

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

FOUNDED 1866.

VOL. XXI.

LONDON, ONT., OCTOBER, 1886.

Whole No. 250.

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & 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 and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.

Terms of Subscription—\$1.00 per year in advance; \$1.25 if in arrears; single copies, 10c. each. New subscriptions can commence with any month. The *Advocate* is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance, and all payment of arrears are made as required by law.

Remittances should be made direct to this office, either by Registered Letter or Money Order, which will be at our risk. When made otherwise we cannot be responsible.

Always give the Name of the Post Office to which your paper is sent. Your name cannot be found on our books unless this is done.

Discontinuances—Remember that the publisher must be notified by letter when a subscriber wishes his paper stopped. All arrears must be paid. Returning your paper will not enable us to discontinue it, as we cannot find your name on our books unless your Post Office address is given.

The Law is, that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrears are paid, and their paper ordered to be discontinued.

The Date on your Label shows to what time your subscription is paid.

Advertising Rates—Single insertion, 25 cents per line. Contract rates furnished on application.

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

Our Monthly Prize Essays.

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

- 1.—No award will be made unless one essay at least comes up to the standard for publication.
- 2.—It is not necessary for essayists to agree with our policy, so long as they give sound reasons for differing from us.
- 3.—The essays will be judged by the ideas, arguments, conciseness and conformity with the subject, and not by the grammar, punctuation or spelling, our object being to encourage farmers who have enjoyed few educational advantages.
- 4.—Should one or more essays, in addition to the one receiving the first prize, present a different view of the question, a second prize will be awarded, the sum being decided by ourselves in each case, and the essay will appear in the same or in a succeeding issue.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best original essay on *How can Greater Economy be Exercised in the Use of Fences?* Essays to be handed in not later than Oct. 15.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best original essay on the following subject: *Can Mixed Farming be so Changed that more than the Ordinary Amount of Work may be Profitably Done during the Winter Months?* Essays to be handed in not later than Nov. 15th.

Our prize of \$5.00, offered for the best original essay on *How to Regulate Fall Work on the Farm most Profitably*, has been awarded to S. A. Laidman, Binbrook, Ont. The essay appears in this issue.

Reliable Agents Wanted.

Good reliable agents wanted in every county in Canada to canvass for the FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE. Subscribers or parties well acquainted with the paper preferred. Liberal terms offered to those willing to work. State particulars of former employment, and address this office.

Editorial.

On the Wing.

FARM STOCK IN GREAT BRITAIN.

We visited the Agricultural Exhibition in Edinburgh. The Scotchmen there consider the exhibit of Clydesdale horses the best held in the world. We will not dispute the point; we never saw a finer exhibit. We met Canadians here trying to procure the best, but some superior animals the owners would not part with.

Here also the Ayrshire cattle predominate; other breeds of cattle were at a comparative discount there. In conversation with a Scotchman, he said: "There's mair money in these eyes than in any ither; it's sil'er we need."

When passing through the country we noticed a very large preponderance of the Ayrshires. The canny Scot is a live farmer, and nothing speaks higher for the Ayrshires than their practical utility. The Scotch farmers have been enabled to select the breed that would return the greatest profit, and many of them are wealthy, while their enterprise is proverbial.

Saddle and driving horses were rather inferior in size to the horses in these classes in Canada. At many county shows in Canada one might see just as good Shorthorns as were to be found here. Other classes of animals were not, on an average superior to those found at Canadian exhibitions.

We went a short distance into the Highlands. The rolling hills covered with heather and small patches of grass, afforded a very grand view, but the poor, hungry, wild-looking sheep bore a very sorry contrast to those we will yet describe.

The grand city of Edinburgh deserves a passing remark. No city we have yet seen affords one such a magnificent appearance. A deep and wide valley, neatly kept, divides the city into two parts; the castle and old high houses on one side contrast beautifully with the modern architecture and monument in the new portion. Numerous fine monuments are scattered about the city; some are unsurpassed for solidity and architectural design. The market is quite a marvel; it is on the side of the hill. An immense space is leveled, concreted, and covered with a stone and glass roof; trees, shrubs and flowers are planted on the top or roof, which makes a very fine promenade, and is on a level with the street above. Well may Scotia's sons be proud of their city for many causes.

We saw a little of Glasgow, Belfast and Dublin. We might dilate on the beautiful,

fertile Green Isle, on the grandeur of Dublin Bay, and on the wealth and civility of this city's inhabitants. Here the Kerry cow, not unlike many common Canadian cows in the eastern provinces, abounds—small, fine-boned, red and brindled, but good milkers. A few Shorthorns are to be seen on the farms of the opulent, but it is the Kerry, the Ayrshire and the pig that have to pay the rents. We will leave the political troubles for the present, and may touch on that at another time. Suffice to say, we were in Belfast the night the first bullets and brickbats were flying, and the last, we regret to state, have not yet been thrown.

We cross into Wales, and here we find a very hardy class of cattle, none of which we have ever seen at any exhibition in America. They are black, of medium size, between the Ayrshire and Shorthorn, are fair milkers, active, and are found the most hardy and profitable class of cattle they can raise. In conversation with an intelligent and prosperous Welsh farmer near South Stook, he said: "We have tried all other breeds of cattle; there are none so hardy as the Welsh cattle; this country is hilly, in some parts rocky, and it is bleak and windy." It is our impression that this class of cattle would be admirably adapted to our North-west country, and if going into ranching there, we would be inclined to introduce them as soon as vessels and quarantines might be considered safe. Very large numbers of these cattle are raised in Wales and sent to the farmers in different parts of England to graze and be fattened for 6 to 12 months before being slaughtered, the flat, level country being better adapted to fattening stock than the hills or mountainous parts of Wales.

We visited the Royal Agricultural Exhibition at Norwich. Here the Norfolk or Red Polled cattle make a magnificent exhibit, they being brought out in larger numbers than ever before. They are fine large animals, and by many are preferred to Polled Angus or Aberdeen; they are now becoming very popular, and the prices of this class have a decided upward tendency. At this exhibition the Shire horses may perhaps be considered to carry off the palm. The exhibit of Suffolk Punches was most astonishingly fine. The large numbers exhibited and the superiority of the animals to what we have been accustomed to, makes us ask the question—Why do we not see more of this valuable class of animals at our exhibitions?

The Herefords and Sussex cattle appeared to us to be in larger numbers and remarkably fine specimens of their classes, and to maintain their prices well. In the Shorthorn class there appeared a great contrast in the exhibit to