

The authors of the report attribute the spread of the disease among pigs to the fact that they are foul feeders and will eat any offal, such as the dead bodies of rats and other animals, which are now known to be liable to trichinosis. Great care ought therefore to be taken to keep such things out of their reach. MM. Delpech and Reynel likewise advise all experimenters never to throw away trichinised flesh, but to burn it as soon as their examination is completed; for a fragment of it carelessly exposed might be eaten by a rat, the rat devoured by a pig, and this last become the cause of fatal accidents. They recommend farmers to be very cautious in feeding their pigs, to avoid giving them offal flesh without first boiling it; to destroy rats and other small carnivorous animals; and never to leave human or other excrements in places where pigs can go. The Government has deemed it expedient to publish at once the above abstract of MM. Delpech and Reynel's report, which it has also submitted to the consideration of the Consultative Committee of Public Health. —*Galignani.*

THE STOCK REGISTER AND STUD BOOK OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The Secretary of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia has prepared a Stock Register and Stud book, in which have been entered the detailed Pedigrees of all thorough-bred Cattle and Horses known to have been introduced to, or raised in the Province.

Persons introducing or raising thorough bred stock are invited to send certified pedigrees to the Secretary of the Board, for entry in the Register.

Communications.

REMARKS ON MOWING MACHINES, AND HOW TO USE THEM.—PIGS.

MOWING MACHINES.

DEAR SIR,—I have been in the habit of using mowing machines of different kinds for a number of years, and have thought that a few remarks might be useful.

The two horse hinge bar, on the buck eye principle, made by Harris and Allan, St. John, N. B., is the most useful and efficient for general work. After selecting a good machine in which all the parts work smoothly, the next requisite is a good, able, steady team of work horses, with a careful steady hand to drive them and work the machine. Plenty of thin oil is required in the journals, which

ought to be filled with cotton wool or wicking, to retain the oil; and the driving wheel should be kept well greased with tallow.

In Spring, before the grass is too long, all roots and movable stones should be taken off, and the fields rolled. Where there is a stone or any other obstacle, that for some cause cannot be conveniently removed, a stake ought to be set up, so that the person driving the machine can see it and avoid the same. The fields should be all trimmed round by hand, and the swath removed so as not to interfere with the working of the machine. I prefer to do the trimming after the machine, and not to commence mowing till the dew is off, and the grass dry. When the grass is much knocked about and lodged, it should be cut by hand. There is no danger when thus treated, and the machine worked by a steady, careful man, with a pair of steady work horses. A high tempered driving horse is not fit for this, or any farm work. A good machine horse is a valuable animal.

It has always seemed to me a great error in the Government importations of horse stock, that more attention has not been given to the selection, for agricultural and all working purposes, of such horses as the Clydesdale. A good working horse can never be a good driving horse; and if we expect such horses as are generally kept by farmers in Nova Scotia to do machine work, we must not be surprised when we hear of accidents; and though there is a great difference in machines they ought not to bear the whole blame. A mowing machine to do good work ought to be driven at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 miles an hour,—the knives should always be kept well ground and whetted.

With one of "Harris & Allan's" Machines, I have repeatedly mown nine acres in 9 hours, but I consider this is too fast, both for the team and to do the machine justice.

PIGS.

I have had some experience in breeding and feeding pigs, and I would state that the cross between the Berkshires and White Chester is most suitable for this country, both as regards fattening properties, weight of carcase and profit. This cross cannot be had without the pure breeds, so that all can be accommodated, those who fancy the pure breed of each kind, and also the cross fanciers. My experience goes to shew that, in general, crossing the common breeds of the country with any of the improved breeds, ends in disappointment.

If you think that these remarks are likely to be of any use to the readers of the *Journal of Agriculture*, you are at liberty to publish them.

At another time, if you think well of it, I will give you my system of breeding and feeding.

The article on the potato disease I shall forward shortly.

Yours, respectfully,

Carlton, Aug. 24. W. BUSTIN.

[We shall be glad to receive our Correspondent's promised articles on potato disease, and breeding and feeding of Pigs.—*Ed.*]

Reports of Agri. Societies.

WEYMOUTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Weymouth Agricultural Society held their annual meeting on the first Tuesday in December, 1866, but as some of the officers were absent in consequence of sickness, it was agreed to adjourn until the 29th December.—when officers gave in their report of the preceding year. The same being approved of by the meeting, they proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, W. Dahlgreen; *Vice-Pres.*, James Dousett; *Treas.*, George Johnson; *Sec'y*, Frederick Sorenson; *Directors*, A. D. Hoyt, Steph. Jones, John S. Jones and James Beedy.

The account for the year is as follows:

By member's fees for 1866.....	\$61 00
Provincial Grant.....	84 00
Amount from seed sold.....	1 42
“ paid by M. Robichau, M. P.....	17 07
	\$163 49

To seed bought at Halifax.....	\$78 07
Freight on seed.....	1 62½
Acct. book and postage.....	1 93½
Balance on hand.....	1 86
	\$163 49

Last year we expended our funds in seeds, and divided them among the members. The Society unanimously agreed that we should use our first efforts in the improvement of cattle and sheep, and the efforts of the officers were to that object directed. We are to purchase this year one or two bulls, four rams and two boars.

We have not much improvement to report this year, but are glad to see that our members are becoming alive to the necessity of the improvement of their stock. We wish to get some of the Goodrich potatoes, if they are to be had, to try them here this season.

We hope to be able to give an account of greater improvement next year.

FREDK. SORENSON,
Secretary.

NEWPORT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the close of the year the Newport Agricultural Society beg leave to communicate to the Central Board of Agriculture a report of their proceedings for the last twelve months, and also some account