

been secured for the wants of the system. This is the only safe and sufficient rule; and as to the question how much anyone requires, each must be a rule to himself—great Nature will never fail to write it out to the observer under the regulations just given.—*Dr. Spicer.*

DIFFICULTY OF DISTINGUISHING A PLANT FROM AN ANIMAL.—The more naturalists know of the plants and animals of the globe, the more difficult have they found it to distinguish one from the other. Among the little organisms which are invisible to the naked eye, there are large numbers about the character of which there has long been a fierce dispute, they being claimed by the botanists as plants and by the zoologists as animals. Many of the plants in certain stages of their growth, swim about in the water and look and act so nearly like animals that they would probably have always been classed as such had they not been observed to branch out and grow up into perfect plants. There is no doubt a character by which the animal or vegetable nature of an organism can be tested; but the best guide in the doubtful cases is furnished by the mode in which the nourishment is taken. Animals are nourished by organic matter, which they take in some way into the interior of their bodies; while vegetables have the power of absorbing their food from inorganic elements in the exterior.

THE POTATO DISEASE.—A correspondent of the *Mark Lane Express* residing in the County of Down, observes:—"The more we look into the potato disease, the more we are inclined to attribute it to drying and greening of the seed in autumn, by placing the tubers in a dry place exposed to sun and wind for several weeks, one tuber thick, and turning them at least once, taking care to cover them in the evening should it threaten frost. After a few days exposure, it takes a considerable degree of frost to injure them. When sufficiently hardened, they ought to be covered up as usual with earth and straw, but the bin-ridges not above six feet wide and a foot in height, so that there will be no disposition to heat in the mass. This greening and greening greatly increases the vitality of the tubers, preserving the seed from the dry rot and the future plant from the blight. The tubers and leaves of the future plant are hence of a firmer texture, and healthy. Here the potato blight and the rot in sheep are completely similar, and the cause of moisture in the food, atmosphere, &c., is common to both diseases; the induced disease in sheep also takes a vital character is organic or contagious, and both, we believe, are promoted by the development of electricity.—June 21.

INFLUENCE OF EXTREME COLD UPON SEEDS.—Experiments have been made this year, by Professor Elie Wartmann, of Geneva, Switzerland, upon the influence of extreme cold upon the vitality of plants. Nine varieties of seed, some of which were tropical, were selected. They were placed in hermetically sealed tubes, and submitted to a

cold as severe as science can produce. Some remained 15 days in a mixture of snow and salt; some were plunged into a bath of liquid sulphuric acid, made extremely cold by artificial means. On the 5th of April they were all sown in pots, and placed in the open air. They all germinated, and those which had undergone the rigors of frigidities produced plants as robust as those which had not been submitted to this test.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.

To be held at London, September 24th, 25th, 26, & 27, 1861.

ENTRIES OF ARTICLES FOR EXHIBITION except in the classes of Horticultural products, Ladies work, Foreign Stock and Produce, must be made at or transmitted to the office of the Board of Agriculture, Toronto, on or before Saturday, August 31st.

Entries in these special classes may be made till the evening of Friday, Sept. 20, at Toronto, and on Monday Sept 23, at London, but exhibitors are requested to make their entries in these classes also at as early a date as possible.

Prize lists and Blank forms of entry may be obtained of the Secretaries of Agricultural Societies and Mechanics' Institutes in any part of the Province.

HUGH C. THOMSON,
Secretary Board of Agriculture.

Board of Agriculture office,
Toronto, Aug. 14th, 1861.

WILSON'S ALBANY STRAWBERRY.

THIS variety has produced with me at the rate of 300 bushels per acre, fine large fruit with ordinary cultivation. I will now deliver plants, and pay carriage, to any Express Office in Canada West, at the following rates, when cash is paid in advance. \$1 per twenty-five; \$2 per seventy-five; \$3 per one hundred and fifty; \$10 per thousand; Hooker Jenny Lind, and Bur's New Pine at the same rate.

Old varieties \$5 per thousand.

GRAPE VINES.

Concord, Diana, Rebecca, and Canadian Chief, \$1 each.

Address
CHARLES ARNOLD,
Nurseryman,

Paris, C. W.
Paris, Aug. 15th, 1861. 16-4t.

SHEEP FOR SALE.

30 RAMS, one year old and upwards, Cotswold, Leicester and Lincolnshire breeds, large size and good quality, weighing from 240 to 350 lbs. each, four imported. Terms reasonable. Will be exhibited at Brampton, County of Peel, fall fair, on Wednesday, Sep. 18th.

JOHN SNELL, *Edmonton, P. O.*
near Brampton Station, G. T.
August, 1861.