

A REGISTER FOR IMPROVED STOCK IN CANADA.

To the Editor of the Canadian Agriculturist.

DEAR SIR,—The Agricultural Society of the united counties of Frontenac, Lenox and Addington, having lately purchased several Bulls and Cows of the Durham variety, for the purposes of breeding, it has occurred to several of us, that a Provincial list, or if I may presume to dignify it, by the cognomen,—“Herd Book,” in which the pedigrees of all animals of the improved breeds should be fully inserted, would prove generally interesting and useful. Will you, or any of your readers, turn your attention to the subject? The matter might perhaps be taken charge of by the Provincial Association.

I remain yours, truly,

J. MARKS,
President Agri'l Asso'n
Upper Canada.

[We think the above suggestion of great importance, and that it should be brought before the Board of Agriculture as soon as that body is organized. A full pedigree should be given with every animal exhibited for a prize at the Provincial Association. We recently spent a day most agreeably with Mr. Marks and several of his intelligent and enterprising neighbors; and we were particularly gratified in viewing the live stock, including both cattle and sheep on the farm of Mr. Wm. Ferguson, the respected Treasurer both of the County and Agricultural Society.]—EDITOR.

THE TURNIP-FLY AND THE MEANS OF ARRESTING ITS RAVAGES.

Early turnips bring so a high price in the New York and other markets, that every means should be tried to do away with their enemy, the *fly-beetle*. We succeeded in raising early turnips two years since in an apple orchard. The continued falling of blossom leaves from the apple trees kept off the fly, while the turnips planted beyond the outer rows of the trees were all cut off. In Monmouth County, New Jersey, early turnips are raised with more certainty than any where else in our vicinity, and \$500 is often realized for the crop of a single acre. It will be observed in the following article, that dissolved bone-dust and guano are recommended to push forward the young turnips beyond the reach of the fly. An admirable manure for turnips may thus be prepared:—Dissolve five bushels of *sugar house bone-black* in dilute sulphuric acid—add this solution to a half cord of swamp-muck or other divisor, with which one hundred pounds of Peruvian

guano has been previously mixed, and then add a solution of 50lb of potash scrapings, and apply the whole to one acre for turnips. The crop will be more than double what would result from the application of four times the value of this compost in barn-yard manure, while the value of the turnips per bushel will be greater than if raised with dung. Messrs Barr & Atterbury, No. 25 Cliff street, New York, are preparing to supply farmers with sulphuric acid in an unfinished state, equally good for use as a solvent for bones, at a reduced price as compared with the ordinary mercantile article. Mr. J. J. Schofield, of Morristown, New Jersey, has raised by the use of proper fertilizers, 1400 bushels of Ruta Baga turnips from one acre.—[Ed. Michigan Farmer.

Among the very useful societies which are at work throughout the country, we hardly think there is one which for the same small amount of income effects so much good as the Chimico-Agricultural Society of Ulster. Hailing, as we always do, anything calculated to benefit the sister island in her agriculture, and consequently in her arts and morals and civilization—for as sure as agriculture becomes a scientific pursuit, so sure will these follow in its train—we rejoice to find this invaluable society still at its work of improvement; and the articles in its paper, the discussions at the meetings, and above all, the presiding genius of Professor Holges, its chemist, show that, with means ridiculously small, it has accomplished and is accomplishing wonders.

At the risk of appearing to prefer “pork in the dog-days,” we cannot help, even at this season, alluding to a discussion which took place before the Society on the turnip-fly, and the means of arresting its ravages, because the good sense of the remarks made, the intimate acquaintance with the natural history, habits, &c., of that insect, were most creditable to the speakers, and would do credit, in fact, to the *conversaciones* of the Entomological Society—if, indeed, its discussions were ever of so practical a character.

We need hardly say that the insect spoken of was the flea-beetle—the *halica nemorum*, a minute skipping beetle, with ten straw-colored stripes upon each of its wing-cases, which attacks the turnips just before the plumule is developed into leaf, and cuts and consumes the whole of the cotyledon leaves, so that the plant dies, and all this is generally the work of a day. A farmer will look anxiously for his young plants—he will see them spring up with vigor and regularity—he will watch them two or three days—there is a broad, clean expansion of leaf, and the plumule is just bursting into “rough leaf,” as it is termed, when, lo! thousands of minute insects will make their appearance as if they had dropped from the clouds, and the whole crop will disappear in forty-eight hours. And if the crop be white turnips, he may sow once every day, they never will recover. If they are swedes, however, having much more tenacity of life, they will survive, if only the plumule is left uneaten. Once let the secondary leaves be developed, and all is safe: they may be