

Agriculture.

For the "Agriculturist."

GROWING ALFALFA.

MR. EDITOR.—In perusing the AGRICULTURIST the other day, I hit on a question that I was much interested in, it was "can Alfalfa be raised in this country," to which I earnestly said it can without the least doubt.

Yours, respectfully,

BENJ. STEWART.

Nashua, May 16th, 1878.

For the "Agriculturist."

LETTER FROM NOVA SCOTIA.

CROP PROSPECTS IN THE ANNAPOLIS VALLEY, CENTRAL NOVA SCOTIA.—DOMINION POLITICAL IN SAME SECTION.

To the Editor of the Agriculturist:

SIR.—Farm work is not more advanced in the Annapolis Valley and about Truro than on P. E. Island, but the grass and trees are more forward.

During the past three years, a great deal of rain has been sown on the sandy plains in Annapolis county, and the crops have proved to be profitable.

It is impossible to move about now without talking politics. In King's county both parties are sanguine of success with chances seemingly in favor of the present representative.

In Annapolis county it is generally conceded that the Opposition will gain a member, and Sir John A. will be happy.

Mr. Keator endeavours to be very eloquent in condemning everything the Secretary says in the Report; it is all wrong according to Mr. Keator.

Mr. Keator finds fault with him. No matter whether the Secretary has done anything or omitted to do anything, Mr. Keator equally condemns him.

But the most serious charge is that the returns made by the Societies are not correct. Allow that they are not quite correct, we would like to know

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FREDERICTON, N. B., MAY 25, 1878

NO. 7.

Hants by Colechester. In Pictou county the Hon. James McDonald will in all probability be returned, and go up to join forces again with Governor Tilley and Dr. Tupper.

General business is dull and will be probably until after the elections.

JOHN STONE.

Nova Scotia, May 16th, 1878.

KING'S COUNTY FARMERS' LEAGUE.

We have been looking over the report of the meeting of this august body held on the 9th April last, and have been very much amused by the self importance of some of those gentlemen who constitute themselves the censors of the Province; why the celebrated Tooley street tailors were nothing to those gentlemen, if they are to be taken at their own value.

The Secretary for Agriculture and his Report furnished fuel to keep their wrath warm for a while, and we were beginning to think he must be a very bad fellow, and his Report something terrible.

We were not sure but that it might be necessary to pass a code of laws against the press that printed such a document, but we read on a little further and came to the following: "The next motion made brought out the fact that O. R. Arnold, Esq., would be a candidate for the Legislature."

We admire the resolution passed recommending that the Report be recalled. It is certainly very clever, and no doubt those who passed it thought they were very smart, some body must be hurt by this.

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why the Secretary is to be blamed. He does not make them; he has nothing to do with them, and Mr. Keator knows this very well; then why should he be called to account for them.

We believe those schedules are generally pretty correct for the districts included in the return, but sometimes there may be a misunderstanding, or a want of clearness in the heading—from this it would appear that the return was for a parish or in some case two or three parishes—while in reality it was for only the portion of a parish or parishes covered by the Society.

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say they will at all times have the sympathy and encouragement of those who have placed them in such honorable positions as guides to the encouragement of greater zeal in prosecuting agricultural pursuits.

But I would say for your encouragement that we are not, after all, so far behind the English farmer, for we have been tilling the same ground for the last thousand years, whereas he has only been cultivating our acres a single decade, or a century at most.

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are almost, if not altogether excluded from our schools. There is great need of reform in this particular in our school system. Let our branches be taught in our schools that will bring the greatest benefit to the greatest number, but we will have to enjoy all the comforts and luxuries of the English farmer, for we must remember that we cannot follow in their path, for we have not the same market, nor the same advantage of obtaining fertilizers, as they have.

Perhaps it is unnecessary to say that the schools are not all learned at the school or college, they are only offered as means for expanding the mind so as to be able to come to sound conclusions. To a large extent the science necessary to the farmer can be mastered by his own fire-side, and the aid of good and proper books and an indomitable will.

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neither go beyond our means, nor too quickly adopt every new contrivance simply because it is new. But on the other hand, let us studiously avoid that spirit of distrust which looks with suspicion upon every departure from old usages.

The next thing that should interest every intelligent farmer is his outbuildings, no husbandry can be successfully carried on in this climate without giving due attention to the proper caring in the housing of his stock.

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tools and implements are the best, and therefore the most economical. If his stock is poor, he will learn by inquiry and research what breeds are most prolific and hardy, best fitted for labor and for market.

From Geology he learns the origin and nature of his soil, from Chemistry to analyze so as to apply the fertilizers that will produce what is wanted, from Botany, the structure and habits of plants, and what soils and mode of treatment they demand, from Zoology these laws by which the reproduction of animals are regulated.

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for the smaller branches, because light, and more adaptable to the smaller surface operated upon. But this method is liable to the objection, that it can only be practised by the most careful workmen, since the least carelessness or unskillful handling of the tool, may injure the bark and buds.

Mr. President.—It was not my intention to when requested to have made my remarks so lengthy, but before I can consider that I have concluded and come to my closing sentence. I would feel that I have not done my duty to my subject, without noticing one more topic. I do not know what phrase or name to give it or what you gentleman may be pleased to call it, poetry, sentiment or fancy.

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