

Published under direction of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia.

VOL. II.

HALIFAX, N. S., AUGUST, 1873. .

No. 92.

Halifax, 21st August, 1873.

Our readers will have observed, from an official notice published in the newspapers, that it has been definitely arranged to hold a Provincial Agricultural Exhibition in October, 1874. The Exhibition is to be held at Halifax, and is to be strictly of an agricultural character, the prizes being limited to Herses, Cattle and other live stock, Poultry, Farm Products, Fruits, Vegetables and Agricultural Appliances. The amount of Government Grant is not to exceed four thousand dollars. The Rules, Regulations and Prize List are to be drawn up by the Central Board of Agriculture, and submitted to the Government for approval. Some time must necessarily elapse before the Prize List can be printed and circulated. In order that the work may be proceeded with, the Board will probably be called together at as early a day as possible in October, the month named in the Act for the regular half yearly meeting. And we hope that the whole of the preparation arrangements, including Regulations, Prize List, Programme, &c., will be completed and circulated in a printed form before the Societies hold their Annual Meetings in December.

In the meantime we trust that no time will be lost by our farmers in preparing for their friendly contest with each other. A Prize List in hand is certainly a stimulus to exertion; but the farmer used not wait for it before going into training, or rather putting into training his land and his cattle. The man who begins now will have a great advantage over his neighbour who is waiting to see whether it will be worth while, after all, to go to the trouble of winning prizes.

As the present Board of Agriculture is a very full one, almost every County in the Province being represented, there is reason to hope that a Prize List may be prepared satisfactory to the farmers of all parts of the Province.

Last month we gave a very full report of the condition and prospects of field crops throughout the various counties of the Province. That report was, with some exceptions, of a highly favourable and encouraging character. Since then we have later information, showing that the Hay crop has been generally secured in good condition. Potatoes, which were more extensively planted this season than for many previous years, remain quite sound, and prove of excellent quality. Where planted early, so that the potatoes were pretty well matured before the min came on, the crop will be light; but late planted fields are still growing, and promise a large yield. Turnips look remarkably well. We hear that grain is, in light soils, ripening too rapidly to make a good, plump sample and heavy yield. A Windsor correspondent reports that the appearance of crops in his locality favourable reports from other localities, which, he thinks, may, in some cases, be premature. All we can say is, that there was remarkable unanimity in the numerous reports received from independent and thoroughly competent observers in all parts of the Province, and that our own personal observations serve to confirm their accuracy.

We have selected, from the July report of the Agricultural Department at Washington, such information respecting crops throughout the American Union as is likely to interest our readers. A comparison of these reports with those relating to our own Province in last number, is very instructive, and serves to show that all the sunshine is not confined to the American side of the boundary line.

We desire to call the attention of our readers to a new Machine. True's Potato Planter, which does the "entire business" (as it is expressed) of Cutting and Planting at one operation. It makes the furrow, cuts the potatoes, drops and covers them: and, in addition will drop a fertilizer with the seed. A few have already been sold in Nova Scotia. Mr. T. F. Proctor, of Newport, N. S., is Agent for this Province, and is now visiting the Counties of Kings and Annapolis, seeking orders. The following is from the Maine Farmer:—

does not bear out or correspond with the cutting and planting potatoes, ever brought