

Prince Edward Island.

The farther north wheat is grown, within the wheat-growing latitude, so much the better is the grain; so it is that for each cereal, root or other product of the soil there is soil or climate more suitable than others. The potato can be grown in a greater variety of soil and under more diverse circumstances of climate than many other products, and in all produce large crops; but the potatoes of one province differ much from those of other provinces in quality, and for producing potatoes of the very best quality our Maritime Provinces are well known. We have no doubt this is in part owing to their maritime position. The air and vapor from the salt sea add no little to their flavor. The exportations from these provinces are great; take an example: A correspondent writes to the *Patriot*, P. E. I., from Montague:—

As I was passing through Montague to-day and observing the life and activity in the shipping department, the idea struck me that I ought to send you a synopsis of the business in that line this season, and I forthwith repaired to the Custom Department, and obtained from the obliging officer, Manoah Rowe, Esq., the following:—

Since the 1st of October fifty-three vessels cleared from this port, forty-nine of which were loaded with farm produce, consisting of about 57,000 bushels of potatoes, 24,000 bushels of turnips and 6,500 bushels of oats, purchased for \$17,500. The prices are 22, 20 and 40 cents respectively. The vessels that arrived here this season, up to the present, were generally small, loading chiefly for the Newfoundland and Nova Scotia ports.

The oat trade for Britain has not yet reached its culminating point. The farmers are waiting for higher prices.

At present there are ten vessels loading here, notable among which are the brigantines Wakeford and Shamrock. The Wakeford is owned by John LeBrocq, Esq., Georgetown, and chartered by A. C. McDonald & Bros., to load with oats for the home market. She will carry about twenty thousand bushels. Owen Connolly, Esq., owns the Shamrock, and is loading her with oats and potatoes for England. She will require about 8,000 bushels of the former and 4,000 of the latter. The Wakeford lies by the bridge, a circumstance which causes considerable inconvenience to the public as well as to the shippers, and shows clearly that the shipping accommodations are not adequate to the requirements of the place.

The farmers of P. E. I. are rejoicing over the largest crops ever raised and safely housed by them. All the crops are good, but the yield of wheat and oats is much above the average. Potatoes are, as usual, very fine in quality, and as to quantity there is no room for complaint. As late as the 1st of November D. Stewart finished loading the Mariner with oats, potatoes and turnips for exportation, oats being 40 cents per bushel, potatoes 22 cents and turnips 18 cents.

British Columbia.

DYKING THE FRASER—A PRACTICAL SCHEME AT LAST.—For the past six weeks a gentleman named D. L. Derby, a civil engineer from Napance, Ont., has been engaged in examining and surveying lands subject to overflow in the Sumas and Chilliwack sections of Fraser Valley, with the object of reclaiming and settling upon them a colony of Canadians from Ontario. Mr. Derby is of opinion that 10,000 acres now submerged may be reclaimed, and another 20,000 acres protected from overflow by backwater, at a comparatively small expense. He has laid his plan before the Local Government, and his views have been met in every particular. Hon. Mr. Vernon accompanies Mr. Derby to New Westminster, where they will be met by Hon. E. Brown, and the three gentlemen will proceed to Sumas to inspect the ground proposed to be dyked. We learn from Mr. Derby, who has lately completed extensive dyking enterprises in California, and has a high opinion of the richness of Fraser Valley, that a colony of ninety-six persons, who will bring with them at least \$100,000, are prepared to settle on the reclaimed lands, which it is proposed to have drained and ready for settlement next year. The precise nature of the terms arranged with the Government has not transpired, but it is understood that no aid in the form of money is asked. It is pleasant to know from all sides that so much attention is being drawn to the agricultural lands of the Province, and that through the encouragement given by the present

progressive Government there is every prospect that in the course of a very few years British Columbia, from being a large importer of wheat, will become a large exporter.—*Victoria Colonist*.

Manitoba.

The settlers in Manitoba are not content with growing cereals and roots of such superior quality. We learn from the *Manitoba Free Press* that they are experimenting in the growth of sugar cane:

We have been shown samples of Early Amber sugar cane raised in this Province by Mr. Chantler, of Westbourne. The seed was procured from Minnesota, where its growth has been successfully tested, through Mr. Keith, by whom about thirty persons here were supplied. Very unfortunately the heavy rains in the early part of the season drowned out nearly all that was planted, there being only two or three exceptions. The cane shown by Mr. Chantler is not of very large growth, but this is stated to be owing to the seed not having been sown till very late—10th June—while it should have been put in in April. The syrup made from the cane elsewhere is spoken of in high terms; but that shown us has not evidently been produced by the proper process, with which, by the way, Mr. Chantler states he is unacquainted.

Nova Scotia.

In a few days the Cole Harbor Dyke project will assume a definite shape, and if the calculations of the engineer are successful, some 5,000 acres of splendid land, rich in phosphates, will be reclaimed from the domain of old Neptune. An immense crib some two hundred feet long has been constructed, which, when launched, will effectually close out the sea. Gates, sluices, &c., have all been constructed on the crib, so that when it is sunk in its place it will operate at once. Representatives of the company, accompanied by an eminent engineer, have just inspected the works, and pronounce them satisfactory. We understand it is the intention of the proprietors to place the whole tract under cultivation, with a view of cutting it up into farms at no distant date. If this first operation is successful, similar projects will be commenced on other salt water flats and marshes to the eastward of Halifax, so that in a few years the Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia may have some dyke lands fully equal to the Grand Pre.

Correspondence—Continued.

Fruit for Name.

SIR,—I hope you will oblige me by finding out the names of the two apples I now send. I had them exhibited at the Northern Exhibition, but the judges could not decide whether the yellow one was the Holland Pippin or Fall Pippin. There were only two entries of Holland Pippins, and being on the stand away from the Fall Pippins, they were overlooked, which threw me out of a prize. It was not the amount of the prize I cared for, but the name of the apple; have had it now 17 years as the Holland Pippin. I notified the judges of the oversight, but they held that it was a Fall Pippin, because they had awarded prizes to Leslie & Son for Fall Pippins.

The green apple, which I call the Green Alexander, I got from Goderich 15 years ago. The judges say there is no Green Alexander. Well, then, if there is no Green Alexander, why is there the Red Alexander, which I see in some catalogues? The "Red" is the distinguishing word.

I think it is unfair to allow nursery men of long experience to compete with farmers in this northern country, where we are only beginning to raise fruit. Please give the information in the next number of your paper.

M. B. COUCH, Walkerton.

In reference to the two apples handed me, with a communication from Mr. M. B. Couch, Walkerton, I should certainly say the yellow apple was the Holland Pippin; it has all the characteristics of that variety, the very hollow crown which this specimen possesses being a decided feature of the Holland Pippin. The apple may have been a little too well matured for the Holland Pippin, and consequently resembling the Fall Pippin somewhat on that account, but that may have been caused by its early picking for exhibition purposes. I have never heard of but one Alexander, and that I have never seen designated as Red Alexander; leaving out the want of color and size, I should have said at once the other specimen was an Alexander grown in the shade.

Your correspondent's hints about farmers competing in exhibitions of fruits with professional nurserymen I think are worthy of note, and should be considered by those who have the management of local exhibitions. At the exhibits of the Provincial Association, professional nurserymen are in a class by themselves, and are excluded from competing with any one else. In England, at the smaller exhibitions, the competitors are divided into nurserymen, amateurs, gentlemen's gardeners and cottagers. How far this system could be carried out here is a question open for discussion. It does not take a very great stretch of the mind to imagine what an exhibition, say in Walkerton, for instance, would come to if the prizes for fruit are all to be carried off by professional men, with every convenience at hand and every inducement to make as good a display as possible. The local stimulus which these displays are disposed to give to fruit growing would be entirely done away with in a very short time. The very fact of a farmer having taken the trouble to exhibit fruit and communicate his ideas relative to the method of awarding the prizes to you, shows, however, that there is the right class of men in that northern locality to look after their own interests, either at exhibitions of fruit or elsewhere.

Agriculture and Arts Association.

When going to press we received the following from the Secretary of the A. & A. Association, of Ontario:—

SIR,—I beg to call your attention to the "Agricultural and Arts Act," 40 Vic., Chap. 27, Sections 20 and 21, in accordance with which, the retiring members of the Council of the Agricultural and Arts Association, for the thirteen Agricultural Divisions of Ontario are elected.

The members of the Council who retire from office at the end of the current year, and the Divisions they represent are the following, viz:—

- No. 9. Elgin, Brant, Oxford and Norfolk—HON. D. CHRISTIE, Paris.
- No. 10. Huron, Bruce and Grey—ROBERT GIBBONS, Goderich.
- No. 11. Perth, Middlesex and City of London—L. E. SHIPLEY, Greystead.
- No. 12. Essex, Kent and Lambton—STEPHEN WHITE, Charing Cross.
- No. 13. Algoma, Simcoe, Muskoka and Parry Sound—NEW MEMBER.

The Electoral District Societies in each of the above Divisions will have, at their annual meetings on the third Wednesday in January, 1878, to elect a delegate to represent such Society at a meeting to be subsequently held, of all the delegates of the above Divisions; and it will be the duty of the delegates of such meeting to elect the Member of Council for such Division.

You will, therefore, see that under the amended statute, the retiring members of the Council are not now, as hitherto, elected directly by such Electoral Division Society, but indirectly through the delegates whom they appoint.

You will be careful to inform officially the Hon. Commissioner of Agriculture of the name and post office address of the person whom your Society may elect as its delegate, within six days after the election.

JOHN R. CRAIG, Secretary.

SUBSCRIBER, EAST LAMINGTON.—We have received no correspondence in reply to your questions in last issue. The Secretary of the Association kindly sent us the Act marked, showing the number of officers to be elected, and how the others are appointed. See clause 10 and clause 22 in Agricultural and Arts Association Act of 1877. Perhaps the Secretary would forward Act on application.

SIR,—You would oblige if you would give the following information in your next issue:—

1st. What has been done with the money that Col. R. L. Denison has paid into the hands of the Provincial Agricultural and Art Association?

2nd. How much money has been gained or lost by the Association when the Provincial was last held at the following places, namely:—at Kingston, Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton and London?

READER, Dorchester.

[We enquired of the Secretary, and he informed us that the report will be out in a few days, from which we can gather the last year's statistics; but some of the questions would require time to ascertain. Mr. L. E. Shipley, the President, informs us the money has been placed with the funds of the Association, and that Mr. Graham, the Treasurer, would furnish the other informa-