

FARMING

Vol. XV.

NOVEMBER 9TH, 1897.

No. 10.

FARMING

AN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO FARMING AND THE FARMER'S INTERESTS.

Published every Tuesday by

THE BRYANT PRESS,

20 BAY STREET TORONTO, CANADA.

Subscriptions in Canada and the United States, \$1.00 per year, in advance, six months 50 cents, three months 25 cents. In all countries in the Postal Union, \$1.50 a year in advance.

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TOPICS FOR THE WEEK

Other Evidences of Success.

There can be no stronger evidence of the success of any journal than the extent to which it is quoted by other publications. In this respect FARMING, as a weekly, is meeting with marked success. Its leading articles and editorial notes are being reproduced in a large number of the leading newspapers and journals which circulate in Canada.

This is indeed very gratifying to the editorial management of FARMING, and all we ask of our friends, when quotations are made, is that we get full credit for them. With one or two exceptions this is done. But during the past few days a few exchanges have come to hand containing editorial matter taken, word for word, from FARMING, without any credit being given us. It is very complimentary, indeed, to have our productions purloined in this way, but we think it is only our just right to get credit therefor.

Aside from this, we have been complimented on all sides by the weekly and daily press for our weekly production, and we are indeed very sorry that, owing to lack of space, we have not been able to publish these complimentary references. We quote the following, taken from the *Guysboro, N.S., Leader*, which may be taken as a sample of the many we have received: "We occasionally speak in complimentary terms of that excellent agricultural journal, FARMING, because we believe it deserves all, and more, than it receives of public commendation."

Our special offer to send FARMING to new subscribers from now to the end of 1898 for \$1 still holds good, as does our proposal to advance the subscription of any regular subscriber six months for one new yearly subscriber at \$1, and one year for two new yearly subscribers at \$1 each sent in. There can be no easier method for any of our friends to earn a dollar than this. Just take an evening off this week and call upon your neighbors who are not at present receiving FARMING, and see how easy it will be for you to earn a dollar by getting them to subscribe. We are offering liberal cash commissions to agents to canvass for subscribers. Our lists of special premiums are complete.

Breaking the Law.

Laws to prevent the adulteration of food products are perhaps more strict in Canada than in

any other country in the world. Adulteration in every form is so circumscribed by legislation that it is almost impossible for anyone to practise a deception in this regard without being quickly detected. It has been largely due to this fact that Canada has obtained so high a reputation in the British markets for the production of fine cheese. And though the reputation of Canadian butter has not yet attained to so high a position as Canadian cheese, yet we have not the least doubt that the strictness of our laws against the manufacture of oleomargarine or "bogus" butter will in time have the same effect upon that branch of our great dairy industry. No one regrets the strictness of our laws in these particulars. In fact, if it were necessary to make them more stringent everybody would hold up both hands and call for more legislation.

In the working out of the laws against adulteration it very often happens that they are broken where least expected. In keeping with the laws to prevent the making of "filled" cheese, we have laws to prevent the supplying of adulterated milk to cheese factories and creameries. These laws provide that no one shall supply milk to a cheese factory or creamery from which the cream has been taken, or to which water has been added, or from which the strippings have been retained, etc. In other words, this means that the milk supplied must be as it was when taken from the cow. Very often this law is broken by unscrupulous patrons of factories, though we are pleased to be able to state that the practice of tampering with milk supplied to cheese factories and creameries is on the decrease.

The systems of inspection employed by the various dairy associations, and the improvements made in the instruments used for the detection of adulteration, make it practically impossible for anyone to supply adulterated milk to a factory without being sooner or later found out. Notwithstanding this fact, however, there are to be found occasionally patrons of cheese factories, who do not seem able to resist the temptation to make a little out of their neighbors by adding water to, or taking the cream off the milk they supply to their cheese factory. Quite recently Mr. Alex. Clarke, Inspector for one of the districts controlled by the Western Butter and Cheese Association, inspected the milk at the York factory in Haldimand County. As a result of his inspection, eight of the patrons of that factory were fined for supplying adulterated milk. One patron had added as high as 37 per cent. of water. Such instances show the need of the law, and the importance of our factory managers exerting the utmost vigilance in order to have the milk supplied them pure and unadulterated.

Though the law against the adulteration of milk is sufficient in itself, the working of the law is very often responsible for such instances as herein quoted. None of the fines imposed in this particular case were higher than \$6. In fact, the man who put 37 pounds of water into 100 pounds of milk he supplied was only punished to the extent of a \$6 fine, just \$1 more than the minimum demanded by law. We have watched the working of this law pretty closely during the past few years, and, with one or two exceptions, never has the amount of the fine imposed by the local magistrate been in keeping with the offence committed, the supplying of deteriorated milk to cheese factories and creameries would soon be a thing of the past. A person who is unscrupulous enough to add water to or take the cream from milk which

is pooled with his neighbor's good milk will not feel a paltry \$5 fine very keenly. If it were \$40 or \$50 he would think more than once before running the risk of trying to make money out of his neighbor's honesty. There is another sure preventative, however, against such adulteration, and we fail to see why so many of our cheese factories, who are troubled with unscrupulous patrons supplying deteriorated milk, do not adopt it. This preventative is to pay for all milk supplied according to its quality. The plan of paying for milk according to the percentage of butter fat has passed the experimental stage, and whether it is modified by adding 2 per cent. to the fat readings, or whether the original plan is followed, either one is a long way in advance of the old "pooling" system. By paying for milk according to its quality, the temptation to supply deteriorated milk is taken away, and the patron will not go to the trouble of adding water or taking the cream off milk when he is not going to get any pay for his trouble.

Ability on the Farm.

In no other vocation will marked ability show itself more prominently than on the farm. This has been proven over and over again. In nearly every instance where a young man of brains, push, and ability has become a tiller of the soil he has succeeded well, and in a few years has become a leader among his brother farmers. In the past the idea has been too prevalent that the only place in which real ability has a chance to shine is in some one of the professions, or, perhaps, in business. With this idea kept prominently before the younger generations, is it any wonder that our professions are overcrowded by the young men off the farm, and that many of them to-day are finding it difficult to make a respectable living, let alone becoming a bright and shining light among those of their adopted calling.

We, in keeping with many other well-wishers of this fair Canada of ours, would like to see this tendency reversed, and, instead of young men of ability seeking opportunity for displaying their energies among the professional men, find them looking to the farm as an avenue to fame, prosperity, and happiness. True, to farm properly means constant application and a share of hard work. But it means more than this. To make a success of farming in these days of keen competition means the application of the highest type of skill, the brightest intellect, and the best business ability to the problems involved in the management of any farm. The brightest young man the country can produce will find ample scope for his ability in studying the conditions which affect plant life, in following out the proper rotation of crops, in the breeding, selection, and feeding of all kinds of stock for profit, and in looking after the business side of his undertaking. If he feels that he would like still further scope for his energies let him enter the realm of higher agriculture, and give his attention to the many branches of the sciences bearing upon the calling of the farmer. Here, we think, he will find as wide a field for research and investigation as any of the professions afford.

In the outset we stated that there are many instances of what ability and push can do on the farm. In our own land, as well as across the border, many of the real leaders of the people are agriculturists. As an incentive to young men, we mention, as a case in point, the achievements in the line of agriculture of Mr. Alex. Gunn, of Janesville, Minn. Mr. Gunn, who is a brother of Mr. D. Gunn, of the firm of D. Gunn Brothers & Co.,