

## PRESS OPINIONS—(Continued.)

From Toronto "Mail" Saturday September 12th, 1874.

The author of the Canadian Farmer's Manual of Agriculture has been now for several years before the reading portion of the Canadian agricultural public. We are glad to find that a beginning has here been made towards the providing of standard Canadian books, and a start in the authorship of works specially bearing upon Canadian agriculture. The voluminous works on the field or farm from English pens are "too high" for the farmer here; *au contraire*, the system of farming in Canada is "very low" and requires to be levelled up. The central object of the volume before us is, to use the author's own words, "to demonstrate how farming may be made to pay by the general improvement of the soil, of seeds, and of methods of cultivation." The author writes in an eminently practical strain, so much so indeed that he occasionally lays himself open to the charge of homeliness in his style. This is, however, considering the present status of agriculture in Canada, we consider, no detraction from, but rather an addition to the genuine value of the work before us. The language being simple, has the power which alone belongs to simplicity, of striking home. The writer has never lost sight of the fact that he is writing for a class who, as a class, are neither too highly educated in the principles of their profession, nor possessed of large capital. All theories advanced, and improvements of system recommended, appear to have stood practical test in Canada. We have in every page of the work evidence of a scientific observer, but always kept within bounds by a practical knowledge of farming in Canada. There is in the 572 pages of this book a large amount of information spread over many subjects connected with the farmers' daily avocations. We find a portion devoted to the more common diseases of live stock. The matter contained under this head the writer does not claim as original; but we especially commend the careful selection and happy arrangement of this portion of the manual. We observe also a great number of useful rules and tables of practical value to every farmer. The system of farm accounts, which issued in a separate form by the author and has been before noticed in *The Mail*, we consider one of the most valuable portions of the present work. The newly arrived emigrant will find a practical summary of useful information, and the oldest and most scientific farmer will not rise from a perusal of the book without having added to his stock of knowledge on many points. Messrs. JAMES ADAM & CO., the Publishers, have done their part well. The book is handsomely and strongly got up in full coloured leather. The paper is good, the type clear, and the illustrations, of which there are a large number, well executed. Mr. Whitecombe has fairly earned a place among the authors of Canada.

"It is a work that should be in every Farmer's hands."—Kingston "British Whig," Sept 9th.

### IN PREPARATION,—Ready Sept. 25th, Adams' Synchronological Chart OF THE WORLD'S HISTORY,

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Awarded a First Prize at Provincial Exhibition, September, 1874, for "The Manual."