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

VOL. II.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY, 1877.

No. 130.

Halifax, December 26th, 1876.

We had an opportunity of visiting the Plant Houses in Mr. Harris's Nursery, a few days ago, ere they were despoiled of their flowers to supply material for Christmas decoration. The air was sweet with *Daphne odora* and heliotropes, whilst the green foliage of ferns and more stately palms was refreshing to the eye. The stock of plants is already very extensive, and constant additions of novelties are being made. Chinese Primroses are a speciality this winter with Mr. Harris, and his stock of strong plants has been brought on in a cool house, so as to enable them to stand better the atmosphere of sitting rooms. Among the novelties, Mr. H. pointed out several *pelargoniums*, tricolors, a double scarlet, a very fine Fancy, and a distinct horse-shoe sort called *Distinction*, remarkable for its compact habit and the neatness of its uniform flat round leaves with a very decided circle near the margin. *Echeverias* were shooting up flower stems, *Camellias* showing stray blooms, *Cinerarias* coming away very strong, one sort with double flowers. Over-head an old plant of *Bougainvillea speciosa* with a strong woody stem was showing, from its thick foliage, a few clusters of lilac-bracted flowers. The splendid *Strelitzia Reginae*, a Cape plant, named long ago in honour of Queen Charlotte, was likewise in bloom. Cactuses were scattered about, and a curious Japanese plant with small fleshy leaves and flowers like miniature dandelions, which Mr. Harris said was well adapted for hanging baskets. There

were numerous plants of the *Poinsettia pulcherrima*, with their gay scarlet bracts. The most remarkable plant, however, was *Bignonia venusta*, a South American climber, which, after many years, has at last come into flower, and rewarded Mr. H's patience and skill by magnificent wreaths of brilliant pale-orange blossoms, which any lover of plants would cheerfully travel miles to see.

A private correspondent writes:—"People are apt to confound mental training and acquisition of information. I maintain that Greek is quite sufficient to educate a man in one sense, or Chemistry or Botany, but probably, if he applied himself solely to these, he would miss the professional information necessary to earn his bread. On the other hand he might, and may, get all the necessary information without being educated. To educate a man you must give him a certain training which will not necessarily help him to earn his bread, *i. e.* which is not immediately convertible into money. In this country people scarcely see the good of this. I think no sight can be better in a country, and no life certainly is more philosophically elevated, than that of a well educated man, a man who can write English, and follow some of the best thoughts and strains of the ancients, devoting himself to Agriculture. The aim of our Universities ought to be this, not to turn out a few men with a smattering of everything, but to give youths tastes and habits of mind such as will keep them from sinking to the level of mere hinds when

they till the soil. The tilling of the soil is at present, for the most part, in the hands of an inferior set of men. It will be a happy day for Nova Scotia when her sons leave the College, well stored with learning and philosophy, to take up their dwelling in the country, instead of thinking that an education is only something convertible into cash, and not an elevating influence to operate silently in a private or even obscure circle of usefulness. I don't know whether I have expressed myself clearly, but I mean that people in this country seem to think that a man's profession must give him a standing, and that thus *professional knowledge* comes first, instead of more wisely holding that it is the *man*, by his intelligence and refinement, must have it in his power to elevate the profession, as *e. g.* agriculture. What are our country gentlemen in England and Scotland but examples of this?"

DR. CAMPBELL has made three interesting Fern finds at Truro, viz: *Struthiopteris Pennsylvanica*, *Asplenium thelypteroides*, and *Woodsia Ilvensis*. The *Struthiopteris* he describes as abundant, and varying in size from seven or eight inches high on the dry road sides, to as many feet in rich soils in the sheltered woods. The *Woodsia* was very scarce, and scarcely accessible. *Asplenium thelypteroides* plentiful.

THE Snowflake is reported upon by the Onslow Agricultural Society as a nice looking Potato producing a large yield.

We have another new fern to record as discovered in Nova Scotia, and when, to the fact of its being new, we add that it has been a century's puzzle to botanists, the interest of the discovery will be considerably enhanced. The fern in question is *LASTREA CRISTATA ULIGINOSA* of Moore, *L. uliginosa*, Newman, and was found by Peter Jack, Esq., on his property of Bellahill, on the Old Windsor Road, in the township of Sackville, N. S.

The history of *L. uliginosa* presents some points that are worthy of being recalled. In 1850, Mr. Lloyd found a new fern, which was sent to the late F. Newman, F. L. S., who submitted it to six botanists who had paid attention to ferns, and every one of them gave a different opinion respecting it, as follows:—1st, "a form of *Filix-mas*." 2nd, *L. rigida*. 3rd, *L. cristata*. 4th, *L. spinosa*, strong variety. 5th, *L. dilatata*, rigid variety. 6th, no way different from *L. spinosa*. Mr. Newman found, on further examination, that it was an unknown form, and described it under the name of *L. uliginosa*. Thomas Moore, Esq., F. L. S., subsequently pointed out that it was not really new to England, nor specifically distinct, that it was exactly intermediate between *cristata* and *spinulosa*, and, although not previously described, had been encountered by the older botanists, and was an apparent justification of Linnæus and others who had been charged with confounding *L. cristata* and *L. spinulosa*, and even with including both in their idea of one species. After a full discussion of the relations of the new fern to its allies, Mr. Moore segregated it as follows:—

"The characters of venation and venation may be considered as of higher value than the mere form or incision or mode of connection of the pinnules. Now it is in their form and mode of incision that Lloyd's fern most closely approaches *spinulosa* and diverges from *cristata*, whilst in their venation it exactly coincides with *cristata* and absolutely differs from *spinulosa*. In the venation, too, it very nearly coincides with *cristata*, certainly resembling that species much more than it does *spinulosa*." For these reasons Mr. Moore came to the conclusion that Lloyd's fern was more nearly related to *cristata* than to *spinulosa*,"—a conclusion (he says) different from that drawn from the inspection of a single fertile frond, and arrived at by an examination of the entire growing plant, selecting those characters which appear of the highest structural importance." He therefore ranked it as a variety, under the designation - *Lastrea cristata* var. *uliginosa*. (Trans. Bot. Soc. Edin., iv., p. 111).

Mr. Jack's specimens agreed so well with a specimen in the Herbarium at Dalhousie College, taken from the original plant in Yorkshire in 1850, by Mr. Moore himself, that there seemed to be no doubt of the identity of the Bellahill fern with the English one. But, to make assurance doubly sure, Mr. J. had specimens sent to Mr. Moore, who, besides being special sponsor for *L. uliginosa*, is the best European authority on ferns, and, after careful examination, he writes back: "I have now compared the specimens both with English and German ones, and they are in my opinion quite the same."

By the kind assistance of Professor Honeyman, D. C. L., we have been enabled to prepare a complete and strictly correct list of awards to Nova Scotian Exhibitors at the International Exhibition, Philadelphia, 1876.

AWARDS, BY THE BRITISH JUDGES, OF MEDALS OFFERED BY THE CANADIAN COMMISSION, FOR SPECIAL COMPETITION AMONG CANADIAN EXHIBITORS.

- Class 1.* Machinery. None.  
*Class 2.* Agricultural Machinery. None.  
*Class 3.* Fine Arts. None.  
*Class 4.* Manufactures of Metal. Starr Manufacturing Company, Halifax, N. S.,—Spikes, Nails, Screw Bolts, etc.; also "Acme Club Skates," a variety of styles, and excellent workmanship. Silver Medal.  
*Class 5.* Woollen and Cotton Fabrics, Yarns, Furs, &c. Oxford Woollen Co., Oxford, N. S.,—Woolens. Silver Medal.  
 C. Kaiser & Son, Halifax, N. S.,—Furs. Bronze Medal.  
*Class 6.* Leather. None.  
*Class 7.* Musical Instruments. Brockley & Co, Halifax,—Piano. Bronze Medal.  
*Class 8.* Carriages and Furniture, Jno. M. DeWolf, Halifax, N. S.,—Pony Carriage, Victoria Phaeton and T. Cart. Bronze Medal.  
*Class 9.* Agricultural Products. None.  
*Class 10.* Preserved Meats, Fruits, &c. None.  
*Class 11.* Minerals. Steel Co. of Canada, Londonderry, N. S.,—excellent quality of Pig Iron. Silver Medal.  
 G. J. McDonald, Cornwallis, N. S.,—Building Stone. Bronze Medal.  
 J. W. Fraser, Halifax, N. S.,—Coal. Bronze Medal.  
 Wm. Hall, Springhill, N. S.,—Coal. Bronze Medal.  
 John Sutherland, N. S.,—Coal. Bronze Medal.  
 Wm. Routledge, N. S.,—Coal. Bronze Medal.  
 R. McDonald, N. S.,—Coal. Bronze Medal.  
 R. H. Brown, N. S.,—Coal. Bronze Medal.

T. D. Archibald, N. S.,—Coal. Bronze Medal.

Henry Mitchell, N. S.,—Coal. Bronze Medal.

*Class 12.* Chemical and Pharmaceutical Preparations. None.

*Class 13.* Ladies' Work. Misses Farrell, Halifax, N. S.,—Fancy Wool Work. Bronze Medal.

*Class 14.* Educational and Philosophical Apparatus. None.

*Class 15.* Wines and Malt Liquors. None.

*Class 16.* Unenumerated Articles. Dartmouth Rope-work Co., Halifax, N. S.,—Ropes. Silver Medal.

Smith & Kaye, Halifax, N. S.,—Bricks and Tiles. Bronze Medal.

T. E. Egan—Stuffed Birds and other Animals.

In the Live Stock Department Nova Scotia did not exhibit.

AWARDS TO NOVA SCOTIAN EXHIBITORS BY THE UNITED STATES CENTENNIAL COMMISSION. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION.

I. Minerals, Mining, Metallurgy and Machinery. Hon. R. Robertson, Halifax, N. S.,—Gold Specimen.

A Seaman & Co., Lower Cove, N. S.,—Grindstones.

Geo. J. McDonald & Co., Cornwallis, N. S.,—Building Stone.

Dr. Honeyman, Halifax, N. S., Geological Collection.

Steel Co. of Canada, Londonderry, N. S., Ores, Iron and Steel.

Nova Scotia Section of Canada Commission, Nova Scotia,—Collection of Building Stones.

Nova Scotia Advisory Board,—Coals.

II. Pottery, Glass, Artificial Stone, etc. None.

III. Chemistry and Pharmacy, with the Apparatus. None.

IV. Animal and Vegetable products, Machinery. Christian Netz, Halifax, N. S.,—Bologna preserved in Lard.

W. Woodill, Halifax, N. S.,—Mess Beef.

J. W. Betcher, Halifax, N. S.,—Preserved Fruits, (Strawberry and Cranberry Jelly).

Christian Netz, Halifax, N. S., Smoked Goose, Ham, Ox Tongue.

Advisory Board of Halifax, Halifax, N. S.,—Exhibit of Seeds.

Advisory Board of Nova Scotia,—Various Seeds other than Cereals.

James Knight, Halifax, N. S., Brandy Cherry.

Keith & Co., Halifax, N. S., Ale.

V. Fish and Fish Products,—Apparatus of Fishing. Andrews & Co., Halifax, N. S., Canned Lobster and Mackerel.

Chebucto Packing Co., Halifax, N. S.,—Canned Lobsters.

T. Doyle, Halifax, N. S., Tongues and Sounds, Herring, Mackerel.

James Barber, Halifax, N. S., Canned Lobster and Canned Mackerel.

A. H. Crow, Halifax, N. S., Salted and Dried Haddock, and Smoked Herring, &c.

VI. Timber, Worked Lumber, Parts of Buildings. None.

VII. Furniture, Upholstery, Wooden Ware. None.

VIII. Cotton, Linen, and other Fabrics. None.

IX. Wool and Silk Fabrics,—Machinery. Oxford Woollen Mills, Oxford, N. S.,—Woolens.

X. Clothing, Furs, India Rubber Goods, &c. C. Kaiser & Son, Halifax, N. S.,—Natural Raccoon and Black Bear Robes, &c.

Miss Isabella Fairbanks, Halifax, N. S., Lace Handkerchief.

Mrs. Sutcliffe, Halifax, N. S., Needle-Work, "Last Supper."

Mrs. Constant, Halifax, N. S., Leather Work for Mirror Frame.

Misses Farrell, Halifax, N. S.,—Fancy Wool Work.

XI. Jewelry, Watches, Silverware, Bronzes, &c. None to Canadian Exhibitors.

XII. Leather and Manufactures of Leather, &c. None.

XIII. Paper, Stationery, Printing and Bookmaking, Saint Croix River Mills, Saint Croix, N. S.,—Binders' Pasteboard.

XIV. Apparatus of Heating, Lighting, None.

XV. Builders' Hardware, Tools, Cutlery, &c. Starr Manufacturing Co., Halifax, N. S.,—Skates.

XVI. Military and Sporting Arms, Weapons, &c. No awards to Canadian Exhibitors.

XVII. Carriages, Vehicles, and Accessories. John M. DeWolf, Halifax, N. S.,—Light Carriages.

XVIII. Railway Plant, Rolling Stock, Engines, &c. None.

XIX. Vessels and Apparatus of Transportation. None.

XX. Motors, Hydraulic and Pneumatic Apparatus. Wilson, Clarke & Co., Yarmouth, N. S.,—Ship Pump.

XXVII. A. Walker, Halifax, N. S.,—Gilding on Glass.

The following communication may interest some Ayrshire breeders:—

Milton, Yarmouth, N. S.,  
Dec'r 12th, 1876.

I have two Ayrshire Heifers,—one 3 years old in July, 1877, one 2 years old in June, 1877, both in calf from imported Bull "Wallace," also 2 Bull Calves,—one calved 7th May, 1875, one calved June 7th, 1876. I will sell any of the above. They are very handsome.

Yours truly,  
HENRY BURRELL Sen'r.

The recent annual meeting of the North Sydney Agricultural Society shewed signs of life that give promise of still more effective efforts than we have as yet seen to promote agricultural improvement in the Counties of Cape Breton. The Officers reported six hundred dollars of available funds, and that the Live Stock of the Township would compare favourably with that of any part of the Province; and they suggest that, with the aid of the Central Board, and the appropriations that each Society on the Island could make from their funds, an Exhibition for the Island of Cape Breton might be established, and a very good prize list offered. The Editor of the "North Sydney Herald" takes up the subject and sets before the Agricultural Societies of the Island (as he had done before) the advantages of such Exhibitions, in the following terms:—

"These exhibitions are practically useful. (1.) By bringing together the productions of the farms, both animal and vegetable, from various localities and widely separated districts, and thus, by means of comparison, the excellence and the defects of each are alike demonstrated; the direct sequence to which is a stimulating of such as are defective in production or system. (2.) The interchange of ideas between farmers and stock raisers, at these fairs is of inestimable value. We by no means depreciate reading and study, on the contrary, such is an absolute necessity to a rational progressive mind, but it is none the less true, that the farmer and stock breeder may gain more practical knowledge of any given department in his calling, by one day's association and converse with intelligent men engaged in like pursuits and with the objects of interest before them as examples, than can be gained by months of solitary reading. In fact it is the valuable practical knowledge—the cream so to speak—acquired by reading and experience that men carry around with them as currency, and which, by means of association and objective demonstrations, becomes the common treasury of all. (3.) Such agricultural exhibitions exercise a strong influence in increasing the market value of farm lands. There are always purchasers seeking lands, and that district or settlement whose farm productions are superior, never fails of commanding the higher prices for its disposable lands. One enterprising and successful farmer, may, alone, create a favorable impression abroad on behalf of the district in which he is located. The increased market value of lands, is itself, an argument of no mean weight on behalf of Agricultural fairs. (4.) Whenever these have been organized, on either side of the Atlantic, the universal testimony is in favor of their immensely beneficial results."

JOHN STARR, Esq., has kindly handed us for publication, from the *Litchfield Enquirer*, November 2, 1876, the following account of the "Echo Farm at the Centennial."

"Ever since the departure of Mr. F. Rathford Starr's herd of Jerseys for Philadelphia, we have watched with increasing interest the results of the Centennial Cattle Exhibition, reports of which were from time to time brought us by some of our townspeople on their return home, who dwelt upon the large and magnificent display, especially of Jerseys, and upon the sharp competition it naturally produced. Information has at last been received that two of Mr. Starr's superb animals, the bull "Litchfield" and cow "Filbert," have obtained Centennial Awards; also that "Litchfield," in addition to the Centennial Diploma and Medal, has gained the special first prize of \$250, which was given by the American Jersey Cattle Club for the best Jersey bull at the Centennial exhibit and awarded by the Centennial judges.

Mr. Starr has spared no pains nor expense in improving his herd, and we congratulate him upon the complete success which has attended his efforts. Three years ago we referred to a shipment made by Mr. Starr of five of his yearlings to a gentleman in Wisconsin, who has since wished to purchase more of the same stock; but Mr. Starr has refused all offers since that date, believing that he could raise better stock than he could purchase, and wishing to increase his herd to its present limit of nearly one hundred.

"Litchfield" has been exhibited a number of times in past years, and three times in the present year, and in every instance has carried off the first prize. Seven prizes were taken by Mr. Starr's Centennial herd when exhibited at the Connecticut State Fair at Hartford, September 12th, en route for Philadelphia; and, within a few days after their return from there, on the 11th ult., sixteen prizes were won by the thirty-four of his herd exhibited at Watertown, among which was one that deserves special reference; "Filbert," not content with her remarkable success at Hartford and Philadelphia, secured at Watertown the first prize as the best cow of her age; also, the special prize as "the best cow for milk." This is the more remarkable because the latter prize was open to cows of all breeds. It has been generally supposed that the Alderney, or as they are more correctly called the Jersey breed, does not exceed in quantity of milk, though producing a richer quality than other breeds. The milk records of Echo farm are excellent in both these respects.

The October number of the *Maryland Farmer*, a standard magazine published in Baltimore, contains the following:

CENTENNIAL COW "FILBERT."

In previous numbers of the *Maryland Farmer* we have given the reports of extraordinary cows.

Below we give the official report of the Jersey cow, "Filbert," owned by Mr. F. R. Starr, Connecticut, which we saw in the stock yards of the Centennial.

She was dropped in March 1874, and had a calf in June, 1876. The accurate record of her milk for two months was as follows:

July.....800 pounds.  
August.....949½ "  
—————  
1,758½ pounds.

On the 23rd of August this heifer weighed just 700 pounds, so that in that month she gave about one-third more weight of milk than her own weight. This is the most extraordinary yield for a Jersey heifer that we ever knew.

The four two-year old cows, "Litchfield's" progeny taken with him to Philadelphia, are all remarkable milkers, "Locust," one of them, like "Filbert," gave in August last more than her own weight in milk.

We learn that the Jersey beef is peculiarly delicate and rich in flavor, and that this breed of cattle, when not giving milk, is very easily fattened. No animal which turns its food into rich milk can be expected to gain flesh while milking. It would be contrary to the laws of nature.

We are glad to find that some of our farmers are availing themselves of the opportunity afforded them to improve their stock by crossing their breeds with the Jersey. "Litchfield's" progeny, thus produced, prove excellent butter cows.

The other day, in looking through the extensive stock of greenhouse and half hardy plants which Mr. McDonald is wintering in the Lockman street Nurseries, we noticed a large mass of *Maurandya Barclayana* over the door way, which reminded us how useful this plant is for general indoor decoration, and especially for windows, porches and verandas. When first brought into cultivation, it was extensively used for throwing over archways in flower gardens and doorways of greenhouses, &c., but, in course of years, gradually gave way to novelties, most of them inferior, in every respect, to itself. A small plant potted in February or March will run up faster than any other flowering plant we know, and will festoon a window or doorway with the neatest of "ivy" foliage, and brilliant tubular flowers, of rich purple or

pure white (according to the variety chosen.) It continues to flower throughout the whole summer, and winter too, for that matter, if the atmosphere be kept sufficiently warm. It climbs so readily, that a trellis is scarcely required, but merely a wire for it to run up and cling to by its stems which grasp by twisting. A very good way is to allow it to hang down from the top of a window. It may be raised from seeds in a hot bed in spring, but plants raised in winter from cuttings will have an earlier start.

BADDECK is selected for the Cape Breton Exhibition, by the Editor of the "Herald," as the most central point of convergence for the four counties, and anticipations are raised of the farmers, merchants and business gentlemen of that district making a "special contribution" towards the erection of a suitable building. The plan of a county tax, adopted in other places, is not discussed. The article concludes as follows:—

"Although this matter belongs primarily to the Agricultural Associations to start and to organize, yet it is not less the duty of every one, whether a member of these or not, to take an active part in preparing and perfecting a definite outline of action before the meeting of the Local House, so that there may be a basis upon which to work. Agriculture is the most solid foundation of wealth to a country, whatever other resources it may possess. We hope therefore to hear very shortly, of a general movement among the farmers, merchants and mechanics of the Island towards procuring an Industrial Exhibition, open, in common, to Cape Breton, Richmond, Inverness and Victoria Counties."

At the Annual Meeting of the County of Halifax Agricultural Society, held on 5th December, Sir William Young presiding, it was reported that the Devon Bull Prince Albert Victor, imported from England, and purchased from the Board for \$150, had met with a fatal accident. It appears that he fell headlong into a water puncheon in the field at Milford, and broke his neck. The Treasurer's book showed a balance in hand of \$325.69. It was resolved to invite Members in the Dartmouth district, so that one of the Society's bulls might be placed there. On suggestion of Dr. Lewis, the Board were recommended to include in next year's importation six Alderney Heifers. A Committee was named to complete arrangements and submit proposals to the Central Board for holding the Provincial Exhibition of 1877 in Halifax. The Office Bearers nominated Col. Laurie to the Central Board.

We observe by a notice in the *Halifax Evening Reporter* that George Moore, Esq., of Whitehall, Cumberland, has given thirty thousand dollars to the funds of the London Clerical Aid Society, which has for its object the training of young men of ability for the ministry,—preference to be given to applicants from Cumberland and Westmoreland. This hardly looks like an Agricultural item, but it becomes so when we add that Mr. Moore is almost as well known for his success in Short Horn breeding as for acts of christian benevolence. It was from Mr. Moore,—facetiously spoken of by Sir Wilfrid Lawson as King George of Cumberland—that we obtained some of our best Short Horns in 1875, such as Rose Gwynne 4th, now at Shubenacadie, Gwynne of the Forest, now in Cornwallis, Skiddaw at Grand Pré, Polly Vaughan and Viscount Oxford, both at Lucyfield. As Mr. Moore's character and acts reflect credit upon all who are connected with him, it is not out of place to add that he has a nephew who is one of the most efficient civil service Dominion officers in Halifax.

THE Secretary of the King's Central Agricultural Society of New Brunswick reports that a large amount of gratuitous labour is involved in the successful holding of Exhibitions, that, for this reason, it is wise for a Society to invest in Stock, etc., one year, and carry out the Exhibition programme the next; further, that it has almost become a conviction with the agricultural mind that the introduction of improved stock is really the most judicious and permanent way in which money can be expended to aid agriculture; that County Exhibitions are superior to local ones [it might have been added: and Provincial ones better than either]; that the show of stock at the Society's last Exhibition, (1876) gave evidence of better breeding and greater care; that the Ayrshires and Devons were exceedingly good; that no stock requires such care as sheep; that the use of lime applied to the soil is worthy of consideration in view of a return to wheat raising, now on the increase in New Brunswick; and that reliable horse-power potato-diggers and wheat-drills should be introduced.

THE Windsor Agricultural Society held annual meeting on Tuesday, 5th December. Had one of the best meetings we we have had for years past. After closing the business, some twenty of the members dined together at Doran's Hotel. We decided to have a Fair and Cattle Show next Fall, as usual, and made an appropriation of funds for that purpose.

**BYE-LAWS OF THE LIVERPOOL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,**

ORGANIZED NOV. 23RD, 1876.

1st. This society shall be called the "Liverpool Agricultural Society," to include the District of South Queen's. It shall be organized in connection with the Central Board of Agriculture and in accordance with the "Act for the Encouragement of Agriculture."

2nd. The object of the Society shall be the promotion of Agriculture by the introduction of Improved Stock, Seeds, Fruit Trees, &c., &c., by the holding of Exhibitions whenever deemed advisable, and by any other means that may seem best adapted to attain the object in view.

3rd. The Annual Subscription Fee shall be One Dollar, to be paid at or before the Quarterly Meeting in September.

4th. The officers of the Society shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and five Directors, to be elected annually at the general meeting on the first Tuesday in December.

5th. There shall be regular Quarterly Meetings on the first Tuesday in March, June and September.

6th. Special Meetings may be called, whenever necessary, by the President, or by the requisition of any five members, after giving due notice thereof.

7th. Three of the Board of Management and six members shall constitute a quorum competent to do business.

8th. The Officers and Directors shall take charge of, and keep, for the benefit of the Society, all Stock, Seeds, Roots, &c., belonging to the Society, and shall make such application of said properties, as a majority at any Regular Meeting may determine, and report at our Annual Meeting the proceedings of the Society during the year, with such remarks upon the Agriculture of the District as they may be enabled to offer.

9th. The Members of this Society agree to be governed by a vote of the majority of the members present at any Regular Meeting.

10th. These Bye-Laws may be altered or amended, or added to, by a vote of two thirds of those present at any Regular Meeting of the Society, by notice given at the Regular Meeting previous

NATHAN PAYZANT, Sec'y.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 5th, 1876.

THE \$150 voted by the Onslow Society towards the Provincial Exhibition at Truro was not required, and consequently not drawn.

THE Onslow Agricultural Society has voted \$40 towards holding a County Exhibition in Colchester in the autumn of 1877.

The following additions have been made to the Herd Book Registers of Nova Scotia:—

**DEVON HEIFER.**

CLXI.—HEARTSEASE. Calved 15th September, 1876. Bred and owned by Colonel Laurie, Oakfield.

Sire—Havelock,  
gr s Prince of Wales,  
Dam Lady Pink by Wilmot,  
gr d Lady Ann by Lord Elgin,  
g gr d Fanny by Don Juan.

**DEVON BULL,**

CLXII.—LORD RAGLAN. Calved September 23rd, 1876. Bred and owned by Col. Laurie, Oakfield.

Sire Havelock,  
gr s Prince of Wales,  
Dam Maid of Miller Hill by Wilmot,  
gr d Lady Ann by Lord Elgin,  
g gr d Fanny by Don Juan.

**DEVON HEIFER.**

CLXIII.—PRINCESS MARY. Calved November 2nd, 1876. Bred and owned by Col. Laurie, Oakfield.

Sire President,  
gr s Hartland 2nd,  
Dam Princess Victoria Adelaide by Napier 888,  
gr d Violet 2nd by Saracen 520 a,  
g gr d Snowdrop 1045 by Zouave 566,  
g g gr d Young Curly.

**SHORT HORN COWS.**

CCLXI.—GRACEFUL. Calved 12th November, 1863. Rich roan. Bred by J. Clayden, Esq., Essex, England, and imported by Government of P. E. Island for Provincial Stock Farm.

Sire Marquis of Cornwallis (18337),  
Dam Gaiety by Lord Althorpe (14800),  
gr d Tit by Horatio (10335),  
g gr d Titmouse by George (6037),  
g g gr d Cowslip by Pickwick (4698),  
g g g gr d Young Spot by Broken Horn (3224),  
g g g g gr d Twin by Regent (1366),  
g g g g g gr d Spot by Western Comet (689),

CCLXII.—LADY WALSINGHAM. Calved 12th May, 1868. Red and white. Bred by Lord Walsingham,  
Sire Lord Clarence, LXIV.,  
Dam Spot by Orthodox 28th,  
gr d Spangle by Guy (12980),  
g gr d Nancy by Young Pompey (13480),  
g g gr d Cherry by Rumstram's Bull.  
g g g gr d Nancy by Son of David (1917),  
— Old Nancy,  
— Vesta,  
— Princess.

**SHORT HORN HEIFERS.**

CCLXIII.—GRACEFUL THE FIFTH. Red with a few white spots. Calved

10th July, 1874. Bred by Government of Prince Edward Island on Provincial Stock Farm. The property of Henry Longworth, Esq., Charlottetown, P. E. I. Sire Glensman LXVI by Booth's Kinsman (25658),

Dam Graceful CCLXI. by Marquis of Cornwallis (18337),

gr d Gaiety by Lord Althorpe (14800),  
g gr d Tit by Horatio (10335),  
g g gr d Titmouse by George (6037),  
g g g gr d Cowslip by Pickwick (4698)  
g g g g gr d Young Spot by Broken Horn (3224),

g g g g g gr d Twin by Regent (1366),  
g g g g g gr d Spot by Western Comet (689),

g g g s g g g gr d —by Viscount (666).

CCLXIV.—MAY QUEEN. Red and white. Calved 4th May, 1876. Bred and owned by Henry Longworth, Esq., Charlottetown, P. E. Island.

Sire Nonpareil [3688],  
Dam Lady Walsingham CCLXII. by Lord Clarence,

gr d Spot by Orthodox 28th,  
g gr d Spangle by Guy (12980)  
g g gr d Nancy by Young Pompey (13480),

g g g gr d Cherry by Rumstram's Bull.  
g g g g gr d Nancy by Son of David (1917),

— Old Nancy,  
— Vesta,  
— Princess.

CCLXV.—DUCHESS SECOND. Red and roan. Calved 11th June, 1876. Bred by and the property of Henry Longworth, Esq., Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

Sire Nonpareil [3688],  
Dam Duchess LXIII. by Lord Clarence LXIV.

gr d Rose Gwynne LXV. by Lord Clarence LXIV.

g gr d Rosette by Prince Gwynne (20547), [&c.]  
g g gr d Red Rose by Horatio (10335),

Mr. CHISHOLM writes to us that at the annual meeting of the St. Andrew's Agricultural Society of Antigonish County, a good deal of spirit was manifested. He recommends that the Board should send "several copies" of the "Annual Report" to Secretaries of Societies for distribution among the members. He remarks that "as it does not now appear in the *Journal of Agriculture*, members are unable to obtain any information respecting the operations of Societies throughout the Province. Several members have spoken to me on the subject, and, I trust, you will adopt some method to give them the desired information." This matter has been brought under notice of the Board by other Societies, and will, no doubt, be considered at next meeting.

## HARDY FRUIT TREES.

During the last winter session our respected friend Prof. Karl Koch gave a course of lectures in Berlin on "German Fruit Trees," which were so well received that he published them. The title "German Fruit Trees" was selected simply because it indicates the kinds of fruit trees coming within the scope of the lectures, that is to say the hardy fruit trees, such as the Apple, Pear, &c. For our purpose we might with equal propriety speak of them as English fruit trees, but for convenience we shall substitute the term hardy. The whole course consisted of twelve lectures, divided into two series, the first being devoted to the history and natural history of hardy fruit trees, and the second to the consideration of the development of fruit growing in Germany, and descriptions of a selection of varieties recommended for general cultivation.

The lectures being to a certain extent of a popular character, much matter is included which may be regarded as common knowledge, and which it would be superfluous to repeat here. Taking them in the order they were delivered, some must be dismissed with a few words, in order to keep within a reasonable space, whilst others call for a more extended notice. The first lecture includes:—Division of fruits according to climate; increase of the storage of nutritious substances in the improvement of the fruit; origin of fruits according to Van Mons' five fundamental maxims; Decaisne's experiments in raising fruit trees from seed; definition of fruit; different kinds of fruit; different kinds of buds; seedlings; varieties of fruits; choice of certain varieties in France, and for importation into Russia; the flourishing fruit tree culture in Belgium, and its causes. Passing over the first paragraphs, the results of Decaisne's experiments are worth noting, as showing the almost unlimited extent to which a plant will vary after it has once departed from the original type. In 1853 Decaisne sowed seeds of three different Pears—Williams' Bon Chrétien, Beurré Bosc, Belle Alliance, and *Pyrus salicifolius*, D. C. After the lapse of ten years several of the seedlings bore fruit, but in no instance did it resemble that of the parent tree, differing often even in the time of ripening. It is scarcely necessary to mention that we may continue to raise seedlings year after year without obtaining any essential deviation from the original parent, but, after the first deviation has been secured, the progeny from that variety is perfectly inconstant, and every succeeding season new varieties appear. The botanical definition of the term fruit is given at some length,

and the fact that the Germans have a special word (*obst*) to designate the edible produce of trees, whether seed, fruit or inflorescence, is opposed to the poverty of the French language. We also are in the same unfortunate position; but we may be consoled because this special word, like our own fruit, includes the lot, and it becomes necessary to distinguish them into *kern-obst*, *stein-obst*, *beeren-obst* and *schalen-obst*, which are no more expressive than pome-fruits, stone-fruits, berry-fruits, and shell-fruits. Coming to the remarks on the selection of varieties the advice they contain is worthy of the notice of all planters. Inferior varieties should be rejected without a thought. To grow a large collection, unless with some ulterior object in view, is to be strongly deprecated. Out of all the numerous varieties grown by nurserymen only very few are planted by those who supply the markets. And although there are doubtless some good varieties which do not find their way into the markets, it is a fact that most of the varieties grown by market gardeners are of excellent quality. The celebrated nurseries at Angers, belonging to André Leroy, form perhaps the most extensive fruit-tree establishment in the world. Of seven of the most generally esteemed varieties of Pear in France, the average annual sale, collectively, is about 140,000 trees, and as many as 20,000 each are often sold of the Williams' Bon Chrétien and Duchess d'Angoulême. The remaining five are Bonne Louise d'Avranches, Beurré Diel, Beurré d'Auremburg, Beurré d'Amaulis, and White Doyenné. The highest number sold of any other varieties, even of the most celebrated, does not exceed 1000 annually. The same holds good in the north of Germany, where Pears are largely grown for the Russian markets. This is no doubt accounted for by the fact that the large mass of people will only purchase old tried sorts. Not forgetting the merits of the French, it is in Belgium that fruit growing has reached the highest stage of perfection; to the inhabitants of this country it is a second nature. This superiority is mainly due to the exertions of the more intelligent and wealthy classes, the highest of whom do not disdain to place themselves at the head of societies for the promotion of horticulture. Further, the Belgian Government encourages and supports horticulture as one of the principal industries of the country. To Professor Pynaert, Burvenich, Rodigas, and Van Hulle, (all eminent pomologists) the principal credit of founding the Cercle d'Arboriculture is due. The Society has only been in existence twelve years, but it has already effected an incalculable amount of good.

The second lecture is devoted to brief

descriptions and historical sketches of the southern fruits.

The third lecture commences with a description of the characters of the pome-fruits, the Pomaceæ, and the three series of pome-fruit trees. To the first series belong the Quince, Medlar, Service, &c. The peculiarity of this series is that the axis is sympodial, that is to say, the buds all along the previous year's twig are alike and develop into shoots, normally terminating in a flower or flowers, and the axis is continued by a replacing bud, which appears below the flowers. In such trees the branches are usually, though not always, crooked, whilst the monopodial, or those in which they lengthen from year to year by the terminal buds, are never flower-buds. The second series includes *Pyrus prunifolia*, one of the ancestors of our Apples, and the allied *P. baccata*, in which the mode of growth is not very different. Here, instead of long, flower-bearing shoots being formed, short ones appear throughout the whole length of the branch, the terminal buds also developing in the same manner. Immediately below this flower a "replacing bud" is formed, which grows out into a long shoot; and when the buds on this shoot in their turn break they bear flowers. Most of the Apple and Pear tribes grow in this way, and those varieties in which it is so usually come into bearing very early; moreover these varieties are preferred for cordons and espaliers, in which forms they produce fruit remarkable for beauty, size, and good flavour. Among Apples, Langton's Incomparable, Golden Winter Pearmain, and White Winter Colville may be mentioned; among Pears, Williams, Bon Chrétien, Louise Bonne Avranches, Beurré Diel, &c. The third series embraces the whole of the remaining Apple and Pear trees. In these the previous year's shoots bear leaf-buds on their upper and middle portions, and mixed buds on the lower parts—that is, some flower-buds and some leaf-buds. The last, being the most important, will be discussed first. The peculiarity in the growth of varieties of this series is of the first importance, and a knowledge of this is a kind of key to the mode of pruning to be practised. In some varieties the lower buds, which develop as short shoots, do not always bear flowers the same year; for instance, in the Gravenstein flowers do not appear for from six to nine years. This will be treated more fully under the head of pruning. The species of true Apples may be divided into the shrubby and arborescent. The former, independently of their habit, differ from the latter in producing suckers, or at least in throwing up a number of shoots from the base of the stems, which may easily be detached with a portion of root. There are three of this

group—the French Paradise, the Collin, *Pyrus frutescens*, and the Doucin or Sweetling, *P. praeox*. Koch thinks it possible that the true English Collin may be a native of this country. The Doucin differs essentially from the others in the hairiness of its young shoots. Probably *P. Sieversii* of Ledebour is the same thing. A very interesting and good old variety of *P. praeox*, called in Germany the Fig Apple, was recently rediscovered and propagated by the late André Leroy, in whose catalogue it bears the name of Sans Queue. It is the same as the *P. dioica* of books, and is remarkable for its very small petals; indeed some writers have described it as being destitute of petals. Konrad Gesner first mentions it in the first half of the sixteenth century. According to him several specimens of it grow in the vicinity of Zurich. As arborescent Apples, three—*P. sylvestris*, Will.; *P. dasyphylla*, Berkh.; and *P. prunifolia*, Wild.; to which may be added, though of less interest to the pomologist, *P. bacata* and *P. spectabilis*. The three first form the centres of so many groups of varieties, but intercrossing has given birth to varieties which connect the whole. *P. sylvestris* (*P. acerba*) is very distinct from the other arborescent forms in its crowded branches, which often terminate in spines, and in other characters, particularly of the fruit, which is quite uneatable. It is, however, very near *P. frutescens*, and may possibly be an arborescent form of that species. The Calvilles, Collins, Rose Apples, and other varieties, have descended from *P. sylvestris*; whilst *P. dasyphylla* is the mother of most of our Reinettes, and *P. prunifolia* of the Astracans, and the singular Ice Apple of the Russians, &c.—*Gard. Chro.*

(To be continued.)

#### GREENHOUSE AND HOUSE GARDENING.—SEASONABLE HINTS.

Insects are apt to be troublesome in growing houses,—particularly Red-spider, Green-fly and Mealy-bug. A free use of the syringe is a good preventative. Tobacco-smoke, in two or three light doses, is still the best thing for the Green-fly. The Red-spider, fortunately, shows his depredations more villainously than most insects,—light yellow lines or spots marking almost at once the scenes of his depredations. If one has good eyes, the finger and thumb will keep him down, as a slight and rapid passing of the finger over the leaves early crushes his little body. When he becomes an “army with banners,” more scientific approaches must be made to give any show of success.

*Pelargoniums* become “drawn,” spindly, and worthless, if they are not allowed to occupy the lightest and most airy part

of the house. If fine specimens are desired, the shoots should now be tied down to the surface of the pots and pinched off so as to induce them to shoot freely; but a too frequent use of “finger and thumb” is bad,—nothing renders a *Pelargonium* weaker; rather encourage them to grow bushy, by the free use of light, air, and manure-water.

A good supply of young *Fuchsias* should be coming on now. Re-pot as their roots fill each pot; let them not want for moisture or light; do not pinch off the tops, but let them grow rapidly. The temperature in which they are grown should not exceed 55°. A turfy loam, moderately enriched with well-decayed manure, and well drained with charcoal, suits them admirably.

The *Mimulus* is receiving more attention than it has been. Where they are grown they are much improved by having pans of water under their pots.

*Epiphyllums*, as they continue to flower, will require the warmest part of the house, and a fair supply of moisture.

The most interesting tribe of plants at this season of the year is, undoubtedly, the *Cucullia*. The buds frequently drop off before flowering; this may spring from three causes—from the plants being kept too dry, or from the drainage being bad, whereby the soil becomes sodden, or from the house being kept too warm by insufficient ventilation. As the leaf-buds burst, the plants are benefited by occasional syringings; and, indeed, an increased supply of water altogether, in order to accommodate the demands of the young growth.

*Cinerarias* will soon be the chief attraction. The least frost kills them, yet they will not do well if kept at a high temperature. They love moisture, yet are very impatient of damp. No plant is more improved by the use of charcoal in potting than this.

The *Calceolaria* will require the same condition as the *Cineraria*.

*Hyacinths* that have been out of doors, or in any reserve place for protection, may be brought in a few weeks before wanted; they should not have much light, heat, or moisture for a few days, and then only gradually.

*Carnations* and *Pinks* are much admired when grown in pots, and flowered there early. They do not flower well if too much warmth be given, but the usual temperature of the greenhouse will bring them forward a month before they can be had out of doors. Whenever the roots make their appearance through the bottoms of the pots, they should be shifted into a size larger. They require very little water and love the light, and what-over manures are used to enrich the soil should be thoroughly rotten. The *Pansy*, on the other hand, delights in half-rotten,

straw manure and turfy loam. If a quantity of seedlings have been raised in the Fall, they will require potting this month. They do not flower well here when the weather becomes warm; but when grown in pots, and forwarded slightly by the aid of a cool flame they do very well.

*Cacti* and *succulent* plants generally, will scarcely require water at all, unless in very dry situations, and then receive but a very slight sprinkling with a syringe. The rule “When you water a plant at all, let it soak right through,” does not, by any means, hold good with these plants, if there be not some other good exception.

*Oranges* and *Lemons* will require the coolest part of the house, and to receive no more water than will just keep them fresh.—*Gardeners' Monthly.*

#### GLADIOLI FOR WINTER.

BY MR. B. N. J. GRAY, GARDENER TO E. S. RAND, JR., BOSTON, MASS.

It is to be regretted that these highly ornamental bulbs are not generally cultivated for winter blooming. They are as easily grown as hyacinths and bulbs of a like nature, and their cheerful appearance for house decoration during our dull winter weather, will amply repay the little labor they give.

To insure success, select in spring bulbs which have not pushed their buds. These should be kept dry until about September 1st, when they must be potted in rich sandy loam, single bulbs in five-inch pots, or a larger number of various colors in larger-sized pots. I sometimes put as many as twenty-five bulbs into about fourteen inch pans, and if the bulbs are chosen of equal strength and forwardness they will come into bloom together, and give a splendid mass of flowers for parlor or other decoration. As soon as potted they may be placed in the greenhouse until they have made considerable growth, after which they may be moved to a warmer position, and watered occasionally with liquid manure.

Those who have no greenhouses, may plant the bulbs about the middle of July in the open air in a rich border. When they have made a growth of about a foot or fifteen inches, they may be dug up and potted; and before there is any danger from frost, should be removed to a sunny window in the house, and kept well supplied with water. The best time to dig is after a continued spell of dry weather, when the soil is rather dry; and if they are potted and well watered as soon as lifted, they receive no apparent check whatever, but will give as good spikes of bloom as those ordinarily flowered in the open air. I have a bed in an



intermediate house of about three hundred bulbs which I have lifted in this way, and they are all giving indications of bloom. Bulbs grown this season in the open ground and well matured, may be potted for spring flowering; they do not require to be covered to induce them to make a root growth, which is the case with hyacinths and some other winter-flowering bulbs; but I think it best to avoid giving much heat in the beginning, as this would be apt to cause them to make too weak a growth for bloom when forced in this way.—*Gardener's Monthly*.

### FOOD AND PERCENTAGE OF BUTTER.

In expressing the opinion that but very little, if anything, can be done in changing the percentage of butter in milk by feed, I am sustained—first, by the authorities, and secondly by the results of my own experiments. If we can increase the percentage of butter in a certain cow's milk by feeding largely with corn meal, I would inquire how it is that quite as much butter can be made from the milk of a fresh cow in June, when she is in good pasture, as in January, when the feed is hay and corn meal? I tried the experiment in June, and the cow gave 42 lb. of milk per day, 224 in 7 days, and made 10½ lb. of butter on pasture alone. When this cow was fed 2 quarts of corn meal, morning and evening, in addition to the pasture, the quantity of milk was increased to 36 lb. of milk per day, or 252 in seven days, and making 12 lb. of butter. The quantity of milk and butter were both increased, but the percentage of butter was not. Again, in the trials to ascertain the percentage of butter, or comparative richness of different cow's milk made during the winter, when the cows were fed corn meal, I have found the percentage of butter no greater than in summer, when the cows were on pasture. I have obtained from 4 to 6.4 per cent. of butter from 100 lb. of milk from the same cows during the summer, when their feed was nothing but grass, and during the winter when they had all the good hay they would eat, and 8 quarts of corn meal per day. I do not think corn meal will increase the percentage of butter in milk over good grass (all conditions of the cow to be equal), and if that will not do it what will? Coarse, refuse food will make the quantity of butter less, and the quality less good. What has the quality of butter to do with the percentage? Increasing or diminishing the quantity does not necessarily affect the quality, as I understand it. Good feed, no doubt, increases the quantity, and improves the quality, while poor food diminishes the quantity and injures the quality. Still I

do not see what quality of butter has to do with its percentage, or how special feeding increases it.—*E. Reeder in Practical Farmer*.

Mr. VAN BUSKIRK, of Dartmouth, brought to us the other day an interesting shrub found by him to the eastward, in Halifax County. It is the prostrate form of the Red Cedar, whose wood is used for lead pencils.

### LARGE WHITE YORKSHIRE PIGS.

THE subscriber offers for sale young PIGS, five weeks old, of the famous Ellesmere strain, for \$12 each. These are from the imported Sow "Lovely Lady Lop Ear," imported by the Central Board in October last, from the Earl of Ellesmere's, Worsley Hall.

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ONE IMPORTED COTSWOLD RAM and a few RAM LAMBS; also the Imported AYRSHIRE COW, PARK 4th. Prices moderate. Apply to

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