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Agriculture.

THE PREMIUM LIST.

We return again, this week, to the subject of the Provincial Exhibition, as one that ought to be kept constant before the public until it becomes an accomplished fact.

From Aberdeen, with its dull granite streets unrelieved by the whitening of a sea wind, Aberdeen, at which the northward-bound traveller says farewell to anything like speedy locomotion—is an hour's journey, span out wearily by a crawling pace and random stoppages, to Kintore Junction. Here the sole-axed North train lands one on the platform to the unmusical note of a red-nosed porter's, "Paas-neirs for Aulard change kare-ages."

As we sweep up the short steep avenue Tillyfour raises itself above us among its quaint old elms, which the crows make by their numerous with a prodigious waving, bold and stiff against the dark mountains on the south. It is a big, bare, patchy, yet not unattractive looking house.

Copies of the Premium List will, we suppose, be extensively circulated. They will be sent to the principal manufacturers all over the Province, and to the Secretaries of the different Agricultural Societies who will distribute them where they will have most effect.

MANNER OF APPLYING LIQUID MANURE IN HOLLAND.—In Holland, liquid manure is applied to fruit trees in the following manner: An iron shod stake of about three inches in diameter, with a piece of wood nailed on one side, to place the foot on, is used to make a circle of holes just under the ends of the branches, about eight inches or two feet apart, and from twelve to fifteen inches deep, and the liquid manure poured into them.

A FAMOUS SCOTCH BREEDER.

The London World in a late issue, gave a graphic account of a visit to Mr. M'Combie of Tillyfour, of whom there are few agriculturists who have not heard.

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On the stairs are more bovine heads, drawn from Europe, America, and Africa, by Mr. Combie's nephews. Here is a huge Scotch American butler's horse making with those of an American elk, and finding a genial home amongst the polls. The drawing-room is large and many-windowed. It is empty now, but in summer time curious visitors of all ranks and countries leave it seldom silent.

HOW RICH LAND SHOULD BE

This is a common question, and it means much more than is usually supposed. The answer is clear: Land should be just rich enough to grow the best crops.

Presently we put on our hats and walk up to the "standing," where Mr. Whyte, his old and trusty "grieve," or bailiff, and whisks away with the black to some local meeting. The standing and farm buildings consist of a large hollow square, in which loon, byres, large open courts and boxes, and a powerful water-mill and barn, run into and intersect each other in a regular and simple plan.

It is a fine way of farming, bringing up the land with comparatively little outlay, and at the same time realizing large yields with increased profit through the economical use of the manure.

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HARVESTING GRAIN.

Men differ as to the best and proper time to cut wheat. Many say it would stand until the grain is quite hard, and then be cut and put into the barn almost immediately after.

For several reasons it is desirable to cut while in a soft state. If the berry is past the milky state, and when like soft dough, it is as good a time as can be.

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DOES FARMING PAY.

I was much pleased to read the article in this week's issue of the "Ploughman," May 18th, "Does Farming Pay?"

My custom is to cut when in the doughy state, make good sized bundles, set them up well—six bands up, right and two to e-p with, making eight altogether; then stand till the wheat is hard enough to grind.

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THE VALUE OF GOATS.

Having travelled a great deal in foreign countries and seen the excellent use foreigners, but especially the Arabs, make of goats as milk producers I may just remark that I think it would confound to the happiness as well as health of many a poor family if a "goat" were kept; for, besides the value of the milk, a higher point, it seems to me, would be gained.

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SETTING MILK FOR CREAM.

The farmer is doubtless much perplexed by the various methods suggested by writers for setting milk in the best way for producing cream.

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EXECUTED ON MODERATE TERMS.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

Ordinary advertisements, 1 line, 1st insertion, \$1.00 Each subsequent insertion, .50

BUSINESS ADVERTISEMENTS

inserted for 6 months or 1 year on moderate terms.

The number of weeks an advertisement is to be inserted should be clearly stated. When the term not done it will be continued until ordered out, and charged the full time it has been inserted.

GARDEN HINTS FOR THE SEASON.

The first thing you do, attend to the old strawberry bed, if you want a crop next season. Spade up the ground between the rows, and work it up in the rows with a fork and spade, scattering among the vines a liberal quantity of well-rotten compost—nothing better than manure. It does no harm to be continued until ordered out, and charged the full time it has been inserted.

If you have no strawberry bed, plant one out as soon as you can. Take young plants, dig the hole, and as the roots are placed in, pour the hole half full of water, and draw in the earth quickly, and shade the plants for a day or two with newspapers or green leaves. They will give you one-third to one-half a crop next season, if started in this next month. Give the fruit trees a good coat of whitewash; it prevents blight. Sow the lawn with a good coat of plaster; it retains moisture, and is a great help to the grass. Cucumbers for pickling may be started this month. Put a stick in hills of melons and cucumbers, and the hills, saturated with gas tar to keep bugs away.—Fruit Recorder.

The Bishop of Manchester lately made a speech at the Co-operative Congress in England, recommending co-operative farming. He gave an account of a co-operative farm near Assington, which he visited in 1867, after it had been in operation for thirty-seven years. It was started by John Gordon, the Squire of the village, in 1830. He rented to fifteen men sixty acres at \$9 per acre per annum, and lent them \$2,000 for tools, stock, manure, &c. In 1867 they had long previously paid the loan; had increased their shareholders from fifteen to twenty, and the amount of hired land from sixty to one hundred and thirty acres, for which they paid \$1,000 a year. The farm was managed by a committee of four, chosen by ballot, a portion going out every year. The Bishop found the land in admirable order, and the animals and poultry in excellent condition. In 1854 Mr. Gordon, finding the experiment very successful, started thirty chosen men on a second co-operative farm, each contributing \$17.50. He also loaned them \$2,000. They began with seventy acres, but by 1867 were hiring 212 acres at a rent of \$1,625 a year, and had \$9,000 worth of stock, besides having paid off the \$2,000 loan and supported their families. The Bishop thought that a class of co-operative agriculturists would be of the most important and stable element in the commonwealth, and the Earl of Ripon, in a subsequent speech, said that he had also visited the farms and fully agreed with him.

Col. Taggart, of Northumberland, Pa., provides food and exercise for fowls at the same time. In his poultry yard are several beds about thirty feet square each, in which the Colonel buries out, several barrels to the bed. The grains, begin, of course, at once to swell and germinate and the fowls have free access, scratching and eating the tender sprouts to their hearts content. While the fowls are thus busy on one bed, a new one is prepared, which is in readiness for them by the time it is required. The idea is a good one.

The excrement of domestic poultry are the most highly concentrated of any on the farm, and are computed as being half the worth of guano. The ingredients are nearly the same as the urate, or the dried urine of animals, since the urine of fowls is voided in a solid form with the other matters ejected from the bowels. The value, as a manure, depends upon the food that is consumed. If fed on meat and fish, the dung might be equal to guano as a fertilizer; if on vegetable food, the manure is less valuable.

HAVING WEATHER.—There are two kinds of "poor weather" for hay making, one, where it rains all the time for several days in succession. In such weather, no one expects to make hay. The other, is when the sunshine and showers alternate several times during the day. This is the very poorest kind of hay weather, and lucky is that man who, during such weather, can see far enough ahead to let his hay alone, for the more he works upon it the poorer it grows.

When commencing your agricultural life, remember that industry, economy and integrity will ensure success and form the best capital that can be employed.