

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE

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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

WILLIAM WELD, Editor and Proprietor.

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Published in the Dominion.

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Our next prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on "The Best Class of Horse to Breed for Farm and General Purposes." The essay to be handed in before the 24th inst.

Our prize of \$5.00 for "The best suggestions for the improvement and the advantages to be derived from moneys granted by Government for agriculture and the dairy interest," has been awarded to P. E. Bucke, of Ottawa.

Our prize essay of \$5.00 "on the most economical feeding and best cooking for harvest hands," has been awarded to Mrs. J. L. Smith, of Whitby, Ont. All the essays published were considered so good that those parties who we called upon for their opinion had great difficulty in deciding, and the question was only decided by a very small majority.

"We wish you every success, and hope the ADVOCATE will be in the hands of every farmer in the Dominion, as it is worth double the price they have to pay for it. Yours sincerely, GEO. MORRISON, Bristol, P. Q."

Postmasters and school-masters will confer a favor on us by acting as our agents to receive subscriptions. Our Premium List affords them a most valuable remuneration for their trouble.

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Review.

The present issue closes the Seventeenth volume of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE and HOME MAGAZINE. The closing year has been one of rare prosperity—we are inclined to say, unprecedented. Both stock and fall wheat came through the winter in good condition. We had an early start of grass in the spring, but subsequent cold, dry weather, at that time, kept the fall wheat and other cereals back so much that we had a very late spring in regard to cereals. The cool, growing summer caused some alarm lest our crops would not ripen, but the unparalleled, long and beautiful autumn weather, ripened even the latest varieties of corn. Thus we have had one of the finest seasons for both stock and grain that we ever experienced. Our stock was never in a healthier condition, and our grain crops are generally uniform and good.

Prices for farm products generally have been very remunerative, and really good farmers were never in a better position, financially, than they are at the present time. Not only has prosperity touched the farm, but the lumberman, the manufacturer and the trader, have all participated in the general prosperity. Our manufacturers have been crowded with orders in advance of what they have ever before received—to such an extent that many have doubled their capacities; and our railways have been overtaxed with freight.

Our great Northwest is being rapidly developed, and a great boom of prosperity has prevailed throughout that immense country.

A general feeling of gratitude and thanks ought to prevail. There always will be some losses, or some callings that may not be quite as prosperous as others; for instance, many orchards have had a blast that has caused a great decrease in our apple crop. The price of long wool has not been very remunerative, and the Pink Eye has caused a great dearth of colts, and in some instances of horses, in some localities; but these are of minor consequence when we look on the general prosperity. The most deplorable picture on the agricultural horizon has been the full development and exposure of the purposes to which the money granted by the Government has been put.

A good fruit harvest, an enormous potato crop and good general farm crops bless Quebec and the Maritime Provinces. The lumbering interest has been very brisk. The shipping business has never been as large, and lumber never brought such high prices. The manufacturing interests of our country have been enormously expanded, numerous new factories have been erected, and a great many of the old ones have been doubled in size.

The Ontario farmers were never so well off. This may be evinced by their great tardiness in disposing of their wheat crop. The unprecedented development of our great Northwest is an astonishing