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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, 1877.

No. 10.

HALIFAX COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting of Members will be held in the Library, Old Province building, Halifax, on Tuesday, 4th December, at 12 o'clock, noon, in accordance with the Act for the Encouragement of Agriculture.

The Hon. SIR WILLIAM YOUNG, President, in the chair.

Business.—Report of Proceedings for the past year. Treasurer's Accounts. Reports of Halifax City Committee on the Society's Live Stock on the Peninsula. Report of Milford Committee on the Society's Live Stock in that District. Report of Committee on proposal to hold Provincial Exhibition in the City of Halifax. Arrangements for 1878. Election of Office-Bearers for 1878. Miscellaneous Business.

At the close of the Meeting the Office-Bearers will nominate a Representative to the Central Board of Agriculture.

By order of the President and Directors.
GEORGE LAWSON,

Sec. Hfc. Co. Ag. Soc.

Members who have not paid their Annual Subscriptions for 1877, and gentlemen desirous of becoming members, will please hand the amount (one dollar) to W. C. Silver, Esq., Treasurer, previous to time of meeting.

A COMPLETE list of Prizes awarded at the recent Provincial Agricultural Exhibition, will be published in the Annual Report of the Central Board of Agriculture, now in course of preparation for the House of Assembly.

RECENTLY the attention of the public has been called, in a prominent manner, both by the city and country press, to the question, Whether our Provincial Agricultural Exhibitions should be held in the city of Halifax, or in the country towns? Some persons contend that these Exhibitions ought to be confined to the City, where the great mass of the population is congregated, and where there is ample room for strangers; others argue that cattle shows are out of place in a city, and should be taken to the country. The view adopted by the Board of Agriculture, and the Legislature, as expressed by the Exhibition Act of 1875, is that Provincial Agricultural Exhibitions should be held successively in all the counties of the Province (not excluding Halifax), and in the order in which the counties shall prepare to furnish the means and undertake the labour of carrying them out.

The object of these Exhibitions is two-fold. First, to encourage and promote improvement in live stock, implements, and field products, by rewarding the most successful and meritorious improvers, and thus induce them to persevere in, and extend, their labors.

Secondly, by exposing to the public gaze the finest results of the efforts of our most successful cultivators and stock raisers, to arouse the energies of the entire farming population throughout the whole country, and even to stimulate to activity and improvement the mowers of unsown hay.

The object first stated may be accomplished by holding the Exhibitions at any

central or conveniently accessible point,—that is, anywhere within railway range, for when live stock and other exhibits are once on board the cars, it is matter of comparatively little moment whether they have to run to Pictou or Annapolis, to Amherst or Windsor, to Halifax or Kentville or Truro, provided the railway arrangements and freight charges are made (as they always ought to be) to suit distant exhibitors.

It will be obvious to many that if the mere personal convenience of the largest number is to outweigh other advantages, Halifax has the dead weight; it is practically the most accessible point by rail and water from all parts of the Province; it is the place where everybody has business to transact; the Mecca to which farmers, merchants, lawyers, schoolmasters, politicians, doctors, clergymen, lumbermen, fishermen, miners, capitalists, in short all kinds of live men, repair at least once a year. If the first object, then, were the only one aimed at by Exhibitions, we should prefer to see them held annually in the city of Halifax.

But the second object, that of arousing the agriculturists of the Province generally to a sense of the necessity for improvement, so as to start them in the race, could never be accomplished by holding Exhibitions yearly in Halifax. The fifty years' experience of the Agricultural Society of Scotland has served to confirm that body more and more in their opinion that the beneficial effects of holding Exhibitions in different localities are so great as to outweigh all other considerations; so that instead of erecting—as they could

well afford to do—princely buildings in Edinburgh, where all their scientific, literary, and official work is carried on, and holding their Exhibitions there, where they would be larger and more varied, and bring an immensely greater concourse of visitors than in the country towns, they yet continue to perambulate the country, holding an Exhibition this year at Glasgow or Ayr, next at Aberdeen, next in succession perhaps at Perth, or Dundee, or Stirling. They do not gauge the value of their work by the number of exhibits, or the number of shillings taken at the gate. They know that the holding of one of their Exhibitions in a place arouses the whole district around into agricultural enthusiasm, and that the effect produced is permanent and progressive. In the present state of our Province it may be difficult, we confess, for many to accept the Scottish theory in its entirety, but every succeeding year, and every new experience, will lead more and more to the belief that it is the true one. Feeling this, we think it would be a fatal mistake to centre our Exhibitions in Halifax, or Truro, or Kentville, or anywhere. Let us maintain the perambulating system, so that our Provincial Exhibitions shall be for the whole Province, open to every county in turn to come in when ready to share the local or special, as well as the general benefits.

As an evident desire has been expressed to have the Exhibition of 1878 in the City of Halifax, it may be useful to explain the peculiar position of Halifax in relation to the new system. In 1868 and in 1874 the Exhibitions were actually carried out by the Board of Agriculture in conjunction with an Exhibition Committee as co-labourers. But by the Act of 1875, the Board has merely the power "To draw from the Provincial Treasury every year, and to pay to any Agricultural Society or other responsible body, four thousand dollars, as a prize fund for an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, to be held in any county selected by such Central Board. Such Exhibition shall be carried out, and all the expenses thereof borne, by such Society or other body, under such rules as the Board may from time to time prescribe; and the prize list for every such Exhibition shall be made up under the direction and subject to the approval of the Board and of the Governor in Council."

It will be seen that the Society or other body undertaking the Exhibition has the whole financial responsibility,—the Board merely prescribing the regulations and sanctioning the Prize List.

The difficulty that meets us, in looking to Halifax for the next Exhibition, is the want of accommodation. The Governor's Field and the Drill Shed, obtained on former occasions, involved great

expense in temporary erections and furnishings, that had to be at once removed; and, especially in view of the much more extensive accommodation now required for cattle, it is not desirable to attempt a Provincial Exhibition on these premises. Moreover, one great object of offering the prize fund to counties is to induce the erection of permanent Exhibition buildings. Colchester County obtained land and erected suitable buildings at Truro in 1876; King's County has done the same this year at Kentville. We should like to see Halifax follow in 1878.

An Act was passed 12th April, 1877, to enable Counties or Districts to borrow money for the purchase of land and erection of Exhibition Buildings.

By this Act (40 Vic., Cap. 19), the Court of Sessions for each County or District of the Province is empowered upon the recommendation of the Grand Jury, to add to the yearly assessments for County purposes a sum not exceeding \$4000 for the purchase of grounds and the erection of Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition Buildings. Such Court of Sessions are empowered to borrow money for such purposes upon the credit of the Counties or Districts in which they have jurisdiction, and the amounts required to meet debentures or interest is to be added to the amount ordered by the Sessions to be assessed. The Courts of Sessions are likewise empowered to sell public lands to make a fund for Exhibition purposes.

It is not to be expected that the Court of Sessions will tax the County of Halifax for Exhibition Buildings unless the City is prepared to provide a fair share of the money. In order to see the City we presume an Act will have to be passed at the instance of His Worship the Mayor and Aldermen, and, as this cannot be done till the Legislature meets, it may be that it is too late now to make the necessary arrangements for securing the Exhibition of 1878 for the City of Halifax. If this be so, it should be kept in mind that it is not too early to begin to clear the way for the Exhibition of 1879. There is no better time than now, when public attention is directed to the subject. Let the Justices of the County, the Mayor and Aldermen of the City, the Agricultural Societies of Halifax and Upper and Lower Musquodoboit, the manufacturers of Halifax, Dartmouth and Bedford, and the public spirited citizens upon whom the lion's share of labour in all such schemes is sure to fall—let all think seriously over the matter with a view to devising some general scheme, so that steps may be taken to secure any needed legislation. It will be perceived clearly that it is not the Government nor the Board of Agriculture who are to be looked to for official action in

this matter, but the Justices of the County the City Council of Halifax, and the Town Council of Dartmouth.

But it is not imperative to wait for legislation and taxation. The necessary money for buildings may be raised by a general public subscription, or a joint stock company may undertake their erection as a commercial speculation, in connection with a skating rink and other public accommodations. All that is wanted to enable the city to carry out the Exhibition successfully in 1878 is suitable buildings. The Legislative grant of \$4000 for a prize fund is waiting to be claimed by the county that is prepared to give the best assurances of success. It is the simple duty of the Central Board to hold an even balance that every county may have its claims fairly weighed.

We have received, through the kindness of the Author, a printed table of the Meteorological Observations made by Frederick Allison, Esq., for the year 1876, at Halifax, Nova Scotia, lat. 44° 39' 20" N, long. 63° 36' 40" W., height above sea-level 122.5 feet. The exact point where the observations were made is not indicated, but we believe it is near the corner of Sackville and Park Streets, and thus favourably situated for receiving in Winter time the full sweep of the north wind on its way from the ice-coated Bedford Basin, via the Three Mile House and Willow Park and over the North Common. The mean temperature of 1876 was 42.06° Fah., the difference from the normal being -0.56. The highest occurred in August=90.2; the lowest in February -16.9. The highest daily mean was in August=75.13, and the lowest daily mean in February -6.78. The mean pressure corrected of the year, was 29.900, the maximum in February 30.992, and the minimum in the same month 28.774. The mean relative humidity for the year was 82.79, highest in November 87.5, lowest in August 78.7. Mean amount of cloud 6.09, highest in November 7.84, lowest in August 3.66. Prevalent direction of wind W.; in June, S. S. W.; in May, July, August and September W. S. W.; in March and April W.; in October and November W. N. W.; and in January, February and December N. W. Rain 44.335 inches during the year, —greatest in November, 7.397, least in December, 0.618. Number of days rain 143, greatest in June 21, least in December 5. Amount of snow 96 37; number of days snow 58, highest number in February 16. June, July, August, September and November, five months, were without snow. Total precipitation 54.114 (made up we presume by adding dissolved snow to the rain). With 4½ feet of water falling annually on the surface of the Province we should not be stinted in water supply, nor have our boilers and

water pipes encrusted by gallates. By adding the 143 days of rain to the 58 of snow and to the number of dry days, 179, we get 380 days, which gives 14 days of weather in excess of days of the leap year, the explanation of which we presume to be that on 14 of the days both rain and snow fell, so that they are repeated in the enumeration. An explanatory foot note may be added with advantage in next year's table. We must find room for one other item, viz., the number of days sleighing in 1876: December, 23, January, 16, February, 27, March, 9, April, 2, total 77. If we are to have 23 days sleighing this December, it is about time for the thermometer to go down, and the North East winds to set in. We have been much interested, in looking through Mr. Allison's Table of Observations; his work is of great value, both in a scientific and economical aspect, and we are glad he has issued the general results in such a convenient tabular form. Every farmer, mariner, and fisherman in the Province ought to have one of these tables pasted into his almanack.

PROFESSOR HOW calls attention, in the *Morning Herald*, to "Silicate Cotton or Slag Wool," specimens of which he had received from England, made from iron slag of the Nictaux Iron Works, in Annapolis County. "Slag" is the waste material that flows away in a molten state from iron in the process of reduction; it is a fusible silicate, chemically and physically resembling glass, and this "Slag Cotton" is simply a form of what has been long known as "spun glass." Being incombustible and a remarkable non-conductor of heat, it is proposed to use it for coating boilers, cylinders and pipes, for filtering, lining floors, ceilings, fire-proof rooms, ice-safes and such like. Reflecting no doubt upon the immense quantities of useful material that are running to waste in this Province, without any effective attempt being made to recover them, Professor How asks, "When will Nova Scotia have its TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, where its young men and women may learn the practical applications of science, like those of other countries? We cannot teach everything (he adds) at our overworked and underpaid Colleges.

THE Secretary of the Central Board of Agriculture has addressed to the Secretary of every Agricultural Society in the Province, a communication calling attention to the provisions of the Agricultural Act, which requires the officers of every Society, immediately after their election at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, 4th December, to nominate a person suitable for appointment to the Central Board.

LUCYFIELD FARM, NOVEMBER.—The Short Horn Cow *Polly Vaughan* (by Seventeenth Duke of Oxford) calved, on 6th, a Heifer Calf, mostly red and roan, with a white heart on forehead. Sired by Viscount Oxford. The Ellesmere Sow *Fairy Princess* has had a litter, of which five sow pigs have been reared. *Fairy Princess the Second* has reared a boar and sow. *Luna* (three quarters Ellesmere), has reared six boar pigs. *Lovely Lady Lop Ear*, purchased last year for \$75, has not prospered, is suffering from lung disease, and not expected to recover. The Ayrshire Heifer *Lady Acon* has been sold to C. P. Blanchard, Esq., Hillside Farm, Truro; the Ayrshire Heifer Calf *Lady Fairie* to the Middle River of Victoria Agricultural Society; and five young Ellesmere pigs, and a half-grown boar, to the Milford Haven Agricultural Society, County Guysborough. There are still two thoroughbred Ayrshire Cows and a Calf for sale; also five young boars six weeks old, offered at \$6 each, a number of pigs of various ages, and a few half-bred Cotswold Ram Lambs.

WE have an occasional enquiry from a parent who wishes to place his son on a good farm, where he can live with a respectable family, and acquire a practical knowledge of farming by actual work, for a year or two. Persons who can, and are willing, to afford satisfactory accommodation in this way may send their names to the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, not for publication, but merely for the private information of enquirers.

THE Secretary of the Central Board of Agriculture has sent to the Secretary of every Agricultural Society in the Province, a blank form for Return of List of Members and Subscriptions paid for the year. By making their returns on this form, Secretaries will be sure that they are complying with the terms of the Act, and thus disappointment and delays may be avoided. In consequence of improper return, one Society has not yet received its grant for 1876; this will show the importance of attendance to rules.

AT Paradise, in Annapolis County, on the farm of W. E. Starratt, Esq., we were shown a very nice patch of "French Clover," grown from seed sent by Charles E. Brown, Esq. The light, warm soils of Annapolis are exactly suited to this crop, which does not succeed on heavy land. We sowed some last Spring on a loamy soil enriched by fresh manure, but few of the seeds came up, and a man sent to weed the land, thinking the "French Clover" was a new kind of weed, gave it the preference by pulling it all up first.

THE KESWICK CODLIN has been shown by Charles E. Brown, Esq., of Yarmouth, to be the hardiest and most productive Apple in the coast County of Yarmouth. It bears "early" and "always" and is one of the very best Apples for the kitchen, for sauces, pies, &c. It luxuriates and thrives in fogs and low temperature, so that the fruit is larger on the coast than inland.

Let every fisherman around our coasts read the above, reflect upon it, and plant a Keswick Codlin tree. It will be growing while he is sleeping, and when his boys see the boughs bending under the heavy weight of fruit, they will go to work with a will, and clear land and plant orchards, and make our rugged sea-shore deserts blossom as the rose.

We have looked through the Prize Lists of our Provincial Exhibitions in vain for this well-known English Apple. Our Apple competitions hitherto have been limited very much to the three Counties,—Annapolis, King's and Hants; and, that the varieties selected for the Prize List should be those found to be suited to those Counties, is a very natural result. Let us in future have the list of varieties greatly extended, not merely that other counties may have a fair chance, but especially with the view of leading to experiments all over the Province on such points as that now determined by Mr. Brown in reference to the Keswick codlin. What may be a useless apple in the warm valley of Annapolis and Kings, where the climate is not suitable for its development, is evidently a valuable one on the misty hills of Keswick and the foggy shores of Yarmouth. The knowledge of particular crops and varieties, and modes of culture, with reference to their adaptation to different soils and climates, is the very essence of scientific agriculture

WE hear that the two Devon Heifers that went to Cumberland County last year from Oakfield, have done very well, have in fact, outgrown the Colonel's own; thus showing that Devons will do well in the rich districts, although those referred to were on upland, not on the marsh.

ANY one wishing to purchase a flock of Cotswold sheep on favourable terms may obtain the address of the owner, who wishes to sell, from Dr. Lawson, Secy. of Board of Agriculture, Halifax. Two of the Ewes were imported by the Board some years ago, and all are pure.

A THOROUGH-BRED Short Horn Cow, raised in the Province, from imported stock, and her heifer, from imported bull, are offered for sale. Any one wishing to purchase may obtain the owner's address on application to Dr. Lawson.

WE are indebted to John Starr, Esq. of Halifax, for the following item of news from Echo Farm. There is no good reason why every acre of land in Nova Scotia should not yield as good a crop as the mangal field of Echo Farm. All that is required to obtain as large a yield is to find out how it may be done, and then to do it. Will Mr. Starr kindly let us into the secret? Our farmers have energy enough to carry out the experiment:—

Echo Farm raises other products than Alderneys in wonderful profusion. This last season, on 2½ acres of this farm, were raised twenty-six hundred and fifty two bushels of mangal wurzel beets. About an acre of this field was grass ground, ploughed this Spring for the first time, and on that portion the yield was scarcely half as much in proportion to its area as upon the rest. Two-fifths of an acre of the other part of the field produced 516 bushels of beets. This yield of more than a thousand bushels to the acre upon the portion of the land which was best suited to the crop, is certainly a wonderful showing for the "sterile soil" of New England.

But then he is a Nova Scotian farmer who does it.

IN New Brunswick, the Annual Fair and Exhibition of the King's County Central Agricultural Society was held at Hampton on the 16th and 17th October. The attendance of visitors was larger than usual, more interest was manifested than on former occasions, and there was a larger number of thoroughbred animals. Of pure Devons there were about twenty, of Ayrshires about ten, and a few Jerseys. It was remarked by men who have seen a number of Provincial Exhibitions, that, excluding Shorthorns, this show of thoroughbred stock has never been matched in New Brunswick. The grade cattle, including oxen and steers, showed to good advantage, and their sleek coats and trim appearance evidenced good feed, and good care. In horses four matched teams contended for the prizes, and mares and foals, yearlings, two-year-olds and three-year-olds, gave the Judges some work to decide as to their respective merits. Sheep were out in average numbers—one pen of ten ewes attracted much attention. The Society had just imported from H. Longworth, Esq., P. E. I., seven rams, four of the seven being prize sheep at the late Provincial Exhibition at Charlottetown.

The display of grain, roots, dairy produce, wooden and fancy goods, within the Hall, was the centre of attraction to the sight-seers, who filled the available space from the opening till the close.—*Abridged from Colonial Farmer.*

At the Preston County Court a cattle dealer obtained \$150 and costs from the L. & N. W. Railway Co., for delay of 10 or 12 hours in delivery of 98 calves sent by rail.

ADDITIONS TO THE NOVA SCOTIA REGISTER OF THOROUGH-BRED STOCK.

JERSEY BULL CALF.

CXLVI.—ROYAL CHARLIE.—Calved at Calais, Maine, April 11, 1877. Light fawn along back, body dark brownish fawn, belly and legs white, switch white,—a white star on forehead, and white patch on right hip. Bred by Hon. C. R. Whidden, Calais, Me. Owned by Geo. A. Robinson, Esq., Digby, N. S.

Sire Saxe 805, from Sibyl, imported from the Island of Jersey.

Dam Estelle, 2005, from Bonabel, from Belleflower, from Belle imported from the Island of Jersey, now owned at the military Asylum at Togns, Augusta; it is claimed that she has the highest record of any cow in Maine, her milk raising 35 p. c. cream. These animals are all recorded in the Herd Register of the Jersey Cattle Club.

(Signed) M. F. WHIDDEN.

SHORT HORN DURHAM HEIFER CALF.

CCXXXVII.—QUEEN CAROLINE.—Calved 6th November, 1877, red and roan, with white flecks, and a white heart on forehead. Bred by Professor Lawson, Lucyfield Farm, Halifax Co., N. S.

Sire Viscount Oxford, CXVIII, by Sixth Baron Oxtord, (by Eighth Duke of Geneva, 28390, from Lady Oxford 5th) dam Graceful Duchess by Baron Oxford 4th, 25580, g. d. Duchess by Fifteenth Grand Duke, 21852, g. g. d. Countess by Knightley Grand Duke, 24268, g. g. g. d. by 4th Duke of Thomdale, &c., to Comet 155 and Hubback 319.

Dam Polly Vaughan, CXXIV., by Seventeenth Duke of Oxford, 25994. (Polly Vaughan was bred by George Moore, Esq., of Whitehall, Cumberland, England.)

g. d. Rose Gwynne 4th by Duke of Cumberland 21584.

g. g. d. Rose Gwynne 2nd by General Jackson 2nd, 17954.

g. g. g. d. Rose Gwynne by General Jackson, 14604.

g. g. g. g. d. Rosebud by Mingo, 4359.

g. g. g. g. g. d. Cowslip by Wallace, 5586.

g. g. g. g. g. g. d. by Tom Gwynne, 5498.

g. g. g. g. g. g. g. d. by Marmion, 406.

g. g. g. g. g. g. g. g. d. bred by Mr. Matthews of Durham.

THE Editor of the *Canada Farmer* page of the *Toronto Globe* surely makes a mistake when he recommends the sowing of Sweet Vernal Grass and White Clover in a mixture for Hay, and when he affirms that the mushroom spawn sold by seedsmen is only the earth of old mushroom beds on which the spores of the fungus have fallen, pressed into blocks. More useful are the instructions of his correspondent for trapping apple thieves by running a spool of sewing machine thread round his orchard and tying the end of it to a spring-bell near his pillow, the muzzle of a double-loaded double-barrelled gun being meanwhile pointed through the window.

CHARLES E. BROWN, Esq., has addressed to the *Yarmouth Herald* a useful letter, explaining to growers and competitors in Yarmouth County various matters connected with the recent apple competitions at the County and Provincial shows. He opens with the remark that:—

The several respectable collections of Apples shown at the Exhibition of the County Agricultural Society, on the 12th Oct., gave an agreeable surprise to visitors, in contrast with the collections shown at our first Exhibition in 1868, when scarcely half-a-dozen standard varieties could be got together in the County; and these, in connection with the collection from this County shown at the Provincial Exhibition at Kentville, Oct. 1-5, merit a few observations, to encourage the further diligent prosecution of pomology.

The Provincial Prize List required all collections to be grown by exhibitors, this may have prevented collections from many of the Counties that are not considered Fruit Counties, which are really limited to three—Kings, Hants and Annapolis. This condition, however, was not insisted upon, and the collection of Apples from Yarmouth County, although placed in juxtaposition to a collection from Annapolis, was not strikingly inferior to it, received the prize offered (\$6), and was awarded favorable notice in the press and comments from judges. It was also superior in general appearance and in merit to any collection outside of the three Fruit Counties, giving us fourth rank as a Fruit County in the Province. Digby County was not represented, nor Lunenburg; both of these, and possibly Queen's and Shelburne, may take precedence of us, when the best they can grow is brought together in one collection. As it stands now, we have risen, in less than ten years, from the lowest rank to the fourth, and have by so much the start of the sleeping Counties."

With the view of securing a representation of the Apples of Yarmouth County, to compete at the Provincial Exhibition, Mr. Brown issued circulars to known growers, who responded liberally. Omitting the long list of men and apples we resume quotation:

Mr. Norris Reynard, of Tusket Lakes, grows the best Northern Spy and the best Fameuse (or Snow) Apples in the County; and Mr. Wm. H. Gavel, of Gaveltown, grows one or two seedlings of great merit, specimens of which have been recently received; also from Mr. C. R. Reeves, of Kempt, nearly twenty varieties from his vicinity, seedlings, or names lost; some of the specimens of fair quality, and well worth cultivation.

Andrews or Major's Sweet; a seedling originated by Major Andrews, is deservedly a favorite inland, the tree being a thrifty, vigorous grower, and productive, while the fruit is one of our best fall and early winter table apples, being a pleasant, tender sweet. Mr. Chas. Downing, one of the best authorities, judges that quality may rank as very good.

Chenango Strawberry is a very beautiful, delicate, highly colored, early fall apple; will not probably succeed on the coast.

Fameuse, or Snow, does well inland, a large bearer, fruit everywhere popular.

Fall Jonnetting succeeds well inland; attains fair size, color and quality.

The Gravenstein, grown by Mr. Charles Dowell, I tried to day as to quality, and was surprised to find it the very best I ever saw—more flavor, juicier and sweeter, in which decision all who tried it (several good judges) agreed with me. As this is the very best apple grown in the Province, sometimes selling at \$6 per bbl., our inland growers should give it a preference over most kinds; the tree is hardy, vigorous and productive.

Grimes' Golden Pippin, as the trees get age and size, is improving wonderfully in quality, and may yet take high rank. We got discouraged at the Carleton Club Farm with the inferiority of the fruit last season, and this spring top-grafted about half our trees with red Astrachan, our most profitable variety. This variety is poor on the coast, however, except as a dwarf on Paradise stock; as standards the trees canker, while the fruit is small and lacks color.

Keswick Codlin, is our hardiest and most productive variety, and the most useful we can see on the coast. It bears early and always, and is one of the very best apples for the kitchen, for sauce, pies, &c. It is an old English apple, and so much a favorite that I have seen Englishmen eat it here. It luxuriates and thrives in fogs and low temperature, so that the fruit is larger here in town than at Brazil Lake, Carleton, or anywhere that I have seen it inland.

Northern Spy, grown at Tusket Lakes, was sent to Mr. Downing last fall, in company with the same grown in King's or Hants, and the Yarmouth apple was judged to have a higher flavor, and to be of better quality, than the much larger and more beautiful specimen.

Primate, from my own garden, is very fine in quality, ripe now. Hubbardston Nonsuch succeeds so well that I ventured to compete with one dozen against the Province, but failed to get a prize, being fifth or sixth among ten or twelve dozen exhibited.

Pomme Grise, a delicious table apple, succeeds well inland—not yet fruited in town. I have Swayzie Pomme Grise growing very vigorously and may prove good. This has a pear-like flavor, and is one of the very best dessert apples; its small size being rather a recommendation when the little folks are numerous.

Reynard, originating with Mr. Edward Reynard, is our largest seedling; a very large, handsome, early winter apple of fair quality; was shown at Kentville this year as grown in Kings Co., among the very largest apples at the Exhibition.

Rhode Island Greening were also large this year; have never before seen one of even medium size, and had considered it was quite worthless here.

Yellow Bellefleur were shown for the first time; very fair specimens; will not do on the coast.

In conclusion, perseverance and patient experiment, not abandoning a variety too hastily, before the trees have attained sufficient age and size, and testing varieties that succeed in other coast Counties (and of these their seedlings may be among the best,) may yet give us a range of varieties that will come in with the Early Harvest, the Bough and the Red Astrachan, and end with the Roxbury Russet. Our apples will always be long keepers of the kind; our Red Astrachan were in perfect preservation Oct. 1-5 at

Kentville through the simple expedient of a refrigerator, in which they had been kept for a month without change.

The plate of Peaches exhibited at our County Exhibition by Capt. Lymon Gann of Milton, grown in cold graperies, were very fine; the largest weighed 7½ ounces, and there was but trifling variation in size to the smallest; the quality is said to equal the appearance. What is the more extraordinary is that the tree was grown from seed, planted at random, without selection as to size or quality in the parent."

We would not have reproduced in our columns so large a portion of Mr. Brown's communication, which was intended merely for local information in the County, but for two reasons, viz: 1st. That it contains so many pertinent hints in regard to the varieties of fruit and their adaptability to different conditions, just the kind of information that orchardists value, and that should really be their guide. 2nd. Mr. Brown's system of worthy of imitation in every county in the Province, wherever there is an active and intelligent orchardist to carry it out.

BOTRYCHIUM SIMPLEX.—A paper by Mr. George E. Davenport, of Boston, with two plates by J. H. Emerton from tracings of original specimens. Size 10 x 12 inches, elegantly printed on heavy plated paper. A (very small) private edition, price (including postage), one dollar.

This valuable paper is the result of two years careful preparation. The writer has examined a very large number of specimens, and has diligently compared all accessible authors, testing the results of his labours by the authority of Milde's invaluable "Monographia Botrychiorum."

The smaller species of Botrychium have always been difficult to determine, our botanical text books having but little upon the subject, many of the authors confusing the species. This work is illustrated by two plates, giving nearly fifty specimens of *B. simplex* and other species which have been confused with it. Up to the present time no thoroughly accurate description of *B. simplex* has been published in this country. This paper treats of the character of the species, disentangling it from the confusion into which, with the allied species, it had been thrown. It gives all known localities where authenticated specimens have been found, accompanied by the names of collectors and dates of collection.

Those desiring to obtain the work can do so by remitting price to John Robinson, Salem, Mass.

THE Halifax County Agricultural Society is advertised to meet in the Provincial Library on 4th inst., at noon, when a lively discussion may be expected on the subject of the Provincial Exhibition of 1878.

We have to thank Messrs. Scribner & Co., New York, for the Holiday Christmas number of *St. Nicholas*, (their Illustrated Magazine for Girls and Boys), which is full of admirable pictures, prose and poetry, adapted to the juvenile taste and understanding. Price \$3 a year, single number 25 cents. *Scribner's Monthly* is for grown people and grown intellects. It is one of the very ablest of literary journals published in America, and is profusely illustrated with woodcuts, in the highest style of the art. Price \$4 per annum.

In order to show the way in which the merits of Ayrshire Cows are estimated in Scotland, we republish from an old number of the *Agricultural Gazette*, the results of milking competition at a meeting of the Ayrshire Agricultural Society:—

Seven cows were entered for this competition. The competing cows were brought to the Star Hotel on the evening of Thursday last, to undergo the preparatory milking. Each owner was allowed to remove his cow and feed it as he pleased, it being arranged that they were to be brought to the Star Hotel on the mornings and evenings of Friday and Saturday to be milked. The Judges appointed by the Association were Mr. John Struthers, Slaphouse, and Mr. A. B. Telfer, Ayr, attended by Mr. Smith, Prestwick. The milk from each cow was collected separately, and each milking, as shown by the annexed tabular statement, weighed; and the churning of the produce of each cow took place on Monday afternoon.

The first prize of £5 has been gained by the cow No. 6, belonging to Mr. Wallace, Kirklandholm. The yield of milk at the four milkings was 114 lbs. 2 oz., averaging 28 lbs. 8 oz., 5 drs. The second cow belonged to Mr. Reid, Clune. Her yield at the four milkings was 109 lbs. 6 oz., averaging 27 lbs. 5 oz. 5 dr. The cow second in yield of milk gained the prize of £5 for the largest produce in butter, being 3 lbs. 6½ oz.; while the cow that gave the largest quantity of milk only gave in butter 1 lb. 9½ oz. There is a very marked difference here, and it is somewhat remarkable that the cow that gained the largest quantity of milk is the lowest of all the competing cows in the yield of butter. The following is a list of the awards:—

I. For the Ayrshire Cow yielding the greatest weight of milk at four successive milkings, £5, Robert Wallace, Kirklandholm, St. Quivox; for the do. do. yielding the second greatest weight of milk at said milkings, £2, Wm. Reid, Clune, St. Quivox.

II. For the Ayrshire Cow yielding milk at said milkings from which the greatest value of butter is made, £5, con-

ing their roots; no rule therefore need be laid down as to the proper season for planting. Either before or after the growing season is best, although they may be planted in midsummer with no other damage than slightly checking their growth; indeed, among the shy flowering sorts this has even been found to have a salutary effect, as it sometimes causes them to form flower buds, if done immediately before the growth stops.

Where the soil is not naturally suitable, it must be removed to the depth of about 18 inches, the subsoil trenched and then filled up with a compost consisting of two parts peat, $\frac{1}{2}$ leaf mould, $\frac{1}{2}$ well rotted manure, and $\frac{1}{3}$ sharp sand.

Nor need the admirer of this interesting family of plants despair, when placed in a position where peat cannot be obtained; all the short grass, leaves, dressings from flower borders, and old tanner's bark, which must be completely decomposed before being supplied to the plants, and mixed with about one-third turfy sandy loam, will make a compost in which they will grow and flower admirably; where tanners' bark and decayed leaves form the principal part of the compost, the addition of small freestone masons' shivers, will be found beneficial in correcting the consequent stiffness and liability to bind together. I would remark, in passing, that in making up a compost it is of great importance that it should lie for some months before it is used, during which time it should be turned once or twice, so that its several parts may be thoroughly incorporated.

But while a naturally moist situation is found to be the best suited for Rhododendrons, by a very little art they may be made to thrive even in a dry one. The means by which this is accomplished are exceedingly simple; the plants are replanted every two years, part of the old soil removed and replaced with fresh soil. This keeps the ground from becoming hard and impervious to moisture, and renders it retentive when once supplied, and, being done in autumn or winter, the whole is well soaked with the rain, enabling the plants to flower well and make good growths; and the moisture being comparatively dried up and the roots thickly matted among the new soil, the young shoots are properly ripened and enabled to set well with buds for the succeeding year.

In the management of hardy varieties for forcing, they should be turned out into the open ground as soon after flowering as is consistent with safety from frost, as they are found to bud much better and to assume a far healthier appearance than when kept through the year in pots. When they are grown entirely in pots, great attention should be paid to watering, never allowing them to

become thoroughly dry, and, if possible to have the sides of the pots protected, from the heat of the sun.

In pot culture I have found the occasional application of well diluted manure water, when the plants are in a state of active growth, very beneficial, and from my experience in this I have no doubt but that it may be given with very material advantage in the open ground.—*Mr. Fraser, Stanwell Lodge, Edinburgh, (from an old number of the Scottish Gardener.)*

DIFFERENCE IN MILK.

It is well for dairymen to study the difference in cows, and there is no better way than to study their product under analysis. The cow is kept for her milk, and, of course, in reference to dairy uses, everything depends upon the quality of that milk, as well as the quantity, in reference to the value of the cow. If cows are kept for butter, then the cow that makes the most butter, of a good quality, is the most valuable. If they are kept for cheesemaking, then the cow that gives the largest quantity of milk is usually the most valuable, unless the percentage of water is too great. Chemical analysis is the best test, but when the dairyman shall fully understand the importance of selecting his cows, he may apply many simple tests of his own to determine very closely the relative value of cows.

Mr. S. P. Sharpless, State Assayer, of Massachusetts, has made analyses of the milk of nineteen cows, most of them natives. The cows were fed, on an average, two and a half quarts of corn-meal and four quarts of shorts per day, each. The analyses resulted as follows:—

NINETEEN SAMPLES OF PURE MILK.

	Ash.	Casein.	Sugar.	Solids not fat.	Fat.	Per cent. of cream.	Specific Gravity.
Average	.66	3.27	4.94	9.66	4.53	10	1.030
Highest	.79	5.23	5.40	11.42	6.62	18	1.033
Lowest	.57	3.25	4.47	7.88	1.61	5	1.018

NINE SAMPLES OF ADULTERATED MILK.

Average	.46	3.13	3.37	6.92	2.46	6.3	1.022
Highest	.56	3.64	3.34	7.61	2.53	8.5	1.026
Lowest	.40	2.78	2.83	6.17	2.27	4.0	1.020

The above analyses will show the dairyman what an immense loss must occur averaging only as well as the lowest of the samples of pure milk. The amount of butter would be very small with the percentage of fat as low as 1.61 per cent., while the highest is 6.72 per cent. Then the casein is the most nutritious element in the milk; and what a difference between 5.23 per cent. and 2.35 per cent., the lowest!

The next table shows the kind of milk city people mostly get, after it has gone through the hands of the milk-dealer; but, from the fact that city people take so little trouble to punish the adulterators, we must suppose that they have become so used to it that they would not relish genuine milk. We have several times given simple methods by which

the dairyman may determine the relative value of his cows. The one given in our last number is simple and effective.

We give the following analysis of the Milk of a good Jersey and Holstein cow, belonging to W. S. Tilton, of Massachusetts. The analyses were made by J. M. Merrick, of Boston:—

	Honey's Milk.	Itzehoe's Milk.
Water.....	83.65	85.80
Casein and sugar....	10.24	9.60
Fatty matter.....	5.24	3.90
Ash, mineral matter..	.77	.60
	100.00	100.00
Per cent of cream (volume).....	35.76	25.00

These analyses were made it seems, without knowing anything the cows; but the chemist says: "I presume from the result of the analyses, that No. 1 is better fitted for butter and No. 2 for the cheese dairy."

Mr. Tilton adds:

"Honey is a Jersey that made 10½ lbs. of butter a week last summer; Itzehoe is a Holstien, a breed better adapted to the cheese dairy—she made 1 lb. of butter per day during the week of experiment. Her yield of milk was 38 lb., whilst Honey gave only 24 lbs. per day,

So it appears that 42 lbs of Jersey milk made 50 per cent more butter than 38 lbs. of Holstien milk; but had the milk been made into cheese the result would have been very different. Honey gave 168 lbs. of milk in a week, that would probably have made 17½ lbs. of cheese; whilst Itzehoe gave 266 lbs. of milk, that would have made 26½ lbs. of cheese; so that the Holstien beats the Jersey as much in cheese as the Jersey beats the Holstien in butter. Still, it must be admitted that such Jersey cheese would be much richer in fat than the Holstien, and no doubt bring a higher price in the market. How important, therefore, that the dairyman should study both quantity and quality of milk yielded by each cow in his herd!—*Live Stock Journal.*

ANNAPOLIS COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.—At the Exhibition of the Annapolis Agricultural Society, notwithstanding the unpropitious state of the weather, the attendance was fairly large. There is no doubt that there would have been many more present had it continued fine. The show of cattle was held on a part of the old Garrison grounds, under the management of Dincock Whitman, John Lacy, John G. Woodbury and R. J. Spurr, Esqrs., as a Committee, while the agricultural products, manufactures, &c., were displayed in the spacious hall of the new building lately erected by T. S. Whelan, Esq., of the Bank of Nova Scotia agency, and which he kindly placed at the disposal of the Society free of charge. The Committee for the Hall consisted of the following gentlemen, viz.: Rev. W. S. Gray, G. Bingay, Esq., M. D., Geo. LeCain and E. G. Anderson, Esqrs. The fruit show was the finest ever held in the County.

THE Exhibition of Agricultural Implements at the Guelph Annual Show was ahead of that of any previous year.

A BAKER of Great Bridge, England, has been fined £25 and costs for adulterating bread with alum. The specific gravity of pure butter at 100° varies from 905 to 910. Butter under 904 is looked upon with suspicion.

THE Ottawa County Exhibition, Oct. 5, is reported as a damp affair.

LUCYFIELD FARM,

Old Windsor Road, 14 miles from Halifax.

PURE ELLESMERE PIGS FOR SALE.

TWO LITTERS, six weeks old, \$10 each.
ONE LITTER of three-fourths Ellesmere, six weeks old, \$6 each.

Apply at the Farm, or by letter, to

DR. G. LAWSON,

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HALIFAX.

GROUND BONES! GROUND BONES!

A 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,
may 1 Oakfield, Halifax County.

Four's Patent Hay Loader.

Warranted to load a ton of hay from the winrow in five minutes.

One of the Judges of Provincial Exhibition held in Truro, 1876, says "it is worthy the most careful attention of our farmers."

Prize Medal and honorable mention, Centennial Exhibition, 1876.

Certificate of Merit, Provincial Exhibition, Truro, 1876.

Orders for delivery in June, 1877, solicited.

GEO. W. JONES,

30 Bedford Row,

General Agent for the Lower Provinces.

Agents wanted in unrepresented districts.
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FOR SALE OR TRADE.

THE GRAND PRE DUKE, No. 107, registered. A thorough-bred Short-Horn Bull, four years old last June, owned by the Tatawagouche Agricultural Society.

Apply to

JAMES JOHNSON, Sec'y.

Tatawagouche Bay, Sept. 14, 1877.

Thorough Bred Devon Herd.

ELLESMERE PIGS.

Oakfield Station on Intercolonial Railway,
close to House.

SURPLUS STOCK FOR SALE.

BULL "PRESIDENT," 3 years old, dam Margaret, sire Hartland 2nd, took 1st prize as 2 year old at Truro in 1876, and 1st prize as calf at Halifax in 1874. Price \$150.

Bull SIR HASTINGS, 2½ years old, dam Lady Pink, sire Havelock, took first prize as yearling at Truro in 1876. Price \$150.

Bull PRINCE ALEXANDER, 2½ years old, imported by Central Board of Agriculture, from the Herd of Her Majesty the Queen at Windsor, took 2nd prize at Truro as 2 year old. Price \$150.

Bull SIR CHARLES NAPIER, 2 years old, dam Violet, sire Havelock. Price \$100.

Heifer ORANGE, 2 years old, dam Lady Anne, sire Havelock, in calf to Prince Alexander, took 2nd prize as yearling at Truro. Price \$80.

Heifer KALMA, 21 months old, dam Margaret, sire Hartland 2nd. Price \$80.

Heifer MARGOLD, 13 months old, dam Violet, sire Havelock. Price \$60.

Heifer POPPY, 12 months old, dam Lily, sire The President. Price \$60.

Heifer LARKSPUR, 11 months old, dam Mayflower, sire Havelock. Price \$60.

Heifer CARNATION, 11 months old, dam Mayflower, sire Havelock. Price \$50.

Heifer HEARTSEASE, 10 months old, dam Lady Pink, sire Havelock. Price \$50.

Heifer HAWTHORN, lately calved, dam Tulip, sire Prince Alexander. Will be sold when weaned. Price \$35.

Several Bull Calves of the present season, at prices varying from \$40.

Also, a few thorough bred YORKSHIRE (ELLESMERE) PIGS, from imported Stock.

Apply by letter to

COLONEL LAURIE,

Oakfield

The prices given are for cash, but for large sums good notes will be taken, and payment from Agricultural Societies may be made by orders for next year's Government grant, endorsed by Secretary of Central Board.

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

Grand Substitute for Manure.

WILL suit any kind of Land needing manure. A liberal use in early Spring is almost a sure preventative against injury from dry seasons.

Will probably double the Hay crop if judiciously applied.

Will almost double the Potato crop, and in many cases prevent rot.

A specific for Mangels, Carrots, Turnips— all root crops.

Used extensively by the Farmers with success, in various parts of the Province.

Information and circulars can be had on application to the subscriber, or GEO. CREED, South Rawdon.

JOSEPH S. BELCHER,

Agent for Nova Scotia,

Bennet's Wharf,

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FOR SALE.

THE Subscriber offers for sale his thoroughbred Bull 2nd Gwynne of the Forest, 18 months old. Certified Pedigree. Took First Prize at the Provincial Exhibition, Kentville, and also at County Exhibition, Truro, 1877. This Bull is of the celebrated and fashionable Gwynne tribe, and a very fine animal and pronounced by good judges superior to any imported of the same age.

Societies wishing to purchase will do well to communicate with the Subscriber at once as to terms and price.

J. B. FRASER,
Shubenacadie, Oct. 29th, 1877.

HALIFAX VETERINARY COLLEGE.

[Established 1871.]

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THE Curriculum extends over three Sessions of six months each, commencing 1st July, 1878. For the whole course of three Sessions the fees are \$150, or may be paid in three payments of \$50 each Session, to be paid on entry, and \$5 as Registration fee to be paid on receiving the Diploma.

Members of the Medical Profession are only required to attend one full Session.

Gentlemen wishing to attend one Session on Lectures of the Horse and its diseases, or of Cattle, can do so by paying \$10 each Session.

STAFF AND SUBJECTS TAUGHT.

Physiology, Histology and Pathology.—Professor Summers, M. D.

Botany.—Professor Page, M. R. C. S., London.

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Veterinary Medicine and Surgery.—Professor Byrne, V. S., Edinburgh.

Veterinary Anatomy and Practical Anatomy.—Professor Byrne, V. S., Edinburgh.

Veterinary Materia Medica and Pharmacy.—Professor Byrne, V. S., Edinburgh.

Entozoa of Domestic Animals.—Professor Byrne, V. S., Edinburgh.

Clinical Instruction.—Prof. Byrne, V. S., Edinburgh. For further information apply at 7 North Park Street, Halifax.

CHARLES BYRNE, V. S., Edin.,

Principal.

Halifax, Oct. 31st, 1877.

THOROUGH-BRED POULTRY FOR SALE.

1. White faced Black Spanish. 1 trio fine birds, \$6. Cockerels \$2 to \$1 each.

2. Light Brahmas. One fine large Cock, \$4. Cockerels \$1 to \$2 each.

3. Buff Cochins. One trio. Cockerel and two hens, \$6.

4. Partridge Cochins. One Cockerel, \$2.

5. Silver Pencilled Hamburgs. 2 pairs. Best \$4. Second pair \$3.

6. Brown Leghorns. 2 Cocks at \$2 each, 1 year old. 2 Cockerels \$1 each. Pure Bonney strain.

The Spanish hens are imported stock purchased from Professor Lawson. My Light Brahma took 1st and 2nd at Truro, 1877. S. P. Hamburgs are from the stock which took 1st at Truro, 1877. The above are all surplus stock, and I will exchange for common fowls, pullets, or for any fair offer. Will sell from this date, August 16th, 1877. Cash in advance. Address,

CHARLES D. MACDONALD,

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FOR SALE.

Ayrshire Cow & Cotswold Sheep.

THE imported Ayrshire Cow, Park 4th, in calf to Young Royalty (imported). Also, a few Cotswold sheep and Lambs. Apply to

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W. E. STARRATT,

MAPLE GROVE,

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

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