

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

PERSEVERE
SUCCEED

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 Prize Essay.

Our prize of \$5.00, given for the best essay on "The Best Plan, Description and Specifications of a Cow Stable, 60 feet long by 30 feet, with Walls of Concrete," has been won by J. S. Ireland, West Lynne, Man.

The competition has been very keen, and we have had great difficulty in determining to whom to make the award. Much credit is due our competitors, and we are pleased with the interest taken in the subject.

A prize of FIVE DOLLARS will be given for "THE SEEDING AND MANAGEMENT OF PERMANENT PASTURES." This essay should contain particulars relating to the kind of grass seeds, other than clover and timothy, to be sown, and must be in this office by the 15th April next.

Back numbers of the ADVOCATE for past years can not be procured unbound.

New subscribers and our friends generally will please note that after this date back numbers of the ADVOCATE will only be sent when desired and expressly ordered. The demand has been so great that our large stock of back numbers (January and February) is nearly exhausted.

Subscribers are desired to send the name and address of any farmer who should take the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, and a sample copy will be at once mailed free to him. As our subscription lists swell, so greater improvements can be made.

The Month.

The winter wheat is not in too good a plight at the present time. The open, mild winter and thaws have injured the clover to some extent, and rendered the wheat brittle, to be injured by our March weather if it should be as March weather generally is. There is no new variety of spring wheat that we have heard of to introduce to your attention this spring. In fact, from all the varieties we have tried, there is not to our knowledge any kind that can be relied on to yield a certain profitable crop if sown south of the Grand Trunk Railway line west of Toronto. Those living to the north or east of Toronto, we would advise to sow the varieties that answer best in your local several localities. Among the newer varieties the Defiance wheat appears to be making the best record. There have been some very fine crops reported, yielding as high as 40 bushels per acre. We think it should be tried by those who intend raising spring wheat, if they have not already tried it, or have had poor success with other varieties. The White Fife, White Russian, Lost Nation and Red Fern have done well in particular localities, and are deserving of a fair trial in spring wheat districts. The White Fife is a bald wheat with white chaff. The White Russian is strictly not a white wheat, but much lighter in color than the ordinary varieties of spring wheat, has a smooth, bald chaff, with strong straw and large, heavy heads. The Lost Nation has been fully described in previous issues, and last season did remarkably well in many places. The Russian White oats are highly commended by many excellent authorities in the United States, but have only had a very partial trial in Ontario. The White Australian we have always spoken well of and accounts fully bear out any statements respecting their yield, weight, &c. Farmers should bear in mind that the growing demand for oatmeal will bring an increased price for heavy white oats. One of our leading Canadian seedsmen introduces the Arabian oat. A new grey oat appeared last season for the first time. Our reports do not warrant an expression of opinion as yet on its merits. The Swiss oats are still recommended as being very early, and particularly adapted for poor land. Peas, we are pleased to state, have been less damaged by the pea bug the past two years than for many years previous. Good seed, free from bugs, can be procured this year, and that is a great advantage. We always liked to have a field or two of peas, as long as we could raise them. The sheep seemed to enjoy the good, clear, bright straw, especially if not cleanly threshed, and the peas left the land in good trim for other crops. The Golden Vine is in general demand; they are an excellent long-straw pea for rich, strong land. We prefer the Crown pea, but they are difficult to procure in a pure state. Some farmers will sow Black Barley this season, which is strongly recommended as an excellent substitute for peas for feeding purposes, and of which we desire fuller reports.

The attention of our readers is directed to our Grand Premium List which appears in this issue. Be sure and secure a Russian Mulberry plant, and try the Meadow Fescue. Every subscriber must want one of our prizes.

"All our farmers that have made money have done so by driving their productions to market on legs."—Ex.

Bound volumes of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE for 1881 will be mailed, postage prepaid, to any address in Canada or the United States for \$1.50. Orders can now be sent in.

A large dry goods box, minus bottom and top, sawn in a diagonal direction, will make two hot-bed frames one foot high in front and twenty to twenty-two inches at the back, and they may be placed in position on the sunny side of a building or high board fence.

Practical articles of interest to our farmers, seasonable and concisely written, on one side of the paper only, are thankfully received. Give full name and post office.

NO NOTICE WHATSOEVER can be taken of correspondence or papers sent without full name and P. O. address.

In this issue you see an advertisement, Rice's Pure Salt. This salt has established for itself a great name in the U. S. Many of the leading dairies there use it to the exclusion of others, and after years of trial give it the preference. Very large shipments are being made to that country, and the dairy products made by its use have carried off some of the highest prizes. We believe some of our dairymen who require the best would do well to give it a fair trial this season.

ANOTHER alteration is proposed in the Act governing the Board of Agriculture and Arts. We do not consider the suggested alterations will be of more benefit to the farmers than the last alterations resulted in. The dissatisfaction in the management of the Board has arisen because the agricultural interest has been the secondary consideration, and the interest of partisans and localities has had too great a controlling influence. This must have been plain to all. If the Association ever attains to the confidence and respect of the country, which it should have, preventative measures must be taken to ameliorate the evil by enacting a law or regulation preventing this ruling of farmers by any particular party. Real, plain, open, undisguised facts are wanted, and evasions or suppressions of these trust must be discountenanced by all who wish prosperity to the farmer. The encouragement of farmers' clubs and open discussions by impartial men would tend to much good on this question.