

jury inflicted on a person of any other grade which the "kro," or total value of the one, bears to that of the other. The King's value was a thousand cows; the value of a King's son or Earl was 150 cows; the son of a comes or thane, 100 cows. The ogtiern—supposed to express the rank held by the fourth in descent from a Thane—is valued at 44 cows, with 21 denarii and 2 parts of a denarius. In these degenerate days we have "advanced into darkness" in the law of values. Life Assurance Companies "take men at their own estimate;" and in determining the value of personal damages by railway accidents there is often much needless litigation, which a simple revival of the forgotten Laws of the Brits and Scots would set at rest.

SHEEP AND DOGS.

A correspondent of the *Toronto Globe* thus discourses on the Sheep and Dog question;—

"The dog tax in our township has been equivalent to the damage done. The old saying 'the hair of the same dog will cure the wound,' is *apropos*. The owners of dogs should pay for the mischief they do.

Those people who have a *penchant* for dogs, most likely will pray for the abolition of the present law. But we would just here enquire who are, or would be, the greatest dog proprietors. An acquaintance of ours once remarked that every poor man has one or two dogs, and every very poor man has three or four, apparently carrying out the suggestion of the far-famed Josh Billings that all the profit there was in keeping two dogs was what could be saved on the second dog's board.

"Now, Mr. Editor, it appears to us that that the repeal of the dog tax, as the abolitionists would have it, will be to encourage the propagation of the canine race, and thereby endanger the safety of our sheep. And when we take into consideration the prospect of more hydrophobia and the destruction of human life thereby, we think our legislators ought to pause before making a total abolition of the law. Surely one man's life is worth how many dogs! Let any sane man answer this question. Yet we frequently hear of deaths from this source—hydrophobia."

KEEPING STOCK IN A SOCIETY.

DIGBY, Dec. 24, 1868.

Will you please, in some future number of the *Journal of Agriculture*, give your opinion as to the best way of keeping stock in a Society so as to make it the most profitable to the Society and useful to its members?

A few remarks from you on this subject might be beneficial to us, and perhaps to other Societies working under the Central Board.

JAMES M. AYMAR,
Sec'y Digby Co. Agri. Soc'y.

[The experience of our correspondent is no doubt that of the Secretaries of most Societies, that in keeping stock in a Society it is impossible to secure the best results, and, at the same time, please everybody. Various plans are adopted in different districts, and the details of these may be gleaned by a careful reading of the reports of the various Agricultural Societies in the present, past, and future numbers of this journal. In regard to Bulls, some Societies have found it to be the most profitable plan to rent out the animal for the season to a member, and let him make what he can, the fees charged from fellow members being limited to a certain figure. Where Societies do not charge their members any fee, it will be necessary to pay for the keep of the animal out of the Society's funds, as well as for necessary attendance. The best plan of all, in most places, is to sell the animal to a member, under the restriction that it is not to go out of the district for a certain number of years. Whatever method be adopted, one vital point is to see that the animal goes into the hands of some one who will take a pride in feeding him and keeping him in good healthy condition, and in comfortable quarters. In regard to Rams, there is practically much greater difficulty, and many valuable animals are lost every season by handing them about from one farmer to another. We think that, as a rule, Rams should not be kept by a Society, but at once sold to members, to be kept in the district. Rams sold in a Society in this way, the members may exchange, the one with the other, after having had use of them for a year or two. Every Society should adopt a plan suited to its peculiar circumstances, and which will give satisfaction to as large a number of members as possible. As for a "way of keeping stock in a Society" without any jarring or dissatisfaction, we have never heard of such a way, and think it useless to expect one until the human stock is considerably improved beyond its present condition.—ED. J. A.]

THE NEW POTATO DISEASE.

As if the "old fashioned potato rot" were not enough for our farmers, a new Potato Disease has arisen. It has spread over the length and breadth of the American Union, north, south, east, and west, and has at last we hear planted its foot on Nova Scotian soil. It is said, indeed, that the Board of Agriculture imported it three years ago from Utica. It is called the POTATO FEVER. Its great peculiarity is that it attacks not the tuber

itself, but the man who grows it. Like other fevers, it quickens his pulse and fills his mind with exciting dreams. But the Potato fever, like the Hen fever, can do nothing but good to the public, for it will serve to bring men's minds and strong arms to bear upon a branch of agriculture worthy of the greatest effort of every farmer. It may be that exorbitant prices will be paid for new sorts of potatoes, and that some of these will turn out to be perfectly worthless, but even then one could buy a dozen of kinds, and of one of them that is a decided improvement, the increased yield or improved quality of that one may amply repay even a very high price.

Of the new sorts brought out by the present eruptive fever, the Early Rose Potato is by far the most conspicuous. It appears to be the very best potato that has ever been produced, and we know that it will have a fair trial in the hands of competent cultivators in Nova Scotia during the ensuing season. One advertiser thus speaks of it:—

"Among the many thousands of our patrons to whom we furnished this valuable Potato last spring, we have yet to hear from the first one that is not fully satisfied with his purchase. The only regret expressed is that they had not procured more. We are daily in receipt of the most flattering testimonials, not only of its earliness and good quality, but of its astonishing productiveness, some of which seem almost fabulous. Several reports of having grown a barrel from a single pound; a yield of one hundred fold is an every day occurrence. The following well-known gentlemen have given it their unqualified approval, and endorse it as the best, most productive, and earliest variety in cultivation: Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, Charles Downing, Esq., Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, Fearing Burr, Esq., Dr. J. G. Holland, (Timothy Titecomb) and many other prominent agriculturists, horticulturists, and market gardeners. The early rose sells at \$50 per barrel.

Another sort is BREESE'S PROLIFIC (or No. 2.)

"This remarkable variety originated with Albert Breeze, Esq., of Hubbardston, Vermont, who was also the originator of the justly celebrated *Early Rose*, both varieties being from the same seed-ball of the Garnet Chili.

"The vines of Breeze's Prolific are of medium height, quite bushy, somewhat spreading large leaves, have produced no seed-balls. Tubers large, regular in shape, and very smooth, slightly oblong, somewhat flattened. Skin, dull white, inclined to be russeted; eyes but little depressed and slightly pinkish; flesh white; cooks quickly, is very mealy, and of excellent quality, yield very large, often exceeding one hundred fold, matures about three weeks later than the Early Rose, and will prove a most valuable variety for field culture. A Silver medal was awarded to this variety at the annual exhibition of the Mass. Hor. Society last September.

TO PURIFY LARD FROM SALT, which it often contains, and which is sometimes added to increase its weight, it is only necessary to melt it with two or three times its weight of boiling water, and when still in a liquid state, agitate it well and set it aside to cool. When lard is wanted for ointments or pomades, it is always desirable to free it from all traces of salt,