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Omnium rerum, ex quibus aliquid acquiritur, nihil est agriculturâ melius, nihil uberius, nihil homine libero dignius.—Cicero : de Officiis, lib. I, cap. 42.

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EXHIBITIONS.

- Provincial of Nova Scotia.—Kentville, King's County, September 29th to October 2nd.
- Yarmouth County.—Yarmouth, October 8th and 9th.
- Upper Stewiacke, (under Valley and Lorne Granges), October 7th.
- Dominion Exhibition.—London, Ontario, September 7th to 12th.
- Prince Edward Island.—Charlottetown, October 7th to 19th.
- Toronto.—September 7th to 19th.
- Boniface, Manitoba.—September 28th to October 3rd.

At the Retreat Farm, Sackville, we noticed on 31st August, a phenomenon illustrating the action of frost. In a level field near the river a large pile of compost is covered with squash vines, some of the shoots of which had run along the grass on the level. The leaves of the shoots on the level are completely blackened and destroyed by the night frost, whilst those at a slightly higher elevation all over the compost heap are quite green and uninjured. Here we have an illustration on a small scale of the effects of a very slight elevation in protecting plants from the injury of summer frost.

We are indebted to Hon. S. H. Holmes for a valuable and interesting paper on Condensed Milk, which is reprinted in the present number. We understand that one of the best samples of which analysis is given in this paper

is from the Truro Condensing Company. We also publish other papers on the subject of Milk Manufacture, which is becoming an industry of considerable importance in this Province, and has obviously a future before it.

We have received from P. Jack, Esq., a plant collected by George Thomson, Esq., at Wolfville, which, although a colonist, is of some interest. It is *Inula Helenium*, commonly called "Elecampane." Dr. Gray gives the etymology of the name as "*Inula*, the old latin name of the plant," and is followed by Wood and by Hooker. Loudon says: "corrupted from *Helenium*,—and, in another place, explains that *Helenium* is named "after the celebrated Helen." Mentzelius identifies it with the *Enula* of Pliny, *izero* of Hippocrates, Theophrastus and Dioscorides; *Enulecampane* of old French authors,—whence probably our English name *Elecampane*. It is known in Quebec Province, according to the Abbe Provancher, as *Aulnée*, *Enula Campana*. Tournefort gives the French name as *Aunée*, referring this plant to his genus *Aster*, as "*Aster omnium maximum, Helenium dictus*." It is a native English plant, but rather rare. Linnæus gives its native countries as follows: "*Habitat in Anglia, Belgio*." In England it was, in early times, a domestic remedy,—the root boiled, yielding a mucilage, which, when mixed with sugar, was taken to promote expectoration, and to "strengthen the stomach." A spirituous extract was also used, and

supposed to contain more of its aromatic and tonic properties. Sir Jas. Smith says, in the "English Flora," published sixty years ago: "The plant is generally kept in rustic gardens, on account of many traditional virtues." Dr. Lindley, after recounting the properties of the famous homœopathic remedy *Arnica montana*, "a virulent plant, acting as a powerfully narcotico-acrid agent, * * * recommended in the cure of putrid fever, ague, palsy, amaurosis, &c., * * *, the *Panacea lapsorum* of continental Europe,"—remarks: "It seems that properties analagous to those of *Arnica* occur in various species of the genus *Inula*, of which the most remarkable is *Elecampane*, an aromatic plant whose root contains a white starchy powder called *Inuline*, a volatile oil, a soft acrid resin, and a bitter extractive; it is regarded as a tonic, diuretic, and diaphoretic, and has been used in dyspepsia, pulmonary affections, and other diseases. It furnishes the *Vin d'Aulnée* of the French." In some parts of Ontario the root is commonly used as a horse medicine, being administered in spring-time to promote the shedding of the winter's coat.

The plant is not rare in Ontario, growing by roadsides and near old settlements. We have also seen it along the roadsides between Paradise and Bridgetown, in Annapolis County. It grows among the ruins of the McCabe farm buildings, between the first and second Sackville Lakes in Halifax County. It is a splendid foliage plant, and we com-