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*Omnium 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., FEBRUARY, 1881.

No. 13.

CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

SPEAKER'S ROOM, Feb. 1st, 1881.

Present—David Matheson, V. P., in the chair; Hon. H. F. McDougall, L. Longworth, John Ross, Jonathan Rand, Professor Lawson, Secretary.

The Secretary submitted the nomination papers of the officers of Agricultural Societies to the Central Board of Agriculture, which were examined and noted; also correspondence with Mr. J. McKeen and Mr. Campbell, M.P.P., in reference to nominations by Cape Breton Societies.

The Annual Reports of County and District Agricultural Societies throughout the Province for the year 1880 were submitted; also Returns of Thorough-bred Live Stock in the district of each Society; attested Lists of Subscriptions paid by members for the year, and Accounts of Receipts and Expenditure. These documents are more voluminous than in any previous year, and the examination of them will occupy the Committee several days.

SPEAKER'S ROOM, Feb. 3rd, 1881.

The Executive Committee of the Board met at 10 A. M. Present—David Matheson, V. P., in the chair; Hon. H. F. McDougall, John Ross, Jonathan Rand, Israel Longworth, Prof. Lawson, Secretary.

Messrs. James F. Blanchard and James K. Blair, attended as a delegation from the Exhibition Committee of Truro.

The following communications were read:—

TRURO, Dec. 10th, 1880.

Prof. Lawson, Sec. B. of A.:

SIR.—I have the honor to request, on behalf of the Onslow Agricultural Society, that permission be granted us by your honorable Board to hold the Provincial Exhibition of 1881 in Truro, under terms of Act for holding such Exhibitions.

I have, &c.,  
Directors of the Onslow Agri. Society,  
per W. M. BLAIR, President.

TRURO, Dec 30th, 1880.

To the Central Board of Agriculture for N. S.:

GENTLEMEN,—We beg leave to apply to your honorable Board for the privilege of holding the Exhibition of 1881 in Truro. We would guarantee a prize list of at least \$6,000.

In making this application, we claim that we have the prior right, as the Provincial Exhibition of 1879 was held in Halifax, and that of 1880 in Kentville. It will thus be seen that it would naturally fall to the lot of Truro; but we also claim other advantages, it being the centre of a system of railways connecting east, west and north, with easy access to Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton, as well as New Brunswick and the Upper Provinces. We also claim that, with contemplated additions and improvements in buildings and grounds, we will have accommodation equal to any in the Province; and, as to the ability of our people to carry out the Exhibition to a successful issue, we trust our past record will commend itself to your honorable Board.

We have the honor, &c.  
W. M. BLAIR, President,  
ISAAC BARNHILL, Secretary  
of the Onslow Agricultural Socy.

Mr. Blanchard addressed the meeting in support of the application from Truro, detailed the steps that had been taken, expressed the readiness of the Truro Committee to do everything in their power to carry out the Exhibition successfully, and pointed out the peculiar advantages of the locality for a Provincial Agricultural Exhibition.

Mr. Blair corroborated the statements made by Mr. Blanchard, and entered upon further details. He thought the Provincial Exhibition should be held independent of the Dominion Exhibition. He explained the nature of the improvements which the Truro Committee proposed to carry out, and expressed their willingness to undertake the Dominion Exhibition if it was thought desirable to hold it at Truro. The prize list offered by Truro was \$6,000, and, if necessary, \$500 more would probably be added. If the Dominion Exhibition were held at Truro, the Committee would be prepared to offer a prize list of \$12,500.

Mr. Matheson, chairman, Mr. Longworth, and other members of the Board, explained the present position of affairs in reference to the Dominion and Provincial Exhibitions, and stated that the applications received would be carefully considered, after which the Delegates withdrew.

The Secretary submitted an extensive correspondence with persons in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the United States, in reference to the ancestry of the Short-horn bull Duke of Brunswick, whose pedigree was still imperfect. The

further consideration of this matter was deferred till the next meeting of the Board,—the enquiry for information to be, in the meantime, continued.

The Chairman stated that the Short-horn cattle recently imported were in fine condition, and every necessary arrangement had been made for their comfort and careful feeding and grooming. Since they arrived the cow and two heifers had calved, so that there are now seven males and five females.

Moved by Hon. Mr. McDougall, seconded by Mr. Longworth, and passed, that, as the imported cattle would presumably be relieved from quarantine about the 24th of February, arrangements be made for their sale by public auction on Thursday the 24th of March, at Richmond Depot, City of Halifax; the Board to meet on the Tuesday preceding, viz., 22nd March, at 10 A. M.

The Secretary was directed to attend to the necessary arrangements for releasing the animals from quarantine, to print catalogues and to advertise arrangements for sale as soon as they could be completed. Terms of sale to be as follows:—Approved joint notes at nine months, discountable at any Halifax bank, and payable to the order of the Board of Agriculture, to be taken in payment of cattle. Four per cent. discount to be allowed for cash at time of sale. Purchasers living twenty miles from a railway to be allowed five per cent. discount, if animals forwarded without delay to their destination. Purchasers in Cape Breton to be allowed ten per cent. discount on same terms. No delivery of animals to be given, or transfers of pedigrees made, till terms of sale are complied with.

SPEAKER'S ROOM, Feb. 4th, 1881.

Present—Same members.

Messrs. McDougall and Matheson, with the Secretary, having been requested to wait upon the Government in reference to the Provincial Exhibition of 1881, reported that they had an interview with the Hon. Mr. Creelman, and represented to him the desire of the Board to ascertain whether, in the event of the Dominion Government giving a grant for a Dominion Exhibition to be held this year in Nova Scotia, the Provincial Government would allow the Provincial grant to be given to the same committee, or other responsible body, so that the Provincial Exhibition might be combined with the Dominion Exhibition.

Hon. Mr. Creelman received the proposal favorably, and promised to bring it under the notice of the Government at the earliest opportunity.

Messrs. Longworth and Ross reported that they had examined the Treasurer's accounts for 1880, and found the same properly vouched and correct,—the bal-

ance in the Treasurer's hands at date being \$448.55.

The following letter was read from His Worship Mayor Tobin of Halifax:

MAYOR'S OFFICE.

Halifax, N. S., December 20th, 1880. }

SIR,—The City Council of Halifax, being in negotiation with the Dominion Government, with a view to holding the Dominion Exhibition in the City, and having received assurances that this arrangement will be carried out, I have the honor to request, on behalf of the said City Council, that the Central Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia will grant to it the Annual Subsidy given by the Provincial Parliament, in aid of our Exhibition, in order that the Dominion and Provincial Exhibitions may be combined. The Council will be prepared to offer a large prize list in the agricultural as in the other departments of industry, and will use every effort to make the contemplated Exhibition a credit to the Dominion, to the Province, and to the City Authorities who undertake the responsibilities of its management.

I have the honor to be,

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN TOBIN,

Mayor of Halifax.

Prof. Lawson, Secretary Central Board of Agriculture.

Moved by Hon. H. F. McDougall, seconded by Mr. Ross, and

Resolved, That, in the event of satisfactory arrangements being made for holding the Dominion Exhibition in Nova Scotia this year, the Executive Committee of the Board will be prepared to accept the offer contained in the letter of His Worship Mayor Tobin, of 29th December, 1880, so that the Dominion and Provincial Exhibitions may be combined. In order to avoid any risk of delay, the Secretary is directed and authorised to act for the Board in carrying out necessary arrangements for effecting this object, until the new Board shall be organised.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Rand, and

Resolved, That if any circumstances should arise to prevent the Dominion Exhibition being held in Nova Scotia, the Executive Committee of the Board will, in that case, accept the offer of the Colchester Committee, founded on the application of the Provincial Agricultural Society, for holding the Provincial Exhibition this year at Truro.

The Secretary was directed, if it were determined to hold the combined Exhibitions at Halifax, to urge the Committee to prepare the Prize List at once, and to call the Board to receive it without delay.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Ross, and

Resolved, That Messrs. Matheson and McDougall, with the assistance of the Secretary, be requested to prepare the Annual Report to the Legislature for the past year.

Moved by Mr. Longworth, seconded by Mr. Rand, and

Resolved, That the Treasurer be authorised to draw from the public treasury the usual amount necessary to meet the Grants to Societies for the year 1880, and to issue warrants for the same.

Several legal points having arisen, the Secretary was directed to submit them for the opinion of the Hon. Attorney General Thompson, and to be guided thereby.

The Committee then adjourned.

We are glad to find that the Province has had a recent accession of new Ellesmere blood, Captain J. R. Hall, of Wilmot Springs, Annapolis County, having imported a few pigs purchased from Mr. G. Lake, of Downs House, Gt. Gtys, who supplies the following details of ancestry: "Stella, the grand dam of your pigs, was bought by me of the Rev. W. R. Bowditch, Vicar of St. Andrew's Wakefield, (a successful exhibitor of pure Yorkshire pigs). That gentleman bought the sow of the breeder, Mr. Bewick Royds, a gentleman well known in Yorkshire. Stella was served by Cupid, a fine boar bred by Mr. Bowditch. The dam of your pigs was served by Sidney, bred by the Earl of Ellesmere, of whom I bought him. The brother of the boar won a first prize for the Earl. The above are pure White Yorkshire Pigs."

WILMOT SPRINGS, Jan. 20, 1881.

I notice your advertisement in *Agricultural Journal* regarding pigs. I have an Ellesmere boar I brought from England, with written pedigree, fifteen months old. My sow I brought at same time, will have pigs last of March. I took first prize at Kentville this season with sow and boar. I was to see the Earl of Ellesmere's herd of hogs in November, at his place, out of Liverpool. I would part with my boar as he will soon have to be changed. I also have another boar, looks just like him, out of a Chester sow, a very fine animal, you could not tell him from thorough-bred hog, which could sell for fifteen dollars; my old hog would sell for fifty dollars. Is there any herd book for hogs? If so I would like to have mine registered. [Replied to by letter.]

J. R. HALL.

THE export of Hay from Canada to the United States has been very large this season, probably on account of the deficient crop in the States. According to the *Country Gentleman*, in the last four months of 1879, 382 car loads paid duty, shipped over the Central Vermont Line from Canada. In the last four months of 1880 there were 1553 car loads, an increase of 300 per cent. The demand for hay is increasing at Halifax to supply vessels carrying live stock to England. Best quality \$18 per ton. Latest quotations on Toronto market are \$10 to \$13.50, and yet hay costs less to produce it in Nova Scotia than in Ontario. Farmers go west.

NOVA SCOTIA REGISTER OF THOROUGH-BRED CATTLE.

SHORT-HORN BULL CALF.

*Not named.* Red and white. Calved January 15th, 1881. Imported in dam from England. Owned by Central Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia. Sire Burgundy 37926 Eng.  
 Dam Roseleaf by Rockville 2nd 37356 Eng.,  
 gr d Rose of Poughley by Baron Booth 1st 27915,  
 g gr d Redheart Rose by Artemus Ward 23326,  
 g g gr d Rynil Rose by A 1 15538,  
 g g g gr d Rosette by Royal 13636,  
 g g g g gr d Ringlet by Lord George 9314,  
 g g g g g gr d Rosebud by Fitzhardinge 8073,  
 g g g g g g gr d Red Rose by Augustus 6751,  
 g g g g g g g gr d Red Rose by Consul 1868,  
 g g g g g g g g gr d Red Rose by Second Fairfax 8050,  
 g g g g g g g g g gr d Old Red Rose from the stock of the late Mr. Champion.

SHORT-HORN HEIFER CALVES.

*Not named.* Red and white. Calved January 6th, 1881. Imported in dam from England. Owned by Central Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia. Sire Burgundy 37626 Eng.  
 Dam Merryface by Rockville 2nd 37356 Eng.,  
 gr d Medora by Masterpiece 24561,  
 g gr d Miss Peel by Cynric 19542,  
 g g gr d Miss Ambler by Royal Oak 16870,  
 g g g gr d Miss Mitford by Bashaw 12449,  
 g g g g gr d Mitford by Lord George 9314,  
 g g g g g gr d Manager Rose by Manager 8271,  
 g g g g g g gr d Young Rose by Raffer 7391,  
 g g g g g g g gr d Rose 2nd by Gazer 7030,  
 g g g g g g g g gr d Old Rose by a bull of Mr. Champion's, Blyth.  
*Not named.* Red and white. Calved January 30th, 1881. Imported in dam from England. Owned by the Central Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia. Sire Sir Robert Frogmore 40719.  
 Dam Duchess of Warwick 3rd by Grand Duke of Geneva 2nd 31288 Eng.  
 gr d Duchess of Warwick by Earl of Warwickshire 3rd 28524,  
 g gr d Butterfly's Duchess by Royal Butterfly 20th 25007,  
 g g gr d Delicacy by the Druid 20948,

g g g gr d Destiny by Progression 18770,  
 g g g g gr d Damsel by Enterprise 11443,  
 g g g g g gr d Blonde by Patriot 10595,  
 g g g g g g gr d Bracelet by Son of Elevator 6969,  
 g g g g g g g gr d Blanche by No Mistake 8357,  
 g g g g g g g g gr d Young Beauty by Young Consul 6893,  
 g g g g g g g g g gr d Old Beauty by Fairfax 1063,  
 g g g g g g g g g g gr d Beautiful by Speculation 1472.

We notice in *The Garden*, one of the best of the English horticultural journals, a paper by Mr. Edward Moir, of Newport, Scotland, on the Alpine Flora of Forfarshire, in which he sketches, with a wonderful combination of graphic power and scrupulous accuracy of minute detail, the features of the vegetation on the tops and sides of the hills in that truly alpine district where Forfarshire, Perthshire and Aberdeenshire all meet, three thousand feet higher up in the heavens than the Tay Bridge, and where the dense black forests of Invernesshire may be seen in the distance. In a country like Scotland that lost its lowland forests so long ago, and has been cleared and cultivated for ages, many of the native plants have no doubt been extirpated, and others are to be seen only in the remnants left on undisturbed spots on the mountains. It is natural that botanists should regard all the plants now found on the mountains exclusively as really alpine plants, growing there by preference because the climate is more suitable for them than the lowlands. *Per contra*, we have notable facts around us here in Nova Scotia. Mr. Moir instances some of these Scotch mountain plants coming down into the valleys. *Rubus Chamæmoris* and *Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi* are spoken of in this connection. Now these are certainly essentially mountain plants in every country in Europe in which they occur, but here, with our warm summer climate, so much hotter and drier than that of any part of England, we have *Rubus Chamæmoris* abounding at the sea level, and providing the Halifax market every season with its fruit, well known under the name of bake apple. The *Arctostaphylos* creeps over the bare rocks about Windsor Junction, and all along the rocky track of our Railway, and even on the hot granite and limestone cliffs of Ontario we find it maintaining its luxuriance along the banks of the great lakes. *Epilobium alpinum* does not grow with us except in the lower parts of the St. Lawrence gulf, where both the water and the air remain cold for a long period of the growing season; there also *Dryas* grows. One plant of the Clova district is not men-

tioned by Mr. Moir, for the good reason that it has not been found for nearly a century; we refer to the *Potentilla tridentata*, which would certainly be regarded as essentially an alpine plant by botanists in Europe, if re-discovered, but nevertheless it grows on every wayside about Halifax, and on railway banks and in potato fields, at the sea level. *Sedum Rhodiola* is known with us only as a seaside plant, having been found by Rev. Mr. Fraser in Cape Breton or Labrador, and by Mr. Jack at Cape Split. The latter-named gentleman and the writer of this, if they had continued neighbours of Mr. Moir, would no doubt have regarded it as an alpine plant, as all British botanists do, instead of a sea-shore weed. *Trientalis Europæa* although a lowland plant in Scotland, does not grow here except in the northern part of the Hudson's Bay Territories. *Pyrola rotundifolia* and *secunda* are so common with us at low elevations than we imagine they must at one time have grown all over Britain, if their distribution depended upon climate. The exceedingly rare *Cystopteris montana* is essentially alpine. It was found by the late Dr. Thomas Anderson on the summits of the Scandinavian mountains, and more recently by Prof. Macoun on high lands north of Lake Superior, where it was expected it would be found, if anywhere on this continent. But *Woodsia Ilvensis*, one of the rare "alpine" ferns of Scotland, grows with us, not only in Nova Scotia, but in Ontario as well, on hot, dry, sunny cliffs; *Polystichum Lonchitis*, not in bleak rocky corners as in Clova, but by the sea or lake shores; *Asplenium viride*, in humid but not elevated localities. Mr. Moir has determined one important point by experimental cultivation, viz., that *Armeria maritima* and *alpina* are identical; this is entirely in accordance with our view that the plant had been continuous at one time from the Forfarshire shores up through the valleys and over some of the less bleak mountains. It is still abundant around the rocky shores, but has been apparently rooted out by the plough from the lowlands, and remnants only remain on the undisturbed hills. As for *Linnaea borealis*, it is one of our commonest wayside flowers in Nova Scotia, and, in the season when it is in bloom, one cannot walk out into the country without seeing wreaths of it around hats to keep off the mosquitoes when the thermometer is standing far above any ordinary British temperature. It is still more abundant on the hot arid plains of Ontario, but only around ponds, under trees, and in swamps. Long years ago we pointed out that local humidity, not low temperature, is what many of these supposed alpine or arctic plants

require. In America, as the forests are cleared away they disappear. Fires, land drainage and ploughing destroy them. This helps to illustrate the winding-up paragraph of Mr. Moir's paper, that most of these plants are amenable to cultivation. He has done excellent service to the Horticultural Society of Dundee, and to horticulturists in general, in calling attention to them in so thoroughly practical a manner, and we have thought that a few comments might not be unwelcome, as serving to throw a sort of side light on the subject.

We had the great pleasure of visiting Mr. Moir's Alpine Garden some years ago. We still cultivate here the *Myosotis alpestris* from seeds which he gathered originally on Ben Lawers. Every season as the *Myosotis* expands its flowers it seems to hold up a mirror to memory, recalling the neatly arranged rock works and flowery banks overhanging the Tay, where Mr. Moir conducts his experiments on the native plants of Scotland.

We copy an interesting account of a herd of Polled Angus Cattle interviewed at Halifax, on their way to the Sandwich Islands, by a Reporter of the *Morning Chronicle*. It is only necessary to correct a slight and very natural mistake that is made in assuming that these are the first of their kind that have ever touched the shores of the Dominion. Mr. Nimmo, of Camden, Ontario, had a very fine herd of Polled Angus more than a quarter of a century ago. At the Provincial Exhibition of Upper Canada, held at Cobourg as long ago as October, 1855, nine prizes, amounting in money value to thirty-six pounds, were awarded for "Galloway Cattle," no distinction being then made between the Galloway, Angus and Aberdeens. We believe the first polled black cattle ever seen in British America, if not on the whole continent, were some introduced very many years ago to Cape Breton; but they were not long kept pure. A stray black doddly may be occasionally seen about Sydney, the hereditary drop of black blood re-asserting itself after the lapse of many years and through many generations. Numerous importations of Angus, Aberdeens and Galloways have been made, especially within the last few years, by Ontario farmers, and large numbers have passed through Canada on their way to the Western States.

"A *Chronicle* Reporter Saturday morning had a pleasant experience which might have been envied by any one interested in live stock or thorough-bred cattle. The Allan steamer *Nestorian*, from Glasgow, G. B., had on board something new to agricultural men in this country, being a valuable lot of pure-bred Polled Angus cattle, which are *en route*

for the Sandwich Islands, in charge of their owner, Mr. Hugh A. Ferguson, who explained their "points" and peculiar merits.

The animals, eight in number, have very comfortable quarters aboard the steamer and appear in first-rate condition, not having suffered at all from their sea-voyage. They were fed principally on turnips and oil cake, and are under the immediate care of Mr. Brown, a Boston gentleman of great experience in such matters. They are a very handsome lot, standing about medium size, are entirely black, with hair very like that of a pure Newfoundland dog, rather massive heads, but particularly fine, clear and neat bodies, straight-backed, and without any semblance of horns. This latter point is a peculiarity which renders them specially suitable for export, being, on this account, of easy stowage, and handy, so to speak, aboard ship. They are a very profitable animal for raisers, as they arrive early at maturity, are splendid milkers, and much more than ordinarily good beef producers.

The oldest of the herd is a magnificent bull, "His Grace," which saw his second birthday since leaving Glasgow, and weighs 15,000 lbs. The others are all little more than yearlings; they include three bulls and four heifers, all of the best and purest blood obtainable. "His Grace" was purchased from the Earl of Southesk's herd, at Kinaird Castle, and cost 100 guineas. Two of the heifers, "Merry Peal" and "Maidenhair," are from the original Kinnochtry Prizie family, which possesses the largest recorded ancestry in the Polled Herd Book. Two heifers and two yearling bulls were supplied by Mr. Smith, of Powrie, and two heifers and one bull were bought from the noted herd of Mr. Thomas Ferguson, of Kinnochtry, who formed the nucleus of his herd from bulls and cows purchased from Mr. Watson, of Keillor, the first breeder and patron of these cattle. Mr. Hugh A. Ferguson is a grandson of Mr. Watson's, and is now in partnership with Hon. James J. Dowsett, of the Wainai Rancho, Sandwich Islands.

The herd proceeded in the *Nestorian* to Boston, and go from there overland to San Francisco, thence by sailing vessel to Honolulu. The animals are all very valuable, and will doubtless create a big sensation at their new home.

In order to show the esteem in which the "Angus Doddies," as they are called, are held in the old country, it may be stated that they took first prize at the Paris Exhibition of 1878 against all competitors, the Lady Pickard's included. This, we believe, is the first of the breed to see Canadian soil, but Mr. F. B. Redfield, of Batavia, Genesee Co., New York, President of the New York State Agricultural Society, purchased some

time ago a few, which are now doing finely and are very highly appreciated, so that he has recently purchased some twenty others to be sent across next month.

The present purchase of Mr. Ferguson is probably the most extensive enterprise in its line which ever came by way of Halifax, as besides the great cost of the cattle, the undertaking of transportation by sea and land a distance of ten thousand miles or more is something heavy.

Besides the cattle, Mr. F. has on board the *Nestorian* some of the choicest fowls obtainable in the old country, including Andalusians, Dorkings, and other varieties; also several fine game cocks and three very valuable Collie dogs, of the purest breed.

Those who were so fortunate as to inspect Mr. F.'s importation saw what no agricultural exhibition in Canada could ever boast of, and although the specimens are not very numerous, they as yet go ahead of this country. It might be worth the while of our agriculturists, now that an extensive cattle trade is springing up with England, to test the merits of this breed. Speaking in this connection, the *Dunee Advertiser* says:

"Many countries are presently evidently on the outlook for improved breeds of cattle, and it looks as if the Angus, indebted to Forfarshire for its name, and to a Forfarshire tenant farmer (Watson) for its celebrity, is destined to supply a large proportion of the world's roast beef in the future."

A CORRESPONDENT, whose position, knowledge, and experience give weight to his opinion, writes as follows:—"I read with interest the reports of the proceedings of the Board, and quite approve of the action as to next Exhibition, although, even if Halifax fail to obtain a grant from the Dominion, I do not see why you would not be entitled to the Provincial, against Colchester and Kings, both of which have had the grant twice." All difficulty on this point is avoided by Halifax not applying for the Provincial Grant, except in conjunction with the Dominion one. The assumption by some of the Country papers that Halifax would press for the Provincial Grant in any event, had no foundation in anything that was said or done in the city.

YARMOUTH, usually mild, and not seldom misty, has had its nip of clear, cold weather. On 7th February the thermometer went down to zero. It was the coldest night of the winter. There was a break on the 8th, and since thawing constantly, with heavy rain on 10th. Our correspondent's letter is dated 11th February.

On the 15th inst. we listened with pleasure to an able and eloquent lecture on the North West Territories, by the Rev. Mr. Pitblado. No tract on the face of the earth has been more loudly praised as a luxurious, fertile field for the ambitious Agriculturist; none more heartily condemned as a bleak, barren, hopeless, wild-beast wilderness. But on Tuesday evening we were told a plain tale of the great lone land, and the beaming countenances of so many grey-haired men, no less than the hearty applause from the general audience, bore willing testimony to its power and truth. The lecturer did not present a finished picture. He is too old a traveller, too experienced an artist, to do that. He brought us before his easel, like a painter explaining the secret of his art. He showed us the model, and how the model might be copied, conventionalized, touched up, improved, made beautiful, made ugly, monstrous. First the country was shown in outline, a bare skeleton, as it were, an architect's plan, without light or shadow or sign of life. Here the fertile region, there the barren wilderness, and everywhere vast uncertain wilds. An instructive comparison was made of the country with the land in the United States lying immediately south, which was stated to be several thousand feet higher, with a drier but not warmer climate. After giving many details, the lecturer took the traveller's brush, filled in the glowing tints, brought them to the brightest sunset of an autumn day. All is beautiful now, the wheat fields wave in the balmy air, the heart swells with gratitude, the eye looks fondly to the land of the setting sun. But then another brush is brought—the picture is toned down by the sober evening tints and shadows, and it now looks blurred and gloomy with the stern actualities of truth—just as a truthful picture looks of any other country; the great lone land lies before us with its treeless prairies and ague swamps and hard work and poor camps and shanties, and immigrants sick and weak; and we hear the splash of the horses feet in the mud-holes, and the cracking of wheel-spokes, and the "see" of the settler's constant friend, mosquito. And yet with all its faults it is a great and wondrous country, a goodly heritage, a Land of Promise. That its fertile tracts will be rapidly filled up with immigrants, that the difficulties they encounter will develop them into a hardy, independent race of loyal citizens, and that the North West will become one of the greatest wheat growing and stock raising countries of the world, long before the close of the present century, are results as certain as any human probability. It is a good place to go to, for those who are able and willing to work, and whose temperament, mental resources

and habits of life are such as to enable them to overcome the great loneliness inevitable to the first settlers in a new country, where alike the beneficent and baneful influences of society are unknown, where even the excitement of a quarrel with one's next door neighbour can be realized with difficulty, where the want of the luxuries and many necessities of civilized life has to be silently endured, and where there is neither a Pitblado to stir the blood, nor Pines of Penzance to cast a glamour over the asperities of life.

Apart from every question connected with the North West,—it is of great importance to Nova Scotians to study carefully, and to strive to perceive clearly, the relations which that country is destined to bear to our own, and to so guide our own affairs, and, as far as we can, influence theirs, as to lay firm foundations for future, permanent, national prosperity.

The officers of the Sydney Society, Co. Cape Breton, have nominated W. H. Moore, Esq., to the Central Board of Agriculture. This is an addition to the votes printed in list of nominations last month.

MILFORD, Feb. 4, 1881.

Dear Prof. Lawson:

Mr. Green is just up from Oakfield, and tells me the cow Duchess of Warwick calved on Sunday last, heifer calf.

Truly yours,

H. L. YEOMANS.

IN COOKING ASPARAGUS a serious practical difficulty presents itself, which is got over in a very simple way by continental European cooks. Asparagus-eaters generally know that whilst the green tip is always tender, the lower part of the stalk is tough as tussack grass, and often as hard. To remedy this, in boiling, the tips are left an inch or so out of the water, so that the lower hard part may be thoroughly cooked without spoiling the tender tips. Asparagus if cut when very short gives only an inch of edible top, by allowing it to lengthen before cutting long tender stalks are got. It is only the part underground that is tough and defiant of the cook's efforts.

In the old Nova Scotia Register of Jersey Cattle there is an animal entered as follows: "110 Marchioness of Bristol, 2763 Am. Dam 130 N. S., Regina 2nd, 2475 Am." Information is sought respecting this animal. Any one who knows anything more than the above of her history will confer a favour by communicating with the Secretary of the Central Board. An opportunity occurs for sale of the cow or her stock, if still in existence.

CONTROLLING SEX.—My plan is simply this:—When a heifer calf is desired from any given cow, I note the date of her entry into period in my register. The season is allowed to pass unimproved. I immediately begin, however, to prepare for its return. The cow is allowed to run at pasture, and is but slightly fed upon feed. My bull is subjected to a rigid re-trait, being allowed to serve no other cow under any circumstances, until the chosen animal has been disposed of. He is also fed the while upon rich heat-producing feed. As a consequence, I seldom fail to have, at the proper time, a very demonstrative bull and a moderately excited cow. The animals are coupled under these circumstances, and the issue of the union has invariably proven to be the desired heifer calf. When a bull calf is wished, I reverse the treatment. The cow is the well-fed and well-attended animal. The bull is allowed to exercise his powers by serving every chance cow presenting an opportunity, from which no particular sex is desired. In fact, I seek such opportunities from among the cows of my neighbours. As a consequence, when the cow's frenzy returns, I have an exceedingly demonstrative cow, and a bull by no means rampant. Coupled under such conditions the calf invariably proves to be the desired bull. While science has been ransacking every nook and corner of the universe to discover this law, it has been plainly legible all the while. It is a fact to be observed any day upon these prairies of ours. An overtaken bull begets bull calves, while in those localities where young and vigorous bulls abound heifer calves prevail. The simplicity of the matter has seemingly been its mystery, viz, Nature supplies her own demands.—D. D. Fiquet, in the "American Dairyman."

On 15th January, the recently imported Short Horn Heifer "ROSELEAF" calved a bull calf. The calf is sired by Burgundy 37926 English Herd Book. All the imported stock are doing well. In a recent letter, Mr. Thornton writes:—"I rejoice to hear that the animals have arrived safely, and given so much satisfaction, and further trust that they will do well in the country, and into whose hands soever they may fall." It will be seen by a communication in another column that the cow Duchess of Warwick has also calved.

THE Short Horn Bull, LORD BEACONFIELD, bred by C. F. Eaton, Esq., No. 67, N. S. Register, has been transferred to Eddy Tupper, Esq., Meadowview Farm, South Branch, Upper Stowiacke. He was purchased for Mr. Tupper at the Provincial Exhibition in Halifax, October 1879.

At the opening of the New Brunswick Legislature on 8th inst., the prominence given to Agriculture was quite in accordance with its importance as the Industry which occupies nearly three-fourths of the population, and, according to Mr. Peters, is long likely to do so:—

I have convened you at this time for the consideration of the affairs of the Province, with full confidence that your labors will be resumed with a spirit devoted to the public welfare.

You will join me in the expression of gratitude to Almighty God for the many blessings bestowed on the people of this Province during the past year. The Harvest of the season has been abundant; and, although our Trade and Manufactures have exhibited to some degree the effects of the depression to which the commerce of the world has been more or less subjected during the same period, I have reason to believe they have received no permanent check, and that the progress of the Province in general prosperity has again commenced, and will now be relieved from those retarding influences which have been for some time so seriously felt.

You will be gratified to learn that the Act passed by you during the last session, relating to agriculture, has proved highly acceptable to the farming interest of the Province, and that the Board established under that Act has entered upon its responsible labors under very favorable circumstances, and possessing the generous confidence of the agriculturists of the Province.

During the past year, the Province was favored in the visit of the English Agricultural Delegates. My Government felt it a duty to extend to them all assistance possible in furtherance of the object of their mission, and to enable them to become personally acquainted with many of our rich farming districts. I am happy to say, the effort in this behalf was cordially and promptly supported wherever the delegates went, and by all classes of the people. I regret the limited time at the disposal of the delegates rendered it impossible for them to accept the invitation of my Government, and of the local authorities, to visit other sections of the Province. You will be glad to know that very favorable impressions of the Province were formed by the delegates, which I think will not fail to lead in many respects to very beneficial results.

The Exhibition of 1880 will be long remembered as one of the most successful hitherto held in this Province. The fine agricultural, horticultural and stock exhibits evidenced the great and increasing care, industry, and intelligence of our farmers and stock raisers; while the remarkable displays of mechanical and manufacturing products were the subjects of

unanimous and unqualified admiration and were eminently fitted to inspire our people with the fullest confidence in the future of our mechanics and manufacturers. All other departments of the Exhibition were also characterized by great excellence.

I view with great pleasure the increasing interest manifested in the Export Trade of cattle and sheep to the markets of Great Britain, and I am sure you will be pleased if a cheaper and more expeditious mode of transportation than exists at present shall be established by a line of steamers from this Province to a port in Great Britain, which seems indispensable to the permanency and success of the Trade. It will be a matter of congratulation if the Federal Government shall determine to assist so important a work by the granting of a reasonable subsidy in its aid.

The English papers report on 24th January, that shipments of produce from America during the preceding week were small, 146,000 quarters of wheat, 130,000 bags of flour, scarcely any Indian corn,—the quantities on passage now being wheat and flour 2,413,000 quarters, L. corn 251,000 quarters, barley 129,000 quarters. Mark Lane prices are, for foreign produce, wheat 40s. to 56s. American flour 19s. to 23s. per barrel, Indian corn, American 27s. to 28s. per quarter of 480 lbs. At the Liverpool Market, January 22, Indian corn had fallen, and, with advices of more liberal shipments from New York old mixed had declined to 5s. 5½d., round selling fairly well at ½l. per cental less money, viz., 5s. 5d. to 6s. 8½d. In the Metropolitan Cattle Market, January 24, best Scots and Herefords sold for 5s. 8d. to 6s. per stone of 8 lbs., best Short-horns at 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d., 2nd quality beasts 4s. 6d. to 5s. At Liverpool there is a large increase of American cattle. At Smithfield, American beef is reported as selling by the carcass at 4s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. per stone of 8 lb., about same price as English.

In the London and Liverpool markets of the 31st January, there was an increase in the supply of live cattle, and also of beef and other meats, and prices declined. The decline was greatest on pork.

The officers of the Isle Madame Agricultural Society, Co. Richmond, have nominated John McKeen, Esq., to the Central Board.

The Christmas Island Agricultural Society, County of Cape Breton, have nominated John Ross, Esq., to the Central Board. These nominations were accidentally omitted in the *Journal* last month.

**NORTH SYDNEY AS A MARKET.**—It is pretty generally acknowledged that the town and port of North Sydney is the chief market for the produce of the Island. Our harbor, thronged as it is during a brisk spring and summer, and a brisker autumn, with the flags of almost every nation, requires a large quantity of produce to meet the demand. In addition to this great transient population, our resident population is almost as wholly dependent upon the country, and thus the larger the market. The year just closed saw perhaps a greater quantity of stock brought to North Sydney from different parts of Cape Breton than ever before. *Our market in this respect is ahead of any part of the Island.* Besides what we give below as the amount expended for cattle alone, a great amount of mutton, pork and fowl comes to this town for the supply of shipping. From inquiries which we have made in this matter, we are in a position to say that no less than \$40,000 was the amount expended during the seven or eight months of 1880 that our port was open. Besides produce required for the town and shipping, much additional is brought here for shipment to the Newfoundland and St. Pierre markets. The trade of the Bras d'Or Lakes in cattle to these markets is also very large. Merchants at Christmas Island, Whycomagh, Laddeck and elsewhere through the Lakes, have been actively engaged in this line of business the past season. The western side of the Island has also had its share in this growing trade the past year. From Broad Cove, Margaree Harbor and Port Hood vessels have been constantly kept employed to Newfoundland and St. Pierre. This large export trade and the meat-preserving factories now at work in Cape Breton, invite our stock-raisers to renewed activity. Their opportunities are great, and we hope the present year will see a larger number of cattle raised than in any former season.—*Sydney Herald.*

A CORRESPONDENT at Stoneleigh Farm, Windsor, asks how many tons of Mangels or Sugar Beet are required to equal a ton of good English Hay for feeding? We have replied that as nearly as we can reach the probable truth, one ton of good average hay will be equivalent to 5 or 5½ tons of mangels, or to about 3 tons of sugar beets of the best quality. We hope some kind correspondent will give us additional information or criticism.

**GOOD WHEAT YIELDS.**—Our Great Village correspondent informs us that Mr. Sutherland Spencer raised 123 bushels of "Lost Nation" wheat off 8 bushels sown, or more than 15 to 1. Mr. J. H. Chisholm raised 130 bushels of the same from 10 bushels sown, or 14 to 1. Mr. R. N. B. McLellan

raised 205 bushel of Fife wheat from 14 bushels sown, or nearly 15 to 1. These facts show that, with careful cultivation, and the sowing of good seed, excellent crops of wheat can be raised in Nova Scotia, and in Colchester County in particular.—*Guardian*.

**HEAVY WEIGHT.**—The young thoroughbred Durham bull "Alfonso," imported from Ontario last spring by the Saint Andrew's Agricultural Society, Co. Antigonish, and owned by Alex. Chisholm, Esq., Lower South River, turned the scales last week at sixteen hundred and sixty-one pounds (1661 lbs), when only twenty-three (23) months old.

The thoroughbred Short Horn Bull YORK, No. 34, bred by Edwin Chase, Cornwallis, and owned by Rufus C. Hendry, has been transferred to the Mutual Benefit Agricultural Society of Brookfield and Pleasant River.

It is an unaccountable fact that the raising of geese and ducks in quantity for the market is so much neglected by our American farmers, while Englishmen possessing only a few acres and access to a stream or pond, raise such large numbers with a good profit. Many readers of the *Maryland Farmer* have creeks running through barren parts of their land, near by which could be placed cheap houses for geese, as which no land or water fowls can be so easily raised, or at so good a profit.

Having once secured a good breeding stock of three or four geese mated to one gander, all large, fine specimens, the same flock can be retained for breeders for six or eight years at least. In summer they will thrive on pasture alone. The geese begin laying in February, and lay thirteen to fifteen eggs. Either a Turkey hen or a large Asiatic hen can be used for incubating, which requires thirty days; sprinkle the eggs with tepid water for ten days before hatching. Feed the young goslings "little and often" with hard boiled eggs, bread crumbs and scalded meal; they are soon ready to shift for themselves, and can be marketed without extra fattening as "green geese." Even the farmer who has no stream of running water can raise geese profitably by giving them plenty of fresh water for drinking, and a large tub or tank for bathing. The principal varieties of thoroughbred geese are the Toulouse, Bremen or Embden, and Hong Kong or China. Of these the Toulouse are the largest, having reached the maximum weight of sixty pounds per pair, at the Birmingham show in England. They are of a gray color, with white on the belly, and are a valuable variety. The Bremen geese are pure white in color, and hence are more

valued for their feathers, and are often as large as the Toulouse—the greatest weight ever known being fifty-eight and a-half pounds per pair. Their meat is very delicate, they are hardy, and good layers. The Hong Kong geese are much smaller than either of the preceding, but are the best layers known, often laying three or four litters in a season, and sometimes as many as thirty or forty eggs before sitting.—*W. A. Burpee in "Maryland Farmer."*

It costs no more to keep a good animal than a poor one, and generally not as much. A high grade steer, for instance, is ready for market from one to two years earlier than a scrub. The object in raising a steer is for beef, and how to get him to the block in the most desirable form, from the butcher's standpoint, in the shortest period after his birth and at the minimum of cost, is the leading question for the farmer or feeder to solve. The high grade steer is ready for market from one to two years sooner than the scrub can be put into that form. The former more easily digests and assimilates his food than the latter, and appropriates more of its nutritious principles. When ready for market the grade turns the scale generally at one-third more than the scrub, the meat is laid on where the butcher wants it, and is far better in quality, hence brings a higher price. Here is a difference in the cost of keeping of from one to two years—generally two—and a third heavier carcass, besides the difference per pound in the price of the meat. The truth is, it is impossible for farmers in the older States, not only in the East, but in the States east of the Mississippi River, to raise scrub stock profitably. The Western cattle men, whose herds are counted by thousands, are now "breeding up" their native stock—a fact that makes it imperative upon his competitor farther East to raise cattle that are well bred, and inherit a large capacity for consumption, digestion and assimilation of food, and mature in from two and a-half to three years at most.—*Thorley Journal*.

If the cows have to drink from any place other than brook or river, do not turn out more than two at a time. Many of our hired men expect a cow to drink like a horse, which they certainly do not. Lead a horse to the trough and he will drink immediately or not at all; but a cow will usually stand and look, wet her lips and sip a mouthful half a dozen times before she begins to drink in good earnest. Some cows, however will drink immediately. But, in case of either cows or horses, proper care cannot be taken of them till their peculiarities are well understood; and whoever undertakes to

make the most of his stock must make every individual one a special study. If cows are watered out of a pail, it may be found that one animal will drink only from a certain pail, and if a change is made it will be instantly detected.—*American Cultivator*.

*The Milch Zeitung* relates a recent experiment by Fjord:

"A quantity of fresh milk was divided into three portions, one of which was set in ice-water at once; the other two were allowed to cool an hour by standing at ordinary temperatures, and one of these was then set in ice-water; the third portion was carried in a wagon for three hours before being set in ice-water; all the samples were allowed to stand ten hours. Calling the quantity of butter yield by the first portion of milk 100 parts, the other two gave 70.3 and 73 parts respectively; or, in other words, there was a loss of 29.94 and 27 per cent. of butter in the two cases mentioned, as compared with what should have been obtained if these two portions of milk had, like the first, been put in ice-water at once. The loss was not in all cases so great as this; but the fact that it may occur, and may under certain conditions be so serious, is well worthy the attention of the managers of creameries; and no less worthy of their consideration is the simple method discovered by Fjord of almost entirely avoiding this loss, which consists in heating the milk, as soon as received at its destination, up to about 104 degrees. In the warm season the milk may be cooled as soon as drawn, so as to be delivered in a fresher condition at the creamery, where it may then be warmed as above. These experiments also yielded the important result that, with a good centrifugal creamer, no notable loss of butter was caused by this partial cooling of the milk before delivery; so that re-heating the milk is unnecessary when this method of separating the cream is followed."

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15th February, 1881. feb

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**THOROUGH-BRED AYRSHIRES.**

**B**ULL "Prince Napoleon," calved 31st August, 1879.  
**B**ULL CALF "Prince Leopold," 10 months old.  
**B**ULL CALF "Capt. Jinks," 5 months old.  
**H**EIFER "Nellie," 3 years old in April.  
G. W. SANDERS.  
Hebron, Yarmouth N. S., Jan. 31st, 1881. feb

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**T**WO very fine Ayrshire Bulls, fourteen and fifteen months old. Two or three superior Yearling Heifers, all from imported stock, and registered in the Nova Scotia Register. Terms made to suit.  
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CHARLES W. SMITH,  
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January 20th, 1881.

**FOR SALE.**

**T**HE splendid thorough-bred Ayrshire Bull "BELLAHILL," raised by P. Jack, Esq., from stock imported direct from Scotland by the Board of Agriculture. BELLAHILL was sold in 1879 by Prof. Lawson to the Annapolis Royal Agricultural Society, and has got some good stock. He girths over 6 feet, and is very kind. Apply to—  
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**A**YRSHIRE BULL "WALLACE 3RD," 2 years old in March.  
**A**YRSHIRE BULL CALF "LORD DUFFKIN 2ND," 9 months old.  
—ALSO—  
**A FEW HEAD GRADE JERSEY.**  
**HENRY BURRELL, Sen'r.**  
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G. F. EATON.  
Lower Canada, Dec. 27, 1880. jan 1

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