

*Society will take the earliest opportunity to call the Members together, so that the Prize Lists sent to them may be distributed, that explanations of regulations may be given, and, especially, that it may be impressed upon every Member that it is his duty to take an active part as a competitor in the Exhibition. Every Society within reasonable distance of a railway will be expected to show its best Cattle, Horses, Sheep, Swine, &c., and thus to justify to the public the appropriations that are being annually made for the encouragement of Agriculture. Societies in distant counties will not have the same opportunity of exhibiting heavy live stock, but there is no Society anywhere in the Province that cannot make its mark at the Exhibition if its Members will only make up their minds to do it. Every Farmer, wherever situated, has it in his power to raise good Grain, or Roots, or Vegetables, or Orchard Fruits; and as every locality has its own special fitness for some particular variety or varieties of Crop, so it must necessarily have, in that particular, an advantage over any other district. This is a most important point in practical Agriculture, which Provincial Exhibitions alone can bring out in a manner sufficiently striking to lead to practical application in the way of extended culture.*

In the department of Farm Implements and Machines, it is hoped that Manufacturers throughout the whole Province will embrace an opportunity so excellent of making known their work to prospective customers of the most desirable kind. For Home Manufactures the prizes are numerous, and those who do not consider the distant exhibitors think they are too large in proportion. It is hoped that the Wives and Daughters of our Farmers throughout every County of the Province will see in this an indication of the anxiety of the Board that they should participate in the forthcoming Exhibition. Prizes are given for which even very young members of a household may compete with prospects of success, and the stimulus to early industry thus given, may prove a blessing in many a home.

By direction of the Central Board of Agriculture.

GEORGE LAWSON, *Secretary.*

**THE EXHIBITION.**—We conceive it to be our duty to keep constantly before the eyes of our readers that we are to have this fall, in Halifax, a Grand Agricultural Exhibition, and we therefore publish on our fourth page a letter from I. Longworth, Esq., the representative of the fourth Agricultural district of Nova Scotia, which includes Hants, Cumberland and Colchester. The letter is full of good sound practical hints to our farmers and we trust they will all read and digest it carefully.—*Truro Sun.*

**THE AMATEUR AND MARKET GARDENER'S COMPANION.**—By an Amateur Gardener, Halifax, Stephen T. Hall, 1874. Price 25 cents.

The object of this publication is to provide a useful hand book of gardening suited to the poor man's pocket, and we can cordially recommend it as a concise, trustworthy and judicious guide, embracing a large number of extremely useful hints on garden management and the cultivation of the various crops capable of being profitably raised in our climate. The author treats of the "situation" of the garden, of soils, drainage, preparation of the land, manures, hotbeds, seeds, transplanting, and, lastly, of the gardener's great bug bear, insects. These preliminary dissertations are followed by detailed accounts of the best methods of cultivating the various vegetables, such as asparagus, artichokes, beans, beets, kale, broccoli, sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, carrot, celery, water-cress, cucumber, horseradish, kohl-rabi, leek, lettuce, melons, mushrooms, onions, parsley, peas, parsnips, peppers, potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, rhubarb, sage, sweet herbs, salsify, shallots, spinach, squash, tomatoes, turnips, &c., &c. There is an appendix devoted to small fruits, in which cultural directions are given for the strawberry, raspberry, and blackberry. The author's instructions for the cultivation of strawberries are so clear and judicious that they will no doubt promote the extension of strawberry culture, and help to root out the native superstition that wild strawberries are "far superior in flavor to cultivated ones."

There is great scope for extension of gardening in Nova Scotia. Every resident in the country, however poor or rich, ought to regard the cultivation of a garden as at once a pleasure and a duty. It affords a supply of fresh vegetables throughout the season to maintain the body in a healthful and vigorous condition. It affords many inexpensive luxuries that could not be otherwise obtained. Its beds and borders are a source of calm delight for the eye to rest upon when labor and trouble have ruffled the temper. The careful cultivation which a garden requires makes it an excellent training school for the young in learning the art of farming. And in a hundred other ways does it minister to the profit of the owner and to the comfort and happiness of his household. Lord Bacon remarked that men build fine houses before they begin to garden finely, as if gardening were the greater perfection. We might well fancy that in these words he was writing the history of architecture and gardening in Nova Scotia in the latter part of the nineteenth century.

NINE MILE RIVER, HANTS, {  
March 19th 1874. }

MR. EDITOR,—Your March *Agricultural Journal* has just come to hand, it being our first regular number to our new Agricultural Society. Finding it contains a letter from my worthy friend and brother-farmer of our own County, Alfred Thomas, Esq., courting a discussion upon the force and application of farm capital, and knowing that you like to hear from the different parts of the country, I am encouraged to make some remarks on the subject, hoping that some practical good may result from it. Although I may differ somewhat from him in opinion I will try to draw information from him rather than dispute with him. It is very evident that in many cases, even where the farmer owns his farm free of rent, with a good amount of capital, he can scarcely make farming pay in supporting himself and family, and keep up his farm. I would like to know whether Mr. Thomas would make landlord or tenant of such a man. If he says tenant, I think the landlord would have a hard time to support his family out of rent. If he says he would make a landlord of him, we will then have to import our tenantry. And if so, past experience proves that it would be hard to keep them, as we cannot keep more than a sample of our own native young men, as they and emigrants too will find their way into other countries. Further, we find the majority of Old Country people who are used to the system of landlord and tenant, when they come to this country, as well as the natives, are all unwilling to become tenants. Therefore I cannot see how the system can be practically carried out unless we can get capitalists as landlords who are rich enough without any matter of pay from their tenants, but merely the interest of their money. In considering the question fully, in order to start fair, we would bear in mind that a wise Providence has wisely distributed our resources with an adaptation to the necessities, circumstances, and climate of every country; we find in our own country, say nothing of other parts of the world, that our rules of application need a large range of variance. For instance, some of the old farms near towns and villages are perhaps reduced to their proper size for growing crops, yet without a sufficient pasture, and in some cases without a stick of timber growing on them for fuel or fencing. The fuel and fencing must be got from timbered parts of the country while it lasts, and then draw upon our coal mines, and for fencing call in the art of man, and grow hedges, &c. As there are many rich intervals farms fed from the uplands, such economy should be used on such farms in preserving all the elements of manure, that they could pay back to