

special treatment on soils naturally adapted to root culture, produce a biennial of practical importance to the cultivator for its feeding and keeping qualities. On certain soils they are rampant growers and yield enormous crops; such gratifying results are frequently followed by complaints that mangles scour and don't keep well. When complaints of the kind occur it is an indication of unripe roots. The cause of this immaturity, in many cases, is owing to an excess of barn-yard manure, which induces a luxuriant and watery growth, rendering the root far less nutritious than less vigorous plants. If a farmer desires to raise water he had much better raise it from his well, however deep the fountain, than bother with mangles. At the Liverpool Exhibition, of 1880, one of the prize mangles weighed 23 pounds. They are great in the root and cabbage line those Atlantic Counties.

That mangle was stored in a dry place from October until the following April. It was shown to me as a curiosity. I considered it as such, and weighed it on a nicely adjusted balance, it tipped the beam at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pounds. That nitrogenous monster was the admiration and delight of all beholders—but what, it may be asked, is the use of such productions in profitable Agriculture.

If a farmer desires to grow a few acres of fodder corn it is not imperative on him to curtail or abandon any special crop of the farm. A piece of spare ground can be prepared at intervals of time; the planting done from the middle to the end of June, and, as the plant is not required to perfect its seed, the fertility of the soil is only partially taxed. With roots it is the opposite. Turnips and mangles draw heavily on the nitrogenous constituents in the land, both latent and applied, mangles especially. But, says one, "I advocate raising roots—mangles are my favourite—they give large returns; the labour expended on them clears the land and prepares it for the ensuing crops. Otherwise if the land is laid down half plowed, half harrowed, will you expect good crops." This compulsory method of preparing ground for a future crop may be all very nice, but the special effect of the expensive and round about practice is not always attained. There is no necessity to lay down land half plowed, half harrowed, or even half manured.

It is not considered intelligent farming by any means to do so. A crop of clover or of corn will do the work in less time and with far less labour, the latter especially. A bushel of corn to an acre broad-casted, and harrowed in, with an application of one half the manure that would be given to the roots, would smother, under its dense foliage, everything, plant or animal—from a mustard seed to a mouse—from couch-grass to

that terror of terrors the Canada thistle. Ninety days had barely passed since F. C. Johnson planted the kernels of corn from which have sprung the enormous growth (32 tons per acre) of plant life; a broad expanse of green foliage rising, dipping with the breeze, in the field contiguous to the silo. On the 14th day of September last, I stood by the entrance part of that silo, and viewed this growth of stalks, leaves, and flowers, passing with lightning speed under the flashing knives of a cutter that required the active power of three men to supply the feed board with the corn that was being showered into the pit—at the rate of 4 tons an hour. From whence came this growth of Maize that has so suddenly sprung into being, and what forces of nature have been employed to produce this immense product of vegetable matter, say you who can. W. H.

#### EXTRACTS FROM ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, FOR YEAR 1882.

*Presented to House of Assembly, 12th  
March, 1883.*

(Continued from page 316.)

#### THE SEASON'S CROPS, 1882.

The Agricultural Societies throughout the Province, have as usual, in their Annual Reports, furnished information, more or less complete, respecting the quality and quantity of yield of the more important Field Crops during the past season, in their respective localities. It is very desirable that some system should be adopted, whereby more complete and systematic returns might be obtained and promptly published, inasmuch as such information, when timely given, is of great practical use, not only to Agriculturists, but especially to the mercantile community. In the meantime a classified synopsis is given of the information obtained relating to the Field, Garden and Orchard crops of the Province for the past year. [This will be given in next number, if we can find room for it.]

#### DISTRICT EXHIBITIONS, 1882.

An Act having been passed by the Legislature, 14 April, 1881, providing for Provincial and District Exhibitions, to be held every alternate year, and doubt having arisen as to whether a Provincial or District Exhibition should be held in the year 1882, the Board, at their meeting on 2nd February, passed the following resolutions:—

"Whereas, an application is now before the Board from the Agricultural Society of Onslow for a grant to a Provincial Exhibition, and, having heard the explanation of Mr. Blair on behalf of said application,

"And Whereas, An amendment has passed the Legislature, in the session of 1881, providing that Provincial Exhibitions shall only be held every alternate year;

"And Whereas, Subsequent to the passing of said Act, a Provincial Exhibition has been held in the City of Halifax in connection with the Dominion Exhibition;

"Resolved, That the Board is of opinion that, under the Amendment to the Agricultural Act passed last session, District Exhibitions should be held during the next autumn, and that this Board, at this meeting, determine on such rules and regulations as will assist in carrying out such exhibitions."

"Further, Whereas, Under chapter 8 of the Acts of 1881, relating to the holding of district exhibitions, it is the duty of the Board to make rules, regulations, &c., for the holding of district exhibitions;

"And Whereas, This Board has decided that such district exhibitions shall be held during the year 1882;

"Resolved, That the several Agricultural Societies throughout the Province be notified, through the Secretary of the Board, that they are required, at the earliest possible opportunity, to determine (by vote of their officers or of a regularly called special meeting) upon a suitable locality for the holding of a district exhibition for the year 1882, within the respective agricultural districts, in accordance with chapter 8 of the Acts of 1881.

"That the result of such vote shall be communicated to the Secretary of the Board not later than the first day of March next, in order to enable the Board, at its next meeting, to ratify the recommendations of societies, providing, however, that the same be satisfactory to the Board.

"That so soon as such recommendations shall receive the sanction of the Board, any society, municipal corporation, or any other body, undertaking to carry out such district exhibition, shall submit to this Board a prize list for approval, and shall be subject to such other rules, regulations and instructions as the Board shall hereafter order."

Arrangements were accordingly made for District Exhibitions, and the Legislative Grant of \$4,000 for that purpose was appropriated by the Board as follows, in terms of the Act:—

District No. 1.—Halifax and Lunenburg, two counties. Exhibition at Lunenburg.....	\$ 444 44
District No. 2.—Section 1, Annapolis and Kings, 2 counties. Exhibition at Annapolis.....	444 44
District No. 2.—Section 2, Queen's Co. Exhibition at Liverpool.....	222 22