



Published under direction of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia.

VOL. II.

HALIFAX, N. S., JUNE, 1872.

No. 78.

CONTENTS:

	PAGE.		PAGE.
EDITORIAL.....	17	COMMUNICATIONS:	
Hints for the Season—Flower Garden and Pleasure Ground—Fruit Garden—Vegetable Garden.....	18	Orchard Grass and Pasturage. By I. L.....	22
The Orchard Grass.....	19	A Serious Loss—Liquid Manure. By T. H. Hodson, Bedford.....	23
Onion Culture.....	20	Bees! Bees! Bees! By T. H. Hodson.....	23
The Discoverer of Annat Barley.....	21	AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES:	
Chevalier Barley.....	21	Malagash Agri. Society.....	24
.....		Wallace Agri. Society.....	24
		Shubennadic Agri. Society.....	24

LUCYFIELD, 22nd May, 1872.

The season is unusually backward, and although we are now past the middle of May, it is only in dry situations and light soils that much progress has been made in spring planting. In some places the frost is not yet completely out of the ground. Mature heaps put out in the fields in exposed situations last Fall are only now thawing out, so as to be spread. It will give a correct indication of the lateness of the season if we mention that our snowdrops were in full bloom on the 11th of April last year, and that this year the same clumps were scarcely as far advanced on the 15th of May. In fact, the season in Halifax County is more than four weeks later than its predecessor. Notwithstanding what we have stated, no time should be lost in proceeding with spring work, preparing the ground, seeding, and planting.

What were the peculiarities of the past winter? A long period of severe weather without any covering of snow, and then, as spring approached, very heavy drifting

snow storms, such as have not been seen for thirty or forty years before. In several respects, then, the winter was a very severe one; we have never seen so much injury done before to trees and plants. Strawberries planted in the fall, have, in nearly every instance, been killed out completely, so as to render replanting necessary. In some situations raspberry canes have died and will give no fruit this season, although the roots are uninjured. Hollyhocks, Pansies, Daisies, and other plants that resist ordinary winters without protection, have succumbed to the winter of 1871-72. Such shrubs and trees as Forsythia, Purple Laburnum, Single Almond, which did not ripen their wood well in the Fall, have been killed down almost to the ground. Every plant in an exposed situation has suffered. Even the young native pines, hemlock and spruces, in clearings in the woods, have their tops browned; and we observe from the Gardener's Monthly that these hardy natives have suffered as much in the gardens and pleasure grounds of

Philadelphia as on the hills of Nova Scotia. One fact has been clearly brought out by the experience of this severe winter, viz.—that *young* plants suffer most. After a tree or shrub attains a certain size, and robustness of growth, it is much less subject to the influence of severe weather, whether summer's heat or winter's cold. The planting of ornamented trees and shrubs has become more prevalent of late years, and after so trying a winter, we should be glad to receive, for the information of our readers, hints respecting the hardiness of new kinds that have been tried in various parts of the Province.

The grass is now beginning to grow, and in favorable situations the fields are not only green, but the grass has acquired some length. If there is any truth in the adage, that a wet May brings plenty of hay, we may look forward with fair hopes; not that the rain fall has been very heavy, but there has been much dull, cold, grassy weather. In anticipation of labour difficulties in some districts