

pecially the Blanchard, which is well spoken of everywhere in the States. In this matter, the opinion of a Dairywoman or farmer's wife would be worth that of fifty farmers and five hundred Editors.

STEPHEN R. DEWOLF, Esq., raised 615½ pounds weight of Extra Early Vermont Potatoes, at Parrsborough, last season, from a single pound weight of seed. The fact was attested before the Bliss Prize Committee, and Mr. DeWolf obtained one of the prizes. What Mr. DeWolf has done can be done again by every farmer in the Province.

We have a letter from F. W. Chipman, Esq., Nictaux, Annapolis, expressing satisfaction at the establishment of a Bone Mill in the Province. We have answered his enquiries by letter, but may state for the information of others that, in order to insure a supply, orders for crushed Bone or Bone Dust should be sent, without unnecessary delay, to the Manager, Wellington Tannery, Wellington Station I. C. R., Nova Scotia.

In a letter, from Stephen Putnam, Esq., of the Union Agricultural Society, dated Maitland, Dec. 7th, 1874, he writes:

I noticed, by the published minutes of the Halifax County Agricultural Society, a desire expressed to improve the breed of Horses, by importing from abroad, and as the same matter took a practical shape here with us at a meeting held in the evening, when upwards of six hundred dollars (\$600) was subscribed for the purpose of purchasing one for use here, we would like, if you carry out the suggestion, to coöperate, as two or three could be imported with as little expense almost as one.

We would be obliged for any information, if you should possess it, which would assist us in making a suitable purchase.

JAMES CLARK, Esq., requests us to state that, as the Tatamagouche Society possesses a Short Horn Bull, he is desirous of exchanging CAPTAIN, whose pedigree was given in our last number, for an Ayrshire Bull, one or two years old. If an exchange cannot be conveniently effected, Mr. Clark will sell Captain, and purchase an Ayrshire. Any of our readers desirous of buying or selling or exchanging, had better communicate directly with James Clark, Esq., Tatamagouche, Co. Colchester, N. S.

We learn from papers received by the last English Mail that the Belgian Government, following that of Germany, has enacted a decree FORBIDDING THE IMPORTATION OF AMERICAN POTATOES, and that in England, the Board of Trade have been memorialized on the same subject. It is feared that the Colorado beetle, which has been so destructive to the potato in the United States and Western Canada, may be carried to Europe with the tubers, and spread devastation there. This insect is a native of the Southern districts of the Rocky Mountains, where it feeds on a native species of Solanum (or potato), and whence it has spread throughout the United States and Ontario. The eggs are deposited on the lower surface of the leaves, hatched in five or six days, and after seventeen days pasturage on the potato haulm, they drop into the soil and change into a chrysalis, from which the perfect beetle soon escapes.

When a field of potatoes is attacked, it is changed in a few days into an arid waste, nothing being left but bare stalks that dry up in the sun, and heaps of offensive beetles. We do not wonder at the anxiety manifested in Europe, when we reflect upon the terrible calamity of such a visitation.

We hope, however, that the fears entertained may not be realized, and, as regards England, we think we can adduce some facts that support our hope. In the first place we happen to know that of late years Colorado beetles have gone to England in produce, and have not succeeded in establishing themselves. Secondly, here we are in Nova Scotia, a great potato growing country, with facilities for importing the insect in produce as freely as Germany or England, and yet no Colorado beetle has ever been seen in our fields. We believe in fact that our seaside climate is too cool and too moist for the Colorado bug. Then, it is a remarkable botanical fact that the Nova Scotian Flora, otherwise so rich, is completely wanting in native Solanaceæ, so that there is no permanent pasturage to encourage the insect in any part of our country.

In the warmer and drier inland districts of Europe, it is not unlikely that the beetle might find a congenial home. But, it is not by forbidding the importation of potatoes that the pest is to be excluded. The Board of Trade, as reported in the

English Gardeners' Chronicle, perceived that the eggs were not deposited in the tubers, but on the leaves. Still of course the live beetles might be carried with the potatoes or in the earth adhering to them. They are far more likely to be conveyed in grain and other kinds of produce.

By last mail to England we sent letters to the Times and the English Agricultural papers explaining that the Province of Nova Scotia is beyond the geographical range of the Colorado bug, that a northern maritime climate is inimical to it, and that there is no possibility of its being carried to Europe with any kind of Nova Scotian produce.

THE scarcity and high price of Butcher's Meat in Halifax, and the importations of Meat and Poultry from Ontario and the Western States, have lately been subjects of remark. The real cause of all this is that the amount of capital engaged in Agriculture in this Province is far too small for the welfare of the country. Few men of means either engage in farming themselves, or are willing to allow their money to be used by others. It is only in districts of exceptional fertility that we have anything like thrifty farming. Over the country generally no attempt is made to provide roots or grain for winter fattening, and the result is that, at this season of the year, after the pasture fattened meat has been consumed, there is a general scarcity of animals "fit to kill."

We are requested by George Whitman, Esq., Round Hill, Annapolis, to publish the following form of Petition for Amendment of the Act for Encouragement of Agriculture. The Petition comes to us in printed form, and is, we presume, in course of signature:—

To the Honourable the Representatives of the Province of Nova Scotia.

The Petition of the undersigned members of the Agricultural Society

Respectfully Sheweth,

That the Act for the Encouragement of Agriculture, Chapter 37, Revised Statutes, fourth series, does not, in the opinion of your Petitioners, make provision for the appointment of a sufficient number of persons to Represent the interests of Agriculture in the several Counties throughout the Province.

Your Petitioners therefore pray your