

no better than those of the new comers when first grown in Europe.

The second novelty is, if possible, even more interesting and promising. It is a SWEET POTATO grown in New Zealand, whose climate resembles that of England more than any other British colony. The New Zealand sweet potato is called "Kumara." The early voyagers spoke very highly of it, but it is only now successfully introduced to England, after ten years anxious endeavour on the part of Sir Joseph Hooker. This plant has been the staff of life of the Maories from pre-historic times. The published figure shows it to resemble an Ashleaved Kidney potato in shape and size. In suitable seasons and soils its yield is very plentiful. About forty varieties are known.

The custom of offering prizes to young men for proficiency in Scientific training for agriculture, is gaining ground both in Europe and America. The way was first shown by the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland. The County Councils of Ontario are now taking it up. It is not unworthy of the attention of our own Board of Agriculture and the Agricultural Committee of the House of Assembly. It might be well to consider whether a portion of the funds of Agricultural Societies could not be made good use of in this way. We have not time to wait for a full blown Agricultural College, and we fear a mere Agricultural Professorship or Lectureship in an Academic Institution would not draw the proper class. A few prizes offered for competition by examination would stimulate the young men all over the country to avail themselves of the scientific instruction now given at all our colleges.

At a meeting of the County Council of Simcoe, held at Barrie, Nov. 16, the Standing Committee on Finance reported as follows:—

That they view with hearty approval the effort now being made by the Agricultural and Arts Association of Ontario to encourage farmers' sons and others interested in agriculture to pursue a course of reading upon subjects pertaining to practical agriculture, and trust the effort will be appreciated. For the purpose of increasing the interest of the farming community in this scheme, your committee recommend that five cash prizes be given by the county to the candidates who secure the highest number of marks at the examination to be held in July, 1884, of the value in the aggregate of \$100, viz., \$30, \$25, \$20, \$15, \$10, upon the following conditions:—1st. The candidates must be under the age of 25 years. 2nd. They must produce a certificate from the Reeve of the municipality where they reside that they have been *bona fide* residents of the

county of Simcoe for at least one year previous to the date of examination. A copy of this report to be sent by the clerk to the secretary of the Association at Toronto, and the prizes shall be paid upon the order of the examiners at Toronto through the secretary. (Signed), GEORGE P. MCKAY, Chairman.

PROF. PETERMANN has tried Dried Blood in comparison with doses of Nitrate of Soda containing approximately equal quantities of Nitrogen, and finds the value of Dried Blood to be less than that of Sodium Nitrate, both when used alone and applied conjointly with phosphoric acid and potash. The sources of Nitrogen appear to hold the following positions in respect to their efficacy:—

1. Sodium Nitrate. 2. Dried Blood. 3. Dissolved Wool. 4. Crude Wool. 5. Ground Leather. A. Nantier finds that Superphosphate and Precipitated Phosphate are most efficacious in increasing the yield of Potatoes. Upon Beets the action of Precipitated Phosphate was, in every respect, more beneficial than that of Superphosphate. Maize seemed to derive the greatest benefit from farm-yard manure.—*Biedermann's Central Blatt.*

Graham Bread and the wheat meal of the Breal Reform League are now coming in for their share of criticism. Dr. Max Rubner finds that the bran left in flour is not assimilated in the human system, and thinks it better to feed the bran to farm animals capable of digesting it than to waste it in overloading the digestive apparatus of human beings.

How to carry TENDER ROSES over the winter in Nova Scotia is a problem that has not yet been solved. The following is the New York plan, as given by C. E. Parnell, in the *Gardeners' Monthly*:

In order to protect tender roses properly during the winter season, they should be pegged down to the ground as close as possible, and covered up with six or eight inches of leaves or rough litter, over this place some evergreen branches, in order to prevent the leaves from being blown away. This covering should not be applied too early, not until hard freezing weather sets in, say from December 1st to 8th. In this latitude it is soon enough, for if the covering is applied sooner the shoots may be smothered and destroyed by decay, a certain result of too early covering. In the spring this covering must be gradually removed, a portion about the middle or end of March, and the remainder about the 10th of April, according to the season. If the roses are well established and are strong healthy plants, they will survive the winter, and

more satisfactory results will be obtained by this method than by taking the plants up and potting them.

THE most extensive cattle-feeder of Illinois, Mr. Gillet, says it takes an immense capital to carry steers until three years old, before being properly fitted for the shambles; and for one, he has now done with it. He will dispose of his present three-year-olds this fall, and never rear another lot this age. Hereafter he intends to keep his calves fat as they grow up. He will induce them to eat oats and grass before weaning, so that they cannot fall away in flesh when taken from suckling the cows. He will continue the oats and hay in winter until they can digest corn well, and then give them plenty of that. By this system of feeding he can bring his high grade Short Horn Steers up to 1,500 pounds at twenty to twenty-eight months old. Young cattle take on flesh and fatten much faster previous to attaining the age of two years than at any subsequent period. In consequence of this there is considerable profit in pushing them up with plenty of feed thus far, rather than allow less feeding, and keep them on till three years old. Heeves of 1,200 to 1,500 pounds weight are now preferred, both in the American and English markets, to those older, for their meat is found to be more tender, juicy and savory than that of older and heavier cattle.—A. B. Allen in *New York Tribune.*

## Advertisements.

*Resolution of Provincial Board of Agriculture, 3rd March, 1882.*

"No advertisements, except official notices from recognized Agricultural Societies, shall be inserted in the JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE in future, unless PREPAID at rate of 50 cents each insertion for advertisements not exceeding ten lines, and five cents for each additional line."

## FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.

A GUERNSEY BULL, 3½ years old, for sale, or will exchange for a SHORT HORN DURHAM.

HUGH FRASER,  
Sec'y. Progress Ag. Society.

Filmsdale, Dec. 28, 1883.

## WANTED

TO purchase by the Saint Andrew's Agricultural Society, a thoroughbred SHORT HORN DURHAM BULL, age, about 2 years. Address (stating girth, weight, pedigree, price, &c., &c.)

D. CHISHOLM,  
Secretary Agri. Society,  
St. Andrew's, Co. Antigonish, Jan. 4, 1884.

## The JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE

—is published monthly by—

A. & W. MACKINLAY,  
No. 10, GRANVILLE STREET,  
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

Fifty cents per annum—payable in advance.  
Single copy five cents.

Printed at the Office of the *Nova Scotia Printing Company*, corner of Sackville and Granville Streets, Halifax, N. S.