

want of rain, but early in July, about the commencement of the haying season, we were visited with fine showers which were very beneficial to our crops. As to quantity, hay has been very good indeed, and secured generally, in excellent condition. Wheat—the early sown proved a failure; that sown about the first of June produced a fair crop. Barley and Oats are an average crop. Potatoes, in the first part of the season, promised a good crop, but near the time of harvesting, the disease made its appearance; some farmers lost nearly all, others saved part, but the potatoes are decaying very much in the cellars. Indian Corn and Buckwheat suffered very much from the late frosts, and in most parts did not ripen. Turnips and Manggel-Wurzels were an average crop.—Apples and Plums were scarce, owing to the frequent frosts in the first of the season which injured the blossoms.

The society purchased two bulls in Windsor, one yearling and one two years old; there is a large portion of Durham in each of these animals.

Paid R. Baker for 1 yearling bull,	\$50 00
“ Jno. Jerkins for 2 yr. old “	36 00
“ Expenses,	4 00
“ Brooklyn Hall Company,	1 50
“ Postage,	0 25
“ Secretary for his services,	6 00
Total - - - -	\$97 75

CONTRA.

Cash from Prov. Treas. for 1864,	\$83 00
“ subscriptions of members,	43 00
Total - - - -	\$126 00

Balance in Treasurer's hands,	
6th December, 1864,	28 25

VICTORIA COUNTY.

NORTH SHORE ST. ANN'S AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

An Agricultural Society has been organized in this locality in accordance with the Act. The officers have written to Prince Edward Island in order to ascertain who keeps the best Leicester ewes, as the society have resolved to purchase what sheep they can, *as the first mare*. In reference to the agriculture of this district, it is on the old system; the most of the inhabitants have sheds attached to one end of their barns to protect the manure from rains; these sheds serve as sheep houses, which adds to the fertility of the stable manure. A great quantity of fish offals is allowed to remain on the beaches here, which if used, would be of great service as a fertilizer. The soil in this locality is rich, and if properly cultivated would yield excellent crops, but there is no end to the stones here. We intend to have another

meeting in March 1865. Subjoined are the names of our office-bearers;—

Donald McDonald, *President*. John Buchanan, *Vice-President*. Angus Buchanan, *Treasurer*. Angus McKay, *Secretary*. *Directors*: Norman M. Ritchie, Donald McLennan, Neil McLeod, Kenneth Matheson.

The Field and Farm Yard.

ON MANURE.

No. II.

SIR,—Last month I tried to draw the attention of your readers to the necessity of looking more closely and attentively to their barn yard manure, in the hope, that at the least, farmers might be induced to avoid loss in a matter so important.—And in the last sentence of that letter, I asserted that the solid portion of the cattle's droppings, however well-saved, would still be only the smaller and less valuable part (*not heap*) of the manure made by the cattle.

I am, however, very much afraid that no mere writing on the subject will prove so efficacious as a remedy for this idle, squandering away of the best riches of the country as the offer of a money bonus for a better mode of saving manure. I am therefore, glad to see, by the report in your first number, that one or two of the more advanced agricultural societies have so far begun well, as to have given premiums for the erection of manure sheds. This is a considerable step in the right direction, and it is to be hoped they will not stop at this first step, having their eyes open to the necessity of keeping their dung heaps from the weather. The next thing will be to keep them from draining away, involving a little further outlay of capital; but returning itself by fifties and by hundreds to the enterprising farmers who will incur it. Each step that we take in this simple matter of saving manure shows of itself so plainly what the next step ought to be, that it seems almost superfluous to point them out, and in fact I am almost afraid that I may be doing a great amount of harm with some, who, from what they may imagine, the magnitude of the operation on paper, may be deterred from taking even the first step in this matter of saving. Fortunately, however, each step taken to save manure from waste, does in itself constitute so perfect an improvement in that particular feature of the business that it pays as it goes. For instance, a sheltering lean-to for the dung to be thrown into, is a perfect protection against deterioration by the weather, &c., and needs nothing more for that purpose, and the gain thereby is of itself sufficiently great to warrant the necessary expendi-

ture. In like manner a floor to the shed, made tight enough to prevent the moisture from draining, or being absorbed in the soil under the heap, is quite sufficient for the second step in this saving operation, and almost any rough and ready way of doing it may be perfect enough for the purpose, providing it is only thoroughly tight.

Nevertheless, as it is so very desirable that this matter should be well done, and as no particular plan can be laid down so as to suit every barn yard, I think it would be better for societies to adopt the method of appointing manure committees, who, in conjunction with the farmer, who may desire to save his manure in a proper and efficient manner, should determine what plan to adopt, being guided by the amount of outlay the farmer is willing to make, and the amount of help the society can afford to give. In somewhat this way an example might be set, which if extensively followed, would be of incalculable benefit to the country, as one ton of solid manure so saved, is worth more than two tons of exposed manure.

BEDFORD.

THE CALVING OF COWS.

The early portion of Spring is the most advantageous time for the calving of cows, and our stock farmers will now have to be on the alert in reference to this very important department of their art. A few practical hints may, therefore, not be without their interest and seasonable application.

The gestation of the cow comprises about forty or forty-one weeks, seldom varying more than a few days, and as the expiration of this period approaches, the appearance and state of the animals should be frequently and carefully observed. A cow about calving should be separated from the herd, and have a warm, quiet place assigned her, with dry, comfortable bedding, and a moderate supply of suitable food. A distention of the udder, the falling of the flank, and other well-known symptoms of approaching labor, should be carefully observed, and preparations made accordingly. In our changeable climate, early spring is always more or less attended with cold, sharp winds, and serious mischief sometimes arises, both with cows and ewes, from their being exposed at so critical a time to their chilling and debilitating influences.

When the operation of calving actually begins, then signs of uneasiness and pain appear; a little elevation of the tail is the first mark; the animal shifts about from place to place, frequently getting up and lying down, as if not knowing what to do with herself. She usually continues some time, till the natural throes or pains come on; and as these succeed each other in