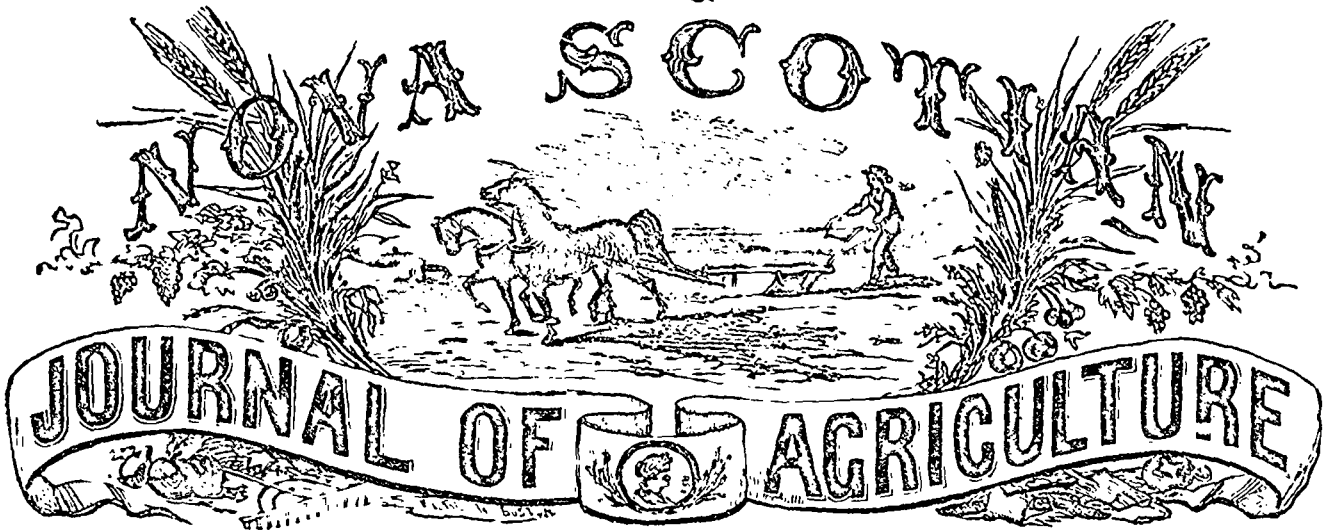


W E S E



Published under direction of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, N. S., SEPTEMBER, 1866.

No. 19.

CONTENTS:

	PAGE.		PAGE.
THE FIELD AND FARM YARD.—		Hants—Inverness—Yarmouth—Pictou—Stewiacke—Cornwallis	166
Introduction of the Naked Barley of Nepal	161	The Windsor Fair and Cattle Show	166
The Long-woolled Sheep	162	PUBLICATIONS.—	
Cattle Diseases in the United States	163	The Phenological Journal	167
Cattle Disease in Maine	163	MISCELLANEOUS.—	
Halifax Branch of the Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals	164	Silk Spider	167
The Fruit Crops in the United States	164	Gold Amalgamation	167
Management of Domestic Poultry	165	Expansion of Ice	168
COMMUNICATIONS.—		An Irish Sulphur Shower	168
Crops in Cape Breton—Margaree	165	PARAGRAPHS.—Good Wheat—Cypripedium Spectabile—Cold in Scotland—Lavedat Hedges—Butter Machine	168

The Field and Farm Yard.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NAKED BARLEY OF NEPAL.

It has already been noticed in this Journal that Sanford Fleming, Esq., C.E., presented to the Board of Agriculture two bushels of a variety of barley new to the province. The barley in question (at first spoken of as Polish Barley) has been raised successfully and proves to be the Naked Barley of Nepal, which is described in English books under the various names of Nepal or Himalayan Barley, Nepal Wheat, Naked Barley, Hordeum Nepalense, Hordeum trifurcatum, and is known by the French as Orge trifurque. It is, apparently, the Hordeum Egiceras of Royle, sometimes described as Tartarian Wheat. There appears to be little doubt but that it is one of the grains repeatedly referred to in Buchanan Hamilton's "Account of the Kingdom of Nepal," under the name of *Uya* which Colonel Madden, in his "Elucidation" of Hamilton's work, refers to Hordeum celeste, "well known to the residents of Simla as the *Ua jao*, or *Ua Barley*, being in high estimation in the preparation of cakes." We enumerate

these names as the result of a rainy-day's investigation undertaken with the view of ascertaining with precision the proper name and relations of Mr. Fleming's grain.

This variety of barley has a remarkably large, fine looking grain without any husk, so that its appearance is more that of wheat than of barley. The plant is remarkably robust, with stout, not very tall, straw, and very broad glaucous green leaves. Our portion of it was sown very late in the spring, but the crop has grown remarkably well, the plants have tillered out, and there is every prospect of a heavy yield.

The Nepal Barley was first introduced into Britain from the Himalayan mountains (where it is said to grow near the line of perpetual snow) in 1817, under the name of Nepal wheat. It was said to be an early variety capable of ripening two crops in one summer, an expectation that has not, so far as we are aware, been realized. There is no doubt however but that it is a most valuable grain, and it is likely to prove as profitable in this country as it has done with the gentleman (— Fleming, Esq., Toronto,) who was instrumental in introducing it into Canada.

We have referred to Buchanan Hamilton's "Account of the Kingdom of Nepal"

for information relative to the character which this barley bears in its native fields, but we do not find much in the way of useful details. The mode of cultivation adopted on the inundated or irrigated lands of the Nepal valley is thus described:—

"Immediately after the Puya crop (a summer rice crop) has been cut, the ground is formed into beds by throwing the earth out of parallel trenches upon the intermediate spaces. On these, about the middle of November, is sown wheat, or sometimes a little barley. These ripen without further trouble, and are cut from 12th April to 12th May. The seed for a rupine is stated to be one pati, and the produce is stated to be two muris. This would make the seed about the fifth part of a bushel an acre, and the produce about fourteen bushels; but this seems to be greatly exaggerated. I have never seen more wretched crops, and most of the fields of wheat are quite choked with hemp (*cannabis saliva*), which in Nepal is a troublesome and useless weed. The wheat and barley are mostly used for making fermented or distilled liquors."

the gentlemen to whom Nepal Barley were sent