

were left ten or twenty pairs would be carried away of a night by chicken thieves. Enough, enough, let us now turn the Philadelphian picture to the wall.

### BOTANICAL CONGRESS AT PARIS.

We observe it stated, on the authority of M. Chatin, that the Botanical Society of France intends to organize an International Botanical Congress, the programme of which will be shortly issued. There are likewise special arrangements for horticultural and pomological exhibitions, and a scheme of prizes for garden products has been published.

### Communications.

#### UNION AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF EAST CORNWALLIS.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.—APATHY OF MEMBERS—IMPROVEMENT OF STOCK—CROPS.

To the President of the Union Agricultural Society of East Cornwallis:—

SIR,—In submitting my annual report of the Union Agricultural Society of East Cornwallis for the year ending this date, I beg to say, that while there has been an increase of members, and a desire on the part of some of our farmers to extend the usefulness of our Society, there is confessedly a great want of spirit and enterprise to make our Society the really useful institution that such institutions are calculated to be.

The attendance of members at the regular meetings is much less than is desirable, and the disposition evinced in the discussion of topics connected with our calling, is feeble and defective.

Our annual dues are quite too small to enable the society to import or purchase all the improved breeds of stock, sheep and swine we really require, and until our dues are increased, and the moneys due the Society are promptly paid, our transactions in the purchase and keeping imported bulls, etc., must be conducted on a limited scale.

The Society deems it better to husband its funds and purchase one or more bulls of improved breeds, than to expend its funds in an exhibition of stock.

At the September meeting they placed the bulls, Sir Gaspard and the General, in the hands of the council, to be disposed of as they might see fit. Sir Gaspard was sold to an Agricultural Society in Co. Limerick county for \$50. The General was taken to Windsor, exhibited at the show and fair of the Windsor Agricultural Society, and obtained the first prize. As no satisfactory offer was made for him, he was brought back, and is now in good condition.

At a special meeting held in October, a committee was appointed, consisting of Levi Eaton and Jonathan Rand, Esqrs., to proceed to Halifax and purchase one or more bulls for the Society—one Durham, and one of some other breed, as they might determine. The gentlemen attended to their duty, and upon examining the various bulls, they purchased the red Durham bull Sir William, a yearling, weighing alive thirteen hundred and sixty pounds, and comes well recommended, and is certainly a fine animal of his age, cost \$185.

As the season has much to do with the growth and perfection of the barn crops, of farm produce, fruits and vegetables, we beg to say that seldom has there been so peculiar a season for many years past. In the early part of the season there was rather more rain than usual, which was followed by a drought for almost a month, and as soon as the weather broke again a more rainy season has not been known for many years, making farming operations broken and tedious.

On dry and sandy soils and gravelly loams, the continued wet had a beneficial effect in producing a larger growth of plants, etc., than usual; but on clay and retentive soils the rain had a very severe effect in injuring the growth of many kinds of vegetables, and the frequent rains prevented the farmer from securing his crops, especially the hay and grain, in as good condition as in former years. Upon the whole, in this section of the township, the crops are better than could be expected with so much moisture. The hay crop is a fair average one, and the early cut was secured in good condition; but on late meadows there are much of the crops partially damaged, and some totally destroyed.

But little wheat was sown this season, but has proved in many instances to be of superior quality, little injured by the weevil, which seems to be gradually disappearing, and we hope soon to be able to grow more of the staff of life, and not to depend on a foreign supply.

Rye not largely sown, both winter and summer. Some have proved indifferent in quantity and quality.

Oats are more than an average crop; more sown than usual, and of better quality.

Indian Corn is more than an average crop, and we would recommend that farmers would sow more than heretofore, especially of the early varieties. The prices of all kinds of bread stuff are so high it is desirable that the cultivation of all coarser kinds of grain be attended to.

Potatoes not an average crop, and not of as good quality nor keeping as well as in former years, and are inclined to the old-fashioned rot or decay.

Turnips are more largely sown than

last year, and of better quality than for some years.

All kinds of garden vegetables are of superior quality, and more largely grown than in former years.

The fruit, especially apples, was not so large a crop as in former years; and while some kinds are superior others are indifferent.

The income and expenditure of the Society, for the past year, will be found in the Treasurer's accounts, which have been submitted and approved by the Society.

Officers elected for the ensuing year:—*President*, Leander Eaton, Esq.; *Vice Pres.*, Robert Starr, Esq.; *Secretary and Treas.*, D. N. Newcomb, Esq.

E. E. DICKIE,

*Late Sec'y & Treas.*

Cornwallis, 4th Dec., 1866.

#### REPORT OF MALBOU AND PORT HOOD AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, FOR THE YEAR 1866.

The officers and directors of the Malbou and Port Hood Agricultural Society beg to report the proceedings of such Society for the year just ended, as follows, that is to say:—

That a considerable amount of funds being at the disposal of the Society, as by the statement hereinafter will appear, a meeting of the officers and directors of such Society was duly called and held on the 30th day of August last, for the purpose of appropriating such funds, in such manner as best appeared for carrying out the objects of the society, when it was decided that an importation of improved breeds of cattle and sheep from P. E. Island, was advisable. Mr. John McNeil, one of the directors of the society, was accordingly nominated, and authorized to employ a vessel and to proceed to the said place for the purpose of purchasing and importing such cattle and sheep. Delay, however, being incurred owing to the difficulty of chartering any vessel, and the Provincial stock having been advertised in the interim, Mr. McNeil's visit to the Island was abandoned, and instead he was authorized to attend and make such purchases of cattle and sheep at the said Provincial sale, as, being in attendance, he might consider the most profitable, and for that purpose all the available funds of the society were placed at his disposal.

Having accordingly attended such sale on the 2nd day of November last, Mr. McNeil made purchase of the following stock at the following prices, viz:—

No. 5.—1 Bull, "Duke of Edinburgh,"	price \$75 00
6.—1 do. "Cato,"	" 70 00
14.—1 Heifer, "Nelly the Third,"	" 97 50
18.—1 Shearling Cotswold Ram,	" 40 00
24.—1 do. do. do. ....	" 16 00
32.—1 Leicester do. do. ....	" 48 00

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