

With regard to our Provincial Exhibitions, it might be well to consider, this winter, whether some system could not be devised whereby the several Maritime Provinces might unite their forces, so as to hold a Maritime Provincial Exhibition every year instead of separate Provincial Exhibitions at longer intervals. The United Exhibition might be held in rotation in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Thus once every three years there could be a Maritime Exhibition in each Province, and the District Exhibitions could go on as at present. One essential feature of Maritime Exhibitions would be that the Rules and Prize List would be drawn up and carried out under direction of representatives from every Province, and another that all arrangements should be made in time to give distant exhibitors as good opportunity to prepare as residents in the locality.

M. T. G., Yarmouth, N. S., writes to the *American Garden* (No. for November) that "the so-called 'Hardy Azaleas' will not stand the winters of Nova Scotia without protection. The correspondent has no doubt got the wrong kinds. The proper hardy Azaleas, varieties of *Azalea pontica*, which are so commonly grown in Europe, are perfectly hardy in Nova Scotia. We have fifty of them planted on an exposed bank, 250 feet above sea level, without any protection or shelter whatever, and they have regularly, for thirteen seasons, been covered with blossoms. They, now large bushes. They have grown rapidly, ripened their wood perfectly every year, and have never lost a shoot from the effects of severe weather. It is different with *Rhododendron ponticum*, which is not hardy. Our truly hardy Rhododendrons are varieties of *R. Catawbiense*, which may be safely planted in any situation, provided they have suitable soil. They are even hardier than our native *R. maximum*, which is sometimes browned a little by the frosty wind.

MAJOR-GENERAL LAURIE sends us, from Oakfield, some remarkable ears that would puzzle any farmer to determine whether they were wheat, barley or rye. He describes them and indicates their source as follows:—

"The enclosed, and a quantity like these, have come up lately in the field in which I had my spring wheat. My wheat was bald. This, as you will see, has a beard. Something of the same sort, came up more than once before, the year following a crop of wheat. What is it, a weed or a bastard wheat? The ears never filled beyond what you see. There is a large flag on the stalk."

We have examined the specimens and find them to be a degenerated form of wheat,—not the true wild wheat, *Egilops ovata*, from which all wheats are supposed to have been originally derived, but an intermediate form. The glumes, palea and beard are greatly developed at expense of the grain. The General's specimens are very interesting in a scientific point of view, and show how soon we should lose the wheat as a useful plant if its cultivation were neglected and the plant allowed to sow itself.

In one respect the Provincial Exhibition at Truro seems to have resulted differently from any other Exhibition in Nova Scotia. We have been so accustomed to hear the Judges at Exhibitions berated for their senseless work that it is quite a relief to read the Circular issued by the Truro Committee:

"Dear Sir,—I have much pleasure in obeying the instructions of the Exhibition Committee by conveying to you their thanks for your prompt acceptance of the position of Judge at the late Exhibition, and also for the care and ability displayed by you in the discharge of the very onerous duties connected with your work upon that occasion. Much of the admitted success attending that Fair they concede to your excellent judgment in awarding the various prizes that have given more than usual satisfaction both to the Committee and the public. E. W. HAMILTON, Sec.

It is worth while occasionally to compare the institutions of the old country with corresponding ones in the new. The Halifax Horticultural Society has ceased to exist long ago. In Dundee, a manufacturing town in Scotland, the local Horticultural Society has had an income during the present year of \$4700, the membership being 719. The Show, which was lighted by electric light, was visited by 20,000 people, the admission money amounting to \$2000. An International Show is to be held in Dundee in 1884.

MR. JAKEMAN, V. S., the Provincial Veterinary Surgeon, attended officially at Truro during the Provincial Exhibition; he subsequently visited Pictou Town, New Glasgow and Antigonish 29th to 31st October. This week he is visiting Windsor, Kentville and Annapolis. Scale of Fees (modified under arrangement with the Board):—Visits, advice and prescription, \$1 for first and 50 cents for each succeeding visit. Medicines extra at reasonable rates. Operations from \$1 up to \$5, according to nature and circumstances. When

called specially to a distance at places or times not advertised, the charge will be \$5 per full day, and actual necessary travelling expenses.

When, fifty years ago, Professor Dick opened his Edinburgh Veterinary College, he had only two or three students, but in course of years the number increased, and there are now three well-filled Veterinary Colleges in Scotland. A statue to the late Professor was unveiled the other day, by the Lord Provost of Edinburgh with great pomp. Dr. Dick was the first man in Scotland to give practical effect to the idea of imparting Veterinary instruction to students. He was the son of a blacksmith. While working at the forge with his father he attended University classes. The dignity of the Anatomy Students was touched, and the Professor, Munro Secundus, reproved them by announcing that whether young Dick was a blacksmith or a whitesmith he did not know, but he did know that he was the cleverest chieftain among them.

The Noblemen and Gentlemen and Scientific men of England have some ideas that would do credit to a Nova Scotian farmer. The latest one is the lecturing of FARMERS' WIVES. Mr. Jenkins, the Secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society, has been doing this, and with good effect, at the Royal Dublin Society. Mr. Jenkins' ideas, to a large extent, correspond with our own, for we have repeatedly complained at Agricultural lectures and meetings throughout the country that the societies merely bring together the grown and old men, whereas the mothers and young people, boys and girls, are far more apt and hopeful pupils. That ladies have no lot or part in the agricultural meeting is an idea that has originated and been reared in Nova Scotia alone, and the sooner it is put under its native soil the better will it be for the country. The Farmers' Granges deserve much credit for the influence of their example in frowning it down. We have not room for Mr. Jenkins' lecture, which is of great length, but we shall try by abridgement to give its leading thoughts:—

"If a farmer's wife can afford to pay hired persons to perform her duties for her, she is quite at liberty to do so. She will be better served, like everybody else, if she herself knows exactly how each of her duties ought to be performed. I am speaking, of course, of the strictly professional duties of the wife of a farmer; but, no doubt, the same statement might be truthfully made of the household and other duties of wives in general.