Sept, 1884

PION! HIS YEAR ines every

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### AND HOME MAGAZINE

FOUNDED, 1866.

VOL. XIX.

any publication in Canada.

sample copy.

### LONDON, ONT., OCTOBER, 1884.

Whole No. 226.

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875.

Circulation over 20,000 Copies.

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Is published on or about the 1st of each month, is hand-

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the most profitable, practical and reliable information

for dairymen, for farmers, gardeners or stockmen, of

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### Our Monthly Prize Essay.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on "*Women as Farmers.*" Essay to be handed in not later than Oct. 15.

A prize of \$5.00 will also be given for the best essay on "The best Methods of Encouraging Tree-Planting on Farms." Essay to be handed in not later than Nov. 15.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best essay on "The Future Management of Agricultural Exhibitions." Essays to be in not later than the 10th December.

It is with a feeling of deep regret that we have to announce the death of one of our ablest assistants, who has been on our staff for a series of years.

His illness and demise, and our time spent in doing duty at the various exhibitions, have caused unavoidable delay in getting out our present issue, necessitating also alterations in our plans. We have been unable to get out the whole of our exhibition issue this month, but we shall make up the deficiency next month. During the remainder of this year we shall have a large number of specimen copies always on hand, so that subscribers who desire their friends to see copies of the ADVOCATE would greatly oblige by sending us their names.

# Sheaves from Our Gleaner.

The best winter food is shelter.

## Øditoriaí.

#### Farmers' Clubs.

If we were asked what the first duty of the farmer is, we would answer, organize ; if we were asked for the second duty, we would answer, organize; and if we were called upon to pronounce an opinion as to the third requisite, we would answer, ORGANIZE. If we were asked, How many farmers' clubs should there be in the Province ? our answer would be, Count the public school houses. This would give the number required. Members of the local clubs should meet weekly during the winter months ; they should choose representatives to hold township meetings every month; at these meetings delegates should be chosen to meet quarterly in every county, and there should be a provincial meeting annually, composed of delegates from the county meetings. If we were asked to draw a line of distinction between farmers and the other portions of the community, we would answer, The farming body can neither move nor be moved. Winter is given for thought, summer for action ; and it is only by concerted scheming that the height of mental development and business prosperity can be attained.

The clubs which already exist are fettered in many ways. Many useful and practical questions are discussed, the decisions being based on the personal experience of the members ; but the results of individual experience differ, and very little attempt is made to investigate the principles or causes which lead to these differences. Many questions discussed have been settled by science, or, in other words, by practical experiments often repeated, and these questions are no longer debatable ; indeed, there are now but few important questions in agriculture which cannot be traced to some firmly established principle. The agricultural press is the chief educator of the farmers, and in it there will always be found a variety of subjects for debate. Let the club be first assured that its editor is the right man in the right place, and then his services can be greatly utilized through his columns, especially in aiding to decide what questions are debatable and what ones are not. Mechanics' Institutes should also be turned to account. Farmers being taxed for such institutions, they should derive all the advantages possible from them.

ON HAND

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Hamilton, Ont.

Read our list of choice, new premiums offered in another column of this issue for sending in new subscribers.

**Choice Premiums.** 

FARMER'S HAND BOOK FOR 1885 will be issued early in December next; price, paper, 25c., and in cloth covers 50c. each. Orders can now be sent in.

### 1885.

The remaining numbers of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE for the present year will be sent free to those new subscribers for 1885 who send in their names now.

We want live, energetic agents in every county to canvas for subscribers to our paper. We pay a liberal commission to agents who devote their time to our work. Send for specimen copies. Address—

> THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, London, Ont.

An important point for this month—The plowpoint.

If you judge the stockman, you also judge his stock.

Middle aged cattle yield the best flavored and most nutritious beef.

What, How, and Why, is the whole A. B. C. of agricultural science and practice.

Agriculture is the oldest of the avocations, but the youngest of the professions.

Practice is your own experience ; science is the combined experience of others.

Of course you should have early lambs next spring; therefore, attend to the matter now.

How to draw a circle—Keep stock to make manure ; save manure to feed crops, preserve crops to feed stock.

At the Sudbury dairy school in England, prizes are given for the best cows on the farms of these supplying the dairy with milk.

If there is a member of the club who has a special talent for mathematics or mechanics, he