

the great motive power in farming; and yet from the complaints we usually hear, one would think that the drouth was the greatest of agricultural calamities, while in truth a good farmer rarely suffers much ultimate loss from a dry summer. Some crops may suffer but others may do well, and at any rate it gives him a good opportunity to destroy weeds, and get his land into good order for the next years crops. Stock, especially sheep, "do better on roast meat than on boiled." The farmer will never be independent of the season, but he can do much to guard against the injurious influence of unpropitious weather. Fortunately the means best adapted to secure good crops in a wet season are precisely the means necessary to ward off the ill effects of a drouth. Underdraining is the first step, and thorough tillage and the destruction of weeds the next. No matter what the season may be, a well-drained and properly-worked farm will always produce the best crops. But the good farmer will always do better in a dry season than in a wet one, and hence it is that we contend that our climate is admirably adapted for agricultural pursuits. The lot of the American farmer is fallen in sunny places. Never let us complain of drouth and heat.—*American Agriculturist.*

#### ADDRESS OF A DUCHESS.

The Agricultural Dinner is a great institution in England, and we may say in every country where agriculture is in a progressive state. When an impression is to be made upon a large number of people, the way is to have a social gathering, and farmers, like other men, are found to be most impressible over a good dinner. A new feature is now introduced into these entertainments by the Duchess of Beaufort, which we note for the benefit of some lady leader of fashion in our own province:—

At the annual dinner of the Badminton Farmers' Club on Wednesday, the Duke of Beaufort, who had been announced to preside, was called away on important business, and her Grace the Duchess undertook to supply his place, when she entered the tent in which the dinner took place she was received with loud and ringing cheers. At the conclusion of the repast, the Duchess rose to propose the first toast, and she was loudly cheered. She said:—"Ladies and gentlemen, you must not expect from me speeches such as you have been accustomed to hear from this chair, so ably filled as it has been in former years; but I think that any one can feel a pride and pleasure in giving the QUEEN'S health, and I give it now—The QUEEN; God bless her." After the other usual toasts the Duchess rose and said: I have one

more toast to propose, and then I think the arduous duties of chairman—or shall I say chairwoman?—will cease. It is 'Success to the Badminton Farmer's Club,' may it go on and prosper, and be for many years to come a happy gathering of friends and neighbours, a day to be remembered with pleasure and to be looked back upon with satisfaction." Mr. Kilminster gave the health of the Duchess which was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm. Her Grace, in responding said:—"Again and again I thank you for the kind manner in which you have received the toast which has been proposed by Mr. Kilminster. I wish I had the power to say all I feel; but accept my most imperfectly expressed gratitude, and believe that I have never greater pleasure than in being at Badminton, and finding myself surrounded by so many kind and friendly faces." For "the Marquis of Worcester, and the younger branches of the Beaufort family" Lady Blanche Somerset responded.

#### PASTURING MEADOWS.

from a short-horned Durham imported two years ago by the Baddeck Agricultural Society. One of these fine bull calves weighed at the age of seven and a half months 565 lbs., the other at same age weighed 525 lb., and both were sold to members of societies in Inverness county for seventy-six dollars. Mr. Crowdis has also during the past year raised two other bulls and one heifer from same stock; although they are not quite so large, they are equally fine.

Thus we find that the funds of our Society are profitably expended, the stock of our farmers greatly improved and quite an interest excited in stock raising generally. The plan adopted by our Society to retain the imported stock within our bounds, is to sell the animals to members of the Society, binding them to keep said animals for at least three years within the bounds of their district. Other modes have been tried but this has proved to be the most satisfactory to all parties.

Baddeck.

D. McCURDY.

#### ALBION MINES.

We learn from D. Falconer, Esqr., Albion Mines, that the Egerton Agricultural Society is on its feet again. We hope that this is not merely the result of a spasmodic effort, but that the members have earnestly aroused themselves to a determination to carry on the Society with energy and efficiency. The people of Pictou County have good reason to be proud of their agriculture, and it is unfair to themselves to allow any of their Societies to go to sleep.

#### AGNES OF CANARD.

We learn that the imported Short-horn Heifer "Agnes," on the farm of Dr. Hamilton, Canard, has dropped another Bull calf, after "Sir William." He is said to be finer than the former one. At last accounts she was in good condition, looking well, and weighed 1300 lb., and the calf was thriving. If the Doctor got a good offer he would sell the cow and calf.

#### THE "EARLY ROSE" IN HALIFAX.

The Early Rose Potato created a great excitement last spring throughout the length and breadth of long, broad America. Several of our leading agriculturists obtained samples for experiment, and we may hope to be able, some of these days, to record the results obtained. The first result that has reached us, is that of a planting made in the garden of Jeremiah Northup, Esq., M. P. P., Halifax, and it is chiefly remarkable from the smallness of the weight planted and the largeness

*American Agriculturist.*

#### SHORT HORNS IN CAPE BRETON.

To the Editor of the Journal of Agriculture.

Sir,—Observing a short account in your journal recently of C. C. Hamilton of Cornwallis, in raising a Durham bull, I am induced to report concerning some of the same breed raised in this place last year, by James Crowdis, Esq.,