

cotton, nor has wool been unfavourably affected by the prospect of a large yield of cotton. Fruit is unusually abundant throughout the United States this year.

Accounts from Britain show that though the early part of the season was cold, wet and backward, more genial weather has been enjoyed latterly, and crops of all kinds are likely to be good.

PROTECTION OF GAME.

If this country is to be saved the serious misfortune of being utterly stripped of wild animals and birds, public attention must be more widely drawn to our game laws, and the necessity of enforcing them: Too many people regard such laws as offensive, whereas they are thoroughly benevolent, and conducive to the greatest good of the greatest number. Indiscriminate hunting and shooting of game in the breeding season and at all seasons, can have but one result, viz., extermination. It is therefore to the interest of all that judicious game laws be enacted and put in force.

No doubt these laws are very often violated through ignorance, but it is a legal maxim that ignorance of the law excuses no one, and it is a first duty of all good citizens to get a thorough acquaintance with the laws of their country, so that they may not, even unwittingly, transgress them.

An Act was passed on the 28th of February, 1868, for the better protection of game in the Province of Ontario, and on the 19th of December certain amendments were made to it. The provision for the killing of deer remains the same as before, that is—"The period during which it is unlawful to hunt, take, or kill any kind of deer whatever, is between the first day of December of any year, and the first day of September in the succeeding year, or in other words, 'you may kill deer in September, October, and November, but at no other time.'"

The first amendment to the Act is one touching the killing of hares. By the law as it stood, hares were protected from 1st of January until the 1st of September. Now the time for killing them is extended to the first of March.

The second amendment is that which changes and enlarges the time for shooting woodcock and snipe. It was confined to the period between the first of September and the first of March; now these birds are declared to be in season between the 12th of August and the 1st of March.

The next amendment provides that swan, geese, and duck can be shot at any time between the 15th of August and the 15th of April; but

it is against the law to use batteries, night lights, or sunken punts for the destruction of any wild fowl whatever.

The last amendment to the Act of last year is that which enlarges the time for trapping the fur-bearing animals. The law provided that they should be unmolested between the first day of May and the fifteenth of November; but the amendment narrows this time of protection to the fifteenth of October, after which date they may be taken.

A fine varying from two to twenty-five dollars per head of game killed will be inflicted on any person convicted of a breach of the law, and one-half the fine will be paid to the person who informs against such offender.

COUNCIL OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND ARTS ASSOCIATION.

This body met in the Agricultural Hall, Toronto, on the 29th ult., and transacted the following business:—

1. Heard sundry papers and letters read.
2. Had the usual annual misunderstanding with the Local Committee about the expense of preparing the exhibition buildings and grounds.
3. Tried, with but poor success, to find what there was, by way of security, to show for the \$800 given by the Prince of Wales in 1860, as a permanent provision for an annual prize.
4. Made some routine arrangements for the Provincial Fair of 1869, appointed judges, nominated committees, and adopted a programme which will probably be quite as much honoured in the breach as in the observance.

MISSING NUMBERS.

From various causes, such as errors in mailing, and mistakes in the Post Office, subscribers now and then fail to get number of their paper. We wish it to be understood that whenever this is the case, from whatever cause, we shall most willingly supply missing numbers on being requested to do so.

TO MEMBERS OF AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

It is not so generally known as it ought to be, that the ONTARIO FARMER is furnished at 75 cents to clubs of any number, consisting of members of the above-named societies only. This is as low as it can possibly be afforded. We put it down to this figure to small clubs, on the ground that it is the weak societies that most need to be