

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

—AND—

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. Is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners or stockmen, of any publication in Canada.

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE,
360 Richmond Street,
LONDON, ONT., CANADA

Our Monthly Prize Essays.

Our prize of \$5.00 for the best original essay on *The Advantages and Disadvantages of the Proposed Model Farm for the Dominion*, has been awarded to Mr. J. S. Pearce, London, Ont. The essay appears in this issue.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best original essay on *How can Public Expenditures for Agricultural Purposes be Turned to the Best Interests of the Farmers?* Essays to be handed in not later than November 15th.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best original essay on *The Advantages of Planting Nut-bearing Trees.* Essays to be handed in not later than December 15th.

UNPRECEDENTED OFFER!

Good till December 1st only.

In consequence of some of our old subscribers complaining that we have given greater advantages to new subscribers, and in order to advance your interests, and increase our circulation, we make you the following offer:—

For two NEW subscribers' names, accompanied with \$2.00 cash, we will send you the Farmer's Advocate free for the year 1886.

This offer is made solely to our present subscribers.

DEAR SIR,—I have taken the ADVOCATE for several years, and am so well pleased with the course it has pursued, that I am determined to increase its circulation among my brother farmers. I now send you four new names, and will endeavor to send more.

GEORGE IRWIN, Micholston.

Editorial.

On the Wing.

When on the wing we endeavor to keep our eyes and ears open to see or hear of anything that may be of profit or interest to you. In our recent trip to our old homestead, the Westwell Farm, we found lots of walnuts on the trees, also butternuts and hickory nuts. Some of these trees were saved and protected by us forty years ago. One black walnut tree that we had reserved sold a short time ago for \$100 as it stood. The black walnut makes a large, handsome tree, and produces the most valuable timber of any raised in our Dominion. The hickory makes the most valuable bending timber and produces the sweetest nuts; the butternut tree produces the most oily fruit. We know of no safer, nor we believe more profitable, investment than the planting of suitable varieties of trees; and for pleasure and profit combined, we know of none that we would more strongly advise you to plant at the present time than the nut bearing varieties in localities in which they are adapted. They will gladden the hearts of the children. We can look back with great pleasure to the gathering of the nuts in autumn and eating them in winter. Let us plant for our children's pleasure, for our profit, and the good of the country. The crop of nuts will be found profitable, the tree will be found beautiful, and who would despise the receipt of \$100 for a single tree of black walnut, or \$50 for a fine hickory tree? Bear in mind that nuts are a nutritious article of food as well as luxury.

When in Boston we purchased a plant of the Japanese Ivy. No plant or tree that we have seen gave us so much pleasure this year as the sight of this new plant. We first saw it on Mr. Landreth's house in Bristol, Pa., covering the side to the eaves of a three-story building; it was as rich and grand as it was possible to be, putting us more in remembrance of the ivy-clad castles and walls in England, and quite as grand and rich as anything we have ever seen there. Mr. Landreth introduced it from Japan. It is perfectly hardy after the first year. It is now growing up the sides of nearly all the fashionable houses in Boston; it is crawling up some of the best houses in Rochester; it is growing on the house of Mr. W. R. Meredith, M. P. P., in this city, and is now to be introduced to you by us. You may not have seen it, but you will be delighted with it. Be the first to introduce it into your locality; it is the best climber you have ever seen, and we feel safe in commending it to you; it will please you and anyone that sees it.

We appreciate the *Catalpa speciosa* so much that we went to the expense of having an engraving made of it; this is the hardiest variety of the *Catalpa*.

When recently in Rochester we saw some fine chestnut trees bearing a much superior chestnut to those commonly grown in Canada, and the trees came into bearing much earlier; these we shall introduce to you this year.

We shall give these beautiful and valuable plants to you for obtaining new subscribers for the ADVOCATE; see prize list in this and following issues. The plants will not be sent until the spring.

Agricultural Exhibitions.

Since our last issue we have visited another exhibition, in Waterloo. Here we saw many of the finest animals in Canada, many of which had carried off Dominion and Provincial prizes, and perhaps other animals exhibited here would have compared favorably with the prize winners had they been there. We heard some complaints of partiality having been shown at the larger exhibitions.

The exhibition was good throughout; perhaps the exhibit of bread, preserves, wines and vegetables might be considered above the average. There appears to be a great difference in opinion as to whether the height of carriage horses should not be reduced to 15½ hands, as it appears that many good carriage teams will not quite come up to the standard in height, and are too heavy for the roadster class. We are rather inclined to maintain the standard on that class, as on the whole they are the most valuable class for the country, more particularly so where the land is rich; in localities where the land is not of the best, a lower standard might be encouraged.

Hog Cholera.

For some time past we have noticed reports of the existence of hog cholera in Essex Co., Ontario. Some of our notices about stock diseases having been too slightly regarded when furnishing information to the proper authorities, and even our reputation for veracity or knowledge having both been maligned by some having great power and influence, and even our attempts to do good having been turned against us, we have said but little about this case, as the first information we had came to us through the papers supported by the Government. At the annual meeting of the Agricultural and Arts Association in this city, we asked the President if the reports we read were correct. He replied that he was not aware that the hog cholera existed in Canada, but Mr. Chas. Drury said that it did, and that the Government was taking means for its suppression. We have now made due enquiries into the matter, and find from the most reliable resources that over 1,200 hogs have died of the disease within the past year; that it has existed near Malden for about 18 months; that the introduction of the disease is not yet clearly defined, some supposing it may have arisen from dead hogs that were washed on shore, supposed to have been from the other side of the line; or it might have been imported by smuggling a pig across, which we have heard hinted as having been done; others think the railroad may be blamed for it. One case pretty clearly shows that strong circumstantial evidence would point strongly to the railroad; an isolated case is found 20 miles from the seat of the disease; near this is a watering place where the hogs are watered and the cars cleansed. The cleaning of the cars takes place in this way: A strong stream of water is forced through the cars by means of a hose, the force of which washes all the excrement out of them. This operation causes the hogs to squeal, and the squealing of the hogs causes the hogs that are running in the adjoining farm to come to the fence to ascertain what the trouble is. The stench from the cars is sometimes very great,