

We have received the Annual Report of the Restigouche Agricultural Society, referred to in the letter of Dr. George Douglas, published in this number, and we perceive by it, that the Society have offered 111 premiums this year for agricultural products, and domestic manufactures. The report is a very interesting one. The Swedish turnip is found to resist the fly better than any other when sown between the 15th and 25th June. Other varieties may be sown from the 15th to the end of July on burnt land. The following information respecting the breeding of cattle and sheep we copy from the Report. The cross between the Cheviot and Leicester sheep is found to succeed well in Scotland, and the crops between the Leicester and South Down are also approved of in Britain:

The cross between the Durham bull and cows of the country frequently proves a coarse and weak animal, deficient in symmetry, the natural consequence of breeding from a small dam and large sire; while the Ayrshires maintain their superiority with whatever breed mixed. Your Committee, however, are of opinion, that the West Highland are decidedly the most profitable, and best adapted to our climate and present pasture, and when crossed with our best native milchers invariably produce an easy-fed, hardy animal, not inferior in those qualities which constitute a good dairy cow, superior for beef, and weighing heavy for its appearance.

The Leicester sheep are too delicate of themselves, but when crossed by the Cheviot ram, you will have a fine active animal with a heavy fleece; and either of these rams with the ewes of the country, effect a great improvement. Another advantageous cross may be made with the Southdown ewe and Leicester or Teeswater ram, that not only improves the constitution of the sheep and flavour of the mutton, but also admits of bringing the texture of the wool to any staple that may be desirable to suit the market or manufactures of the country.

We beg to direct attention to the translation of the able report of Mr. Ossaye on "The necessity of Agricultural Knowledge," read by that gentleman in the French language, before the Agricultural Congress on the 10th of February last, and which was published in the French Agricultural Journal for March. The report will speak for itself, and requires no recommendation from us. It sets forth, in very forcible language, the necessity of agricultural knowledge, and we hope it will receive all due attention. As the means of diffusing

agricultural knowledge, generally, throughout Lower Canada is not however alternable at once, it would be very useful to introduce Agricultural catechisms, and class books, into the country schools, for the study of the scholars. This would be a sort of preparatory instruction, that could not fail to be useful, though the instruction should never proceed any further. It is, indeed, difficult to account for the neglect of providing an agricultural education, or appearing to think there was any necessity for it, up to the middle of the nineteenth century, though agriculture is the basis of all capital and wealth of the world, and the only means of existence for all the inhabitants of the world.

We beg to direct attention to the advertisement of the County of Montreal Agricultural Society's Spring Cattle Show and Fair. We are glad to observe, that the Society have very liberally and judiciously made their premiums for Stallions open to all competitors. This, we hope, will have the effect of bringing the best description of horses into the county, which is no small advantage.

MAGNETISM.

Most extraordinary and inexplicable discoveries have been made, and are making, as experiments irrefragably prove, in regard to magnetism. They have been performed at Brighton, to the entire conviction of persons of the highest science, both foreigners and British, and are yet altogether so incredible that we almost fear to allude to them as realities. They will, however, come before the Royal Society, at its earliest re-assembling, and be stated in all their details. Meanwhile, what will our readers, and especially scientific readers, think of the fact, that the magnetic force runs in transverse directions as it may be employed by the male or female sex; that is to say, that if in the hands of a male operator it proceeded from east to west, or west to east, the same current in the hands of a female operator would immediately change to from north to south, or south to north, and cut the former line at about right angles. Thus magnetism is shown to drive different influences from the two sexes! But this is not all. A letter written by a woman, weeks before, produces an effect upon the current, of a like peculiar nature. And again, any part of a dead animal, as the horn of a deer, a bit of ivory, and even a dead fly held in the hand of any individual in contact, stops the magnetic action, which silk, the material from living worm, does not interrupt.