

**THE STRAWBERRY GRUB.**

In the vicinity of Sackville, and we presume elsewhere, the larvae of the May Beetle, or as it is ambiguously called, the "June Bug," is destroying a great many strawberry plants. The May Beetle is a large dark brown insect about nine-tenths of an inch long, and proportionately wide. It flies only at night, and may be recognized by its habit of flying against the windows in attempting to reach the light, and by its size. It lays its eggs in old grass fields, being adverse to newly broken soil, and which in due course are hatched into the sickening, dirty white, soft grubs, almost as thick as one's finger, with a dark horny head and six feet. It takes about four years to mature, spending the winter in a state of torpidity in the ground, and the summers in eating roots of every kind, but making a choice of strawberries. They thrive best in pasture lands where there is an abundance of food, and where there is little danger from birds. Strawberries planted in old sod land are more liable to their attacks than others.

The remedies consist in destroying the beetles whenever caught. A convenient method of doing this, is to place a lantern in a tub, having an inch of water in it. The beetles flying in the light will strike the glass, fall into the water and drown. The grubs, whenever detected by the presence of a cut plant, should be destroyed. Pieces of potatoes or roots, poisoned by Paris Green placed in the ground, will kill many. Pigs are fond of them and if allowed to root in the soil before the plants are set will destroy some.

**PIGS.**

There are few animals in domestication that give so large a return for labor and food expended as does the pig. On the ordinary farm he lives upon what would in many cases be wasted, or what would not otherwise be put to such profitable use. The refuse of the table, dairy and garden comprise his food, the greater part of the year, and by his death he supplies us with commodities that can be obtained from no other source. A little care exercised upon the selection of a good pig will be many times repaid by a large return for food and labor expended. It is a recognized fact that a well bred animal of any class will give more favorable results than one of a mongrel or scrub race, and in few cases is this more true or noticeable than in

the pig. We want one that will give us the largest yield of meat—the principal part we use and should in choosing select a breed having the best development of flesh.

A good pig should have a short small face, well fleshed and with fine bone, and small ears. The body should have the shoulders well developed, broad and with the meat running well down. The back should be straight and broad, with the ribs well sprung. For light pork the belly should not be pendulous or flabby, but well rounded. This is a weak point in many breeds, and we have seen some so low that only with difficulty could they prevent the belly being injured by the feet. The ham being the most valuable part of a pig, should be the most perfect, large, running well back, and wide, with the flesh extending to the hocks. The bone in the limbs should be fine and ending in small feet.

The subject of the best breed is best discussed by the conditions to which they are to be subjected. If a pig is wanted to consume the house refuse and make light, small boned and lean meat, the Berkshire or Chester White will suit, but if pork for market is wanted, some of the heavier breeds will best suffice.

**THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.**

Last winter several anonymous letters appeared in the columns of the St. John daily papers, on the subject of an agricultural college for the Maritime provinces, and much valuable information was elicited upon both sides of the question. The writers of some of the letters were professedly graduates of the O. A. College, at Guelph, and were loud in praise of providing such an institution at which the farmers' sons of these provinces could secure that training in their chosen occupation, so necessary for success in these times of competition and progress. The course of study and work at Guelph was portrayed, and the benefits to be derived from it were shown. The opposition letters dealt principally upon the expenditure that such an institution would necessitate and questioned the flattering results predicted.

This is an important subject, and one which should interest every live farmer, and we most heartily invite those who desire, to use our columns in discussion. If needed, and the farmers ask for it, it is probable that our rulers will consider the subject of a college. We will be pleased to publish letters on both sides. Let them be pointed, not personal, and signed by the writer's name.

**CUMBERLAND DIVISION GRANGE.**

A meeting of the above Grange was held in Sackville on the 9th inst., and was attended by about forty members from the different Granges in Westmorland and Cumberland Counties. The essay read by Bro. Howard Black, of Amherst, on "Does Farming Pay?" was well written and delivered, and contained much valuable information. It was followed by a lively and interesting discussion, in which many of the members took part. A vote of thanks was accorded Bro. Black for his practical and entertaining paper, which it was decided to publish at an early date. A noteworthy feature of the meeting was the presence of the wives and daughters of many of the members, which added largely to the pleasure of the gathering.

At the close of the meeting those attending adjourned to the Temperance Hotel, where a supper was served.

Among those present were the Executive Committee of the Grange; Messrs. Roy O'Brien, Master of Grange, Nappan; A. B. Black, Amherst; Edwin Embree, Fort Lawrence; W. F. George, Sackville; John T. Carter, Secty., Sackville; and Col. W. M. Blair, George Ripley, Rufus Lowther, Nappan; George Oulton, Dorchester; Fred. A. Dixon and J. J. Anderson, Sackville.

**WHY IS IT?**

The North-West correspondent of the FARMERS' ADVOCATE, in an article a few issues since, writes some of the truest and most pointed sentences that have ever appeared upon the apparent antagonism existing between brains and muscle. He says: "Strange, indeed, it is, there should be in so many cases antipathy to book learning and farming. I fail to see what a farmer is to lose by being intelligent. What odds whether he gets his experience from the press, his neighbor or himself, so long as he gets only good, sound, practical ideas. None of us object to take our political news from a paper; we are also willing to take our market reports, historical and general information from papers; still many do not care to receive from this source information relating to their business. How is it, every other class of men, but farmers, benefit by reading. Art, science, commercial men, mechanics, in fact, all professions and trades are proud of their paper, and why not the profession, on the successful pursuit of which, all these others stand. If our farmers could only be brought to remember that