

without a proper system of rotation? If we don't grow roots how can we ever have the land in a condition for grain. The thing is impossible. But, on the west coast of England and Scotland, the difficulties connected with grain growing are much greater than with us. Then we can grow grass and make hay at a profit, instead of at a loss, as it must be done in Britain, and hay may with us take the place of grain to a large extent. With a proper system of rotation, founded upon a sufficient extent of heavily manured green crops, there is no limit to the quantities of oats and barley, and hay, and beef, and mutton, and wool, and cheese, and butter that this Province might produce. If we can't sell coal, let us try to find labour for our unemployed people in extracting food from our own soil, and not send all the money out of the country.

Let our Nova Scotian farmers read the free and unprejudiced opinion of an American farmer who went to England and made a critical examination of "High Farming":—

"I am thoroughly confirmed in my old faith that the only good farmer of our future is to be the "high farmer." There is a widely prevailing antipathy among the common farmers of our country against, not only the practice of high farming, but against the use of the phrase by agricultural writers. This is wrong, and should be at once corrected. Through some misconception of the meaning of the phrase, and of its application, they have come to believe it synonymous with the theoretical 'book farming,' 'new fangled notions,' boasted progress, followed by disappointment and final failure. This is all an error. High farming simply means thorough cultivation, liberal manuring, bountiful crops, good feed, and paying profits therefrom. It is not strange that misconceptions have arisen in the minds of doubting farmers who have been eye witnesses to some of the spread eagle experiments of enthusiastic farmers, better supplied with money obtained in a business they knew how to manage than with practical experience on the farm. Bountiful crops and paying profits, of course, are what all farmers who are depending upon the farm for an income, are striving to obtain, and every year as it passes is re-confirming the opinion that profits are small, and will grow beautifully less where high farming is not practiced."

Our few remarks in last number on Mr. Morrow's "Green Bush" from Ship Harbour seem to have fallen like a refreshing and fertilizing summer dew upon the political papers. The *Morning Herald* has budded out into a profuse blossoming of *Rhododendron maximum*. No fewer than seven letters on the subject have appeared in that paper, and we have care-

fully noted the information they contain, but, as there are still a few points to be determined, we defer an analysis of them till additional facts have been obtained. The Rev. Dr. Forrester, Colonel Chearnley, Mr. Morrow, Mr. Jack, and Mr. Barron, together with their correspondents, Messrs. Archibald, Balcom, and Mackenzie, and probably others, all participate in the "discovery." We are glad that, through the exertions of Messrs. Archibald and Balcom, instigated by Messrs. Morrow and Jack, all doubt on the main point has been set at rest.—Professor How and Mr. Buskirk have suggested some historical points for consideration. A gardener, who is too modest to allow his name to appear in print, suggests very properly that, with native Holly, Heather, and Broom, and this Rhododendron, in our woods, and many other plants comestable, there is an opportunity of changing the aspect of our gardens, parks, and promenades; and, lastly, Mr. Power, of the Public Gardens, with his usual readiness for an emergency, points out clearly how and in what manner all this may be done. Mr. Jack's original idea, some years ago, was to get a large clump of these "green bushes" transferred from Ship Harbour to the Public Gardens, that our people generally might have in view one sample, at least, of how rich our Nova Scotian Flora really is. We suppose he may have been actuated by a desire to put down that too prevalent, and far from patriotic, notion that no good thing can come out of the Nova Scotian woods, except an occasional stick of ship timber, and a few baskets of huckleberries. That Rhododendrons grow and blossom profusely in our climate is shown very well in Mr. Jack's own garden at Bellahill, where Ghent Azaleas likewise thrive. We have seen healthy Rhododendrons through the fence in a garden in Pleasant Street. We are informed that in Mr. Falconer's garden at Dartmouth there are some very old and healthy bushes. Principal Ross has one or two at Morven. There used to be a large one in the Horticultural Gardens, which is now in the Public Gardens, but it is a rather tender sort, and has to be tied up in winter. Mr. Mott has a nice collection of perfectly hardy varieties at Dartmouth. At our own farm, Lucyfield, there is a bank of 300 Rhododendrons and 50 Pontic Azaleas that have stood the winters without the slightest protection of any kind for five years, and any one who would like to see how beautiful they really are when in full bloom, should take a drive out (four miles beyond Bedford) during the last week in June.

The Rhododendron controversy has not been without its joke. A gentleman in Water Street, whose name had been men-

tioned in one of the letters, was waited upon by a customer, whose enquiries brought forth samples of "Strong Baker's," "Patapoco," "Bridal Rose," and such like. The customer, surprised and puzzled, looked at the samples, but at length, as light dawned upon his mind, replied, "I don't want any flour, I want to ask you about that particular f-l-o-w-e-r you found down east when moose-hunting."

The following nominations to the Central Board of Agriculture, by the officers of Agricultural Societies, have been received:—

District No. 1. Halifax County.

Halifax County Agricultural Society, Col. J. Wimburne Laurie, Oakfield.
Lower Musquodoboit Agri. Society, Col. Laurie.
Upper Musquodoboit Agri. Society, Col. Laurie.
Salmon River, Beaver Harbour, Agri. Society, Col. Laurie.

District No. 2. King's, Annapolis, Digby, Union Agri. Society of East Cornwallis, John E. Starr, Starr's Point, Cornwallis.

King's County Agri. Society, Lower Horton, J. E. Starr.
Aylesford Agri. Society, John E. Starr, Starr's Point.
Central Agri. Society of King's County, John E. Starr, Starr's Point.
West Cornwallis Agri. Society, John E. Starr, Starr's Point.
Farmers' Agri. Society of North Eastern Cornwallis, (application for recognition received but not yet submitted to Board), W. E. Starratt, Paradise.
Eastern Annapolis Agri. Society, W. E. Starratt, Paradise.
Bridgetown Agri. Society, W. E. Starratt, Paradise.
Paradise Agri. Society, W. E. Starratt, Paradise.
Township of Clements Agri. Society, W. E. Starratt, Paradise.
Annapolis Agri. Society, James Horsfall, Annapolis.
Port Williams, Ann., Agri. Society, W. E. Starratt, Paradise.
Digby Central Agri. Society, John Dakin, Digby.
Weymouth Agri. Society, John Dakin, Digby.
Clare Agri. Society, John Dakin, Digby.
Union Agri. Society of Digby, St. Mary's Bay.

District No. 3. Lunenburg, Queen's, Shelburne, Yarmouth.

Mahone Bay Agri. Society, Charles E. Brown, Yarmouth.
New Ross Agri. Society, Benjamin Zwicker, Mahone Bay.
Mutual Benefit Agri. Society of Queen's.
North Queen's Agri. Society, Caledonia, C. E. Brown.