

What number of votes may have been given for each nominee in addition to those stated above, I have no means of judging, except by Mr. Murton's letter, but I am of opinion that if the votes of any of the Societies failed to be taken into account, such failure was simply owing to the neglect of the Societies themselves, either in not forwarding their votes at all, or not forwarding them at a sufficiently early date to be received before the announcement of the election of the members of the Board in the *Gazette*, which, as I have stated above, was more than a month after the Annual Meeting of the Societies.

HUGH C. THOMSON,
Secy. Board of Ag.

Toronto, August 23, 1865.

Mr. Wilson, of Monkland Mills, Fergus, has fitted up a flax mill in that place, and is now buying the fibre from the farmers.

The Farmington (Mc.) *Chronicle* says a species of insect is threatening the extermination of the Canada thistle. It envelops the top of the plant in a web, and prevents its growth and flowering. Success to it.

AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS.—We are informed by the Secretary, J. B. Aylsworth, Esq., that the Addington County Exhibition will be held at Newburgh, on Thursday, October 12th. The same gentleman states that the Camden Township Show takes place at Centreville, on Saturday, October 14th.

THE WHEAT CROPS IN GREY.—The Owen Sound *Advertiser* says that the fall wheat in that section is nearly all housed, and generally speaking in good condition. Many of the farmers are now busily engaged in threshing. The yield is found in most cases to be excellent, averaging about 30 bushels to the acre.

CATTLE FROM THE NORTH.—Over 600 cattle were driven down the Owen Sound Road last week, and nearly all passed over the Galt Branch on the way to the American market. Mr. Speers, of Galt, owned 150, Mr. Head 100, and a number of Americans over 300. The cattle were purchased in the district of country between Durham and Owen Sound.—*Ex.*

FLAX.—The flax appears this year to have been a very good crop. For the last two weeks it is being delivered at the St. Thomas Flax Mills at the rate of fifty loads per day—weighing on an average a ton each. Perine & Young pay twelve dollars a ton for it—thus circulating about \$600 a day for the raw material.—*St. Thomas paper.*

HYDROPHOBIA.—A respectable farmer in the township of Holland, named John Cowling, was bitten in the chin in the month of February, by a rabid dog. Last week a twitching of pain in the scar, headache and restlessness presented themselves, and then the violent spasms which more particularly mark the progress of hydrophobia made their appearance, and he died in the most intense agony.—*Galt Reformer.*

WHITE FLINT WHEAT.—The *British Constitution* (Fergus, C. W.) says:—"We have been shewn a specimen of White Flint Wheat (fall), grown by Mr. Smith Seaman, of Egremont, County of Grey, which weighs sixty-five pounds, full, to the bushel, and is a clean, good sample. This is good, we think, for that part of the country. A load of it was sold to Wm. Robertson, Esq., of this town, on Monday, the 14th instant."

HOW MIDGE-PROOF WHEAT YIELDS.—A correspondent of the *Guelph Mercury*, in Georgetown, sends the following item to that paper:—"To remove the fallacy abroad with regard to the yielding properties of midge-proof wheat, I would state that Mr. Freeman, adjoining this village, threshed 15 acres of the above wheat last week, from which he had 330 bushels. A small quantity was left unthreshed, which those engaged in the work believed would have made out 400 bushels. But allowing there was only 50 bushels remaining, this would give a yield of 25½ bushels to the acre."

THE HOP CROP.—We (*London Free Press*) regret to state that the hop crop in the London township does not promise well. Up to a week past the prospect was excellent, but since that a black blight has fallen upon the hop, leaf and stalks. The blight is caused by myriads of green lice which infest the plants, covering them in all directions. In former years the caterpillar and hop grubs have been the chief enemy of this growingly-important crop, but the invasion of the green lice is entirely new in this part of Canada, though frequently to be seen in the States.

A RARE SHEEP.—Captain Collins, of the ship *Seringapalam*, who has just arrived at this port from Alexandria, has brought out with him a fine specimen of the Cape sheep from Palestine, the tail of which is nearly half the size of its body.—*Quebec Mercury.*

SALE OF THOROUGH BRED STOCK.—We learn that Mr. J. Ashworth, of Quebec, who is well known as an importer and breeder of pedigree cattle, has recently sold to J. A. Sewell, Junr., M.D., of St. Albans, his Shorthorn bull "Lord Languish," by St. Valentine, 4, 318½ out of "Lilla Languish," by "Cirus," 17,337. Several of his thorough-bred Berkshires pigs have also been disposed of to local agriculturists and breeders in the States. We understand that with the removal of the Government to Ottawa, Mr. Ashworth intends to transfer his breeding establishment thither.

HAIL STORM.—On Tuesday, the 8th inst., a hail storm passed through the Townships of Normanby and Egremont, doing great damage, more especially upon the farms of John Robertson, Esq., on the 2nd concession of Normanby, Mr. McGillivray on the 3rd, and Mr. McFarland on the 1st concession. When the storm commenced, the hail-stones were as large as an ounce ball, diminishing in size as it passed eastward. About 100 bushels of wheat were destroyed on Mr. McGillivray's farm, besides other grain; on Mr. Robertson's, peas, oats, barley, and wheat were threshed from the heads so that the ground was covered with grain, and one field of late-sown oats was completely destroyed.—*Guelph Mercury.*

THE TURNIP WORM.—The worm that was so destructive to the turnip crop last year, has again made its appearance in this neighbourhood. The animal is deposited on the under side of the leaf, and is little more than one-third of an inch in length, but grows rapidly. In the early state of their existence they appear to be gregarious in their habits, herding together and sometimes migrating in a body from one leaf to another. This is the most suitable time to destroy them, which can be done by pinching off the leaf, or part of the leaf, to which they adhere. In this way thousands may be destroyed in a few minutes. Those whose roots were infested with them last year will at once admit the importance of either cure or preventative for the pest of the turnip crop. Some fields in this neighbourhood have been seriously injured by these pests.—*Guelph Mercury.*

THE CROPS IN CULROSS.—An exchange paper says: A correspondent in Teeswater kindly favours us with a few facts about the wheat crop in Culross and adjoining townships. He says almost in every case the wheat crop is excellent. Mr. James Fraser threshed last week 15 acres of fall wheat, which yielded 35 bushels per acre. Another field which was sown early yielded 40 bushels per acre. There are no signs in that section of the midge. The spring crops also look remarkably well. The season has been most propitious, no frosts, and warm rains every week. There is a large breadth of land preparing for fall wheat this season, and if the yield will be anything what like it is this year, it will amply repay the farmer for the difficulties he has to contend with in former years from bad crops and bad roads. If the new road scheme in Bruce is carried into effect, the latter difficulty will soon be overcome.

THE FLAX CROP OF OXFORD.—The effort made by one townsman, Mr. J. H. Brown, to promote the cultivation of flax in this section, has been eminently successful. This is only the sixth season given to the development of this industrial branch, and, so far, we believe the results have been most satisfactory. Out of the seasons mentioned only one did not supply an average crop, while two have far exceeded expectations. Thus, from the insignificant experiments of a few patches, the culture of flax has increased through the exertions of Mr. Brown, to count now by hundreds of acres. Nor is the growth of flax depending altogether this season upon Mr. Brown. Nearly six hundred acres are on private enterprise, which, with what has been harvested by Mr. Brown, will raise the breadth of this year's flax to sixteen hundred acres; and what is equally satisfactory, the produce of Oxford in seed and fibre commands the highest market price; only those who have taken the pains to collect statistics necessary, can form an idea of the increasing growth of this important branch of agricultural wealth. The prospect is that a good business season is before the flax mills of Mr. Brown, and the oil mill of Mr. Cottle, and here we might say, that no better flax can be desired than the five acres grown within the limits of the corporation of Woodstock, by the last named gentleman.—*Woodstock Times.*

British Cleanings.

AMERICAN MOWERS AND REAPERS IN ENGLAND.—The Royal Agricultural Society of England has yearly trials in the field of certain agricultural implements. At the Plymouth meeting a trial of reapers and mowers was had, and the first prize for the best single mowing machine, and also for the best single reaper, was awarded to an American manufacturer, W. A. Wood, of Hoosick Falls, N. Y. The first prize for Combined Reapers and Mowers was taken by a British firm, R. Hornsby & Sons, Grantham.

NEW PROCESS FOR HARDENING TIMBER.—The *Irish Farmers' Gazette*, of Aug. 5, contains the following:—"A native of Russia has discovered a process by which timber, though newly felled, may become so hard as to resist the influences of the most trying climates for an almost indefinite period. The most curious part of the invention is, that it does not involve the use of chemicals of any sort, such as steeping in creosote, &c., and that the process is applied to the tree while growing. The inventor is now making arrangements for the supply of his timber to railway contractors in England, and will not require any remuneration further than the amount which should be paid for ordinary timber, until the period shall have elapsed beyond which the ordinary railway sleepers, telegraph poles, &c., require to be replaced. The railway sleepers require renewing at intervals of from four to six years; but the inventor of the new process of preparing timber asserts that he will supply an article which need not be disturbed for fifty years."

DISEASED CORN.—We gather from an English exchange that in several corn-growing districts of Yorkshire, and on the Wolds, the growing crops of corn, principally of wheat, have been attacked suddenly by disease. "Some farmers term it 'blight,' others 'rust,' 'canker,' and 'mildew;' but whatever it is, it is quite unusual for any such attack to take place in a dry season like the present. In wet years something like it has been known, but not to the extent now apparent. In many places, fields which presented a healthy green look a few days ago are now of a dirty-looking brown; in fact, the straw has died and not ripened. The disease is not confined to wheat, but the oat and barley crops are likewise showing traces of it. In fields the most attacked, the appearance of the crop at a distance is that of an immense sheet of brown paper. There is none of that fine golden tinge so characteristic of well-ripened corn. The harvest has not yet commenced, but in a railway journey an old field here and there is seen cut. This premature reaping is necessary by the disease just named, which renders the straw comparatively valueless and the corn very small. In a field two miles north of Malton, it is believed there is not a straw that is free from the disease. The stems are all purple, and the foliage is a deadish brown. In a belief that the blight will spread, many people are about to cut their unripe corn. The damaging effects on produce must be very considerable."

NON-EXPLOSIVE GUNPOWDER.—A valuable discovery has been made by Mr. Gale, of Plymouth, whereby gunpowder is rendered non-explosive and explosive at pleasure. The *Field* gives the following account of a series of experiments recently conducted by Mr. Gale on a piece of waste ground opposite the Westminster Palace Hotel:—"At the appointed hour a numerous assemblage of scientific men was collected, and Mr. Gale at once proceeded to show, first, that a mixture of equal weights of powdered glass and gunpowder renders the latter of slow combustion, but still explosive, that is to say, slowly flashing off to the last grain; secondly, that a mixture of two parts of glass to one of powder is still slower; thirdly, that a mixture of three to one is so slow as to be scarcely attended with any danger when lighted, but that when four parts of glass to one of powder are mixed, even a red-hot poker inserted in the compound will only set fire to the grains of gunpowder in immediate contact with it. Further experiments on a large scale clearly proved that when this proportion is adopted the single grains of powder are so isolated by the glass that when one of them is exploded it does not communicate sufficient heat to its neighbours to cause the decomposition of their component elements. Thus far, therefore, we have arrived at a clear demonstration that the mixture of four parts of glass with one of powder,—by which the bulk of the latter is about doubled, while its weight is increased fourfold,—renders the mixture non-explosive—and that the addition is easily made."