

like the cabbage. It is quite hardy, and stores better than any of the cabbage family. It is best cultivated in the same manner as the turnip crop. It is however much inferior to the turnip for feeding stock.

The cauliflower and broccoli are only suited to limited cultivation principally in gardens.

The cabbage is an exhausting crop, as are all plants, according to the amount of nourishment they take from the soil; but if it takes a large amount of nourishment from the soil, so by its consumption on the farm it returns to the soil a like large proportion of nourishment in the shape of manure. Now that the potato is not to be relied upon for a supply for fattening stock, it becomes necessary to turn to something else to supply its place, which the cabbage seems eminently fitted for, being relished by all kinds of stock, which fatten better on it than on turnips. It is extensively used in England as food for milch cows, in the large dairies.

My own experience with cabbages in this province leads me to esteem them very highly as a food for neat stock, particularly sheep. I have had less trouble in storing them, and less loss also than with turnips.

I am, &c.

W. BUSTIN.

Carlton, Yarmouth Co.

THE WEATHER IN NEW YORK STATE.

We have received a kind and welcome letter from Isaac Aikin, Esq., of Beekman, Dutchess County, New York State, reminding us of a pleasant meeting at Guelph two years ago, among the short horn herds and long-woolled flocks of Upper Canada. The letter is a private one, but our correspondent will excuse our printing a portion of it relating to the weather, for assuredly old father Christmas has not kept his icy candle under a bushel this winter:—

We have had a colder winter than has been known for fifty years. The mercury has been 14° below zero, which, I suppose to you, seems not very cold; but I have never seen such weather during the forty-five years of my life.

We have had seventy-five consecutive days good sleighing, which I never saw but once before. Winter wheat and rye have been covered so well with snow during the severe weather, I expect them to come out looking fine in the spring. This section of the State of New York was very wet last summer. The growth of grass was very great, and the grain crops

were good save Indian corn. The prices of grain have been high; and as the farmer's busy season approaches, preparation is being made for a large sowing and planting.

The short horn breeder has met with ready sales. The sheep breeder has had "a rather up hill business." Our market has been so flooded with foreign wool that there has been but few sales, and this has had its effect upon the sheep breeders sales. My stock have wintered generally well. I take the liberty of enclosing you a sample of wool ten months old, (Cotswold).

[The lock of wool enclosed is nearly a foot in length and of beautiful quality, evidently from a heavy fleece.]

POTATO DISEASE.

Club Farm, Carlton,  
Yarmouth, Jan. 16, 1868

SIR,—By to-day's mail I have sent you a pamphlet, giving my views of the probable cause of the potato disease, and published in Edinburgh in 1848. If you think it suitable for the *Journal of Agriculture*, you are at liberty to use it. From long experience in cultivating the potato, I am still more convinced that the disease is caused by electricity. I should like to see the effect produced on the growing plant by a charge of electricity on the tops first, and also on the tubers. The first symptoms of the disease on the leaves has the appearance, to me, of a sheet of paper through which a charge of electricity has been passed. By this I mean that the small minute spots which first appear on the leaves, have the burnt and scorched look of the marks produced on a piece of paper by a charge of electricity being passed through it.

Since leaving the neighbourhood of Edinburgh I have not been able to follow up my studies of natural philosophy, and consequently have not had access to any electrical apparatus, I feel fully convinced that electricity has, in some form, more to do with the potato disease than we are generally aware of, or willing to admit.

Professor Low seemed fully alive to the probability of the electrical theory, gave me all the assistance in his power and urged me to prosecute the subject; but at that time circumstances occurred which put a stop to my connection with the University of Edinburgh, and subsequently with my natural philosophy studies.

This pamphlet is the communication which I promised to send you for the *Journal* months ago.

Yours, &c.

W. BUSTIN.

Reports of Agri. Societies.

YARMOUTH COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

In behalf of the Yarmouth County Agricultural Society, I am desired to express our thanks to the Central Board for their recognition of the Society, in allowing us to participate in the grant for 1867.

At the quarterly meeting it was proposed to give Fifty dollars, from the funds of the Society, towards the Provincial Exhibition, but in consideration of the members present, a vote on the subject was postponed to the next quarterly meeting, when, I hope, it will be carried unanimously. A statement of the Treasurer's account showed:

Subscription List for 1867..	\$179.50
Grant for 1867 .....	155.00
Subscription List for 1868.....	104.50
	\$439.00

Less some small bills not rendered, for advertising, etc.

It was voted that the Board of Management procure from Halifax 10 bushels Spring (Fife) Wheat, advertized in *Journal*. Can we have that quantity, and to whom shall I send the money with instructions for shipping? It may be some weeks before there is any opportunity of shipment, but there will be packets running before the season for sowing. It was also voted to procure 20 bushels barley, most approved variety; 10 bbls. early Goodrich potatoes; one full blood Alderney bull; one full blood Devon bull.

Our County is sadly deficient in improved stock. We have had at long intervals bulls of several breeds, but never pairs, so that there is not now, in my knowledge, a single full blood animal of any breed in the County. We esteem the Alderney very highly for dairy purposes; grades of their breed—heifers of two years and three years—sell at \$40 to \$60. At any future sale of stock in Halifax, we shall not fail to send a representative; the low prices at which the stock was sold in November, indicate a small appreciation of improved stock elsewhere in the province. At the exhibition in the fall, there will probably be stock for sale of all kinds; we shall look forward to this as a convenient source of supply.

I remain, yours, &c.,

C. E. BROWN.

GLENELG AGRICULTURAL SOC'Y.

In presenting this their annual report at the close of their term of office, the officers and directors of your Society have to regret the want of interest in agriculture in our district, as is evinced in the difficulty experienced in obtaining the required number of subscribers to entitle us