

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

WILLIAM WELD, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL PUBLISHED IN THE DOMINION.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the 1st 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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360 Richmond Street,
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Our Monthly Prize Essays.

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

1.—No award will be made unless one essay at least comes up to the standard for publication.

2.—The essays will be judged by the ideas, arguments, conciseness and conformity with the subject, and not by the grammar, punctuation or spelling, our object being to encourage farmers who have enjoyed few educational advantages.

3.—Should one or more essays, in addition to the one receiving the first prize, present a different view of the question, a second prize will be awarded, but the payment will be in agricultural books. First prize essayists may choose books or money, or part of both. Selections of books from our advertised list must be sent in not later than the 15th of the month in which the essays appear. Second prize essayists may order books for any amount not exceeding \$3.00, but no balance will be remitted in cash. When first prize essayists mention nothing about books, we will remit the money.

A prize of \$5 has been awarded to Mr. John Campbell, jr., for the best original essay on the subject: *What is the Average Cost to the Farmer to Rear a Steer to the Age of Thirty Months, said Steer to be Sold Fat at that Age. How Much Profit is Derived? If there is a Profit, How Can it be Increased?*

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best essay on *What Profit is Derived from the Average Canadian Dairy Cow? Can this Profit be Increased? How?* All essays on this subject to be handed in by the 15th of February.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best essay on *Potato Culture*. The writer must also name the six best varieties suitable to the north; stating the merits and other qualities of each sort. Essay not to occupy more than one page, and to be handed in not later than March 15th.

Editorial.

On the Wing.

This year we hope to be able to resume our flights. We commenced on January 2nd by going to Thorndale to attend a meeting of the Farmers' Institute being held there. We also attended the annual meeting of the Western Dairymen's Association. The dairy interests were the principal topics, being most ably treated at both institutions. Prof. Robertson, of the Model Farm, being well posted on the cow and her products. He imparts a lot of very valuable information that should do much good to those that do and those that do not read agricultural publications. Prof. Roberts, of Cornell University, is a walking encyclopedia on dairying, and delighted the Canadian dairymen with his fund of information. The principal change in the instruction given was his depicting from actual tests that matured corn and corn stalks were far more valuable than three or four times the bulk of immature corn; thus corroborating the experience of Mr. Leitch, the late President of the Dominion Farmers' Council, who had from practical experience found that our common Canadian corn, although not producing the bulk per acre obtained from American corn, was of more real value for feed. This should show to farmers the necessity of raising their own seed. This overthrows much of the corn fodder instruction previously given. Prof. Roberts said horns must go, and showed the advantages of dehorning cattle. Mr. Caswell, the retiring President of the Dairymen's Association, suggested the importation of the small common cows from Quebec for dairy purposes.

Thanks.

It is now our duty to return thanks to our Merciful Protector, who has still spared us. In Dec., 1886 and Jan., 1887, I was prostrated with a fever. In Dec., 1888, a fire destroyed part of our office and very materially affected our exertions, and we have been exposed to the acts of thieves, who have purloined our property. We return thanks to our old subscribers for their prompt renewals, and to all that have aided in sending in new subscribers. We return thanks to the County Council of Middlesex and the Aldermen of the City of London for the following commendations:

"The thanks of the County Council of Middlesex are hereby tendered to Wm. Weld, Esq., of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, for his personal efforts on behalf of the agricultural and stock interests of this country. We feel that the farmers, as a class, have much to thank him for in what he has done and is now doing in their behalf. The FARMER'S ADVOCATE has ever remained true to the Canadian interests, and we recommend it to farmers everywhere, and to the Canadian public."

Wm. Weld, Esq., City. Dear Sir,—I beg to advise you that the City Council at its last session adopted the following resolution, viz.: "Ald. Callard, seconded by Ald. Winnett, moved that the thanks of this Council, on behalf of the citizens of London, are due to Mr. Weld for his indefatigable and valuable services in advancing the best interests of the city, and we recommend the FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE to every Canadian for its patriotic, independent and valuable information." Yours truly, C. A. KINGSTON, for City Clerk.

We also return thanks for the kind remarks of Mr. Cargill, M. P. of South Bruce, who said that he considered the agricultural publications of our Dominion were doing more good than the Government expenditure in many ways. We are pleased to inform you that prospects are brighter than they have been for the past six years. That some who may have been misled are returning to the ADVOCATE, finding it the only reliable farmer's friend, the only one that has not some other object to serve in preference to the farmer's interest.

The Provincial Exhibition.

We have received a great many communications regarding the Provincial Exhibition, but lack of space prevents us from publishing them in this issue. We find the public almost equally divided on the question of discontinuance. Those first replying to our circular were mainly opposed, but those coming in lately are chiefly in favor of its continuance, but all favor its reconstruction. Our next issue will contain several letters from leading farmers, and other matter, concerning the Provincial Fair. The letters in favor of continuing the show now number 113; against the same, 101. In favor of township shows, 137; against same, 57. In favor of supporting and improving county shows, 182; opposed, 23. In favor of special attraction, 83; those opposed, 107.

To the Stockmen.

We are putting forth every effort to increase our circulation, and thereby make the ADVOCATE a still better advertising medium. Whenever you sell animals to persons who are not subscribers, induce them to subscribe. You will thereby benefit yourself, the buyer and us. We are especially desirous to increase our American circulation.

Send in your stock notes. Let those who have no improved stock see what you are doing, and who the buyers are, they may become interested.

Agents Wanted.

We want agents in every township in the Dominion to canvass for the FARMER'S ADVOCATE. We give liberal cash commissions. Write for particulars.