

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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DOMINION.

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1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE is published every Thursday. (52 issues per year.) It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, United States, England, Ireland and Scotland, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 when not paid in advance. All other countries, 12s.
3. ADVERTISING RATES.—Single insertion, 20 cents per line agate. Contract rates furnished on application.
4. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrears must be made as required by law.
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10. LETTERS intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
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12. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve the FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known, Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.
13. ALL COMMUNICATIONS in reference to any matter connected with this paper, should be addressed as below, and not to any individual connected with the paper.

Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED),
LONDON, CANADA.

Direct Tips re Canadian Dairy Produce.

Direct from the British market, where Canadian products may be examined and compared with those from competing countries, as they strike the eye of the Old Country dealer, is the editorial correspondence on another page dealing with Canadian dairy products in England. The article has been penned by a regular member of our editorial staff who has been spending a brief vacation—if vacation it can be called—in Great Britain. The impressions recorded are the result of diligent enquiry and careful personal observation, and should carry a needed lesson to producers and dealers in Canadian export dairy products. The British market is big, the British people are numerous and hungry, and the British purse is long, but the British taste is a fastidious one, and its free-trade market is the objective for the choicest surplus of all the world. Even Argentina looms up as a probable competitor of consequence in the market for dairy products. We Canadians have a great opportunity in Britain, but eager competitors are striving to win their way against us, and in some notable particulars, particularly in the matter of packing and packages, they show themselves more alert than we are. We cannot afford to rest on our oars. The progress we have made will avail us little unless it is maintained. Better butter, better cheese, better boxes, better packages, more discriminate catering to particular market requirements, and, above all, honorable adherence to high standards of excellence, are necessary if we would hold our own, let alone making any advance.

To all the prize is open,
But only he can take it
Who says with Roman courage,
I'll find a way or make it.

Plans are under way for a 1906 Christmas number of "The Farmer's Advocate," better than we have ever yet turned out. Persuade your friends to subscribe now and get it.

Our Maritime Letter.

Seldom is the agriculture of any section of the Federation subjected to such extended and persistent attacks by insects as is ours this season. Dry, hot weather usually lends itself to the development of these little things of God's creation; and since July came in we have been having one of the hottest and driest summers experienced for years. The potato crop—inferior enough on account of the numerous "misses," accounted for only by their being planted too early, as the season went, and, therefore, submitted to a long period of cold, rainy weather in the ground before germination—has had to resist, in its puny stages, and right through to the present writing, the most persistent and multiplied attack of Colorado beetles we have noticed for a long time. Everybody got to work to poison them with Paris green, but, whether from defective quality or some other condition, one application of the poison—one pound to 40 gallons of water—seemed to produce little effect. It is no light job for most farmers, who still follow the sprinkling-pail methods, to go over every stalk of their two or three or four acres of potatoes in this way. Still, it has to be done, and done effectually, before moderate relief is within sight. The air appeared at times to be full of the old beetles on the wing, and they seemed determined to deposit eggs anywhere—not only on potato vines, but on blades of grass and other plants about the patches. They came late, but were working energetically to make up for lost time. The Paris green may not have been what it pretends to be, either. Here the supply was not at all in many cases equal to the demand, and Berger's, which we have ever regarded as the most reliable, could not be secured. The Co.'s preparation in paper boxes was, therefore, used, and with very indifferent results often. If the Government should do any one thing scrupulously, it is to analyze the Paris green preparations of the country, and see that the poor farmers compelled to use them are not wasting their time and money. Paris green has been remarkably dear this year; why, one cannot readily see; but latterly 28c. was exacted for pound packages in paper, when half that money would purchase the same quantity of Berger's green in tin cans a couple of years ago. The trust nuisance seems to be attaining many things in Canada, as elsewhere.

Entomologists told us that the horn fly, the great cattle pest of these parts, would grow "smaller and smaller and beautifully less" in a short period of years. Indeed, two or three were all they gave it to jubilate in. We were all somewhat cheered by this announcement, for when the cattle suffer we, who stand round, share their sufferings and inconveniences to a limited extent at least. Do all we can, this fly pest in years like the present abounds, not only causing discomfort and loss of milk to the cattle, but also goading the horses to desperation, and even leaving the trimmest among their masters open to the imputation of having "flies on them." Only last Sunday, in one of our churches, we witnessed the discomfort of the preacher, who had all he could do, in the insufferably hot weather, to stick to his text and ward off the attentions of a common horn fly, which coveted the vantage ground of his nose.

"You must not kill a little fly,
It is an act of cruelty."

seems to be rather distorted doctrine in the premises—but to get at him always, there's the rub.

Well, we have had horn fly ad infinitum this year. We don't know what those good scientists think of it, but it's a fact which saddens us only too much to say—and the end is not yet. Neither do we expect the sudden taking off of these newcomers. We are curious enough to desire to know, however, just what the entomologists think now. Have they revised their opinions, or are they busy discovering fly-killers? We don't want to be hard on them—they are our best friends usually, but on this and a few other heads they have made a miss, and must put up with the jollying they get. What has the competent, painstaking, and famous Dr. Fletcher to say for himself? Most of the remedies suggested, too, are worse

than the flies on the cattle. Indeed, it is difficult to get anything effective which will not greatly inconvenience the animal to which it is applied. What is the Ontarian practice?

Whilst no very sustained attack of Hessian fly or small-grain pest has affected the growing crop in late years, we have had small troubles in restricted areas. Last year the joint-worm (*Isosoma* sp.) made its appearance in that portion of Prince County bordering on the gulf shore, known as Malpeque. The attack was sufficiently widespread to destroy many valuable wheat fields, and thoroughly frighten the farmers concerned. Specimens of the affected straw were sent up to Dr. Fletcher, at his own request, and he identified the worm as the larva of the *Isosoma tritici*. This pest is produced by a small, black, four-winged fly, one-tenth of an inch in length, which deposits its eggs about the first joints of growing grain, or on the grasses adjacent to them. Galls or swellings, in which from five to ten of these maggots hatched, are soon formed, and in a very short time, if numerous enough, a vigorous field is completely broken down and destroyed. The only remedy offered is to burn the stubble, as most of the larvae are there protected; and, also, all the galls and short pieces of affected straw which go through the fanners. The straw should be burnt or fed to animals promptly. If plowed in deeply, the stubble will not permit of the larva, either as such or as the perfect fly, reappearing or doing damage afterwards. Care should be taken to cut the adjacent grasses, and use them in such a way as to prevent the spread of the pest.

Dr. Fletcher, writing us the other day, asks us to bring this pest to the notice of our readers in this way, as too many fail to do what is absolutely necessary to rid their fields of the joint-worm. He informs us that it has broken out at Stanley Bridge, as well as Malpeque; a letter from somebody at the former place saying that the wheat of a whole section there is completely destroyed by it. This may be somewhat exaggerated, but it is evidently a serious menace to wheat-growing here, and must be handled promptly and effectually. Someone has suggested that the Governments take hold and exterminate it, but if we wait for the Governments to do our common work, the heather will be fired all over Maritime Canada with this enemy before any move is made. We must do our own extirpation work. If Dr. Fletcher's advice had been acted upon last year, these outbreaks would hardly have to be chronicled now.

A. E. BURKE.

50,000 Names for 1907.

The exhibition season marks the approach of another subscription campaign. Since 1866 the old reliable "Farmer's Advocate" has been doing an ever-increasing business at the old stand, building up an army of select subscribers and a clientele of advertising patrons second to that of no paper of its class in the world. And the opinion of impartial observers is that no other agricultural journal possesses the confidence of its readers to the same extent, nor gives so much solid practical reading matter for the money. It neither cringes nor fawns to any class. It is absolutely independent of every body and interest. No graft, truckling or scheming has contributed to the acquisition of its list of over thirty thousand subscribers. No Department of Agriculture has been wheedled into distributing it gratis on the pretence of necessary missionary work. Every subscriber is a person who wants the paper badly enough to pay for it, and is willing to give a fair price for the best article on the market. The success of the paper has been founded on merit and upright business principles. Our aim is to put out the best paper possible for the money, and give everybody a square deal.

Our ambition has always been improvement. We have sought to produce each year a better paper than the year before. In this, if the voluntary testimony of thousands of friends is to be accepted, we have abundantly succeeded. During the past year we can point to a marked advance, and can promise, further, that 1907 will witness an equally great improvement over the current volume.

Our friends can help us to make this prediction good. Improving the paper costs money. To