

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL,
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It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely
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FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, Descriptions of
New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known,
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LONDON, CANADA.

to us the other day: "The man of the country
seems to have better opportunities for reading
and reflection than we in town, and he appears to
exercise a more deliberate and independent judg-
ment on questions of the day. We must draw
upon the wholesome life of the country to recruit
the degenerate tendencies of city population." In
other words, the country youth is to be a sacrifice
upon the altar of urban progress.

As sons and fathers of the country, let us stop
to measure up these priceless privileges of agricul-
tural life in a land like Canada, and at the same
time realize the invincible allies which nature and
science put at our disposal to wrest success from
the soil, despite the weeds, insect pests and fun-
gous foes that dispute the field.

How comes it that we have lost the vision of
these things and our young men are fallen into
the somnambulistic state? Misdirected educa-
tion. The power of wrong ideals. But this is
another story, the salient features of which are
dealt with in an article in this issue entitled,
"The Right Hand Against the Left."

UTOPIAN?

Capital and Labor chanced to meet.

"Good morning!" they exclaimed in cordial
unison.

"I hope," said Capital, "that you find your
wages satisfactory."

"Entirely so," replied Labor, "and I trust
your investment is bringing you fair returns."

"Excellent," said Capital, and with a warm
clasp of hands they parted.—[Philadelphia Ledger.

"At best the auto is a nuisance, raising foul
clouds of dust, breaking up the street pavements,
and scaring horses. But if to gratify a senseless
fancy for speed it threatens our limbs and lives,
the law must protect us. A fine of \$5 is futile;
two months would tell."—[Goldwin Smith.

ONE-SIDED SYSTEM OF EDUCATION CONDEMNED

In his introduction to the fourth edition of
his magnificent work on the "Farm Live Stock
of Great Britain," the author, Prof. Robert Wal-
lace, of the Department of Agriculture and Rural
Economy in the University of Edinburgh, makes
some wholesome observations on the subject of
education. It is quite in accord with the view
of this question lately set forth in these columns,
and is bound to commend itself to the thoughtful
public.

"One of the weak points in the British system
of education," says Prof. Wallace, "so far as agri-
cultural laborers and the small working-farmer
classes are concerned, is that no adequate pro-
vision is made for their learning in their youth
(the time when all the deepest and most lasting
impressions are formed) the business they intend
to follow. Agriculture, more particularly in the
live-stock branch, is not like an ordinary trade or
profession, which admits of hard-and-fast rules
being laid down, and of being learnt in so many
years, even after a man reaches maturity. Its
principles, whether they be acquired by the farmer
or by the laborer, have to be taken in little by
little, through a long period of time, which must
embrace a considerable proportion of his boyish
days. The knowledge must come, as it were, in-
stinctively; it cannot be learnt by rote. It
would indeed be wrong to deny the obligation to
give every working man in the kingdom a good
plain education. Putting aside all considerations
of sentiment towards our fellow men, and the
necessity of having everyone educated who is to
have a voice in the government of the country,
there is an undoubted advantage in having work
performed by the aid of that intelligence which
accompanies education. But what calls loudly for
protest is the virtual prohibition of the learning
by boys, at the only time when they can do so
perfectly, of the one branch of their business by
families. The present system is much too one-
sided. It is the extreme into which we have
fallen, after a long period of deficiency in the
branch which now receives too much attention.
Youth is entirely spent upon book-learning; in-
terest and inclinations which must develop ear-
ly in life; work, when it has to be done, is
performed as a drudgery and with a heavy heart;
up by Nature, to dexterity and efficiency, nor yet
is it strengthened and enlarged by that practice
which always precedes efficiency. Why should not
our laboring classes in both its branches, manual
and mental, when this would conduce so much to
their future happiness and the public good? In
saying this, it is fully realized that the only
possible places where a sound, practical training,
such as schoolboys should have, are ordinary
farms managed on commercial principles. Every
facility ought to be given by school authorities
to boys to avail themselves of the opportunity of
taking part in the regular work of busy seasons,
under conditions which provide work of a natural
and useful kind, of which they are able to recog-
nize the practical value."

CO-OPERATION IN THE HARVEST.

People are wont to descant upon the results
that have accrued to us, as farmers, through the
advent of labor-saving agricultural machinery. It
has promoted the industrialism of the cities, they
say, and transferred from man to the horse much
of the physical labor of the farm. It also in-
creased the speed with which farm crops may be
put in and taken off, and helped partially to over-
come the troubles that have arisen from the wan-
ing of the male population of the country, due to
families growing smaller, the drift to the towns,
and emigration to the Northwest. Labor-saving
machinery, though a modern necessity, is a not
unmixed boon. It has tended to make the farm
more self-contained in its operations. For this
and other reasons, there has been an unfortunate
decline of communal relations among the people.
In the old days neighbors rallied more to each
other's aid than is the custom now. "Exchang-
ing works" was the order. The combination of
many hands made the work go merrily forward,
while the toil of the long forenoon was broken
about 10 o'clock by the appearance of the good-
wife and daughters with a lunch basket, affording
a cheery halt, and fortifying "the men" for an-
other two hours' onslaught at the hay or grain.
We might do worse than revert to those good old
days. There is nothing better than communion in
labor to promote the amenities of life. The grow-
ing spirit of independent isolation is not good. It
is opposed to the principle of co-operation, which

will do more to immediately overcome the short-
age of men that handicaps the successful cultiva-
tion of our magnificent farm lands than any other
one agency in sight. In the rush of harvest, it
will be found especially helpful in saving the crops,
but in many cases, such as grain-cutting, silo-
filling, threshing, wood-sawing, and so on, it will
lessen materially the outlay in the aggregate for
costly machinery by purchasing and using on the
co-operative plan. In many instances one outfit
will admirably serve the purposes of four or five
adjacent farms. Done in a fair and friendly
spirit of give-and-take, it will promote the general
interests of the locality and make the farmer less
dependent upon the evanescent supplies of help
from the labor bureau.

AGRICULTURAL NEWS FROM TRURO.

As announced some weeks ago, the Agricultural
Department of the Nova Scotia Government, and
the Agricultural College at Truro have been ad-
vantageously unified, in a certain sense, by the
recent appointment of Principal M. Cumming, to
fill, henceforth, the dual position of Principal of
the Agricultural College and Provincial Commis-
sioner for Agriculture. The offices of the Depart-
ment of Agriculture have been moved from Halifax
to Truro, which now becomes, as it were, the
agricultural capital of the Province. At the
same time this appointment was published, it was
announced that F. L. Fuller, formerly Agricultur-
ist at the College Farm, was translated from the
College to the Department of Agriculture, and
given charge of the new office, "Superintendent of
Agricultural Societies," his place in the College
being taken by Stanley A. Logan, of Logan Bros.,
Amherst Point. Since then another change in
the staff has taken place, with the resignation of
Prof. F. C. Sears, Horticulturist of the College and
Director of the Horticultural Station at Wolfville,
to accept a tempting position as Professor of
Pomology in his native State of Massachusetts.
To succeed Prof. Sears in the work at Truro,
Prof. P. J. Shaw is being appointed. Prof.
Shaw was born on a fruit farm in King's County,
N. S., and is a graduate of Dalhousie. After
several years of school-teaching, he was chosen
by Dr. Jas. W. Robertson to take up nature-
study work, and, after an extensive course of
preparation, took charge of Nature-study and
School-gardening in public schools in the vicinity
of Truro. In this work he was exceptionally suc-
cessful. Subsequently, he was chosen as Pro-
fessor of Nature-study in the Normal School at
Truro, and Lecturer in English and Mathematics
at the Agricultural College. He has been in-
timately in touch with Prof. Sears' work, and
being a bright, practical young man, and an ex-
cellent instructor, will undoubtedly make good in
his new capacity. The Station at Wolfville is
to be closed. Instead, a new Fruit Experiment
Station is to be established in the Annapolis
Valley by the Provincial and Dominion Govern-
ments conjointly. It is probable that a new man
will be placed in charge of this Station, but he
will work in co-operation with the Horticulturist
of the College at Truro.

On the College Farm a special effort is being
made to strengthen the herds of dairy cattle. In
the past there has been a preponderance of Short-
horns, but it is recognized that the dairy breeds
have the larger place to fill in Maritime agricul-
ture. Some six cows have been purchased, in-
cluding the noted Ayrshire cow Annie Laurie,
first Ayrshire in the dairy test at the Ontario
Winter Fair, in 1905, also successful at the Na-
tional Dairy Show in Chicago year before last,
and again last December at the Ontario Winter
Fair. She was purchased from H. & J. McKee,
of Norwich. Other good utility cows have been
secured from Messrs. Ness and Gordon, both of
Howick, Que., and Alexander Hume, of Menie,
Ont. The four Holstein cows on the Farm are
making a good record, averaging over 12,000
pounds of milk a year, the poorest giving 11,000
and the best 18,000. It is intended to open a
business account with the representatives of each
breed, so as to obtain some specific data as to
the production of the various breeds. The figures
are not expected to be absolute or final, but will
be of interest, and not without value.

In the fields a good many fertilizer experiments