

Canada's Columbian Victors.

The frontispiece of this issue will give our readers an idea of our new subscription picture. The large illustration which this one portrays is 12 x 19 inches, surrounded by a deep border of white. In all the picture is 16 x 23 inches, a suitable size for framing. It is a finely executed engraving, and will be printed on fine paper from well-finished copper plates. It contains fifteen Ayrshires, each a prize-winner at the great Chicago show. The animals illustrated were selected from the famous Quebec herds owned by Messrs. R. Robertson, Howick, P. Q., Daniel Drummond, Petite Cote, P. Q., Thos. Irwin, Montréal, P. Q., and from the Ontario herds owned by Messrs. Thos. Guy, Oshawa, Ont., W. M. & J. C. Smith, Fairfield Plains, Ont., Wm. Stewart, jr., Menie, Ont., and Jos. Yuill, Carleton Place, Ont. These herds were selected by the commissioner of the respective provinces to represent Canadian Ayrshires at Chicago, and well did they do their part. In competition with the best animals the United States breeders could produce, the herds above mentioned made an almost complete sweep of the prize list, winning forty-eight prizes, amounting to \$1,885, against five prizes won by American Ayrshires, amounting to only \$150. Mr. Robert Robertson, Howick, P. Q., deserved great credit in connection with this display. Quebec Ayrshires have long been esteemed for their excellence. Mr. Robertson, acting as sub-commissioner in Quebec, succeeded in inducing several noted Ayrshire breeders in his province to allow their cattle to go to Chicago. The Ayrshires exhibited by these gentlemen made one of the finest displays shown in any live stock class by any province or state. The cattle shown by Ontario breeders were of high excellence. Canadian Ayrshires were so successful that we determined to commemorate their victory at the Columbian Exposition by issuing a fine subscription picture, illustrating the most successful Ayrshires shown by Canada at Chicago. We will send a copy of this picture to any person who sends us one new yearly subscriber, or will sell a single copy of this engraving for \$1.00.

The Canadian Senate costs the tax payers \$147,136 per year. Is it worth it to the country? We certainly think not. Ontario and Manitoba have no Upper Chamber and do not feel the need of one—in fact, would not accept one. The provinces farther east are burdened with a useless Upper Chamber, just as the Dominion is burdened by a Senate.

The thirty-ninth meeting of the Western New York Horticultural Society will be held in Rochester, N. Y., January 24th, 1894. Fruit-growers always look forward to this convention with the deepest interest. Particularly was this manifest last January, when the attendance exceeded that of any previous meeting, the membership roll rising to nearly four hundred; and it is expected to reach the five hundred mark at the forthcoming anniversary. Valuable papers, reports and discussion of practical questions by practical men, make up a splendid programme. Every fruit-grower within two hundred miles of Rochester should belong to this organization and attend its meetings. The Secretary is John Hall, 406 Wilder Building, Rochester.

The publication of the first part of *Index Kewensis* is reported in our English horticultural files. The full title of this colossal work is "An Enumeration of the Genera and Species of Flowering Plants from the Time of Linnæus to the Year 1885 inclusive, together with their Authors' Names, the Works in which they were First Published, and their Synonyms." The work owes its origin to the late Charles Darwin, who notified to his friend, Sir Joseph Hooker, his intention to devote a considerable sum in aid or furtherance of some work of utility to botanical science. The bulk of the work has been done by Mr. Daydon Jackson, one of the secretaries of the Linnæan Society, with the aid of a clerical staff and the co-operation of the officers of the Kew herbarium, the whole work being efficiently supervised and directed by Sir Joseph Hooker. The first fasciculus of this marvelous work consists of 728 quarto pages, each with three columns of 80 lines or more apiece, and it contains upwards of 43,000 names, alphabetically arranged, commencing Aa and extending to Dendrobium exiguum. From its alphabetical arrangement it is obvious that the manuscript must have been completed before the printing was commenced, so that the appearance of the remainder of the work may be looked for at comparatively short intervals. Mr. Darwin, it is said, rightly considered such a work as one "of supreme importance to students of systematic and geographical botany and to horticulturists."

Timely Notes for January, 1894.

A happy New Year, and a more prosperous one! May we get a tariff for revenue, whichever government is in power!

FEEDING FOR FUTURE USEFULNESS.

Just now a great many are apt to be discouraged in feeding milking cows—especially strippers—for the continued dry feeding, even with a liberal allowance of bran, chop and roots, will slowly shrink up the milk production, until we reach the point when these cows are not giving enough milk to pay for the food they are consuming. Will they still pay for feeding? I think, yes; and if you will consider the effect on the calf that the cow is carrying, and also the effect on the future production of the cow herself when she does commence a fresh season of milking, you will agree with me. But with some cows, especially those that have been allowed to go dry early with their first calves, the tendency to dry up after six months milking is so strong that the food is wasted in putting on an excess of fat. In most cases it will pay better to dispose of these short milkers. On the other hand, I consider that a cow should be kept milking for as long as possible—up to within a month of calving; I believe it is better for the cow and her future usefulness in the dairy.

BUYING AT WHOLESALE.

This winter, when we are all feeling the pinch of "scarce money," it behoves us to economize in every way possible, and one way is to buy at wholesale. In our own local lodge we have saved a great deal by buying the staple groceries and hardware at wholesale. In sugar there is very little, sometimes nothing; in tea and coffee there is an immense saving both in quality and price. By a careful scrutiny of the wholesaler's price list, and a clubbing together amongst two or three, we can get most of our goods at far less than retail prices from either Winnipeg, Brandon or Portage; of course, some of the wholesalers will refuse to deal with you, but there are plenty that will deal with you, if you mean business and have the money. Write to a business man in a business way, and you will save your own time and his. Some will say we must deal with our local store-keeper. Well, that's all right, if he'll deal fairly with you; but when he tells you that he doesn't want this and he doesn't want that, when he won't pay cash to you, how in the name of goodness are you under any obligation to pay cash to him? It's time this thing was "played out." These men are thriving in most cases, and on the necessities of their customers; their profits are altogether out of all proportion to the profits of the farmers, and I think we are perfectly free to deal, to buy and sell where we can do so to the best advantage.

TAKING STOCK.

It is a good time to take an inventory of our possessions on some blizzard day, to write off our bad debts, call in our bills receivable, and generally to take a clear survey of our financial position. Don't hesitate about writing to a man who owes an account and giving him a reminder of its being due, and also, don't be offended in being asked for money due from you; it is only business, and farming is a business as much as anything else. Plan out your work for the coming year. Are you going to try some ensilage this year, or some green crop? Are you going to get some good seed for that field that has been sown with mixed oats for so long? Go over your potatoes, picking out the best, both in shape and size and appearance, for seed; keep them from germinating until you are ready to plant them next spring.

GENERAL.

Look out for blizzards, and keep everything under cover; it's hardly pleasant to go kicking through the snow for a misplaced hay-fork, and have it run into your moccasin, or your ankle, as a reminder of its presence.

If your butter doesn't come quickly in the winter, have you ever tried a "starter" to ripen the cream? Don't fill your churn more than a third full, and you will churn quicker; feed a regular allowance of salt, and you will churn quicker; mix a fresh cow's cream with that of your strippers; the result will be beneficial to your arms.

Renew your subscriptions to farm and other papers. "INVICTA."

Our Clubbing Rates for 1894.

We offer our subscribers papers at the following rates:—

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE	
Winnipeg Weekly Tribune.....	\$1 75
Toronto Weekly Mail.....	1 75
" Daily.....	6 00
" Weekly Globe.....	1 75
" Daily.....	6 00
" Weekly Empire.....	1 75
" Daily.....	6 00
London Weekly Free Press.....	1 75
" Daily.....	4 25
" Weekly Advertiser.....	1 75
The Canada Farmer's Sun.....	1 50
Montreal Weekly Witness.....	1 60
" Family Herald and Weekly Star.....	1 75
" Weekly Gazette.....	1 50
Cosmopolitan Magazine (Monthly).....	2 25

Remit by Post Office order or registered letter. Post Office order is cheapest and best.

Laid Over.

Lack of space has compelled us to leave over until next issue several meritorious contributions and editorial articles, including one on tuberculosis at the Ontario Agricultural College Farm.

Annual Meetings of Agricultural Societies.

Our able correspondent, Mr. Henry Newmarch, hits the nail on the head when he says the directors of agricultural societies should be chosen because of their fitness for the office and public-spiritedness. Self-seeking men should in all cases be rejected. Such are the greatest nuisances imaginable—always croaking, always talking that they may be heard, thus using up time valuable to others. The wire-puller is another veritable curse, a hindrance to useful work and a bar to progress. The secretaryship is the most important in the gift of any society. On the secretary depends the success of the association. This officer should be, above all things, honorable, having the courage of his convictions, energetic, prompt, and possessed of the ability to get other men to work in the interest of his association.

This last quality is not the least important. The secretary must have enthusiasm and have the power to enthuse others. He must be a good executive man. It is wonderful what such a man can accomplish. As an example, we point to Secretary Hill, of the Toronto Industrial. He is a king among secretaries. To him is due the credit of establishing and conducting by all odds the grandest yearly Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition held in America, if not in the world. A splendid business man, fearless, strictly honorable, wide-awake, enthusiastic, yet patient, he is doubtless one of the finest men of this day—fitted to fill any situation in the gift of the people. At the annual meetings of the agricultural societies the members should earnestly strive to select suitable officers. When a suitable secretary is obtained, he should be permanently engaged. It is a great mistake to make this officer one of annual election. Such a course subjects a good man to the caprices, whims and irony of the meaner class among the membership. In the exercise of his duty a secretary is almost sure to offend self-seeking and wire-pulling members. The more honorable and less self-seeking a secretary is, the more liable he is to offend such men, who will frequently take an active part in the meetings of a society in order to get even, as they call it, with the secretary, and avenge themselves for some imagined injury or slight. Such men have not the honesty or moral courage to make charges openly before the officers or the association, but do their talking behind the back of the person they charge with wrong-doing. Such backbiting is of no importance, but is an injury to the association, as it is discouraging to efficient officers, and sometimes has the effect of disaffecting some persons who are not well acquainted with the officer maligned. If a secretary knew he could hold a position as long as he made the association a success, he would be more inclined to throw energy into his work, and thus extend the usefulness of the society.

Under the system of annual election there is no encouragement to the secretary to do, as it were, missionary work for the society. He simply does the necessary or routine work and no more, because he thinks, and properly so, "next year the members may not elect me again, or I may be elected for a year or so and get the work well under way and some clique may kick me out, after I have spent much time and labor establishing the society and getting it into 'good working order.'" The office of secretary should be elective, but not annually. The term of office should only expire when the secretary fails to do satisfactory work. Frequent change in the secretaryship is a detriment to any association and a loss to the men employed. Under the present system, no sooner does a man know his work than a change is made. Not only should the secretary's office be a permanent one, but it should be well-paid. A stated salary should be given. To this should be added a liberal commission on the profits derived. This course would induce men of good business ability to accept the secretaryship. Under such conditions we would hear of more successful fair associations. More men like Mr. Hill would be developed.

Thousands of our readers will be glad to hear that Grip will again be regularly published during 1894, in Toronto. Mr. J. W. Bengough, the founder of the paper, will be the editor. This gentleman's literary and artistic abilities are well known to all Canadians.