

FOUNDED 1866

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE and HOME MAGAZINE

Is published on or about the 1st of each month, is handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical and reliable information for dairymen, for farmers, gardeners and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.

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Our Monthly Prize Essays.

Our prize of \$5 for the best essay on *How can the FARMER'S ADVOCATE Best Expend \$100 Annually in the Farmers' Interest*, has been awarded to Jas. Shannon, Wolverson, Ont. The essay appears in this issue.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best original essay on *How Best to Raise the Standard of Our Butter*. Essays to be in not later than March 15th.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on *"How can Greater Confidence be best Secured amongst Dairymen, Patrons, and Dealers?"* Essays to be in not later than April 15th.

Choice Premiums.

Our subscribers should secure some of the choice plants and seeds offered as premiums in another column. These premiums will be sent out as soon as the weather will permit. When sending in your new names, select your premium at the time.

Bound volumes of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE for 1884 are now for sale. Price, \$1.60, post-paid.

How to get a large crop of roots—Have a small crop of weeds.

The four requisites—Good land, good seed, good tillage, good manure.

Learn how to keep one cow before you undertake the responsibilities of a whole herd.

Don't imagine that a rainy day is intended as a day of rest. You will find plenty of indoor jobs in preparing for the spring work. Bear also in mind that genuine rest consists in a change of employment, especially from physical to mental pursuits; so alternate your planning with the labor of your hands.

Editorial.**On the Wing.****EASTERN DAIRYMEN'S MEETING.**

We were present a short time at the Eastern Dairymen's Meeting, which was held in Morrisburg. The first days of the meeting the attendance was large, but it gradually decreased, and to us it appears that there exists too strong a partizan feeling in the management of both the Eastern and Western Dairymen's Associations, to allow as much good being done to the dairy interest as there would be if this partizan spirit could be avoided. Partizan speeches are too apt to be favored, and many a weary, tedious address is imposed on the farmers by some axe-grinder who ought to know that he is only wasting the time of farmers who come to gain information, and have not the time to spare to listen for days to hear mere orations of some who like to hear their own voice. While one orator was delivering one of these long addresses, half the farmers left the room. There is more good done by the judicious answering of questions from the plain practical operators, and answered by such men as L. B. Arnold, Harris Lewis, or T. D. Curtis. This we believe to be the opinion of the real dairymen. There was some valuable information imparted, however. The meeting was a good one, but the principal interest appeared to us to be more directed to and for the interest of dealers and factorymen than to the patrons. The patrons are the most numerous, but have not so much money or influence at their command, and have not the time to attend these meetings for days together. We believe that meetings of patrons held in different localities, with capable persons to respond to questions, would be a great advantage. We do not recommend an increased grant for such a purpose, but some of the existing expenditures might with advantage be changed to encourage the object.

Probably the most important remark we heard at the meeting was dropped from the lips of Mr. Harris, an American gentleman who had been engaged to instruct Canadians, and also to instruct some of the dairymen of Scotland, on the American mode of cheese making. In speaking of the Scotch system of marketing, he said that there existed a confidence between the buyer and the seller that was not known on this side of the Atlantic, or words to that effect; but he refused to allow us to copy the exact words from his address. This we believe to be a very important fact, and one that every Canadian and American dairyman and dealer should enquire into, and if possible ascertain the cause and endeavor to devise a remedy.

Although our dairy products have gained the highest honors at Vienna, our cheese now stands higher on the market than that of our cousins across the line. Let us all strive to gain the confidence of foreigners; without that we are sure, sooner or later, to meet with serious loss, embarrassments, and a wreck, both financially and morally. Confidence implies honor and truth and justice, and Mr. Harris has ascertained and acknowledged that on this side of the Atlantic there exists a lack of confidence. Mr. Harris has been a long time in the employ of our Government and has had an opportunity of ascertaining the facts.

As will be seen by our prize essay column, we offer a prize for the best essay on the best plan of establishing confidence amongst dairymen, patrons and dealers.

Morrisburg is situated on the banks of the St. Lawrence, about 90 miles west of Montreal. It has a neat, thrifty, substantial appearance; it has gained a high reputation for the quality and quantity of butter exported from it. The quantity of eggs and poultry is enormous that is shipped from this locality, and the appearance of the country indicates a great amount of contentment, happiness and thrift, so wonderfully contrasting with the appearance of the towns or villages that we have yet seen in the sunny South, that the sight or thought of such places as Morrisburg awakens in us greater patriotism; and with care and judicious caution not to increase our debts, we have in Canada just as good a place to build our little paradises, as in any other land.

THE WORLD'S EXHIBITION.

This is the name given to the great Exhibition now being held in New Orleans. We left Toronto on Tuesday, the 10th of February, in company with members of the Press Association, via the G. T. R. to Fort Gratiot, then through Michigan to Chicago, thence by Illinois Central to New Orleans, arriving there on Sunday afternoon, having been storm-stayed for two days by the greatest fall of snow that has been known in Illinois for twenty-five years.

We passed through the ice and snow region to the clime of the sunny South. What a wonderful change we found! In a 50-hours' ride from Canada, ripe oranges are hanging on the trees, even over-hanging the sidewalks in some places; trees are nearly as heavily laden as apple trees were with us. Large branching and beautiful palms and ferns are seen, and the trees are festooned with long, drooping moss, giving everything the appearance of novelty. The air is balmy and pleasant, like May weather with us; tulips and crocuses are just beginning to open.

The great exhibition building is a monstrous affair, covering 33 acres of ground, and excepting the galleries, the space is well filled with interesting exhibits from the workshops of art and science. Another large building contains representations of products of different States and Territories, most elaborately and tastefully arranged. This we consider the crowning feature of this exhibition, as it was of most interest to us, and we think it would be to all interested in agriculture. The horticultural building is spacious, but disappointing, as we really expected to have seen plants and flowers in this balmy clime in excess of what we had previously seen. But so meagre and poor is the display in this building that we would much rather see the contents of many of our Canadian conservatories, as in them we can see more flowers and more pleasing specimens of plants than at this exhibition. The ferns, palms, orange trees, magnolias, etc., etc., were to be seen to much better advantage in private gardens in New Orleans than at this exhibition. This is a very sad defect, and one which, if it had been properly attended to, would, we believe, have done more good to New Orleans than all the sums they have or ever will expend in their Mardi Gras. The grounds outside the horticultural hall are most defective and de-