

the Township in question, and also to those in the District who have not yet participated in the movement, we would urge upon our friends in other Districts of the Province to follow the example as soon as practicable—that excellent and praise-worthy example set them by their fellow-farmers of the Home District.

The benefits to be derived from participating in this patriotic movement could not be even faintly described, were we to devote pages to the subject; suffice it to say, that, very shortly, a flood of information will burst in upon the Canadian husbandman, through the agency of Agricultural Societies, based upon the soundest principles, which will of itself recompense those who have been foremost in the ranks in aiding in the accomplishment of this truly great work.

HOME DISTRICT PLOWING MATCH.

The District Ploughing Match took place on the 8th ultimo, on the Union Race Course, a short distance east of the city of Toronto, and was, without exception, the most splendid performance of the kind that we ever witnessed. Eighteen ploughs entered the field, and the work apportioned to each was executed in a most masterly manner. It was remarked, on the ground, by several good ploughmen from Britain, that they had attended a number of similar feats of ploughing in the Old Country, but had seen nothing that excelled the work performed on this occasion.

The successful competitors were:—

FIRST CLASS.

- 1st best, Walter Delzell, Vaughan.
2nd best, James Sanderson, Scarbro.

SECOND CLASS.

- 1st best, Wm. Crone, jun., Scarbro.
2nd best, James Johnston, York.
3rd best, Chas. Shepherd, York.

THIRD CLASS.

- 1st best, Alexander Gibb, jun., York.
2nd best, David Montgomery, York.

JUDGES.

John Torrance, George Weir, and George Harrison.

The Judges retired from the ground before the lots were balloted; and, on their return to the field, for inspection, the greatest possible interest was evinced by the anxious spectators, to ascertain their decision. The Judges themselves, being ignorant of the individuals who ploughed the lots, were also in as great a state of suspense as the ploughmen and the numerous body of spectators. The President of the Society, W. B. Jarvis, Esq., announced who were the successful competitors, and addressed himself to each individual, in a manner highly calculated to flatter those who had the honour of being the champions of the day; and he urged upon those who were less successful to make further attempts at improvement and competition in this

particular branch, which is acknowledged on all hands to be the root of good farming.

AGRICULTURE IN THE SISTER PROVINCES.

Our readers will, no doubt, recollect, that, on a former occasion, we entered considerably into the detail of the state of agriculture, in the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick; and pointed out a number of instances in which the Canadian farmers might take profitable lessons from their brother farmers of those Provinces. It will also, no doubt, be remembered, that the weight of wheat, and other grains in those Colonies quite exceeded any thing of the kind that we have elsewhere seen on record. We have now before us a lengthy report of the Gloucester County agricultural society, in which it is stated that spring white wheat grown in the Country, by three different farmers, of the name of Gairn Kerr, Thomas Mellar, and John Richey, equalled severally, per bushel, the extraordinary, and we may add, the unparalleled weight of *sixty-eight and a half pounds per Winchester bushel*. The heaviest sample of four-rowed barley, grown in the Country, equalled 56½ lbs. per bushel; of oats, 46 lbs. and of white per 68½ lbs. per bushel. It is stated in the able report, "That agricultural improvement has been gradually, but steadily, advancing, every succeeding year's exhibition, showing a manifest improvement in the weight and quality of every description of grain until the present one, when our numerous stocks of wheat weighing sixty-eight pounds to the bushel, and may safely state the average weight of wheat and barley throughout the northern part of the country to be about sixty-four for the former and fifty-three pounds for the latter. The excellence of our soil is becoming known and appreciated; cultivation will extend; and in corn, at least, improvement must continue, through assiduity and skill, until the weight of our wheat reach seventy-pounds per bushel, our barley fifty-eight to sixty pounds, and our oats forty-eight to fifty."

The average weight of wheat in Canada can scarcely be stated to equal 60 lbs per bushel; and we venture the opinion, that two bushels for one comes under that weight. If a sample equals 64 lbs. per bushel it is thought to be something very extraordinary; at the same time Canada is emphatically a wheat growing country; and by judicious culture and management of the soil, we see no good reason why as heavy samples could not be grown here as in any other portion of America.

It shall be our constant aim to assist the Canadian farmers, both by advice and example, to equal, if not excel if possible, the agriculturists of other countries.

PEAR TREES IN A DISEASED CONDITION.

A Correspondent advises those whose Pear Trees are in a drooping state, or when the bark appears dead or shrunk in spots, to cut away all the decayed parts with a sharp knife; and, by being careful to remove all that appears black or discoloured, in a few days such wounds will be thoroughly healed, and the tree cured. Dead branches, that have been entirely or partially destroyed, must be cut off, immediately below the decayed spot. In examining the disease, a considerable degree of minuteness must be observed. On old trees the diseased spots are not easily discriminated, but by probing those spots which indicate the disease with a sharp knife, when the surface is removed, the colour will show its state. The operation must take place in June.

"Ought Potatoes to be cut or Planted Whole?"—I am in the habit of planting five or six acres of potatoes yearly, and for the last two years I have planted the greater part with whole potatoes, and find they produce as good crops as with cut set, with this advantage, I have scarcely a potatoe missees growing, whereas in cut sets I have often had a great loss from dry rot. When taking up the general crop, I pick out my seed potatoes of a uniform size, each weighing about 1½ oz. I plant them in rows two feet apart, and one foot in the row, and have had exceedingly good crops.—*Agricultural Gazette*.

Cure for the Grubs.—Make a strong decoction of sage tea, drench in the usual way, will soon expel the grubs. Last summer, I had a mare that was very sick—she was up and down, rolling and tumbling; and, from the symptoms, I had just reasons to think it was the grubs—and, having heard that sage tea was a good remedy, I prepared a tea and drenched once, and in a short time the mare was relieved. She did not lie down, and roll and tumble about, after the tea was given.—*Southern Cultivator*.

An Invention.—The *Baltimore Sun* says that Mr. James Leggett, of Ladisburg, Frederick county, Md., has just completed the working model of a machine which is considered by many to be the greatest discovery of the age. It is the application of the power of the screw to the wheel machinery, whereby the gain of the power is so great that, with a screw weighing from one to one and a half tons, a man would be able to propel a train of cars on a railroad with as much force and velocity as is now attended by the locomotive. It occupies but a small space, and can be applied to any kind of wheel machinery. By reason of the infirmities of age, together with pecuniary embarrassments, he has been, thus far, unable to have an effective machine constructed, and his wish now is to call public attention to the subject, in the hope that some enterprising persons may be induced to embark in the enterprise.

Rats.—Seeing that you recommend "Nemo" to smear the holes and passages frequented by rats with arsenical ointment, I beg to state, that as accidents frequently happen from the use of poison, perhaps some other method might be acceptable. Slice a number of corks as thin as sixpences, and then roast or stew them in grease, and lay them in the way of the rats; these will prove a delicacy, and will be speedily devoured; the rats that partake of them will die of indigestion. Another method is to cut a piece of sponge into small pieces, and fried in dipped in honey; these are placed along with shallow pans of water in the neighbourhood of their holes. By eating the sponge, and then satisfying the thirst which it produced, their stomachs become so distended, that it generally proves a fatal result.