

efforts are being made to raise the Prize List to \$2000.00.

The Committee for the Annapolis Exhibition are John B. Mills, A. Shearer, Thos. S. Whitman, Geo. E. Corbitt, C. D. Pickles, and A. D. Mills.

FREDK. LEAVITT, *Secretary.*

THE Exhibition for Agricultural District No. 5, will be held at the town of New Glasgow in Pictou County, on September 30th, October 1st and 2nd, three days. This District (No. 5) includes the Counties of Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough, and is represented at the Central Board of Agriculture by David Matheson, Esq., Pictou. The amount of Prizes offered is \$2545.75.

The following Committee has been appointed to carry out the Exhibition:—

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Allan C. Bell Esq., M. P. P., Chairman.  
James D. McGregor Esq., Vice "  
Geo. W. Underwood Esq., " "  
John Ross Esq., " "  
James W. Fraser, W. Scott Fraser,  
James McKay, H. T. Sutherland,  
H. J. Townsend, John K. Fraser,  
J. H. Cavanagh, Norman McKay,  
J. R. Porter, John Murray;  
John C. Reid, John R. McPherson.  
A. M. Fraser, Secretary,  
J. Northup Cameron, Asst. Sec.

ONSLow AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

CENTRAL ONSLOW, April 12th, 1884.

In compliance with your request of the 3rd inst. I give the following; Robert Putnam Esq., *President*; Col. W. M. Blair, *Vice President*; John A. Dickson, *Secy. and Treas.*; Thos. Dunlap, E. Fulton, James Lorrain, T. P. Putnam, John Miller, *Directors.*

JOHN A. DICKSON, *Secretary.*

MORE THOROUGHbred STOCK FOR NEW GLASGOW.—A. C. Bell, Esq., has purchased from John Miller & Sons, Brougham, Ont., a two year old thoroughbred Clydsdale Stallion. He was received here on Tuesday. He is of a handsome bright bay color with black points, and weighs 1300 lbs. His name is "Lord Chancellor," and by imported "Chancellor." Mr. Bell deserves the hearty thanks of all stock raisers in this County for bringing such a valuable animal into our midst.—*E. Chronicle.*

As soon as we receive the completed printed Prize Lists and regulations of the several District Exhibitions, we will publish particulars.

ENSILAGE.

Mr. H. M. Jenkins, F. G. S., Secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and Editor of the *Journal of the Society*, read a paper on this subject before the London Farmer's Club, from which we take the following extracts.]

CONSTRUCTION.—Silos for the preservation of green food were originally mere pits, like those on many English farms, and in which potatoes, mangels, and even turnips are stored; but they are altogether too risky to be recommended for adoption in our pluvial islands. The same may be said of silos built with the greatest skill and the best materials if they are not covered with a roof. The general result of my information as to the cost of constructing silos as new buildings, including a permanent roof, supposing that the most has been made of local circumstances and conditions, is that £1 per ton of silage capacity may be taken as a fair average. Where old barns can be used wholly or in part, the cost of construction is almost nothing in the former case, because there is nothing to construct, and proportionately reduced in the latter, because then only one or two walls and no roof require to be made. Silos above-ground have a great advantage in not being liable to the percolation of water. One advantage of the underground silo is that its roof may be placed at such height above its upper margin that the intermediate space may be used as a kind of Dutch or Cheshire barn for the temporary storage of hay, straw, &c., until the time arrives when it becomes necessary to use the silage.

Mr. Treplin, in Warwickshire, uses a number of barns for the preservation of green fodder without any alteration of the buildings, and M. Lecouteux, a neighbour of M. Goffart uses barns for the double purpose of storing his grain in sheaf at harvest time, and then, later in the autumn, for storing his chopped green maize to convert it into silage. It is, of course, to be understood that in the meantime M. Lecouteux's corn has been threshed, and the straw stacked elsewhere.

Of English Fodder Crops, there can be no doubt that ordinary meadow grass is the most universal and the easiest preserved, but clover and artificial grasses present no difficulty. When green rye or oats are intended for the silo, care should be taken to cut them while still sufficiently succulent in the stem, and while the grain is quite milky. This caution is even more necessary in the case of tares, which seem generally to have been allowed to get too ripe before being put into the silo.

Prickly comfrey appears to be the only crop found absolutely unsuitable for ensilage; and green maize, although it makes probably some of the best and most nutritious silage, and almost the

worst fodder when preserved dry, has but a limited interest for the British farmer.

The practice of Ensilage may, in my judgment, have this great fact put to its credit—that it enables us to preserve in a state fit for sale that almost intractable product of the land which is termed sewage-grass; and it also enables one to turn to profitable use coarse and wiry grass growing under trees, and in odd corners, the hay from which would be scarcely worth the cost of making.

Two other results of my investigations, being inferences from the evidence I have collected, are, that materials to be preserved in silos should be chopped, and that they should not be mixed with salt. I do not say that chopping is absolutely necessary, or that salting is essentially pernicious; but I believe that much better silage is obtained with chopping and without salting than otherwise.

One special advantage expected from ensilage is that it will enable crops to be cut and pitted in wet weather, when haymaking is impossible; but I must be allowed now to caution that crops cut in that state require careful treatment afterwards, otherwise a strong-smelling mass of pickles will be obtained, which cattle will often eat readily enough, but which require a considerable addition in their food of the stuff that makes the beef. In other words, the process of fermentation will proceed so rapidly under such circumstances that there will be a maximum loss of nutritive matter.

THE PROCESS OF FILLING THE SILO.—The material should be trod in thoroughly as it is put in, and not only by men and women, but also by horses—on the Continent they use bullocks—and in addition by a ram like a pavior's. Perfect consolidation in this stage is much more effective than any amount of weighting afterwards, besides diminishing the expense of the latter proceeding.

The pressure required I have found to vary with the nature of the crop, its comparative ripeness and dryness, whether it has been chopped or unchopped, and so forth. One and a-half cwt. to two cwt. per superficial foot—which are employed in the North of England, seem to be excess of what is necessary; while the light weighting of 40lb. or 50lb. to the square foot, which is met with in the South of England, seems to err equally on the other side. My impression is that with good treading and ramming, and chopping material, a weighting of 1 cwt. to the square foot should be rarely exceeded.

Concrete blocks, bricks, steel ingots, and iron weights are all more or less costly, so also are the mechanical means of pressure that I have seen at work. I believe that a layer of earth about 1 foot thick, over a covering of boards is almost