

land it is best adapted to, how many bushels to the acre, &c. A great many persons are making enquiries about it."

When limestone is "burnt," the heat drives off from it a suffocating gas called carbon dioxide, the burnt lime thus weighs less than the unburnt by the weight of gas that has escaped. But the burnt lime has, by losing the gas, acquired new properties itself. It is now an active body, a powerfully caustic alkali. When water is thrown upon it, it "slacks," that is it absorbs the water, increasing in weight, and falls down into a dry powder. This powder is ordinary lime as we see it in barrels, and is called by chemists calcium hydrate. It is lime in this state that is used in agriculture. The limestone is quarried and burnt in a suitable kiln, and the burnt lime is carried from the lime kiln to the field where it is to be applied, and is laid in heaps, then slacked by water poured upon it. It is then spread over the land. It should only be applied to soils that contain organic matter, and it is especially useful in peaty soils. It acts upon the organic matter of the soil, decomposes it, and forms compounds that are more or less soluble in water and are thus valuable for plant food. It also appears to operate upon certain silicates probably setting free potash and other inorganic constituents of plants. The beneficial effects of lime upon the potato crop are very remarkable, especially in new land; lime not only increases the crop, but seems to improve the keeping properties of the potato. As to the quantity required, Professor Anderson, after long experience and many experiments concluded that, in the case of soil containing organic matter, 150 bushels, heaped measure, should be applied, per acre. In deep peaty soil, there is no danger of putting in too much; but on sandy soils it is well to mix the fresh lime with clay or turf into a kind of compost before applying it in large quantity, otherwise it may scorch the plant; this is to be especially attended to if lime be applied in spring time to grass lands. The selling price of the ordinary lime used for building purposes is too high for the farmer; but if some one will advertise an inferior article at a suitable price, we have no doubt many farmers who are not located in limestone districts will be glad to purchase. The advertisement will be inserted in this Journal without cost.

The Sackville and Westmoreland Agricultural Society's Show is announced for Wednesday and Thursday, 1st and 2nd October. The Prize List offers \$450. The competition is open to other Parishes, and even to our own County of Cumberland. Let us hope there will be Cumberland farmers there and Cumberland produce entitled to Prize Tickets.

It is now definitely settled, by a series of analytical Experiments conducted in the Michigan Agricultural College, that the atmospheric air of sitting rooms where plants are growing contains, at all times, less carbonic acid gas than the purest "country air." We hope in future that the first act of a medical man on entering a sick room will not be to order away the flower stand. We ought, however, to caution domestic gardeners to avoid putting decaying matter and especially bone dust in the mould of flower pots.

The New York State Agricultural Society's Exhibition will be held this year at Albany, commencing on Wednesday morning 24th September, and lasting for one week. The prizes are open to the farmers of the Dominion as well as of the United States. The prizes offered amount to upwards of ten thousand dollars.

The *Colonial Farmer* of Fredericton proposes on 6th October to come out in a greatly improved and enlarged form. The raised subscription is to be only One Dollar and fifty cents a year. The *Farmer* has hitherto had a good selection of agricultural articles, but it is intended in future to make it a real farmer's paper.

The Quebec Provincial Exhibition will be held this year at Montreal, from 16th to 19th September, so that persons going from Nova Scotia to Albany to attend the New York Fair may conveniently take Montreal on the way.

We have received from Mr. Corning, the Secretary, Minutes of the Yarmouth County Society's Quarterly Meeting; but, instead of printing these Minutes, we have transferred to our columns the whole Prize List of the Society's Annual Exhibition. We have to remind our readers that at this Exhibition the prizes are open to the whole Province, and we hope that the competitors from other Counties will be more numerous than at previous Exhibitions of the kind. Two dollars and fifty cents may not be a very enticing prize for the best home made Agricultural Implement; but we feel assured that any maker of Implements in any part of the Province would find it to be, in a business point of view, a very profitable expenditure to send some of his work to Yarmouth where it would have such an excellent opportunity of being brought under notice of the right kind of people. In like manner, how excellent an opportunity is afforded some of our Halifax Seedsmen to advertise their goods by competing for the prize offered for a collection of correctly named Vegetable Seeds. Why should not our cheese factory men send samples of their season's work. The two dollar prize would not pay them for their trou-

ble, but the taking of a prize would enhance the value of their cheese in the estimation of their customers. So our Fruit Growers might profitably send their samples of Apples, Pears and Plums, and look for a return in the shape of an order for a few barrels of apples or a few dozen young trees.

The circumstances that lead to competitions at Exhibitions are innumerable, and, as they are as yet so imperfectly understood in this Province, we have merely referred to a few of those arising out of commercial considerations. But many compete from motives of another kind, and we hope to see the day when these County Exhibitions, "open to the whole Province," will really stir up a spirit of rivalry among the Counties, and bring the farmers of far apart districts together, to exhibit, to compare notes, to see stock and implements, to buy, to sell, and to react one upon another in urging on agricultural improvement. The Government and Legislature are now showing an earnest desire to promote, in every possible way, our Agricultural Organization, and it is for the Farmers themselves to make the best use of the opportunities that are offered, whereby the Agricultural Profession may be raised to the rank which it holds in other Countries, but which it has hitherto failed to attain in Nova Scotia.

M. PLANCHON, Professor of Botany at Montpellier, has been charged by the French Government with the duty of visiting America to study the ravages of the *Femphigus vitifolia*, the new "Vine Disease."

THE Emperor of China is looking for a French gardener to remodel the Imperial gardens in the Parisian fashion. He offers a salary of 60,000 francs—twelve thousand dollars—a year, and quarters in the residence of the French Ambassador. Mr. Stayley, a young man in Lee's Nursery, London, has gone to Teheran to put the Shah's Prime Minister's garden in order.

A TRAINING School of Cookery has been established at Kensington Gore, London, for the purpose of teaching the best methods of cooking articles of food in general consumption among all classes. A meeting was held at Grosvenor House lately for this purpose. Among those present were Princess Louise, Marchioness of Lorne, Mrs. Gladstone, and many other distinguished ladies and gentlemen.

COLONEL LAURIE'S Emigration Experiment has been so far eminently successful. Mrs. Birt's seventy children have been located in their future homes, and much credit is given to all concerned for the judicious way in which the whole of the arrangements have been carried out.