

FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

FOUNDED 1866.

VOL. XXII.

LONDON, ONT., MARCH, 1887.

Whole No. 255.

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

WILLIAM WELD, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL PUBLISHED IN THE DOMINION.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on or about the 1st of each month. It is impartial and independent of all classes 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 payment 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.

The Law is, that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrears are paid, and their paper ordered to be discontinued.

The Date on your Label shows to what time your subscription is paid.

Advertising Rates—Single insertion, 25 cents per line. Contract rates furnished on application.

Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, 350 Richmond Street, LONDON ONT., CANADA.

Our Monthly Prize Essays.

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

- 1.—No award will be made unless one essay at least comes up to the standard for publication.
- 2.—The essays will be judged by the ideas, arguments, conciseness and conformity with the subject, and not by the grammar, punctuation or spelling, our object being to encourage farmers who have enjoyed few educational advantages.
- 3.—Should one or more essays, in addition to the one receiving the first prize, present a different view of the question, a second prize will be awarded, but the payment will always be in agricultural books. First prize essayists may choose books or money, or part of both. Selections of books from our advertised list must be sent in not later than the 15th of the month in which the essays appear; otherwise we will make the selections ourselves. Second prize essayists may order books for any amount not exceeding \$3.00, but no balance will be remitted in cash. When first prize essayists mention nothing about books, we will remit the money.

Our prize of \$5.00 for the best original essay on *Improving the Soil by Green Manuring*, has been awarded to W. A. Hale, Sherbrooke, Que. The essay appears in this issue.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best original essay on *The Farmer's Garden*. Essays to be sent in not later than March 15.

A prize of \$5.00 will be given for the best original essay on *Root Culture*. Essays to be sent in not later than April 15.

To Our Subscribers.

We have lately received letters containing money in which the senders have omitted giving their Post Offices. Please examine the date label on your paper and see if you have been credited with your remittance. The date on your label shows to what time your subscription is paid. If there be any error, notify us at once, so that it may be rectified immediately.

Editorial.

On the Wing.

We received invitations to attend two meetings in the United States, both of which appeared of importance. One was the National Agricultural and Dairy Convention; the other, the American Publishers' Association.

The first was held in the Grand Central Hotel, Broadway, New York, on the 8th and 9th of February. The meeting was composed of practical farmers, produce dealers, Congressmen, Senators, lawyers, medical men, ministers of the Gospel, these professional men being agriculturists also; the labor interest and even women's rights were represented, and representatives of or delegates from a large number of organizations from the Atlantic to the Pacific Coast, from the north and south, were assembled to devise, suggest and unite on action for the advancement of the national welfare.

It was stated that agriculture was the pitch of our national harmony; that it was being overburdened; that the masses of the farmers were being pauperized; that the farms were rapidly being mortgaged and absorbed by capitalists; that the products of the land had been reduced 14 percent, and the price of land reduced 8 percent additional; that despite the boasted wealth of the country, they were really poorer than they were 20 years ago, because of the reduction of the amount of products and the depreciation of values; that burdens would be increasingly felt, and serfdom or slavery must follow the present course of procedure; that the farmers are bearing an undue proportion of the burden; that monopolists were oppressive and unscrupulous, and that the only hope of remedial measures was the uniting of agriculturists and their friends to openly and fearlessly expose the deceptions, and unite in suppressing rings and advancing good measures. The only way to do this was by the ballot—to unite in demanding good measures, and reject from all offices those who could not be depended on to protect the interests of agriculture. It was stated that this organization had been the only one that had ever been able to bring power enough on Congressmen to enact any law for the protection of farmers. They had by their united effort secured the anti-oleomargarine act, and yet advocates of the monied monopolists were still in Congress ready to obliterate that act, if possible, despite the fact, as stated, that between seven and eight millions of hogs die annually in the United States from hog cholera and other perhaps more dangerous diseases, and that even after the death and burial of diseased hogs, they had been resurrected, boiled down and the fat applied for

man's use; that from the consumption of this swine food deaths had been caused—to the use of this vile stuff tuberculosis, typhoid fever and consumption could be traced to an incredible and alarming extent. The sale of it is prohibited in New York. It cost this Association a large sum to pass this bill and fight the advocates of adulteration, disease and death for the sake of the profits to millionaires; and this is the first act that has ever been passed to protect the farmer's cow and the farmer's family from fraud and disease. It should deserve and receive the aid and support of every well wisher of the national honor and prosperity.

Mr. Clayton, representing the fruit growers' interest of California, asked the support of the Association to protect the vine growers from the injurious results of the sale of adulterated wines. He convinced the meeting of the superiority of pure grape wine, of its healthful effect, and also of the extremely injurious effects of the spurious or adulterated stuff, it being a dangerous, deadly beverage. One benefited the cultivator of the soil, the other the reverse, the adulterated article being boomed in the Senate by millionaire distillers who could buy up their supporters; the other being only supported by the cultivators of the vine. Similar questions were discussed, and the anti-adulterationist and the railroad attorney's bill were brought up. The latter is an attempt to prevent lawyers sitting in Congress whose chief aim and interest is to favor some corrupt measure that tends to strengthen the railroad monopoly to the injury of the agriculturist. It is plain that many legislators receive their pay from the country, but their energies and time are devoted to aggrandizement in any manner of the companies they are interested in, and every payment falls directly or indirectly on the farmer.

Considerable information was obtainable in regard to stock, the dairy interest, breeds of cattle, etc., which space prevents us giving now. The transportation of dairy products was discussed. It was shown that from one county alone—St. Lawrence Co.—the advantage of shipping via Montreal gave a saving of \$28,000 last year, and better results than by shipping to Europe via New York. There was a resolution or two carried that it would have been beneficial to have had a longer discussion; but time was limited.

Another important question discussed was the extermination of the contagious stock diseases. It appears that even good measures have been rejected in Congress merely because opposing parties should not obtain the credit due to them. Congress has been and will again be solicited to guard and protect the interests of the agriculturist, and suggestions will be made to endeavor