

electric fluid. At such a time, a "wise man will keep clear," if possible, in order to avoid the shock.

**THE TURNIP FLY.**— I lose no time in communicating to you an unexpected discovery, by means of the microscope, of one of the causes of the failure of turnips, for the fact is of some importance. The farmers' two "enemies" are the fly and the mite. The latter, "tam fera quam minima," as mischievous as minute, is described by Baxter as "a little larger than the cheese mite, and but seldom observed." Numbers of them attack the stem of the infant plant at the surface of the ground, and by extracting the sap, soon destroy it. The farmer sees his crop disappear, and is at a loss to account for the cause. "This insect," adds Baxter, "is most prevalent in newly enclosed land." My own crop of turnips this year, would certainly have fallen a sacrifice to the mite, and the "newly enclosed land" would, of course, have been condemned, had I not fortunately discovered by the microscope, that the almost imperceptible dust, which was thickly sprinkled over the seed, was the very enemy in question. I immediately turned to Baxter, who describes the mischief accurately enough, but is very far from supposing that the sower is to blame; yet this is just the fact, and thousands of mites placed upon a slip of glass, and millions of eggs, to be hatched just in time for the common work of destruction, may give the farmer a lively idea of looking well to his seed before he condemns his land. The process of cleansing the seed is very simple. All that is necessary is to shake the seed rather briskly in a rough linen bag, and then to place it upon a hair sieve, under a stream of water from the pump. The mites, previously killed by friction in the bag, as well as the eggs, are entirely washed away; and the seed, after being placed in the sun to dry, may be drilled without the slightest chance of an attack from the mighty slain.—*J. B. Reade, Stone Vicarage, Aylesbury*

We have found that steeping the seed in a strong decoction of tobacco water, had a good effect in preserving the turnip plant.

**CAST-IRON BUILDINGS.**—Buildings of cast-iron are daily increasing at a prodigious rate in England, and it appears that houses are about to be constructed of this material.—As the walls will be hollow, it will be easy to warm the buildings by a single stove placed in the kitchen. A three-story house, containing ten or twelve rooms, will not cost more than £1,100, regard being had to the manner in which it may be ornamented.—Houses of this description may be taken to pieces, and transported from one place to another, at an expense of not more than £25. It is said that a large number of cast-iron houses are about to be manufactured in Belgium and England, for the citizens of Hamburg, whose habitations have been burnt.—*Mining Journal.*

**POWER OF STEAM.**—It is on the rivers, and the boatman may repose on his oars; it is on the highways, and exerts itself along the courses of land conveyance; it is at the bottom of mines, a thousand feet below the earth's surface; it is in the mill and the workshops of the traders. It rows, it pumps, it excavates, it carries, it draws, it lifts, it hammers, it spins, it weaves, it prints.—*Webster's Lectures.*

**JEWISH DIVORCE.**—Jewish process of divorce, says an old English publication, is

short and unattended with expense. Each party enters the synagogue attended by two priests, where after stating the cause of divorce, the woman is asked if she is willing to part with her husband, on answering in the affirmative, he throws at her the bill of divorce, each spitting in the other's face, and exclaiming "Cursed be they who shall wish to bring us together."

**HOME DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY**

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF  
**His Excellency the Right Hon. Sir Charles Bagot, &c. &c.**

**PURSUANT TO PUBLIC NOTICE,** the Officers of this Society met at the Court House, in the City of Toronto, on the 10th day of August, 1842, for the purpose of making the necessary arrangement for the Autumn Fair and Fat Cattle Show.

The President EDWARD W. THOMPSON, Esqr., Warden for the District, took the Chair, whereupon it was Resolved,—

That the Autumn Fair and Fat Cattle Show, be held at the City of Toronto, upon the piece of ground in front of the New Gaol and Court House, on WEDNESDAY, the twelfth day of October next, when the undermentioned Premiums are to be awarded for the following Stock:—

**SHEEP.**

Rams.	Best.	Second.	Third.
" One Shear,	£1. 10.	£1.	10s.
" Two Shear,	1. 10.	1.	10s.
" Aged,.....	1. 10.	1.	10s.
" Lamb,.....	0. 15.	10s.	5s.

**EWES—PEN OF TWO.**

Best	£1. 10.	Second	£1.	Third	10s.
------	---------	--------	-----	-------	------

**EWELAMBS—PEN OF TWO.**

Best	15s.	Second	10s.	Third	5s.
------	------	--------	------	-------	-----

**YOUNG HORSES.**

**HORSES UNDER THREE YEARS OLD.**

Best	£1. 10.	Second	£1.	Third	10s.
------	---------	--------	-----	-------	------

**MARES UNDER THREE YEARS OLD.**

Best	£1. 10.	Second	£1.	Third	10s.
------	---------	--------	-----	-------	------

**HORSE OR MARE UNDER TWO YEARS OLD.**

Best	£1. 10.	Second	£1.	Third	10s.
------	---------	--------	-----	-------	------

**SPRING FOAL OR FILLY.**

Best	£1. 0.	Second	15s.	Third	7s. 6.
------	--------	--------	------	-------	--------

**YOUNG CATTLE.**

**BULLS UNDER TWO YEARS OLD.**

Best	£1. 0.	Second	15s.	Third	10s.
------	--------	--------	------	-------	------

**HEIFERS UNDER TWO YEARS OLD.**

Best	£1. 0.	Second	15s.	Third	10s.
------	--------	--------	------	-------	------

**SPRING BULL CALF.**

Best	£1. 0.	Second	15s.	Third	10s.
------	--------	--------	------	-------	------

**SPRING HEIFER CALF.**

Best	£1. 0.	Second	15s.	Third	10s.
------	--------	--------	------	-------	------

**FAT CATTLE AND SHEEP.**

**PAIR OF FAT CATTLE REARED AND FED IN THE HOME DISTRICT.**

Best	£2. 0.	Second	£1. 10.	Third	£1.
------	--------	--------	---------	-------	-----

**PEN OF THREE FAT SHEEP FED IN THE HOME DISTRICT.**

Best	£1. 10.	Second	£1.	Third	15s.
------	---------	--------	-----	-------	------

**SWINE.**

**BOARS.**

Best	£1. 10.	Second	£1.	Third	15s.
------	---------	--------	-----	-------	------

**SOWS.**

Best	£1. 10.	Second	£1.	Third	15s.
------	---------	--------	-----	-------	------

Persons intending to become competitors for Premiums, are informed that Pens have been constructed for the purpose of confining the different animals, so as to prevent their straying or being unnecessarily driven about; for the temporary use of which the competitors will be charged one shilling and three pence each.

A piece of ground adjoining the Show Yard will be appropriated for the exhibition of Stock for sale, and an Auctioneer will be in attendance to offer the same for disposal.

As an encouragement to those enterprising farmers who have already imported Stock into this Province, and as an inducement to others to follow their example, it has been resolved that if any animal entered for competition be deemed, by the Judges, worthy of the first Prize, and if the owner of the same prove to the satisfaction of the Judges, that such specimen of Stock has been imported from Great Britain since the last Autumn Fair, he shall upon producing certificates of the age and breed of the animal, be entitled to the thanks of the Society, and receive double the amount of the Premium which would be otherwise awarded.

No person shall be allowed to compete for any of the above Premiums, unless he shall have been a member of this Society for at least four months previous to the day of the Fair, or pay the sum of fifteen shillings upon entering his Stock.

The Society have entered into such arrangements in the selection and appointment of Judges, as to prevent any idea of partiality.

No person or persons other than the Officers of the Society, are to interfere with the Judges when in the discharge of their duties, by conversation or otherwise.

In order to prevent any idea of partiality in awarding the Prizes, each competitor for a Premium shall be furnished by the Secretary, (George D. Wells, Esqr.), with a numerical ticket, to be fastened to each animal entered for a Prize.

The Stock in the Show Yard will not until the Premiums are awarded, be known to the Judges by the name of the owner's of graziers, but solely by the tickets and numbers corresponding with the Secretary's list.

The Stock to be on the ground by ten o'clock in the morning, and remain until three, P. M. At 12 o'clock noon, the Judges will commence their duties of inspection and decision.

The names of the successful candidates—the Premiums they shall have received—and for what adjudged—will be publicly announced by the President, at two o'clock, P. M. from the front steps of the old Court House, upon Church Street, and afterwards published.

The Fat Cattle and Sheep must be offered for sale to the Butchers, before the amount of any Premium for the same shall have been paid to their owners.

The Secretary will be in attendance at the Office of Messrs. Wells & FitzGerald, 150 King Street, Toronto, at 10 o'clock, on the morning of the Exhibition, for the purpose of entering the names of, and issuing tickets to the various competitors. At 11 o'clock the Secretary's lists will be closed, after which hour no further entry can be made.

**A Ploughing Match.**

Instead of a Grain and Root Exhibition, the Society have ordered that a sum not exceeding fifteen pounds be appropriated for Prizes in a Ploughing Match, to take place on Thursday, the 13th day of October next; and that the following Gentlemen, Messrs. Torrance, George D. Wells, Gubb, D. Smilie, and N. Davis, be a Committee to obtain a field of Green sward, and make the necessary arrangements, of which due notice will be given to the public.

N. B. The above Committee will meet at the Office of Messrs. Wells & FitzGerald, 150 King Street, upon Wednesday, the 7th day of September, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Any person having a suitable Green sward Field within five miles of the City, will have the goodness to give notice of the same to the Secretary, George D. Wells, Esqr., before the 7th day of September next.

**GEORGE D. WELLS,**  
*Secretary, H. D. A. S.*