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NOVA SCOTIA

JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE

Published under direction of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia.

Omniun rerum, ex quibus aliquid acquiritur, nihil est agriculturâ melius, nihil uberius, nihil homine libero dignius.—Cicero : de Officiis, lib. I, cap. 42.

VOL. IV.

HALIFAX, N. S., JULY, 1882.

No. 25.

The first Prize List of a District Exhibition to reach us in a printed form is that for the Counties of Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne. The exhibition is to be held at Yarmouth on Thursday and Friday, 12th and 13th October. The prize list is neatly printed by Powers & Carey, Yarmouth, and presents several features worthy of imitation. We do not refer to its most conspicuous one, viz.: that, in accordance with modern custom, it carries a deck load, fore and aft, of advertisements of the principal business concerns of the district, books furniture, woollen mills, groceries, watches, metal-ware, boots and shoes, knitting factory, woodenware, seeds, fertilizers, dry goods, flour, fish, hotels, iron works, sawing machines, clothing, plumbing, undertaking, tanning, auctioneers, insurance, photographs, seeds, trees, culinary comforts, luxuries, printing, and drugs. Thus strangers get an insight beforehand into the industries in which many of the enterprising people of Yarmouth are engaged, and the nature of their domestic wants. The exhibition is held under the immediate direction of the Yarmouth County Agricultural Society. The cash prizes amount to \$2,000. The Managing Committee consists of Charles E. Brown, *President*, Hon. L. E. Baker, *Vice-President*, Bowman Corning, Hugh Cann, Jno. Cann, J. W. Moody, Joseph R. Wyman. The Secretary is Thomas B. Crosby. The prizes for horses amount to \$37. Those for cattle are much heavier, amounting to \$68 in each of the five thoroughbred classes alone. Male and female cattle

are classified into "Thoroughbred and Registered" and "Half-bred and over" in each of the principal breeds—Short Horns, Ayrshires, Jerseys and Aklernseys, Devons, Guernseys. Fat cattle are required to be weighed on the morning of the exhibition. The only thoroughbred sheep recognized are Shropshire and Cotswold, but the prizes for grades and crosses are extensive. The Poland China and Yorkshire are the principal swine. In poultry we find turkeys, geese, Rouen, Aylesbury, Pekin and Cayuga ducks; of fowls: Buff and Partridge Cochin, Light and Dark Brahmas, Black Spanish, White and Brown Leghorn, Plymouth Rock, Houdan and Langshan, Hamburgs, Bantams, and Barn Doors; also pigeons. The dairy prizes give evidence of much care and consideration. The fruit list is large for a shore district, embracing a collection of 26 dozens of apples, 2 of pears, and 5 of plums, with 3 sections for grapes, 2 for peaches, 1 for quinces, 1 for crab apples and one for cultivated cranberries. The Fruit Growers' Association offers special prizes of \$7 and \$5 for collections of apples. For flowers there are 16 sections, 48 prizes. Under Fine Arts we have painting, drawing, wax, shell and moss work, minerals, insects, photographs, written visiting cards, maps, penmanship, taxidermy, and prizes for 2 lbs. of Irish Moss accompanied by statement where and when found. Class 12 consists of bread in great variety, preserves, pickles, honey and wax. Class 13, domestic manufactures, 1st section, for best exhibit of woollen cloths, flannels, yarns, &c., \$10, \$6, \$4, with 28 other sections, 3

prizes for most of them. Class 14, fancy work, 15 sections, 45 prizes. Class 15, agricultural implements, &c., 38 sections, 2 prizes in each. Class 16, castings and machine work, 19 sections. Class 17, miscellaneous, embraces organs, sewing machines, harness, boots, bolting, tailoring, &c. Class 18, fisheries, 20 prizes. There are two special prizes for fertilizers. Written entries of all exhibits must be made on or before Wednesday preceding day of exhibition.

WE regret to hear of the rather sudden death of Robert Longworth, Esq., an old and much respected christian gentleman, and member of a family long known in connection with agriculture and other important interests in Prince Edward Island. Mr. Longworth died at Truro, whither he had removed a year ago to reside with his son, Israel Longworth, Esq., Vice-President of the Central Board of Agriculture.

LOWER ONSLOW, June 30th, 1882.

PROF. LAWSON:

Dear Sir,—I understand that there is a talk of the Government importing some thorough-bred stock this season. I would like to get three Hampshire Downs—two ewes and one ram. I would like to make the same offer as Mr. Stairs made for the cattle. If this offer is thought favorably of, please let me know by postal card, and oblige

Yours truly,

ROBERT PUTNAM.

REPORTS OF CROPS.

ANNAPOLIS.

ROUND HILL, ANNAPOLIS,
July 10th, 1882.

On my arrival home on Saturday last from Halifax I was handed your letter of 3rd inst. asking information of present state and prospect of crops in this district. In consequence of the cold and wet weather during May and the early part of June, farmers were hindered in their spring work, but during the last three weeks vegetation has been rapid, and throughout the district as a whole there is every prospect of good crops. Hay, although light in some of the old fields, will I think prove a fair yield. Grain of all kinds looks well. A much larger area sown than usual. Some (and it would be better if all) farmers grow sufficient wheat to bread their families. Potatoes have come up well and promise a good yield. Turnips, mangolds and sugar-beets are more extensively grown than formerly, and when pulped and mixed with meal are found excellent for stock; farmers acquainted with their use say they would not be able to do without. Fruit: Apples—the trees gave promise when in blossom of an abundant crop, in many orchards the apple worm has injured the blossoms, and the crops will not be as large as in 1880, but much larger than in 1881; cherries and other small fruits a fair crop. The present prices of all kinds of farm products pay the industrious farmer a handsome return for his labor if properly applied.

GEO. WHITMAN.

MAPLE GROVE, PARADISE,
July, 11th, 1882.

Your circular soliciting information as to present and future prospect of the crops in this locality came duly to hand. Winter wheat was much injured during the winter and spring, and, in consequence, there will not be so large a quantity harvested as last year. Although the spring was cold and backward, and farmers were much later than usual in getting their crops in, more acres of potatoes have been planted and a greater breadth of grain sown than in any previous year and, with the warm weather and sunshine we are now having, our cultivated crops promise a good yield. The hay crop on rich up-lands as well as on the marshes will be a heavy one. The fruit trees blossomed full, but in some localities the Ribston Pippin, an early winter variety, and the Nonpareil, a long keeper, both highly prized in our home and foreign markets, will come under an average crop. I may state that the fruit crop as a whole, and which is considered a very important one in the

Annapolis valley, as it probably nets more to the farmer than any other farm product, will be a good average. The make of cheese will fall short of last year, —a larger number of calves are being raised, which gives a home market for the milk.

W. E. S.

ANTIGONISH.

ANTIGONISH, July 10th, 1882.

In reply to your note asking the state and prospects of the crops in this County, I beg to say that personal observation and inquiry have led me to the following conclusions:—First, the hay crop will be an average one if we have the ordinary July weather this month. It has suffered considerably, particularly in clayey lands, from excessive and generally cold rains. These cold rains retarded the growth of grass, but promoted that of different kinds of weeds. Secondly, it is impossible to make any reliable forecast of cereals yet, as so much depends on the weather. The blade looks healthy and strong, and though less advanced than it usually is at this date, still with favorable weather we may look forward with much hope to a good harvest. Early sown wheat looks very promising. I am informed that in wet lands a good deal of both early and late sowing is "water killed." Thirdly, the potato and root crops generally look very promising, though, on account of the lateness of the sowing season, they are not as forward as might otherwise be expected. Although the farmer has suffered, on the one hand, from the exceptional wetness of the season, which retarded farm work and growth, he has, on the other hand, escaped frost and its blighting influence.

Let me avail myself of the present to communicate to you a resolution passed by the Exhibition Committee of District No. 5, at a meeting held last week, as follows:—

Resolved, That the Secretary write to Prof. Lawson, asking him to deliver the Exhibition opening address.

I hope that you will kindly meet the wish of the Committee in this respect, and become thereby the means of opening auspiciously the second Government Exhibition known in the history of this County. Please send me your answer, which I hope will be in the affirmative, at your convenience.

A. G. MACDONALD.

COLCHESTER.

LOWER LONDONDERRY,
July 10th, 1882.

The prospects for the farmers at present are not flattering. Hay, though late will be good on dry, rich lands, while on damp soil, which constitutes a large part

of this district, the yield will be less than average. Wheat, on account of the failure last year, very little was sown this season, on dry land it is making a fair appearance. Oats, a larger quantity sown than for some years, but the cold, wet weather has retarded their growth very much, and the yield will probably be very light. Potatoes, the remunerative prices paid last year have had a tendency to induce our farmers to make greater preparations for this crop than heretofore; strange to say, they have "come" well and though late are looking healthy; should the remainder of the season prove favourable, we will likely have a fair return. We have had too much cold, wet weather for turnips and mangolds, which are in a backward state.

A. R. FULTON.

CUMBERLAND.

AMHERST, July 10th, 1882.

In reply to yours of the 3rd inst., I beg to say that the English grass on high, well drained marsh promises an excellent crop, the unusual wet has hurt it on poorly drained marsh. Uplands light, especially newly seeded land, which has been badly winter killed, and the cold, wet spring has not been favorable for grass on damp lands. Do not think hay will be more than a fair average crop. All grain crops put in with land in bad state, consequently weeds thick and grain thin. Buckwheat generally very late, and with early fall no expectation of a crop. All grain crops middling to poor, even allowing the season to be ten days late. Potatoes have suffered very severely with the wet weather; some have been ploughed up and turnips sown. Potatoes must be light. Turnips and mangolds late, with fair prospects. Even the little fruit here raised will probably be light.

HIRAM BLACK.

PARRSBORO, N. S., July 8th, 1882.

Yours of the 3rd just received on my return home from River Hebert. The crops around River Hebert, Minudie, Nappan, Maccan River and Amherst are not at all advanced. Potatoes more particularly, are very backward, and if the wet weather continues as h'to as it did last season, the potato crop all over the north, east and centre of the county will be light. The potatoes in Parrsboro district, where the soil (southern slope of the Cobequid Range) is very dry, and bears great precipitation without injury, look well. Grass at Maccan Mountain and all the hilly portion of Parrsboro looks pretty well, not however, so advanced as this time last year. Up the West Brook Valley it does not look so well. We had scarcely any rain during the early spring, and the grass did not

take a start till the middle of May. On the whole, however, I think the hay crop in this district will be good. Garden stuff looks well generally. Wheat begins to look pretty well. The partial failure last year deterred a good many of our farmers from trying it this year. Oats promise to be a good crop. Corn (only grown here for table use) has made no growth yet on account of continued cold. Carrots, beets, &c., look fairly well. None of our crops show an advancement proportionate to the season.

W. D. MacKENZIE,
Sec'y Parrsboro' Ag. Society.

DIGBY.

DIGBY, July 10th, 1882.

On arriving at home last Saturday evening from the Anglican Synod in Halifax, I found your favor of 3rd inst., requiring an answer on or before the 12th July. So I hastened to make the necessary enquiries, and now send the result, with my own observations, as soon as possible.

The crops in a general way look well and promise a good yield. Notwithstanding the extraordinary lateness of the spring and the subsequent cold wind and rains, vegetation seems to be making up for lost time.

Hay will be, I think, above the average. Some of the old fields, too closely grazed in the autumn and insufficiently manured, appeared at first to be extensively winter-killed; but now those fields are largely recovering, and lands in anything like fair condition will turn out well. Salt grass is good, for the season.

Wheat was not quite so extensively sown in some parts of this county this spring as in the two years immediately preceding, and the cold and cloudy weather, so far, has had a depressing effect upon it. Oats and barley look well.

Potatoes promised well, and judging by the gardens, this year gives token of good root-crops generally.

Fruit of all sorts looks well.

On the whole, it may be said that the lateness of the spring is likely to be quite compensated by the succeeding uncommon rapidity of vegetation.

JOHN AMBROSE,
Pres. Digby Northern Ag. Soc.

HALIFAX.

UPPER MUSQUODOBIT,

July 11th, 1882.

The crop prospects in our district are as follows:—The appearance and prospects for Hay on dry and well cultivated soils are very good—much ahead of the two last years; on low and wet lands not so good—too much rain and cold weather. Wheat, more sown. Barley, on dry land,

good; on wet lands, poor, and in some places dying out. Oats, early sown, good; late sown, poor and backward for the season. Buckwheat, in consequence of so much wet weather, was sown late, and is far behind for the season of the year. Potatoes, where the lands would admit of them being planted early, look very promising, but a large part of the potato crop could not be got into the ground early, consequently is backward. Turnips, late sown, have been destroyed in many places by the fly; early sown, look well.

The spring with us has been extremely cold, wet and late, and therefore considerable parts of the crops had to be sown and planted when the soil was not in proper condition to receive them.

DAVID ARCHIBALD.

KING'S.

LOWER CANARD, N. S.,

July 10th, 1882.

In reply to your favor of the 3rd, making enquiry about the crops in this district, I have to say: the season was at first very backward, but the fine, warm weather toward the last of June, with occasional showers, has caused a very rapid growth of the vegetation generally, and at present the crops, with a few exceptions, are but little if any behind the average season. The hay crop, though very large last year, is but little if any smaller this, certainly it will be above an average. Wheat and oats are looking fairly, but the spring sowing having been later than usual, it is rather soon to give a correct idea about the prospect for these crops. I think the acreage sown is less than that of other years; very little of other grains sown. Potatoes, the quantity planted is above the average. Farmers in this district finding this the most profitable crop, as a rule, but especially so the last year, have been encouraged to plant very extensively. The crop is looking unusually well, though some fields were not planted until late in June, owing to heavy rains during the planting season. The "Berbank Seedling," a new variety, was introduced two or three years ago, and this season has been much inquired after. This is a white potato, and being very smooth, handsome and healthy, as well as a good yielder, bids fair to take the place of all other varieties for shipping purposes. Other vegetables are doing well, but few are grown, however, except what are required for home use. Fruit:—the apple crop promises to be abundant. Pears blossomed well, but there appears to be very little fruit set. Plums, a light crop. Cherries plentiful. The country is looking very beautiful. The three principal crops of this district, viz.: Hay, apples

and potatoes, are giving ample signs of an abundant reward to the labours of the husbandman.

C. F. EATON.

STARBUCK'S POINT, July 6th, 1882.

Yours of the 3rd, asking for a report of the crops came duly to hand, and, as I have a few spare moments to-day, I devote them to reply. First—grass, altho' late in starting, is thick, strong and luxuriant in pastures, meadows, and dyked marshes; clovers rapidly coming into bloom; red top and timothy commencing to show head, and, if the weather, which is now, and has been for several days, cold and wet, should turn warm and dry, haying would be on hand as early as usual, and the crops very heavy. Grain—winter wheat badly killed during the winter, some few patches that escaped are looking fairly; spring wheat on dry and well-drained land looking well and promising good returns; quite a large breadth has been sown this year, enough, if fairly successful, to make a decided difference in the importation of flour into this County next season. Barley, early sown on dry land looking well, late sown on wet soils in some instances looking rather yellow. Oats, for the most part looking very well, quite a large acreage sown. Buckwheat—on account of the lateness of the season there has been a greater breadth of this useful farmer's grain sown this year than usual; it is too early to speak of its prospects now, but it is coming quickly and strong. Corn is not much planted for grain in this section, the little there is, is looking stunted and yellow, on account of the weather being so cold; strange to say, the white southern corn, of which quite a large breadth has been planted for soiling and ensilage purposes, is holding its own and is looking better than the native yellow. Potatoes, our staple field crop, although later than usual, are looking well for the most part, and I hear very few complaints of failure or rotting of seed. We are now in the midst of "hoeing," and the weather is so favorable to the growth of weeds and so unfavorable to the killing of them, that those farmers who have been careless in past years are now having more than their hands full to keep up to their work. The breadth planted is large, the extremely high prices of the past season is doubtless the main reason for the increase of acreage. Turnips have been planted much more freely this year than usual, the high price in the New York and Boston markets last year, and the call for northern grown turnips, now that they know the difference in quality, it is supposed will continue to give us a paying market there in the future; but, if our neighbors across the line do not want

them at such prices as will pay to ship, we can easily find a home market on the farm, at the present prices of beef and mutton, for all we can grow. Fruit—Wild fruits will be generally plentiful; strawberries are just now ripening and will be very plenty. Garden strawberries are looking finely; currants and gooseberries have set well and are growing nicely, but we have still to fight the currant worm to get any fruit; cherries are again loaded with fruit, but many are stung by the curculio; plums will be a short crop, very few fruit having set, the curculio will get the whole of them unless growers take more pains than usual to kill the "little Turk;" pears have set very thinly for the most part, a good season may give fine specimens, but the crop will be short; apples have done better, and, for the show of blossoms, have set well and are swelling out fast; and, if we are granted fair growing weather during the remainder of the season, we may expect a full average crop of fruit. Catterpillars, canker worms, curculios, and currant worms have all put in an appearance and demanded their share; but farmers are at last becoming aware that "eternal vigilance is the price of fruit," and that they must fight and conquer the insect tribes that seek to destroy it, as persistently and determinedly as they do the weeds that would otherwise destroy their hoed crops.

Altogether the outlook for the farmer is improving; there is a very perceptible, if not rapid, advance in agriculture in this section. Improved implements are sought for and used; steel plows, harrows, horse hoes and cultivators are taking the place of the old cart-iron horse-killers, and that means not only better and deeper cultivation, but more is done in the same time with the same expense of team powers; more and heavier teams are used for the amount of manure labor; more attention is paid to making and saving manure; and commercial manures, such as lime, plaster, ground bone, superphosphate, and the offal of lobster factories, have all been sought for and used this season more than usual. Old pasture is being ploughed up and brought under cultivation and manured before re-seeding, its place in the meantime being filled by cultivated grass lands. This means better stock and more of it. Draining is receiving more attention every year, not so much what is called thorough draining as tapping springs and draining swales and low spots to equalize and make large fields of what before would have been dry land and wet hollows. All this is being done not as generally as we could wish, but enough are at work to show its advantages to the community, and others are falling into line every season. These are but a small portion of

the improvements that I see going on around me; had I space I would refer to the vast extension of fruit growing, and the improvement in stock of all kinds, to the immense quantities of labor-saving implements and machinery now in use and increasing every year; but it is rather out of place in a letter like this, and I have only referred to the subject to show your readers that we are not content to stand still and drift in this age of progress and improvement, but we are endeavoring as best we may to keep abreast of the spirit of the times.

R. W. STARR.

LUNENBURG.

MAHONE BAY, July 10th, 1882.

In reply to your favor of the 3rd inst., I will give you the state of the crops for some distance round. The hay crop will, I think, be over an average, even better than last year, dry ground is very good, wet and low land is rather backward as yet. The potatoes look very promising, in fact every kind of crop in dry soil. Grain and potatoes look very well. Winter rye, I understand, is not so good, it is winter-killed.

B. ZWICKER.

PICTOU.

NEW GLASGOW, July 10th, 1882.

In reply to your note of the 3rd inst., I have to say that the prospects of the crops in this district are not very favorable. Up to the last ten days grass was very promising, but since we have had such a quantity of rain and cold it seems to make very little progress. Wheat and oats are very backward and seem to be chilled in the ground, except on very dry places. Potatoes are also behind for this advanced time of the season. Ground laid aside for turnips in many cases could not be used, as teams could not be taken on it on account of the softness of the ground. Dry, warm weather is much wanted.

JOHN ROSS.

QUEEN'S.

LIVERPOOL, N. S.,

July 10th, 1882.

In answer to your note of the 3rd July, I beg to say: We are having fine growing weather now. It has been wet and backward, bad for the small seeds, but I am in hope they will come on rapidly. Grass will be very good but late; also wheat, barley and oats. Potatoes will be abundant, according to appearances, as there is a large acreage planted and they look well. Cabbage good, also mangolds. Fruit, I think, a fair crop, but can hardly tell yet, as the season was so backward. The bugs are destroying our squash and pumpkin and

pears. The people are waking up to the fact of raising what they formerly bought.

J. L. HUMMEON.

P. S.—This refers to the southern district of Queen's.

VICTORIA.

MIDDLE RIVER,

8th July, 1882.

In reply to yours of the 3rd inst., I beg leave to say that, judging from the present appearance of the crops in this district, things look very cheering. The hay crop, I think, will far exceed the average of last year, and, judging from present appearance, all kinds of crops will do well, particularly those on sandy soils; of course those on cold and deep soils do not look so encouraging, on account of so much rain and dull weather with less sunshine than in former years, but generally the months of July and August have a great deal to do with the final result of the different kinds of crops.

Owing to the lateness of the spring, the farmers were later than usual in getting in their crops, which, consequently, will be later in coming to maturity. Judging from appearance, the different kinds of fruit, I think, will turn out a better average than last year.

JOHN McLENNAN.

YARMOUTH.

YARMOUTH, July 7th, 1882.

Your circular of 3rd inst. received yesterday. To predicate of the crops of 1882 is more than usually difficult. The winter in this county was exceptionally severe, not so much in extreme cold, as in continued low temperature, with high winds and absence of our average open weather at frequent intervals; steady cold rarely holds here for more than three days together. Winter-killing of grass, roots in the fields, small fruits in the gardens, and trees everywhere, resulted. The severe winter was followed by two months, April and May, nearly as cold as our average winter, freezing at night up to 6th May; the abundant showers of June, during which rain fell on the 1st, 4th, 10th, 16th, 18th, 20th, 25th and 29th, failed to compensate for the previous cold and winter-killing of the grass roots. I fear the hay crop will be much below the average; my own crop, a small one, last year, was 16 tons, began June 7th, finished July 8th; this year only 10½ tons, began June 26th, finished July 4th. All crops are late, planting and sowing having been beyond precedent, but the seedsmen report larger sales of seeds, grain, mangold wurtzel, turnips, &c., than in any previous year. The high price obtained for potatoes in the United States last fall, and thence in the home-market, selling now at \$1.25 per

bushel, stimulated to an increased planting of this crop, and of other root crops, for several of which there was an export demand, and favorable results with wheat and other grain crops for the past two or three years encourage a wider area to grain. With tolerable weather for the rest of the season, there may be good crops, which is about all one can say; but if Vennor's prediction of a cold, wet summer be further verified as hitherto, there will be disappointment. So far as I have observed, potato and grain fields are promising now; in a few fields, the former are in bloom, but the bulk of the crop will be late.

Fruit bloom in orchards was abundant and appears to have set for a good crop; our progress in fruit has been so marked that an experiment with a home nursery is on trial with one of our inland growers, who planted 40,000 apple root grafts this spring, and proposes to try another lot of 100,000 next spring. So far, trees have come chiefly from the United States, several thousand dollars worth being imported annually through agents. The strawberry crop will be a good one, bloom was late and escaped injury from frost. Some few growers have up to one acre in strawberries for the home market and for export. The Wilson is still the only kind worth planting here, Sharpless does not stand the winter, is much less productive, and is too large to ripen evenly; nor is any other variety productive in comparison with the Wilson. A few berries are ripe now, but only the wild fruit is in the market yet. Other small fruits not grown for market crops in the garden about an average, except of raspberries, which were badly winter-killed.

CHAS. E. BROWN.

Mr. Brown notices raspberries badly winter-killed at Yarmouth. We notice that at Bellabill, Halifax County, the raspberries (red) are most robust and quite uninjured. At Lucyfield, 10 miles distant, the raspberries (white and amber) have had their fruiting canes completely destroyed. Will our correspondents kindly give us their experience as to how the different varieties have stood the winter throughout the Province. Mr. Brown does not say what sort he grows.

SYDNEY, CAPE BRETON,
June 27th, 1882.

DEAR SIR,—Enclosed please find application for the formation of an agricultural society.

After the receipt of your letter of the 4th May, I notified the farmers interested, but, owing to the times being busy and the season late, they could not meet till the 24th June. So, agreeably to your letter, we now make formal application for recognition.

There is no doubt after a short time we shall have a good working society, as the district comprises our very best farmers.

Hoping the papers will be found correct,

I am, &c.,

ROBERT MARTIN.

P. S.—All will pay in as soon as recognized, and the return sent to you in December next will be duly sworn.

A NEW Society has been organized at Sydney Forks, Co. Cape Breton, and application made for recognition by the Board. A meeting was held at the Forks School House, on Saturday, June 24th, 1882, and the following persons were duly elected to fill office:—Henny McKinnon, *President*; Jas. B. Howie, *Vice-President*; Robert Martin, *Secretary*; Daniel Howie, *Treasurer*.

Directors—John Lewis, Jas. McLean, Hugh McDougal, James A. Howie, Alex. McKinnon.

ROBT. MARTIN, *Secretary*.

SCHOOL HOUSE, FORKS,
June 24th, 1882.

F. S. HUSTLEY, *Secretary* of the Mapleton Agricultural Society, Co. Cumberland, writes:—“Enclosed you will find our returns as required by the law for 1st July. We have only recently been able to complete the number required. Our directors are about purchasing a thorough-bred Short-Horn at Sackville, which will cost about \$90,—one year old in April last. I believe the Directors intend giving their joint note for the balance—\$50—payable 1st March next, which will mature after the government help has been received.”

Mapleton, June 29th, 1882.

TREMONT, June 28th, 1882.

A meeting was held this evening in Tremont Hall, for the purpose of organizing an Agricultural Society, for improvement of stock and general agricultural purposes. S. G. Baker was chosen chairman and W. E. Saunders secretary for the evening. 52 members subscribed and paid \$52. The following officers were elected:—A. P. Welton, *President*; S. G. Baker, *Vice-President*; W. E. Saunders, *Secretary*; John Gordon, *Treasurer*. *Directors*:—Jas. Gordon, Thos. Steele, Whitfield Saunders, Gilbert Ward, John Ward. Resolved that this Society be known as the “Tremont Agricultural Society.” It is in King's County. The application for recognition will be brought before the Central Board first opportunity.

VEGETABLE FOOD FOR POULTRY.—Any of the roots—as potatoes, turnips, carrots, &c.,—when boiled and mixed with corn and rye meal make an excellent and economical daily food for poultry. In this form fowls are fond of the diet, and

it works very kindly with them. Most experienced breeders think it necessary to dole out dry grain only to their chickens, generally whole corn, from year's end to year's end. And where large numbers of fowls are kept it is often considered too troublesome to supply cooked vegetables for the fowl stock, the dry feed system being the handiest, of course. But there is nothing that is so great a help to the poulterer, first and last, either in the cost or through the benefits to be derived by the stock, as a regular feed every day of cooked vegetable. We have tried this practically for years, and we have found it highly advantageous, as compared with any other method of feeding.

There are other kinds of vegetables also, which are quite as valuable as are the roots mentioned for use among poultry in their season. The leaves of turnips or carrots, raw cabbages at any time of the year, green corn in the ear, &c., may be given to poultry freely, and these will all be relished. But if at least one-half of all the food given them be of some sort of vegetable, and green, fowls will constantly be found in better thrift and in finer condition than when fed in any other way.—*Poultry Yard*.

SAWDUST FOR BEDDING.—As we raise more hay and roots than grain, there is a want of bedding for our cattle. I have had several inquiries in reference to sawdust as a bedding material, and have rather discouraged its use, believing that it absorbs soluble matters of manure, and does not give them out again readily to the crops. Will some of your readers give us their experience with sawdust, on two points, viz: 1. Its effect on the fertilizing qualities of the manure? 2. Whether it has any injurious effect upon the feet of cattle? (*G. L., Halifax, N. S.*)

[Sawdust, if dry, is a good absorbent for manure. Some kinds of wood are better than others. Those which decay soonest is best. If green or wet, it is of very little value as an absorbent. It will give off the matter which it absorbs as well as straw. Sawdust in manure, if some fermentation has taken place, is acquiring a high reputation in some parts of England, especially for celery and other garden vegetables. If dry it does not injure the feet of cattle.]—*Country Gentleman*.

The reply does not quite accord with experience. Straw manure is completely decayed at the end of the season, whereas sawdust comes up quite fresh after it has lain three or four years in the ground. One of our agriculturists found the feet of his cattle when bedded with sawdust to be hot and tender. What we want to know is whether others have found the same result.—[*Ed. Journal of Ag.*]

NOVA SCOTIA REGISTER OF THOROUGH-BRED STOCK,

Sanctioned by, and published under the authority of, the Central Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia.

SHORT-HORN DURHAM BULLS.

151.—JUMBO OF LORNDALE.

Red, solid colour, little white above hoof on each foot. Dropped 29th January, 1882. Raised and owned by Israel Longworth, Lorndale Farm, Truro, N. S. Sire King Dodds 28. Dam Belle of Lorndale 27 by Fifth Duke of Lorne 20. Gr d Maid of Oxford 4th, 5 by Lord Waterloo 2nd 25755 Eng. G gr d Maid of Oxford 2nd by Fourth Duke of York 17751 Eng.—Maid of Oxford by Fourth Duke of Oxford 11387 Eng.—Fancy by Avalanche 1241 Eng.—Caprice by Harold 10299 Eng.—Juliet by Sol 8608 Eng.—Ada by Treasurer 5513 Eng.—Lady Byron by Rupert 2530 Eng.—Lady Noel by North Star 460 Eng.—by Cripple 173 Eng.—by Minor 441 Eng.—by Freeman 267 Eng.—by Dandy 190 Eng.

152*—KING OF THE VALLEY.

Red and white. Dropped September 15th, 1881. Bred by Chas. Strong, Horton, King's County, N. S. Owned by J. W. Margeson, Cornwallis, N. S. Sire Peter Grant 101. Dam by Sir Roger Tichborne 45. Gr d by Lobo Lad 1. G gr d by Sir William 3*.

153.—KING ARTHUR.

Red, roan and white. Dropped June 24th, 1882. Raised and owned by Charles C. Gregory, Antigonish, Sire Earl Godwin 47. Dam Daisy Dean 7 by His Royal Highness 555 Ca. Gr d Daisy 2nd by Emperor 1368 Ca. G gr d Daisy by Red Prince 602 Ca.—Lucy by Guelph 332 Ca.—Snowdrop by Sir Isaac Brock 679 Ca.

154.—KING HAROLD.

Red, roan and white. Dropped 23rd January, 1881. Raised and owned by Charles C. Gregory, Antigonish. Sire Earl Godwin 47. Dam Fair Rosamund 35 by Lord Windsor 25. Dam Daisy Dean 7 by His Royal Highness 555 Ca. Gr d Daisy 2nd, &c., as in preceding No. 153.

155.—DUKE 5TH.

[Entered for reference.]

Light roan. Calved February 25th, 1858. Sire Orinoco 13425 Eng. Dam Lady by Viscount 13956 Eng. Gr d Janetta by Chilton 11279 Eng. G gr d Susanna by Strathmore 6547 Eng.—Susan by Sir Robert 5183 Eng.—Rosaland by the Baron 3095 Eng.—Ruby by Emperor 3716 Eng.—Cicily by Invalid 4076 Eng.—Lady Sarah by Satellite 1420 Eng.—by Cato 119 Eng.—by Jupiter 342 Eng.—by George 273 Eng.—by Chilton 136 Eng.—by Irishman 329 Eng.

This bull back bit far ear. Was bred by Robert Gerkie Rosemount, Perthshire, Scotland, and imported by Mr. Inches in 1859 for the York County Agricultural Society, and afterwards purchased by him.

The above pedigree is a true copy of that received from R. Gerkie.

156.—LEOPOLD.

[Entered for reference.]

Red and white. Calved March 22nd, 1875. Bred by A. C. Carter, Westmoreland N. B. Sire Clockmohr 1117 Ca. Dam Bessie Bell by Prince Alfred 1977 Ca. G d Fancy by Oxford Lad 513 Ca. G gr d Daisy Spot by Snowball 696 Ca.

157.—TUSCARORA.

[Entered for reference.]

Red and white spots. Dropped May 19th, 1872. Bred and owned by Albert Fawcett, Westmoreland County, N. B. Sire Charles 833 Ca. Dam Flora by Oswald Cray 514. Gr d Rosehill by Prince Alfred 513 Ca. G gr d Daisy by Duke of Athole.

158.—BRUNSWICK.

[Entered for reference.]

Red and white. Calved June 10th, 1874. Bred by John Fawcett, Westmoreland County, N. B. Owned by J. W. Margeson, Cornwallis. Sire Tuscarora 157. Dam Beppo by Duke 5th, 155. Gr d Princess 6th by Duke 5th 155. G gr d Princess 4th by Stafford 2nd 13797 Eng.—Peggie 2nd by Wallace 17202 Eng.

159.—DUNCAN.

Red and white. Dropped February 10th, 1880. Raised by J. W. Margeson, Cornwallis, King's Co., N. S. Sire Independence 81. Dam Pauline 129 by Brunswick 158. Gr d Brookside Mayflower 121 by Baron Clayton 828 Ca. G gr d Peerless by Joe 371 Ca.—White Lily by Wentworth 809 Ca.—Snowdrop by Wellington 792 Ca., 283 Am.—White Rose by May Duke 452 Ca., 102 Am.—Young Lily by Young Farmer 243 Ca., 62 Am.—Lily by Varden 1563 Eng.—Beauty by Rockingham 560 Eng.—by Sir Harry 1444 Eng.—by Colonel 152 Eng.—by a son of Hubback 319 Eng.

160.—MACBETH.

Red and white. Dropped April 7th, 1871. Raised and owned by R. W. Starr, Starr's Point, Cornwallis, N. S. Sire St. Nicholas of Lucyfield 27. Dam Pauline 129 by Brunswick 158. Gr d Brookside Mayflower 121 by Baron Clayton 828 Ca. G gr d Peerless by Joe 371 Ca.—White Lily by Wentworth 800 Ca.—Snowdrop by Wellington 792 Ca., 283 Am.—White Rose by May Duke 452 Ca., 102 Am.—Young Lily by Young Farmer 243 Ca., 62 Am.—Lily by Varden 1563 Eng.—Beauty by Rockingham 560 Eng.—by Sir Harry 1444 Eng.—by Colonel 152 Eng.—by a son of Hubback 319 Eng.

161*—DENMARK.

Dark roan. Dropped February 3rd, 1882. Raised and owned by Richard Sanford, Clementsvale, Co. Annapolis, N. S. Sire Favorite 891. Dam by Wetherby Star 22. Gr d by Yeoman 2. G gr d by Sir William 3*.

162*—JUMBO.

Dark roan. Dropped April 9th, 1882. Raised and owned by Jonathan Rand, Cornwallis. Sire Marquis of Lorne 45. Dam by Sir Roger Tichborne 45. Gr d by Yeoman 2. G gr d by Sir William 3*.

163*—KING LEAR.

Light roan. Dropped April 23rd, 1882. Raised and owned by Jonathan Rand, Cornwallis. Sire Marquis of Lorne 48. Dam by Wetherby Star 22. Gr d by Yeoman 2. G gr d by Sir William 3*.

TRANSFERS OF SHORT-HORN DURHAM BULLS.

93.—OXFORD LAD OF LORNDALE. Transferred by Israel Longworth, Lorndale, Truro, to Stirling Agricultural Society, New Annan, N. S., 20th May, 1881.

94.—BETA. Transferred by E. Chase to Newton Newcomb and by him to J. W. Margeson, Church Street, Cornwallis.

SHORT-HORN DURHAM COWS & HEIFERS.

129.—PAULINE.

Roan. Dropped January 11th, 1878. Raised by J. W. Margeson, Cornwallis, King's Co., N. S. Owned by R. W. Starr, Starr's Point, King's County, N. S. Sire Brunswick 158. Dam Brookside Mayflower 121 by Baron Clayton 828 Ca. G gr d Snowdrop by Wellington 792 Ca. 283 Am.—White Rose by May Duke 452 Ca., 102 Am.—Young Lily by Young Farmer 243 Ca., 62 Am.—Lily by Varden 1563 Eng.—Beauty by Rockingham 560 Eng.—by Sir Harry 1444 Eng.—by Colonel 152 Eng.—by a son of Hubback 319 Eng.

130.—LADY STEWART.

Red with white spots. Dropped April 21st, 1882. Raised and owned by A. R. Fulton, Grove Lane, Bass River, Colchester County, N. S. Sire Agamemnon 59. Dam Laura 60 by Second Gwynne of the Forest 70. Gr d Lady Mary 12 by Grand Duke of Clarence 2750 Eng. G gr d Lovely by Wild Boy 23219 Eng. Lovely by

Sir James 16980 Eng.—Loyalty by the Corsair 15378 Eng.—Lucy Locket by Usurer 9763 Eng.—Lavender by Dan O'Connell 3557 Eng.—Lily by Brutus 1732 Eng.—Violet by Frederick 1060 Eng.—Vestris by Cato 1704 Eng.—Verbena by son of Wellington 679 Eng.—bred by Mr. Robertson of Ladykirk.

131*—POLLY GARFIELD

Red with white star, and a little white on legs and belly. Dropped April 17th, 1882. Raised and owned by Thomas B. Jacques, Church Street, Cornwallis. Sire Garfield 135. Dam by Lord York 39. Gr d by Lobo Lad 1. G gr d by Sir William 3*.

132*—DAISY DEAN 2ND.

Red and white. Dropped February 1st, 1882. Raised and owned by J. W. Margeson, Cornwallis, King's Co., N. S. Sire

Favorite 26. Dam by Gwynne of the Forest 16. Gr d by Lord York 39. G gr d by Sir William 3*.

133.—BUTTERCUP.

Red and white. Dropped March 9th, 1882. Raised and owned by J. W. Margeson, Cornwallis, King's Co., N. S. Sire Favorite 26. Dam Elsie Nor 73* by Independence 81. Gr d by Brunswick 158. G gr d by Lord York 39,—by Sir William 3*.

134*—GRACE DARLING.

Roan. Dropped March 27th, 1882. Raised and owned by Jonathan Raul, Cornwallis. Sire Marquis of Lorne 48. Dam by Wetherby Star 22. Gr d by Be'l Duke of Markham 7. G gr d by Sir William 3*.

HISTORY OF THE PICTOU CATTLE DISEASE.

No. II.

Preliminary report on the Disease of Cattle at Pictou, Nova Scotia, and adjoining Districts, addressed to Hon. J. H. Pope, Minister of Agriculture, by D. McEachran, F.R.C.V.S., Inspector of Stock.

SIR,—In compliance with your instructions, I beg to submit the following report of the disease which has existed in the County of Pictou and adjoining counties in Nova Scotia during the past thirty years.

This report also embraces the Pathological report of Professor Osler, of McGill University, the Analytical report of Professor Lawson, of Dalhousie College, Halifax, and the Statistical report of Dr. William McEachran, of Montreal Veterinary College.

It will be seen from this report that, while the investigations which have thus far been made enable me to furnish you with all the facts yet known concerning the disease, the extent to which it prevails, the mortality and loss, and also to suggest the measures necessary for its extermination, the limited clinical observation and want of thorough pathological experiments and investigation does not enable me to present to you, or the veterinary profession, a full account of this disease which has hitherto been undescribed, and which so far has no place in veterinary nomenclature.

I trust, therefore, that, in making provision for dealing with the disease with a view to its being stamped out, means will also be provided for a thorough investigation of its true pathology and the causes which give rise to it, so as to enable me to make suggestions to prevent its re-appearance.

The exact date at which the disease first made its appearance does not seem to be accurately known; it is usually stated to have appeared about twenty-five or thirty years ago; as to how it came or what gave rise to it, no one seems to be able to give any definite information.

It is said by the people of the district to have made its advent after the appearance of a plant, known in the district by the not very elegant name of "Stinking Willie," one of the numerous species of *serotico*—the *Ragnors serotico*, *Senecio Jacobea*, Linn. This plant is not indigenous to this district, it was imported, doubtless, from the west coast of Scotland, in seed. This is a very common weed in the unimproved or very old pasture lands of Argyleshire and other parts of Scotland. The family possess no poisonous properties, nor have I previously heard of any injurious effects being produced by them on stock, yet the majority of the sufferers are convinced that the disease was never known till that weed was imported. However, many of the more intelligent fail to see any connection therewith. So varying are the experiences of the different sufferers by the disease that no reliable information could be gathered from their statements, thus one will state emphatically that it is not contagious, while another will as strongly assert that it is. Some will give its duration as being from three or four days to a month, while others maintain that cattle will live three or four months after they become affected.

SYMPTOMS.

The following are symptoms observable on making a careful clinical examination:—

No. 1. D. Foot's steer, aged two years and a-half, of the native breed, small size and in fair condition, the general appearance is dull and listless, standing with the head depressed, the muzzle moist, the eyes prominent and sparkling, the belly large and round but not tympanitic, the coat dull and greasy from abundant sebaceous secretion, especially over the back and loins. This was said to be characteristic of the disease, and it was said to have an odour of dung, which, however, was not very observable. The temperature 102 deg., pulse 90, small and irregular, respiration, 30, short and shallow, the mucus membranes pale, the feces fluid black and offensive.

No. 2. Mr. J. R. McDonald's black cow, four years old, said to be past recovery. She is small in size, of the native breed, and very much emaciated. She stands with the head down, a dull, heavy, listless expression, the muzzle moist, the coat glossy, the eyes bright, prominent and sparkling—(as Mr. McDonald remarked, "the eyes stuck out so bright and clear that you might snare them.") The mucous membranes are pale, the bowels very much relaxed, the tail and legs being soiled by black liquid feces. The temperature was 101½ deg. The pulse, 72; respiration, 24; short and shallow. A noticeable rotundity of the belly, a splashing noise, distinctly audible on agitating the abdominal contents, a bitter taste and offensive smell from the milk, which is more apparent to some observers than others, and the smell is increased by heating. The secretion of milk is scanty and rapidly decreases. This cow continues to feed fairly and to ruminate.

In the same field was a red heifer belonging to his neighbour, Mr William Sutherland. A small two year old heifer in very fine condition, reclining on her stercum, slowly and carelessly ruminating. She seems weak and is made to get on her feet with difficulty. She has the same peculiar prominence of the eyes and rotundity of the abdomen. Pulse, 74; respiration, 24; temperature, 102 deg.

Mr. Colin Chisholm's red cow—an aged cow in a less advanced stage of the disease but presenting the same general symptoms. She is stronger and feeds fairly. Pulse, 74; respiration 24; temperature, 102 deg. The bowels relaxed, the milk lessened in quantity and offensive both in taste and smell.

Mr. John Simpson's cow—A black cow twelve years old. In this case the abdominal distension was a marked feature, yet she fed tolerably well and gave several quarts of milk daily which was not remarkable to my senses of taste or smell. She suffered from the same black diarrhoea as the others. Pulse, 72; respiration, 16; temperature, 101 deg.

Mr. Pratt Sinclair's red cow—A six-year old milk cow of a fair size, in very thin condition. She is feeding, but delicately, although she ruminates naturally. The eyes are prominent, bright and glassy. Diarrhoea is a prominent symptom, it being black and offensive. The belly is largely distended by effusion. Pulse, 66; temperature, 102 deg.; respiration, 20 per minute.

Such were the symptoms as observed in those I had an opportunity of examining.

Other symptoms, however, were described to me by the owners of stock who had lost by the disease. Thus, according to the statements of Foote, Fraser, McDonald and others, the first symptom which attracts attention is the peculiar and "dunghy" taste of the milk, which is also said to emit a strong odour of the stable.

Squire McKonzie's son illustrated this fact by the following incident:—

He says:—"The first circumstance which led to the discovery of the disease in our stock was from the taste being noticed by an invalid whom we supplied with milk. He came over and told me that our cows had 'the disease,' he knew from the taste of the milk, and sure enough in three weeks we had."

In some cases, in the last stages of the disease, the diarrhoea gives place to total inaction of the bowels from paralysis, followed by violent cerebral symptoms, the animal running about as if mad, bellowing and boring the horns into the ground. In some cases tympanitis becomes a complication during the end of its course. In many cases impaction or the mannyplies leads to a complication of the symptoms.

DURATION OF THE DISEASE.

So conflicting were the statements made by the different sufferers from the disease, that without a thorough series of experiments it is impossible to arrive at any correct information as to the period of incubation and duration of the malady. Thus, Mr. Donald Fraser, Pictou, says: "a cow having strayed from town, and died near his farm, was left unburied on the roadside adjoining his pasture field, and, within a week, two of his young cows were affected." In his opinion they will live from three days to eight weeks after being affected. Mr. James Foote was of the opinion that the disease was contracted during winter, but did not show any symptoms till summer. He thought that they lived from four days to a month after the appearance of the first symptoms. Mr. James R. McDonald, Merigomish, says that, in his opinion, they only live from three days to three weeks from the first appearance of symptoms; while Mr. J. H. Lane says: "death generally occurs in from ten days to a

fortnight from the appearance of the first symptoms."

POST MORTEM.

Accompanied by Dr. Stewart and Mr. David Matheson, of Pictou, we proceeded to the farm of Mr. David Foote, and, having arranged for the slaughter of a three-year-old steer suffering from the disease, we made a post mortem examination with the following results:—

Ante-mortem condition and symptoms.—A light coloured steer two and a-half years old of the native breed, small in size and in fair condition. The muzzle moist, the eyes bright and prominent, mucus membrane pale, bowels very much relaxed, fires black and offensive, temperature, 102°, pulse, 30° and irregular, respirations 30 per minute. The animal was killed by concussion of the brain.

Post mortem.—On removing the skin, the muscular and other tissues were very pale. On cutting through the abdominal wall a strong stream of perfectly clear, almost odourless, serum escaped, which measured fully five gallons. There was no suprapertoneal fat; in its place was a layer of semi-gelatinized serum about half an inch thick. On removing the abdominal viscera, the sublumbar fat usually found round the kidneys was also degenerated into a transparent semi-gelatinous layer which, on the pressure, ran off into clear fluid.

The paunch was one third full of undigested food, its mucus membrane black, its muscular walls thin, the submucus tissue oedematous. The reticulum was in a similar condition. The mannyplies were full of food but in a moist condition; the coats presenting similar conditions, the muscular thin and pale, the mucus one being separated by the oedematous effusion.

The abomasum presented these changes in the most marked degree. The muscular layer very thin and pale, while the mucus coat was separated from it by a layer of serous infiltration in some places three quarters of an inch thick, presenting numerous small ulcerated patches, due apparently to its being deprived of nutriment by the sub-mucous infiltration. This viscus was so much swollen as to be about double its natural size.

(Continued in next number.)

Advertisements.

Resolution of Provincial Board of Agriculture,
3rd March, 1882.

"No advertisements, except official notices from recognized Agricultural Societies, shall be inserted in the JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE in future, unless prepaid at rate of 50 cents each insertion, for advertisements not exceeding ten lines, and five cents for each additional line."

JERSEY BULLS.

N. S. A. J. C. C. H. R.
13 BON HAMPTON OF HILLOREST, 3240
42 LAIRD OF DRAFFAN, 5922

The latter fit for service in June. Both warranted sound, docile, in good condition, all right in every way, and easy firers against any competitors in the Province.

For sale at \$100 each.

CHAS. E. BROWN,
Yarmouth, 12th April, 1882. apl—pd

FOR SALE.

Thorough-bred Short-Horn Bull
"Garfield," No. 135 New Reg.

CALVED April 11th, 1880, of red color. Good size, girth 6 feet 6 inches, and well proportioned. Has proved a sure stock-getter. Full pedigree in November No. *Journal of Agriculture*. For terms of sale and any information, apply to—

T. B. JACQUES,
Church St., Cornwallis.

May 24th, 1882. pd

FOR SALE

THE THOROUGH-BRED Short-Horn
Durham Bull
"BELMONT CHIEF,"

Bred by the Subscriber; 29 months old. Registered Pedigree No. 113, in *Journal of Agriculture*, May and June, 1881, No. 16. Girth 6 feet 4 inches; length from behind his horns to butt of tail 6 feet 7 inches. Is a sure stock-getter and kind.

Apply to W. F. DESBARRES,
apl—31 Guyaboro'.

THE FALMOUTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY are in want of a
2-YEAR OLD DURHAM BULL.

Parties having such to dispose of, please correspond, stating price, terms, &c., with
apl—free A. SHAW, Secretary.

FOR SALE.

ONE Thorough-bred JERSEY BULL,
one year old.
For further particulars apply to the subscriber.

MOSES HARRIS,
Hebron, Yarmouth, N. S. apl—pd

THREE BULLS FOR SALE.

SUBSCRIBER will sell three pure-bred pedigree bulls from stock imported by Board of Agriculture. One three year-old Jersey; one yearling Jersey; and one yearling Durham. Terms to Agricultural Societies easy, and prices moderate. Inquire of George Lawson, Esq., Secretary of Board, Halifax, or to

ISRAEL LONGWORTH,
Lorndale Farm, Truro. pd

March 6th, 1882.

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