

the special purpose of testing the capabilities of that portion of the country for sheep farming, on the plan usually adopted in Scotland. It is proposed to purchase improved breeds of sheep suitable for a rough country. We wish the project every success, and will look with interest for the result of the experiment. The office-bearers of the new society are A. C. A. Doane, *President*; O. W. Homer, *Vice-President*; R. H. Crowell, *Secretary*; F. Homer, *Treasurer*. *Directors*: S. Westwood, R. Hogg, W. Watt, A. Watson, and Jacob Kendrick.

### FARM AND GARDEN OPERATIONS IN AUGUST.

Usually by far the most important operations of this month are the mowing, curing, and housing of HAY. But this year the hay season has advanced so rapidly in July that there is not much haying left for the month of August. It is only in late localities that haying will form a prominent feature in the month's operations.

In Cape Breton and some other eastern parts of the province, haying was protracted last year to a very late period, by the prevalence of wet weather. Much of the hay had to lie on the ground for weeks, from this cause. In some wet countries a practice is in use which might advantageously be introduced in such cases. The hay is spread upon hurdles raised sufficiently above the ground to allow a free current of air to pass underneath. In this way the hay does not suffer from rain, and dries very rapidly. Hurdles such as those commonly used for the drying of fish would answer, and they might be made much simpler and more economically than those; all that is wanted is a cheap, temporary, easily handled support for the hay, which might be improvised by the use of old fence poles, or similar material. Where (as in P. E. Island) the fields are fenced by portable fences (called "flakes" in Scotland,) these might be conveniently used for curing the hay.

So soon as haying is completed, it will be necessary for the farmer to look about the fields and farm yard to see what operations, if any, have been neglected during that engrossing season. The Cows and other cattle will probably be turned into the fields to enjoy the after-math; it will be well to see that they do not suffer by the sudden change of food. Whenever an animal seems to do so, do not wait for serious illness, but give it at once a dose of Epsom salts,—say half a pound for a cow,—it can do no harm, and may save a great deal of after trouble, as well as the life of the animal. Horses will feel better of a little nitre.

Before turning the cattle into the hay field it is necessary to see that apple and other FRUIT TREES (especially young ones) are properly secured from their depredations, otherwise a scratchy cow may break down more trees before breakfast than she is worth. The most effectual protection is to drive in four stakes around the tree, each at a distance of two yards or so from it, and to connect these with horizontal rails. Less grass is lost by driving in the stakes obliquely near the root of the tree, and allowing their tops to spread out from it.

It is a good practice to TOP DRESS the grass lands as soon as possible after the hay is cut. With this view attention should be given to the compost heaps, and, where practicable

the compost may be at once carted to the fields. If not done now the probability is that wet weather will come on and prevent its being done until winter comes, with its bad weather, short days, and many cares. Lime and bone dust may also be applied at this time with good effect. Ashes, guano, superphosphate, and other manures containing much soluble matter we would prefer to apply in the spring.

ROOT CROPS should be kept clean and well hoed.

This is a good time to make plantations of STRAWBERRIES, so as to enable the plants to get well established before the approach of winter.

In the FRUIT GARDEN the principal operation of the month is the gathering of fruit; and in the FLOWER GARDEN little requires to be done beyond weeding and tidying. Dahlias and other tall autumn flowers should be tied to their stakes, and verbenas pegged down so as to cover the borders. Carnations will require to be layered, and cuttings made of pansies, pinks, &c., for flowering next season. The seeds of annuals will now begin to ripen, and should be carefully collected, and dried in the sun. Sage and savory for winter use may be tied up in bundles, and dried in the shade.

All fruit trees and bushes should be labelled as the fruit ripens, so that the varieties may be afterwards known, when cuttings or scions are required.

**NEW MEMBER OF THE AGRICULTURAL BOARD.**—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, by the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to appoint Henry Yeomans, Esq., to be a member of the Board of Agriculture, in place of Capt. Hugonin, resigned.

**NEWPORT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**—This society will hold an exhibition at the farm of Mr. Allison, the President, on Wednesday, 20th September.

**THE HORSE "SHAMROCK."**—The horse "Shamrock," called also "Challenger," from Prince Edward Island, is serving mares this season up till end of July, at the following places: Beaver Bank Station, Rawdon, Douglas Cove, and Kennetcook Corner. The horse is 5 years old, stands 16 hands high, is healthy, of good make, and is under charge of Mr. Thomas H. Lavers.

**HERD BOOK.**—A herd book will, we hope be required in Nova Scotia in course of time. Meantime we shall be glad to publish such pedigrees of animals in the province as may be sent for that purpose.

**REMARKABLE GROWTH OF INDIAN CORN IN CORNWALLS.**—At a meeting of the Central Board of Agriculture, held at Halifax on 27th June, Dr. C. C. Hamilton, M.P.P., showed a stock of Indian Corn measuring 4 feet 4 inches in length. That is a great size for Indian Corn in British America in the month of June. It had been grown in Dr. Hamilton's garden, and being under shelter of a spruce hedge, escaped the frosts we have had this season. It was of the yellow Canadian variety, which is a robust grower.

**AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.**—The great meeting was fixed for Plymouth 12th July. We hope to give some account of it in next number.

**ANTIGONISH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**—**IMPORTATION OF SHEEP AND OTHER STOCK.**—At a recent meeting of the Antigonish society, it was decided to expend the whole, or the greater portion, of the Society's funds this year in the Importation of stock, sheep in particular. Two bulls have been obtained. This purchase of stock is to be followed up by a Fair in 1866, preparatory to the Provincial Exhibition expected to be held in 1867.

**MR. WRIGHT'S HAY FIELD.**—One of the heaviest and finest fields of hay we have seen for a long time is on the farm of Henry T. Wright, Esq., Sackville. The timothy ears reach nearly to the top of the tall fence, and there is beneath a close growth of red clover. May we hope to see the day when all the fields in Sackville will produce as heavy a crop?

**GREAT WEIGHT OF FLEECE AT WINDSOR.**—It will be recollected that the Board of Agriculture imported a few animals from New Brunswick last season, including Leicester and Cotswold rams and lambs. At the auction, one of the latter was bought by the Hon R. A. McHaffey, M. L. C., Windsor, and we are informed that in shearing this spring, the fleece, after being carefully picked and washed, weighed ten pounds! We see some heavy weights of fleeces given in the American and Canadian papers; but in order to a fair comparison they should give us the weight of clean washed wool, and not the combined weight of wool, dirt, grease, as is always done. We shall be glad to publish the weight of fleeces of the rest of the sheep imported from New Brunswick, if the owners will send them.

**SALE OF SHORT-HORNED CATTLE.**—The celebrated herd of short-horned cattle known as the Grand Duchesses and Grand Dukes, the property of the late Mr. Joseph Hegan, of Dawpool, near Birkenhead, were sold yesterday by Mr. Strafford, auctioneer, at Willis's rooms, King-street, St. James's-square. With the exception of Imperial Oxford the entire herd is descended from the celebrated cow Duchess 51st, bred by Mr. Bates, at Kirklevington, who purchased Duchess 1st, at Mr. Charles Collings's sale in 1810, the family having originally been obtained from the ancestors of the Duke of Northumberland.—Cattle of this stock have gained the highest honours in the showyard, and fetched the highest prices at public sales. The cattle remain at Dawpool, where they had been inspected by intending purchasers. The cows were sold in lots with numbers which refer to *Coate's Herd Book*. The first lot (5, 7, and 8), sold for 1,900 guineas; the second lot (9, 13, and 18), for 1,300 guineas; the third lot (10, 15, and 17), for 1,800 guineas; and the fourth lot (11, 12, and 14), for 1,200 guineas. The 12 cows thus fetched £6,510; the average price being £542 10s. They were all bought by Mr. E. L. Betts, of Preston-hall, Kent. The bulls were sold separately. Imperial Oxford was sold for 450 guineas, also to Mr. Betts; Grand Duke 6th was sold for 130 guineas to Mr. Bland, of Coleby hall, Lincoln; Grand Duke 9th, for 310 guineas, to Mr. T. Walker, of Birswell-hall, Coventry; Grand Duke 10th, for 600 guineas, to the Duke of Devonshire; and Grand Duke 13th, for 100 guineas, to Capt. Gunter, of Weatherby-grange. The five bulls thus brought £1,669 10s., their average price being £333 18s. The total price of the 17 head of cattle was £8,179 10s.—*Evening Mail*.