

ley, and oats, below an average. Corn good on sandy land. Potatoes, below an average. Apples, below an average. Beans, much damaged by wet.

The Aylesford Agricultural Society intend holding an exhibition of stock next autumn.

ARCH. WALKER, *Pres.*
JOHN FOSTER, *Sec'y.*

THE BRIDGETOWN EXHIBITION.

BRIDGETOWN, Dec. 1, 1868.

There was a show of stock at Bridgetown on the 22nd of October, 1868; the various kinds of Stock on the ground that day, with a few exceptions, were the best ever exhibited by the Society. The Bulls were superior; and we may here mention that the Bull from the Paradise Society was a fine animal, and a great credit to the Society; the Oxen were good; the four-year old Steers were the largest, by far, ever exhibited here, especially a pair owned by Avarad Longley, Esq. The younger cattle were creditable. Cows fair; Sheep good, not fat, but handsome, with fine wool; Horses nothing extra, except a yearling Colt owned by Lawrence Willett, Esq.—Taken as a whole, the Exhibition was creditable, and goes to prove that the Stock of the Society is improving.

After the Show, quite a number dined at Curran's Hotel.

PREMIUM LIST.

HORNED CATTLE.

- Best pair fat Oxen, \$4—Joseph Bent.
2nd do., \$3—Hiram Chute.
3rd do., \$2—C. & E. Troop.
Best pair working Oxen, \$3—Ezra Foster.
2nd do., \$2.25—C. & E. Troop.
3rd do., \$2—Joseph Fellows.
Best pair 4-year old Oxen, \$2—Avarad Longley.
2nd do., \$1.50—Joseph Fellows.
Best pair 3-year old Steers, \$2—Gilbert Chute.
2nd do., \$1.50—Abel Chute.
Best pair 2-year old Steers, \$2—John F. Bent.
2nd do., \$1.50—Abel Foster.
Best pair 1-year old Steers, \$1.50—C. & R. Parker.
2nd do., \$1—Joseph Fellows.
Best pair Steer Calves, \$1.50—C. & R. Parker.
2nd do., \$1—Robert Bath.
Best Milch Cow, \$2.50—Avarad Longley.
2nd do., \$2—Edmund Clarke.
3rd do., \$1.50—Wanford Dodge.
4th do., \$1—C. & E. Troop.
Best 2-year old Heifer, \$1.50—Joseph Fellows.
2nd do., \$1.25—Abel Chute.
Best 1-year old Heifer, \$1.25—Avarad Longley.
2nd do., \$1—Abner Bath.
Best Heifer Calf, \$1—Oliver Foster.
2nd do., 75c—C. & E. Troop.
Best Bull, \$3—C. & E. Troop.
2nd do., \$2.50—C. & E. Troop.
Best Bull Calf, \$1.50—John F. Bent.
2nd do., \$1.25—James E. Fellows.

HOUSES.

- Best Brood Mare, with a Colt, \$3—Abel Chute.
2nd do., \$2.50—C. & R. Parker.
Best 4-year old Horse or Mare, \$2.50—Joseph Bent.
2nd do., \$2—Robert Parker.
3rd do., \$1.50—(not awarded).
Best 3-year old Colt, \$2.50—C. & E. Troop.
2nd do., \$2—(not awarded).
Best 2-year old Colt, \$2.50—Ezra Foster.
2nd do., \$2—Delaney Harris.
Best yearling Colt, \$2—Laurence Willett.
2nd do., \$1.50—Wanford Dodge.

SHEEP.

- Best Ram, \$3—C. & E. Troop.
2nd do., \$2—C. & E. Troop.
3rd do., \$1.50—Edmond Clarke.
Best two Ewes, \$2.50—Hiram Chute.
2nd do., \$2—Edmond Clarke.
3rd do., \$1.50—(not awarded).
Best ram Lamb, \$2—C. & E. Troop.
2nd do., \$1.50—Abner Bath.
3rd do., \$1—C. & E. Troop.
Best 2 Ewe Lambs, \$2—C. & E. Troop.
2nd do., \$1.50—Gilbert Chute.
3rd do., \$1—Delaney Harris.

Natural History.

MUSK DEER.

(*Moschus moschiferus*.)

BY A LADY SUBSCRIBER.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—In looking over a newspaper called the *Pioneer*, which I had received from a friend in Allahabad, in the East Indies, a few days since, I chanced to come upon an article on Natural History which very much interested me; and if you have space in your valuable journal for a few extracts from the paper, entitled "A Chapter in Natural History, by Mountaineer," I think they may interest some of your readers.

The musk trade has been extensively carried on in India for very many years, and now the beautiful animal called the Musk Deer is getting shy and scarce.

I have looked up many works on Natural History, but I cannot find out exactly what size the animal is, whether large or small,—but probably it is small. The "English Cyclopædia" only says: "The Musk Deer of Nepal is of a bright reddish-yellow colour, with the chin and gullet whitish; the hair is not ringed. They are natives of India, where they live in forests in the mountains, or at their bases; they live six or eight together; the horns fall in May. The females have bristly tufts ending in a knot, instead of a horn." Dallas, in his "Animal Kingdom," says of it: "The Musk Deer is totally without horns, both male and female; they are of small size, supported upon exceedingly small slender legs, and very active in their movements; they also live in flocks. The male is furnished with a remarkable sac beneath the belly, which secretes a strongly odorous substance, the well-known powerful perfume and valuable medicine called Musk."

Tomlinson says: "Musk is the unctuous secretion of a glandular pouch or sac, situated in the skin of the abdomen of the Musk Deer. It is from the male only that musk is produced, and the secretion, when dry, is of a dark brown colour, and somewhat granular. Its taste is bitter. When the musk sac is cut from the animal's body, so powerful is the odour it exhales that the hunter is obliged to have his mouth and nose

stopped with folds of linen, and that often, in spite of this precaution, the pungency of the odour is such as to produce so violent an hæmorrhage as to end in death."

A single Musk-bag usually contains from 2 to 3 drachms.

Musk is imported into England from China in caddies of 60 to 100 oz. each.

I cannot ascertain the commercial value of the Musk-bag, but in 1832 the duty in England was 5s. an ounce; in 1842 it was 6d. the ounce; in 1845 it was declared free of duty.

Hamilton, in his "Account of the Kingdom of Nepal," writes in 1818: "The most valuable production of the Southern face of the Himalayan mountains is the animal which produces musk, of which vast numbers are annually killed."

Now, Mr Mountaineer, step forward and answer for thyself:—

"Some twenty years ago I penned a few notes on the Game of the Himalayas for the *Calcutta Sporting Review*. Writing from personal observation,—after several years spent in these grand old mountains, and devoted solely to the chase,—it may be surmised my delineation would be tolerably correct. If not, it ought to have been so, for such opportunities as I then had of noting the habits of the four-footed and feathered denizens of the hills and forests fall to the lot of very few. One article was on the 'Musk Deer,' of which very little appeared to be known, if we may judge from the meagre notices of it in works on Natural History; and this was one reason, no doubt, why I thought it deserving of a chapter to itself. As this little animal was my principal quarry, its spoil furnishing a very considerable portion of the sinews of war, and day after day, for months and months together, having seen me trudging and climbing on, from the first peep of morn till the sight of a rifle could no longer be seen in the evening twilight, in all and every kind of jungle and forest, and crag and nook and corner it was possible or probable a Musk Deer might select as its place of retreat or abode,—surely this one article would be as true to nature as the most enthusiastic Zoologist could desire, and such I believe it was. Yet if any one were to visit the same forests now, and spend a few days or weeks in that delightful occupation,—Musk Deer shooting,—and then sit down and read what I wrote about it then, he would assuredly throw away the book in disgust, and declare my description almost as far from the truth as it could well be, and he would not be far wrong. The Musk Deer of to-day in these hills is a quite different animal to those I had the pleasure of forming acquaintance with twenty years ago. A change has come over them; and a brief notice of this change, though not, perhaps, much fitted for the columns of a newspaper, may be somewhat interesting to the sportsman and the naturalist; and so, my dear *Pioneer*, you can put these pages in your desk, and when you feel very lazy—pardon me for thinking you ever do give way to such weakness—and your impy cry out for copy, you can hand them the packet.

"You will not, perhaps, object to accompany me, for a little while, back into the past