

barn at Bedford was burned; Mr. Jos. Ellis, Old Windsor Road, had the roof burnt off his dwelling, and many other injuries and anxieties arose out of the May burnings. Some evenings the whole horizon was lighted up as with a continuous series of beacon fires, and next morning every valley would be filled with a sea of dense smoke that had settled down in the dewy night. The Sackville Bear has been abroad for about a month, and may on occasion be seen crossing the old and new Windsor roads at various points, and walking about in the fields and pastures. He appears to be of a rather good natured disposition, not afraid of mankind, and with no disposition to make mankind afraid of him. He takes away a sheep occasionally, gets fired at from an old rusty gun for his pains, but yet comes around again as friendly as ever. His den is situated a mile or two S. west from the upper part of the Sackville River, in what is called the Big Marsh, whither he is seen repairing in the fall, and whence he returns to civilization in the spring; but his precise dwelling place has not been found, unless the census taker of district 15 may have succeeded in obtaining an entrance for the purpose of registering him as a fur-bearing domestic animal, or as a parent and householder, for "Man comes from a mammal that lived up a tree," as Lord Neaves puts it in his Blackwood song of last month.

The transition from the Sackville bear to the Gooseberry caterpillar is not so violent after all, when we have Darwin's "descent" in view. His caterpillarship is, like protection, an "ojous creatur," and has caused more anxiety to gardeners, amateur and professional, than anything else in the way of pest that has ever appeared in gardens. So far, however, the gooseberries and currants are comparatively free from the vermin as yet; the flies that deposit the eggs are not only fewer, but of smaller size and weaker than formerly, and we may almost hope that the history of the fly in this country will be a repetition of its history in Britain, where after a time it became comparatively powerless for evil.

We hope next month to be able to report upon the appearance of farm crops throughout the Province, and trust that the friends who in former years so kindly furnished information from their respec-

tive districts will be disposed again to aid in presenting to our farmers a general view of the Agricultural prospects of the season. Commercial arrangements depend so much upon the relations between demand and supply that trustworthy information of this kind, timely given, is of real and substantial value to every farmer and merchant. Communications on this subject *should reach Halifax not later than 28th June.*

Our Agricultural Societies still continue to increase. The old North Sydney Society, which has been dead and gone for many years, has come to life again, as was evidenced at a recent meeting, when about 60 persons signed articles of membership. The Western Halifax Society has had the even tenor of its way disturbed by the general election. In the city it is found impracticable, during times of political excitement, to obtain meetings for the calm discussion of peaceful subjects. No doubt another meeting will be arranged soon. The country members have been supplied with seed wheat at cost price.

It was said by Hallam in "Middle Ages": "There are but two possible modes by which the produce of the earth can be increased; one by rendering fresh land serviceable, the other by improving the fertility of that which is already cultivated. This last is only attainable by the application of capital and skill to agriculture, neither of which can be expected in the ruder ages of society." Let us hope that we are getting out of the "ruder ages of society" in Nova Scotia, and that capital and skill are preparing to go in to the cultivation of the soil more fully than they have ever done before.

In England there are every week several sales of whole herds of thorough-bred short horns, and buyers are always ready. At the Stanwick sale the other day, which realized \$11,282.25, we notice that some purchases were made for Australia. The Canadian breeders are continually importing from England, and the English breeders also import from America. Mr. Cochrane's Duke of Hillhurst, a calf raised by him last spring from Duchess 97th by 12th Duke of Thorndale, has been purchased by Colonel Kingscote, a celebrated English breeder, and arrived in England on 29th April. We observe it stated that Mr. Cochrane sold cattle, sheep and

swine to the value of \$110,000 during the past eleven months, principally to American breeders. One head alone, sold to Lord Dunmore for exportation to England, brought \$5,000. Col. Pomroy, another well-known Eastern Township breeder, has sold \$3,000 worth during the year.

Mr. Fortune has introduced from Japan a new Hardy Japanese Primrose (*Primula Japonica*), said to be the Queen of Primroses. It will probably be for sale in London next spring, 1872. The flowers are of a rich magenta colour, arranged in tiers one above another, on a peduncle nearly two feet in height.

Among new publications noticed in the London papers for May we observe: "The Gold Yield of Nova Scotia, by A. Heatherington" (Trubner.)

OPERATIONS FOR JUNE.

From the America. Agriculturist.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Many of the hardier vegetables were sown last month, and in southern localities the early crop of peas, beets, radishes, etc., are being harvested. Where the ground has been wet and cold, there is little use of sowing seeds until it is warm and dry. All kinds of seeds may be sown this month.

Asparagus may be cut on beds which are two years or more old. New beds may be set.

Beans.—When all danger of frost is over, plant in rows three feet apart. Limas started under glass may be set out after the ground is dry and warm; they may be planted to poles four feet apart.

Beets.—The early plantings must be thinned out and kept carefully hoed; the plants which are pulled up make excellent greens.

Cabbage, and its varieties, Broccoli, cauliflower, etc., all need the same general treatment when young. Set out the early plants from the hot-beds and cold-frames, and keep well hoed. Seeds for later crops may be sown in the open ground.

Carrots must be kept free from weeds, especially when they are small, for if allowed to grow they soon exceed the carrots in size.

Celery.—Sow as directed last month; stir the soil between the rows as soon as up, and weed.

Cress, or *Pepper-grass.*—Sow every week where one has a good locality to grow it well.

Corn may be planted this month, in rows four feet apart, which, in a garden,