

at the Lower Canada Exhibition, held at Montreal, which together with the prizes at our township show, amounted to \$69. I afterwards sold the calf for \$85, to an agricultural society. Thus the heifer, in one season, paid altogether \$154. I was offered \$150 for the heifer in Montreal, but refused to take it. This young cow has again given birth to another bull calf this spring.—*Oshawa Indicator*.

GRASS LAND, HOW TO IMPROVE IT.

If you ask this question of many farmers, the only reply will be, break up and sod down afresh. Others will hesitate before giving this uniform answer. They will insist on looking at the land first, or at least will wish to know what is the matter with the present grass crop. Is some part of the field mossy or boggy? or does it grow certain coarse grasses which indicate undue moisture at the bottom? If so, their eyes will be opened, and they will reply, in medical language, that "underdraining is indicated." Nothing does the land need so much as this; nothing will do it material good, until this is first attended to. Plowing and manuring will be nearly all useless, so long as the land is clogged with surface water.

If this is not the trouble, they will enquire whether foul weeds have got possession, to the exclusion of wholesome grasses. If not, but the trouble is simply an impoverishment of the surface by long cropping, they will advise to scarify the sward in the fall with a heavy harrow, tearing up the mosses, and disturbing the soil a little, so that it will receive fresh seed. Then they will sow from 10 to 15 quarts per acre of clear Timothy and Red Top in equal parts, and cover the same with a light harrow. We should have said, too, they will apply a good coat of old manure, before the seed sowing. In this way repeating the manuring once in two years, many a meadow or pasture can be brought up to a high state of productiveness. If, however, the land is infested with white daisy, dock, or thistle, the only way will be to break it up thoroughly, cultivate it five years with crops and grain, and finally seed down again. Manuring should go along with this cultivation, of course. When seeding down, be not sparing of seed, but use half a bush of Timothy and the same of Red Top. If Red Clover is desired, it should not generally be sowed until in the spring, as it is apt to winter-kill. If our farmer is a progressive man, perhaps he will enquire whether the grass crop could not be improved by irrigation. We believe that much is to be realized from this practice during the next generation.—*American Agriculturist*.

Communications.

HOW I RAISED 70 LOADS OF CABBAGES TO THE ACRE.

The soil, a strong loam very wet in the spring, and fall so wet that it could not be ploughed in November or prepared in time for turnips in the spring, so I had no alternative but trying winter cabbages, although in this county they are generally a failure. The seeds, large Drumhead and Flat Dutch, were sown in a bed in the early part of June the land was ploughed harrowed and rolled four times and made very loose and friable. In the middle of July it was drilled, manured with twenty loads to the acre, three hundred of Guano sown broadcast, the drills closed and rolled and the plants set out the first rainy day after, which occurred about the beginning of August. The ground was afterwards repeatedly worked with the cultivator and received three hoeings, the weeds never being allowed to show above the ground; it took five men one day to plant it, and one day for each hoeing the result on being sold by auction was seventy one cart loads from one acre at seven and six pence per load.

The excellence of the crop I attribute to the ground being well worked, lightly manured, and the plants set out late enough to avoid the cut worm.

HENRY E. DECIE.

[Let a thousand of our Nova Scotian farmers go and do likewise, and thus supply their own families, and their neighbours, with the healthiest vegetable they can use in winter.—*Ed.*]

GRAVEL IN YOUNG CATTLE.

DEAR SIR.—Can you inform me, through the Journal, what is the cause of young cattle having the gravel? It is a complaint that I never heard of until within the last four or five years; it is now of frequent occurrence. Four years ago my neighbour had a very nice yearling steer that had his water stopped. They gave him different things, but all of no avail. I was sent for, and I saw there was but one chance,—that was to make an incision and extract the stone, if it could be done. I thought I would try the experiment. I made the incision just back of the cod, about five inches, and took out three or four stones the size of a small pea, and left it open two or three days, until the water came quite free from where the incision was made. I then sewed it up, and the steer recovered last spring.

I was called to 3 others. I cut them in the same place, and extracted as many as four or five stones out of each of them, but was not so successful, as there was a stoppage yet in the neck of the bladder.

This season I was called to one and performed the same operation. I should like to know if there is any other cure for it. Truly yours, B. Z.

A TIMELY HINT TO AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Wilmot, Annapolis Co.,
May 15, 1866.

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to suggest to Agricultural Societies that they should at least give two months notice of the time they intend holding their exhibitions.

Last year I prepared six animals to show, and had no opportunity of doing so.

The notice of the Windsor and Cornwallis Societies' Show reached me the day before their exhibition,—too late, of course, to avail myself of it. Their exhibition was open to non-members, a very unusual display of liberality, as societies in this Province prefer rather than bring good stock together to arrange their exhibitions so that the prizes shall be divided amongst their own members.

Yours respectfully,

HENRY E. DECIE.

Agricultural Societies.

FORMATION OF A NEW SOCIETY IN COLCHESTER—THE ONSLOW AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Onslow, April 20, 1866.

To the Sec'y of the Central Board of Agriculture:

SIR,—Onslow is a purely agricultural district, situated in the heart or centre of the county of Colchester, and immediately adjoining Truro. But, although one of the most important sections of the county in an agricultural point of view, there has hitherto been no associated effort for improvement. It is true there have been at different times societies formed in Truro for this purpose, but they have been short-lived and productive of little benefit, Truro being rather a place of business than of agriculture. The farmers of Onslow have now, however, taken the matter in hand themselves, and established a society composed entirely of farmers, embracing most of the leading farmers of the township, with a few from Truro.—From the spirit manifested, and the organization effected, there is every reason to anticipate a long and successful career for the Onslow Agricultural Society.

Accompanying I forward to you in terms of the Act, a complete list of the members; and may state that the declaration having been signed, after due notice given by advertisement, a general meeting was held on the 13th March at the Parade School House in Central Onslow, John King, Esq., in the chair, when the following officers were unanimously elected:—*Pres.* John B. Dickie; *Vice-Pres.*, Robert Putman; *Sec'y.* Geo. F. Crowe; *Treas.*, Silas Clark; *Directors*