

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE  
DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL,  
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It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely  
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mal, or chafing it in any part. By taking measure-  
ments and using good material, this can be ac-  
complished without involving undue weight of the  
package. The shipper's business card should be  
tacked on the crate as an advertisement and an  
evidence that he is not ashamed to let it be  
known the stock is from his herd or flock, but  
rather that he takes a pride in the class of stock  
he sends out.

In a country where the distances are so great  
as in ours there is vast room for the extension  
and expansion of mail-order business in live stock,  
as in other commodities, and if prosecuted in a  
fair and conscientious manner, on the lines of  
"the golden rule," business, as a rule, may be  
successfully transacted in this way, to the mutual  
satisfaction of seller and buyer.

It goes without saying, however, that in a case  
where the stock shipped is, by the receiver, in a  
reasonably short time, and for a good reason, de-  
clared unsatisfactory, it is at least good business  
policy to make the transaction satisfactory,  
either by having the stock returned or allowing a  
rebate on the price, for a dissatisfied customer is  
the worst advertisement a breeder can have, and  
may do much harm to his reputation, even though  
there may not be good grounds for the grumbling.

### When Silence is Golden.

One of the biggest nuisances in a community  
is the man who takes it upon himself to set the  
world right on all subjects, according to his own  
sovereign opinions. Sometimes he has good ideas,  
more often he is somewhat of a crank. In any  
case his views would be more likely to receive  
consideration if less pendantically asserted. Ex-  
ample alone generally counts more than example  
and preaching combined. If you have an idea  
that would benefit your neighbors, it is all right  
to tell them about it, but after that, the best  
missionary work will usually be accomplished by  
letting them quietly perceive its value, and adopt  
it in their own good time and way. Particularly

against prejudice is argument futile. The best  
way to treat a narrow-gauged, cross-grained, sour-  
spirited man is to let him be unconsciously in-  
fluenced by your own tolerant attitude. Conces-  
sion disarms, opposition stimulates prejudice. The  
really persuasive person is he who is free to ad-  
mit his own error, slow to criticise his neighbor,  
and more anxious to learn than to teach.

There are some truths that may be very ef-  
fectively left unsaid.

### Our Maritime Letter.

The season, as it lengthens, enables us to view  
much more approximately the results ultimately in  
store for Maritime agriculture. It was thought  
by many at the start that the lateness of the  
spring opening, and the long and continued cold  
rains attendant upon it, would adversely affect the  
crops as a whole. On the other hand, some  
thought they saw an exceptionally promising year  
looming up before them, with plenty of moisture—  
a prime factor in this sandy country—and a suffi-  
ciency of such warm weather as would mature the  
growing crops in the opportune moment. Looking  
over the ground, at the extreme end of July, we  
believe a middle course in prognostication the  
right one now to pursue.

Hay is in the coil everywhere as we write (late  
it is, indeed, for the operation), and so far as we  
can judge it will be an average crop at least. The  
new meadows are, in many cases, very heavy, not  
so heavy as they promised in early spring, but  
heavy enough in all truth; and the late ones,  
which were supposed to be exceptionally thin,  
have, under the influence of heat and moisture, de-  
veloped a thick bottom. The show of alsike and  
white clover has been phenomenal. The roadsides  
and fence places are full of it. "A country that  
can grow clover like that on its highways natu-  
rally," said a professional agriculturist from  
abroad to us recently, as we sped over the road  
in our own section, "need never despair of its  
agriculture." There seems to be little red clover  
sown now compared to what there used to be, but  
what there is looked remarkably fine. Some parts  
of Prince Edward Island have better hay than  
others. It seems to be light enough in the hilly,  
middle country, which should never have been  
stripped of its forest; and in the low sections of  
heavy land, where the persistent cold rains hard-  
ened and the afterspell of heat baked the ground  
considerably. The marshes are good; an abundant  
crop of broadleaf will be housed on the great  
marsh ranges of Nova Scotia and along the river  
bottoms of New Brunswick. We have not much  
of it here, but wherever the marshes obtain the  
crop will be heavy. In Nova Scotia the upland  
hay is, for the most part, splendid; the Annapolis  
Valley is gathering in a record-breaking return.  
New Brunswick, too, in general, will rejoice in a  
good hay harvest.

In referring to our success with alfalfa last  
letter, we said that for Nova Scotia Prof. Cum-  
ming, of the Agricultural College, could, doubt-  
lessly, give valuable information. He has written  
us, on reading "The Farmer's Advocate," and  
given the benefit of his observations, which, al-  
though not intended for publication, will, never-  
theless, be equally welcome to the public:

"I notice in your last letter to 'The Farm-  
er's Advocate' that you hint at the desirability  
of our making a report on the possibilities of  
alfalfa for Nova Scotia. I may say that I hesi-  
tate to do this for another year, for the reason  
that I do not want anything reported from the  
College which may be of a doubtful nature; and,  
as yet, we feel that the alfalfa question remains  
to be proved. Our own seeding killed out pretty  
badly, but that is not to be wondered at, for even  
the red clover, on the adjoining plot of land,  
killed out last year. This year we are experi-  
menting on a larger scale. We have seeded part  
of our land in the spring, and part will be seeded  
in the course of a week or so. Some of the land  
will be treated with lime, and some with wood  
ashes. In addition, alternate strips have been  
seeded with inoculated seed, and another with un-  
inoculated seed. We also have a large number of  
farmers growing some plots this year. Of those  
who grew it last year, two have reported very  
favorably. One of these seeded an acre of land  
to the crop—half with inoculated and half with

uninoculated. His report is extremely favorable,  
and especially so in regard to the part of the field  
seeded with inoculated seed."

It will be seen that they have to persevere in  
Nova Scotia as elsewhere, to get good results  
with this valuable plant. There will certainly be  
a much more heavy seeding to alfalfa here next  
spring. We want to succeed; and, generally, re-  
ward crowns persistent effort. Can Col. Camp-  
bell, Mr. Peters or Mr. Gilman speak for New  
Brunswick?

With plenty of hay, then, what are the pros-  
pects for grain and roots in the Provinces? The  
early wheat, all will agree, looks fine. We said  
before that an experiment was being made this  
year in planting potatoes in the cold, rainy period  
before the sod-lands—which in our system are the  
oat-lands—were dry enough to work. Whatever is  
to blame—and long lying in cold ground could ex-  
plain it—the potatoes have "missed" badly. Some  
say that the tubers heated last winter in the  
caves; others that the sets heated in the piles;  
others, again, that cutting and planting at once,  
many failed to lime, and the sets rotted easily.  
At any rate, we have but a half crop of potatoes;  
which, however, may be better than a whole crop  
when the digging comes around. Northern New  
Brunswick is in our position exactly, but Nova  
Scotia makes no complaint on this score so far.  
The Colorado beetle—that pest which, with the  
horn fly, entomologists were to have had pass  
hence long ago—is worse than ever. The Paris  
green, despite the proffered analysis, is poor stuff,  
too; and the potato-raiser has his trials these  
days, and no mistake. Potato patches—what is  
left of them—look splendidly now, though, wherever  
cared for at all.

Late oats, and it is nearly all late with us,  
required the recent showers to make it promise  
much. The early fields, wherever discernible, are  
as good as the wheat. The main crop, however,  
will be late; but we expect a good enough return  
from it in the end. The weather is admirable—  
plenty of heat, with refreshing showers at inter-  
vals—and the barley, buckwheat, turnips, rape,  
and minor crops, are coming on admirably. Corn  
has but a short season, indeed, this year, and  
there is little of it to be seen, but, wherever  
grown, it has a fine, rich and flourishing appear-  
ance. Fruit will not be as heavy as anticipated.  
Late varieties—the more important apples—were  
hindered by rain in the fixing time. But we will  
have a good deal of fruit withal; and all things  
considered, too, we will be well able to thank  
Providence for a bountiful harvest in Maritime  
Canada.

A. E. BURKE.

### "Why Don't You Speak for Yourself, John?"

A man must surely be most prosaic if the  
passing of the harvest arouses in him nothing of  
either the poet or the philosopher—for it does not  
require that a man should live on bread and len-  
tils and dress in sackcloth in order that he  
should be a philosopher, nor that he should  
"send the viewless arrows of his thoughts—Like  
Indian reeds blown from his silver tongue—from  
Calpe to Caucasus," in order that he should be  
a poet. Sitting calmly by the back "kitchen"  
door of an autumn evening, with the blue smoke-  
wreaths curling upward from his pipe, serene in  
the consciousness of a summer's work ended and  
a goodly harvest in store, the farmer may philos-  
ophize as deeply as did ever Old Stoic on the  
"impregnable fortress" of contentment, the  
pearl of great price of "tranquility." Looking  
on past the orchard to the open door of the barn,  
where the mows bulge outward with the pale gold  
of oats, and wheat, and barley, noting the ex-  
quisite gradations of light and shade, the blue,  
cloud-flecked sky above, the greenness of the grass  
and the great tawny stretches of the shorn fields  
below, he may feel, if he cannot express, all the  
emotions that have found expression by the pen  
of the poet.

But the true philosopher must realize that there  
are harvests and harvests. If a man will reap,  
he must also sow; and the farming world of  
Canada has for long enough been sowing only the en-  
deavor that makes clean fields and full barns, good  
roads, numerous schools, the moral stamina that