

THE TREE MALLOW is a plant quite unknown on this continent, but eagerly sought after by explorers around the Scottish coast. It is now presented to us in a new role as a Cattle Feeder and Paper Maker. And to its scientific and industrial merits we have to add another kind of usefulness, viz., the artistic, for although a hardy herbaceous plant it is one of the noblest that any one may wish to see in what is called a "tropical garden." This plant has been brought under the notice of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, and we republish below an account of the Society's proceedings. Our friend Mr. William Gorrie, who has originated its cultivation, is son of the Archd. Gorrie who discovered Annat Barley, and introduced it to the Scottish farmers. Through the kindness of Mr. Gorrie's Agents, Messrs. Peter S. Robertson & Co., of Edinburgh, we have been favoured with a package of seed, and shall be glad to send a few dozen seeds to any one in the Province who may wish to experiment with this promising novelty. (Address application for seeds to Dr. G. Lawson, Halifax.) :—

The following account of a new agricultural plant for cattle feeding and paper-making, by Mr. William Gorrie, Rait Lodge, Trinity, Edinburgh, was read :—"A selected variety of the tree mallow, *Lavatera arborea*, the natural habitats for the normal form of which in Scotland are the Bass Rock, with other islets in the Firth of Forth, and Ailsa Craig. Its ordinary heights vary from 6 to 10 feet, but it can be grown to more than 12 feet. It is biennial, but the first year it may be planted after the removal of any early crops, and matured in that following. From the limited experiments which I have been enabled to make, its products in seed, bark, and heart-wood are estimated at about 4 tons of each per acre. Chemical analyses by Dr. Stevenson Macadam and by Mr. Falconer King of its seeds show these to be fully equal in feeding properties to oilcake, the present value of which is about £10 per ton, and papermakers offer the same price, at least, for the bark that they now pay for esparto grass, which is also about £10 per ton, thus showing a return of about £80 per acre for the seed and bark; and it is expected that the excess of fibre in the latter will allow of the heart-wood being mixed up with it, which will add very considerably to the above-stated value of crop. The papermakers who have had the tree mallow bark under limited trial for me are Messrs. Dickson, Nash Mills, Hemel, Hempstead; Mr. Henry Bruce, Kinleith Mills, Currie; Messrs. A. Cowan & Sons, Valleyfield Mills, Penicuik, Messrs. William Tod & Sons, St. Leonard's Mills, Lasswade; and Messrs.

Wm. Tod, jun., & Co., Springfield Mills, Lasswade—all of whom think very highly of it, and are most anxious to try it on a large scale. With the view of having this done, I had plants reared in the island of Bute last year, and about two acres planted with them after the removal of a crop of early potatoes. These plants thrived well till a fall of snow took place early in the winter, when the whole were destroyed by rabbits. Bute was chosen for this trial in consequence of the winters on the east coast being sometimes too cold for the mallow plants, many of which suffer when the thermometer falls to about 15° Fahr., and most of them are entirely killed when it falls much below 10°, which excesses of cold, although occasionally on the east coast, are never experienced on the western coasts nor in the Orkney Islands, in various parts throughout which, where the mallow has been tried, it has invariably been found to thrive well; and I feel confident that it might there be made to yield higher pecuniary returns from hitherto comparatively worthless ground than ordinary agricultural crops do in the best cultivated districts of Britain. Having already been at considerable trouble and expense in thus experimenting with the tree mallow, and not caring to incur further outlay, I have handed over my stock of it to Messrs. P. S. Robertson & Co., of the Trinity Nurseries, here, who have now plants ready for supplying any who may be desirous of carrying out its cultivation, charging only 2s. 6d. per 100 to cover expenses."

The Board voted their thanks to Mr. Gorrie for his communication.

JAMES CROSBY, Esq., Sec'y of the Yarmouth Township Agricultural Society, sends us the following information by way of supplement to the Society's Annual Report, already published (Central Board's Report, pp. 94-95):

The Yarmouth Township Ag. Society held its Annual Exhibition for 1876 on Thursday, the 19th October, pursuant to arrangement. The day was fine, and the large attendance of visitors from all parts of the township, with the large number of entries in most of the departments, gave evidence of the interest felt in Agricultural Exhibitions. The display of vegetables was never better at any previous Exhibition of the Society. The General Regulations were faithfully observed, and everything passed off satisfactorily to both visitors and members of the Society.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1. Every intending competitor must transmit to the Chairman of the Managing Committee, not later than the 17th,

an entry of all animals to be exhibited; other articles will be received up to 9 A.M. on the day of exhibition.

2. Every competitor must affix a number, which will be furnished him by the Secretary, to every animal, or article exhibited, with the age and breed of every animal.

3. All articles exhibited must be the growth or manufacture of the exhibitor the present year, and all animals must have been in his possession at least one month.

4. Articles for exhibition must be on the grounds not later than 9 o'clock, A.M., when they will be taken in charge by the Managing Committee, and no article or animal competing will be allowed to be removed earlier than 2½ P.M.

5. All members of the Society competing, must have paid their fee of membership on or before the day of exhibition.

6. The public will not be admitted to the grounds until the Committees have completed their awards, which will be as ready as 11 o'clock, if possible.

THE AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY having accepted the invitation of the Maryland Horticultural Society, the Sixteenth Session of this National Association will be held in Baltimore, commencing *Wednesday, September Twelfth*, 1877, at 10 o'clock A.M., and continuing for three days.

All Horticultural, Pomological, Agricultural, and other kindred Associations in the United States and British Provinces, are invited to send delegations as large as they may deem expedient; and all persons interested in the cultivation of fruits are invited to be present, and take seats in the Convention.

It is confidently anticipated that there will be a full attendance of delegates from all quarters of our country, thereby stimulating more extensive cultivation by the concentrated information and experience of cultivators, and aiding the Society in perfecting its Catalogue of Fruits. This Catalogue includes fifty States and Territories, most of which have their columns filled with a great amount of information as to the fruit adapted for culture in the respective locations. Many of these are yet incomplete; and it is the object of the Society, from year to year, to fill the blanks, and bring its Catalogue nearer to perfection. To accomplish this object as fully as possible, the Chairman of the General Fruit Committee, P. Barry, Esq., Rochester, N. Y., will send out the usual circulars of inquiry; and it is desirable that these inquiries should be answered at an early day. The various State and Local Committees are urged to respond to the circulars as soon as practicable.