

The Society then elected James Clark Representative, to represent them at the meeting of Representatives of the different Societies in the County, to elect one to be a member of the Central Board.

Enclosed find copy of the Treas. acct. Balance in hand, \$6.29½.

W. A. PATTERSON, Sec'y.

#### MAHONE BAY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The following was accidentally omitted in printing the report of the Mahone Bay Agricultural Society last month:—

The following motion was passed at our annual meeting: Moved by L. Knaut, Esq., seconded by Mr. William Strum, that Benjamin Zwicker, Esq., be a Representative to represent our Society at the Central Board of Agriculture. The motion was put to the meeting and passed unanimously.

H. SCHNARE, Sec'y.

#### GAIRLOCH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

GAIRLOCH, PICTOU, Dec. 27, 1871.

I overlooked to forward you the names of the office-bearers of the Gairloch Agricultural Society for years 1871-72. The meeting was held at Mill Brook in the School Room, on the 5th Dec., and the following persons were elected:—*Pres.*, John Gordon; *Vice-Pres.*, Kenneth Ross; *Treas.*, Wm. McDonald; *Asst. Treas.*, John R. McDonald; *Sec'y.*, Revd. Neil Brodie; *Directors*, John McKay, Neil Sutherland, Donald McPherson, Robert G. McLeod, Wm. McLeod.

The Vice-President to represent the Society at the meeting of the representatives to elect a member of the Central Board, in accordance with the amended Act relating to agriculture.

The Society resolved to import British clover seed, and also American.

The election has been returned to me as done, and Mr. Matheson, Pictou, appointed for this County.

N. BRODIE, Sec'y.

#### HALIFAX COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The following is the List of Members of the County Society, as made up at the Annual Meeting, December, 1871. Any requisite corrections or additions will be made by the Treasurer, W. C. Silver, Esq., if parties will furnish him with the necessary information:—Dr. Lewis, H. P. Black, J. Duffus, G. Troop, J. M. Geldert, J. A. Grant, A. Saunders, Hon. W. A. Henry, H. Yeomans, W. J. Veith, W. C. Silver, Prof. Lawson, C. W. Anderson, Joseph J. Northup, Ed. Smith, R.

A. Brohm, T. Woodill, C. D. Hunter, H. G. Laurillard, W. Humphray, W. Anderson, G. Crosskill, J. B. Smithers, G. Blacklock, W. Kandick, Robt. Taylor, Robt. Urquhart, Dr. Avery, D. Sullivan, C. Blackadar, James Hunter, Alex. McLeod, P. Moughan, D. H. Starr, W. L. Black, W. J. Stairs, Alpin Grant, C. M. Almon, E. J. Lordly, W. A. McLeod, J. McCulloch, J. T. Wickwire, H. L. Yeomans, H. Curry, G. H. Madill, W. Wardrop, S. Keys, B. Bond, W. Phillips, J. J. Blackburn, James Wardrop, G. L. Colton, Jos. Gilbert, John Wardrop, G. Ross, D. McDonald, T. Keys, A. E. Kenty, Jas. McDonald, Jas. Simpson, R. K. Phillips, Isaac Logan, G. Keys, P. McDonald, Wm. McDowling, R. Logan, J. McKay, D. McKeen, W. McKeen, William Lambels, A. Young, A. Woodworth, D. McDonald, Samuel Ross, J. Ross, D. Fudge, A. McDonald, B. Green, Dr. McLean, J. Carr, W. Annand, J. Hunter, T. Logan, James McIlroy, T. Carroll, Isaac Isnor, J. Starr, A. G. Jones, Robt. Morrow, John Doull, Alex. Forsyth, T. E. Kenny, J. F. Kenny, J. Stairs, W. S. Woodill, John Duffus, W. Richardson, A. K. McKinlay, J. Parker, jr., Charles Hamilton, Jas. Hutton, Col. Laurie, W. Stevens, Four Mile House, W. Stevens, jr., Bedford Station, Parker Ross, E. W. Chipman, Allison Smith, A. Bligh, Geo. Esson, J. H. Anderson, W. C. Anderson, W. Esson.

#### Miscellaneous.

##### PROPAGATION OF PLANTS BY SEEDS.

*Extract from "Practical Floriculture."*

The propagation of plants, of all kinds, by seeds, is a matter in which instructions can be given only to a certain extent. Long experience alone can furnish the necessary knowledge for the full understanding of the proper temperature and humidity essential for the successful germination of the different varieties. It may be laid down as a safe rule, however, that for the hardier varieties, a low or medium temperature is required, say from 45° to 60°, and for the tender species, a temperature from 75° to 90°.

If Pansy seed be sown in July or August, where the temperature in the shade averages 80°, no matter how moist the soil is kept, if germination takes place at all it will be of so feeble a kind that the seedlings will not continue a healthy existence; but if the same seed were sown in September or October, with an average temperature of say 60° in the shade, a quick and healthy germination would be the result. The same rule applies to Cinerarias, Calceolarias, Auriculas, Primulas, and all other plants of this half-hardy nature. English, Scotch, and

Irish gardeners, before they have had time for experience in this country, are apt to fall into the common error of sowing all these seeds too soon. Though it is proper to sow these seeds in July and August in England, with us in this section, it must be delayed to September or October, and in warm latitudes still later, or failure is almost certain to follow. On the other hand, if we attempt to germinate Portulacaeae, Balsams, Amaranths, Zinnias, or other plants of tropical origin, in the medium temperature of 60°, they will either remain dormant until a higher temperature occurs, or perish. Ignorance of, or inattention to, these conditions, is far oftener the cause of failure than want of vitality in seeds.

Whether seeds are sown in the open border, in the window garden of the parlor, in the hot-bed, or green-house, the same conditions should be followed, as far as practicable. In the open border there is not always a choice of soil, but if soil is to be prepared, let it be of a light nature; leaf mould from the woods, and well-pulverized muck from the swamps are excellent to sift on as a covering; or, where it is obtainable, the mould formed by decayed refuse hops is of great value as a covering for seeds. We have employed this exclusively as a covering for seeds of all kinds for many years, with results which have been vastly superior to those we had when we did not use it.

It must be borne in mind that, at first, seeds do not so much need a fertile soil as they do one having the necessary mechanical condition; this is found exactly in the light, moisture-retaining nature of hop-mould. We can give no better rule than the old one of covering seeds to about their own depth with mould, although something depends on the weight of the material with which they are covered. One-fourth of an inch in depth of hop-mould or leaf-mould would be no more than equivalent to half that depth of ordinary loam; hence the advantage in using it, as it gives the seed a moist, springy covering, through which the tiny germ can freely push.

We know it is a practice very common with amateurs, and many gardeners, when starting seeds in hot-bed or green-house, to use flower-pots in their operations; they are generally two-thirds filled with potsherds, overlaying which is an inch or two of soil, and on this the seed is sown. Any continuation of dry weather necessitates almost daily watering of the flower-pots; this bakes or hardens the surface, while a day's inattention to them dries the soil, while it is in this condition, so as to injure the vitality of the seeds; hence very unsatisfactory results follow this practice too often.

For many years we have entirely discarded the use of earthen flower-pots or