Grasshopper Plague. Notwithstanding the wet weather, these insects have increased rapidly during the mowing season. One of the best remedies is to turn in flocks of turkeys upon the infested fields; they feed greedily upon grasshoppers, and fatten upon them, so that turkey-labour is self-paying and self-sustaining. We have noticed this season, that grasshoppered fields are even more attractive than grain fields to crows, immense flocks of which have been treading down the grass in quest of insect food. This shows that the winged blacks, although too partial to poultry yards, orchards, and gardens, are yet not entirely devoid of redeeming quality.

H. Chisholm, Esq., St. Andrews, Antigonishe, writes that an Agricultural Society has been formed there. We hope next month to be able to give full particulars.

Since the suspension of the Tichborne Trial, the paragraphists of English newspapers have had their hands pretty full of Monster Mushrooms. Nearly all the English counties seem to be contributing. Would you be surprised to hear that in Lincolnshire a mushroom was found, measuring 54 inches in circumference, the stem 8 inches round, and the weight 4½ lb. It is described as of "a beautiful red colour," which clearly indicates a case of mistaken identity, and we would not be surprised to hear that the people who swallowed it experienced peculiar sensations afterwards.

In England, Wool is advancing in price. Hops are dear, the accounts of the hop gardens being very unfavourable.

Sales of Thorough-bred Stock are now so numerous that it is difficult to "keep track" of the various strains of blood. At the end of July a draught was sold from Her Majesty's Short Horn Herd at Windsor. Marquis of Lorne, a calf, sold for 46 guineas, Princess Louise, 33 guineas, and many other animals, bearing the names of members of the Royal Family, at corresponding prices. The Herd was originally formed by Prince Albert. Lord Dunmore has bought two small heifer calves from Mr. Cochran, of Compton, Canada, for 2,500 guineas! they will be shipped to England next month. Mr. Bell's "History of Improved Short Horns" is in the press, and is looked for with much interest by English and American breeders.

R. G. Tremain, Esq., Agent of the Agricultural Fire Insurance Company, is desirous of bringing his Company fully under the notice of our readers, and has applied for extensive advertising space. This it is beyond our power to grant. Our Journal being so small and designed for the information of our farmers, we make a rule of declining long advertisements on whatever subject. We therefore meet Mr. T's. wishes as far as possible by giving a brief notice of the Company. The Agricultural is a Stock Company established in 1853, at Watertown, New York State. Cash Assets $600,000. Deposited with Finance Minister at Ottawa $100,000. Within the past year the Society has made a successful effort in extending its business into Canada, and has now commenced operations in Nova Scotia. Farmers as a class have not been in the habit hitherto of insuring their property against loss by fire. The special inducement held out by the Agricultural is a low rate of premium, viz., two per cent for three years, that is on payment of $2, the Company issues to the applicant a policy which covers his property against loss or damage by fire or lightning in the sum of $100 *for three years*. The Company insures only detached Private Residences and Farm properties, including farm buildings, live stock, &c., but not General Stocks in Trade, Public Buildings, nor Manufactories. The Company is recommended by D. D. Calvin, M.P.P., J. Carruthers & Co., and other gentlemen in Ontario of known probity.

THE MANAGEMENT AND TREATMENT OF GRASS LAND.

Some time ago Professor Wrightson read a capital paper on this subject before the Brecon Agricultural Society. We here give the substance of it from the *Gardeners' Chronicle*.

Professor Wrightson said the subject would be considered under three or four sections, and the following headings appeared to him as allowing of an exhaustive treatment—1st, laying land down to grass; 2d, the improvement of already existing grass land, although it may not be in good condition; 3d, some hints on the general management of grass lands.

(1.) *The Laying of Land down to Grass.*—There was an immense difference between enjoying the possession or occupancy of old grass land and taking steps to exchange old going tillage land into a similar condition. The reason was obvious. It required time to give to old sward its characteristic verdure, vigour, and thickness of cover. The new laid was at once known to the practised eye by its sparse vegetation, want of elasticity under foot, and upstart appearance. The first question he had to answer was: "Why is this difficulty met with? How is it that land cannot be made to grow abundant grass crops as certainly as it grows corn and Clover?" He would ask them to call to mind the appearance of an old piece of grass land which had been just ploughed up. They might picture it situated in a clay arable land district, and when they made the comparason they would be at once struck with the marked difference between the newly broken up land and that which had for years been under the plough. If they looked at the land which had previously been pasture and which had been recently broken up, a peculiar black colour, an absence of stones, a friability and lightness of texture, and a large admixture of organic matter would be at once observed in contradistinction to the brick-like furrow, yellow or red hue, and stony character of the arable furrow. This black, friable, stoneless character of newly broken-up grass land was the result of the long-continued action of two or three simple forces. In the first place, there was the decay of successive generations of grass roots, which left organic matter in the soil, and tended to render it friable. Then, in the second place, there were the untiring labours of the common earthworm, which, but for Mr. Darwin, would, perhaps, have remained unknown. The earthworm obtained its nourishment by passing earth through its body. After it had absorbed certain nutritive properties from the earth, it expelled what it had taken in the form of earth-casts. The consequence was a continual top-dressing of the land. Sometimes their grass land might take well for the first year or two, and then the , perhaps, languished, and it was years before they had that character of land which was known as old permanent pasture land. This threw some light upon the difficulty of lying down arable land to pasture. Arable land, after it had been worked by the plough for many years, was apt to become very tenacious; and if grass seeds were sown upon it, they could imagine what would be the result at first.

Then there was another difficulty connected with newly-laid grass land, and that was with regard to sowing the proper seeds. It was found that various grasses were suited to various localities; and, therefore, if they went to a London seedsman and got a mixture of grass seeds, and sowed those seeds into the land about to be turned into pasture, they would probably find that there were many grasess which were not suited to the locality in which they had been sown. They might then get an improper mixture of grass seed, and, if they did, the wrong varieties of grass would have to die out. But they might not only get an improper mixture, they might get seed of bad quality. He could not approve of that plan which had been sometimes recommended, viz., sowing the hay seeds of the neighbourhood. If they examined the Tables of the growth of grasses, in which the period of the ripening of various grasses in pastures was worked out, they would see that there was an immense difference in the time of ripening. Some grasses ripened as early as the beginning of May, while some were as late as August. How could they then expect to get hay seeds all cut at the same time in equal perfection. Some of them would be over-ripe, and some not ripened.

In the next place, with reference to the