

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

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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. It 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.

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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.—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.
- 3.—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, but the payment will be in agricultural books. First prize essayists may choose books or money, or part of both. Selections of books from our advertised list must be sent in not later than the 15th of the month in which the essays appear. Second prize essayists may order books for any amount not exceeding \$3.00, but no balance will be remitted in cash. When first prize essayists mention nothing about books, we will remit the money.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best essay on *How Shall we Best Protect our Flocks from the Ravages of the Dog*. Essay to be in this office by the 10th of August.

A prize of \$5 will be given for the best essay on *The Most Successful System of Feeding and Caring for Cows in Stables in Autumn and Winter, Having Special Regard for Purity of the Product*. Essay to be in this office by the 10th of September.

CORRECTION.—In our editorial on Rape, in July issue, in the fourteenth and fifteenth lines from the top, appears the following:—"Sheep feeding on the field were very apt to become lost," and which should read, *very liable to be cast*.

Editorial.

Drought in Manitoba.

As we go to press one of our assistants, writing from Manitoba, says unless the drought is broken immediately, the crops will prove almost an entire failure. Where the subsoil is gravelly the damage is greatest. Much damage has also been done by the gophers.

Pea Harvesting.

In our editorial on this subject, in our July number, we made the statement that the pea harvester, manufactured by the Tolton Bros. of Guelph, could be attached to a wide-out mower, or self-rake reaper. This is a mistake, the harvester is to be attached to a mower of any width, and to mowers only.

Green Midge.

The *Aphis ave*, or as it is commonly called the "Green Midge," caused considerable alarm early in the season; but so far as reported, it has done little or no harm to the wheat; and while it is as likely to attack oats or other green succulent grains as wheat, they have not done so yet in this locality. This insect has so many enemies that it seldom survives to renew the attack the second year.

Holstein Breeders' Association.

As previously announced, we this month publish the papers read before the late meeting of the Holstein Breeders' Association. We intended to publish them in full immediately after the meeting adjourned, but they did not reach us until our issue for which they were intended was being printed, we therefore could not use them then, and since that date have been very much crowded with matter. A few of our readers may have seen a synopsis of these papers, but we deem it to their interest and that of the Holstein breeders to reproduce them *verbatim*.

Toronto Industrial Fair.

Secretary Hill writes us that the prospects for a successful show are good. The rule regarding the close of entries on August 17th, will be strictly adhered to. This will enable the association to issue a reliable catalogue containing all the entries. New stables to accommodate 150 horses have been built; and a new poultry house. These buildings will have all the modern conveniences. The Dominion Kennel Club will hold a bench show on the ground during the exhibition. Two handsome new gate houses will be built. The great feature of the special attractions will be the burning of Moscow, a painting, three hundred feet in length, which will be under the management of Professor Paine, of London, England. The pyrotechnical display in the evening will be grand indeed.

On the Wing.

Dominion Day, July 1st, 1889, dawned beautiful and bright. We leave London by the Michigan Central Railroad in company with some of the members of the Dominion Farmers' Council, who are taking an outing of inspection. The road is in good order, carriages comfortable, company pleasant, and Windsor is duly reached. Carriages are taken and we drive along the banks of the beautiful Detroit River to the Walker farm. A 200-acre field of barley is passed; if fault it has, it might be pronounced too stout. Next we pass on the right hand a 100-acre field of tobacco, in which the cultivators and hoes are being kept in motion. This field has been a wet, damp, cold soil, of a tenacious character, of comparatively little value. Now it is thoroughly underdrained, pulverized by the steam cultivators, clod crushers, etc. It is manured by means of hydrants placed on different parts of the field, through which the liquid manure is forced at the will of the cultivator. This, once wet swaly land, is now a dark, rich, porous garden of as rich, fine quality as anyone could desire. The tobacco has a healthy, vigorous appearance, although the unusually wet spring has retarded the growth, which may be made up, if our season is hot enough, so as to realize as much profit as was taken last year from a smaller portion of this field, namely, over \$8,000. To the left of the road we pass a hop garden containing 100 acres. This field is in grand order. The wet weather does not appear to have retarded the growth of the hops, which already are reaching above the poles and looking all that we could desire, quite as good as the hop vines in Kent, England, look, excepting that in this garden there are a few dead hills to be seen here and there. This would not be seen in England, and must shorten the crop a little from what it might be, but despite this, such is the grand appearance of the field that we should not be surprised to hear of it far exceeding the yields in England. We feel so much pleased with the sight that we desire to see it again, and so would any Kentish man, in fact we might almost add, any person who has ever tasted and appreciated a glass of really good ale.

We next drive to the summerfallow, where two large English agricultural steam engines are stationed about eighty rods apart; a wire cable connects the them. To this cable the plows, harrows, cultivators, stump pullers, grubbers, ditching machines, etc., are attached. When we were there the immense clod crushers were being hauled across the field. The implements are so made as to run either way. A man sits on the implement to guide it as required.

Large fields of barley, oats, potatoes and hay