

ber of acres you have in grass, for Cows must be fed by you. But the number of Bees you might keep over winter, only, or mainly depends upon your willingness to keep many or few—for Bees will find their own food, and yet afford a large portion of it to be taken away, by way of paying a rent for the houses you provide them with, and note that the better the houses, or hives are, the greater will be the rent.

I do not pretend to instruct you how to manage with your Bees when you get them—there are plenty of Bee-books—but I would advise you to get *Quincy's Bee-keeping explained*, and let all your hives be made with moveable comb-frames, and if possible get the Italian or yellow Bees, they are the most profitable and least likely to sting.

In conclusion, I recommend you to go to work and make as large a beginning as may be in your power.

Get the Bees as soon as you can and buy a Bee-book, and you will soon learn how to manage them, and be well paid for learning besides.

Yours, &c., &c.,
J. H. HOBSON.

(For the N. S. Journal of Agriculture.)

MR. EDITOR,—This is a backward spring, and gardens, in consequence, have not been as yet much troubled with destructive insects. But whenever there has been a bright sun and disposition to warmth in the atmosphere, we have also had fine indications of what is in store to prevent the crop of gooseberries and currants. Upon these, as yet unfrequent occasions, hundreds of the fly which produces the caterpillar that infests these bushes may be seen, male and female, busily engaged in the work of procreation. The female loaded with eggs, and depositing them on the leaves as soon as they are developed. There appears to be no remedy under present circumstances for this pest, and as far as the red and white currents are concerned, it would be much better to up-root them, than to witness the devastation which this miserable insect occasions, and that without the least hope of abatement. But can nothing be done to arrest this destructiveness? We have heard and read of external applications to the bushes, and whale oil, soap-suds, hellebore, &c., have been quoted as efficacious. All nonsense—even hand picking, although a plan in abatement, will not prove efficacious. There is one thing, however, that has not been tried—the importation of birds that prey upon caterpillars more particularly. This remedy has been applied in the neighbouring United States, it is said, with excellent effect. I happened to be in Boston last year, and my heart was gladdened by perceiving some thousands of saucy English sparrows cleaning the Common of

every species of noxious depredator that infested the trees and shrubs of that ornament to the city. They had lost none of their familiarity by emigration, and must have increased in a wonderful manner since their first importation, a few years since. They all appeared jolly, well-fed fellows. The climate and surroundings just suited their habits, and I doubt very much if they would care to go back to the land of their forefathers. Now this is a remedy that might be tried here. Two or three dozen pairs might easily be procured from Boston. The Horticultural Gardens would be just the habitat in which to try the sparrow remedy, and from thence they would spread over the city and to the country, and do all the good of which they were capable, lessening if not eradicating the numerous insects that make ineffectual all the skill of the gardener; and they would do no harm. Mayor Dunbar might do something to be remembered by, if he would introduce the sparrow. At all events, if individuals are not disposed to take the honour, it would not be beneath the dignity of the City Council to discuss the matter, as one of much usefulness and worthy a full quorum.

UTILIS.

Reports of Agri. Societies.

MALAGASH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

MALAGASH, March 4th, 1872.

Our Annual Meeting was held in December, in accordance with instructions, when the business transacted during the year then terminating, was submitted and approved.

We transacted little other business of importance, except selecting officers for the present year, as follows:—

Pres., Mr. Thos. Simpson; *Vice-Pres.*, R. W. Porteous; *Treas.*, H. McDonald; *Sec'y.*, John R. McKenzie; *Directors.*, Murdoch Studivant, Azor H. Treen, Isaac Purdy, Alex. McKenzie 1st, Duncan McKinnon.

Mr. Donald McKenzie 2nd, was nominated as Representative.

WALLACE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Society, in accordance with the desire of its members expressed at a previous meeting, purchased two bulls and two White Chester pigs, and also the boar purchased by the Hon. A. Macfarlane at the sale of the stock imported by the Central Board.

The Crops in this district were over an average. The hay crop was heavy and secured in good condition. The wheat crop also good, both in yield and quality. Oats and barley an average crop. Since the commencement of the Inter-

colonial Railroad our farmers have a ready market for their produce, which is a stimulus for increased exertion on their part, so that upon the whole this section is in a progressive state.

The following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:—John P. McIntosh, Esq., *President*; Geo. M. Iver and Nathaniel Stevens, *Vice-Presidents*; D. Mackay, *Treasurer*; John Robertson, *Secretary*. Messrs. John Cook, John Moody, John Robertson, George Amos, James A. Robertson, *Directors*. D. Mackay was appointed a delegate for the purpose of electing a representative to the Central Board.

JOHN ROBERTSON, *Sec.*
Wallace, Dec. 30th, 1871.

SHUBENACADIE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Auditing Committee's Report of the Shubenacadie Agricultural Society.

We find the Treasurer has received from 40 members the sum of \$40, which he has paid to the Managing Committee.

CR.	
To amount from Treasurer.....	\$40 00
Provincial Grant, 1870.....	31 00
Price of Grade Durham Bull.....	20 00
Receipts for Bull service 1871.....	33 00
	\$124 00

DR.	
By amount due Committee at commencement of year.....	\$96 26
Keep of Bull for year.....	38 00
Paid W. L. Ycomans for bull.....	26 00
Duggan's Auction bill.....	1 53
	\$161 81

Balance due Committee \$37 81
Stock on hand, 1 Durham bull, of pure breed.

Respectfully submitted,
A. KIRKPATRICK,
WM. BLAKE.

You will see by the above report that the funds of our Society are low, and the stock few, but I am happy to state that through the whole bounds of our Society we have in possession an excellent grade stock from the pure breed we have had heretofore. Further, a majority of the members of our Society have subscribed extra sums to give to the Committee for the purpose of buying two more bulls as pure as they can get for the use of our Society.

Our crops as a whole were rather good, hay above an average, wheat fair, except the Fife or Bald which was hurt with weevil. DAVID MOORE, *Sec'y.*

The Journal of Agriculture

—is published monthly by—

A. & W. MACKINLAY,
No. 10, GRANVILLE STREET,
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
Fifty Cents per annum—payable in advance.