

ment to the barn in winter, are engendered by undue exposure to the cold winds and drenching storms of the fall.

GARDENS.—This is the season for cleansing your gardens. As soon as the produce has been removed, the surface should be carefully and thoroughly scraped, and the refuse soil, weeds, and decayed haulm, conveyed to some place, where it will be converted into manure, and assume a condition capable of being applied as a stimulant to future crops.

Such materials, however, should never be used as ingredients in the compost heap, or as litter to be made use of in your yards or stys, as they generally contain the seeds of noxious weeds, which it is the object of the economical to destroy. By accumulating the scrapings of the garden in some convenient, out-of-the-way place where ample time can be afforded for the decomposition, or destruction, of the vitality of such seeds as may be contained in the mass—or even where this result can be attained by artificial means, this refuse may be turned to a profitable account.

ONIONS.—Most gardeners now prefer sowing their onion seed in the fall. September is the month most commonly selected for this purpose; but, as considerable inconvenience not unfrequently attends the adoption of this practice, many prefer sowing in October or November: the onion, being a hardy production, is in no way liable to injury from cold or frost.

DRAINING.—August is usually recommended as the most favourable period for ditching; but, in all cases where the texture of the soil is not too humid or clayey, ditching may be performed in October, and frequently with better success and less expense than at any other season. As a branch of farming, drainage has hitherto been but little practiced in this country. Under drainage, which has recently been so successfully introduced in some sections of the United States, is found to be highly advantageous on many farms; especially those which embrace extensive tracts of wet meadow, or "log-land." As the principles of this species of agrestic improvement become more thoroughly understood, we hope to see it adopted by our farmers generally. There is a vast amount of land now comparatively valueless, which might be rendered highly productive in this way, and at small expense.

Hogs ought to be ready for market before cold weather: in this climate, keeping old hogs till late, is at best an unprofitable business. One year and a half is as long as they should live: after this age they take on fat less rapidly, and the meat, produced at an increased cost, is much inferior in flavour, and of a coarser grain.—[Maine Farmer.]

RECIPE FOR DYING BLUE.—Take one pound of pounded logwood, boil it in a sufficient quantity of water, until all the substance is out of it, then take about half a gallon of the liquor, and dissolve one ounce of verdigris, and half an ounce of alum in it, boil your yarn one hour in the logwood water, stirring it and keeping it loose. Take out your yarn, mix the half gallon that contains the verdigris and alum, then put your yarn into the mixture, and boil it four hours, stirring and keeping it loose all the time, and taking it out every hour to give it air, after which dry it, then boil it in soap and water and it is done.

The above will dye six pounds of cotton yarn an elegant deep blue. After which put in as much yarn into the same liquor, and boil it three hours, stirring it as before, and you will have a good pale blue, or boil hickory bark in your liquor, and you will have a beautiful green.

Rest assured there is no imposition in the above. It is cheap. Any person following the recipe will find it prove satisfactory.—[Southern Cultivator.]

HONEY BEES.—An acquaintance of ours, in this city, who is quite a Bee-fancier, and has closely observed and studied

their habits for several years, placed a new swarm in a hive of his own construction, on the 25th of June last. The hive is made to conform to the natural habits of the insect in its wild state, it is of the usual form but closed at the bottom, with a close fitting lid, covered with wire cloth about 8 meshes to the inch. This allows all the dirt and chips of comb made by the bees to sift through; and admits sufficient air for ventilation. It is hung on butts, and can be opened to brush off any dead bees, or other substances too large to fall through the wire. Near the top, directly over the drawers, is an inch auger hole, for the passage of the "workers." This aperture, being at the top of the swarm, has always a cluster of busy bees about it, so that no miller can enter; and as it is made of ingress our friend thinks that the hives may be kept from worms, which are the great enemy of the apiary. Nothing larger than ants can go through the wire bottom, and they are easily kept away by salt. The swarm in this hive is the most its owner has ever witnessed, and as evidence of this, he finds the hive, on the tenth day, two-thirds full of comb—nearly double what is usual from so late a swarm. He has no patent, and will cheerfully permit any one to construct duplicates.—[Norwich, Ct. News.]

HOW TO BUILD STONE WALLS.—Stones are the best materials for fencing when they are plenty; and they are very readily thrown into the form of a wall three and a half feet high when the main object is attended to: that is, a substantial fence for cattle.

Faced walls and double walls are pretty when they are new. But they will not endure so well as the common balance walls which are laid for durability, rather than for beauty of external appearance. A stone-layer often lays a stone out of place, in order to present its best face to the beholder.

It has often been recommended by writers to dig a trench, one or two feet deep on the line of the wall, and to fill it up with small stones, for a foundation of the wall. And it has been insisted that this is essential to the stability of the wall in all low grounds that are liable to be holed up by frost. Such walls cost at least one dollar per rod, even when the materials are handy.

Now experience could never have taught such doctrine as this. You can hardly do worse than to dig trenches for walls in such grounds. Trenches become filled with water and ice, and nothing is more destructive than ice in stone walls. It unsettles their foundations in a very short time.

On high grounds, where the water never stands, trenchings and fillings with small stones are harmless. But, unless large quantities of rubble are in the way and to be buried at any rate, we would never advise to be at the cost of making trenches and filling them again to form the base of a stone fence.

A more common mode of building wall fence is to lay two rows of bumpers as large as one's head, one to each side of the centre line, and then to throw the largest rocks on these. But this is wrong, being attended with more labour and not standing so well as a third kind of wall that we have formerly recommended, viz:—Throw the largest rocks into the line of the wall; block them up so as to make good building on them; then pile on rocks of a less size; and you will make stone fence very fast, and fence that will stand longer than any double wall or ditch wall.

An undertaker can afford to lay such a wall, three feet and a half high, for twenty to twenty-five cents per rod. And a wall too that will be sufficient for any cattle that ought to go at large.—[Ploughman.]

CHARCOAL.—Powdered charcoal or the refuse of the heap, should be thickly strewn over every place where filth is allowed to accumulate. It absorbs the bad smell, and makes an excellent manure of what otherwise would not only be useless but offensive. It also prevents the larvae of insects from becoming

flies or moths. Pigs like to eat charcoal, and are thought to fatten on it; and in the course of the summer months, I frequently have a bushel or so at a time thrown over the pen. It makes the manure so much more valuable, that I find it worth while to buy it for the purpose.—[American Agriculturist.]

J. W. Oct. 11th, Oct 14th, with its enclosures; Oct 16th, Unionville, recd.

W. A. S., yours of the 15th, with the verses recd. The latter though not so carefully written as some we have seen from your pen, shall find a place.

CANADA FARMER.

October 23, 1847.

PRIZE LIST—OUR SUPPLEMENT.

As the length of the Prize List of Premiums awarded at the late Provincial Exhibition precluded its insertion in our Journal, we have, at considerable expense, printed the List as a Supplement to this number. Our subscribers will thus have the means of ascertaining the amount and number of prizes awarded, as well as the names of the successful competitors. To many, such information will no doubt be useful and interesting. This instance must not be regarded as a precedent to justify District Agricultural Societies in making application to us for similar notice. In one or two cases our offer to publish a notice of their intended meetings has already been mistaken, and their list of premiums, resolutions, and proceedings sent us for gratuitous publication! It would be doing our readers in other Districts great injustice to omit the appropriate matter of any of our "departments" in order to make room for such local and to them uninteresting details. The only mode in which we can publish the proceedings of District or Township Societies is by way of advertisement on our last page, or in a Supplement or Extra. In which cases the Societies will be charged with the expense of printing. The proceedings of the Provincial Association being of general importance, we feel bound to watch them more closely and to lay them before our readers more in detail.

We observe by the List that we were mistaken in saying, in our account of the Fair, that the first and second Premiums at the Ploughing-match were awarded to G. Harrison and ——— Johnston, of Yonge-street. We can only say that we were present during the greater part of the time the ploughs were going, and it was our opinion, (and we believe we know what constitutes good ploughing,) as well as the opinion of nearly all the farmers and others standing about, that the performance of these two persons was decidedly the best. Indeed there was but one other land that seemed to us even tolerably done. A good deal of apprehension was expressed by many at the time, that some excuse would be found in the fact that the ground staked out to one of these competitors was encroached upon by his neighbour, for depriving him of the premium. The person adjoining stated that he began where he did, by order of one of the committee, and this circumstance gave rise to a suspicion that foul play was intended. For our own part we were unwilling to believe that such improper conduct would be committed at by the Judges, and we are sorry to find that their decision has been so opposed to general opinion as in some measure to justify the suspicion. Decisions of this kind, from whatever cause given, destroy confidence and completely neutralize the good results to be expected from such trials of skill.

Since writing the above, we learn that the Judges appointed did not attend, and three persons were selected from among those who were present during the match, who had expressed their opinions, and one or two of them gone so far as to bet against the competitors from this District. If this be true, and we hope it is not, the dissatisfaction which we find so general in this quarter need excite no surprise.

Below is a List of the extra or discretionary Prizes awarded at the Hamilton Fair. We must not let the occasion pass without expressing our opinion upon the omission of a class for "Native Cattle," in the published list of premiums. The persons who made up the list are certainly much to blame for this omission, and we hope it will not occur again. After all that has been, and may be said in favour of the "pure breeds," probably it will be found that a cross with the natives will be more generally approved, and at all events more generally adopted for many years to come. While we are endeavouring to introduce the Durhams, Devons, &c., we must recollect that the native cattle are already here—on every farm in the country; and that therefore in a national point of view, it is of the greatest importance to encourage improvement in these. It makes little difference to the farmer or to the country what breed his cow belongs to, provided that with the same amount and quality of food she will turn out more milk and butter, and when required, lay on more beef than the best in his neighbourhood. We have seen natives that in these respects would bear a comparison with any of the Durhams. It must be admitted that such qualities are more likely to be found in the improved breeds,—that it is only now and then that we find a native able to compete with them, but it is far from improbable that if the same pains were taken to improve our natives; the best calves always being kept instead of being sent to the butcher; those in whom the greatest number of good points are found set apart as breeders; a constant effort to "breed up" intelligently and generally made, we should soon show important results in the stock of our country. We would then, without doubt, see the propriety of Agricultural Societies offering premiums for the "best natives."

Class U—Extras.

- 1st best Cigars—1st box Smoking Tobacco—1st box Chewing Tobacco, David Ross, Hamilton.
- 1st 3 pair Gamblers, W. H. Glasgow, Hamilton.
- 1st Cheese Press, Thomas Holt, do.
- 1st Ladies' Saddle, Thomas Fleming, do.
- 1st 1 Morning Machine, J. N. McAlister, Hamilton, do.
- 1st Confectionery, Robert Ecclestone
- 1st 2 bushels Rye, J. Anderson, Gore District.
- 1st 2 year old Heifer, W. Davis, Nelson.
- 1st Fuel Drying Machine, James Lewis, Saltfleet.
- 1st 7 yards Linen Diaper, Jacob Inglehart, do.
- 1st 1 Cotton & Wollen Qmht, J. S. Lewis, Hamilton.
- 1st 1 Wooden Pump, Garrett Howell, Ancaster.
- 1st 1 model Grand Stone do.
- 1st 1 grade Bull, James Robertson, do.
- 1st 1 sett Sawmill dogs, McQuestion & Co. do.
- 1st 1 lot of peaches, Michael Akumar, Barton.
- 1st 1 pair Boot Trees, James Soady, Toronto.
- 1st 1 sett Laths, do.
- 1st 1 sett Socket Chisel, Samuel Shaw, do.
- 1st 1 piece Factory Cotton, Rev. J. B. Fuller, Thorold.
- 1st 1 sett Artificial Teeth, Charles Rhan, Toronto.
- 1st 1 gentleman's Saddle, Wm. Davidson, Hamilton.
- 1st 1 side Saddle, do.
- 1st 1 gentleman's Saddle, Edw. McGivern, do.
- 1st 1 Road Scrape, Benj. Pickard, do.
- 1st 1 Double Carriage, J. M. Williams, do.
- 1st 1 Single do. do.
- 1st 1 Kip Skin, Clement & Moore, do.
- 1st box brown Soap, Sidney Smith, Galt.
- 1st 1 cutting Machine, imported, J. Bell, Toronto.
- 1st Socks and Stockings, Jos. Webster, Dundas.
- 1st Cotton & Wollen Coverlid, W. Gage, Barton.
- 1st Lot Poultry, J. G. Haskberry, St. Catharines.
- 1st Locomotive, Sandford Flemming, Toronto.
- 1st Speaking Trumpet, Thomas Smith, Hamilton.
- 1st Soda Water Apparatus, W. Plowright, do.
- 1st Bust Lord Metcalfe, S. Gardner, do.
- 1st Turmp Cutting Machine, Peter Murdoch, Ancaster.
- 1st Corn Cultivator Thos Towers, St Catharines.
- 1st Water Colour Painting, Miss Riley, Cobourg.

TALBOT DISTRICT CATTLE SHOW.—The letter of our correspondent giving an account of this show having from some cause been delayed, we were unable to insert it in this No. The show was held at the village of Vittoria and the display of cattle, horses, sheep, hogs &c. was very creditable to the District. The dairy department was very good. Our correspondent makes particular mention of some excellent specimens of maple sugar—nearly as white as loaf sugar. The broadcloths, blankets &c. showed considerable improvement in this important branch of manufactures. An excellent dinner was served up to 30 or 40 persons by Mr. Lamport the keeper of the principal Hotel, and every thing passed off pleasantly. These Dis-