

sticks and cold iron will be useful upon the railroads, etc.

From the first of April to first of June, north of Virginia, is the best time to plant out evergreen hedges, and from middle of September to the first of November in the autumn is a favorable time.

Reports of Agri. Societies.

LOWER STEWIAKKE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Lower Stewiakke Agricultural Society beg leave to report as follows:—At our annual meeting last year, it was thought best to sell the stock belonging to the Society under certain restrictions, to the highest bidder in the Society, the purchaser binding himself to keep them two years for the benefit of the Society. The purchaser of the Ram to be entitled to 25 cents per ewe, and the purchaser of the Boar to 50 cents per sow,—members of the Society only to be allowed the privilege the first year. The Bull being five years old, it was thought best to sell out and out to highest bidder either in or out of the Society, free from any and all restriction, which sale took place on the 9th Dec. Unfortunately the Ram sickened and died last Spring, but we have some very fine lambs from him though, and the Boar is giving good satisfaction and we believe will be a great improvement in our breed of hogs. A special meeting was called on the 6th of April, and the Directors were instructed to purchase two young Bulls of the best breed they could find as soon as practicable, but being unable to find what they considered suitable animals, they did not make any purchases, consequently another special meeting was called on the 28th September, prior to the great Exhibition in Halifax, thinking that a favorable opportunity of getting stock. The following persons, viz: E. C. Banks, R. J. Pollock, and Robt. Kent were appointed a committee to lay out the funds of the Society, and the Treasurer was also instructed if necessary to hire \$120, and expend the same as they might consider most advantageous to the Society; accordingly 2 Bulls and 6 Ram lambs were purchased at a cost of \$76.50. One of the Bulls was Durham and the other three-quarter Durham and one-quarter Ayrshire; the rams half-bred Shropshires.

Our Annual meeting was held on the 1st Dec., our officers appointed and dues paid up to the amount of \$42.00 and we expect quite a number yet to join. Our Society is now in good working order and we have good reason to believe a lasting benefit will be derived from it.

E. C. BANKS, Sec'y.
R. J. POLLOCK, Presdt.

Lower Stewiakke, 29th Dec. 1868.

MIDDLE RIVER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

In compliance with the terms of the Act, this Society held its annual meeting on the day fixed by law. And in reporting the state of the Society, the Directors and Office-bearers beg leave to express their gratitude to the Hon. the Board of Agriculture at Halifax for

the unlimited privileges bestowed on this Society in liberally allowing a bounty from year to year, and also for the efforts put forth by the Hon. Board for the furtherance of agriculture in this Province.

Your Directors have much pleasure in reporting the state of the crops for this year within the bounds of this Society, notwithstanding the distress which threatened Cape Breton, and was in a great measure felt by a number of its inhabitants during the last winter and spring, still your directors are enabled with safety to state that within the bounds of this Society nothing of the kind has been felt, and that each member has succeeded in putting an average crop into the ground which when harvested on the whole proved a fair average crop, and in reporting each separately, we here begin with: Hay—this crop has turned out well, and about one-third over the average of last year. Wheat—this crop has been for years very sparingly sown owing to the ravages of the fly, but this year our Society having procured about sixteen bushels of the Fife wheat imported by the Board of Agriculture, which having been distributed among some of the members of our Society, have turned out something like one-third below the usual average, being slightly affected by the fly, but what grain is saved looks well and consequently in another season this crop will be sowed on a larger scale. Oats—this crop is lighter in straw than in previous years, particularly what was sown in light sandy soils. This is entirely attributable to the great drought of July and August, but the grain is of an excellent quality. Barley—this crop is an average crop. Buckwheat—the cultivation of this crop has been sadly neglected in this locality, but small samples sown this year have proved very satisfactory and yielded fifty returns to the one sowed, so that this crop is likely to become very general in this locality. Potatoes—this crop far exceeds the average of former years, so that for the last twenty years such quantities of potatoes have not been raised in this district, yielding from ten to fifteen returns to the one planted, and of superior quality. Other Root crops.—The cultivation of turnips, carrots, beets, &c., was formerly very much neglected here, but the farmers now are awake to the advantages derived from such root crops, so that particular attention is now paid to the raising and growth of such crops, and this year they have yielded well.

This year our Society having sent John McLennan, Esq., its Secretary, to attend the sale of cattle, sheep, &c., at the Provincial Exhibition in October last, for the purpose of purchasing some live stock, the prices asked for such were too exorbitant to warrant him to make much purchase, but he succeeded in getting a superior Bull of the Alderney breed, which took the first prize among the Alderney cattle at the Exhibition, as also two fine Rams. Much credit is due to Mr. McLennan for the selections he has made. He has also arranged with a man from Dartmouth, for four young pigs of a superior breed, to be forwarded as soon as the navigation opens; as also a number one Buckeye Mowing Machine, together with a barrel of red clover seed, some Horse field peas and winter rye.

At the annual meeting it was unanimously agreed that the former office-bearers of this Society be re-elected for the ensuing year, 1869, viz:—John McDonald, President; E.

McDonald, Treasurer; Hector Campbell, V. P.; John McLennan, Secretary; and John G. McLeod, Edw. McLeod, Wm. Cain, K. McLennan, John McDonald, Directors.

Balance in Treasurer's hands \$214.92½.

J. MCLENNAN, Sec'y.

Miscellaneous.

(From The Farmer, Edinburgh.)

PRESERVED MEAT FROM AMERICA.

A meeting of the Food Committee of the Society of Arts, London, was held at the Society's House, on Wednesday afternoon, 13th January—Mr. Benjamin Shaw in the chair.

Mr. Hardwicke, of 192 Piccadilly, attended for the purpose of informing the committee as to the results of Professor Gamgee's process of preserving meat in accordance with the patents taken out by him before leaving this country for America. Professor Gamgee's process is thus described in his patents: "The animals whose flesh are to be preserved are, when this is possible, killed by causing them to inhale carbonic oxide gas, which may be generated by the action of heat on a mixture of sulphuric acid and ferrocyanide of potassium, or by any other method which yields carbonic oxide gas. The animals are then bled and dressed in the usual way, and the flesh may then be sold as human food, and even if it has travelled any distance it will retain a fresh and bright appearance longer than ordinarily killed meat. The flesh of animals slaughtered with the aid of carbonic oxide gas, or of animals slaughtered in the usual way, may further be preserved as follows: First, by being placed in a closed chamber or vessel containing carbonic oxide gas alone, or a mixture of carbonic oxide and air, or other gas or vapor, for a period varying from two to twenty-four hours with a view to a complete action on the meat and its juices. Secondly, by simple fumigation of the entire carcase or portions of the carcase, after the action of carbonic oxide, by means of sulphurous acid gas alone or in combination with hydrochloric acid gas."

Portions of the meat sent from America by Professor Gamgee, prepared by his process, having been tasted by the members previous to the meeting of the committee,

Mr. Hardwicke informed the committee that on the 4th December, 1868, Professor Gamgee, having had the animals killed in the manner described above, caused a large airtight tank to be filled with two quarters of beef, two hams, eight sheep, and a large hog, when they were subjected to his process.—This was done in New York. On the 12th the tank was opened, and the meat removed from it. On the 16th the carcase of four sheep (whole), a quarter of beef, and half a hog, were wrapped in cloth separately, put into one large, rough, packing case, and forwarded to England in the Royal Mail Ship "Cuba." It arrived in Liverpool on 29th December, whence it was despatched by the London and Northwestern Railway to Mrs. Gamgee, at Baywater, arriving there on the 30th December. The meat exhibited before the committee that day was part of that so sent, and was preserved in accordance with Professor Gamgee's patented process. Mr. Hardwicke added that a letter he had received from Professor Gamgee informed him that