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STATE OF THE CROPS.

ANTIGONISH COUNTY

Antigonish, Sept. 4, 1869.

In this county hay has been above an average crop. The larger portion of it was housed in excellent order during the three first weeks of August, since which time the weather has been unfavorable for harvesting and some hay remains on the ground to be housed in a damaged state, proving the old adage correct, (make hay while the sun shines), and showing the necessity of pushing forward the work while the weather is favorable, as three tons of hay well saved is worth more for feeding purposes than five tons cut late in the season or during showery weather.

Grain in general is late owing more to the cool summer we have had than the late sowing. In some parts of the county early wheat has done well, other fields of early sowing have been largely destroyed by the weevil. Oats in general and the late wheat promise well should the weather prove favorable for ripening; much depends on this, as should early frosts prevail, crops would be materially injured, as the larger part of the grain

sown last spring will not be beyond the influence of frost for two weeks to come.

Potatoes are as good as for many years past, the blight scarcely having made its appearance yet, and a good crop is confidently expected. Roots (but little grown in this county), where sown look well.

Judging from present appearances the crops this year will be as good or better than for a number of years past, and the labour of the husbandman as well rewarded.

Wheat, perhaps, is not sown so largely as should be, and our farmers depend more for their bread on countries more highly favoured for wheat growing than our Province has been in the last twenty-three years.

C. B. WHIDDEN.

P.S. I am extremely sorry to inform you that our Agricultural Society is not in working order this year, but hope to see it revive.

C. B. W.

CAPE BRETON COUNTY.

Little Bras d'Or, Sept. 4, 1869.

It is gratifying to observe in this district every indication of a plentiful harvest. Hay was much heavier than last

year, and never was secured in better condition.

Early summer was cold and wet, and vegetation slow, but of late in most places assumed a rather luxuriant appearance, but harvest will be later than last year. I hear but few complaints either of midge in wheat or blight on potatoes. I would be glad to report a larger breadth of turnips sown, for in almost every place where properly attended they look healthy. Until farmers raise more turnips for stock, the progress of agriculture must be slow. Could not Agricultural Societies make it a condition of membership, that each should raise at least a few rods of turnips,—to compete for a small prize or otherwise, as the directors might decide, and perhaps to be on the ground or something of a kindred nature, just to start a competition. Our Society, this year, promises to start with more vigour than usual.

ANGUS W. MCLEAN.

Sydney, C. B., Sept. 3, 1869.

Hay crop good and well saved. Oats well headed but straw short. Wheat, which is not abundantly raised, good. Potatoes very good, but will be a little late. Turnips, crop very fair. Other vegetables about an average. Fruit not very good.

I regret I was not at home when your note came, and trust that the above limited account will meet your request. I shall always be very glad to give you any information as far as I possibly can.

THOS. LECRAS.

North Sydney, Aug. 30, 1869.

Hay crop above the average and secured in excellent condition. Wheat, early sown, damaged by fly. But as there has been much more sown than for years past, I think it will be above an average crop. Oats, light in straw and will be very late in harvesting. Barley, looks well, but not raised to any extent. Buckwheat, sparingly sown, but a good crop where cultivated. Potatoes, *very good*, blight now appearing in some places, but as the season is so far advanced the crop will not, I think, be injured to any extent. Turnips, not raised to any extent, early sown suffered from fly, but will, I think, be an average crop. Carrots and Mangol Wurtzels, not raised to any extent, but by few farmers, look well where sown. Apples and Plums almost a failure.

Dear Sir,—I suppose you are aware that we have failed in returning a list of members from the North Sydney Agricultural Society to the Board of Agriculture to entitle us to a portion of the Government grant. But we yet have hopes that a sufficient number of farmers may be induced to see that a dollar a year can not be more profitably invested than in supporting an agricultural society.

Hoping that we may yet have a good agricultural society in North Sydney, I remain, &c. ALEX. G. MUSGRAVE.

VICTORIA COUNTY, C. B.

Middle River, Victoria Co., }  
Sept. 3d, 1869. }

Judging from their present appearance, I have no hesitation in stating that all kinds of grain crops will turn out double that of last year both in grain and straw. Hay is the only crop yet secured, and has turned out in many instances over the average of last year. All kinds of root crops look well, and particularly potatoes; the blight has made its appearance rather early, but not very rapidly, so that I think a fair average crop may be relied on. The weevil has made its appearance in the wheat, but for all the crop will yield a paying average, so that if the weather prove favourable until the crops are secured there will be enough for man and beast in this district.

Before closing the above hasty remarks, I would here state that I am of opinion that the Central Board should devote a small sum of the money at their disposal to the importation of winter wheat and rye from Canada, as also horse field peas, which no doubt could be raised in this province with good results.

JOHN MCLENNAN.

COLCHESTER COUNTY.

New Annan, Sept. 6, 1869.

Hay more than an average crop and housed in excellent condition. Wheat is expected to be an average crop, not injured by fly, straw heavy. Oats good, expect good yield. Barley not generally sown. Buckwheat, a fair crop. Potatoes, good crop. Fruit about an average crop.

WM. CREIGHTON.

HANTS.

Noel, September, 1869.

The present season on the whole has been all that the husbandman could require for the growth and cultivation of all kinds of farm crops. Hay, much above an average. Wheat, considerable more sown than has been for many years and as far as harvested, remarkably good. Late wheat will equal the early if the weather continues as it is now. Oats, very heavy crop. Barley, good. Buckwheat, large yield. Potatoes, good quality, fair crop, and very little blight yet to injure the crop. Fruit, considerably below average. ROBERT FAULKNER.

#### THE ANNUAL FRUIT EXHIBITION.

From a communication received from Dr. C. C. Hamilton, we learn that the Annual Feast of Pomona will take place at Somerset, on Tuesday, the 19th October. It is expected that the Annapolis Railroad will ere that time, be opened as far as Hantsport, and the increased facilities thus afforded to strangers for a rapid run through the garden of Acadia and the land of Evangeline, will no doubt bring a large influx of visitors to the show. We are assured that ample accommodation will be provided for all who may go, and that, should the weather prove fine, there will be "a real good time." The railway runs within a mile and a half of Somerset, where the show is to be held, and there will be ample means of conveyance both to and from the depot. The chief feature of the Exhibition is the display of apples, which is finer than can be seen anywhere else. Prizes are this year offered for "dozens" of each of the following kinds:—

Gravenstein, Yellow Bellefleur, Ribston Pippin, Baldwin, Nonpareil, Rhode Island Greening, Blenheim Pippin, King of Tompkins County, Æsopus Spitzenberg, Flushing Spitzenburg or Vandevere, Northern Spy, Pomme Grisi, Pound Sweet, Broadwell, Emperor Alexander, Hubbardston Nonsuch, Gloria Mundi or Baltimore Pippin, Sweet Russet, Drap d'or, York and Lancaster, Golden Russet, Delaware Harvey, Snow Apple, King of Pippins, New York Pippin, or Fall Pippin, Minister, Canada Reinette (or Fall Jennetting), Swaar, Bishop's Bourne,

Dutch Codling, Calkin's Pippin (late), Chenango Strawberry, Blue Pearmain, Colvert, Porter, Talmun Sweet, Munson Sweet, English Golden Pippin, Willam Early, best half peck Crab Apples.

There are likewise prizes for Pears, Quinces, Plums, and also for a class of fruit that does not show to advantage in this northern latitude, viz.:—Open air Grapes,—Isabella, White, Black Cluster, Hartford Prolific, Diana, Concord, Delaware. These are followed by a list of Vegetables.

The following are the regulations:—

1. All articles exhibited must be raised by the Exhibitor, and must be the growth of the present year. Any breach of this rule will debar the Exhibitor from receiving any prize whatever, at this Exhibition.

2. The Council shall have the privilege of selecting and appropriating any of the articles exhibited that may have taken a prize.

3. Competition will be open to persons from all parts of the province, on the following terms: Every person (not a member of the Association) to pay \$1.50 on each collection of Apples; 10 cents on each dozen of Apples, and 10 cents on each entry of vegetables, or other articles for exhibition.

4. The Council give notice that size is not the only quality that will be regarded by the Judges in awarding premiums; fruit must be perfect—free from defects or blemishes and well formed.

5. All articles for Exhibition should be on the ground before 3 o'clock, P. M., on the day previous to the day of Exhibition, and POSITIVELY no article will be received after 8 o'clock, A. M., on the day of Exhibition.

6. All persons wishing to become members of the Association must send in their names to the Secretary, with the fee for membership (\$2), and all members who have not paid their subscription must do so on or before the day of Exhibition in order to entitle them to the privileges of members thereat.

#### GARIBALDI AS A FARMER.

We have heard but little of late about Garibaldi's doings. Some of his most melancholy anniversaries recur in this and the forthcoming autumn months, and his best friends must rejoice at the almost perfect certainty that nothing this year will tempt him out of his island home—that home which he would never have quitted for his disastrous exploits of Aspromonte and Mentana, had not the seductions of some of his friends got the better of his sound, but not sufficiently self-relying judgment. At Caprera, and away from the turmoil of politics, Garibaldi is himself again, and shows himself

possessed of the practical brains as well as the kind heart for which the world gives him credit. There can be nothing more charming than the account some of the General's recent visitors give of the manner in which his love and labour have in little more than ten or twelve years contrived to turn a bare rock near the coast of Sardinia, not only into a smiling garden, but also into a richly productive estate.

It was natural to expect that a man of Garibaldi's simple tastes and abstemious habits would have chosen his island hermitage for the mere sake of its barren and desolate look, and that the tilling of a few acres for wheat, and the growth of the commonest vegetable, should have met all his requirements. But the cultivation of the mere necessities of life would not have filled up the cravings of an extraordinarily active mind. Unlike most of his countrymen, Garibaldi did not gratify his ambition by setting masons to work. He charged Nature with the embellishment of his home; and so marvellous is that Mediterranean climate that in this short time luxuriant groves of laurel and myrtle have sprung up to overshadow his lowly roof. All round, in the hollows, wherever shelter could be found or made, the orange and lemon are growing in thickets, while on more exposed sites there spreads a wide plantation of olive and almond, overtopped by the cypress, the pine, and even the date palm, though the latter bears no fruit. Garibaldi himself drinks no wine; but he is, nevertheless, a wine-grower on a large scale. His hill-sides are covered with low, closely pruned vine-stocks, an importation from the most celebrated Piedmontese and Tuscan vine-yards; the young vines, planted in straight rows at a metre's distance from one another, and never suffered to rise above two or three feet from the ground, and never bear more than 2 or 3 bunches of grapes. By this thrift the General is enabled to place choice wine before the guests who crowd upon him, while the Marsala and Malaga grapes growing at will in his lofty arbours supply the dessert with such luscious fruit as the South alone knows of. The General's orchards do not yield many apples, pears, or peaches, but the prickly-pear and the carob-tree are so prolific that their produce is thrown with a full hand to fatten swine. Garibaldi's dairy is supplied with milk and butter by six cows of the tall Cremona breed, but numerous herds of cattle roam at large in the island, needing no shelter at any time in the year, and providing the establishment with mountain-fed butcher's meat, in return for the lucern and clover which the General coaxes out of artificial meadows where the grass is cut five times in the year. The same constant prosperity does not attend all the Gene-

ral's undertakings. All his efforts to root out a poisonous weed with which the island once teemed have not been altogether successful, and the propagation of his flocks and herds is thereby sensibly checked. In the same manner the attempt to acclimatize the silkworm has turned out a failure, the soil being unpropitious to the growth of the mulberry. Garibaldi, however, points with exultation to the flourishing condition of his potato-fields. No species of the favourite root is neglected, and there is no treat he so heartily enjoys as a dish of his own potatoes, baked under embers, with his own hand, in the open air—a treat which calls up reminiscences of his camp life on the Tonale or the Stelvia, or of his pioneer's experience in the backwoods of the Mississippi or the Plate. Garibaldi indulges in the luxury of a flower-garden, but the bees which he has lately introduced, and of which he has already nine hives, "the object of his assiduous and almost paternal care," are not dependent on his beds for their honey, but cull it out of the fragrant shrubs with which both Caprera and the adjoining

minister to his wants. It is not every man who could turn even such advantages to so good a purpose. Garibaldi, however, loves work for work's own sake; and he brings to his work that energy of will and that magnetic ascendancy over other people's will which fit a man for the subordinate forces as a mere instrument whether the work in hand be the conduct of a campaign, the government of

a state, or the more management of a large farming establishment. It is, in the meanwhile, not a little interesting to see a man who has played so striking and yet so unequal a part in contemporary events, who has had his sublimes, and again his next-door-to-sublime moments,—to see such a man, we say, give so solid an evidence of strong sterling sense in a matter in which he takes counsel from himself alone.

It would be well for Garibaldi's countrymen if they would spare a little of their admiration for their hero in action to bestow it on their hero in repose.—The world has heard enough of Garibaldi as a Camillus or Marcellus. It would be well if Italy could appreciate his worth as a Cincinnatus. It little matters whether or not the Italians have learnt from Garibaldi how to fight, for others have in a great measure done that work for them, and they can now afford to think their fighting days are over. But it would be well if they would learn from Garibaldi how to work; if they would strive to make as much of their rich plains and verdant hills as he has done of a naked rock which before his time was hardly deemed fit for human habitation. A body of well-meaning gentlemen have been lately "inaugurating an Agricultural and Sylvicultural Institute at Vallombrosa." It is to be hoped that a school of husbandry under those classical and monastic shades may have better results than to afford sinecures to a new batch of Professors in a country where the teachers so very nearly outnumber the pupils; but agriculture in Italy, unless we are greatly mistaken, is less in want of public help than of private exertion. It is not of model farms that Italy is in need, but of model farmers—of gentlemen and men of substance to speed the plough, to take the work from the hands of the mere labourer, and bring intelligence and energy, as well as a capital, to multiply the forces of mere toil.—*Times*.

#### DROUTH BETTER THAN TOO MUCH RAIN.

A Kansas correspondent of the *Country Gentleman* writes:—"Still it rains—it will average a rain every hour. My hay all rotted, barley has sprouted, and wheat is sprouting. Oats cannot be harvested. This all happens in dry, parched, sun-scorched Kansas, and it has been so nine out of twelve years. Give me a drouth; I can do better farming in a drouth than in a flood."—This is the true doctrine. It is what we have always asserted. We can do much to guard against drouth, but comparatively little against too much rain and too little sun. Underdraining will help, but we can do nothing without solar heat. The sun is

the great motive power in farming; and yet from the complaints we usually hear, one would think that the drouth was the greatest of agricultural calamities, while in truth a good farmer rarely suffers much ultimate loss from a dry summer. Some crops may suffer but others may do well, and at any rate it gives him a good opportunity to destroy weeds, and get his land into good order for the next years crops. Stock, especially sheep, "do better on roast meat than on boiled." The farmer will never be independent of the season, but he can do much to guard against the injurious influence of unpropitious weather. Fortunately the means best adapted to secure good crops in a wet season are precisely the means necessary to ward off the ill effects of a drouth. Underdraining is the first step, and thorough tillage and the destruction of weeds the next. No matter what the season may be, a well-drained and properly-worked farm will always produce the best crops. But the good farmer will always do better in a dry season than in a wet one, and hence it is that we contend that our climate is admirably adapted for agricultural pursuits. The lot of the American farmer is fallen in sunny places. Never let us complain of drouth and heat.—*American Agriculturist.*

#### ADDRESS OF A DUCHESS.

The Agricultural Dinner is a great institution in England, and we may say in every country where agriculture is in a progressive state. When an impression is to be made upon a large number of people, the way is to have a social gathering, and farmers, like other men, are found to be most impressible over a good dinner. A new feature is now introduced into these entertainments by the Duchess of Beaufort, which we note for the benefit of some lady leader of fashion in our own province:—

At the annual dinner of the Badminton Farmers' Club on Wednesday, the Duke of Beaufort, who had been announced to preside, was called away on important business, and her Grace the Duchess undertook to supply his place, when she entered the tent in which the dinner took place she was received with loud and ringing cheers. At the conclusion of the repast, the Duchess rose to propose the first toast, and she was loudly cheered. She said:—"Ladies and gentlemen, you must not expect from me speeches such as you have been accustomed to hear from this chair, so ably filled as it has been in former years; but I think that any one can feel a pride and pleasure in giving the QUEEN'S health, and I give it now—The QUEEN; God bless her." After the other usual toasts the Duchess rose and said: I have one

more toast to propose, and then I think the arduous duties of chairman—or shall I say chairwoman?—will cease. It is 'Success to the Badminton Farmer's Club,' may it go on and prosper, and be for many years to come a happy gathering of friends and neighbours, a day to be remembered with pleasure and to be looked back upon with satisfaction." Mr. Kilminster gave the health of the Duchess which was drunk with the greatest enthusiasm. Her Grace, in responding said:—"Again and again I thank you for the kind manner in which you have received the toast which has been proposed by Mr. Kilminster. I wish I had the power to say all I feel; but accept my most imperfectly expressed gratitude, and believe that I have never greater pleasure than in being at Badminton, and finding myself surrounded by so many kind and friendly faces." For "the Marquis of Worcester, and the younger branches of the Beaufort family" Lady Blanche Somerset responded.

#### PASTURING MEADOWS.

from a short-horned Durham imported two years ago by the Baddeck Agricultural Society. One of these fine bull calves weighed at the age of seven and a half months 565 lbs., the other at same age weighed 525 lb., and both were sold to members of societies in Inverness county for seventy-six dollars. Mr. Crowdis has also during the past year raised two other bulls and one heifer from same stock; although they are not quite so large, they are equally fine.

Thus we find that the funds of our Society are profitably expended, the stock of our farmers greatly improved and quite an interest excited in stock raising generally. The plan adopted by our Society to retain the imported stock within our bounds, is to sell the animals to members of the Society, binding them to keep said animals for at least three years within the bounds of their district. Other modes have been tried but this has proved to be the most satisfactory to all parties.

Baddeck.

D. McCURDY.

#### ALBION MINES.

We learn from D. Falconer, Esqr., Albion Mines, that the Egerton Agricultural Society is on its feet again. We hope that this is not merely the result of a spasmodic effort, but that the members have earnestly aroused themselves to a determination to carry on the Society with energy and efficiency. The people of Pictou County have good reason to be proud of their agriculture, and it is unfair to themselves to allow any of their Societies to go to sleep.

#### AGNES OF CANARD.

We learn that the imported Short-horn Heifer "Agnes," on the farm of Dr. Hamilton, Canard, has dropped another Bull calf, after "Sir William." He is said to be finer than the former one. At last accounts she was in good condition, looking well, and weighed 1300 lb., and the calf was thriving. If the Doctor got a good offer he would sell the cow and calf.

#### THE "EARLY ROSE" IN HALIFAX.

The Early Rose Potato created a great excitement last spring throughout the length and breadth of long, broad America. Several of our leading agriculturists obtained samples for experiment, and we may hope to be able, some of these days, to record the results obtained. The first result that has reached us, is that of a planting made in the garden of Jeremiah Northup, Esq., M. P. P., Halifax, and it is chiefly remarkable from the smallness of the weight planted and the largeness

*American Agriculturist.*

#### SHORT HORNS IN CAPE BRETON.

To the Editor of the Journal of Agriculture.

Sir,—Observing a short account in your journal recently of C. C. Hamilton of Cornwallis, in raising a Durham bull, I am induced to report concerning some of the same breed raised in this place last year, by James Crowdis, Esq.,

of the yield obtained. From 3 ounces of the Early Rose Potato planted on the 2d May, by Mr. Edward Kirwin, Mr. Northup's gardener, there was dug in September 8 lbs. weight of good sound potatoes. The seed was imported from New York by Mr. McDonald, gardener, Lockman street. The above yield is at the rate of 42½ bushels to a bushel of seed.

WHEAT VERSUS SHIPS.

In a letter from Robert Puryes, Esq., Tatamagouche, it is observed:—

Since the Ship-building has in a great measure failed, many are turning their attention to farming, and it is well that it is so, and it would have been much better had they done so long ago, as I believe that we have the best wheat growing county in the province, all along the shore of the St. Lawrence every acre is good, and those who have recuperated their land with the oyster shells and mud have had excellent returns. Trusting that by the end of the coming year our Society will be able to give a good account of our labours, I am, &c.

MUSHROOM CULTURE.

Of late years the spontaneous growth of Mushrooms has, to a large extent, decreased in the County of Halifax. It is rarely now that we see good Mushrooms offered in the Halifax market. The rifle range at Bedford (before it was a rifle range) used to afford abundant supplies, but, if any grow there now, they must be regularly picked and cooked by the camping men, for we never see them, and of course the early bird who roosts in the swamp has a right to pick the worm. It is obvious that lovers of Mushrooms must now look to an artificial supply. We therefore quote from a communication in the *Gardeners' Chronicle* the method employed in India, which appears to be better adapted to our part of Greater Britain than common English methods:

"The bed should be made in a tolerably cool place, facing north-west is best, and should be placed under a rough shed of any kind, with a back wall, but open on the three sides. This secures light and air. Take then any moderately good earth, and put a layer of say one foot. Damp, and slightly beat down flat; then a layer of from four to five inches of fresh-horse-dung, moist naturally, and slightly watered. Spread flat, and lightly beat; then a layer of good soil for three or four inches. Keep watered every day, and in a short time the spawn will be formed. In the rains—say July and August—is the best time for this work. The larger the bed, and the more protected, always allowing light, the better it is. But remember, the bed should not

be sodden, as very great heat will be generated, which will effectually kill everything save a few surface Fungi, which are not eatable; and when this stage has passed, and the cold sodden stage has arrived, there will be, especially in the rains, an abundant crop of Fungi of many kinds, but no Mushrooms. Mushrooms often appear spontaneously in deserted or unused stables, cowsheds, &c.; but those gathered on parade-grounds, which are generally well-trodden grass plains, are by far the best."

GUERNSEY CATTLE.

The cattle of the islands of Jersey, Alderney and Guernsey are, it is claimed, not of common origin, and the breeds, though similar, entirely distinct. The Alderney breed, which was smaller than the others, has been to such an extent crossed with the Guernseys that it no longer exists as a distinct breed, and although formerly cattle were occasionally brought to and from the islands of Jersey and Guernsey for breeding purposes, the interchange has for the past twenty years or thereabouts been prohibited, the people of each island thinking their cattle better than the other. The Guernseymen assert that their cattle are larger and better feeders, and yield cream and butter of better quality than those of Jersey. The cows are very profitable, the quantity of milk varying from 12 quarts per day (given as the average) for six months after calving to 24 quarts (stated as a maximum yield for that period). The yield of butter is said to reach in some instances 18 pounds per week and 400 pounds in a year. The cows continue long in profit and are in their prime from four years of age to eleven. The cattle exported from Guernsey go mostly to England, the numbers sent over in 1866, '7 and '8 being as follows:

1866.....	6	males.....	356	females.
1867.....	4	"	655	"
1868.....	4	"	663	"

The small number exported in 1866 is accounted for by the prevalence of the Rinderpest in England during that year. The prices obtained are for good cows about £20 sterling, heifers £16, yearlings £8.

As in Jersey, the importation of foreign cattle (except for slaughter) is strictly prohibited, and the government and the Agricultural Society of the island each employ an official to prevent infraction or evasion of the law.

The Report for 1868 of the Royal Agricultural Society of Guernsey gives some interesting statistics, and some of these are brought down one year later by adding the returns for that year, which show the following figures:

The total number of horned cattle in the island is 6,787—a prodigious number

for its size, which is not much more than twenty square miles, the island being nearly in the shape of a right-angled triangle, with sides of 6, 6½ and 9 miles in length. Of the cattle 3,142 are cows in milk or heifers in calf; of the rest, 1,027, are over and 2,618 under two years old. The number of sheep is under 1,000, but the swinish population is very large, amounting, in 1867, to 5,815. The area in cultivation was, in 1867, three thousand five hundred and sixty-one English acres, of which there were in wheat 759¾; barley, 448¾; oats, 379½; potatoes, 667; parsnips, 930; carrots, 181¾; beets, 194½. The large area given to root crops, 1,306 acres, helps to explain how it is possible to keep so many cattle, although when we consider that the climate is very mild and peculiarly adapted to grazing, the number is less surprising than it seems at first. It is to be taken into account, however, that the published accounts of Guernsey state that there is a good deal of waste land in the island, notwithstanding its maintaining nearly 350 head of horned cattle to the square mile.

The Report of the Guernsey Agricultural Society before mentioned, contains also its regulations or bye-laws, and from it a few items of interest may be taken. The Society seems to be a very active and useful one, and numbers 233 members, paying from 5s. to £1 each. Subscribers of £1 per annum have the right to be present and vote at the meetings of the committee of directors. The Society holds three meetings in the year: at Whitsuntide for the exhibition of all live stock, prizes from five shillings to five pounds: at Michaelmas for young bulls, (first prize 10s.) and boars (first prize £1), and at Christmas for fat stock, grain, &c.—There is also a show of flowers, fruits, butter, cider and poultry, held in June, and prizes are offered for farms, in two classes, the small farms of 12 acres and under, and the *large* of over 12 acres in extent, and also for liquid manure reservoirs, which seem to be held of great importance. The revenue of the Society in 1867 was from subscriptions, £110, from the Estates (Legislature) of the island, £60; from investments, £8 10s. 7d.; and from the shows £37 17s. 9d.—total, £216 8s. 4d.; and it expended in prizes, £131 10s. 10d, and upon its library, £14 14s. 6d.

Some of the bye-laws of the Society are worthy of notice. Every member who retires from the Society and afterwards desires to rejoin it, must pay up his subscription during the intervening period, and £1 as a fee of re-admission. It is also provided that prize bulls and prize boars must be kept for use in the island for stated periods after winning their prizes, and if kept longer than the time prescribed they receive additional payments. Prize cows and heifers must

each produce a calf in the island and the sows a litter after the award, and the first prize cows and heifers receive £1 each in addition upon the birth of each of their next two calves afterwards, if by approved bulls.

The following regulation seems particularly wise in conception, though perhaps difficult to carry out in practice:—"If any member, after the prizes shall have been declared, shall call in question the decision of the judges or managers, he shall be liable to a fine of £1 sterling; and in default of payment he shall be expelled the Society."—*Journal of New York State Agricultural Society.*

#### ALLENS' POTATO DIGGING PLOW.

With this implement a pair of small horses or oxen, with a boy to drive, will easily dig potatoes as fast as twenty men can pick up, and will turn them out so cleanly that scarcely one bushel in fifty, whether small or large, is left uncovered.

The standard is high, so as to allow of its working freely without clogging from weeds and potato vines, but, in harvesting for an early market when the vines are on and still green, the work will be much facilitated by cutting these and removing them from the rows.

This plow answers well to stir the earth like a cultivator, with a narrow prong in the centre or with the round prongs; and as it throws the dirt both ways, it is an excellent implement to work between rows of corn, potatoes and other crops during the weeding season.

The prongs in this Digger are of wrought iron, and are made of any size or shape to suit different soils. They are attached by bolts to the mould board, and easily removed if necessary.

PRICE \$15.

A smaller and cheaper form of Potato Digger is made with prongs of iron cast in one piece with the mould-board, but this is liable to break in hard or stony soils and is then difficult to be repaired. We should advise its use only on very light soils and for small crops.

PRICE \$10.

We annex the following which appears without our solicitation in the "Country-Gentleman" journal, Feb. 8th, 1869.

"Some one was enquiring for the best Potato Digger. I got one of R. H. ALLEN'S—cost \$15. Last fall I had about three acres of potatoes on heavy clay full of weeds; with this digger two men and two boys with a pair of horses in a few hours took from one hundred to one hundred and twenty-five bushels a day, more than double they could have dug without it. We follow with fork and clean out the rows. In this way it does first rate work. We did not find any left behind. It is a cheap affair, and

will last for twenty years with ordinary care. I would not do without it for five times its cost. GEO. A. SHUFELDT, Kingston, N.Y."

#### DIRECTIONS FOR USE.

Gauge the clevis so that the plow-share will run about one inch deeper than the potatoes, and directly under them. Keep the point of the share as near the centre of the hills or row as possible. The soil and potatoes are by these means turned completely over, the latter on top. As the plow moves along shake it occasionally to clear the rubbish.

If the soil is a stiff clay, or somewhat wet, the Potato Digger may work better with the centre or the second prongs removed, or with a narrower one, or one made of seven-eighths inch round iron which can be furnished to order or which any blacksmith can make.

Agents for selling, to whom a liberal discount will be made, are solicited by the manufacturers of the plough. R. H. ALLEN & Co., P. O. Box 376, New York.

#### YARMOUTH COUNTY AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

Exhibition to be held on Thursday, 7th October, or first following fine day, on Parade Ground, and in Court House.

Premiums to be awarded to members of the Society only, and for articles of their own growth or production, or three months' possession, except animals bought for breeding purposes.

All entries of live stock must be made in writing, and handed in to the chairman of Managing Committee, on or before Tue-day preceding the day of Exhibition, and all other entries in writing, at same time, as far as possible, but not later than 9 o'clock of the day of Exhibition, after which nothing will be received.

The Secretary will supply to exhibitors their number, to be attached to each article offered.

The award of premiums will be announced at 2 P. M., after which a sale at auction will be held of whatever exhibitors wish to sell—at the commencement of which, say 2½ to 3 o'clock, P. M., exhibitors, if from a distance, or unable to remain, may withdraw their property.

Premiums will be paid at the ensuing quarterly meeting, first Tuesday in November, when successful exhibitors must hand in statement in writing as to breed and keeping of stock, cultivation of vegetables, root crops, grain, &c., &c., manufacture of butter, cheese, bread, jellies, pickles, &c., &c.

Building and grounds open only to Committee and Exhibitors until 10 o'clock, after which the public will be admitted.

Manufacturers of waggons and sleighs, machinery, implements, farm or domestic, woodenware, leather, &c., &c., are invited to exhibit.

CHAS. E. BROWN,  
WALTER CHURCHILL,  
HENRY BURRILL,  
*Committee on Premium List.*

[The Prize List is very carefully prepared, embracing prizes to the number of 320, in sums varying from \$3.00 to 50 cents. At this show the big calves do not swallow all the prizes, for the lists of paintings, homespuns, bread, straw hats, implements, and literature are quite extensive. Pictou will have to look well to its black laurels in the way of Fuel—for although there is no prize offered for Yarmouth coal, there are three for dozens of prepared Peat Bricks.—*Ed.*]

#### THE FUTURE OF WHEAT.

Virgin soils in America have been known to yield 50 crops without manure. We learn from the accounts of competent travellers that for 8, 12, or even 20 years this new land requires no manure; on the contrary, manure makes the grain or grass crops at first too rank. Gradually the virgin soils are exhausted of their first freshness. "The first settler," says Mr. JOHNSTON, in his "Notes on North America," "is a robber and exhauster of the land; and he who farms land from which six or more crops have been taken, must farm more generously if he expects satisfactory crops." Skill and industry must bring back the fertility which disappeared under the treatment of the pioneers. Our costly system of agriculture is quite inapplicable to new countries. A rotation of crops, as we understand it—that is, a mixture of forage with cereal crops—is never followed. Our object is to make manure in order that we may grow corn. But the settler raises his live stock on the waste land; meat with him is only 2d. or 3d. a lb., and his crop must be such as can be easily exported.

It is easier to clear and cultivate the fresh land than to improve the old. In Maryland the exhaustion of the soil by the cotton crops has forced planters to retire westward. The land has been "worn-out" by a system of farming which is justly called the "robber system."—And the pioneer can follow no other plan. Like the English farmer, his business is to make the best of the circumstances by which he is surrounded; to farm, not to philosophise.

The new States in America are "filling up" fast, and the new soils are being as fast exhausted. In fact the process described has been exceedingly rapid in the past 30 years, owing to the unexampled progress of nations in both worlds.

A comparison of the census reports for the United States and this country discloses some remarkable facts relating to the distribution of population and the source of wealth in the two countries.—Here the population of our agricultural districts diminishes, there it increases rapidly. Between 1850 and 1860 the population of the seven North-Western states, where soil and climate especially adapt them to corn-growing, nearly doubled; in 1860 it was 5,543,382. The war checked the progress of population in America, and it postponed the fulfilment of Mr. McCulloch's prediction that America would cease to export wheat. He estimated that the population of the United States in 1884 would reach 60,000,000; according to the latest return in 1860 it was 31,445,080. The progress of the older and the manufacturing States has been greatly interrupted. The increase of the mileage of railways in the United States reads us an instructive lesson. In 1850 the total mileage was 9,021; in 1860 it was 30,634; this astonishing progress was then interrupted; it was, in fact, arrested in the Southern States, and greatly checked in the Atlantic and New England States; but in the interior, or agricultural States; is still went on. We find that in 1864 the total increase in the four years was 4,274 miles, and more than one-half of this was in the interior corn-growing States. But it is important to note the details of the increase just referred to of more than 21,000 miles between 1850 and 1860.

That of the interior corn-growing States was nearly 12,000 miles, and that of the Southern States 5,400 miles. This wonderful opening up of the agricultural districts was followed by a war, which left them untouched by comparison, but which destroyed industry and population in the other States. It might have been expected that other countries would have been deluged with American corn, especially when the Southern market was closed, but this was not the case; the average surplus of wheat, for exportation has been one slightly increased.

In a country where the usual breadth of wheat is 12 to 13 millions of acres, and the crop is extremely various, there is a large surplus in favourable years; hence America was fortunately able to supply our deficiency in 1861 and 1862. The usual exports of wheat and flour to this country for the six previous and six subsequent years, were about 1,100,000 and 1,400,000 quarters a year. Part of this increase was due to the wheat grown in Upper Canada, which is sent to New York or into the New England States by the Grand Trunk Railway, which now brings the best part of the country into connection with lake and river navigation.

Considering the great increase of the means of communication, the actual addition to the amount of corn exported has been so small that it is evident the country is not "opened up" by the stimulus of the export trade, but by the increase of the home demand.

It is only the surplus of abundant years that is exported from America. At present prices it does not pay to grow wheat specially for exportation. This is a very important feature of the American wheat trade; it is illustrated by the scarcity of maize in the country during the last year or two, notwithstanding that maize can be grown for one-third the price of wheat; English consumers, for a long period, had to pay 40s. per quarter for it. It is only the surplus which is exported, and any circumstance which reduces the amount of the surplus, or increases the demand for it, must raise the price. In the case of wheat, when other countries compete with us, as Ireland has done of late years for maize, the surplus will be more diffused. Under the stimulus of high prices during the Crimean war, wheat was grown for exportation; but at the present price, 50s. a quarter, the area of wheat will not increase.

Settlers in Minnesota—a wheat not a maize country—assure us that it does not pay to grow wheat for exportation. In all probability the competition of other countries will oblige us to pay dearer for wheat in future years, in order to secure continued, or rather, increasing supplies, and this may occasion a reaction against the constant increase in this country in the area of pasture land—an increase which the country regards with complacency, because it is supposed to increase the number of live stock; but the conversion of arable to pasture has not prevented the rise, for many years past, in the price of meat.

If, as we anticipate, the competition of other countries occasions a gradual rise in the price of wheat also, the "food question" will become an urgent public question; and the discussion which will then take place will, no doubt, add greatly to the very meagre stock of knowledge possessed at present by the public at large on certain agricultural and economic questions.—*Agricultural Gazette*.

We learn from a contemporary that on Thursday week 20 head of Shorthorn milch cows were dispatched by Mr. W. Henderson, Hargate House, Darlington, to Sweden, the animals having been purchased by Baron O. d'Akerhjelm, on behalf of the Swedish Government. Mr. Henderson annually sells a quantity of stock to the Belgian Government; and though this is his first sale to the Swedish Government, it is more than probable that it will be continued every year.

## Poultry Yard.

### FATTENING FOWLS.

"J. L. E." asks if any of our correspondents will inform him if they have tried the French plan of fattening fowls described in the *Times* one day last winter; and of what ingredients the liquid paste with which the fowls are fed is composed? Also, what has been the success of the experiment.

If we understand his question, it is the mode of cramming fowls by machinery, as noticed in the daily papers some time since. If we be correct in our supposition (we write from memory only), the article alluded to spoke of the practice as common abroad. We are inclined to think that this is not the case, and where it is practised it is more as a crotchet than as a business proceeding. The best description of the *modus operandi* with which we are acquainted is as follows:—

"He who would fatten his fowls, provides himself with some fine barley flour, not barley meal, but barley flour from which the bran has been carefully separated at the mill. This flour is carefully manipulated so as to be free from lumps, and then made into a sort of gruel with equal parts of water and of milk. This gruel is described by a French writer, who would seem to be equally at home in the kitchen and poultry yard, as being about the thickness of a clear soup when it begins to cook. It is necessary that exactly equal portions of milk and water be used; as if the milk preponderates the bird will progress for a few days and retrograde, get thin and die. The first implement is a common funnel the end of the pipe being cut diagonally and the edge turned round so that there be no chance of its tearing or wounding the gullet. The head of the cup or receiver of the funnel has a ring affixed to it, of sufficient size to take the forefinger of the operator. The position of the ring is important, for it is necessary that, holding with one hand the head of the bird, one should be able with the other to introduce the funnel in the required position into the gullet of the subject. Those who are accustomed to its use have little or no risk or trouble with the funnel, but beginners are recommended to cover the end of the pipe with india rubber and so avoid the chance of irritating and wounding the gullet.

"The gruel being ready, it is placed in a deep pan and a large ladle with it. The bird is taken by the wings close to the shoulders, and put between the knees, its head being in front, so as to hold it without crushing or smothering it. The bird kicks, cries, and struggles a good deal at first, but soon gets accustomed to it, and accepts its fate with resignation. As soon as it is quiet on



the lap the forefinger of the right hand is placed in the ring of the funnel, the left hand takes the head, and stretching out the neck to its full extent without hurting it, the beak is opened, and the funnel is carefully introduced.

"The feeding times are three in twenty four hours, with eight hours' interval between the n. thus at 6, 2, and 10 o'clock, or 4, 12, and 8 o'clock. To have at hand all the fowls, so when its turn comes the bird is ready, the organisation of the hen house must be complete; of which an important part is the supply of coops and crates, of which there should be three or four handy. They should be of skeleton make, each one adapted to hold about ten birds; they should be on feet, so as to be about 24 or 30 inches from the ground. The birds require an even temperature, and above all to be kept from draught. When the coops are ready the bottom is covered with clean straw, and the birds one by one passed into them; the straw must be changed every day. The birds must be closely watched to see that they make fair progress, and as soon as one shows any symptoms of falling off it should be killed directly, as it would lose flesh daily and die.

"The chickens selected for this treatment must be strong and healthy; with weak or sickly birds, it would be merely time, trouble and expense for nothing, as they would not fatten. The time of fattening is from fifteen to twenty days, according to breed and disposition of the birds, but when they are once fat they must be killed, as they would get worse from day to day."

The foregoing is translated from the book of M. Jagne, who is considered one of the first authorities in France on the subject; we can give no report as to its actual working.

A Frenchman made a cramming machine in London some years since, and we think took out a patent for it. It was intended to serve twenty or more birds at a time.

### Miscellaneous.

#### OBITUARY.

We regret much to learn, from telegrams to the daily papers, of the violent death of the Rt. Hon. George Patton, Lord Justice Clerk of Scotland. Mr. Patton was an enthusiastic Arboriculturist, and spent much of his time in beautifying his estate in Perthshire, The Cairnes, by planting all the rarest Coniferous trees. He was a member of the Oregon Committee who dispatched Jeffery, the Botanical collector, to the Pacific Coast some ten or twelve years ago, and one of the pines obtained during that expedition, was dedicated to Mr. Patton, under the name *Abies Pattoniana*. He

was a noble minded, warm hearted, generous man, and his loss will be deeply felt in Scotland, not only among his professional brethren in Modern Athens who looked up to him as an able lawyer and safe adviser, but by men of letters and lovers of the fine arts with whom he was so often associated, and especially by the large class of scientific men and country gentlemen who delight in rural improvement.

#### WEST PASSAGE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A new Society has been formed in the County of Shelburne, called the West Passage Agricultural Society. It numbers 44 members and the Office Bearers are:—Israel L. Crowell, *Pres.*; Thomas S. Robertson, *Vice do.*; Daniel Sargent, *Treasurer*; Winthrop Sargent, *Sec'y.*

#### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Journal of the New York State Agricultural Society.

Journal de l'instruction publique Quebec.

The Alighurh Institute Gazette.

Colonial Farmer.

American Agriculturist.

The Abstainer.

American Stock Journal.

Gardeners' Monthly.

The Horticulturist.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

RED BEARDED WHEAT.—We have received from a correspondent a sample of Red Bearded Wheat. The grain looks well, is hard, but not so dark as in the ordinary red wheats, and the chaff is remarkably rough and covered with a white or glaucous bloom. This wheat appears to be a very likely one to resist the fly, or "weevil" as it is here erroneously called.

Exhibitors at the Provincial Exhibition of 1868 who may not have received copies of the Prize List and Report of the Committee, are requested to apply to B. G. Gray, Esq., Bedford Row.

Cattle have been received in London safe, and in good order, after a 30 days voyage, from Monte Video. The *Times* in a leading article last Wednesday, stated that a contractor at Monte Video has offered to supply any quantity of fine cattle, well prepared, and weighing not less than 800 lb. each, at £4 a head, free on board. Also, that a line of steamers is to be established for so promising a trade.

Mr. Mackinder, of Langton Grange, has just shipped 18 rams at Liverpool for Buenos Ayres. This is the second instalment, Mr. Mackinder having exported 16 rams last year. Such satisfaction has been given as to secure a larger order.

### ADVERTISEMENTS!

**VINEGAR.** HOW MADE FROM CIDER, Wine, Molasses or Sorghum in 10 hours, without using drugs. For circulars, address F. I. SAGE, Vinegar Maker, Cromwell, Conn., U.S. Sept 1859—3m

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is produced in every case where the

### ARABIAN SPICE

is used. Horses run down and in low condition are soon brought round. Ragged, beggarly looking Sheep are clothed with a fleece of valuable wool in an astonishing short space of time. The squealing Pig soon becomes fat and happy when fed on food seasoned with the Arabian Spice.

The ARABIAN SPICE is warranted to surmount anything yet introduced for Poultry.

Sold in tins 37½ cents and \$1 each.

Wholesale from WOOLRICH'S English Pharmacy, Upper Water Street, Halifax.

### ALFRED SAUNDERS,

(Late Secretary Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society. Formerly of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, London),

### SEEDSMAN,

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CALLS particular attention to his newly imported stock of Alsiko and other Clovers, Grass Seeds, Mangles, Swede and other Turnips, Peas, Beans, Vegetable and Flower Seeds, comprising all the most esteemed varieties in cultivation, which he is prepared to sell at the lowest remunerative prices.

Agricultural Societies liberally dealt with, and all orders promptly executed. Descriptive Catalogues on application.

### AGRICULTURAL BONE MILL

THIS MILL is now in full operation, and large quantities of Bones are offered for sale.

The Mill is under supervision of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia, and all Bones sold at the establishment are genuine.

#### PRICES.

Half inch Bone.....\$24.00 per ton.  
Finely-ground Bone..... 30.00 "

Delivered free of charge, on board the Cars at Richmond Depot.

Purchasers will save trouble by sending their own bags, which, together with orders, may be left at Stanford's Leather Store, 26 Water Street.

JAMES STANFORD.

Halifax, N.S., June, 1858.

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