

# THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN  
THE DOMINION.

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1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on the first and fifteenth of each month. It is impartial and independent of all classes 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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Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or  
THE WILLIAM WELD CO.,  
LONDON, CANADA.

## Securing Extra Copies of the Christmas Number.

Judging from present indications, and the gratifying reception the number has met, there will be a great demand for additional copies of the Christmas number of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. In order to provide against this, we printed a limited number more than required to supply our regular subscribers. To non-subscribers the price is 50 cents per copy. However, any subscriber whose subscription is already paid up for 1900, or who sends in his renewal, may at the same time secure extra copies by remitting for the number desired at 25 cents each. Nothing more attractive or valuable could be sent out this season to an absent member of the family or friend. Or without any outlay of cash whatever, one copy may be obtained very easily as a premium for the name of each new subscriber sent us, accompanied by the subscription price (\$1). We would advise our friends to lose no time in making provision by one or the other of the above plans to secure copies of the paper before the supply is exhausted. Until further notice each new subscriber will also receive a copy of the Christmas number.

### Could Not Do Without It.

John Blackburn, Bruce Co., Ont., writes:—"I wish to say to the readers of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, that I have been reading the ADVOCATE for the past year, and I cannot understand how I could now get along without it. It is a valuable paper and well worth more than \$1 a year; in fact, I would not be without it for twice that amount."  
"P. S.—Please give me the address of the Chicago Horseman."  
[358 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.]

Dr. L. O. Bournival, Three Rivers Co., Que.:—"Christmas number is a revelation to me. It would be difficult to make it nicer or of more interest. I enclose my subscription with much pleasure for so valuable and up-to-date an agricultural paper."

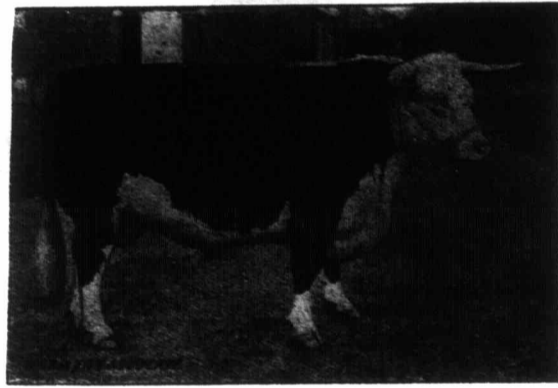
## Comment on the Christmas Farmer's Advocate.

A STERLING PRODUCTION.

The *Globe*, Toronto, Dec. 28:—"If the Christmas number may be taken as a fair indication of a journal's prosperity, the FARMER'S ADVOCATE of London is enjoying in large measure the success the labors of its managers deserve. It is in every way a creditable production, many-paged, profusely illustrated, ably written, and with an attractive and appropriate cover printed in colors. There are several special contributions from prominent agriculturists. Hon. Sydney Fisher writes on the agricultural situation and outlook for the Dominion; Senator Donald Ferguson deals with agriculture in the Maritime Provinces; Prof. Day, of the Ontario Agricultural College, exhibits the debit side, or what agriculture owes to science; Mr. Archibald Macneil, editor of the *Scottish Farmer*, presents a view of the future of British agriculture. These are only a few of the leading articles, but enough to show the sterling character of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE'S Christmas number."

MASTERLY AND CHEERING.

John Campbell, "Fairview Farm," Woodville, Ont., December 27th, 1899:—"Your Christmas FARMER'S ADVOCATE is certainly a treat to all admirers of good stock. Casting the eye carefully over the numerous excellent engravings, and reading over and over again the most interesting descriptions of many of Canada's noted herds and flocks, with the stirring accounts of the bold and successful operations of their owners, was a telling, substantial, and long-lasting addition to Christmas cheer. And not less enjoyable was the perusing of the masterly and instructive articles from able pens in the east and in the west of our great Dominion, from beyond the sea and our southern border, setting forth with a far-reaching ken the ever-increasing importance of farming operations. To have such a choice collection of good things placed before us by D. D.'s, ministers of agriculture, leading professors, secretaries of all-alive associations, and many others, with last, but ever



HEREFORD STEER.

Winner of first prize and championship at "Smithfield," Norwich and Birmingham Shows, 1899.  
PROPERTY OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

best, the ladies' touching pen pictures of home life so daintily sketched, is a feast deserving of the heartiest appreciation."

TRIBUTE FROM AN ENTOMOLOGIST.

Mr. Chas. J. S. Bethune, editor of the *Canadian Entomologist*, writes:—"John Weld, Esq., Manager of the William Weld Co.: Dear Sir,—I beg to thank you very heartily for sending me a copy of the Christmas FARMER'S ADVOCATE. It is certainly a remarkable publication, and reflects the utmost credit upon all concerned in its production. The cover, printed in colors, with its beautiful and appropriate picture and loyal design, the eighty pages of excellent typographical work, and the wealth and beauty of the illustrations, are products of the printer's art which cannot easily be surpassed. When the contents are inspected, no one can fail to be pleased with the variety and interest of the papers, a large number of which have been contributed by leading Canadian writers of the day. Every intelligent farmer who reads this number will assuredly obtain from it much useful information on a variety of subjects of importance to himself and his household, and will find it of value for reference for a long time to come. When I look back at the ADVOCATE as I first remember it, when it was a very modest publication indeed, I am filled with admiration at what has been accomplished, and I feel that you and your colleagues may justly be congratulated on the great success you have achieved."

A GREAT CREDIT.

The Wilkinson Plow Co. write:—"Your Christmas number reflects great credit on you, and we trust will be a lasting benefit in bringing in new business. Wishing you a prosperous New Year."

GRAND!

G. A. Brodie:—"I am greatly pleased with your Christmas number of ADVOCATE. The illustrations throughout are really grand."

CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

Herbert W. Mumford, Professor of Agriculture:—"Permit me to congratulate you on the Christmas

number of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. Your subscribers should appreciate such an interesting and valuable number. Wishing you the compliments of the season."

DELIGHTED WITH IT.

Geo. Crawford, Simcoe Co., Ont.:—"We received the Christmas number on Christmas day, and are all greatly delighted with it. I am trying to get one or two new subscribers. Wishing you the compliments of the season."

THE BEST YET.

Wm. Spence, Halton Co., Ont.:—"Have received the Christmas number of the ADVOCATE. Think it fine—the best yet."

"SIMPLY MAGNIFICENT."

A. Stewart, Ailsa Craig, Ont.:—"Received the Christmas number of FARMER'S ADVOCATE last Saturday, and consider it simply magnificent and strictly up-to-date in every particular."

EXCELLENT.

J. Cavers, Halton Co., Ont.:—"Issue for the 15th inst. is now to hand. It is especially fine. My congratulations on its excellence."

CONGRATULATIONS.

D. Thom, Manager Thom Implement Works, Watford, Ont.:—"Christmas number of your paper just come to hand, and allow me to congratulate you; a most creditable Canadian production. May your enterprise be amply rewarded."

WORTH A YEAR'S SUBSCRIPTION.

R. H. Harding, Thorndale, Ont.:—"Christmas number of FARMER'S ADVOCATE to hand. I would not be without it for the yearly subscription. To use the very common every-day expression, I would say it's 'a cracker-jack.'"

## The Outlook for Live Stock.

The unusually high average of prices paid for cattle at the auction sale of Shorthorns from the herd of Mr. W. D. Platt, of Hamilton, last month, as reported in another column of this issue, where over \$400 a head was realized for nearly sixty animals, emphasizes the fact which statistics and the experience of feeders and dealers, both in the United States and Canada, prove to be true, namely, that there is an undoubted shortage of cattle in both countries, which goes far in accounting for the sharp advance in prices for beef animals in the leading markets in the last year or two, as well as for breeding stock. The reports of the Bureau of Agriculture of the United States show that the extent of the falling off in the number of cattle in that country in the last five years is no less than seven million head, which well accounts for the large drafts which have been made in the last two years of young cattle for feeding purposes as well as of breeding stock from Canadian herds by American stockmen and feeders. This drain upon our stock must naturally have had the effect of largely diminishing the supply of cattle in Canada; and since a large proportion of our farmers are engaged in dairying, in which the dairy breeds and their grade are largely used, it is reasonable to presume that the number of young cattle suitable to make good beef animals being raised is by no means large, and it is certain that cattle suitable to feed for the supply of the export trade and the best markets are decidedly scarce and hard to find. The general prosperity experienced in business circles and the consequent improved financial condition of the average of the people on this continent in the last few years, and the prospect of a continuation of this prosperity, has doubtless tended to greatly improve the home markets, since more of the people can afford to buy meat. In view of these circumstances, and the added one that the average farmer is seeking to improve his stock, the probability amounts almost to a certainty that prices for beef cattle will rule high for some years to come, and that the demand for breeding stock will be actively sustained and the values of these relatively high.

The markets for dairy produce during the past year have been on the whole very satisfactory, and the prospect is decidedly encouraging, while the demand for dairy cattle of most of the breeds has been good and at better prices generally than for many years previously. If dairy cattle paid their way, as we know they did during the years of depression, when prices were low, they will certainly make money for their owners in these better times. The cow whose annual product brings more money than she is worth on the market, and whose skim milk raises a calf and a pig or two each year, is pretty safe property to have.

Sheep for breeding purposes have continued in good demand, and Canadian breeders have reaped very satisfactory returns from their flocks, while the recent rapid rise in the price of wool renders the outlook for this industry exceedingly bright. Horses of the better class have found a ready mar-