

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE

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DOMINION.

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE
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It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely
illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most
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men, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication
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LONDON, CANADA.

The Farm Yields What is Better than Gold.

The farm is more generally appreciated as the
tendency grows to revolt against the sordid vul-
garity of wealth. The artificialities which money
alone procures will probably never be enjoyed so
largely on the farm as among the privileged few
of the cities. People who hanker after the in-
dulgence of exclusive luxuries are not those who
will be first attracted by the wholesome natural
enjoyment that farm life offers in such refreshing
contrast. The city Cæsus speeds through the
country in his automobile. He surely does not
find much pleasure in it beyond the hollow desire
to do something his neighbor cannot afford. The
farmer, or rather those few farmers, who have
learned to appraise the advantages of their occu-
pation at something near their true worth, walks
over his fields, drinking in the beauty of Nature
in her various moods, reflecting soberly but con-
tentedly upon the higher duties and privileges of
existence, glad to be alive and estimating his ad-
vantages for the joy and happiness and peace
they bring to him, envying them not to his
neighbor, who may also share them to the full.
Not to despise common pleasures because they are
cheap, but to value them because they are within
the reach of all, is the attitude of mind to which,
sooner or later, we shall come. The universal
beauties, the simple foods; a wholesome, natural,
easy life, rich in experiences of intellectual, moral
and religious life, are blessings which will be more
highly appreciated as time goes on. Let us look
for these, envying not, but pitying the pu-
sant proud rich who think to purchase happiness with
gold.

To reproduce "June conditions" in January
is a costly process. Does it pay?

At what temperature is your stable?

How to Advertise a Country.

A proposition is before the Maine State Legis-
lature to build a new Capitol. The farmers of
Maine, while anxious to keep down the tax rate
and expenses of Government, also wish to have
more done for good roads, rural schools, the agri-
cultural interests, the State hospitals, and the
suppression of the brown-tail and gypsy moths.
"The Farmer's Advocate" is asked for an
opinion whether the farmers will gain more
through the possible advertising of the State by
the erection of an expensive Capitol, situated in
the chief commercial center of the State, than by
spending any available funds for the other objects,
and retaining the Capitol as at present, within a
few miles of the center of the population?

Now, the question of the cost and location of
the State building of Maine is one of domestic
concern, upon which it is hardly proper for us to
venture an opinion. While the building should be
in keeping with the requirements of a great State,
we believe that millions have been needlessly lav-
ished upon such structures elsewhere, and there
can be no question whatever of the greater ad-
vantage to farmers and the people generally of
more liberal expenditures for the promotion of
agriculture and for the alleviation of human suf-
fering than outlays for public works, in the bene-
fits of which usually a few contractors and public
officials are the chief beneficiaries. A contented
and prosperous people is the best advertisement of
Maine or any other State.

HORSES.

History of Old Messenger.

When Messenger landed in America, on May 16,
1788, the history of the trotting horse began. A
flame was kindled that has never gone out. Mes-
senger's light will never fade away, and any facts
connected with the horse are always interesting to
most horsemen.

For many years there was a doubt about the
place where Messenger was landed in America. It
was claimed by some that he was landed in New
Jersey, others insisted that New York was the
place where the horse first set foot on American
soil, while others claim that Philadelphia was the
city in which he landed.

From a systematic search of the Congressional
Library, made by George P. Floyd, a prominent
turf writer, he states that he found a volume of
the Pennsylvania Packet and Advertiser for the
years 1788-89, which was published in Phila-
delphia.

In the issue of May 17, 1788, was found a
notice of the arrival at Philadelphia of the brig
Dove (the vessel docked at the foot of Market
street), with assorted cargo and the stallions
Messenger and Governor, from Liverpool. There
was where Messenger was landed.

In a copy of the same paper, June 15, 1788,
was found an advertisement of a stallion bill,
stating that the gray stallion Imported Messenger
would stand for service during the season of 1788
at the Black Horse Tavern stable, on Market
street, at a fee of \$10 the season and \$1 each for
the groom.

The seasons of 1798, 1805 and 1806 he stood
at Oyster Bay, Long Island, at Townshend Cock's
farm. His fee had been raised to \$45.

Jan. 28, 1808, Messenger was found dead in
his barn. Doubtless he died from old age, he
then being 28 years old. Such was the estima-
tion in which the horse was held that the news
of his death spread like wildfire throughout that
part of the country. Hundreds flocked to see the
last of the great hero. His grave was made
under a large chestnut tree; the grave lined with
cedar plank. The great sire was dressed in his
holiday attire. He was loaded on a stone cart,
and six of his sons, all gray, with a black body
blanket, were hitched to the stone drag.

A military company with a band of music and
hundreds of people formed a procession and fol-
lowed the monarch of all sires to his last resting
place, where he was buried with military honors,
and volley after volley of musketry was fired over
his grave. A headstone was placed on his grave,
with the inscription: "Messenger, Monarch of
Sires. Foaled 1780. Died Jan. 28, 1808."

Messenger was a dapple gray, 15.3 hands high,
large bony head, with large ears, a splendid hazel
eye, short, thick neck, his nostrils were twice the
size of any ordinary horse, very powerful loins
and quarter, very large hocks and knees, perfect
in every position. Whether in motion or at rest, always
in perfect position. His mane was sparse, but
he had a splendid flowing tail. He was sired by

His pedigree, as it is given, traces through the
line of King Childers directly to Darly Arabian.
He is reported on account of his speed as a
"black horse," and for the improvement of race
horses in the United States. W. W. Mowbray.

ger got his trotting instinct from, is to some a
hard problem to solve, while others seem to have
struck the keynote. Engineer was by Sampson,
a thick, heavy-made horse, with large, bony legs,
heavy mane and tail, with shaggy fetlocks, a big
head, and rough-coated; so much was he like a
cart horse that many doubted his being sired by
Bass, who was a fine-made, clean horse. His
propensity to trot was very strong. He would
always start off on a trot, and trot quite fast;
he was obliged to be whipped hard to induce him
to change his trot into a run. These facts are
proved in the old turf papers and books of that
day.

Although Engineer or Mambrino showed no
inclination to trot, perhaps it was because they
had no chance to do so. The instinct to trot
and sire trotters dropped out in Messenger, and
probably started in Samson.

Messenger had no great reputation while in
England, and his star did not commence to shine
on this side of the sea for some years after he
came here. Messenger had been in America but a
short time when the Pennsylvania Legislature
passed a law prohibiting racing. That com-
pelled those owning horses to keep them for road
purposes. About that time, the country roads
growing better, and road wagons made lighter,
trotting came into fashion, and the wonderful
trotting speed of the Messenger family was dis-
covered. It seems to have been more a matter
of accident than anything else that Messenger was
found to be a great sire of trotters. The progeny
of Messenger, sons and grandsons, found their
way in considerable numbers into Canada in the
thirties and forties of last century, and produced
a grand class of carriage, road and general-pur-
pose horses, the blood of the old horse being re-
markably prepotent.

The Enrollment of Stallions and its Effect in Saskatchewan.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

With regard to the enrollment, I beg to say
that we have but few expressions of opinion on
file concerning the work of the ordinance; but
from what I know of the horsemen and farmers
in general, gathered from personal contact, I
may say that the ordinance meets with public
approval, especially among the better horsemen
and more advanced farmers. It has also had the
effect of bringing to the notice of some purchasers
that what they supposed to be pure-bred stallions
are not pure-bred, and cannot be enrolled as such
in this Province.

The striking thing about the working out of
the ordinance is the information gleaned there-
from as to the comparative number of grade
horses in use. I was prepared to expect a large
proportion, but must confess disappointment on
finding that the proportion is so large as it is.

No distinction is made between sound and un-
sound animals in the Horse-breeders' Ordinance.
A. P. KETCHEN,
Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture.

Sask.

LIVE STOCK.

Payment of Dog Tax Should Exempt Owner from Individual Liability for Sheep Claims.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have read with interest the letters published
by you in regard to the sheep-and-dog question.
I do not entirely agree with any of them, but
think that Mr. Misner's is most fair. My flock
of sheep has been injured by dogs a number of
times, and only once were the owners of the dogs
discovered. On that occasion a neighbor saw
the dogs, and recognized them as his own and
another neighbor's. As they were honest men,
they reported to me and compensated me in full.
Now, I claim that the present law is an injustice
in a case like this. Why should the few whose
dogs are discovered pay damages as well as taxes,
while the many are let off with a paltry dollar
per year? If dogs be not a nuisance, there is
no more reason for taxing them than any other
live stock, and it is unfair, in relationship to
other live-stock owners, to tax dog owners for the
general benefit. If, however, dogs be a nuisance,
it seems to me to be quite fair to tax them, to re-
imburse in full the industry injured. But in order
to be fair to the dog-tax payer, he should be as-
sured against all personal liability for damage
that might be caused by his own dog. Another
improvement on the present law would be to have
some one to assist the claimant for compensa-
tion in estimating his loss. As it is highly im-
portant that sheep-killing dogs should be de-
stroyed, the law in that respect should be made,
if anything, more strict than at present. I
think, too, that if the amount of dog tax depended
upon the number of sheep killed, perhaps dog
owners would be more careful of their own and
their neighbor's dogs. G. M. BALLACHEY,
Brant Co., Ont.