

We believe that Mr. Vennor has done good service in keeping up an interest in Meteorology, whatever we may think of his predictions; but, if his object in "reviewing" the weather of the past has been to give anything like an accurate account of the climate, for the information of those wishing to form an opinion of the country, we must say that he has made a lamentable mistake. We acquit him of any bad motive, but no enemy of the country could possibly draw a grosser caricature than he has done by collecting and condensing into one picture the winds, snows, hails, lightnings, floods, whirlwinds, bush fires, and appalling accidents of a continent, as if they were the normal condition of Canada. The book contains ample evidence that the author could, if he liked, give us a thoroughly scientific Manual of Meteorology, that would be useful here, and might serve, by circulation in other countries, to correct the extraordinary views that prevail in reference to our climate. We hope that next year's issue will be of such a character.

We are much pleased to hear of the organization of a Poultry and Pet Club in Halifax. We don't know much as yet about its rules and regulations, not even what its name will be, but as its promoters include in their number such live ornithologists as Mr. Downs, Mr. H. Crosskill, Dr. Lewis, Mr. Piers, Mr. Mackinlay, jr., Mr. Egan, as well as florists like Mr. Harris, we feel assured that the scheme will be carried out with success. We hope the ornithologists and poultry keepers all over the Province will join the Club, and help to form a strong organization, so that Exhibitions worthy of the Province may be held. For many years past, much attention has been given here to the raising of thorough-bred Poultry, but, for want of association, improvers have hitherto been working in ignorance of each other's doings.

Since writing the above, we find the following in the papers:—

POULTRY AND FLOWER ASSOCIATION.—This Association, the probability of the formation of which was mentioned in the *Herald* some days ago, has been organized, and officers have been selected, as follows:—Andrew Downs, Esq., President; H. Harris, Vice-President; Mr. R. J. Wilson, Secretary; Mr. T. Goadge, Assistant Secretary; A. Mackinlay, Esq., Treasurer. The Association starts with good prospects of a successful and useful existence, as the gentlemen who have taken it in hand are all earnest in the work. Though mostly amateurs, there are some professionals, such as Mr. Downs, whose reputation as a naturalist is world wide, and Mr. Harris, with a reputation as a florist something more than Provincial."

At a meeting of the Executive Committee held yesterday afternoon, it was decided to hold the first exhibition of

poultry and flowers on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 26th, 27th and 28th February, 1878. Place to be decided on at a future meeting of committee.

NOTICE.—HALIFAX VETERINARY COLLEGE.—The Classes of the Halifax Veterinary College will commence on the third of January, 1878, and not on the 3rd of July, as stated in last copy of this JOURNAL, by an error in setting the type. Gentlemen being Members of any Agricultural Society in the Province, can have, free of charge, on sending a stamped envelope with address, professional Veterinary Advice on the diseases of the domestic animals.

C. H. BYRNE, V. S., *Principal.*
Grafton Street, Halifax.

It is well known that some species of wild duck show a preference for the seaside and salt water; but the domestic duck is supposed to be exclusively a fresh water species. Salt, it is often said, is a poison to ducks. It appears that this idea is completely erroneous. Our Yarmouth correspondent, C. E. Brown, Esq., writes:—"It is new to me that salt water was supposed to be prejudicial to the duck. Our largest flocks are where the ducks have free access to the salt marshes and creeks, and maintain themselves on shell fish until the fattening season approaches. I had an odd case of adaptation to circumstances a year or two since. A turkey's egg was placed with a setting of ducks, merely to fill out, and partly from curiosity, and when hatched the product was allowed to go to the water; the turkey accompanied them, waded in and swam with the rest; the mother, a hen, considered herself too old to learn to swim, and followed her brood along the shore."

An active member of one of the County Agricultural Societies writes as follows, in reference to the next Provincial Exhibition:—"There should be enterprise and public spirit enough to raise the necessary fund without recourse to taxation. The difficulty, no doubt is to find men who have ability and leisure to take it in hand. The hotel keepers and the traders will profit most largely, and should subscribe liberally.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| 30,000 visitors \$20 each..... | \$600,000 |
| 500 traders to average \$1000. | 500,000 |
| Say..... | \$1,100,000 |

to be expended in the city during Exhibition week.

Professor How has kindly sent to us a sample of the *slag wool* referred to last month, which was made from British slag doubtless, not from Nietaux slag as stated in the paragraph.

N. S. PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION.

Provincial Library, Dec. 20, 1877.

Present: His Worship the Mayor, in the chair; Wm. Duffus, Esq., Chairman of Committee of Halifax Co. Agricultural Society; G. J. Troop, Esq., Alexander Anderson, Esq., J. E. Chipman, Esq., Professor Lawson, Secretary.

Resolved, That the Committee recommend that application be made to have the Provincial Exhibition held in the city of Halifax, in the year 1879.

That a draft be prepared of an Act to empower the Court of Sessions for the County of Halifax to add to the yearly assessment the sum of \$10,000 for the erection of suitable Exhibition Buildings, in or near the city. Mr. J. Norman Ritchie, Q. C., to be requested to draft the Act.

That the draft be submitted to the Court of Sessions of the County, the City Council of Halifax, and the Town Council of Dartmouth.

The Committee are of opinion that if a sufficient extent of land in a suitable locality can be obtained, and buildings erected thereon by a joint stock company, who may utilize them for other purposes, such as cricket ground, driving park, skating rink, poultry and flower shows, concerts, and other public assemblies, it will be preferable to any other scheme that has been submitted. Messrs. Duffus, Troop, Anderson and Chipman, were named as a committee to wait upon influential citizens with a view to carrying this into effect.

HALIFAX COLLEGE OF SCIENCE.

A SECOND meeting of the gentlemen interested in the establishment of a College of Science and Technology in this city was held in the Library room of Dalhousie College on 21st Dec. There were present, Profs. Lawson and Macdonald, and Doctors Honeyman, Sommers, Page, Mackenzie and Payne; and Messrs. Liechti, Gilpin and Keating.

Dr. Lawson, as Chairman, laid before those present the steps that had been taken at a previous meeting, and explained fully the object contemplated by the movers in the matter. He intimated also that already offers of class-room accommodation for teaching purposes had been made; that the Hall in the Public Gardens and the Provincial Museum would, no doubt, be placed at the disposal of the projected school of science; and that the Chemical and Physical Laboratories of the Medical College and Dalhousie College would also be accessible to students, as well as his own Botanical Herbarium.

Dr. Honeyman showed that the collection at the Provincial Museum, which