

Field roots in mangels, beets, carrots and parsnips were shown in abundance; persons present who have had good opportunities of forming an opinion pronounced the collection quite equal to any that has been produced in the Province.

The day was fine and passed off pleasantly, impressing upon those in attendance the fact that in defiance of long winters and short seasons well directed industry and perseverance can obtain satisfactory returns from the soil of our Province.

Windsor, 14th October, 1870.

YARMOUTH TOWNSHIP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Society held its annual meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 6th, as prescribed by law. Treasurer's report presented and passed. Voted to re-organize and appoint officers for ensuing year.

Appointed as follows:—

Pres.—John Patten.

Vice-Pres.—R. K. Rose.

Sec'y.—James Crosby.

Treas.—Geo. M. Patten.

Managing Committee.—Stephen Churchill, Chas. Rogers, John McCormach, Charles Porter and William Murphy.

The Society had no exhibition the past season, for the reason that the purchase of a full blood Ayrshire Bull absorbed the funds, and we at present owe about 30 dollars on the bull, which can be paid after drawing Provincial Grant for 1870. We have at present on hand the bull above mentioned costing \$80, and a pure blood Alderney three years of age, a very fine animal, the stock from which is much prized, worth probably \$100.

JAMES CROSBY, *Sec'y.*

MAHONE BAY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S FAIR AND CATTLE SHOW.

The Fair and Cattle Show of the Mahone Bay Agricultural Society was held near Henry Schmar's store. It was the first held since the Society was organized. It turned out very well for the first. The show of cattle was small but there were some very fine oxen and cows. The sheep fair but very few. The fowls and ducks very fine, the half-bred Murcovy extra; they surpass the thoroughbred. The vegetable department was very good. There was a very fair sample of apples also.

GEORGE DUNCAN, *Sec'y.*

[We cannot find room for the List of Prizes.—Ed. J. A.]

The officers of the Mahone Bay Agricultural Society beg to submit the following report for the past year. They cannot report much progress since our last annual meeting with the exception of the Fair and Cattle Show, which was small but very creditable for the first since the Society has been organized. The stock from the bull now owned by the Society is likely to prove very good, his calves appear to be thrifty and well formed. At the last meeting the Society decided to purchase two ewes and a ram. The President attended the sale of the imported stock, but there were no sheep there and he proceeded to Windsor and bought three ewes and a ram, which will we hope prove satisfactory. There is nothing particular to report.

The crops we are pleased to say, have been an average as respects the grain and hay. The potatoes proved better than for many years past, and God has been pleased to give us one of the finest seasons ever known, for which we have reason to be very thankful to the Giver of all good.

The following are the officers elected for the next year.—*Pres.*, B. Zwicker, Esq.; *Vice-Pres.*, William Kedy; *Sec'y.*, George Duncan; *Treas.*, Joseph Zwicker; *Directors*, Jacob Ernst, E. B. Hyson, John Mader, Henry Schmare, Joseph Mader.

B. ZWICKER, *Pres.*,
GEO. DUNCAN, *Sec.*

Miscellaneous.

VEGETABLE GARDEN.

PREPARATION OF THE GROUND.—To secure a fair return in seasonable crops, for the labor and outlay invested, it is essential that the soil of the Vegetable Garden should be well under-drained, thoroughly trenched or subsoiled, and enriched by a judicious application of fertilizing material. It is still the current opinion, based on experience, that for all purposes, well composted barn-yard manure, when available, is the best material. We do not deny, however, that several of the concentrated manures, now manufactured, are useful and convenient, especially for a succession of crops.

The exposure of a garden has much to do with the early maturity of the crops; an exposure to the morning sun is desirable. The soil must be in a friable state to secure the prompt vegetation of the seeds, and the destruction, or rather, prevention of weeds, is one of the most desirable results of frequent stirring of the surface. Soils are susceptible of alteration and improvement in texture; heavy clays can be rendered open and porous, and light sandy soils may be consolidated and rendered more retentive of moisture. For all such details we must refer the amateur to more extensive treatises on these subjects.

GARDEN REQUISITES.—There are several aids to the economical management of the garden, which are almost indispensable; one of these is the HOT-BED frame for the forwarding of plants for early planting. A frame may be made of various sizes, according to the size of garden, from four sashes upwards. The length of sash is generally seven feet, by three and a half wide, the size of glass six by eight inches, making the entire frame of four sashes, fourteen by seven feet. The frame should have a southern or south-eastern exposure, should be made up with fresh horse manure and a few leaves mixed with it; this must be laid in a heap preparatory to being used, and when in a proper state of fermentation, prepared for the reception of the frame. A few inches of rich loamy soil must be spread over the manure, then cover the frame with

the sashes, and after standing a few days to a low the rank heat and steam to pass off, the seed can be sown. Where the ground is well drained, a better plan is to dig out a space the size of the frame, from one to two feet deep, according to the season and the heat required, in which the manure is placed, care being taken to pack it firmly and evenly.

In addition to the Hot-bed frame, mats or shutters will be required to cover the sash during cold days and nights. To work the garden, the necessary implements—spade, fork, shovel, rakes, hoes, trowel, garden-line and reel, watering pot, and wheelbarrow are the most important.

—From Dreer's Calendar.

A SELECTION OF HARDY SHRUBS.

As the season will soon be at hand when most sorts of hardy trees and shrubs can be transplanted, we give a selection of twenty-five species and varieties as a guide to such of our readers as may desire to beautify the surroundings of their homes. A few of them are comparatively well known, but most of them are of recent introduction, none of them are coarse-growing or of uncivilized appearance, and all are hardy as far north as Albany, at least.

After planting them a mulching two or three inches thick of salt hay or long stable litter should be spread over the soil for two or three feet around each plant, according to its size, and allowed to remain the succeeding summer.

Amygdales punilla, fl. pl.—The Double-flowering Almond. This plant is especially desirable on account of its early and profuse blooming. It grows about thirty inches high, and spreads somewhat. There is also a double white variety.

Kerria japonica, fol. var.—A variegated-leaved variety of the well-known *Corehorus*. It is of recent introduction from Japan. The foliage is edged with white; the plant is a slender grower, not being more than two feet high, and spreads freely, causing the plant to assume a tufted appearance.

Calycanthus floridus—Allspice Flower, or Sweet-scented Shrub. This is a well-known plant, yet it is not seen nearly as often as it should be. This species is the best, as it is very fragrant, and not as strong a grower as some of the others.

Ribes Gordoni, a beautiful hybrid variety of the Missouri Currant, having large racemes of fragrant red and yellow flowers. It blooms very early in the spring.

Deutzia gracilis is a dwarf-growing species introduced a few years ago from Japan, and much grown as a green-house plant, although it is perfectly hardy. It produces a profusion of pure white flowers, and grows about two feet high.

D. scabra is a stronger-growing species, growing four or five feet high, and bearing a profusion of pure white flowers.

D. crenata, fl. pl., is one of the finest shrubs in cultivation. The flowers are double, white on the inside, and red on the outside. It is a most profuse bloomer, and requires plenty of room, as it is a strong-grower—when well established attaining a height of over six feet.

Forsythia viridissima, a well-known shrub, whose bright, golden-yellow flowers appear