

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

—AND—

HOME MAGAZINE.

WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor

The Leading Agricultural Journal Published in the Dominion.

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RENEW AT ONCE

Our Monthly Prize Essays.

Our prize of \$5.00 for the best original essay on *Women in the Dairy*, has been awarded to M. Moyer, Walkerton, Ont. The essay appears in this issue.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best original essay on *How Should Farmers Spend their Evenings?* Essays to be in not later than 15th August.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best original essay on *How could the Middlesex Agricultural Council utilize an Experiment Ground for the best interests of the Farmers?* Essays to be handed in not later than Sept. 15.

The wages for farm laborers in this Province have dropped eight per cent., this season compared with last.

Prof. Sanborn, of Missouri Agricultural College, has been experimenting with broad tired wagons. He finds them about 40 per cent. lighter in draft than narrow tires on moist sward, and 12 per cent. lighter in a partially dried dirt road.

The magnitude of the strawberry trade in the cities is immense. In a single day Chicago received 32 carloads, each containing 500 cases. These were shipped from points south of Centralia, Ill. On May 25 about 200,000 boxes passed Centralia for the Chicago market.

Editorial.

On the Wing.

CLOCKMOHR.

This is the name given to the farm and residence of Mr. Laing Cowan, one of the firm of James Cowan & Sons, breeders of Shorthorns, near Galt, Ont. The name was given the farm by Mr. James Cowan, his father, who settled on it fifty years ago. Mr. Cowan was what is termed a herd or shepherd boy in Scotland, but he tended his sheep well there, and tended his farm well here. Leicesters were his favorite sheep in his youth; when they were the popular sheep in Canada, he had the best herd in our Dominion, and now, although the Downs have come into vogue, Mr. C. still has a strong tendency to adhere to the sheep of his choice, and his son, perhaps to please the old gent, still has the Leicesters, and they may again come into favor and stand as they formerly stood, ahead of all other classes.

Mr. James Cowan, sr., has now retired from the farm, and lives in Galt. In addition to his herd of Leicesters, over thirty years ago Mr. Cowan laid the foundation of his present herd of Shorthorns by purchasing in 1855 a calf, Red Rose 10th, one of the Princess family. This calf was bred by Col. Sherwood, who imported her dam, Red Rose 2nd. The calf was sold at his sale to Mr. Ashton, who sold her to Mr. Cowan. She proved a valuable acquisition, and in his care she lived till she was 19 years of age, and dropped her last calf when she was 17 years old.

Boys, this should show you what care has done and will do. This family became in great demand, and at one time Mr. Cowan sold two cows and a calf for \$7,500. There are two brothers now on farms adjoining; one, Mr. Laing Cowan, has the old homestead, consisting of 350 acres, and the other brother has 200 acres; they both work jointly together. They have a joint herd of 60 head, all Bates'; they are using a pure Princess bull, the 6th Earl of Antrim, which is considered the best milking family of all the Shorthorn strains, and this is now a very important feature. In looking over the herd we are pointed out the different strains—the Polyanthus, Seraphinas, Lady Adela, Sultanas, Oxford Roses, etc., and in looking over the Herd Book we see Mr. Cowan's name figuring as possessing Sanspareil 24th by Prince Constance 2nd, —237—; Lady Adela 2nd, sire 8th Adela, 21883, dam Adela imported, by s. of Collingham (23730).

It is a wonderful contrast to see the well-tilled lands of the Cowans, the fine crops, and the fine, contented, thrifty-looking stock, when compared with many other farms to be seen, the owners of some of which have had much more means. But the watchful care of the good shepherd, and the care of the calf, have told a tale, and that tale is repeating itself every day: you can see it. The careful hand and the steady industry have been the safe foundation embraced.

Clockmohr has stood as a landmark on the road between Galt and Guelph for nearly half a century. The massive old stone house on the hill, with the cows grazing on the rich flats below the house, with two model animals, Lady Adela 2nd and Sanspareil 24th, as seen

from the road, combine to make a scene on which the mind of young and old may look and contemplate with advantage, while the orchard and ornamental trees enclosing the scene are land marks that are read as one runs. There exists an amount of honor and candor about the auld Scotch shepherd laddie and his family that is deserving of imitation by many. It is pleasing to us, and we think beneficial to us all, to look on, admire and follow such patterns that have been placed before us.

This part of the country is broken, undulating and rugged; there is considerable stone about on the land. Many farmers would prefer taking the level lands of some prairie country, but we have not yet found a home on a prairie where the inhabitants are not wishing to sell or move the first fair chance that offers. It is not so where we find the rugged hills and fertile vales as at Clockmohr.

When one purchases anything at Clockmohr it may always be depended upon as being as represented. That is much to be considered in the present state of affairs. It is unnecessary to repeat the details of depth, width, etc., of each animal in this herd. See them as we saw them, grazing about 7 o'clock on a June morning in the field below the house. Such a beautiful picture of utility, beauty, comfort and health is not easily surpassed.

On the foreground of the illustration on preceding page you see Lady Adela 2nd and Sanspareil 24th.

A TRIP TO THE STATES.

We have just taken a hasty trip to a few of the Eastern States, namely, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, and the District of Columbia, calling at several points where we considered the most valuable and important information could be procured, whether in regard to stock, seeds, implements or other matters, and hope in due time that you may be benefited thereby. At each place we were shown the greatest kindness and hospitality, all willing and pleased to give information, and in many instances to act in a most princely manner toward us. Perhaps the most important was a call at the office of the U.S. Commissioner of Agriculture at Washington, but the Commissioner was away, therefore our conversation was only with an assistant in his office, from whom we ascertained that it was contemplated to materially increase the public agricultural expenditure, and that an expenditure was about to take place in which Canada in some way participates. This is in sending some person to Russia for the purpose of obtaining information and procuring fruit trees that would succeed best in our northern latitudes. The plan appears a laudable and meritorious one, and it should be pleasing to us to know that the Governments are working so harmoniously together. We should hope for beneficial results from this undertaking, and increased friendship and good will. This step some would think should tend to alter our opinion in regard to some of our Government agricultural expenditure, which we have sometimes opposed, and for which so many office holders and office seekers have condemned us; but we find that our views are very extensively endorsed by the most practical and most independent men we have met. Even in the United States, for instance, James Vick, of Rochester, who was