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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. III.

HALIFAX, N. S., DECEMBER, 1879.

No. 32.

HALIFAX, 5th December, 1879.

THE Secretaries of Agricultural Societies throughout the Province are reminded that no Society will be in a position to claim participation in the Legislative Grant for the year unless, on or before 31st December, it furnishes the Central Board of Agriculture with the following returns :

1. Attested List of Annual Subscriptions actually paid as such by Members within the year.
2. Report of Proceedings at Annual Meeting held on first Tuesday of December.
3. Full Account of Receipts and Expenditure during the year.
4. Nomination by Officers of a person suitable for appointment to the Central Board.

THE REV. SIMON GIBBONS writes from Baddeck and Bay St. Lawrence that he is trying to start an Agricultural Society between the latter place and Cape North. We hope he will succeed. For eight or ten years we have been corresponding with parties about Cape North with a view to the establishment of a Society, but so far without success.

MR. E. G. MILLER writes from Bear River, announcing the formation of a new Agricultural Society in Digby County, to be called the Hillsburgh Agricultural Society. Mr. Miller is Secretary elect.

It is necessary to remind owners of thorough-bred stock that our Nova Scotia Stock Register is at present in a state of transition ; that the Board of Agriculture are engaged in the important work of forming a New Register, whose accuracy will command universal respect. In order to reach this result the Board called upon owners to re-register their cattle, in order to prevent the possibility of any inaccuracy, however slight, being transferred from the old Register to the new. Several owners have done so ; but a large number have not. Blank forms for registration are being prepared, and will shortly be issued, when, it is hoped, all owners will comply with the reasonable request of the Board. If they do not do so their animals cannot appear in the New Register.

Many owners seem to think that they have merely to send a pedigree to the Secretary of the Board, and will receive by return of post a certificate of registration. For the information of such we repeat that all pedigrees must be submitted to a committee of the Board, and examined and approved of by them, before their registration can be sanctioned. The full Board alone has the power to sanction registration.

PROFESSOR SMITH, Principal of the Ontario Veterinary College, at Toronto, informs us that the class for junior students will begin on the first Tuesday in January, and that he will be glad to send an "Announcement," containing full particulars of the Course of Instruction, to any one who may apply to him.

The Milton correspondent of the *Liverpool (N. S.) Advance*, writes :—

"Three of our young men went moose hunting last week, and on Friday were successful in killing four, and having a good chance to get them, concluded to bring them out whole, and accordingly deposited the carcasses in the barn of Mr. Thaddeus Kompton. Hundreds of persons were attracted to the spot to see so unusual a sight as four moose lying side by side. The estimated weight being about 1500, would give one and a-half pounds of meat to each of the inhabitants."

From the same source we have the following gratifying intelligence :—

"Work is reported to be carried on more largely than ever at Londonderry mines, and orders are rushing. The mines are building up a very smart little town."

"Mr. Edgar J. Craswell has informed the *Summerside Journal* that he has a seven-acre field of oats, the yield from which was, on an average, 71 bushels to the acre. This is the largest harvest average yield heard of this season in P. E. Island."

IN Short Horns the Royal Agricultural Society offers prizes for "cow and not less than two of her offspring," which is an improvement upon herd prizes. At the late Show at Killburn there were no entries in the yearling bull class, nor in the cow and heifer class, for foreign Short Horns ; but there was one entry for bull above two years, the exhibitor being J. Ingwersen, Hegnet, Skive, Denmark,

MANY of our readers will recollect having seen fine specimens of the comparatively new forage plant, COMFREY, at the Provincial Exhibition. For their information we take the liberty to print the following note received from Major DeBalinhard, along with an article from the *Digby Courier* :—

DIGBY, Sept. 9th, 1879.

Sir,—A couple of years ago I obtained from England a few roots of the new fodder plant, *Caucasian Comfrey*, about which several articles appeared in nearly all the papers in England, America, and the Dominion of Canada. I received mine at same time and per same steamer as the parties in the United States received theirs. It is known as the solid stem variety, in contradistinction to the old Comfrey, which has a hollow stem, and was the first introduced into the States some five or six years ago, but since which time, cultivation by some of the first growers in England has brought to its present standing as a solid stem plant, thereby increasing its value for fodder. I send a few plants for you to see, the top or crown plants and the ordinary root cuttings.

I am, &c.,

J. A. C. DEBALINHARD.

P. S.—The present length of leaf of fodder planted in *flower pot* 1st of August, 14 inches long, 4 inches wide; planted in the *open field*, 19 inches long, 6 wide or broad. Planted in *flower pot*, 1st September, 5½ x 2½. The flower of this plant or shrub is in racemes, of a bell shape, from blue to purple, and blooms for two months or more.

J. A. C. DEB.

Why do not our farmers plant the new fodder, Prickley Comfrey? The cost is cheap, and it has yielded the heaviest returns of any fodder plant, requiring less manure and less cultivation than corn. Once planted it will continue for twenty years or more. It is a deeply rooted plant, independent of weather or climate, for in the driest and hottest seasons it will afford several heavy cuttings, when all other vegetation is either burnt up or at a stand-still. It also comes in earlier than any other crop, and lasts longer, continuing to afford fodder until December. This year it yielded at the rate of twenty tons to the acre before the middle of June. The roots may be sub-divided, and planted at all seasons of the year, except in frosty weather. It is most readily propagated by placing root cuttings under two or three inches of good earth, covered by a few inches of manure. In a few days the cuttings will throw out a quantity of fibrous roots and small leaves, when they may be set out the same as potatoes, in hills, and if the ground is moist and warm the plants

will appear in a few days. Keep the plants free from weeds while young. If planted in early spring several cuttings may be obtained the first year, as it should be cut at least every two months. It cannot be propagated in this climate from seed, as not one in a thousand will germinate; but, after the first year, the roots may be sub-divided and planted again. Comfrey culture is simple: the ground is either forked or ploughed six or eight inches deep, and manured same as for potatoes, planted three feet apart each way. When once the plant is established very little expense is needed, as manuring is all that is required, once in two or three years, according to the soil. It can be dried the same as corn leaves, laying in bundles. It ought not to be allowed to flower when needed for fodder; the leaves when dried keep well for forage in winter, and are excellent food for all kinds of stock.

It can be cured as green fodder in any weather, wet or dry, by running it through a hay cutter and filling into barrels or pits a foot of Comfrey, then two inches of chopped straw, keeping it from the air until wanted for use.

The juice of the Comfrey is a thick gum and mucilage, containing very little sugar, and is unlike most of our roots and corn, yet it is much of the same chemical composition as sugar. Acted upon chemically, the gum is changed into sugar, and this change occurs in the mouths and stomachs of animals eating it, making it a most healthy food. It is deuretic, hence it prevents fever, and cattle fed upon it are free from the ravages of lung, foot and mouth diseases, and are strongly fortified against infection. Its curative properties have long been known. Many who have used Comfrey for years say they get better and richer milk from their cows, and a higher price for their butter. The same may be said as regards beef cattle fed upon it. They are in a more healthy condition, being exempt from the usual diseases of their kind; hence its adaptability to present circumstances. Stock raising is now becoming so profitable to the farmer, and the facilities for sending all he can raise to an English market, renders this plant a great acquisition. A gentleman raising this fodder in one of our counties writes: "I find that each cutting is capable of being divided indefinitely, and the plant can be propagated readily. With high cultivation it will yield an immense quantity of fodder, as a neighbour of mine has this spring raised from one plant, obtained from one stock, twenty pounds of fodder, covering an area of two feet. I have a very high opinion of it as a forage plant. My animals eat it with avidity, and are kept up all the time, and I find the manure extra more than pays

the labor of attendance. I am therefore preparing to increase my plantation," etc.

This speaks for itself. In June a farmer planted a root of Comfrey in the same soil as used for tomatoes. In three months it was measured and had grown to the enormous size of three and a-half feet in height, seventeen and a-half feet in circumference, each leaf weighing one ounce. This is with high cultivation.

Again, this spring, without manuring last year, he raised at the rate of twenty tons to the acre, the same as the gentleman above referred to. Why do not some of our farmers try this plant? The *English Field*, the *American Country Gentleman*, the *Genessee Farmer*, and many of the Canadian papers have spoken of this plant and in all cases its enormous yield of fodder has been well testified to, but being a new thing people seem to be chary of testing its qualities, yet it is cheap, and requires very little trouble to cultivate.

WE have received from the office, 37 Park Row, New York, a few numbers of a new publication, issued at \$2.00 a year, under the title of "LAND AND HOME." It gives earnest of good things. Dr. E. Lewis Sturtevant shows how to grow 100 bushels of corn per acre. We should be sorry to see any of our readers in Nova Scotia try to do it, as we can raise more profitable crops; but the article may be read with profit by all notwithstanding. Dr. S. shows that deep ploughing, so universally recommended, is a delusion in America, that it is an outcome of dense population and "intensive" culture. Corn is a shallow feeder, its roots also go deep; they grow most rapidly in a temperature of 96° to 100°; they consist of a mass of fine rootlets near the surface, the "feeders;" and others, coarser ones, running straight down, the "drinkers." Put some superphosphate on a few plants, and note how, after a short time, the feeders have increased. Dr. Sturtevant's experiments result practically thus: "the nearer the surface the richer the soil;" at or near the surface is the "feeding ground" of the plant. By shallow ploughing we put the richer surface soil into the position where the heat of the sun can stimulate the roots the most toward feeding upon the plant nutrient contained therein. The same reasoning tells us that the land requires deep pulverisation so that other roots can pass downward, and thus secure the crop a supply of water during droughts. Another reason,—rains in summer penetrate only a few inches; plant food requires water for its solution; the upper layer receives the water the most times, and thus the manurial substances in it have the best opportunity of being dissolved and made available for absorption

by the plant. In garden culture the whole depth of the land can be made fertile to excess, but in field culture we want to put the rich soil where it will do the most good, and to obtain not the largest crop absolutely, but the largest that it is possible to grow profitably.

In an article on Dairy Exports, Mr. X. A. Willard states that the quantity of cheese in the country to day is much less than last year at this time, and that there is every reason to believe that our markets will be bare before next crop is ready for shipment. Dr. E. L. Startevant makes the startling announcement: "Jersey milk not good for infants." Its peculiarity lies in its abundance of cream, and indigestibility as compared with other milks. The scouring of Jersey calves, which has led to the use of nurse cows of other breeds, is attributed to this cause; it is not the richness of the milk, but the difficulty of digesting the Jersey curd. Dr. S. says the Jersey is not to be chosen as a "family cow," if the family include infants and growing children.

Land and Home, in the valuable character of its original information, its full market reports, and fresh news, approaches nearer in style to the English *Agricultural Gazette* than any other American paper. The besetting sin of American agricultural papers is that they rehash "science" after it has been filtered successively through German, French, and English publications, and give paltry details of experiments by ignorant persons to determine what has been determined years before by exact methods in the hands of competent experimenters.

We observe that Rugia Niblett, one of the Short Horn cows figured in the first coloured plate of Sheldon's "Dairy Farming," now being published, has gone to South Australia, one of a lot of 19. She is 7 years old. 13 head have been shipped from England to Buenos Ayres, 3 to Germany, and 12 to New Zealand. These notes are from Mr. Thornton's Short Horn Circular, just received. In running over the list of sales there is some difficulty in distinguishing between the cattle and their owners,—the former usually have the advantage in aristocracy of nomenclature. Sir Charles has been sold to Mr. Pugh, Miss Bampton to J. W. Fair, Sir Ormiskirk Gwynne to Wm. Starkie, Sulieman Pacha to the Belgian Government, Lord Aberdeen to Mr. Andrew, Lord Bennet to the Duke of Northumberland, Lord Oxford to the Misses Burrell, and so on.

HERE are some of the names of the Marquis of Exeter's Short Horns:—Sea Gull, Sea Bird, Sea Lark, Great Northern, Diver. His Lordship is no doubt either an ornithologist or a sea-side sportsman.

THE following short article, which we have slightly abridged from the *Country Gentleman*, is worth a year's subscription to every farmer who reads it, and acts upon it:—

Farmers who intend to grow mangolds, &c., next year, should by all means mix up the horse and cow manure with some from the hogs also, and give it a turn over; shaking it all thoroughly together so that it will become a mellow mass of short stuff, which will be food for the young plants at once and force them from the start.

There is a great mistake in the management of manure in general, first of all a fear of the labor of turning and mixing; it is asserted it will last much longer. It is really applied for the purpose of acting immediately, and instead of lasting ought to be used up directly for the production of a heavy crop. In England, instead of scattering broadcast either farmyard manure or concentrated fertilizers, the first is put in ridges straight as a line, 27 inches apart, so that the young plants strike their rootlets right into the friable dung which was evenly spread in the open ridges, and then the ridge is turned back over it. Often with the same drill superphosphate is run from a separate hopper, and runs in the same channel with the seed, so that the plants are doubly stimulated. By this method of planting roots the crop obtains the full benefit of all the fertility in the applications, and upwards of twenty tons of succulent food are grown per acre, and are converted into manure. Where the crops are eaten on the land by sheep, the soil is sometimes too rich, and in many instances part of the crop is fed at the homestead to young cattle and fattening ones, and then the portion left gives all the droppings necessary for growing as much barley or oats as can stand on the ground.

In England the root crop is first in importance, every farmer putting all the manure he can make and collect together on the land coming in rotation for that crop, and when it does not hold out, there is no hesitation in resorting to artificial manure. A heavy crop of mangolds, swedes and turnips, insures good crops of barley, clover and wheat, and a failure gives an opposite result; consequently roots are the mainstay of success, and without them sheep husbandry and stock farming could not succeed. It is of no use to ignore roots, for good stock farming cannot be conducted without growing and feeding them. Sheep will not thrive and produce the best quality of wool and mutton without roots. In a few years it will be a matter of surprise that roots were not sooner appreciated here. Any farmer's intelligence and capability can be estimated by seeing his root crop, and his standing and good sense may be known by the importance he attaches to growing the best of this nutritious and health-giving food.

THE Yarmouth *Herald* says that Capt. David Beveridge, of Little River, N. S., this season raised a crop of potatoes of the "Prolific" variety. Seventeen of the potatoes, which grew in one hill, weighed eight pounds, three weighing two and three quarter pounds. Two crops of potatoes had previously been raised on the same ground, which was a deep loam. Last fall a heavy fire reduced the loam to ashes, which thus produced a heavier crop than before, and the potatoes are pronounced of an excellent quality, far superior to any raised on the spot when the ground was new.

IN the Arts Department of the Provincial Exhibition a square of silk cloth was exhibited from L. A. Stapley, Esq., of Promo, Burma. The following account of the silk culture and manufacture in that region is not without interest. It is condensed slightly from the *Rangoon Weekly Review*. It may not be generally known that we have in the vicinity of Halifax a native silk worm that produces much stronger silk than any made either in India or Europe, but it has not yet been utilized except as a curiosity in the making of fishing lines, &c.:

The cultivation of the worm and manufacture of silk are confined to a distinct tribe of the Burmese who are called *Yabaings* or *Labaings*, and who are regarded as a low order, in consequence of their industry, which, involving as it does, the death of the chrysalis of the moth in its cocoon, is regarded by orthodox Burmese as a sin. The silk growers live in villages by themselves and hold little social intercourse with their neighbours, in order to avoid taunts and allusions to the wickedness of their calling. Nearly all the silk produced is consumed in local manufactures, very little is exported, and that only now and again.

All processes are carried on in the ordinary bamboo dwelling-houses of the country, which are open to all the elements, as well as dirty and smoke begrimed. The worms and cocoons share the accommodation with the family of the house-owner, and live and thrive in close proximity to the place where the culinary and other domestic operations of the household are carried on. The plant of a Burmese silk filature is simple and inexpensive, consisting only of the following articles,—a number of circular flat trays with raised edges, made of plaited slips of bamboo of diameter varying from 2 to 4 feet; some circlelets of palm leaves, 3 or 4 inches across; a few pieces of coarse cotton cloth in strips; a common cooking pot; a small bamboo reel; a round block of wood with handle, turning on wooden or bamboo supports, and a two-pronged fork.

The different processes commencing from the time when the eggs are laid are as follows:—The males are thrown away and the females placed on pieces of coarse cotton cloth, within palm leaf circlelets. They deposit their eggs on the cloth. It takes the moths a whole day to lay all their eggs, after which they are thrown away. The pieces of cloth with the eggs are wrapped up and left to themselves. About the eighth day the eggs are hatched, the cloths are then opened out and the worms begin to appear in the shape of tiny black specks. Hatched in the morning the worms are fed in the evening with finely chopped up pieces of the tenderest mulberry leaves. This goes

on for four or five days when the worms become torpid and moult. During the larval existence of some 30 days there are four moultings. All this time the worms need very little care. They live and thrive on heaps of excreta and dead leaves, and only need to have the trays covered with a piece of cloth to protect them from their enemy, the blue-bottle fly. After the fourth moult they become "ripe," that is assume a pinkish hue. They are then picked out by the hand and thrown in heaps on to a small tray in which they are conveyed to the cocooning tray, some 3 or 4 feet in diameter, within which a long ribbon of plaited bamboo, a couple of inches wide, is wound round and round, with its edges on the flat of the tray. The worms are scattered over the cocooning tray, and here they gradually find their way between the bamboo rolls, and spin. The cocoons are generally yellow, some few are pure white, and are completed in 24 hours.

Reeling is performed in the following manner:—In two or three days those cocoons from which the best silk is to be reeled are taken out and placed in a pot (the family cooking pot) of water, which is allowed to simmer over a slow fire. Above the pot is placed a pair of cross sticks from which a bamboo reel is suspended, and beside the pot is a wooden cylinder turning on a trestle. Some filaments of silk are caught and drawn out of the pot, run over the bamboo reel and fastened to the cylinder. Then the reeler, generally a woman with an iron fork in one hand and the handle of the cylinder in the other, keeps catching up the filaments in the pot with the fork and reeling them on to the cylinder. The thread is coarse and dirty. The silk in the pot being exhausted, the denuded grubs are taken out and fried in oil to be eaten. A coarse silk is reeled off cocoons which have been allowed to come to maturity, after the escape of the moth. These moths emerge in about eight days. The cycle of the Burman silk worm's existence then may be put down thus: Egg, 8 days, or 11 in cold weather; worm, 30 days; cocoon, 8 days; moth, 1 day; total 47 days.

The chief merit of the Burman silk worm is its extreme hardiness; but the coarseness of the fibre is against its exportation, although it answers very well for the heavy manufactures of local looms. There certainly is much room for improvement in the rearing of the worm as well as in the reeling of the fibre. Some Indian seed, kindly sent us by Mr. A. Blechynden, of the Agri-Horticultural Society of India, for experiment here, did remarkably well, producing cocoons, white and yellow, of double the size of the cocoons procured for us from Prome. The quality of the fibre, too, was very

much finer. There really is no reason why the silk industry should not be taken up with profit all over the Pegu division. The mulberry, on the leaves of which the worms feed, is easily propagated by means of cuttings, and does very well on alluvial plains. The Burmese have a belief that the silk produced on the hill-sides is superior to that from the plains; and perhaps hill silk will be always superior to the out-turn of predial cultivation, but certainly the fibre of the plains can be very much improved. And if it is, why, a fine field for profit is always to be found in Europe, which cannot be supplied with too much silk.

The *North American Review* for December is specially noteworthy for the timeliness of every one of the articles which it contains. The Hon. George S. Boutwell considers the causes which indispose young men of culture and ability to take an active part in the conduct of political affairs. These causes are manifold, among them being the very strong inducements offered in a new country by various other pursuits, the evil repute which has come upon political and official life from the misdeeds of tricksters and office-holders, and so on. Nevertheless, Mr. Boutwell contends that in no sphere of life is there opportunity for a larger or more enduring influence than in politics or government, and that consequently there can be no more praiseworthy ambition for the capable young man than that which aims at distinction through political service. An irreverent author contributes an essay on "The Religion of To-day." This writer, after surveying the intellectual attitude of our age toward the ancient dogmas of Christianity, and showing the progressive elimination of tenets heretofore reckoned among the essentials of religious belief, contends that there will still remain a faith that the throne of the moral universe will stand unshaken before all discussion. Prof. Bonamy Price raises the question, "Is Political Economy a Science?" He accepts as an adequate and accurate definition of Science "the filtration of causes through common observation to things beyond," and then declares that Political Economy is not a science, but only a body of systematic knowledge. Dr. George M. Beard compares the *physique* of Englishmen and Americans, and corrects many erroneous opinions on that subject which have obtained currency on both sides of the Atlantic. Mr. Cuthbert Mills, in the first of a series of papers on "The Permanence of Political Forces," breaks ground for a very instructive philosophico-historical inquiry touching the political status of the United States. The book reviews are by John R. G. Hassard.

"CIRENCESTER," the Agricultural College of England, has a great capacity for posing itself before the public in original attitudes. First we had the doings of its early students, fellows, it was said, who were sent there because they were too wild for Oxford or Cambridge. Then came the crisis, when the Professors took up their hats and left the Principal alone in his glory. More recently Professor Church, after long and faithful service as chemist, ventured to cultivate the affections of an estimable young lady, but the authorities object to married men as Professors, and he had either to resign his post or his intended wife. He resigned the post, and walked forth from under the grimy old rafters of that laboratory (originally a barn) a wiser and a happier man. Now we read in the papers that 21 students have been fined 50 guineas at the petty sessions, for burning a turnpike gate on the road between the College and the town, and breaking lamps. If the College authorities had allowed the petty sessions to put these young men inside a treadmill for a week, they would have had an opportunity of working off their wasteful exuberance of animal spirits; but instead of that they appear to have subjected them to a humbling process of mental depression, in order to moderate their physical activity, for we find an "appeal" made by the Rev. Vice-Principal on behalf of the penitent youths, an "admission" of their offences, and "on their behalf a most unqualified apology." They hang their heads, their fathers pay the fine of 50 guineas, and fellows in other Colleges who read the account ejaculate, Fools! why did they get caught; they will manage better next time.

The tenant farmers of England and Scotland number about 600,000, and employ a capital of \$1,500,000,000, but are scarcely represented in the Imperial Parliament. There are 187 members sitting for English counties, only one of these is a *bona fide* tenant farmer. The object of the Farmers' Alliance in England is to form an association so strong, that, no matter what government might be in power, they would be compelled to listen to the requirements of the farming interests. At a recent meeting held in Edinburgh, some of the leading Scotch farmers spoke in its favor, resolutions were passed, and members joined.

The English farmers, after a long season of rain, had at last a dry period for harvesting. The wheat crop is generally poor, showing in some cases a deficiency of 50 per cent. But the farmers are not discouraged, the fine dry autumn induced them to sow wheat largely again, trusting to a reduction of rents and better seasons.

THE following paragraphs relating to "Exhibitions," are reprinted in a slightly modified form from the INDUSTRIAL NEWS AND INVENTOR'S GUIDE, a publication whose writers are evidently abreast of the times:—

These are the days of exhibitions. The country fair and cattle show have expanded into State and International Exhibitions. It has become recognized as an axiom, that exhibitions are advertisements, and advertisements are new business. The first World's Fair at London was a vast enlightenment for the manufacturing nations. It showed what each could do, and made the starting-point for a prodigious race for the world's trade. The Centennial was the greatest advertisement this nation ever received. In like manner, the Paris Exposition was an immense advertisement for France, Germany, Austria, Russia, and the smaller nations of Europe. It was known that England could manufacture; the Exposition proved that they also were manufacturing states, each after its own manner. It likewise accentuated the advertisement we received at the Centennial.

It is said these exhibitions do not pay; but the fact remains that they do create new business. For this reason they are likely to be often repeated, and in some places to become permanent institutions, designed to exhibit, as it were, the daily progress of invention, improvement, and discovery.

It is a rule in business, that if you have anything to sell it must be advertised. It must be shown in the shop window or the newspaper or the buyer will never know of its existence, and certainly will not buy it. Certain things, like food or clothing, people seek whether advertised or not; but these things are always in such abundance and variety that the buyer usually buys what he sees in preference to what he wants and does not see. Exhibitions are simply advertisements, and it may be well to look at them from the buyer's point of view to see how they may best help the inventor, manufacturer, and dealer. To describe the whole art of conducting exhibitions would fill a book, and it must here suffice to examine a few points and show how to exhibit goods, machinery, and new inventions, in order to secure the greatest advantages of the advertisement.

An exhibition is a "show," and we can turn with profit to the showman for "points" in this business. A good theatrical manager recognizes that his public wants a really good show, comfortable surroundings, and moderate prices. So we find in a good theatre a well warmed and lighted room, good seats, carpets, hangings and fixtures of the best, a good

performance, and with the scale of prices adjusted to the cost of the work. Precisely in the same manner, an exhibition to be a success must be held in an attractive and comfortable building, with wide, smooth walks, plenty of seats, good ventilation and light, a low price of admission, and a really good display of pictures, machines, fruits, or other things on exhibition. At the Paris Exposition the French pictures hung in huge rooms meagrely decorated, and with only here and there a seat. The German art gallery was provided with plenty of seats and free catalogues for all. The English art rooms were like drawing rooms—abundant resting places, elegant decorations, and a profusion of flowers. The French rooms were well patronized, but the German rooms were crowded, and the English overflowing at all times. The reason was not in the display, but the manner of the display. The Paris Exposition was better than the Centennial because it was more compact; it required less fatigue to see it all; there was a profusion of seats, especially out of doors, and there was a studied effort to please, attract, and charm the visitors.

In the theatre, people meet to enjoy an intellectual entertainment, and it is essential that they be at ease or they cannot enjoy the performance. This you can prove for yourself by standing up through an opera. To examine a new piece of machinery is also an intellectual pleasure, and it is quite as important that the spectator be at ease as in witnessing a play. Jaded limbs, wearied eyes, awkward and uncomfortable positions, the heat and dust of a crowd, noise and confusion, are fatal to the exhibition. You may have the most novel and interesting invention known, but if your audience is weary, harassed, and physically or mentally ill at ease, your time and effort in showing the machine are practically thrown away. This is recognized in a general way, but to the extent desirable. The exhibitor who will take a lesson from the theatre, and provide every convenience for his visitors, will get the best return for his trouble. If it were possible, a new invention that must be seen and explained to be understood should be placed in a good light, in a quiet room, and before a small audience seated in a semicircle round it. For some inventions it would pay to show them at stated times in a small hall, where they could be illustrated by pictures and models of all the parts in detail, the machine itself and its work, and fully explained by a competent lecturer. The marvellous spread of the phonograph and its almost universal inspection by the people of this country was due almost wholly to the skill of a practical theatrical

manager who exhibited the machine in small halls throughout the country. Had it been placed on a table in some machinery department of an exhibition, and shown in the usual way to the few people who had the strength and courage to crowd up to the stand, its inventor would never have won the fame and money the machine brought him.

Suppose the Exhibitor has some single article or tool, a new style of scissors,* for instance, and he wishes to get the greatest possible return for the advertisement. The usual way is to display the scissors arranged in geometrical patterns on a back ground, with the warning, "Please not touch;" or even in a glass case, so that the people cannot touch whether they please or not. All this shows the exhibitor is profoundly ignorant of human nature. As a general rule, scissors do not arrange themselves in geometrical patterns, and such an arrangement is a distraction and an impertinence. Does the exhibitor wish to show his scissors or his skill in arranging them in fancy patterns? The patterns distract the attention from the chief point, which is scissors, and therefore they are an impertinence. In the Tower of London the guides point out to the visitor that the guns are arranged as flowers, feathers, and other fantastic designs; while, after all, these patterns are nothing, and only serve to take his attention from the real thing—guns.

The dismal legend "Do not touch" has been the ruin of many an exhibition. The only way we have of recognizing the outside world is through the senses, and touch is one of them. To forbid the use of this sense, except in the case of fragile goods, is simply to reduce the benefit of the advertisement. The coming scissors-maker, bent on showing his new and valuable style of scissors, will arrange seats before a large table, and on the table he will place dozens of his best scissors, with an invitation to all to see, handle, and try them on. He will provide cloth or other material, on which the scissors may be tried, to show how beautifully they fit the hand, how easily they work. Behind the table he will place an attractive young woman to show the scissors, to explain their advantages. This young person will have an abounding patience, a lively tongue; will be modest but bright, and have a profound belief in the value of these particular scissors. The people, at ease physically, pleased with the winning manner of the attendant, and charmed with what they can touch and see with freedom, will desire to own and keep such very superior

* Where the word "scissors" occurs our readers may read "skates."

scissors. All right. The price is so much—help yourself. Of course, some scissors will be dulled, and some may be lost or injured. What of that? Charge it to advertising, for it will make a good return.

At the Paris Exposition the French exhibitors lost one-third of the benefit of the show through their ignorance of national habits. Late risers themselves, they thought all the world breakfasted at noon, after the Parisian manner, and it was often twelve or one o'clock before a single attendant could be found to explain the new tools and machinery. The English and Americans, who were the best buyers, came early in the morning, and finding the French departments abandoned by every one save the watchman, went elsewhere with their orders. No exhibit should be left for a moment without an attendant competent to explain its aim and use. The purchaser really desirous of getting the best often goes to the hall very early in the morning, and if he finds nobody on hand to assist him he is likely to move on and never come back again. More than this, the attendant must be, of all things, attentive, polite, with inexhaustible patience and good nature. If to these can be added an attractive person and winning manners, so much the better. Your wise exhibitor knows men and women, and he wisely uses their innocent liking for good looks and pleasant address to his own advantage.

Every machine that can move should move. There is nothing so attractive as power in action. Keep your machinery going all the time, even if only one visitor is near. He may be a buyer; and even if he is not sure he is to tell what he saw to those at home, and this may lead to new business. If the machine produces things, such as cards from a printing-press or bits of cloth sewn in a sewing-machine, give the samples of the work away. Nothing speaks so well for a machine as the thing produced upon it. At the Centennial the glass-making plant was crowded all day with visitors eager to buy the things (often of no value) they saw produced under their own eyes. This desire to see things work and to have the results of the work is a natural instinct, and the wise exhibitor uses this fact in human nature instead of trying to oppose it. Visitors to exhibitions are, it may be said without disrespect, like children. They have come expecting to be pleased, and if they are forbidden to touch, not allowed to see things in operation, and forbidden to buy the things they see made, they will soon lose all interest in the display and go home, and with childlike innocence report that it is a very poor show.

Cards and circulars also please for the same reason. They are mementoes of the visit, and while often of very little money value, are treasured in memory of the event, and thus the advertisement lasts much longer. Keep this always in view. The visitor is ready and eager to be instructed in the new things. He has tramped about through the halls till he is weary and perhaps irritable. The slightest display of impatience, churlishness, and ill manners on the part of the exhibitor is resented. Were the visitor at ease, seated in comfort, less weary with sight-seeing, he would not mind many things that he now receives as a personal affront. The exhibitor, to succeed, must observe these facts and act accordingly. While exhibitions are conducted as they now are, the visitors will always be in a far from pleasant frame of mind after the first hour, and all this tells against the exhibitor. Put yourself in his place, and then see what you think of the average exhibition and exhibitor.

It would seem as if the best way to conduct exhibitions of new inventions would be to have halls attached to the show, and at stated times to invite the public in, and, having given all a good seat in a quiet and comfortable room, to explain by a lecture, fully illustrated by drawings, plans, samples, and machines in operation, the merits of the new invention. A hall seating two hundred people could be used in this way ten or twelve times a day, and the invention could be laid before the public in a manner that would be ten times more effective than the usual way of placing the novelty on the table among a vast number of other things, in the midst of noise, dust, bad air, heat, and confusion. This has been tried at one exhibition, and with excellent results, though much of the benefit was lost from the mistake of charging a fee to enter the hall. Something of this kind is already in contemplation at the American Industrial Institute in New York, and very good results are anticipated.

It is asserted that the Poultry Shows in England have developed feathers at the expense of flesh, that prize dorkings, for example, are not as good table birds now as the common dorkings were ten years ago, and are still in country places where there are no shows. Prizes for dressed chickens would tend to remedy the evil.

We have to record the death of Mr. Maskelyne, keeper of the Mineralogical department of the British Museum. Prof. Heddle, of St. Andrew's, Scotland, the most accomplished Mineralogist of Europe, is a candidate for the vacant post.

SOME years ago we received from Governor LeFroy, of Bermuda, through the kindness of the Rev. Prof. Wilson, of King's College, cuttings of some night-flowering cacti. One of these, which has been for some time under the care of Mr. Power of the Public Gardens, produced a magnificent blossom, which opened about 12 o'clock at night, and, although kept in a shaded room, faded early next forenoon. It proves not to be the common night-flowering cactus, *Cereus grandiflorus*, but an allied and rarer species of more gigantic proportions, viz., *Cereus triangularis* of Haworth, a native of the West Indies, introduced to England so long ago as 1690, and now probably lost. It is figured in the Botanical Magazine, tab. 1884. The plant consists of a very robust branched triangular stem, with a phylloid surface, as is the manner of cacti, of a lively green colour. It is an upright grower, and has no spines. The following description of the flower was taken at midnight, when it was fully expanded:—

From the narrow tubular bract-covered base of the flower to the upper margin of the cup of petals, measures $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches; the flower measures across in extreme breadth from point to point of the ligulate petals 13 inches; these are spread out and 26 in number, pale yellowish; the inner petals are much broader oblanceolate, of more delicate texture, and pure white, erect, cupped, 20 in number. The pistil long, exactly $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter, ending at top in a fringe of stigmatic rays nearly horizontal, 2 inches across. The stamens are shorter than the pistil, several hundred in number, forming a most beautiful fringe work inside the flower. It has a heavy odour, not unlike Phallus.

ACCORDING to Mason, the farmer occupies the most important station in society. It is to his exertions that the support, the food, the employment of every other rank is owing. To the surplus produce of the farmer we owe the institution and preservation of distinct employment, the origin of commerce and manufactures, and the existence of government. It is the surplus produce of the farmer that sets the wheel of manufacture in motion; that bids sails of commerce whiten every sea; that gives religion her ministers, education her students; that supports the busy population of the crowded city, and that lends to Government its resources, its energy, its very being.—Let the farmer but raise only enough for his own support, and the mighty heart, which, by its beatings, communicates life to every extremity, would be chilled, and every member of the great body politic palsied in a moment.

THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER.

How brightly, through the mist of years,
My quiet country home appears !
My father busy all the day
In ploughing corn and raking hay ;
My mother moving with delight
Among her milk-pans, silver bright ;
We children, just from school set free,
Filling the garden with our glee.
The blood of life was flowing warm
When I was living on the farm.

I hear the sweet church going bell,
As o'er the fields its music fell ;
I see the country neighbours round
Gathering beneath the pleasant sound.
They stop awhile beside the door,
To talk their homely matters o'er—
The springing corn, the ripening grain,
And "how we need a little rain ;"
A "little sun would do no harm
We want good weather for the farm."

When autumn came, what joy to see
The gathering of the busy bee ;
To hear the voices keeping tune,
Of girls and boys beneath the noon ;
To mark the golden corn-ears bright,
More golden in the yellow light !
Since I have learned the ways of men,
I often turn to these again,
And feel life wore its highest charm
When I was living on the farm.

— From "Poems of Home Life."

At a recent dinner of the export cattle dealers of Toronto, reported in the *Maritime Farmer* of Fredericton, we find it stated that Mr. Hall recommended Canadian cattle raisers to endeavor to get an equal price with the English and Scotch beef of like quality, by keeping up the quality of the cattle that they send across the Atlantic. There can be no doubt of the propriety of this. The speaker said they should make it a point to breed a heavy grade of cattle, feed them well and give them comfortable quarters during the winter. He was of the opinion that they would do far better to feed the grain than to sell it, and thus prevent any failure that might arise by sending to the market half-fed animals. This point, said Mr. Hall, should be impressed upon the farmers most earnestly, for their opportunities were most excellent, as there was now no prejudice against Canadian cattle, which really came to the markets in better condition than the Irish cattle did. A better breed of sheep was also desirable. Sometimes the very "outcasts" of the country were sent across. This did not pay and was a damage to the trade. Exporters should send none but the best, and preference was given to wethers. The best prices would be secured for good sheep. Will our farmers make a note of this ?

In reply to a question, he said there are plenty of half-fed cattle offering, but they are not taken, for we cannot use them.

MR. BARIO GOULD, in his new book on Germany, says that the agricultural population are, as a rule, happier than the manufacturing, and draws the melancholy conclusion that the commercial prosperity of a country and the sum of happiness of its people vary in inverse ratio. The peasant forms the arm, muscle, and good heart of the country. The moral degeneration of the North German cities is appalling. His opinion of the German people, male and female, is very decided. An Englishwoman is lovely, a Frenchwoman is charming, but a German woman is angelic ! The men have right principle, steady endurance, genius and power ; but the diamond needs to be cut, the silver refined. German school-boys have no public games, and don't get common sense and knowledge of the world like the English. Certain it is that the most productive fields in the world are the sandy deserts of North Germany. We commend to our local legislators a careful consideration of the opening sentence of this paragraph. The Dominion Government can deal with the N. P., but our Local Government have the interests of our farmers and "peasantry" in hand, and can do much to promote the happiness of the people in general by directing their energies into proper channels.

KOUMISS, a fermented liquor made originally by the Tartars from mare's milk, is now prepared from cow's milk, and is strongly recommended for medicinal use, and to displace intoxicating drinks. It appears that not only in Europe, but at Sydney and in the United States, there are koumiss factories, and koumiss cure establishments. The koumiss is made in this way : fresh mare's milk is diluted with a sixth part of water, then an eighth part of the sourest cow's milk added ; this rests for twenty-four hours in a moderately warm place ; when soured it is beaten with a churn staff and left as before ; again beaten, etc., until it becomes homogeneous. It is agitated every time it is used. It has a slightly acidulous, sweetish taste, savouring somewhat of buttermilk, and leaves a fresh very agreeable after taste, and is more effervescent than champagne. It was exhibited in the Agricultural Hall, London, as a teetotal drink.

ARRANGEMENTS are in progress for holding the Royal Agricultural Show of England at Derby next year. A subscription of four thousand pounds is being raised in the locality by the Town Council.

THE Champion Potato appears to be the great potato in England now,—one that grows well and resists the rot.

BUCKWHEAT requires peculiar treatment in the harvesting, and those who are not acquainted with it are apt to make mistakes. It should be cut before it is fully matured, and its habit of throwing out blossoms at the top until killed by the frost is apt to mislead. When the frost is expected the crop should be cut, and many immature grains will become perfect in a few days during which it is drying in the field. Whenever the lower branches are well loaded with ripe grains it may be cut. This should be done with the cradle, and while the stalks are damp with dew, or moist after a shower. The grains are loosely attached to their stalks and are easily shaken off in the cutting or raking unless these are carefully done. After the swaths have lain a few days for the grains to ripen, the buckwheat is raked up into bunches, and these are set up in gravels or loose stooks, without being bound, the tops being gathered together as much as possible. In this condition the crop remains until it is threshed. As it heats very rapidly it should never be put into the stack or moved away into a barn, as has been sometimes done by experienced farmers. When the buckwheat is sufficiently cured and dry and the unripe grains have matured it may be threshed by treading out with horses, with the flail or the threshing machine. The first buckwheat flour in market brings the best price, and it is not unusual for the price to fall one half in a few days after the first demanded for new flour has been met. It is a crop to dispose of as soon as possible, at least as regards that intended for sale. When taken to the mill for grinding a dry, windy day should be chosen, as the best quality of flour can be made only in such weather ; indeed, few millers will grind this grain, unless obliged to do so, in any other weather than that described.—*Vermont Record and Farmer*.

THE total acreage of potatoes in Cambridgeshire and Lincoln this year was 47,000, an increase of nearly 3000 acres over last year. One-half of the total area has not reproduced the seed planted, —on which alone the loss will exceed 35 millions of dollars. These facts are taken from an article in the *Agricultural Gazette*, in which it is remarked that in Scotland oats seem to be the only good crop this year. The potato crop is small and the tubers smaller. The price is £5 to £5 10s. per ton.

GLASS mortars are now made of toughened glass, by plunging into oil while still at a red heat.

WE regret to see notice of the death of Prof. Clerk Maxwell, one of the ablest physicists of the day, appointed to his chair in Cambridge only eight years ago.

In the south and west of Ireland the general harvest is inferior, the potato crop not more than half average; oats are good; the supply of turf is everywhere deficient, from which much suffering and sickness are anticipated; farm property is difficult to sell or rent, the pauper rate has risen in some unions to four shillings in the pound, and the amount of pauperism is 11 per cent. above the corresponding period last year.

There is at present a shipment of live cattle on the way from Melbourne, Australia, to Liverpool. Cost per head in Australia four pounds, freight ten pounds.

RAMS FOR SALE.

TWO thorough bred LINCOLN RAMS, aged respectively 6 and 4 years, in fine condition.

One thorough bred LINCOLN LAMB. Two very fine well-bred SHROPSHIRE LAMBS, from imported ram.

Terms to suit the times.

EDWARD BLANCHARD.

Ellershouse, Oct. 22, 1879. dec

JERSEY BULL 'ANTELOPE,' 1927.

THE subscriber offers for sale the above animal. Having used him the past season, and having a young bull to take his place, he will sell him low. He took first prize at Canada Provincial last year, and was bred by J. Milton Mackie, President of the American Jersey Cattle Club, and cost \$300 at one year old.

EDWARD BLANCHARD.

Ellershouse, Oct. 22, 1879. dec

AYRSHIRE BULL FOR SALE.

I HAVE a very nice Ayrshire Bull, "WALLACK" seven years old, girth, seven feet; weight, 1600 lbs. He is perfectly kind, and a sure stock getter. I would either sell or exchange. If you know any party wishing to buy or exchange, please communicate with me, or advertise him in JOURNAL.

S. BURRELL, Jr.

Yarmouth, N. S., Aug. 6th, 1879. sep

MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEYS

A FEW very fine birds for sale, at reasonable prices.

W. H. BLANCHARD.

Windsor, Oct. 15th, 1879. nov 1

PEKIN DUCKS.

WE have raised some extra fine birds from our celebrated prize strain of Pekin Ducks, which we offer at low prices, if applied for at once.

Also, a few extra Black Red Game Chickens.

MACKINLAY, RICHIEY & CO.,

Lock Box 50, Halifax, N. S. sep

W. E. STARRATT,
MAPLE GROVE,

Paradise, Annapolis County.

BREEDER of thorough-bred AYRSHIRE CATTLE from Imported Stock. Some extra young Bulls for sale.

TERMS MADE TO SUIT PURCHASERS.

FOR SALE.

THE thoroughbred Short Horn Bull DUFFERIN, Red, white heart in forehead, calved 7th June, 1879. Sire, Colchester King, 278. Dam, Red Rose, 126. Apply to ROSS CHURMAN, Kentville, or PROF. LAWSON, Halifax. nov 1

FOR SALE.

THE pure bred Jersey Bull ROUND ROBIN. Took First Prize in his class at the Provincial Exhibitions of 1876 and 1877. Has not been exhibited since. Aged four years. This Bull has proved a sure stock getter, is of good size, form and colour, and is descended from noted prize takers at the Jersey Royal Agricultural Show in 1870, on both the sire and dam's side.

For price, terms, &c., apply to GEORGE D. MCKENZIE, Malagash, Cumberland Co.

nov 1--3m

FOR SALE.

THOROUGH-BRED Ellesmere Pigs from pure stock, four weeks old, by the Subscriber,

D. MCG. JOHNSON.

Brookland Farm, Stowiacke, Aug. 23rd, 1879. sep

SHORT-HORN STOCK.

THE Subscriber will offer for sale at the Provincial Exhibition to be held at Halifax, September 29th to October 3rd, 1879, a number of very fine young Bulls and Heifers, raised from Government imported stock, with good pedigrees, registered in the N. S. Stock Register.

Any Agricultural Society wishing to purchase will have a good opportunity of doing so, either at private sale or Public Auction.

F. C. EATON.

Lower Canard, N. S., Aug. 20th, 1879. sep

J. B. FRASER,

Shubenacadie, Colchester County,

BREEDER OF

Short Horn Durham Cattle, Shropshire Down Sheep and Ellesmere Pigs.

FOR SALE.—One Short Horn Bull, two years old; two Short Horn Bulls, one year old; two Short Horn Bulls, seven months old. All good animals, and of first-class pedigree, and on reasonable terms.

Shubenacadie, Oct. 29th, 1879. nov 1

LUCYFIELD STOCK FARM.

Short Horn Durham Cattle, AND AYRSHIRES.

FOR SALE:—Two SHORT-HORN BULLS, one AYRSHIRE Cow, one AYRSHIRE HEIFER. Terms to suit.

Apply to PROFESSOR LAWSON, Halifax, or at Lucyfield Farm, within 2 miles of Beaver Bank Station, and 4 1/2 miles from Bedford. dec 1

BROOKSIDE STOCK FARM.

AYRSHIRE CATTLE FOR SALE.

TWO very fine Ayrshire Bulls, fifteen and seventeen months old. Two Heifer Calves, five months old. All from imported stock, and registered in the Nova Scotia Stock Register.

Terms made to suit. Apply to J. A. McCURDY, Onslow, Colchester Co. nov 1

YEARLING SHORT HORN DURHAM BULL FOR SALE.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH.—Nova Scotia Register, No. 328. Roan, red and white. Calved Sept. 26, 1878. Bred by Professor Lawson, at Lucyfield Farm, Co. Halifax. She St. Nicholas, 266, took first prize at Truro, and was sold last year for \$500. Dam Cawood's Rose, imported. Sire Viscount Oxford, imported.

Dam Polly Vaughan, (imported from England), by Seventeenth Duke of Oxford, 25994, Eng. Herd Book.

gr d. Rose Gwynne 4th, by Duke of Cumberland, 21581.

5 gr d. Rose Gwynne 2nd, by General Jackson, 2nd, 17954.

5 5 gr d. Rose Gwynne by General Jackson, 14604.

5 5 5 gr d. Rosebud by Mango, 4359.

5 5 5 5 gr d. Cowslip by Wallace, 5386.

5 5 5 5 5 gr d. by Tom Gwynne, 5198.

5 5 5 5 5 5 gr d. by Marmion, 406.

5 5 5 5 5 5 5 gr d. bred by Mr. Matthews of Durham.

Price till 31st December, \$125. If not sold at that date the price will be raised.

Apply to PROFESSOR LAWSON, Halifax, or at Lucyfield Farm. nov 1

GROUND BONES! GROUND BONES!

LENGTHENED experience in Europe and the United States has shown this to be the most valuable fertilizer for every crop.

During the past season THE PROPRIETOR OF THE WELLINGTON TANNERY has totally altered his machinery for preparing this valuable manure, and is now prepared to supply Agricultural Societies and the public generally with

FINE GROUND BONES

of a quality far superior to any that can be imported.

PRICE—Delivered at Wellington Station—
Fine Ground Bones . . . \$35.00 per ton.
" . . . \$2.00 per cwt.

The machinery being now in thorough working order, orders will receive prompt attention and despatch.

As the supply of BONES in this Province obtainable for grinding is yet very limited, customers are requested to send forward their orders as early as possible, in order to ensure obtaining a supply for this year's crop.

Address: **MANAGER, WELLINGTON TANNERY, Oakfield, Halifax County.**

febl

ELLESMERE BOARS FOR SALE.

FOUR Thorough-bred Ellesmere Boars, raised from Stock imported from England. They are five months old, and will be sold together or singly, for \$20 each.

Societies requiring Boars should apply at once.

Oakfield, Co. Halifax, }
October 27th, 1879. }
COLONEL LAURIE, Oakfield. nov 1

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