

New England Agricultural Society's Show.

The tenth annual exhibition of the New England Agricultural Society, held at Mystic Park, near Boston, during the first week in September, is pronounced in the main, a success. Most departments of the Exhibition were creditable, though those of Flowers, Fruits and Vegetables were deficient. The show of Cattle and Horses was good. The entries of Stock were—Cattle, 425, Horses, 267; Sheep, 113; Swine, 44; Poultry, 69. The display of Cattle included 105 Ayrshires, 83 Short-horns, 65 Devons, 55 Alderneys, 41 Holsteins, 36 Herefords and 50 Grades. The attendance was large, and the fair a financial success. The fair season, it may be said, opens well East and West.—*American Farm Journal.*

Agricultural Matters in Iowa.

Des Moines papers report that the grasshoppers have made their appearance in the western part of Pottawatomie county in great numbers. It is now considered that all the crops are safe from their depredations this year.

Farmers in all parts of the State are rushing their wheat into the market, fearing a decline in prices. A large amount of wheat is delayed in shipment for lack of freight. Wheat is yielding better than had been anticipated, and is of better quality than last year. In this county the average will be about fifteen bushels per acre. The potato crop will be short, in consequence of continued dry weather through July and the first half of August.

A large breadth of fall wheat has been sown in Huron this season.

At the Vienna Exhibition 1,091 exhibitors gained prizes, including 49 diplomas of honor. England gained 29 diplomas, 82 medals, and 41 certificates. About seventy per cent. of the British and Colonial exhibitors received marks of distinction.

The *Galt Reporter* says the apple crop in that section this year will be very large. Winter apples, such as Greenings, Spitzenburgs, and Northern Spy, is an abundant crop, while the Snow is also in most cases a heavy yield.

As one of the effects of the cheese and butter factory system, the *Binghampton Democrat* notes that the barley crop of Jefferson Co., N. Y., has fallen off from 600,000 bushels to 100,000, and all in five years, the farmers finding more profit in keeping cows.

An English writer recommends that potatoes be stored in a dry place, and be exposed from time to time to the fumes of burning sulphur. This he declares will retard the progress of disease and prevent farther infection without in any manner injuring the tubers for food.

GRAND PLOUGHING MATCH.—At a meeting of the Directors of the Annapolis Union Agricultural and Industrial Association, held in the Town Hall in that place yesterday, it was resolved to hold a ploughing match at Annapolis on Wednesday the 5th day of October next when \$100 will be offered in prizes.

Mr. Joseph Hunter, of the County of Bruce, son of Mr. Jas. Hunter, of Derry West, bought from Messrs. Snell & Sons, at the Guelph fair, a shearing cotswold ram, for which he gave the handsome figure of \$175. It had only been imported from Europe a few days before the Guelph fair, at which it took the second prize.

MUSKOGA OATS.—On Tuesday last, a specimen of the kind of oats they grow in Stisted, was shown us. The straw was over five feet in length, and the heads were well filled. This specimen was taken from a field containing nine acres of oats, and it is expected that the owner, Mr. Darling, will realize over 40 bushels to the acre.—*Parry Sound Settler.*

The *Examiner* says Mr. Thomas Johnston, of Mount Forest, has gone largely into the butter trade of late. Last week he shipped by the Toronto, Grey & Bruce Railway, at this point, 50,000 pounds of butter; at Owen Sound by the same railway, 100,000 pounds; and at Clifford, by the Wellington, Grey & Bruce Railway, 20,000 pounds, making a total of 200,000 pounds, and representing a cash value in the market of \$330,000. Not bad for one dealer.

BEARDED WHEAT.—"On Monday last," says the *Uxbridge Journal* "we were shown a splendid sample of this kind of wheat, which had been grown on Annand's farm, near Leaskdale. The sample was scarcely ripe, but was of unusual size, full and plump. All the ears were exceedingly well filled, and so heavy that a single head could not be seen upright. This is a spring crop, and before the late heavy rains came

was given up as hopeless. The yield will be much over the average. The bearded wheat is rather a new kind heretofore, and seems to grow uncommonly well."

TAXATION.—The taxation in the Dominion is \$3.75 per head at the outside. In Great Britain and Ireland it is \$12.12, or nearly two and a half times the amount of our proportion. In the United States it is \$14.90, or nearly four times that of Canada. But the taxation of our British Colonies places Canada in a still more favorable light. In New Zealand the taxation per head is \$61.80, in South Australia, \$31.00; in Queensland, \$25.45; and in New South Wales, \$26.50. Thus Canada is taxed only in the proportion, in round figures, of one-thirteenth of New Zealand, less than one-sixth of Queensland, something over one-fifth of New South Wales, and less than one third of the United States. These are points that immigrants would do well to consider.—*Exchange.*

IMPORTED STOCK.—Mr. J. R. Craig, of Green Grove Farm, Edmonton, has received per s. s. *Canadian* from England eight shearing Cotswold ewes, and a Berkshire boar under one year. The ewes have been winners at the Royal Agricultural Society's Meeting, at the Bristol and Plymouth Fair, and also at the great World's Fair, Vienna, Austria. Mr. Craig won the great sweepstakes at the World's Fair at London last year for the largest and best shorn sheep, and having added the present importation he must possess a flock of which any breeder may be proud. He shipped the other day to the Illinois State Fair a car load of stock for the exhibition next week, while at the same time he intends competing in the live stock department at the Central Fair, Guelph.—*Banner.*

Miscellaneous.

Ought Shingle Roofs to be Painted?

If it is an economical practice to paint any other part of an architectural structure, most assuredly it is a commendable practice to paint shingles. We never could understand why certain builders have persisted in advocating not to paint shingles, except we judge them to be influenced by mercenary motives. Every intelligent builder is aware of the fact, that shingles and siding, when not painted, will wear out very much sooner than if they had been protected by a generous covering of paint. Hence, reasoning from a selfish policy, it is better not to paint shingles, because the paint will promote their durability, and what ever promotes their durability tends to diminish the labors of the craft, and thus curtail the revenue of civil architects.

The house in which the writer was born was covered with shaved pine shingles in the year 1805, at which time the roof received a generous coat of oil-paint made of linseed-oil and Venetian red. After twenty years elapsed, another coat of paint, nearly black, was applied. Since that period no paint has been applied, and it is now a good roof for an old one. It does not leak, and the only repairs on it have consisted of a shingle added here and there, where a portion of a poor shingle was worn out. If the roof had not been painted the butts of most of the courses would have been worn entirely away; and if such long periods had not been allowed to intervene between the times of painting, the roof would have been a good one even after the lapse of 100 years.

Some one once suggested that, if the roof is painted, the paint will cause the water to back up beneath the next course of shingles above, which will thoroughly saturate the two courses, and thus the decay of the roof will be hastened. That is unmitigated nonsense. There is not a word of truth in the assumption. On the contrary, when the surface is painted, the water will glide away so quickly that it will not be drawn back between the courses of shingles half so readily as it will be when no paint has been applied.

The true way to paint a roof is to apply paint of some kind to both sides of the shingles. It is quite as important that the under side of every shingle be covered with paint as the surface, to prevent the water from being drawn up between the courses by capillary attraction. If good shingles are painted on both sides, and good paint be applied to the roof once in ten years, it will continue leak-tight for more than a hundred years.

When it is not desirable to save the water for drinking, coal-tar is an excellent and cheap, paint for preserving shingles, and it will pay well to smear a roof with this material once in four or five years.

When roofs are not painted, moss is liable to collect at the butts of every course of shingles, which promotes their decay more rapidly than alternate rain and sunshine. When oil-paint is used for painting shingles it is always better to employ some light color rather than black, as the apartments of the attic story, beneath a black roof, are liable to be uncomfortably hot in the summer; and, more than this, as black paint absorbs more heat than any other color, neither the paint nor the shingles will endure as long as if the roof had been covered with some light-colored, paint. A metallic roof covered with light-colored paint will last much longer than if it had been painted with a black paint. The most economical paint for a roof is a generous coat of coal-tar once in a few years; but coal-tar will color the water for five years after a coat is applied to the roof.—*Industrial Monthly.*

A farmer in Washington county, Ky., has found a practical use for a snake. For two years he has had one shut up in his corn-crip, and during all that time not a single mouse has been seen there.

BONE FELON.—Of all painful things, can there be any so excruciatingly painful as bone felon? We know of none that flesh is heir to. As this malady is quite frequent, and the subject of much earnest consideration, we give the last recipe for its cure, which is given by that high authority, the *London Lancet*. As soon as the disease is felt, put directly over the spot a fly blister, about the size of your thumb nail, and let it remain for six hours, at the expiration of which time, directly under the surface of the blister, may be seen the felon, which can instantly be taken out with the point of a needle or a lancet.

LIE DOWN AND REST.—Dr. Hall says the best medicine in the world, more efficient than all the potions of the *materia medica*, are warmth, rest, cleanliness and pure air. Some persons make it a virtue to brave disease, "to keep up" as long as they can move a foot or wiggle a finger, and it sometimes succeeds; but in others the powers of life are thereby so completely exhausted that the system has lost all ability to regenerate, and slow and typhoid fever sets in and carries the patient to a premature grave. Whenever walking or work is an effort, a warm bed and cool room are the very first indispensables to a sure and speedy recovery. Instinct leads all beasts and birds to quietude and rest the very moment disease or wounds assail the system.

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