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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., FEBRUARY, 1879. No. 24.**

**CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, 1879,**

His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in Council has been pleased to make the following appointments to the Central Board of Agriculture:—

**Government Member:** HON. HECTOR FRANCIS McDUGALL, M. P. P., M. E. C.

**Member for District No. 1, including the Counties of Halifax and Lunenburg:** Colonel J. WIMBURN LAURIE, Oakfield.

**Member for District No. 2, including the Counties of King's, Annapolis, and Queen's:** CHARLES F. EATON, Esq., Cornwallis.

**Member for District No. 3, including the Counties of Digby, Shelburne and Yarmouth:** CHARLES E. BROWN, Esq., Yarmouth.

**Member for District No. 4, including the Counties of Hants, Colchester and Cumberland:** ISRAEL LONGWORTH, Esq., Truro.

**Member for District No. 5, including the Counties of Pictou, Antigonishe and Guysborough:** DAVID MATHIESON, Esq., Pictou.

**Member for District No. 6, including the Counties of Cape Breton, Richmond, Inverness and Victoria:** JOHN ROSS, Esq., Boulardarie, C. B.

COLONEL BLAIR, M. P. P., of Onslow, has registered three Ayrshire Bull Calves, Sir John, Sir Peter, and Sir Hugh, from his cows,—Daisy the Second, Daisy, and Myra.

The Senate of Dalhousie College have passed the following resolution:—

*Resolved,* That whereas Dr. J. J. Mackenzie has been removed from among us by death, in the midst of his labours as Professor of Physics in this University, we desire to record our deep sorrow at the sad event.

The earnestness with which our late colleague engaged in his duties imparted itself to all with whom he came into contact, to the students whom he inspired with enthusiasm, and to the friends of the College, who were stimulated to special effort to promote the efficiency of the scientific department. He also endeared himself to his associates by the qualities of high and honorable manhood, genial and kindly feeling, and rare personal worth; so that while we deplore his loss as that of a valued coadjutor, we deplore it still more as that of an esteemed friend.

To Dr. Mackenzie's family and relatives we offer our heartfelt sympathy and condolence, and earnestly trust that their keen sense of bereavement may be alleviated by the consolations of religion, and that, in mourning the loss of a son and brother, cut off so soon after his entry upon a sphere of public usefulness, their submission to the Divine Will may be strengthened by the thought that his work, so long as he was permitted to perform it, was well and nobly done.

**THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST.**

This very useful monthly, issued by the Fruit Growers' Association of Ontario, enters upon its second year. The January number is now before us, replete with valuable and interesting information on the cultivation of Fruits, &c. It should be in the hands of every man who has an orchard or a garden. Now is the time to send a dollar to D. W. Beadle, Secretary, St. Catharines, and secure this welcome monthly visitor, also a copy of the Annual Report for 1878, and a tree of the "Ontario" apple.

PROFESSOR LAWSON'S Class for Scientific Agriculture was opened in January, for the second term of the Technological Institute. The Class meets every Wednesday and Saturday evening in the Chemistry Class Room, Dalhousie College. The Lecture commences at 8 o'clock, and is continued for an hour or an hour and a half, after which the Students adjourn to the adjoining Laboratory well furnished with apparatus, and engage in the work of Chemical Analysis.

The Class work was commenced by an exposition of the principles of Chemistry and preliminary instruction in chemical nomenclature and notation, especially in the use of symbols, formulæ and chemical equations, which, whilst so simple as to be easily understood, tend greatly to simplify Chemistry, and enable one to express chemical ideas with clearness and precision. The futility of attempting to understand chemistry without chemical equations was pointed out, whilst the ease with which a knowledge of the science could be acquired by their use was illustrated.

The chemical operations of Agriculture require an intimate acquaintance with the atmosphere, water, and the soil that forms the uppermost layer of the crust of the earth. The constitution of the atmosphere was dealt with, its principal constituent gases, Nitrogen and Oxygen, prepared, and their properties shown by various experiments. The Carbonic acid of the air, although in minute quantity, plays an important part in natural phenomena, enabling rain-water to render solu-

ble the dormant constituents of the soil, and furnishing plants with Carbon from which to build up their tissues. Sulphur and Phosphorus and their compounds were then studied in detail,—the first is an element whose chief relation to agriculture is of the injurious kind, inasmuch as the decay of sulphides in our slate and clay soils produces soluble iron sulphate which poisons the land, often rendering marshes and recently broken up lands barren, especially where the plough has gone too deep into the pan below. Phosphorus on the other hand is the light bearer that has led the way in our modern scientific farming, inasmuch as Phosphate is one of the most valuable materials that can be applied to the soil, being required by the plant, and from the plant transferred in food to the animal in which it goes to form bone, whilst the other inorganic materials taken by the plant from the soil are mostly returned by the animal to the soil again. The constitution of phosphates, the circumstances upon which solubility depends, &c., were entered upon in detail.

The Lectures up to this point formed, as it were, a preliminary course on the principles of Chemistry.

The application of Science to Agriculture was then commenced by a minute description of the soil, with respect to its constituents, mode of formation, and changes to which it is subject. Soils consist essentially of two kinds of material, *sand* and *clay*, the one being the oxide of Silicon, the other a Silicate of Alumina, variously modified by the presence of other bases. Soils are classified into sandy soils, those in which sand predominates, loamy soils, in which there is both sand and clay, clayey soils which consists mostly of clay, and all the intermediate gradations. In some soils Calcium Carbonate (limestone) exists in large quantity, in others vegetable matter predominates, but such are exceptional. The methods of analysing soils, so as to determine their exact character was described and shown, and after the lecture the students commenced work in the laboratory, each having brought a sample of soil for analysis. This preliminary examination extended to the determination of the percentage of clay, sand, organic matter and water present,—these determinations being made by weighing out say 100 grains of soil, drying at 212° in water bath, the loss of weight showing the amount of water; incinerating, by which the organic matter is determined; washing the soil in water thoroughly, the loss by this process indicating the exact amount of clay or typical soil, and the remainder showing the percentage of sand,—stones and gravel that do not pass through a sieve with meshes  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an inch, being classified as foreign matter

that does not constitute a part of the soil proper, inasmuch as it takes no part in the chemical changes which the soil undergoes in the processes of cultivation and manuring.

So far the soil is a mere vehicle to enable us to feed the plant. Sand and alumina are not the food which it requires. Accordingly the chemical constitution of the plant was now examined, and the various elements which enter into its composition, pointed out. Those that are derived from the soil are mostly represented in the ash of the plant. The ash then shows what a crop removes from the soil,—the amount of potash, phosphate, soda, lime, and other ingredients, the larger the crop the more is taken out, and these ingredients are taken out by different kinds of crops in very different proportions. The straw of grains requires, for example, a very large supply of Silica, not in the dormant state as sand, but in the active condition as soluble silicate, whilst turnips require an immense quantity of phosphates and alkalis. The suitability of a soil for a certain crop depends upon the amount of soluble materials which it contains. These are necessary in the required proportion for each kind of crop. In the cropping of land nineteen-twentieths of the Potash or Soda withdrawn from the soil are taken by the green crops, by which they are returned to the soil again if these crops are fed on the farm. In selling such crops the farmer is selling the fertility of his soil. Ten tons of potatoes or twenty tons of turnips contain nearly ten times as much potash and soda as fifty bushels of wheat. In potatoes, however, these alkalis may be replaced to some extent by lime.

This subject was followed by a consideration of the conditions necessary for Fertility and of the application of Natural and Artificial Manures.

To the Editor of the Journal of Agriculture.

Onslow, Feb. 5th, 1879.

DEAR SIR,—In view of the Agricultural Exhibition to be held in Halifax in the autumn of this year, I would beg leave to make a few suggestions, which I trust you will not think altogether out of place.

First.—That in judging stock a scale of points should be adopted, particularly in regard to cows, as it is impossible after a cow giving milk for six months to be as high in flesh as one that has dropped her calf but a few days previous to being exhibited, and I do think that in the past Judges have not given this the consideration they should.

That Judges on Short Horns should not be allowed to pass judgment upon Ayrshires, and *vice versa*.

Seeing that there are now so many herds in competition, would it not be well to divide the money proportionately into three herd prizes, that is to say, first, second and third prizes for herds of each breed.

That a competent person be authorized to wait upon the Judges, and examine cattle as to their ages, as I have frequently observed three year old heifers entered as two year old, and winning first prize in the class of two year old.

Yours,  
J. M.

ELLERSHOUSE, Feb. 9th, 1878.

DEAR SIR,—The following important questions are put in a December number of the *Country Gentleman*, and answered on the eighth page of the present volume of the same paper, by Dr. Horn, V. S. : 1st. Is it judicious to have a carefully fed and well-grown heifer calves at the age of 21 months, and is her calf as likely to become as valuable at maturity as those born from older parents? 2nd. Do Guernsey Cows, being a third larger than Jerseys, generally give a third more milk and butter of equal excellence? The first question has been decided beyond a peradventure. "I have raised calves from much younger mothers, which have developed into fine large animals." Dr. Horn goes on to say, "I never knew before that Guernseys are a third larger than either of the other Channel Island breeds. The rule is, in all grades of cows, that the short-legged, small, well developed cow gives the most and richest milk."

EDWARD BLANCHARD.

A NEW Society is being organized at Beech Meadows, in Queen's County, where every man in the settlement is a farmer in a way. The community consists of from 150 to 175 families; there are between 300 and 400 cows alone, besides a considerable number of other horned cattle, and about the same number of sheep. Farming operations are conducted in a primitive manner, and there is much room for improvement. A well managed Society, with such a field of usefulness before it, is likely to prove a great benefit to the district. Mr. Charles M. Frith is in correspondence with C. E. Brown, Esq., and the Secretary of the Board, on the subject of the formation of the new Society.

THE Hon. W. Ross, Collector of Customs at Halifax, sends us the following telegram :

OTTAWA, Feb. 3rd, 1879.

To the Collector of Customs, Halifax :

Importation of cattle from United States prohibited, from first instant.

(Signed) J. JOHNSON,  
Commissioner of Customs.

NOMINATIONS BY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES TO CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, DEC., 1878.

District No. 1.—Counties of Halifax and Lunenburg.

- Halifax County Agricultural Society..... } Col. Laurie, Oookfield, Co. Halifax.
- Lower Musquodoboit Ag. Soc..... Col. Laurie.
- Upper Musquodoboit Ag. Soc..... Col. Laurie.
- Mahone Bay Ag. Soc..... Col. Laurie.
- New Ross Ag. Soc..... Col. Laurie.
- Centerville Ag. Soc..... Col. Laurie.

District No. 2.—Counties of King's, Annapolis and Queen's.

- King's County Central Ag. Soc..... } C. F. Eaton, Esq., Cornwallis, King's Co.
- Union Ag. Soc. of East Cornwallis..... C. F. Eaton, Esq.
- West Cornwallis Ag. Soc..... C. F. Eaton, Esq.
- King's County Ag. Soc., Horton..... C. F. Eaton, Esq.
- Aylesford Ag. Soc..... C. F. Eaton, Esq.
- Farmers' Ag. Soc. of Cornwallis..... } W. E. Starratt, Esq. Paradise, Annap. Co.
- Clements Township Ag. Soc..... } C. F. Eaton, Esq.
- Annapolis Royal Ag. Soc..... } Chas. B. Whitman, Esq., Tupperville.
- Port Williams Ag. Soc..... W. E. Starratt, Esq.
- Paradise Ag. Soc..... W. E. Starratt, Esq.
- Bridgetown Ag. Soc..... W. E. Starratt, Esq.
- Laurie Ag. Soc., Wilmot..... W. E. Starratt, Esq.
- Clarence Ag. Soc..... W. E. Starratt, Esq.
- Kempt Ag. Soc..... C. F. Eaton, Esq.
- North Queen's Ag. Soc., Caledonia..... W. E. Starratt, Esq.
- Mutual Benefit Ag. Soc. of Queen's Co., Brookfield, Pleasant River..... W. E. Starratt, Esq.
- Liverpool Ag. Soc..... C. F. Eaton, Esq.

District No. 3.—Counties of Digby, Shelburne and Yarmouth.

- Digby Central Ag. Soc..... } Charles E. Brown, Esq., Yarmouth.
- Clare Ag. Soc.....
- West Passage Ag. Soc.....
- Barrington Ag. Soc.....
- Shelburne Ag. Soc..... Charles E. Brown, Esq.
- Clyde River Ag. Soc.....
- Wood's Harbor Ag. Soc.....
- Cape Negro Ag. Soc..... Charles E. Brown, Esq.
- Yarmouth Co. Ag. Soc..... Charles E. Brown, Esq.
- Yarmouth Township Ag. Soc..... Charles E. Brown, Esq.

District No. 4.—Counties of Hants, Colchester and Cumberland.

- Newport Ag. Soc..... } Israel Longworth, Esq., Mayor of Truro, Colchester Co.
- Union Ag. Soc. of Hants.....
- Enfield Ag. Soc..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Upper Nine Mile River Ag. Soc.....
- Fenwick Ag. Soc. of Noel.....
- Progress Ag. Soc. of Hardwoodland and Nine Mile River..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Windsor Ag. Soc..... } Robt. Baron, Esq., Windsor, Co. Hants.
- Onslow Ag. Soc..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Tatamagouche Ag. Soc.....
- Shubenacadie Ag. Soc.....
- Stirling Ag. Soc., New Annan..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Brookfield Ag. Soc..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Lower Stewiacke Ag. Soc..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Wagh's River Ag. Soc..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Parrsborough Ag. Soc..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Scotia Ag. Soc. of Fox Harbor..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Malagash Ag. Soc..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Pugwash Union Ag. Soc..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Wallace Ag. Soc.....
- Minudie and Barronsfield Ag. Soc.....
- Oxford Ag. Soc.....
- Middleboro' Ag. Soc..... I Longworth, Esq.
- Amherst Ag. Soc..... Hiram Black, Esq., M.L.C.

District No. 5.—Counties of Pictou, Antigonish and Guysborough.

- Pictou Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq., Pictou
- Egerton Ag. Soc.....
- Millbrook Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq.
- River John Ag. Soc.....
- Merigomish Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq.

- Antigonish Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq.
- St. Andrew's Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq.
- Arisaig Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq.
- Bayfield Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq.
- Milford Haven Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq.
- Gleneck Ag. Soc., Cross Roads, St. Mary's.....
- Guysborough Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq.
- Argyle Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq.
- Pine Tree Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq.
- Little Harbour Ag. Soc..... D. Matheson, Esq.

District No. 6.—Counties of Cape Breton, Richmond, Inverness and Victoria.

- Boulardario Ag. Soc..... } J. Ross, Esq., Glon Farm, Groves' Point, Little Bras d'Or, Co. C. Br'n.
- North Sydney Ag. Soc..... John Ross, Esq.
- Sydney Mines & Little Bras d'Or Ag. Soc..... John Ross, Esq.
- Sydney Ag. Soc..... J. Morrison, Esq., M.P.R.
- Richmond Ag. Soc..... John Ross, Esq.
- Mahon and Port Hood Ag. Soc..... John Ross, Esq.
- N. E. Margaree Ag. Soc..... John Ross, Esq.
- Middle River of Victoria Ag. Soc..... John Ross, Esq.
- St. Ann's Ag. Soc..... } John Morrison, M. P. P., St. Ann's, Co. Victoria
- Badddeck Ag. Soc..... John Ross, Esq.
- Marble Mountain Ag. Soc..... John Ross, Esq.
- Christmas Island Ag. Soc..... John Ross, Esq.

THE ENGLISH EMBARGO ON AMERICAN CATTLE

To the Editor of the Morning Herald :

SIR,—In verification of the old adage that "It is an ill-wind that blows nobody good," we may turn the misfortune of our neighbors across the line of having an interdict put on their cattle trade with England, into an advantage, by diverting European cattle trade via Halifax. If the project be successful, Halifax would become the Summer as well as the "Winter Port" of this large and steadily-increasing trade, and the good old times would be revived in earnest at last. As cattle are easily handled, there is no obstructions of "hags" and "elevators" to be got over in the discussion of this question. The project needs only the support of the Dominion press, the Dominion Board of Trade, and the assistance of the Dominion and Local Governments, together with the reduced through rates on the part of the Canadian Railway Companies, to be brought to a successful consummation. All that is required from Government is the appointment of competent inspectors at this point to inspect every animal shipped, and give it a clean bill of health. Under proper restriction, the Imperial Government, fully aware of the advantage to the masses of having cheap meat, would be willing to allow the introduction of American cattle into England; and Halifax being under English control, offers the securities required by England, and the facilities needed by the shippers of the United States.

The Upper Canadian press ought to be a unit with us in this matter. See what a prospect the trade would open up for the farmers and stock raisers of Ontario and the far west. The Dominion Government ought to be as much interested as the farmers, because of the increased traffic it would bring to the Intercolonial Railway, which would then be fulfilling what its promoters promised it would do, "bringing the products of the West to Halifax for shipment to the Mother country." Ships that would come for cattle would surely bring freight for the cars to carry on this trade to the west, and this immense double traffic would swell the receipts of the road, and make it a source of revenue to the Dominion. Halifax doing an immense shipping trade would require to be also a great coal depot for the steamers, and then the coal trade would be built up. The grain trade would surely come in time; a graving dock would be a requisite; the supply and repairing of ships would benefit thousands, and

in a hundred ways Halifax would be enriched. All that is required is action on the part of our public men, and our merchants, who are generally active enough when their private interests are concerned. Come, gentlemen, put your shoulder to the wheel, and start business moving again! Get your shop ready, and the customers will come. Have your port licensed as the only port for the exportation of live cattle to England, and the beef, grain, butter, and poultry trade will come pouring in upon you. No more hard times; no more idle laboring classes; no more failures at five cents on the dollar; no more real estate selling for a song! L.

#### JERSEYS IN YARMOUTH.

The Jersey calves, A. J. C. C. H. R., I bought at Truro, are thriving fairly. Bon Hampton, 3240, for which the first bid was seventy five cents, dropped 29th May, 1878, weighed when landed here, Nov. 4th, 135 lbs., a light weight certainly. He weighed Dec. 4th, 180 lbs., gain 45 lbs.; Jan. 4th, 235 lbs., gain 55 lbs.; Feb. 4th, 295 lbs., gain 60 lbs.

Having more than doubled his weight in the three months, in the next three months, with longer days and warmer weather, he will gain more rapidly. The heifer calf, Golden Doublet, 7199, is not doing quite so well. Dropped 29th June, she weighed Nov. 4th, 127½ lbs.; Feb. 4th, 225 lbs., gain 97½ lbs. She feels the cold more, I judge. The month just past has been unusually cold for us, the thermometer falling to 6° above once, and 10° to 12° below on several days during the month. She is a hearty feeder, and, with the return of warm weather and pasture, I shall expect her to overtake and pass the bull.

Aztinbar, A. J. C. C. H. R., 3221, of my own breeding, dropped 25th April, 1878, weighed Nov. 4th, 460 lbs.; Feb. 4th, 560 lbs. He is not getting the feed I give the younger calves, as he does not require it. Is ready for service now. From Nov. 4th to Dec. 4th, his gain was only 10 lbs., although up to Nov. 4th, it had averaged 2 lbs. per day, calling his weight when dropped 75 lbs. and deducting. Looking into the feeding arrangements, I found he was standing next my large yearling, with no division in their feeding box, and the latter being a hearty, rapid eater, got all the hay. Put a board partition between them, sent his gain the next 30 days up to 50 lbs. again. Whence the maxim—"Give every animal its own feeding-box."

My yearling Jersey Heifer, Nabritza, 5820, dropped 25th March, 1877, weighed May 18th, 187 lbs.; Nov. 24th, 595 lbs.; March 25th, 1878, (twelve months old) weighed 725 lbs.; Sept. 12th, weighed

950 lbs.; Nov. 18th, weighed 1055 lbs.; Jan. 4th, 1879, weighed 1040 lbs., having apparently attained her full size and weight in November, about one year and eight months old. She had only pasture from say 1st June, to about 15th October, and has only hay, cut in June, and roots now.

For the sake of comparison, I took some measurements to-day of her size, at one year, ten months, and twelve days old:—Height to top of foreshoulder, 4 feet, 1½ inches; height between hips, 4 feet, 6 inches; length, base of horns to root of tail, 6 feet, 3 inches; width across hips, 1 foot, 8 inches; from hip to point of rump, 1 foot, 8 inches; girt, behind foreshoulders, 6 feet, 1 inch; girt, largest part of body, 7 feet, 3 inches; fore leg, above knees, 12 inches. I expect to make her milking and butter qualities commensurate with her size and beauty, and to show a new type of Jerseys, combining the dairy value of the breed with the size and symmetry of a Short-Horn. If she fail to be a milker, it will be my first failure in a good many years in raising prize cows.

CHARLES E. BROWN.

Yarmouth, Feb. 6th, 1879.

#### ADDITIONS TO NOVA SCOTIA STOCK REGISTER.

##### DEVON HEIFER.

CCXV.—FOXGLOVE 2ND. Calved Dec. 13th, 1878. Bred and owned by Colonel Laurie, Oakfield, N. S. Sire, Curly Prince, 86. G. Sire, Young Curly Prince of Wales, 183.

dam Verbena 114, by Havelock 106.  
gr d Lady Anne 101, by Lord Elgin 148.  
g gr d Fancy 149, by Don Juan.  
g g gr d Roulette (1483), by the Duke (470).  
g g g gr d Adelaide (1143) from pure Otsego stock.

##### BEEES AND HONEY.

We are indebted to Colonel Laurie for the following article from the *London Mail* on a new and rising industry, the raising of honey for the English market. Colonel Laurie observes that to yeoman farmers who will attend to such matters there should be a good deal of profit in bee keeping. Bee keeping may be regarded rather as profitable amusement than labour, and it requires so little capital that we often wonder why every farmer's and labourer's house in Nova Scotia does not have its bee-shed on the sunny side, and a plot of bee-flowers. The besetting sin of our industrial and commercial com-

munities is that they wait for industries to be organized and developed by Joint Stock Companies. Now, instead of waiting for the incorporation of the Great Italian Bee Raising and Honey and Wax Manufacturing Company, Limited, let every farmer and resident in the country purchase a hive; the bees will do the work, and the owner's task will amount to little beyond interesting himself in bees' honied ways,—selling the produce, and collecting the gains of his hundreds of industrious labourers, who will never strike work nor make a demand for increase of wages:—

"An experiment which has been successfully carried out by a firm of American wholesale grocers is noteworthy as the first step to the introduction, probably on a large scale, of American honey in the comb. Last year a considerable trade was done in the exportation of honey from the United States to Europe, one New York firm alone sending over 300,000 lbs. of honey, principally to Great Britain. The bulk of this, however, was sent in jars, either as pure extracted honey or as comb-honey—that is, honey bottled with portions of broken comb remaining in it. In the United States, however, honey, when sold in the comb, commands a much higher price than the honey sold in jars, and the efforts of honey-dealers there have long been directed to the production of small, clean, compact and perfect sections of honey-comb in a form readily saleable by the retail grocer. This object has been effected by placing sets of small boxes in the upper part of the hives for the bees to store the surplus honey in, and as each box is filled it can be lifted out and replaced by an empty one in which the bees may continue their labours. These boxes are now commonly made with four glass sides and a strip of wood at top and bottom. In size they are a square of five inches on the side by two inches in thickness, and a dozen of them are packed together in a crate for shipment. The advantage of using this particular form of box is that the bees finish off the section of comb in the shape and quantity found to be best adapted for sale, and the seal of the bees upon each cell is the best guarantee for the purity of the contents. The difficulty of exporting these delicate pieces of comb without the loss of a great part of the shipment by breakage has hitherto prevented the growth of what might doubtless be a lucrative business. During four years Messrs. H. K. and F. B. Thurber and Co., of New York have tried to get this comb-honey to England in good condition, but without success. The want of proper machinery for unloading the ships seems to have been the principal cause of the damage. Let down

"with a run" by a sling from the yard-arm, the glass boxes and their fragile waxen contents were again and again broken and spoilt. In November last, however, Mr. W. M. Hoge, the manager of this firm, succeeded in landing a consignment of 80 tons in Liverpool, and, encouraged by the result of the venture, he on Thursday landed, at the London Wharf in Wapping, a lot of about 100 tons brought over in the *California*, one of the Anchor Line of steamships. There are 2,500 cases in this shipment, containing over 200,000 lbs. of honey, and few boxes have sustained any injury in transit. Taught by past experience, Mr. Hoge had his cases securely boarded up between bulkheads on the steamer, and in unloading employed gangs of men to pass the cases hand over hand down the ship's side into the lighter, and from the lighter on to the wharf. Visitors to the Paris Exposition, where Messrs. Thurber & Co. obtained a medal for their honey, as well as one from the French Agricultural Society for the best honey in the most marketable form, may remember the exceedingly neat appearance of the honey-comb in these patent hive boxes.

The importance which bee-keeping has assumed as a regular branch of industry in the United States may be conceived when it is stated that over 35,000,000 lbs. of honey are there produced and sold annually. The tendency in this as in other occupations, has been for the trade to be carried on by persons having large capital. The bee-keepers have frequently from 2,300 to 5,000 swarms of bees, and some far larger numbers. Messrs. Thurber & Co., for instance, have about 12,000 swarms of bees. Of course it is only by a thorough organization that such large numbers of these little workers who toil without pay can be looked after and cared for. The system in the United States is to farm out the swarms. Arrangements are made with farmers and those who own orchards in suitable localities to allow an apiary of perhaps a hundred swarms to be placed in their grounds. At a distance of three or four miles another apiary will be placed with some other farmer. For this accommodation either a fixed rent or a share of the honey produced is paid, and the bee owner sends expert workmen to clean the hives, to take out the boxes of surplus honey as they are filled, and to destroy the moths, grubs, and other creatures that take advantage of the bees' frugality. As showing the lucrative character of this business, it is said that a firm of shippers paid to one beekeeper for his season's crop of honey, a sum larger than the salary of the President of the United States. It is estimated that on an average one acre will support 25 swarms of bees, and, as the yield of a swarm is generally about 50 lb. of honey, it is evident

that this trade may yet be greatly developed. Already the firm above mentioned, in addition to a corps of experienced bee men to tend the hives, find occupation for nine men and two steam saws during five weeks of the year, in cutting up the timber for the 72,000 boxes used to hold the comb honey. The glassmakers also find some custom from the honey dealers, 144,000 panes of glass being required to make the slides and ends of these boxes. Much attention has been paid in the United States to the improvement of the breed of bees, and queen bees have been imported from Italy, Cyprus, and elsewhere, for the purpose of improving the stock. Some years ago fine Italian queen bees were sold for as much as £10 each in New York, but by forming nurseries and rearing queens carefully selected from fine broods, queens of good blood, if a term may be borrowed from the turf, may now be bought at prices ranging from \$1 to \$5 each. Side by side with improvements in the culture of the bee, too, there have been many ingenious contrivances introduced in order to save the time and labour of the bees and of the honey dealers. About ten years ago a German suggested that thin corrugated sheets of wax, which he called "artificial tablets," should be provided for the bees to make their comb from. These, however, did not come into general use, but a few years ago Mr. W. H. Hoge effected an improvement by starting the side walls of the cells. When these "foundations," as they are called, were presented to the bees, the intelligent little creatures at once took advantage of them, and extended the side walls so as to form the regular hexagonal cell. The machine by which the impression is made on both sides of the wax is very simple, and somewhat resembles a clothes-wringing machine, only the iron rollers are studded with little hexagonal-headed pins just the size of the section of a cell, so that, when the thin sheet of wax is passed through, the wax is pressed up between the pegs to the height of about one-sixteenth of an inch, thus indicating the position and offering the substance for the construction of the cell walls. Another remarkable adaption of machinery is afforded by the use of a rotating frame, which causes the cells of the comb placed in it to be emptied by a centrifugal force. The empty, uninjured comb is afterwards replaced in the hive, and again used by the bees. As about three-fourths of the time of the bees, it has been computed, is taken up in the construction of the comb, it will be seen that by these contrivances a great saving of bee labour is effected. With the rapidly increasing supply obtained by this well-organized system of bee-keeping, the dealers in honey in the United States are already trying to open new channels for trade, and to create fresh

uses for the product of the hives. With this object in view a prize has been offered by the American Bee-keepers' Association for the discovery of a method of converting honey into the form of crystalline sugar. Looking forward to a time, not, probably, far distant, when honey will be produced as cheaply as raw sugar—honey may now be bought wholesale for 7 cents per lb. in California—the dealers hope to be able to provide a substitute for glucose which will equally well serve the purpose of the cook, the confectioner, and the brewer.

#### BREEDING CATTLE FOR EXPORT.

Now that it has become an established fact that cattle can be exported to the British markets at such rates and at so moderate a risk as to give shippers a fair margin of profit, many of our farmers will find it to their interest to commence grading up their cattle to the highest standard of excellence in regard to size, early maturity and feeding quality. Already the demand for first-class beeves exceeds the supply. For many years to come the grading and feeding of cattle for exportation is certain to prove a grand source of revenue to those farmers who will begin in the right way and persevere through to the end. Three things are necessary to success—good stock, good feeding, and comfortable quarters in the winter.

To commence with, large framed thrifty cows and heifers should be procured. Cross them with a Short-horn Durham bull of good quality and unexceptionable pedigree. A grade bull, no matter how good he may appear to be, has not that concentration of blood in him to ensure his being depended upon to bring good progeny. No Short-horn can be considered thoroughbred unless the pedigree shows a direct descent on both sire and dam's side from animals that trace back to direct importations recorded in history or the herd books. Our Canadian Herd Book Record is faulty in this respect, that it admits animals to record that can show four crosses. In many of these they end only in a common cow, not a Short-horn, nor one entitled to any record. Once the crossing of Short-horn blood is begun it must be persevered in, and the further up it can be carried the better will be results. The produce of a first cross of a Short-horn bull upon a common cow will be half Short-horn; the next cross upon this produce, if a female, will be three-fourths pure blood; the next seven-eighths, and so on. Let the calves be kept in a thrifty growing state while young, and the males steered when very young. Good pasturage and water in summer, with plenty of feed and warm quarters in

winter, will bring them on rapidly so as to be ready to put up to fatten at three years old, by which time the young steers should average 1,400 pounds live weight, if not more. The heifers had better be retained for breeding, and fed off after having had two or three calves.

If it is not considered desirable for the farmer to feed up for beef these young grades at three years old, they ought to fetch good prices from those who make a practice of feeding on a large scale. A common scrub would be dear to a feeder at 2½c. per lb. live weight, when a good grade would be cheap at 4c. per lb. If a fair price cannot be had from a drover, do not sell, but feed yourself, and the exporters will find out where good animals are and pay full value for them. Steady perseverance in breeding only a high class of stock will soon bring up the standard of excellence of the general run of our cattle to a much higher point than they can show at present.—*Farmer's Advocate.*

#### CATTLE FEEDING.

WE see it stated in the papers that there are 200,000 cattle, and 500,000 sheep feeding in Ontario this season, intended for the English market. This is a very large number, and we think must be over-estimated, but there is no doubt this trade is assuming vast proportions, and a great deal of money is brought into the country by it. Now what are we doing in New Brunswick? Standing idly by, and grumbling that farming does not pay, or that we have no market. Is it not our own fault that we have no market, and that beef is now selling at from three to five cents per pound, and much of it cannot be sold at any price. And no wonder, for we would be surprised if some beef we have seen brought into the city lately could find a purchaser. Poor, miserable stuff, not fit for any one to eat! Do our farmers think that those who are engaged in shipping beef to Great Britain would come here to buy while we have only such wretched animals to sell. We have over and over again pointed out the necessity of improving the stock, in order to have a market. If we had ten thousand head of the right quality to sell, we would soon find purchasers at good prices, and there would be no grumbling at dull times, in this line; and while so much is said about raising beets to make sugar from, and building a factory for the purpose, we are confident quite as much money could be made by growing beets, mangolds, turnips and carrots, and feeding them to improved stock, without waiting until a larger capital is obtained to build a factory. We have some good stock in the Province, if they were properly fed, but any number can be raised in a short time if the farmers will only look at this

matter as their own interests demand. But many tell us they would rather have the native stock than the imported, and many act up to their opinions, for they will take no trouble to get others, or, if a fine animal is brought into their district, they will not take the trouble to benefit by the opportunity. So long as they adopt this course, just so long will they complain of the want of a market. They must not expect purchasers will come and leave their money in the Province until we can give them the animals they want, and, whatever we may think of our native stock, that goes for very little while the buyer wants another kind. It is a fact that the only cattle that will pay to ship abroad are the improved breeds or their crosses, and, of all those, the Short Horns take the lead, and will continue to do so for some time yet; and the sooner our farmers make up their minds to furnish the market with the article wanted the better for themselves. Again, we say, get the breeds the purchaser wants, and feed them properly, and there will be no trouble about a market, but so long as we only offer our native breed, half fed, just so long will buyers give us a wide berth.—*Agriculturist, Fredericton.*

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me to correct a mistake which has crept into the January number of the *Advocate*? The article in the *New York Tribune*, for which I must assume all responsibility, does not assert the existence of the Rinderpest around Washington, but an unfortunate play upon the word "Rinderpest," the primary meaning of which is "a cattle plague," has apparently conveyed a wrong impression to a cursory reader. A second reading of the article in question will show you that care was taken to avoid this error. The sufferers around Washington called it the Rinderpest, and Mr. Graves enquired as to the correctness of this designation. The answer was: "This is undoubtedly 'a Rinderpest' (cattle plague), but not 'the Rinderpest' (Russian Cattle Plague)." Then it goes on to state that it is "the Common Bovine Lung Plague of Europe." In other words, it is what is known in Great Britain as the "Contagious Pleuro-Pneumonia of Cattle," which has prevailed in some of our Eastern States uninterruptedly since its first importation in 1843; The farmers of Canada need be under no increased apprehensions as to any probable invasion of this disease. At the present time it probably does not exist further north than the environs of New York city, whereas on different occasions during the last thirty-six years it has invaded the New England States, thereby approaching into far closer and more dangerous proximity to the Canadian frontier. At present, therefore, its restric-

tion to a few of the Middle Atlantic States only, gives a better guarantee of immunity than could have been offered on many past occasions, and unless a current of live stock commerce should set in towards Canada from New York and the Atlantic coast southward, the farmers of the Dominion need be under no apprehensions.

On the other hand, the existence of such a disease, even in the Eastern States, is a constant threat to the great stock interests of the west, and the United States are called upon by every consideration of self-interest and foresight to root out such a baneful possession, and not bequeath to future times a legacy which cannot fail to become increasingly disastrous and ruinous. As for Canada, she is not in the line of any cattle traffic from the infested districts, and can only be endangered by the importation of high class cattle from the area of contagion. By a careful avoidance of such imports the Dominion will safely protect her herds until the contagion reaches our Western States. Should the United States Government prove so shortsighted as to permit of such an extension, it will then be imperative on your Administration to close the frontier against all United States cattle and whatever may have been in contact with them. Until then you have only to avoid a narrow strip of our Eastern seaboard from New York city south—a district from which nothing but high-class breeding cattle would be drawn to Canada.

Yours, etc.,

JAMES LAW, Cornell University,  
Ithaca, N. Y.

—*Farmer's Advocate.*

GO WEST, YOUNG MAN.—The Burlington *Hawkeye* is doing its best to encourage young men to go west and grow up with the country. This is the advice it gives them:—"Yes, son, yes, yes; go out West and buy a farm. There is no life so independent as that of the honest farmer. Do not be discouraged if the work is a little hard at first. The grasshoppers will eat up all your first planting, but they will devour it so early in the season that you can plant a second time. They won't eat that planting until about three days before harvest. Then you will have nothing to do all fall and winter, and you can put in your full time starving. The next year's crop will be destroyed by constant rain and floods. The third year a drought will burn up everything that has a root or a leaf within ten miles of your farm. The fourth year, however, will go well. You will raise a blooming crop, get it all in and safely housed, and sit down happy and contented, waiting for the markets to rise. Then a prairie fire, as big as the butt end of the universe, will come along and burn up everything

you have in the world except the clothes you have on. Buy a farm! A young man is neglectful of his best interests and most solemn duties who does not buy a farm right away."

### CANNING FRUITS.

#### CANNING PEACHES.

First prepare the syrup. For canned fruits, one quart of granulated sugar to two quarts of water is the proper proportion, to be increased or lessened according to the quantity of fruit to be canned, but always twice as much water as sugar. Use a porcelain kettle, and, if possible, take care that it is kept solely for canning and preserving—nothing else. Have another porcelain kettle by the side of the first, for boiling water (about three quarts).

Put the peaches, a few at a time, into a wire basket, such as is used to cook asparagus, etc. See that it is perfectly clean and free from rust. Dip them, when in the basket, into a pail of boiling water for a moment and transfer immediately into a pail of cold water. The skin will then at once peel off easily, if not allowed to harden by waiting. This, besides being a neat and expeditious way of peeling peaches, also saves the best part of the fruit, which is so badly wasted in the usual mode of paring fruit. As soon as peeled, halve and drop the peaches into boiling water and let them simmer—not boil hard—till a silver fork can be passed through them easily. Then lift each half out separately with a wire spoon and fill the can; pour in all the boiling syrup which the jar will hold; leave it a moment for the fruit to shrink while filling the next jar; then add as much more boiling syrup as the jar will hold, and cover and screw down tightly immediately.

Continue in this way, preparing and sealing only one jar at a time, until all is done. If any syrup is left over, add to it the water in which the peaches were simmered and a little more sugar; boil it down till it "ropes" from the spoon and you have a nice jelly, or, by adding some peaches or other fruit, a good dish of marmalade. Peaches or other fruit, good, but not quite nice enough for canning, can be used up in this way very economically. Peaches to be peeled as directed above should not be too green or too ripe, else, in the first place, the skin cannot be peeled off; or, if too ripe, the fruit will fall to pieces.

Another Way.—After peeling and halving as above directed, lay a clean towel or cloth in the bottom of a steamer over a kettle of boiling water and put the fruit on it, half filling the steamer. Cover tightly and let it steam while making the syrup. When that is ready, and the fruit steamed till a silver fork will pass through

easily, dip each piece gently into the boiling syrup; then as gently place in the hot jar, and so continue till all have been scalded and put in the jar. Then fill full with syrup, cover and seal immediately. While filling be sure and keep the jars hot.

Another Way.—Peel, halve, remove the pits, and prepare the syrup; and when it is boiling drop in enough fruit for one jar; watch closely, and the instant they are sufficiently tender take out each half with care and put into a hot jar till full. Then dip in all the boiling syrup it will hold. Cover tightly, set aside, and prepare for the next jar. Be sure and skim the syrup each time before adding more fruit.

After jars are filled and the cover screwed on, before setting them away, every little while give the screw another twist until it cannot be moved farther.

#### CANNING PEARS.

The skin will not peel off so easily as the peach by dipping them in boiling water, but it will loosen or soften enough to be taken off with less waste of the fruit than if pared without scalding. Prepare the syrup and proceed as for peaches. They will require longer cooking; but as soon as a silver or well plated fork will pass through easily they are done. Longer cooking destroys the flavour.

#### PINE APPLES.

Pare very carefully with a silver or plated knife, as steel injures all fruit. With the sharp point of the knife dig out as neatly and with as little waste as possible all the "eyes" and black specks, then cut out each of the sections in which the "eyes" were, in solid pieces clear down to the core. By doing this all the real fruit is saved, leaving the core a hard, round woody substance, but it contains considerable juice. Take this core and wring it with the hands, as one wrings a cloth, till all the juice is extracted, then throw it away. Put the juice thus saved into the syrup; let it boil up five minutes, skim till clear, then add the fruit. Boil as short a time as possible and have the flesh tender. The pine-apple loses flavour by over-cooking more readily than any other fruit. Fill into well heated jars, add all the syrup the jar will hold; cover and screw down as soon as possible.

#### CANNED PLUMS.

Plums should be wiped with a soft cloth or dusted, never washed. Have the syrup all ready, prick each plum with a silver fork to prevent the skin from bursting, and put them into the syrup. Boil from eight to ten minutes, judging by the size of the fruit. Dip carefully into hot jars, fill full, and screw on the cover immediately. Cherries may be put up the same way.—*Globe*.

### MACKINLAY, RICHEY & CO.,

BREEDERS OF

**BLACK** Breasted and Brown Breasted Red GAME, Black HAMBURGS, Light and Dark BRAHMAS, Brown LEGHORNS, Red Pile Game BANTAMS, and PEKIN DUCKS.

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Wald Tonic Food,

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**RECEIVE** consignments of Dairy and other Agricultural Produce for sale in the LARGEST AND BEST MARKET IN THE WORLD.

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For Consignments under £ 50..... 4 per cent.  
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Freight, &c., &c., paid, and MONEY ADVANCED ON CONSIGNMENTS WITHOUT INTEREST.

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### ATTENTION FARMERS!

**THE** Pure High Grade **COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS**, manufactured by

**The Etiwan Phosphate Company,**  
of Charlestown, S. C.,

Will be offered for sale by me this winter and next spring.

These goods come to the Province after being inspected and analysed by the State authorities of South Carolina, and will be further inspected and analysed by Professor George Lawson, on arrival at Halifax, and every precaution will be taken to insure safety in purchasing, to the agriculturists of this Province.

These Manures are particularly adapted for Potatoes, Turnips, Mangels, Carrots, Parsnips, and other root crops, also for Vegetables, Wheat, and other grains.

For circulars, directions for use, and other particulars, apply to

A. M. JACK,

General Agent for Nova Scotia,

Pickford & Black's Wharf,

HALIFAX, N. S.

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### FOR SALE.

**A SHORT-HORN DURHAM BULL,** purchased from the Saint Andrew's Agricultural Society, viz.: "PETER 2ND," Calved August 9th, 1874. Sire "Lord York," (imported from England).

Dam by "Gaspereau,"

gr. d. by "Favourite,"

g. g. gr. d. by "Young Favourite,"

g. g. g. gr. d. by "Young Favourite."

The above was imported from King's County about two years ago, has proved himself an excellent stock-getter, and very kind.

The attention of Agricultural Societies is directed to this sale.

Further information on application to

D. D. CHISHOLM,

Merchant.

Saint Andrew's, Antigonish Co., }

February 4th, 1875. }

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**FRUIT, VEGETABLE, AND GARDEN SEEDS  
IN GREAT VARIETY.**

Timothy, Orchard, Italian Rye, Red-Top and other Grasses. Also Red, White, Yellow and other Clovers.

Seed Wheat, Oats, Barley, Tares, &c., &c.

Seed Potatoes of all the best sorts in cultivation, at lowest market rates.

Two hundred varieties of Flower Seeds, comprising all the best sorts in cultivation.

12 Packages choice Flower Seeds, 50 cents free by mail.

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Gladiolus Roots for Spring planting, 30 varieties of the best sorts in cultivation, \$5.00; also singly, or by the dozen.

Your orders respectfully solicited.

Agricultural Societies liberally dealt with.

CATALOGUES on application. Terms CASH, or orders by Societies on the Treasurer of the Board of Agriculture. febl

**THOROUGH-BRED STOCK  
FOR SALE.**

THE subscriber has for sale four DURHAM and two AYRSHIRE BULLS:

"INDEPENDENCE," No. 398 in the Nova Scotia Short Horn Register. Calved June 1st, 1877. Imported from Canada.

"RYSBYK," No. 381. Calved Nov. 8th, 1877.

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"SIR CHARLES," No. 383. Calved March 21st, 1878.

AYRSHIRES:

"WALTER THE 2ND," No. 331. Calved March 20th, 1877.

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Bull Walter 2nd took first prize at the Provincial Exhibition at Truro in 1878.

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THE subscriber offers for sale a very fine AYRSHIRE BULL, twenty-one months old; imported from Scotland. He is of good size and handsome.

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THE Subscriber has for sale a fine young Bull, seventeen months old, from a Cow formerly owned by William Cunard, Esq., of Halifax, and sold by him before he left the Province, to Wm. Stairs, Esq., and was sired by Lord Scalfold, a thorough-bred Bull, owned by the Halifax Agricultural Society. This Bull is in colour a bright brindlo, with a few white spots, with a mottled coloured nose, and the finest animal for raising butter stock in this part of the country.

ELIAS CALKINS,

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**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 use 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,

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**THOROUGH-BRED FOWLS.**

I HEREBY offer FOR SALE six trios of pure bred

**PARTRIDGE COCHINS AND LIGHT BRAHMAS,**

Bred from birds that have won First Prizes wherever shown.

If applied for at once, will be sold cheap, as my poultry houses are filled to their utmost capacity.

25 Fowls boxed and delivered at Railway Station, Halifax.

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FOR SALE;**

ONE imported Bull, nearly 4 years old, \$200.

One two year old Bull.

One one year old Bull.

One Bull Calf.

One Cow, eight years old, and her calf, \$125.

Applications for any of the above, may be sent under cover to PROF. LAWSON, Secretary Agricultural Board, Halifax, N. S. febl

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

TERMS MADE TO SUIT PURCHASERS.

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A TWO year old Short Horn Bull, thorough-bred. Parties having such, please send description and price to

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Short Horn Durham Cattle,  
AYRSHIRES,

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THE subscriber offers for sale two superior young AYRSHIRE BULLS, one year old, the get of "Bismarck." They are good size and handsome.

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