

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

FOUNDED 1886.

VOL. XXV.

LONDON, ONT., MAY, 1890.

Whole No. 293.

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

WM. WELD, PROPRIETOR.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL PUBLISHED IN THE DOMINION.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the first 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.

Terms of Subscription—\$1.00 per year in advance; \$1.25 if in arrears; single copies, 10c. each. New subscriptions can commence with any month.

The Advocate is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance, and all payments of arrears are made as required by law.

Remittances should be made direct to this office, either by Registered Letter or Money Order, which will be at our risk. When made otherwise we cannot be responsible.

Always give the Name of the Post Office to which your paper is sent. Your name cannot be found on our books unless this is done.

Discontinuances—Remember that the publisher must be notified by letter when a subscriber wishes his paper stopped. All arrears must be paid. Returning your paper will not enable us to discontinue it, as we cannot find your name on our books unless your Post Office address is given.

Advertising Rates—Single insertion, 30 cents per line. Contract rates furnished on application.

Address—
THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE,
360 Richmond Street,
LONDON, ONT., CANADA.

Our Subscription Prizes.

We again draw the attention of our readers to the subscription prizes offered in the April issue, page 119. We have a large number of Cinnamon Vines and packages of the seed of the Weather Plant left, but we cannot send out any more of the Early Six Weeks Market Potato.

Hard Times in California.

We believe that times in Canada are hard, but not as hard as they are in the whole of the United States. Great numbers are out of employment in San Francisco. Multitudes everywhere are out of work all over the country, and great destitution is existing among them. Hundreds are being fed daily by charity, and half starved at that. So it would appear that California is as much under a cloud as any other part of the States. Farmers, wine-growers and fruit-raisers are not prosperous or making money; yet, great numbers are going there all the time. The big ranchers are subdividing the farms into smaller allotments, and selling at big figures. These are the only men who are making money.

NOTICE.

The January, February or March numbers of the Farmer's Advocate cannot be supplied to new subscribers; our stock is completely exhausted. All subscriptions will hereafter start at date of receiving the order to send the paper.

Editorial.

The Report of the Dominion Experimental Farms.

We have just received from Ottawa the annual report of the Dominion Experimental Farms for 1889. It contains particulars concerning each of the farms, and an account of the work done on each, also a detailed account of the experiments conducted, besides a great deal of valuable reading matter concerning the various departments. The Government have issued one hundred and fifty thousand copies for free distribution. We would advise every one of our readers to obtain a copy and read it carefully. They may be had from any Member of Parliament or from Prof. Wm. Saunders, Ottawa. Every farmer who applies is entitled to one free copy.

Toronto Industrial Fair, 1890.

The Board of Directors and officers of the Industrial Exhibition Association are showing great energy in the preparations for their next exhibition, which is to be held at Toronto from the 8th to the 20th of September. The prize list for the present year has, in most departments, been revised and sent to the printer. In the horse department some of the smaller prizes have been increased. A new section has been added for pairs of carriage horses, hackney or light steppers, and the special sweepstake prizes for herds of horses to be shown during the first week of the Fair have been left the same as last year. Five hundred dollars has been added to the prizes in the cattle department; two hundred and twenty-five dollars to the prizes in the poultry department, and the prizes in grain and agricultural products have also been slightly increased. Special prizes are offered for a dairy test by the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, and the Holstein Breeders' Association of America; the American Hereford Breeders' Association have donated \$100 for special prize for Herefords; the Shropshire Association of England give \$50 in special prizes and the American Oxford Down Sheep Association a gold medal; the Canadian Clydesdale Association give \$30 for the best Clydesdale mare and one of her progeny; the Western Dairymen's Association add \$100 to the prizes in the dairy department, and many other special prizes have been added to the list. The show of live stock will be confined to one week, the same as last year, except in the horse department, in the classes for which special prizes are offered during the first week. A large number of conventions and other meetings are to be held in Toronto during the coming Industrial Exhibition, and the directors are determined to make it the most attractive and most important yet held under the auspices of the Association, and from now until September will zealously work to that end.

Our Dairy Prize for 1890.

We are pleased to inform Mr. Rice and others (see page 146), who do not fully understand how the dairy test was conducted at London last year, that the cows were watched night and day. The instructions to the guard was to allow no one to enter the stables, except at the stipulated hours: even then the attendants must be accompanied by an officer. All necessary work was ordered to be done under guard. Mr. Rice asks, "Do the rules of this test give the value of the different properties required to make first-class cheese." Most assuredly they did, and always will. Every property in the milk was valued at what practical and scientific men considered a just and proper valuation. If the rules governing last year's test are carefully read they will make this quite clear to any one. The whole of the rules may be summed up thus. The prize will be given to the herd producing the greatest profits in milk and milk solids for food consumed. This is the test, and this alone. Last year, Prof. Robertson, and leading practical dairymen of large experience, formed the rules governing the test. This year these rules will be taken as a basis. Prof. Robertson and others will meet the representatives of the various cattle breeders associations at the Albion Hotel, Toronto, at one o'clock, June 6th, 1890, and with their assistance and co-operation adopt rules to govern this year's test. We hope the breeders, whether belonging to any of the associations or not, will take a lively interest in this matter. The members of the Holstein Breeders' Association have already appointed delegates. We ask that the other associations may do likewise. Gentlemen who are not appointed delegates, or are owners of breeds that have no Canadian association, are cordially invited to attend, and will have an equal voice with those otherwise appointed.

The test will take place this year at the Toronto Industrial, and will be conducted with the greatest care. The FARMER'S ADVOCATE will give silver plate, worth \$65, as a first prize; the Toronto Industrial Association will add \$30 cash as a second prize, and \$20 as a third prize. We look forward to this as likely to be one of the most interesting and valuable tests ever conducted in America. We feel amply repaid for our expenditure of last year. The discussions, which have taken place in our columns during the last few months, have brought a great deal of useful information to light. Thousands of our readers doubtless have a much fuller knowledge of the various dairy breeds than ever before, and thousands have had their interest awakened, many of whom must have been convinced that cattle bred for a specific purpose were much more profitable than scrubs. It is to be hoped that Jerseys, Ayrshires, Holsteins, Galloways, Guernseys and Shorthorns, will all compete this year.