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NOTICE TO AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

The Officers of Agricultural Societies are hereby notified that the Returns required by the Act, to entitle Societies to participate in the Annual Grant of the Legislature for 1867, require to be sent in to the Secretary of the Board, duly attested, not later than 1st October, 1867. By direction of the Board of Agriculture.

GEORGE LAWSON, Sec'y.

THE WEATHER AND CROPS.

Halifax, September 11, 1867.

The present season is a remarkable one, and the crops, now for the most part gathered in, are upon the whole highly satisfactory. Throughout the season, the temperature has been above the average, and cold periods have been neither so frequent nor so protracted as usual; there has likewise been an abundance of rain throughout the whole summer, not in Nova Scotia alone, but even in the driest parts of the Dominion. We now see the result of all this in the abundance of the crops. HAY was never more plentiful,

although those farmers who were late in harvesting lost some by the floods. Excellent hay has been selling in Pictou at \$7 per ton, and in Cumberland the price is stated at \$5. Although hay is so low in many parts of the Province, yet the railway freight rates of so bulky an article are too high to enable it to be brought into the city from any great distance.

Many farmers sowed patches of SPRING WHEAT this season, and so far as we have seen and heard, the most satisfactory returns have been obtained. We hear nothing of rust, mildew, weevil, or any other grain pest, this season.

WINTER RYE is not so well spoken of, and the cultivation of BARLEY does not seem to increase, although our climate and light gravelly soils are well adapted for it.

OATS are generally giving very heavy crops, both in straw and grain. Oats, like all other grains, will be of good quality this season, as well as abundant in quantity. FIELD PEAS have done well, and HORSE BEANS, not yet ready for reaping, look as if they would give a very large return. These beans are attacked by a small black aphid, which adheres in myriads to the tops of the stalks, but there is no cause of alarm on this account, as

the Horse Bean is always preyed upon by this insect, but seldom suffers injury.

ROOT CROPS have grown very well, especially turnips, parsnips, mangolds and carrots. But Potatoes will yield the poorest return of any field crop this season. They grew very much to stalk, and now the blight is spreading far and wide, and the tubers rotting fast. No doubt many farmers will have to take up their potatoes with all haste and feed them to animals, so as to secure some little benefit.

THE CROPS IN CAPE BRETON.

Sydney, 24th Aug., 1867.

DEAR SIR,—The long drouth which succeeded a very cold, wet spring, held out a gloomy prospect to our farmers, up to the middle of July. Grass and grain crops looked very shy. More genial weather has since followed—occasional showers, with heavy dews, have told well upon the grass lands, and we have succeeded in saving a very fair hay crop in excellent condition.

Oats and barley, although somewhat short in straw, give very fair promise.—Potatoes are entirely free from blight thus far, but do not yield well, from the great drouth and heat; and the same may

be said of vegetables generally. Rain is now falling in heavy showers and will, doubtless, change the appearance of things and stimulate our turnip crops. An acre of the Heligoland beans imported by the Board, which I have sown broadcast, look as well as any I have ever seen in the old Country, and, to all appearance, will answer well here. Fruit has fallen from the trees during the dry, hot weather; and, with the exception of plums, will not be as abundant as last year.

It is of interest to note that whilst rain has fallen so heavily to the westward, the general character of the season here has been drouth. Yours, &c.,

II. DAVENPORT.

[In a subsequent letter, 28th August, Mr. Davenport observes, that the hay harvest has turned out about an average, and that the potato blight is showing itself in several places.]

THE CROPS IN KING'S COUNTY.

ELIAS CALKINS, Esq., West Cornwallis, writes under date of 1st Sept., that hay has been an abundant crop, and mostly secured in good order, notwithstanding the wet weather. Grain also is a good crop, and potatoes never looked better.

JOHN FOSTER, Esq., of the same county, remarks: "As far as can be judged by present appearances of the crops in Aylesford, they never were much better; a few weeks of fine weather for harvesting and all will be secured."

CROPS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The last Monthly Report of the Agricultural Department, Washington, which embraces returns up to 30th July, shows that the various Farm Crops of the Republic are as satisfactory as those of the Dominion. The following is the official resume of the returns:—

"Never has the department been able to report so favorable a prospect for uniformly good crops since the establishment of the statistical division. While exaggerated statements have been made in influential papers, especially of the so-called failure of the wheat crop of last year, and the importation of wheat, in the face of the fact that twelve millions of dollars' worth of breadstuffs were exported in the first four months of 1867, immense numbers of immigrants were fed, a much larger amount of wheat used for seed than usual, with a surplus still remaining over sufficient to break numerous

speculators and several banks, it is gratifying to know that we shall have a surplus to more than make good the deficiency—not the "failure," for there never was a failure of the wheat crop in this country—of the last three crops of wheat. Four States—West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana—made but about half a crop. No other States were in that category, and Ohio, Missouri, and Kansas made a good crop. Instead of a deduction of fifty per cent., or ninety millions of bushels, which would at least have threatened a famine, scarcely more than a third of that deduction should be made. For three years past the product has been but about five bushels to each inhabitant. The crop of 1859, if the census returns are correct, was but five and a half bushels to each person. The promise for the present year is about six bushels.

Wheat.—The statistical returns for July shows an improvement in condition of winter wheat over last year, in every State but Texas, Nebraska, and Minnesota, the diminution in the latter case being but 4 per cent. The highest improvement is in Ohio, 160 per cent; Georgia, 96; West Virginia, 78; Tennessee, 72; Indiana, 54; Kentucky, 53; Michigan, 35; Vermont, 25; New Jersey, 25; New York, 17, &c. Spring wheat was a far less variable product last year, and there is consequently less variation in the figures used in the present comparison. All the States, however, except Vermont, New York, and Pennsylvania, show an increase on last year.

Corn.—The acreage in corn is unusually large, every State showing a material increase, except Maine, New Hampshire, New York, and South Carolina. In the southern States the increase ranges upwards to 102 per cent., as in Arkansas. The condition, as reported, is a little deficient in the northern and western States, on account of the lateness of the spring. With the continuance of the present weather there is ample opportunity to make up the entire deficiency, in which case the yield will be unprecedented.

Rye.—A glance at the tables will show the fine condition of this grain, and the remarkable uniformity of the improvement.

Barley.—The condition of this grain promises an increase of from ten to twenty per cent, in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, West Virginia, Kentucky, and Indiana, and 42 per cent. in Ohio. Most of the other States show some increase.

Oats.—The condition of oats points to a full average in the West, particularly in Wisconsin and Minnesota, also in

Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, and the South; slightly less than last year in Maine, Vermont, New York, and Kentucky.

Pastures and hay.—These crops are almost universally large, from an average up to 15, 20, and even 30 per cent. above.

Potatoes.—The report of acreage of potatoes indicates a larger area planted in every State, except Maine and New York. The condition is also above an average with a few exceptions, among which are New York, Ohio, and Indiana.

Fruits.—Peaches are so exceptional in their successful seasons and localities that estimates for States can scarcely be made with accuracy. New Jersey, as indicated by very general returns, shows 63 per cent. improvement over last year; Maryland 25; Delaware 150; Virginia 35; Michigan 127. In other States estimates are given upon whatever data was received, generally showing a considerable increase over last year. Apples were promising in portions of New England, the Alleghany region, and the West. Grapes are more uniform in averages of States, generally appearing unusually well. It has been a more successful year for strawberries than usual, as a study of the tables will show.

Sorghum.—The sorghum crop is generally returned in comparatively poor condition, with lower figures than any other crop. Ohio and Indiana indicate a deficiency in acreage of 14 per cent., and in condition of 10 per cent. All the principal sorghum growing States show a similar state of facts.

Tobacco is much like sorghum, manifesting a decline in acreage and generally in condition.

Cotton.—There is an increase of acreage in North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Arkansas. Texas, 10.1; Mississippi, 9.4; Louisiana, 8.1. The average is about as last year. There is a slight difference, as reported, in favor of the present crop. The department estimates made last October, of 1,835,000 bales, proved to be singularly accurate for approximate calculations of so early a date, though they were severely criticised by northern and southern speculators, some of whom publicly acknowledged their error after the crop was sold. It is too early to predict the successful avoidance of all the numerous enemies of cotton. Had the last crop been a good one it would have yielded 2,500,000 bales; a very good one would have realized 3,000,000. Such results are possible this year.

Wool.—An examination of this item of the tables will show that losses of sheep, unthrifty condition, and a wet spring have had an influence both upon numbers and weight of fleece, and will lead to the conclusion that our wool clip of the present year is not materially larger than that of last year."

NOVA SCOTIA DOG, PIGEON, AND
POULTRY CLUB.

This Club will hold its first Exhibition at the Skating Rink during the first week in October, when prizes to a large amount are to be given for Dogs, Poultry of all kinds, Pigeons, Singing and Ornamental Birds, Rabbits and fancy animals. The Prize List is printed in full in the leading newspapers of Halifax.

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICUL-
TURAL EXHIBITIONS IN SCOT-
LAND.

The British Association for the Advancement of Science meets this year at Dundee. The Agricultural, Horticultural and Poultry Societies have embraced the opportunity to get up grand Exhibitions during the sitting of the Scientific Congress. The sheds for the cattle cover a space of $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

EXHIBITION AT KINGSTON,
ONTARIO.

The Annual Exhibition of the Provincial Agricultural Association of Ontario, (formerly Upper Canada,) will be held during the week commencing 23rd Sept. It is held this year at Kingston, where there is a Crystal Palace erected by the city, and extensive cattle sheds and fields for promenade and trotting.

EXHIBITION AT BUFFALO.

A great Agricultural Exhibition is to come off at Buffalo during the first week of October. It is to occupy an enclosed field of 60 acres.

HOW THINGS ARE DONE AT
VIENNA.

In view of the forthcoming Provincial Exhibition of Nova Scotia, we would direct attention to the following extract from a Blue Book, just issued, in which Prof. Wilson describes the Austrian Agricultural Exhibitions;—

"There were one or two points of difference which, I think, we may glean from them and engraft with advantage on our own. The one has reference to the issue of tickets of admission for the whole period of the meeting; the other to the mode of distribution of the prizes.

"Many persons are willing to purchase the right of free entry at a cost far higher than they would be disposed to incur were they to be called upon to pay each time they wished for admission. It is a privilege that they are willing to pay for; and the oftener they exercise it the better, as they not only increase the number

of visitors, but frequently act as inducements to others to enter, who would not have done so without some such determining agency.

"The arrangements for, and the distribution of, the prizes in the cattle classes were very effective, and together formed a very interesting and attractive ceremonial. The prizes were awarded by the juries in the usual manner, and the awards were affixed on the stalls at the head of the animals thus selected. These notices gave those interested in the matter good opportunities of inspection and inquiry on any points they wished. On the last day of their exhibition, the prize animals,—horses and cattle,—were led from their stalls up to the tribune, where the prize itself, whether in money or medals, was handed to the owner or his representative; the different classes of animals succeeding each other till all were satisfied.

"On the present occasion, the whole proceedings were not only interesting but extremely picturesque. The Hungarian and Slavonian grooms and herdsmen, in their gay and striking costumes, followed by the dairymaids of Salzburg and the Tyrol, in their quaint and beautiful national attire, each dressed a *rigueur*, and each leading a favourite animal, produced a very striking pictorial effect, which was well set off by the serried background of eager spectators, who surrounded the ring in front of the tribune, where the owners of the animals received the prizes awarded. It was the intention of the Emperor to have been present and have distributed the prizes himself. Circumstances, however, required his presence elsewhere, and the Archduke Karl Ludwig acted as his representative, being attended on the tribune by the jurors, the committee, and the leading members of the Imperial Agricultural Society.

"Although to one accustomed to the advanced farming of this country the exhibition presented no marked novelties or improvements, either in the processes of tillage or the practices of breeding, still we could not but mark with satisfaction the estimation in which agriculture is held in Austria by the highest in the land, and be gratified by the encouragement that is given to it by the State, not only as regards its practical development, but also as regards the inculcation and diffusion of principles upon which a sound and successful practice can alone be based."

DISEASED PORK.—TRICHINOSIS.

Prof. Delpach, of the Paris Faculty of Medicine, and Prof. Reynal, of the Imperial Veterinary School at Alfort, who were charged with a mission to study the above-named disease in Germany, both in human beings and mammals, have just presented to the Minister of Agriculture, Commerce and Public Works a report of

the results of their investigations at Huy, (Belgium), Hanover, Magdeburg, Berlin, Halle, Dresden, Leipsic, and Mayence. To render their investigations more complete, they solicited and obtained the co-operation of most of the eminent German physicians who had made the disease in question their special study. The chief practical facts ascertained are as follows: The epidemic, trichinosis, lately prevalent in Germany has now almost entirely disappeared. The mortality was everywhere slight, except at Hadersleben. At Zwickau, Seltendorf, and Sommerfeld, there were 88 patients, not one of whom died. In every case the disease was caused by eating imperfectly cooked pork containing trichines, a case of rather frequent occurrence in Germany. In Hanover, in 21 months, out of 25,000 pigs, 11 were found full of trichines, 16 out of 14,000 in Brunswick, and 4 out of 700 in Blakenburgh. The animal while living shows no signs of their presence, nor can they be detected in the meat with an ordinary magnifying glass, but a powerful microscope renders them distinctly visible.—The utility of a microscopic inspection of pig's flesh by competent observers is so evident that many of the German Governments have rendered it obligatory, and MM. Delpach and Reynal would not hesitate to recommend it in any country contaminated with trichinosis, but they think it unnecessary in France, where no case of the disease has yet been noticed. In Germany the hospitals receive many patients suffering from this affection; during last year there were thirteen at Madgeburg, one of whom only died.

Post-mortem examinations have shown among persons who died from other diseases, numerous cases of old trichinosis cured by the encystment of the parasites. The proportion of these at Leipsic has been about six per hundred. In places where the complaint prevails, the rats which infest slaughter-houses are found to have it, as proved by Leisering at Dresden, Adam at Augsburg, and Roll at Vienna. Since their return MM. Delpach and Reynal have examined many of these animals as well as pigs without finding a trace of trichines. Consequently, there is no reason in France for any person to refrain from eating hog's flesh, especially when so thoroughly cooked as is usual in France. In Germany, on the contrary, many of the peasantry eat it almost raw or only smoked. The most timid may safely eat the heart, kidneys, brain, and fat of pigs, as those parts never contain trichines. MM. Delpach and Reynal assert, as an undoubted fact, that a temperature of 75° C. (167 Fah.) is sufficient to kill trichines. Meat thoroughly salted is also perfectly safe. Smoke-dried sausages, which have been kept a long time, are considered free from danger, but the wisest plan is to give them a good boiling.

The authors of the report attribute the spread of the disease among pigs to the fact that they are foul feeders and will eat any offal, such as the dead bodies of rats and other animals, which are now known to be liable to trichinosis. Great care ought therefore to be taken to keep such things out of their reach. MM. Delpech and Reynel likewise advise all experimenters never to throw away trichinised flesh, but to burn it as soon as their examination is completed; for a fragment of it carelessly exposed might be eaten by a rat, the rat devoured by a pig, and this last become the cause of fatal accidents. They recommend farmers to be very cautious in feeding their pigs, to avoid giving them offal flesh without first boiling it; to destroy rats and other small carnivorous animals; and never to leave human or other excrements in places where pigs can go. The Government has deemed it expedient to publish at once the above abstract of MM. Delpech and Reynel's report, which it has also submitted to the consideration of the Consultative Committee of Public Health. —*Galigiani.*

THE STOCK REGISTER AND STUD BOOK OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The Secretary of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia has prepared a Stock Register and Stud book, in which have been entered the detailed Pedigrees of all thorough-bred Cattle and Horses known to have been introduced to, or raised in the Province.

Persons introducing or raising thorough bred stock are invited to send certified pedigrees to the Secretary of the Board, for entry in the Register.

Communications.

REMARKS ON MOWING MACHINES, AND HOW TO USE THEM.—PIGS.

MOWING MACHINES.

DEAR SIR,—I have been in the habit of using mowing machines of different kinds for a number of years, and have thought that a few remarks might be useful.

The two horse hinge bar, on the buck eye principle, made by Harris and Allan, St. John, N. B., is the most useful and efficient for general work. After selecting a good machine in which all the parts work smoothly, the next requisite is a good, able, steady team of work horses, with a careful steady hand to drive them and work the machine. Plenty of thin oil is required in the journals, which

ought to be filled with cotton wool or wicking, to retain the oil; and the driving wheel should be kept well greased with tallow.

In Spring, before the grass is too long, all roots and movable stones should be taken off, and the fields rolled. Where there is a stone or any other obstacle, that for some cause cannot be conveniently removed, a stake ought to be set up, so that the person driving the machine can see it and avoid the same. The fields should be all trimmed round by hand, and the swath removed so as not to interfere with the working of the machine. I prefer to do the trimming after the machine, and not to commence mowing till the dew is off, and the grass dry. When the grass is much knocked about and lodged, it should be cut by hand. There is no danger when thus treated, and the machine worked by a steady, careful man, with a pair of steady work horses. A high tempered driving horse is not fit for this, or any farm work. A good machine horse is a valuable animal.

It has always seemed to me a great error in the Government importations of horse stock, that more attention has not been given to the selection, for agricultural and all working purposes, of such horses as the Clydesdale. A good working horse can never be a good driving horse; and if we expect such horses as are generally kept by farmers in Nova Scotia to do machine work, we must not be surprised when we hear of accidents; and though there is a great difference in machines they ought not to bear the whole blame. A mowing machine to do good work ought to be driven at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 miles an hour,—the knives should always be kept well ground and whetted.

With one of "Harris & Allan's" Machines, I have repeatedly mown nine acres in 9 hours, but I consider this is too fast, both for the team and to do the machine justice.

PIGS.

I have had some experience in breeding and feeding pigs, and I would state that the cross between the Berkshires and White Chester is most suitable for this country, both as regards fattening properties, weight of carcase and profit. This cross cannot be had without the pure breeds, so that all can be accommodated, those who fancy the pure breed of each kind, and also the cross fanciers. My experience goes to shew that, in general, crossing the common breeds of the country with any of the improved breeds, ends in disappointment.

If you think that these remarks are likely to be of any use to the readers of the *Journal of Agriculture*, you are at liberty to publish them.

At another time, if you think well of it, I will give you my system of breeding and feeding.

The article on the potato disease I shall forward shortly.

Yours, respectfully,

Carlton, Aug. 24. W. BUSTIN.

[We shall be glad to receive our Correspondent's promised articles on potato disease, and breeding and feeding of Pigs.—*Et.*]

Reports of Agri. Societies.

WEYMOUTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Weymouth Agricultural Society held their annual meeting on the first Tuesday in December, 1866, but as some of the officers were absent in consequence of sickness, it was agreed to adjourn until the 29th December.—when officers gave in their report of the preceding year. The same being approved of by the meeting, they proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, W. Dahlgreen; *Vice-Pres.*, James Dousett; *Treas.*, George Johnson; *Sec'y*, Frederick Sorenson; *Directors*, A. D. Hoyt, Steph. Jones, John S. Jones and James Beedy.

The account for the year is as follows:

By member's fees for 1866.....	\$61 00
Provincial Grant.....	84 00
Amount from seed sold.....	1 42
" paid by M. Robichau, M. P.....	17 07
	\$163 49

To seed bought at Halifax.....	\$78 07
Freight on seed.....	1 62½
Acct. book and postage.....	1 93½
Balance on hand.....	1 86
	\$163 49

Last year we expended our funds in seeds, and divided them among the members. The Society unanimously agreed that we should use our first efforts in the improvement of cattle and sheep, and the efforts of the officers were to that object directed. We are to purchase this year one or two bulls, four rams and two boars.

We have not much improvement to report this year, but are glad to see that our members are becoming alive to the necessity of the improvement of their stock. We wish to get some of the Goodrich potatoes, if they are to be had, to try them here this season.

We hope to be able to give an account of greater improvement next year.

FREDK. SORENSON,
Secretary.

NEWPORT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the close of the year the Newport Agricultural Society beg leave to communicate to the Central Board of Agriculture a report of their proceedings for the last twelve months, and also some account

of their crops, with such other information as it is in their power to give.

The spring opened quite as early as usual, and although there were frequent showers through the month of May, it was about as favourable for putting in seed as we generally have it—more so than last year. The grass did not come up as thick or look as strong as it sometimes does, which, in all probability, was owing to the draught of the previous autumn having killed the roots partially. The greater part of the month of June was very dry, and the grass looked very unpromising, and indication of a small crop of hay; but a heavy fall of rain at the last of the month, followed by showery weather through July and August, revived the appearance of the grass, and made a material improvement in the crop. Although there were frequent showers through the haying season, the greater part of the English or fresh hay was secured in tolerably fair order; on the uplands the crop was light, on the dyked marshes rather heavier than last year.

There was some winter and some spring wheat sown; the former sown on new or burnt land did well, but failed in some instances on ploughed land. The early sown spring wheat escaped the fly, but suffered from the wet weather in harvesting; that sown late somewhat injured by the fly, and owing to excess of rain was not very well filled.

Barley, of which more than usual was sown, yielded well, above an average crop. Oats, also got a large growth, but owing to heavy rains in August and September many fields, both of oats and barley, were much damaged, while other fields which happened to be ripe when a few days of fine weather came, were well saved.

Potatoes have suffered considerably from the disease to which they are subject. Turnips good. Buckwheat and Indian Corn fair. Fruit scarce.

The Society disposed of the two bulls purchased in 1864 last autumn, and purchased two rams—one Shearling Cotswold and one Shearling Leicester—imported by the Central Board from Canada last autumn. The former, the Society are sorry to inform the Board, has since died. We send our account herewith.

Signed in behalf of the Society,
CHARLES COCHRAN, *Sec'y.*

The report Agricultural Society in account with
CHAS. COCHRAN, *Treasurer.*

1866.		
Cash paid wintering and summering bulls,	\$62.00	
Board of Agriculture per W. M. Allan, Esq., for sheep.....	102.00	
Expenses of Society.....	7.00	
	\$171.00	
1866.	Cr.	
By cash received on sale of bulls.....	\$68 00	
" Subscription of Members.....	45.00	
" Provincial Grant.....	50.00	
	\$163.00	

DIGBY CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

To the Members of the Digby Central Agricultural Society.

GENTLEMEN,—

As Officers and Directors of this Society, it becomes our duty to report to you our proceedings during the past year.

To meet the wants of this Society we obtained two Bulls from Annapolis co., one Ayrshire, and one of the Durham breed, which were kept as the property of the Society, for the benefit of the Members until the first of September when they were sold in the Society. As these bulls are both fine animals, we expect our stock will be much improved.

We also obtained from New-Brunswick seven Rams as follows: one shearling, pure Leicester, one two Shear, Southdown, this was out of a ewe and ram imported from England in 1860.

Also five lambs of the Leicester breed. As there were seven Rams, the Society was divided into seven Sections, and the rams were sold in the Society, one being purchased in each Section.

We also received a small supply of seeds, which was equally distributed among the Members as they received no benefit from the Society during the year 1865.

We have also to inform you of the Financial affairs of the Society which is as follows:—

Cash on hand from last year.....	\$111 00
" received from members, as subscrip's	50 00
" " sale of bulls.....	32 50
" " use of bulls, out of Sey	8 87½
" " sale of sheep.....	18 55
	\$220 92½
Cash paid for purchase of bulls.....	\$80 65
" " expenses to New Brunswick	
in search of bulls.....	4 60
" " seeds.....	11 21
" " keeping bulls.....	32 00
" " purchase of sheep.....	57 79
" " Sec'y's salary and expenses..	8 00
	\$194 25
Cash in the hands of the Treasurer.....	\$15 27½
Debts due the Society.....	11 40
Grant received since the Annual Meeting..	68 00
	\$94 67½

This Society at present consists of fifty, (50) Members, (being ten more than was reported last year,) all have paid their subscriptions for the present year.

Respecting the crops. Upland hay was light, marsh hay was a fair crop, but much injured in making. Barley averaged about thirty bushels per acre. Oats thirty-five bushels. Buckwheat good. Most all kinds of grain were considerably injured by storms of rain and wind.

The root crop was about an average. The fruit crop was near a failure.

The officers for the ensuing year are as follows:—*Pres.*, Robert Reed; *Vice-*

Pres., James W. Poole; *Treas.*, William Aymar; *Sec'y.*, Jas. M. Aymar; *Directors*, John Dakin, Wm. H. Haines, Ephraim Bacon, John Abbot and Chas. T. Potter.

ROBERT REED, *Pres.*
JAMES M. AYMAR, *Sec'y.*

BRIDGETOWN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We herewith forward you a report of the proceedings of the Bridgetown Agricultural Society, for the year 1866.

In addition to the ordinary business of the Society we have had an exhibition of horses, neat stock, sheep and pigs. It was held on the 13th day of October, and although the day was rainy and unpleasant, quite a large number of the members appeared on the exhibition ground at an early hour with their stock, all anxious to obtain a first prize.

COMPETITORS.

Best pair Oxen.....	Abel Chute.
2nd do.....	Charles Parker.
3rd do.....	C. & E. Troop.
4th do.....	Robert Parker.
Best pair 4 years old.....	Joseph Fellows.
2nd do.....	Thos. G. Walker.
Best pair 3 year old Steers.....	James K. Morse.
2nd do.....	Dimock Whitman.
Best pair 2 year old Steers.....	Joseph Fellows.
2nd do.....	William Carlton.
Best pair 1 year old steers.....	Dimock Whitman.
2nd do.....	Gilbert Chute.
Best pair steer calves.....	Gilbert Chute.
2nd do.....	Joseph Fellows.
Best Cow.....	Charles Heyt.
2nd do.....	Wanford Dodge.
3rd do.....	Edmund Clarke.
Best 2 year old Heifer.....	Abel Chute.
2nd do.....	Abel Chute.
Best 1 year old Heifer.....	Hanley Chipman.
2nd do.....	Gilbert Chute.
Best Heifer Calf.....	C. & E. Troop.
2nd do.....	William Chipman.
Best 1 year old Bull.....	C. & E. Troop.
Best Bull, Devon.....	C. & E. Troop.
2nd do.....	Hanley Chipman.
Best Ram.....	Lawrence Willet.
2nd do.....	William Chipman.
Best two Ewes.....	William Chipman.
2nd do.....	Gilbert Chute.
Best Ram Lamb.....	Abel Chute.
2nd do.....	Jacob Foster.
Best two Ewe Lambs.....	Gilbert Chute.
Best Mare and Foal.....	Jesse Dodge.
Best Brood Mare.....	Abel Foster.
Best 4 year old Horse.....	Charles Parker.
2nd do.....	Hanley Chipman.
Best Colt, 3 years old.....	Jacob Foster.
2nd do.....	James K. Morse.
Best Colt, 2 years old.....	Abel Chute.
2nd do.....	Robert Parker.
Best Colt, 1 year old.....	C. & E. Troop.
Best Pig.....	Wanford Dodge.

The sum of \$40 was offered to any member who would import a thoroughbred Devon Bull, with his pedigree—\$20 to be paid as soon as purchased, remaining \$20 at the expiration of two years; said Bull to be kept within the limits of the Society for that period. Messrs. C. & E. Troop, of Granville, purchased the Bull, and received the first payment, \$20.

List of paying members, 44.

RECEIPTS.

Members subscriptions.....	\$48.00
Provincial allowance.....	61.00
Balance from last year.....	90.80
	\$199.80

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid premiums to amount of	.....	\$140 00
Premium for Bull, Devon	.....	20.00
Necessary expenditure	.....	13.82½
		142.82½
Balance in hand	.....	\$56.97½

OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR:—

Pres., Dr. Geo. T. Bingay; *Vice Pres.*, Oliver Foster; *Treas.*, Wm. Y. Foster; *Secretary*, Eugene P. Troop; *Directors*, Chas. Whitman, Geo. Willet, Joseph Fellows, James Fellows, Jacob Foster.

GEO. T. BINGAY, *Pres.*
EUGENE P. TROOP, *Sec'y.*

UPPER MUSQUODOBOIT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Dear Sir:—I beg leave to forward you the following Report of the Upper Musquodoboit Agricultural Society, for the year 1866.

ACCOUNT CURRENT.

Balance in the Treasurers hand from 1865.	
and outstanding debts collected	..... \$15.00
Annual subscription from 14 members	..... 44.00
Provincial allowance	..... 33.00
	\$123.00
Paid for clover seed imported	..... \$ 40.00
For prizes	..... 31.00
Disbursements and expenses	..... 7.00
	\$198.00

The Society during the past summer, expended the sum of fifty dollars in prizes, per following list.

Best imported Bull, Saml. L. Henry	.....	\$8.00
Best Bull calf, Geo. Parker	.....	3.00
2nd do. James Henry	.....	2.00
Best Heifer calf, Matthew Archibald	.....	1.50
2nd do. John Parker	.....	1.00
Best Ram Lamb, Matthew Hamilton	.....	2.00
2nd do. Robert Henry	.....	1.50
Best Ewe Lamb, John Reynolds	.....	1.00
2nd do. Edward Stewart	.....	1.00
Best Sow Pig, Stultz Horton	.....	1.50
Best Wheat, William Archibald	.....	1.50
2nd do. George Parker	.....	1.00
Best Barley, William Dean	.....	1.00
2nd do. Matthew Archibald	.....	0.75
Best Oats, William Dean	.....	1.50
2nd do. Edward Leedham	.....	1.00
Best Buckwheat, Alex. Redman	.....	0.80
2nd do. Edward Stewart	.....	0.60
Best Peas, Alex. Parker	.....	1.00
Best Cloth, men's wear, Thse. Hutchison	.....	1.50
2nd do. Matt. Archibald	.....	1.00
Best Cloth, women's wear, Robert Henry	.....	1.50
2nd do. T. Hutchinson	.....	1.00
Best Potatoes, John Reynolds	.....	1.25
2nd do. George Stewart	.....	1.25
Best Turnips, George H. Parker	.....	2.00
2nd do. David Archibald 16th	.....	1.50
Best Ploughman, Matthew Archibald	.....	4.00
2nd do. David Archibald	.....	2.00
Best Shingles, S. L. Henry	.....	1.00

CROPS, CLOTH AND LIVE STOCK.

The prizes being proportionate to our funds, and consequently small, the inducement held out to competitors was not at all what we could have wished, yet this our first Exhibition far exceeded our most sanguine expectations; the display of live stock, grain and cloth, were considering the inducements held out indeed creditable.

With respect to the crops generally in this community, for the past year we may state that Wheat, though it succeeded in

some instances, yet in consequence of the ravages of Weevil in past years, it is not sown extensively. Oats though suffering much through bad weather in harvest, yet upon the whole gave an average yield. Barley, which in the early part of the season gave promise of a large return, was in consequence of stormy weather lodged, and is therefore considerably below an average. Buckwheat is a fair yield, and in quality far above the production in past years.

In potatoes the yield is large, and far above the average, but in many cases the rot has made perfect havoc in this crop; it has been found where potatoes were planted on ground laid down some years to grass, that the disease has not prevailed. The practice in planting is to spread manure on the grass land, then plough down, slicing them out, planting in every third furrow; two weeks later harrow the ground thoroughly to prevent the growth of weeds and grass, and the work of planting is complete. The Hay crop with us is unusually large, which is the case generally throughout the Province; much difficulty was experienced in saving the crop in consequence of frequent rain and dark weather making it in many cases impossible to secure the whole, yet enough has been secured that plenty reigns.

Turnips.—This root, the growth of which is so indispensable to good husbandry, is not grown with us so generally as we could wish. The turnip fly, and mode of culture make this crop so uncertain in our locality, that farmers fear to embark largely in it; nor will the cultivation of this root (so necessary to the health and growth of our animals) be practised as it should be until our farmers are alive to the importance of artificial manure and stimulants made use of in the Mother Country, to the successful cultivation of this important root.

Yours &c.,

DAVID ARCHIBALD,
Secretary.

Miscellaneous.

THE ISLET FLORAS OF THE GREAT OCEANS.

In a recent lecture delivered by Professor Lawson before the Students Club of Dalhousie College, the Flora of Nova Scotia, was compared with the Floras of all other countries of the world, and its sources of origin thus deduced. It was shown that the Nova Scotian Flora is more various in its derivation than that of Western Canada, and in some cases the age of species appears to be greater. Dr. Hooker's researches in regard to the

Islet Floras of the Great Oceans, which present so many points of interest to the investigator of the origin of species, were referred to as follows:—

The term "Islet Floras" is applied to the Floras of those small islands or islets that rise as mere points of land from out the broad breasts of the great oceans. With few exceptions all are volcanic, all mountainous, and so small that no man has realized their smallness who has not sailed in search of them. The relationships between these oceanic islet Floras are of two kinds: First,—they show a relationship of analogy between themselves due to the physical conditions common to them all,—climate, exposure, limited area, distance from continents, &c.; thus they are rich in ferns, and mosses, they have many evergreens and comparatively few herbaceous plants, and fewer or no indigenous animals; plants which are herbs on continents become shrubby or arboreous on islets. On the mountains the alpine species are few, and the total number of species of an Islet Flora is small compared with what a continental area of equal size and physical conditions would contain. *Secondly*,—There is the relationship of affinity, a bona fide kinship, which the florals of islets display in common with one another or with certain continents; Madeira, the Azores and Canaries contain many plants in common that are not found on any continent, the Canarian Flora is in the main a Mediterranean one, the St. Helena Flora is an African one, and so forth. It is this relationship, independent of, or at least unexplainable by reference to, mere physical conditions of soil and climate, that we have chiefly to consider in reference to the questions of the origin or creation of species, their past history, or geographical range of species in past time and their future development, persistence or extinction.

The Madeiras have a vegetation which is essentially European, but there are many introduced plants, palms, orange, banana, sugar cane, &c. But whilst the majority of the plants are identical with European plants, undistinguishable from them, a second class differ from European plants by slight but certain characters, as varieties we say; a third class are different specifically, but nearly allied, these are representative species; and a fourth are still allied to the European plants, but of different genera, these are representative genera. These form a graduated series, not only in systematic order in structure, but also in point of numbers; the plants identical with those of Europe are both the most numerous in species and the species are most numerous in individuals, then come the peculiar varieties, then the species, then the genera, which are last and least in number of all.

The Madeiran group consists of the main island Madeira, Porto Santo, thirty miles distant from it and the rocks called Desertas about fifteen. Now these islets, closely as they are situated, not only differ materially in their Floras from the mainland, but from one another, in species, varieties and even in genera. In the interiors there are trees and shrubs that are allied to American, African and Asiatic plants; as these plants are also found in the Canaries and Azores, they have been called the Atlantic types. The mountains of Madeira ascend six thousand feet high, plants become fewer and fewer in ascent, and there are few or any of those boreal or arctic plants that we always find on the mountains of continents. Great Britain has a continental Flora; it contains twice as many flowering plants as the Madeiran group, and almost all are identical with those of continental Europe, and as soon as we ascend two thousand feet on the mountains a replacement by boreal types is seen to commence. So all over Europe; no area of the same extent presents a similar assemblage of Asiatic and American plants, peculiar varieties, species and genera as the Madeiran groups nor so many peculiar plants represented by so very few specimens; nowhere do we find the rocky islets on the coast of a continent to be tenanted by numerous singular genera, species and varieties which are to be found nowhere else on the surface of the globe. It is the rare and local plants that are isolated as genera and in geographic distribution that specially arrest our attention. Were these almost unique isolated individuals created as complete, highly specialized organisms, or are they modifications of allied plants, owing their strange forms and special attributes to centrifugal variation operating through countless ages? And however they have originated, what is their destiny? Are they the first of their several races, destined to increase and become as common and widely spread as they are now rare and circumscribed; or the last of their races, which, but for the curiosity of the modern botanist, would have passed away like countless other forms of animal and vegetable life leaving no record? These plants are believed to be, like the savages which in many cases have been so long the sole witnesses of their existence, the last representatives of their several races. How did this come about? Dr. Hooker believes that the principal cause of the rarity or extinction of old species is the subsidence which they have all experienced. The sinking reduces the number of spots suitable to the habits of the plants, it accelerates the struggle for existence which must terminate in the more hardy or more prolific displacing the less hardy or less prolific, and it reduces both the number and kinds of winged insects

upon whose agency the fertilization of so many plants depend; winged insects are blown out to sea or lost, and it is well ascertained that winged insects are much fewer on small islands than on continents. The seeds of plants are likewise blown upon the waters and lost. But there is likewise the agency of man. Four hundred years have made a great change on the vegetation of the island, which when first discovered was covered with wood, whence its Portuguese name Madeira. The first settlers found the forests impenetrable, set fire to them, and the conflagration lasted seven years. Cultivation and the introduction of European trees followed. Who can tell how many peculiar plants perished in the flames or have been elbowed out by the more vigorous introduced plants? With regard to Porto Santo, in about the year 1418, a mother rabbit and her brood were landed, and increased so rapidly that they not only consumed the native vegetation, but the cultivated, and actually drove the settlers from the island.

The Canary Islands are 300 miles further south than the Madeiras, and they are much nearer the African coast, but they contain very few African plants. There are one thousand native plants and fully a third of them are peculiar to the Canaries, and forty of these are Madeiran shrubs or trees not found in Europe. There are mountains eleven thousand feet high, but no alpine plants. There are some rocky islets that emerge scarcely one hundred feet above the surface of the Atlantic, midway between Madeira and the Canaries, the Salvages, but they do not contain African, but Madeiran and Canary plants.

Next we have the Azores, five hundred miles from Madeira. They are seven hundred and forty miles distant from Portugal, ten hundred and thirty-five from the nearest American land, Newfoundland, but nearly twice that distance from the American States in the same latitude as the Azores. The Canaries have one thousand plants, the Azores have only three hundred and fifty. Of these, thirty are Atlantic types, common to the Azores and Madeira, or the Canaries. There are scarcely any boreal plants. The common ling or heather, *Calluna vulgaris* grows here. The Azores are far removed from Europe, and much nearer to America than either Madeira or the Canaries; yet the Azores contain scarcely any American plants.

The Cape de Verd Islands, eight miles south of the Canaries show a Flora resembling that of Madeira and the Canaries, but with more African species.

St. Helena is twelve hundred miles from Africa, eighteen hundred from America, and six hundred from Ascension. When discovered three hundred and sixty years ago it was entirely cov-

ered with forests, the trees drooping over the tremendous precipices that overhang the sea. Now all is changed, five sixths of the island are utterly barren, and the vegetation that now exists consists chiefly of introduced European, American, African and Australian plants. The indigenous vegetation was destroyed by goats, introduced in 1513, which in seventy years had increased to thousands, forming flocks a mile in length. In 1810 the forests were completely destroyed, the goats having eaten the young plants and barked the old ones. The goats were then destroyed. Plants were introduced from England and the Cape, Australia and America, and speedily overran the place, extinguishing the native vegetation. From an old herbarium formed before the goats had entirely eaten up the St. Helena Flora it is ascertained that there were forty-four species of plants on the island; of these forty were peculiar to St. Helena. The botany of St. Helena resembles none other in the peculiarity of its indigenous vegetation. It is estimated that probably one hundred St. Helena plants have thus disappeared from the *Systema Naturae* since the first introduction of goats on the Island.

Ascension is much smaller than St. Helena and six hundred miles north west of it. St. Helena has been called a barren rock, but it is a paradise compared with Ascension, which consists simply of a scorched mass of volcanic matter, in part resembling bottle glass, and in part coke and cinders. There are plants however, a purslane, a grass and a euphorbia, whilst the green peak eight hundred feet high is clothed with a carpet of ferns.

Kerguelen's land, the Isle of Desolation, is in the South Indian Ocean, in the latitude of Cornwall, and within the northern limit of floating icebergs. It is 2170 miles from South Africa, 4130 from Cape Horn, and 3800 from New Zealand. Cook described it thus: "Perhaps no place hitherto discovered in either hemisphere under the same parallel of latitude, affords so scanty a field for the naturalist as this barren spot; for he might assuredly have added ten degrees to its own latitude in the southern hemisphere, and upwards of twenty in the northern, as the limits upon which such a paucity of species exist." But Cook spoke as a general observer, not as a botanist, and his account falls far short of the truth, for Spitzbergen thirty degrees nearer the Pole, boasts of five times as many flowering plants as Desolation Island. All the plants of Kerguelen's land are perennial, and the most remarkable one is a cochlearia resembling a cabbage. It is allied to no other plant in the southern hemisphere, and tells no tale as to the origin or affinities of the Kerguelen's

land Flora. But it is otherwise with the other plants. There are peculiar genera, *Lyallia*, and this is decidedly an Andean form; others are allied to plants of Terra del Fuego, one is a variety of a New Zealand plant and there are some European aquatics. The Flora of Kerguelen's land is extremely close in affinity to that of Terra del Fuego, so close indeed that it was obviously derived for the most part from thence. It is all the more remarkable that this relationship should be so strong and unmistakable when we consider that the Mother Country of its Flora is not that which is nearest to it, as was the case with all the Islands already noticed, but that which is the most distant from it.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

DOMESTIC RECEIPTS.

ONION SAUCE.—Take six moderate sized onions, and boil them till quite soft, changing the water once or twice while they are boiling. Mash them with a spoon, add half a pint of milk, an ounce of butter, a teacup-ful of bread-crumbs, a little salt, a grate or two of nutmeg, boil it two minutes. A table-spoonful of flour may be used instead of the bread-crumbs, if preferred.

SOUP MAIGRE.—Flour and fry a quart of green peas, four onions sliced, one carrot, one turnip and one parsnip. Pour on them three quarts of water. Let it simmer till it will pulp through a coarse sieve. Give it one boil and serve it.

SALT FOR FOWLS.—With respect to the question of salt for fowls, it is quite certain that any large quantity of it is injurious, often causing loss of feathers; but I have long given it in moderation with decided benefit—just as much as to season the soft food of the birds to my own taste. In such measure I am convinced that chickens grow better, and make more healthy flesh, and that fowls for exhibition come into better condition and keep in better health.—*Nemo, in Cottage Gardener.*

ADVERTISEMENTS!

Bull for Sale!

A SUPERIOR DURHAM BULL, the property of the Union Agricultural Society of E. Cornwallis. This Bull is only offered for sale to prevent breeding in-and-in, as he has been in the Society two years. He is a fine animal, four years old, very smart, in good condition, and would be a valuable acquisition to another Society, or to a community where his stock is not coming in. Will be sold cheap for cash. Apply to any of the subscribers.

LEANDER RAND,
LEVI EATON,
JOHN E. ELLS,
JOHN W. MARGESON,
JOHN T. NEWCOMB, } Council.
LEANDER EATON, Pres.
D. B. NEWCOMB, Sec'y.

Cornwallis, Sept. 1867.

Choice Stock.

COTSWOLD SHEEP.

THE Undersigned has been instructed by H. E. DRETT, to sell by reserved Auction, at the same time and place as the Stock imported by the Board of Agriculture, the following Sheep and Pigs:

- 15 Cotswold RAMS,
- 2 Berkshire BOARS,
- 2 " " SOWS,
- A number of Berkshire PIGS.

W. M. ALLAN,
Auctioneer.

August, 1867.

Churning made Easy & Butter Good.

TOMLINSON & CO.'S BUTTER POWDER.

BY the use of this inexpensive Powder the churning of hours is reduced to minutes, and is applicable to the making of Butter at all seasons of the year; a small quantity added to the Milk or Cream at the time of churning will produce Butter in much less time, in larger quantity, and of a superior quality, flavour, and consistency, so much so that it increases its value from 1d. to 2d. per lb. In winter it removes the unpleasant flavour caused by the cows feeding on turnips, cake, mangolds, weeds, &c.; and in summer the rancidity peculiar to some Butter, also makes it firmer and sweeter even in the hottest weather.

Butter made with this Powder invariably takes the prizes at the Agricultural Shows throughout the Kingdom.

Sold by the principal Druggists and Store-keepers throughout the Colonies, in boxes at 3d. 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., and 7s. 6d. each; and wholesale of the Manufacturers,

TOMLINSON & HAYWARD,
Chemists, Lincoln, England.
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NOTICE! NOTICE!!

A Fair and Cattle Show

Will be held at WALLACE,

On the 3rd day of OCTOBER next, at which the following premiums will be given by the Wallace Agricultural Society.

Best Colt \$4 00	Best 4 bush. Oats. \$1 50
2 do. 3 00	2 do do 1 00
3 do. 2 00	Best 3 bush. Barley 1 50
Best Bull Calf 4 00	" 3 " Bkwh't 1 00
2 do. 3 00	" 1 " Peas . . . 1 00
3 do. 2 00	" 1 " Herds
Best Heifer Calf 4 00	Grass 1 00
2 do. 3 00	" 25 lbs. Butter . 1 50
3 do. 2 00	2 do. 1 00
Best 2 Ram Lambs. 2 00	Best 20 yds. Wool'n
2 do. 1 50	Cloth (Men's) . . 1 50
3 do. 1 00	2 do. 1 00
Best 2 Ewe Lambs. 2 00	Best 10 yds. Wool'n
2 do. 1 50	Cloth Women's) 1 50
3 do. 1 00	2 do. 1 00
Best Spring Boar	Best Straw or Grass
Pig 2 00	Hat 0 50
2 do. 1 50	2 do. 0 40
3 do. 1 00	Best Hearth Rug . . 1 50
Best 3 bush. Wheat. 2 00	2 do. 1 00
2 do. 1 50	

Ploughing Match!

Prizes \$3, \$2.50, \$2, \$1.50, and \$1.

DONALD McKAY,

Wallace, July, 1867.

Secretary.

FOR SALE!

A thorough-bred Durham BULL, five years old. Apply to

JAMES S. TUPPER.

Upper Stewiacke, July, 1867.

ALFRED SAUNDERS, SEEDSMAN, &c.

Importer of Seeds and Agricultural Requisites,

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Orders from the Country punctually attended to.

CHESTER WHITE PIGS.

For Sale—A BOAR of the above justly celebrated breed, seven months old. Price \$25.

.....ALSO.....

During the Season, PIGS, one month old, pure blood, at \$6 00 (six dollars) each. Apply to

JAMES CROSBY,

Sec'y Yarmouth Agri. Soc'y.

Halifax, Yarmouth, May, 1867.

Provincial Agricultural & Industrial EXHIBITION.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

By County & District Agricultural Societies, toward the Provincial Exhibition of 1868.

Western Halifax Agricultural Society	\$100 00
Antigonish Agricultural Society	100 00
Windsor Agricultural Society	100 00
Egerton Agricultural Society, L. R., Pictou	60 00
Dartmouth Agricultural Society	50 00
North Sydney Agricultural Society	40 00
Pictou Agricultural Society	40 00
Parrsborough Agricultural Society	40 00
Union Society of East Cornwallis	40 00
Upper Musquodoboit Agricultural Society	30 00
Baddeck Agricultural Society	30 00
Middle River of Victoria Agri. Society	30 00
Boulerie Agricultural Society	30 00
Mahou and Port Hood Agri. Society	30 00
West Cornwallis Agricultural Society	24 00
St. Ann's Agricultural Society, South Gut	20 00
Mimic Agricultural Society	20 00
Broad Cove Agricultural Society	20 00
Fenwick Agricultural Society of Noel and Maitland	20 00
Bridgewater Agricultural Society	20 00
Bridgetown Agricultural Society	20 00
Mahone Bay Agricultural Society	20 00
Shubenacadie Agricultural Society	20 00
Weymouth Agricultural Society	20 00
Paradise Agricultural Society	20 00
Upper Stewiacke Agricultural Society	20 00
Merigomish Agricultural Society	20 00
Kings County Agri. Society, Horton	16 00
Digby Agricultural Society	15 00
Red Islands Agricultural Society	12 00
North East Margaree Agricultural Society	8 00
North Shore St. Ann's Agri. Society	6 00
South West Margaree Agri. Society	4 00

Intimations of additional subscriptions by Societies should be sent to PROF. LAWSON, the Secretary, as it is desirable to issue the Prize List without delay.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Literary Communications are to be addressed to Dr. Lawson, Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, Dalhousie College, Halifax. All lists of subscribers and remittances of subscriptions are to be sent to Messrs. A. & W. McKinlay, Publishers, Granville Street, Halifax.

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