

The Prince Edward Island Steam Navigation Company will make the same reduction as on the Government Railways.

F. W. Fishwick, Esq., proprietor of the S. S. M. A. Starr and Edgar Stuart will afford the same or similar privilege as that furnished by the Railway authorities.

Messrs. Small & Hatheway will carry passengers and freight for the Exhibition by the steamer from Digby to Annapolis for one fare, returning free.

#### ENTRY CERTIFICATES.

These certificates are now ready and can be obtained from the Secretaries of the different Agricultural Societies throughout the Province, from the members of the Central Board of Agriculture, or from the Secretary of the Exhibition. To avoid confusion and mistakes it is especially requested that these certificates be filled in as neatly and as carefully as possible, and returned to the office of the Secretary of the Provincial Exhibition by the time specified in the General Regulations. The Entry Ticket, acknowledging the Entry Certificate, will be immediately thereafter forwarded from the Secretary's office, which the Exhibitor must hold and attach to his exhibit in October.

WHILST we are correcting the final proof sheets of this number, a small parcel of plants reaches us from Mr. A. H. McKay, B. A. Dal. Col., Principal of the Pictou Academy. It contains some extremely interesting species collected by him in Cape Breton Island. First among the number comes the very rare fern *Polystichum Hincksii* (Lawson), hitherto found only in one spot at Owen Sound on Lake Huron, and at another, it is believed, on the south shore of Lake Superior. It is not yet correctly described in any botanical work, having been hitherto mistaken for the European *P. Lonchitis*. Mr. McKay has likewise found *Lastrea Filix-mas*, a fern originally discovered as a native of Maritime Canada by Dr. Lindsay last year; *Cystopteris bulbifera*, another fern not uncommon in the Inland but rare with us; *Oxytropis Uralensis*, a fine Leguminous plant, rare even on the mountains of Europe and in Siberia, and never found in the United States; *Galium montanum*, D. C., and *Silene acaulis*, both known in America only on the summit of the White Mountains, the latter species found, however, high up in Arctic British America; *Rhodiola rosea* (allied to *Sedum*), previously collected in Labrador by the Rev. J. Fraser Campbell, but now known for certain to be Nova Scotian likewise; *Triglochin palustre*, a sea-side grass-leaved plant; and lastly, *Listera cordata*, a small orchis with two opposite mahogany colored leaves, which

is known as the Mountain Tway Blade in Britain, and in the Dominion of Canada has been previously found at Lac St. Joachim and on the New Brunswick shore of the Bay of Fundy.

### Reports on Crops.

Clements, August 10th, 1876.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to your note of 28th July, I have waited thus long in order to acquire reliable statements as to our general agricultural affairs.

In the first place, the Hay crop has been nearly all gathered safely in without rain or foul weather, and is abundant for our usual requirements. Salt marsh hay is not quite so good, having been hurt by the great heat. Our Grain crop will be about average: Oats are light and Barley thin, while Wheat and Rye are good, the latter specially so. Of Buckwheat, the prospect at present is good, being of heavy growth and profuse blossom. Possibly, unless touched by early frost, there will be a heavy yield of very useful grain. I think early frost is to be feared though it cannot be guarded against. The thermometer has noted sudden changes during the past week, the mercury standing at 80° to 86° nearly all day and suddenly falling to 40° and 44° during the night, and this has happened thrice since last Saturday, 12th August. Of Turnips, in burnt land there will be but small returns,—the heat, the reflection of the ashes, and the fly have shrivelled up the early plants. Mangolds and Carrots appear too thick, the hotter the soil and the drier the atmosphere. Potatoes, at least the Early Roses, may be now considered safe, and if harvested early will give a handsome return; the later kinds will be injured probably by the watery September which is due us.

There has been a wonderful decrease of the 'Stripe' or Squash bug this season, and so Cucumbers, Melons and Squashes flourish and are looking well. Can you give any reason for the sudden disappearance of the pest? Caterpillars and Cur-rant worms have left their trail everywhere, threatening by vast increase not only the destruction of the Fruit crop this year, but of others in future, as the germinal buds are attacked now and we have nothing to prevent the spread of these pests.

In behalf of the Clements Agricultural Society,

W. M. GODFREY, Sec'y.

Pugwash, 9th August, 1876.

SIR,—Yours of 28th ult. to hand in due time. Contents noted. Now that the Hay crop is nearly all in the barn we can say for a certainty that it is below

an average. The Grain crop promises to be abundant, especially in straw. Potatoes and other roots look well. The dry and very hot weather of the last ten days may have a tendency to ripen the grain rather prematurely, but yet we anticipate a bountiful harvest; and hoping that our anticipations will be realized,

I am, yours, &c.,

THOS. A. FRASER.

Shubenacadie, 16th August, 1876.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your letter of the 28th ult., I would say that the Hay crop in the valley of the Shubenacadie is about one-fifth to one-sixth short, and on the upland farms lying on either side of us the falling off is much greater.

The Oat crop will not be equal to last year, therefore there will be quite a falling off both in straw and grain, caused by lateness of Spring and drought during the Summer; the farmers will have none for sale. Barley is also a short crop from the same causes. Potatoes will be a poor crop on account of the wet Spring delaying the planting, but, where the soil is dry and planting was done early, the yield and quality are both excellent. Turnips also are a poor crop—much below the average.

I remain, &c.,

F. R. PARKER,

WE are indebted for the following Lines to the kindness of Mr. T. Robertson of the Provincial Secretary's office:—

#### LINES

written on seeing the Scottish Broom growing luxuriantly around the ruins of an old house near Shelburne.

O, "bonny broom" of Scotland!  
In all thy golden glow,  
Thou bloomest still—but where's the hand  
That rear'd thee long ago?  
Fond eyes once watch'd thy budding,  
Brought from thy native glen,  
To flourish in a foreign soil,  
Beheld by stranger men,  
Perchance warm tears gush'd freely,  
Thy golden flowers among—  
Flowers that once hadg'd a princely line—  
Flowers that a Burns hath sung.  
O! who can toll what images  
Thy sweet buds conjur'd forth,  
To hold communion sad with him  
That wandered from the North?  
While borne on memory's pinions  
To his dear father-land,  
The "old familiar faces,"  
The cherish'd household band,  
The haunts of merry childhood,  
Where grew the "Gowans fine,"  
And all the treasur'd memories  
That cling to "auld lang syne?"  
Sole relic of thy planter,  
Long pass'd from earth away!  
Thou, thou alone, art left to tell  
Where once his garden lay:  
Still blooming on in beauty,  
A mound of stones beside,  
Where once a goodly dwelling stood,  
Thou seem'st to mock man's pride,  
Ay, man had rais'd this structure,  
Now lying in decay:  
And rains and dews that nourished THEE,  
Have mouldered it away.  
O! "bonny broom" of Scotland!  
In all thy golden glow,  
Thou bloomest still,—but where's the hand  
That rear'd thee long ago? [A. B.]