class last fall at Sherbrooke, Toronto, Montreal, and Ottawa fairs. She is one of the finest heifers ever raised at Ingleside Farm, and is of the so-called "big little ones" type, being very low-set, well spread, extra thick, not too blocky, and of good quality and smoothness, with plenty of scale, weighing 1,040 lbs. as a yearling last fall. If this heifer continues to do as well as she has, she ought to make a hard fight for the medal next fall for best female. We are glad to hear that the Ingleside Herefords have gone into their winter quarters in fine condition, and with plenty of good hay and roots wherewith to prepare for next season's battles in the show-ring. It is gratifying to find such uniformity of type and to observe the young stock as they come on at Ingleside, retaining an improving standard of excellence. This is one of the ultimate tests of the really successful breeder, that his work is abiding and perpetuates itself just as we find at Ingleside.

The Farmer's Advocate and Its Premiums.

A LETTER FROM A WELL-KNOWN WESTERN ONTARIO MAN.

Strathroy, Ont., Nov. 28th, 1896.

GENTLEMEN,—I am in receipt of the beautiful premium you so kindly and promptly sent me for the small service of securing you three subscribers for the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. This very valuable premium is in the form of a new "Bagster's Comprehensive Teacher's Bible," fully one-third of the volume consisting of a great variety of newly revised "Helps" for Bible students. The whole is on fairly good paper, and is well bound and beautifully finished, in good, clear minion type. I sincerely thank you for the prompt return of so valuable a Thanksgiving present, and shall consider myself as still in bounden duty to do all I possibly can for the advancement and reading of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE in its renewed and very vigorous form amongst the people of our rural districts and towns. I shall be pleased to place this very precious volume upon my desk for daily use and ready reference, to remind me not only of my daily duty, but also of your great liberality and kindness in this regard. Gentlemen, accept my grateful thanks.

Very truly yours, B. GOTT.

FARM.

The Tariff Inquiry.

Most of the evidence given before the Canadian Tariff Commission thus far has been from manufacturers who either desire the duties to remain as at present or, in some cases, increased. Testimony is invited from all classes, and through the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Mr. Fisher, a special letter of invitation has been sent to all agricultural organizations, such as Farmers' Institutes, Dairymen's and Breeders' Associations, to bring their wishes before the Government Committee, either by resolutions or at conferences to be arranged at an early date.

Results from Fresh vs. Rotted Manure.

For seven years experiments have been conducted under the direction of Prof. Wm. Saunders at the Central Dominion Experimental Farm, with a view to ascertain the relative values of fresh and rotted farm-yard manures. The results are disturbing to some old notions on this subject. With oats grown for seven years, the plots treated with fresh manure gave an average yield per acre of 44 bushels 2 pounds, as against 37 bushels 20 pounds from plots treated to the same weight of rotted manure, which is an average of 6 bushels and 7 pounds in favor of the fresh manure. Barley in the same course of time gave an average of 1 bushel and 26 pounds in favor of the fresh manure. With wheat the rotted manure gave 10 pounds per acre of a better average than did the fresh manure treated plots in eight years' tests. With Indian corn one series of crops gave an average of 2 tons 1,181 pounds per acre in favor of the fresh manure, while another series gave 926 pounds per acre in favor of the rotted manure. These are the averages of eight years' tests. Mangels gave a slightly larger crop from rotted manure, while turnips, carrots, and potatoes gave decidedly better yields from fresh, unrotted manure.

While the above shows a decided advantage in applying farm-yard manure direct from the stables to the land, the superiority of it over rotted manure cannot be thoroughly appreciated without a knowledge of facts regarding the rate at which manure loses weight when allowed to rot in the heap.

On March 7th, 1894, 4,000 pounds each of fresh horse and cattle manure were placed in a shed on tight boards. It was turned and weighed once a month, and the pile carefully watched to see that proper conditions of moisture were preserved. The following is the result of the several weighings:—

Table with 2 columns: Date and Weight. March 7th: 8,000 pounds. April 6th: 5,530. May 7th: 4,378. June 7th: 3,947. July 6th: 3,480.

At this time the manure was in what has usually been considered first-class condition, having that pasty character which would admit of its being cut easily with a spade and mixed readily with the soil. The turning and weighing was continued each month until December 7th, when the former 8,000 pounds of fresh manure had lost weight until it weighed 2,600 pounds—a loss of more than two-thirds of the original weight. When we remember that fresh manure gave better results with most crops than did rotted manure, pound for pound; we must see that thousands of dollars are being allowed to waste in almost every county every year from allowing the farm-yard manure to rot down into that supposed best condition.

There is no doubt but fresh strawy manure will yield better relative results on heavy soils, or those lacking in humus, than upon those already having a good condition of texture, but there can be no soil, except in a garden, that will give as profitable returns from applying manure that has lain in piles heating and rotting for months at a time as when it is applied directly from the stable to the soil. As years go by more farmers are finding this out and are hauling the manure as it is made all through the winter and spreading it upon the fields to be plowed in as soon as possible in the spring.

Storing Potatoes.

Strictly speaking, no one ought ever to store potatoes in the house cellar. But as hundreds of thousands do it every year, and will continue to do so, a word may not prove amiss. And, first, potatoes should be sorted while in the field. It saves the housewife some work, and it saves storage room and the later work of extra handling. Potatoes for the cellar are best barreled, as they are then movable when the accidents of time bring frost or water to the cellar supposed to be proof against both. Above all, potatoes in the cellar should be kept dark. Canvas sacks make good curtains to set off a portion of the cellar and good covers for the barrels. Light will ruin the flavor of all potatoes, and half-light will cause them to sprout far in advance of the season.

"I like your paper," writes one of our oldest readers, "because it is what its name implies—the farmer's advocate. I admire its independence, and must say I have been unable to find in any other journal so much reliable up-to-date matter. Besides this, you do not use up one half your space telling how good the other half is or what you are going to do."