

we prefer first to thoroughly saturate the bed with water, and after it has dried enough, so that it can be raked without clogging, sow the seed. It is much better to do this than water, after the seed has been sown, as it has a tendency in most soils to bake the surface.

SOWING IN HOT-BEDS.

It would lengthen this chapter too much to give extended directions for sowing seeds in hot-beds. I will briefly say, that after the hot-bed has been formed—say by the first week in March—soil of the kind recommended, be plunged on it six inches deep, into which plunge a thermometer three or four inches, and when the temperature recedes to 75 degrees or 80 degrees, you may then sow, giving air in mild weather as soon as the seeds begin to vegetate, covering up warmly at night with mats, straw, or hay. But many that may read this never saw a hot-bed and are perhaps never likely to have one; to such I would say that there is an excellent substitute on hand in most dwellings, in the kitchen or basement windows, facing South or East, inside of which there is a temperature usually not far from that required for the vegetation of seeds, and where plants from seeds of the early vegetables, or tender plants for the flower border, may be raised nearly as well, and with far less attention than in a hot-bed. Instead of hot-beds, we use our green-houses for the purpose, using shallow boxes in which we sow the seed; these are made from the common soap-box, cut in three pieces, the top and bottom forming two, and the middle piece, bottomed, making the third; these form cheap, convenient boxes. Fill these nearly full with the soil recommended, and after sowing, press nicely down level and make the surface soil moderately firm; keep moist, in a temperature in the window of from 60 to 70 degrees, and your little trouble will soon be rewarded. In this way seeds should be sown thickly, and after they have made the first rough leaf, should be again planted out into the same kind of box, from one to four inches apart, according to the kind, and placed in the window to receive similar treatment as the seeds; but as the season advances, on mild days they should be set out of doors, care being taken that they are brought in at night, and that the soil in the boxes is never allowed to get dry.

I know what is usually the first thing the novice in gardening does if he gets any choice seed or favorite cutting; he has somehow got the belief that there is some hidden virtue in a flower pot, and he accordingly sows seeds or plants his cutting in a pot, but in nine cases out of ten they are destroyed, or partially so, by the continued drying of the soil in the porous flower pot. If early in the sea-

son, let delicate seeds be sown in the kitchen or sitting-room window, in the boxes as recommended, or if late, in the open border; but seeds should never be sown in pots, as even in experienced hands they are much more troublesome and uncertain than boxes.

PEDIGREES.

For the information of purchasers at the sale at Richmond, on 16th Nov., we publish the following Pedigrees that had not been received in time for publication in the Sale Catalogue:—

Devon Bull: THEODORE.

Dark red. Calved May 15th, 1868. Bred by Richard Foley, Bowmanville, Ontario.

Sire Young Hero, bred by Dr. Lowe, Bowmanville. G. S., Lord John Russell. (See Stock Register, Toronto.)

Dam, Fairy, by Conqueror, 105.

G. d., Primrose.

G. g. d., Graceful, imported from England. (Signed) R. D. FOLLY.

Theodore took second Prize as a thorough-bred Devon, at Toronto, 1870.

Short-Horn Heifer: MARKHAM BELLE.

Belle of Markham, red and white. Calved Jan. 21st, 1869. Got by Bell Duke of Oxford, [880.]

Dam, got by Prince of Wales [578] 5100.

Gr. dam., got by Nicol [497] 5037.

Gr. gr. dam., got by Captain [104] (11240.)

Gr. gr. dam, got by Nero [491.]

(Signed) JOHN MILLER.

For GEORGE MILLER.

Markham, Oct. 11th, 1870.

COLCHESTER COUNTY EXHIBITION.

The following Report of the Exhibition at Truro, on 29th September last, appeared in the *Citizen* at the time, and has been sent to us by J. Longworth, Esq., with a request that we should republish it. We hope some of the other counties will follow the example of Colchester in organizing combined Exhibitions:—

An Agricultural Exhibition, under the auspices of the Onslow Agricultural Society, was held at Truro yesterday (Thursday, 29th Sept.) The day was delightful, and the attendance of spectators was very large. Most of those present were from the County of Colchester, although Halifax, Pictou, and nearly all the intermediate stations contributed a fair share as well. Besides the regular Exhibition itself, which must have amply repaid everyone for the trouble of going to it, there were

OTHER ATTRACTIONS;

for the ladies of the Presbyterian congregation at Onslow had made preparations for a Bazaar to be held at the same time; and the

Methodist congregation at Truro also had prepared a "Dinner and Tea," as large letters on the tower of the new Church informed the thousands assembled. The Managing Committee, in each case, had secured the services of a band for the day; and with music and merry belles, substantial and dainties, and articles of handiwork both useful and ornamental, few could resist the allurements of either. Both seemed to be well patronized, and especially were the refreshment tables in great requisition.

THE EXHIBITION

was open to the competition of the whole Province; but there were few exhibitors, except from Colchester County. As a whole, it was a good show, though in many respects there were marked deficiencies. The swine, oxen, colts, and vegetables were particularly good; but the sheep and farming implements were unworthy of the fine country in which the Exhibition was held.

HORSES.

First on the list were the horses. Of these there were some fine specimens of the Clydesdale and Suffolk Punch. There were also some average driving horses of lighter limb and active gait; but the colts were fine. One three-year old had attained the astounding weight of 1,300 pounds, and others younger in years, and one but a few months old, were proportionately large. Some of those under three years old combined beauty with uncommon size, and gave promise of a better class of roadsters and draft horses than those of their immediately preceding generation of equines.

THOROUGH-BREDS.

There were some of the old thorough-bred cattle present, but almost an entire absence of anything new in this class. There were but two or three of these that had not "won money before;" and, therefore, beyond a single Ayrshire calf, call for no particular notice now. In

GRADE CATTLE.

there were some fine specimens. Beginning with the largest, Mr. George Phillips, North River, Onslow, had a yoke of fat oxen six years old, girting nearly eight feet each, and of two tons live weight, together. Mr. Wm. Blake, Shubenacadie, a yoke five years old, over seven feet in girth, and weighing nearly 3,500 lbs. Mr. James Norie, North River, had a yoke of three-year old steers, large, fat, and extremely handsome; and Mr. Wilson Lyons exhibited a yoke, the same age, that formed a fine second to them. Mr. Norie won the first prize on steers two years old also; but the yearlings of Mr. Wilson Lyons were perhaps the finest cattle for their age on the ground. Mr. John McCurdy, of Onslow, exhibited a Grade heifer about two years and two months old, with calf three months old by her side. He declined \$50 for this beautiful specimen of the milky tribe.

THE PIGS,

as we have already indicated, were uncommonly good. The White Chesters were the favourites; and of these, there were many representatives, varying in age from three days to three years, and in weight from a few pounds to several hundreds of pounds; and yet all such perfect specimens of their genus as almost to baffle the skill of the judges. From the sheep pens, which were simply a disgrace to the show, we turn to the