Hart, J. Morrison, and J. McLellan, 7. For the resolution, Messrs. J. Vooght, J. H. Hearn, W. H. Moore, H. M. Lawlor, and Hon. H. F. McDougall, 5.

It was resolved that a copy of the minutes of the meeting be forwarded to the Central Board of Agriculture for approval.

The meeting then adjourned.

W. F. McCURDY, *Chairman.*
J. H. HEARN, *Secretary.*

MR. BLACKWOOD sends us the following:—

A NEW GRAIN.

According to the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, says the New York *Shipping List*, a new cereal, represented to be more nutritious than corn, rye or oats, has recently been discovered in Kansas and New Mexico. This new cereal is variously called "pampas rice," "rice corn" and "Egyptian corn," and is supposed to have sprung from seed brought to the United States by the Mennonites, who came from Southern Russia. The kernels grow in a tuft like that on the top of sorghum. Each one is somewhat smaller and rounder than a grain of wheat, and is inclosed in a "shuck" or independent capsule. The berry can be eaten ground into flour or cracked like wheat, or whole like rice, or used generally like any other cereal. The meal resembles that of Indian corn, and, in color, is intermediate between the yellow and white varieties. A chemical analysis shows that its percentage of starch, fat, dextrine and sugar, which produce heat and fat in the animal organization, compares favorably with that of Indian corn, wheat, rye and oats; and in its contents of flesh-forming albuminoids, it surpasses all Indian corns, and ranks with wheat, rye and oats. The small percentage of cellulose, or non-nutritious woody fibre, is remarkable. The stalk makes as good fodder as corn does, and a few acres will furnish a family with fuel for a winter—a consideration of first importance in that nearly treeless country. All this signifies little in compairson with its power to resist drouth, and as to that, an example, one of a great many, attested by the signatures of practical, well-known farmers, may be given: Forty acres of turned-over sod, which had not been wet with rain for eight months, were planted with two or three grains, deposited with a seed-planter, something more than a foot apart. There was no rain for five weeks after planting, yet the corn germinated. After it was fairly started, the hot blasts from the Llano Estacdo blew over it, but it grew right along, although grass and garden-truck beside it were fairly burned up. It stood the rains equally as well, and finally it yielded sixty 60-pound bushels to the acre. It is, moreover, worm and grasshopper proof. The Board of Agriculture prints a mass of letters, which place these facts beyond question, and their significance is of the first importance. From New Mexico to the British lines there are tens of thousands of square miles—500,000,000 acres, according to a reliable estimate—which, it was thought, nothing but an expensive system of artesian wells, could reclaim to any better use than pasturage, and now comes this African plant to furnish food and fuel to this vast country, besides crops for export, whose value it may yet be impossible to estimate.

EPIGÆA REPENS LAURIÆ

The woods of Oakfield seem to vie with the Conservatory in furnishing rare and beautiful plants. It is not long since we recorded the finding of an elegant foliage plant in the form of a terrestrial orchid, *Goodyeria*. This Spring has ushered in a very beautiful double-flowered variety of our Nova Scotian emblem, the Mayflower, which was found by Mrs. Laurie, and to her we are indebted for the opportunity of examining it. Our readers will naturally like to know what it is like, and we shall endeavour to gratify their wishes. It would not be polite to explain the ordinary structure of the Mayflower to Nova Scotians, but, lest this page should fall under the eye of an ignorant stranger, we note, for comparison, that the Mayflower has a salver-shaped gamopetalous corolla, composed of five petals, which are united below into a tube. In the Epigæa Lauriæ the structure is more complex, for, in addition to the ordinary gamopetalous corolla, there is inside of it, a second row of five extra petals, which rise from the base of the tube, on stalks (as it were), and are not united, but perfectly distinct. They are very like, in shape, to teaspoons, and obviously consist of transformed stamens. The double flowers thus formed are remarkably neat, all the petals being quite regular, the inner row alternating with those of the gamepetalous corolla, or with its free lobes, in strict accordance with the law of alternation usually observed in the contiguous verticils of floral organs.

In a morphological point of view this transformation is of great interest to the botanist. We understand that means have been taken to preserve and perpetuate this new variety of our emblematical flower, for which loyal Nova Scotians will owe a debt of gratitude to the estimable lady of Oakland.

IT is stated that the number of infected cattle imported into England from the United States last year largely exceeded that imported in the same period from European countries.

A CORRESPONDENT calls our attention to an extract from a U. S. sporting paper that appeared lately in the Halifax *Herald*, about horses imported into the United States, the writer of which asserts that "Diomed," an ancestor of "Rice Mambrino," now in service at Windsor, was the best stallion ever imported into the United States.

MONTREAL VETERINARY COLLEGE,
NOS. 6 & 8 UNION AVENUE,
Montreal, May 14, 1880.

COL. LAURIE:

Dear Sir,—Knowing the interest you take in all matters relating to agricultural progress, I take the liberty of introducing Mr. William Jakeman, Veterinary Surgeon, who has finished his course of study here in March last, and who has removed to Halifax to commence the practice of his profession. During a pupilage of three winters, I have had every opportunity of knowing Mr. Jakeman, and I have much pleasure in giving him a most unqualified recommendation for being skilful and painstaking. His moral character is irreproachable, and I have no doubt but the value of his services in Halifax will soon be appreciated.

Whatever you can do for him, I will esteem as a personal favor, and I have every reason to believe you will find him worthy of encouragement.

I am, dear sir,
Yours faithfully,
D. McEACHRAN.

P. S.—Mr. Jakeman gained the prize, (a valuable case of instruments,) as the best practitioner of his year.

IN another column we copy from the *Plain Dealer*, a new New Glasgow weekly paper of much promise, an article on the Restoration of Exhausted Soils. It will increase the interest of the article to our readers when we mention that it was written by the father of Mr. Wm. D. Stewart the Editor, shortly before his death, which occurred on the 4th May. For many years the late Mr. Stewart was a scientific and practical farmer, and a thorough agricultural enthusiast. He always liked the culture of the soil, and did much in his day (in connection with the New Glasgow Agricultural Society, of which he was Secretary and otherwise), to promote improvement. He left a number of works on Scientific Agriculture, Chemistry, &c. "Being dead he yet speaketh."

THE fall Wheat in the Hastings section of Ontario has been badly winter-killed, and will not yield on the average more than half a crop. Rye has also been slightly injured.