

To the Editor of the Journal of Agriculture:

IN 1883 visiting a friend's garden, chiefly of strawberries, thirty-six kinds, I found the ground mulched with rushes, —it seemed perfect—just like so much Canton matting. Not a weed to be seen, and in fruiting season berries unsoiled. He had used rushes, the same lot, for several years; could not conceive of anything better or equal to them either for summer or winter. I had a ton or two of old rushes for bedding in one of my barns, and soon after covered my plot with them, keeping them on during the winter of 1883-84. Before fruiting season, I was alarmed at seeing a thick growth of strong green points pushing up among the rushes; cleared them all off, and found that I could not have had a better catch if I had sown the seed; and for *tenacious*, fibrous roots I will back my rush against anything but buttercups and asparagus. I had to scuffle the ground repeatedly during the season, burned the rushes, and am trying this winter early cut out straw, but my plot is full of seed of the rush.

Yours, AMATEUR.

WE have received the following card, from which it appears that one of the finest Short Horn Bulls ever brought to this part of the world is now for sale. We hope he will fall into good hands:—

You requested me to notify you when we wished to dispose of the "Earl of Surrey." We have decided either to sell or exchange. He has proved a good stock getter, very easy kept, and a very fine built animal.

Yours,

L. W. ELLIOTT,

Sec'y Clarence Ag'l Society, Co. Annapolis.

A COMMUNICATION of no inconsiderable interest to Apple Growers and Apple Consumers has been published in the *Yarmouth Times*, from the pen of Charles E. Brown, Esq., who has made the Apple Question one of serious and careful study. He says:—

I enclose herewith a list of the varieties of apples shown at the annual meeting of the County Agricultural Society.

The object sought in the liberal prizes offered, \$50, \$30, \$20, for the correct naming of all the varieties, was to stimulate a knowledge of varieties in growers, dealers and consumers, and to ensure a larger attendance at our annual meeting. Any person who has made a study of the characteristics of varieties of apples, can recognize and identify them, however much they may differ as grown under varying conditions of soil and climate, as readily as ordinary men recognize and name their personal acquaintances, or as the shepherd the individual members of his flock of perhaps several hundred sheep.

The several kinds are numbered alphabetically from A. to Y,—the same number with letters A. B. C. D. being attached to the several plates of the same kind from different localities; the column showing the season of maturity will be valuable for reference as a guide to buyers in purchasing for family consumption.

CHARLES E. BROWN.

M., Michigan—O., Ontario—Mass., Massachusetts—K., Kentville, N. S.—Ann., Annapolis—Y., Yarmouth—G., Grimby, Ont.—D., Dundas, Ont.—V., Virgil, Ont.—W., Wolfville, N. S.—Kpt., Kemptville, Yarmouth Co.—C., Carleton, Yarmouth Co., N. S.

1a	Am. Golden Russet.....	M	Oct., Jan.
1b	"	O	Jan., May.
2	Autumn Seek-no-Further..	M	Sept., Oct.
3a	Baldwin	M	Nov., Mar.
3b	"	O	"
3c	"	Mass.	"
4	Beauty of Kent.....	O	Oct., Nov.
5	Belmont	M	Nov., Mar.
6	Ben Davis	M	Dec., May.
7	Bishop Bourne	K	Nov., Jan.
8a	Black Gilliflower.....	M	Nov., Feb.
8b	"	Y	Nov., Mar.
9	Blenheim Pippin.....	Ann.	Oct., Feb.
10a	Calashua	M	Dec., Feb.
10b	"	O	"
11	Chandler	O	Nov., Feb.
12	Cooper's Market.....	M	Dec., May.
13	Cranberry Pippin.....	O	Nov., Feb.
14	Egg Top	M	Nov., Dec.
15a	Esopus Spitzenburg.....	M	Dec., April.
15b	"	O	"
16	Fallowater	M	Nov., Mar.
17	Famense	M	Oct., Jan.
18	Flushing Spitzenburg.....	Ann.	Nov., Mar.
19	Gloria Mundi	M	Oct., Feb.
20	Golden Sweet.....	Y	Oct., Jan.
21a	Gravenstein.....	O	Sept., Oct.
21b	"	O	Oct., Nov.
21c	" Kentville.....	Kgs.	Oct., Feb.
22	Green Newtown Pippin.....	M	Dec., May.
23a	Grimes' Golden.....	M	Dec., Mar.
23b	"	Ann.	Dec., May.
24	Hubbardston.....	M	Nov., Feb.
25	Jonathan	M	"
26	Keswick Codlin.....	Y	Sept., Nov.
27a	King of Tompkins Co.....	M	Dec., Mar.
27b	"	O	"
27c	"	Mass.	"
28	Late Strawberry.....	M	Oct., Dec.
29a	Makden's Blush.....	M	Sept., Oct.
29b	"	O	"
30	Mann	M	Jan., April.
31	May Seek-no-Further.....	M	Feb., June.
32	Minister	M	Oct., Feb.
33	Munson Sweet.....	Ann.	Sept., Feb.
34	Nickajack	M	Dec., April.
35	Nonpareil	Kgs.	Dec., May.
36a	Northern Spy.....	M	Dec., April.
36b	"	G	"
36c	"	D	"
36d	"	Y	"
37	Pawpa	M	Dec., June.
38	Peeck's Pleasant.....	M	Nov., Mar.
39	Pennock	M	"
40	Pomme Grise.....	W	Dec., Mar.
41	Pumpkin Sweet.....	M	Sept., Dec.
42	Rawie's Janet.....	M	Feb., June.
43	Red	M	Dec., June.
44a	R. I. Greening.....	M	Nov., April.
44b	"	O	Nov., Feb.
45a	Ribston Pippin.....	M	Nov., April.
45b	"	G	Nov., Jan.
45c	"	Y	Nov., Mar.
46	Roxbury Russet.....	M	Jan., June.
47	St. Lawrence.....	Kpt.	Sept., Dec.
48	Shlawassee Beauty.....	M	Oct., Jan.
49	Stark	Y	Jan., May.
50a	Swaar	M	Dec., April.
50b	"	O	"
51a	Swayzie Pomme Grise.....	W	Jan., April.
51b	"	O	Jan., May.
51c	"	Y	"
52	Talman Sweet.....	M	Nov., April.
53a	Wagener.....	M	Nov., Mar.
53b	"	O	Nov., Feb.
53c	"	Ann.	Nov., April.
54	Westfield Seek-no-Further.....	M	Oct., Mar.
55	Winesap	O	Nov., May.
56a	Yellow Bellefleur.....	M	Dec., Mar.
56b	"	Kg. Co.	"
57	(Not in collection).....	Y	Jan., Mar.
58	Perry, (seedling)	C	Oct., Dec.

CHARLES E. BROWN.

Yarmouth, N. S., 25th Nov., 1884.

A BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the Herald:

SIR,—I am delighted to see that more interest is felt in the promotion of our success as an agricultural people, and I think that the present moment may furnish a favorable opportunity for the formation of a Breeders' Association, or rather for the consideration of that subject. I feel assured that none will dispute the power for good of the labors of the pioneers in the breeding of good stock in this Province. Much as has been done by the aid of the government grants, even more has resulted from the efforts of private individuals. My suggestion is that these breeders should form an Association for the promotion of their interests, and consequently of the interests of the general farmer. Moreover, I would like to see the Breeders of all the Maritime Provinces united in one Association. The territory is not too large, and our geographical connection is really very close.

At this moment I shall not attempt to indicate the work which would fall upon the officers of such an Association; of that there will be ample opportunity to speak. My object in writing is to elicit the opinions of those in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, who are endeavoring to substitute pure bred and graded stock for the mongrels which are at present to be found on so many of our farms.

A. C. BELL.

New Glasgow, Dec. 16th.

MR. BELL's suggestion of the desirability of forming a Breeders' Association for the Maritime Provinces is an admirable one. In the present state of affairs, with three different Herd Registers, and probably three different standards of registration, in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island; two Government Stock Farms, competing with private breeders; and a strong feeling among many farmers in favor of fresh importations, and consequent want of appreciation of the Thoroughbred Stock raised in the country,—it is not to be expected that our Stock will improve so rapidly, or that breeders will exert themselves so much, as would be the case under more favorable and encouraging circumstances. What is really wanted is, that our breeders should join heartily together; engage in friendly intercourse in all that relates to the science, practice and commerce of breeding; discuss points of pedigree and management; strive to raise the character of our Stock, and make its merits known in likely markets; and generally make such enquiries and investigations, both of a scientific and business kind, as are needed to guide the