

covered space will be the Drill Shed, which, with certain alterations and improvements to be carried out at the expense of the Exhibition Commissioners, will afford a well lighted hall, measuring 200 feet in length by 60 feet in breadth. Every effort will be made to suit the convenience of intending exhibitors. At the same time it is hoped that those who have exceptional articles to exhibit, requiring special arrangements, will put themselves into communication with the officials without delay.

Copies of the Prize List, containing full details of the arrangements for the Exhibition, may be obtained on application to Prof. Lawson, General Secretary; or to B. G. Gray, Assistant Secretary, Bedford Row, Halifax.

OFFICIAL NOTICE TO INTENDING EXHIBITORS

Intending Exhibitors are requested to intimate to the Secretary of the Provincial Exhibition as early as possible, the nature and extent of their exhibits, in order that the necessary accommodation may be provided. Special attention is called to the following Regulations; but as the dates named for receiving entries of exhibits have been extended as far as practicable to afford every convenience to Exhibitors, it is hoped that all those who are in a position to do so, will afford the necessary information to the Committee long before the days specified:—

1. Every intending competitor must transmit to the Secretary, not later than the dates mentioned below, an entry certificate, containing a correct list of the animals or articles which he intends to exhibit, together with certificates of pedigree in the case of thorough-bred stock. Any competitor failing to transmit his entry certificate at the proper time will be excluded from competition.

2. Horses, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, must be entered on or before Saturday, 5th Sept., one month preceding the show.

3. Grain, field products, manufactures of all kinds, natural history specimens, minerals, fish and furs, fine arts articles, naval architecture, building materials, carriages, and articles not elsewhere enumerated, may be entered up to Saturday, 26th September, one clear week preceding the show.

4. Exhibitors of heavy machinery and bulky articles, requiring extensive or unusual accommodation, should communi-

cate with the Secretary during the first week in September, in order that there may be time for the committee to make the requisite arrangements.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1868.

The General Committee of the Industrial Exhibition have appointed the following Executive Committee, to carry out the necessary arrangements. The Executive Committee will meet as frequently as necessary, and report to the General Committee from time to time:—

Hon. The Chief Justice,
 " " Provincial Sec'y,
 " " Chief Com. of Mines,
 William Cunard, Esq.,
 A. M. Uniacke, "
 J. J. Northup, "
 W. Montgomery, "
 W. S. Symonds, "
 John Starr, "
 P. C. Hill, "
 John Doull, "

At a meeting of the Executive Committee on Tuesday a letter was read from the Provincial Secretary, stating that the Government proposed to vote \$3000 towards the Exhibition.

THE POTATO DISEASE.

BY W. BUSTIN.

[We can only make room this month for a portion of Mr. Bustin's pamphlet on Potato Disease, but will continue the subject in next number. After detailing Mr. Bustin's views, a few editorial remarks will be offered.]

A rather general impression prevailing in some quarters, based upon pretty numerous and extensive correspondence in several agricultural papers, of the re-appearance this season of a visitation similar to the extraordinary and mysterious potato disease of former years, it may not be amiss, nay, it is very desirable, not to lose sight of the subject even in those districts where it has not yet appeared. If any precautionary measures, if any remedial methods are available, it is unquestionably wiser to look out for them before its appearance in a district, than to have them suggested afterwards.

The great difficulty attending any proposal for the remedy of the disease, lies in the difficulty of being able to say exactly in what way it was produced. It is well known to those who are familiar with the subject, how many and varied have been the guesses and surmises in respect to the origin of the disease. By some it has been looked for in the tuber, by some attributed to hereditary taint,

and by others to over cultivation. Another section view the devastation as the work of an insect, *aphis vastator*; but its ravages, whatever they were, undoubtedly commenced after the disease had appeared; while others looked upon it as connected with chemistry,—some defect in the "organic chemistry" of the plant; and not a few, as the result of atmospheric influences, either by currents of vitiated air, or some unknown substance carried by the winds of heaven.

For our part, we hold, with some others, that electrical influence, a peculiar electrical state of the air or earth, is quite sufficient to account for ravages upon the vegetation of the potato crops. Electricity is a universally diffused agent, potent in its influences; an agent little within our control, and of whose effects little is generally known, except by its rude yet beneficial effects in the thunder-storm, and through the apparatus of the philosopher. The experiments, however, of learned men, have elicited many useful and valuable facts. Some of these facts are closely connected with what is known of the nature of vegetation, and which leave few doubts that electricity performs a wonderful part in its economy, and not improbably through the medium of the atmosphere; for Cavallo, who made a number of valuable experiments, confirmed and extended by Crosse, found that the atmosphere, in its ordinary state, is at all times charged with positive electricity, and that it is by no means less in the night than in the day.

In the instance of the potato disease, it would seem to be an excess or irregularity of electrical influence on the plant, which produces the disease. In a paper by the present writer, on electro-culture, originally intended for the Highland and Agricultural Society, a rapid sketch was drawn of the facts ascertained by illustrious men in electricity, during the last one hundred years, and bearing on vegetation. Some of those facts and inferences are highly interesting, since they are not unconnected with the potato disease, and must, therefore, be important to all agriculturists on its re-appearance this summer, or at any subsequent period. A recapitulation of the principal facts and inferences therein stated, may perhaps furnish some practical hints for the preservation of this year's crop, so far as any means of preservation can be made available over so wide a surface of ground as this description of crop covers.

Not to attempt, however, to save so valuable a crop, by previous protective measures, when likely to be attacked, is a matter of grave responsibility. It not only involves serious loss to the farmer himself, but the loss when general becomes an injury to every member of the community, affecting even the national resources; and greatly aggravating, if not