

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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Farmer's Advocate

AND HOME MAGAZINE

FOR 1880

WILL BE ISSUED ON OR ABOUT THE
TENTH SEPTEMBER NEXT.

Our fourth annual issue of this fast increasing and most successful advertising medium will be the best one ever issued. While thanking our patrons of former years, and the patrons of the *ADVOCATE*, for their confidence in our endeavors to promote their interests, we can assure them that our endeavors will not be relaxed, and that the increased facilities now in our hands will be used to the utmost for their benefit.

The circulation will be carefully divided among the leading farmers throughout the Dominion.

Prospectuses will be issued on the 15th July, and space can now be reserved.

Send for a Circular at once.

The Month.

With few exceptions, everything promises well both for the farmer and the gardener. The recent rains, with cool nights and warm days, have had the effect of producing an early and luxuriant growth in almost every section of the country; and should no misfortune come, we are sure to have a bountiful harvest. Spring grains in most sections look well, and the fall wheat, where not winter-killed, is very promising. Roots of all kinds are in advance of former years and promise well. To those who have any spare land we would recommend Hungarian grass or millet, which, if sown thick, say at the rate of three pecks per acre, will produce excellent green feed, and should frost keep off until late, will make an excellent substitute for hay. Corn for late fodder may yet be sown. Grass land or early stubble can now be plowed and prepared for a crop of rape, which will produce an abundance of good fall feed, and what is not eaten should be plowed under, as it will make a prime green manure.

White Globe, Greystone or Yellow Aberdeen turnips may be sown all through July, and if properly housed, will keep well until the end of January. After early vegetables, potatoes, etc., are used, cabbages may be planted on the same ground. Buckwheat will be found a great acquisition on newly broken-up land; no other crop is so effective in mellowing a rough, cloddy field.

Fruit will be ripening rapidly this month. Have crates, baskets, etc., for packing, on hand:

in shipping, careful assorting and good packages are the first considerations.

In the kitchen garden sprinkle your cucumbers with tobacco water to keep off the striped beetle. Harvest onions as soon as the tops die down, and store in a cool, airy place. Keep your tomatoes up from the ground, which can be done by various simple contrivances.

The flower garden will also require a little attention. The ground must be kept mellow, clean and moist. Stake all fall flowering plants, such as dahlias, gladiolas, etc., and keep all climbers well trained, tying with soft twine, tape or pieces of cloth.

Do not let the weeds get a start in the corn or turnip fields; stir the soil often and thoroughly. Thistles and all weeds and briars should be cut as soon as they come into blossom. Go around every field and mow the fence corners where practicable. Put the hay in large cocks, where it may remain until you can take it to the barn, but in any case clear the corners of briars, thistles and weeds.

See that shade and water is provided for the farm animals; salt should be given weekly, if not always kept before them, which is the better way. If the grass is getting short, feed green fodder plentifully. Calves and pigs are often neglected at this time of the year. Do not neglect yours; you lose money if they are not continually gaining.

On the Wing.

ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK.

Left London June 15th, via G. W. R. to Ingersoll; thence by Credit Valley R. R. to Toronto. This line is in pretty good running order, but the country through which it passes does not look as well as on either the G. T. R. or G. W. R. from London to Toronto. The crops where the land was good looked very promising, except a few fields of spring wheat, oats and barley; the wire worm appeared to be affecting them, judging from their appearance as we passed.

In the evening we took the G. T. R. for Montreal. Of what little we saw of the state of the crops on this line, the winter wheat did not look near as promising as in the west; but the spring crops (barley being the leading one) looked very well; the hay crop looks unusually promising on the western part of the line.

16th—Took the boat at Montreal and arrived at Point Levis, opposite Quebec. On the 17th took Intercolonial R. R. at Point Levis, and arrived at St. John, N. B., on the 18th.

The Province of Quebec.—We are all apt to admire a person who excels in any calling, but most rules have exceptions. The French Canadians we think well entitled to the palm of honor as being the worst lot of farmers we have ever seen, judging from what we observed between Point Levis and New Brunswick. We passed through

some very good farming land. The land is all laid out in long and narrow lots. It is all plowed lengthways, and appears as if it always has been. Cross plowing or summer fallowing does not appear to be understood. Where the land is good it is generally all cleared—not a vestige of a tree left—and as to planting they appear to have despised such an idea. On looking over the farms from a distance they appear like a sea of rails, as nothing else is to be seen. Their fences are all straight (so much to their credit). They are posts or two short rails set in the ground and tied or pinned together with six rails placed in each pannel. They are all alike. There are no ugly snake fences to be seen. No tree must be in or near their ground, or so very few that it would appear that trees were prohibited. Very little stock of any kind is to be seen, and what little is visible has been most miserably maintained. Timothy, oats and potatoes appear their principal products. The majority of them appear to have a home-made windmill to thresh their grain. We were informed that red clover would grow, but that the farmers would not spend money to purchase seed. Our informant says they value their farms at \$3,000 to \$4,000 and sell about \$100 worth of produce—enough to get them groceries, boots, &c. They live very plainly. They will not sell land if it can be avoided by any means, and if an enterprising American or Scotchman should get a place they will make things unpleasant for them. They will not read, and will just go on in the old ways of their grandfathers, and yet they are happy and contented. Their reason for not having trees is that they will rot their fences and buildings, and cause snow to lay in drifts. We passed a great deal of land that was far too poor to attempt to farm. As soon as we crossed the line into New Brunswick the farms had a much neater and more thrifty appearance—a different class of people had them. We passed through an immense tract of land that is valueless, but as we approach St. John there are at intervals farms that appear very desirable. The dew weighed down the grass crop as often seen in Europe, but never in the west. It was quite pleasing to see it. Red clover was growing luxuriantly, even by the side of the roadway, and was a cheering sight after passing the long, dreary road through the poorly-farmed Province of Quebec and the poor lands in New Brunswick. We were provided with a waterproof, as we expected we might require it in this part of Canada, but we little thought that we should require it while seated in the cars on the 17th of June. But we were glad to put it on, and we had a fire in the car also, and yet we felt cold. This was at night and near St. John; but now we appear acclimatized already and like the climate much. The days are warm but the nights are cool.

Our Prize Essays.

A prize of five dollars will be given for the best essay on the "Management of Agricultural Exhibitions." The essay which contains the most practical hints on improving their utility and practical efficiency will be awarded the prize. We will allow all to compete for this prize whether subscribers or not. The essay must be in our office by the 15th of August.

Competitors must write on one side of the paper only. The essay receiving the prize is to be the property of this journal. Unsuccessful essays will be returned on request by sending stamps for return postage.