

mentioned will be ready to second all our endeavors to make the Exhibition a success, and to help forward whatever may come from said Committee. In any and every undertaking there must be a fountain from which the streams of life and vitality naturally flow. In this Exhibition business for '82, we, for convenience of work, have the Committee largely in our own town, but in no way does that interfere with the kind assistance that the different agricultural societies in Hants, Cumberland and Colchester can readily give us. We must work with a will all together and work with the idea that in Truro the best District Exhibition is to be held. So we ask our contemporary newspapers in this No. 4 District to especially give us all the aid they can.

Now a word to our farmers and other intending exhibitors. Are you doing all that you can to make our Exhibition a success? Do you intend, in full force, to bring your exhibits before the public, and, apart from the paltry money prize that may be offered, thus advertise the wares in which you are most interested? We have not the least doubt but that such is the fact, at the same time we cannot too strongly urge our farmers to be well to the front and to show the Province just what three fine Counties in this District are able to do. We want a good show, too, from our manufacturers. We want to see our iron-menglers, our foundries, our cabinet makers and upholsterers, our tinmen, and in fact every mechanical industry that we have, thoroughly represented. In that way we will have a successful exhibition that will be a credit to the three Counties that are concerned in it.—*Colchester Sun.*

HORSES AND SHEEP.

It will be seen by circulars just issued by the Board of Agriculture, that the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly, of which our worthy member Col. W. M. Blair is Chairman, have recommended an annual bonus of \$800, for the introduction to the Province of good stock horses for agricultural purposes, of the Percheron or other suitable breed; as well as a grant for the present year, to the extent of \$1,800, for the importation of Sheep into Nova Scotia; and that the Government have authorized these recommendations to be carried out through the Board.

The circulars are clear and explicit, and have printed on them forms of application and affidavits necessary in each case. Persons interested can obtain them from the Secretary, or any member of the Board.

We sincerely trust the strong inducements held out in the circulars to the

farmers and Agricultural Societies to be their own importers of horses and sheep, will not be lost sight of by them, or lost to the County of Colchester. We should exceedingly regret that our horses should degenerate from the inaction of those whose duty it is to avail themselves of the bonus offered to good animals; or that we should have a recurrence of those scenes in our Supreme Court, which took place a few years ago on a horse trial at Truro, when a witness deposed that one of the animals swapped might have been good looking if he had been sheared, which caused the learned Judge Des Barres to inquire whether the horse was a sheep. And as for our sheep, notwithstanding they, as well as our horses, are much better bred than formerly, yet there is room for improvement in the appearance of many of them, whether shorn or unshorn; and besides, they are far less numerous than they should be for a fine grazing country like Nova Scotia.

We therefore expect that much good will result to the Province from the encouragement given by the Legislature for the breeding of good horses and sheep from imported stock; and, from the enterprise of our farming population, we believe that if this encouragement is continued, Nova Scotia will become as famous for horse flesh and mutton as little Prince Edward Island.—*Colchester Sun.*

COL. LAURIE ON THE NEW SYSTEM.

COL. LAURIE, of Oakfield, Nova Scotia, well known in military and agricultural circles, as a foremost man among the volunteer militia, and a famous breeder of Devons, is a convert to the system of Ensilage. He does not deny, that, against the system, some objections may be raised and exceptions taken, but he thoroughly believes that the matter is well worth looking into, and ought to be discussed and experimented upon by the farmers. He is impressed by the conviction that the farmers of Nova Scotia must go ahead—take some new departure, if they are not to be left hopelessly behind. And, if his remarks are true regarding our sister province, we cannot go far wrong if we apply them to New Brunswick.

Col. Laurie finds that notwithstanding the Province has much fertile soil and a climate favorable to the growth of any product of the temperate zone, and that it is better situated than any part of Canada for a profitable trade in agricultural produce, yet that many farms are offered for sale and still remain unsold. The great majority of farmers make only a more or less comfortable living; comparatively few, though they

work hard, accumulate money. One reason why they do not thrive better is, the Colonel thinks, because in some cases they spend far more in producing the articles than they realize when sold. He instances the case of wintering cattle, mentioning a fact, that, while a full grown ox will eat at least four tons of hay (the value of which he puts at \$40) during the winter, it certainly will not improve to that amount. The question of first importance to the farmer is, "how can the cost of production be cheapened?" Before ensilaging, or the preservation of green forage in air-tight pits, or silos, came to be practiced he was of opinion that feeding roots and cut straw, with meal or oil cake, was the best solution of the question, "How can the production of meat be cheapened?" On upland farms, he holds that the production of meat is a necessity if fertility is to be maintained, and other crops grown. But the successful experiments that have been made in ensilaging has caused him to change his views. When a man like Col. Laurie gives an opinion so favorable to the new system, (against which there still exists much prejudice) he should, at least be attentively listened to. He can have no possible interest in deceiving himself, or others, in this matter. A letter is addressed to the Windsor Mail by Col. Laurie under the heading, "How to procure milk for one cent per quart, butter for ten cents per pound, beef for four cents per pound, mutton for nothing, if wool is thirty cents per pound." He states, with some surprise, that very little interest has been taken in the new system—Col. Blair, of Onslow, Messrs. C. R. H. Starr and Johnson, of Port Williams, being among the very few who have tested and spoken highly of it. He goes on to say:—

"My own experience in the matter I willingly give, because, although it does not go to prove the success in preserving, it establishes an equally important fact, viz., that the yield of the land in green corn will furnish the amount which is claimed.

"I have always been in the habit of supplementing failing pasturage in the autumn and swelling my manure heap by growing a green crop to "soil" cattle. In 1880 I had some three acres of green corn, but, owing to a large amount of heavy clover after grass, furnishing unexpected feed, I found the frost coming on and striking my corn, about two acres of which was still uncut. I had heard of a system called Ensilage, but, although I wrote to friends on all sides, could obtain no details of the system. I had to leave home on duty, so gave the best instructions in my power, and these were carried out. I had the corn hauled home, put through the hay cutter, and pitted in