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NOVA SCOTIA

**JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE**

Published under direction of the Board of Agriculture of Nova Scotia.

*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., AUGUST, 1879.**

**No. 29.**

*Provincial Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition, Halifax, Sept. 29, 30, Oct. 1, 2 and 3.*

THE arrangements for the forthcoming Provincial Exhibition are proceeding satisfactorily. The Exhibition Building at Spring Gardens already presents an imposing appearance. Ample accommodation in the form of an improved model of shed is being provided for the large numbers of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Poultry, and other kinds of live stock that are likely to be exhibited. By the new method, the public will be able to have a better view of the individual animals than at any previous Exhibition in this Province. The various Committees are holding numerous meetings, and carrying out the preliminary arrangements necessary in their respective departments. Prize Lists and Entry Papers are daily flowing through the Post Office to all parts of the country, and Entries are being received at the office in such numbers as to render the success of the Exhibition a certainty. The Agricultural Societies in many of the Counties have sent in their lists of nominees to assist the Committee in the selection of Judges. In Amherst a public meeting has been held and a committee formed to promote the success of the Halifax Exhibition, and the *Amherst Gazette* has published the Regulations and a condensed Prize List. The *Colchester Sun* has an article relating to the Exhibition every week, which is a valuable form of free advertising. The Committee on Machinery have made ar-

rangements for having steam power, so that Inventors and Manufacturers may exhibit their machinery in motion. This will increase the interest of the Mechanical Department. The Executive Committee of the Board of Agriculture will meet on the 14th inst., for the examination of pedigrees of thorough-bred live stock presented for registry in the Herd Books, so as to facilitate exhibits in this department. Some of the Railways have already quoted low rates to the Committee for passengers during Exhibition week, and for freight to the Exhibition. The whole Province appears at last to be aroused, and we have every reason to look for an Exhibition which, in extent, variety, and quality of products, will be far in advance of any previous one.

THE inhabitants of Weymouth, in the County of Digby, have organized an Agricultural Society. St. Clair Jones, *President*; George Dunbar, *V. P.*; N. E. Butler, *Secretary and Treasurer*; E. K. Rogers, John Kinney, W. C. Hawkinson, John Goodwin, and Robert Journey, *Directors*. Number of members, 46.

THE Isle Madame Agricultural Society have purchased from Mr. J. W. Margeson of Cornwallis, the two-year old bull Walter the 2nd, of the Ayrshire breed. He is said to be a fine animal, as is also the Devon bull Grand Master, purchased from Colonel Laurie. Grand Master is two years old.

ALDERMAN FRASER requests us to publish the following list of Special Prizes offered by him at the approaching Exhibition, and to state that the Condiment can now be had of his sub-agents throughout the Province, and at his office, 76 Granville Street:—

For best Milch Cow, fed with the North British Co's Nutritious Condiment.....	\$12 50
For fattest Cow, fed with the North British Company's Nutritious Condiment.....	12 50
For the best and fattest Ox, fed with the North British Company's Nutritious Condiment.....	15 00
For the best and fattest Sheep, fed with the North British Company's Nutritious Condiment.....	10 00
For the best and fattest Pig, fed with the North British Company's Nutritious Condiment.....	10 00

Animals that may compete for or have taken prizes in other classes, are not excluded from competition for the prizes offered by Mr. Fraser; but, in entering for these prizes, the entry paper must be accompanied by a Certificate or Invoice, showing that the Competitor has been using the North British Company's Nutritious Condiment, in feeding the competing animals, for a period of at least two months prior to the Exhibition.

THE latest addition to the Halifax flora is *Viola palmata*, regarded in Gray's Manual as a variety of *V. cucullata*, but apparently a good species. Moreover, *palmata* is the original name of Linnaeus, *cucullata* having been subsequently given by Aiton. *Viola blanda* was first introduced into England by H. R. H. the Duke of Kent, who no doubt obtained it at "The Prince's Lodge," where it abounds. *V. Acadensis* was collected last century at Halifax, by Menzies, who accompanied Vancouver in his voyage round the world, not in the modern fashion of eighty days.

[RECEIVED JULY 25.]

Kentville, June 27th, 1879.

DEAR SIR,—The general impression about Truro and Onslow, in which I concur, is that the hay crop of this year will fall far behind the yield of last season, though the grass upon the marsh lands looks very promising, and betokens abundance. The upland grass has suffered materially from a long spell of cold, frosty, dry weather, during which time vegetation appeared to be at a stand still, and haying is so near at hand, it cannot be expected that the period of no growth will be made up in the few days of warmer weather, before the music of the moving machine is heard far and near. No doubt some heavy showers, accompanied by warm cloudy weather, will do much to advance this crop, and counteract the bad effects of cold, frost and drought. With a light hay crop, it is gratifying to report, that more grain and roots are growing this season, especially spring wheat and potatoes, than were ever seen in any former year. Potato fields are larger than usual, one farmer, with that fine esculent upon the brain, having planted twenty acres; and the absence of a large field of spring wheat from a good farm is an extraordinary circumstance. These, and other crops always grown, are doing well, so a short hay crop will not be felt, especially on account of a large quantity of old hay being still in the country. But a short hay crop in Colchester should not be a matter of serious moment to the Province at large. To-day I was on the Middle Dyke of Cornwallis, and had a fine view of a splendid crop of grass waving to a gentle breeze on fifteen hundred acres of first-class marsh land, in the district made immortal by Longfellow's *Evangeline*. Doubtless to the grand scenes of rural beauty and plenty this magnificent region presents to the tourist at this season of the year, are we indebted for the finest passages in the poet's wonderful production, more than to any other cause. Let our restless young men, who despise the agricultural capabilities of their own Province, and look to Manitoba as the farmers' Paradise, ramble through King's and Annapolis, and inspect the magnificent stretches of marsh land, the numerous and really splendid fields of winter wheat and winter rye, and potatoes, the large and extensive orchards, producing in many instances two thousand barrels of apples to the owner; and also visit and put down Mr. C. F. Eaton's splendid herd of Durham's, and Colonel W. E. Starrett's equally fine one of Ayrshire's, and Mr. Strong's magnificent lot of fat steers, as the type of cattle this country is capable of producing; and if they still entertain the idea that the "far lone land" is the only place in which they can make

a spoon or spoil a horn, far better let them depart, as Nova Scotia can receive no benefit from the services of wooden-headed and leather-hearted inhabitants.

Yours, &amp;c.,

I. L.

### AGRICULTURE AMONG THE ANCIENTS.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

"Revere the sacred plow; for fathers of mankind and Kings,  
Who have stemmed the tide of war and ruled the state,  
Have thrown aside the sword and sceptre,  
Seized the plow,  
And nobly independent lived."

In order to see how Agriculture was respected and followed out in ages past, let us glean from the testimony of the sages of antiquity, as well as the historians of modern times. In Egypt, for instance, the most ancient country in the world, we shall see how the tillers of the soil were regarded long, long before the Christian era. M. Rollin, in writing of "The Manners and Customs of the Egyptians," says, in regard to Husbandmen, Shepherds, and Artificers, that they formed the three classes of lower life in Egypt; but were nevertheless held in very great esteem, particularly husbandmen and shepherds. \* \* \* \* I have said, that husbandmen particularly, and those who took care of flocks, were in great esteem in Egypt, some parts of it excepted, where the latter were not suffered. It was indeed to these two professions that Egypt owed its riches and plenty. It is astonishing to reflect what advantages the Egyptians, by their art and labor, drew from a country of no great extent, but whose soil was made wonderfully fruitful by the inundations of the Nile, and the laborious industry of the inhabitants. It will be always so with every kingdom whose governors direct all their actions to the public welfare. The culture of lands and the breeding of cattle, will be an inexhaustible fund of wealth in all countries, where, as in Egypt, these profitable callings are supported and encouraged by maxims of state and policy; and we may consider it as a misfortune that they are at present fallen into into so general a disesteem, though it is from them that the most elevated ranks (as we esteem them) are furnished, not only with the necessities, but even the delights of life. \* \* \* \* But we need not have recourse to Plato's Commonwealth for instances of men who have led those useful lives. It was thus that the greatest part of mankind lived during near four thousand years; and that not only the Israelites, but the Egyptians, the Greeks, and

the Romans; that is to say, nations the most civilized, and most renowned for their arms and wisdom. They all inculcate the regard which ought to be paid to agriculture, and the breeding of cattle; one of which (without saying anything of hemp and flax, so necessary for our clothing) supplies us, by corn, fruits, and pulse, with not only a plentiful, but delicious nourishment; and the other, besides its supply of exquisite meats to cover our tables, almost alone gives life to manufactures and trade, by the skins and stuffs it furnishes. In "A view of Ancient History," by William Rutherford, D. D., (vol. 1, page 41) we find the following:—"The Egyptians early applied to agriculture, which, by introducing the complete idea of property, lays the foundation of law. The most nutritious vegetables flourished on the banks of the Nile, the light soil is easily cultivated, and the warm climate gives them two, and sometimes three, crops in the year. When man, ceasing to roam, becomes an inhabitant of the soil, and a possessor of land, laws and regulations become necessary to transmit possessions, and dispose of inheritances. This gave rise to established rights, to jurisprudence, and to the civil code. It is the plough that hath civilized mankind. When the ancients gave Ceres the title of legislatrix, and called a festival celebrated in her honor by the name of Thesmophoria, they gave the people to understand, that agriculture, by establishing property, laid the foundation of law. From law arises security, leisure; from leisure, curiosity; from curiosity, the arts and sciences."

Agriculture was honored among the Medes and Persians. The Abbe Millot, in his "Elements of General History," (part 1, vol. 1, page 76), says:—"Population and agriculture, two of the most important objects, and essentially united, attracted the attention of their government; and her religion went hand in hand with politics. The Persians looked upon a numerous posterity as a heavenly blessing, and the King bestowed rewards annually upon those who had many children. That population may be a blessing, it is necessary that the earth should supply sufficient nourishment for its inhabitants. Agriculture, that nurse of the human race, that source of plenty, health, and innocent pleasures, that preserver of morals, and, as Xenophon calls it, that school of all the virtues, was in an eminent degree honored and encouraged in Persia, as well as in Egypt. They even esteemed the fertilizing of the earth as an act of religious merit. They acquainted the King with the state of cultivation, who punished the remissness of some, while he rewarded the industry of others, and one day in the year he partook of

the feast of the laborers. The younger Cyrus planted many trees with his own hands, which would not be a subject of encomium, if the intention did not place the amusement in the most respectable light. Even at this day the Emperor of China, on a particular festival, holds the plough, that he may set the example to his subjects: a ceremony, which, as it certainly produces the best effects, is perhaps more worthy of the throne than all those that are intended to display the pride of royalty." Agriculture has always been encouraged in China by the Government. Every year, from time immemorial, a grand festival is celebrated in its honor in all the principal towns of the empire, and the Emperor himself, on this occasion, works in a field in the environs of Pekin. In the ancient Imperial ordinances, we find the following precept:—"If there is a man who does not labor, a woman who does not spin, some one suffers from cold or hunger in the country." None of the Chinese reformers have forgotten the noble maxim; many of them have been celebrated by the zeal with which they have put it in practice. Among this number is quoted an emperor of the family of Pung. Faithful to the spirit which had constantly inspired his predecessors, this monarch caused an infinity of the monasteries of the Bonzes to be destroyed. Another, the Emperor Yong-Ching, who reigned at the end of the last century, ordered the governors of the provinces to send him every year the name of the peasant who had rendered himself noticed by his application to farming and his good conduct. This diligent laborer was raised to the rank of mandarin of the eighth order, a distinction which gave him a right much envied in China, that of taking tea with the governor and remaining seated in his presence. On his death, great honors were rendered him, and his name was inscribed with pomp in the hall of his ancestors. This wise policy has not only resulted in augmenting the number of farmers in China, but nowhere are they more esteemed, and they rank much higher than the mechanics and merchants of the city.

Dr. William Rutherford, in his "View of Ancient History," (vol. 1, page 125,) says:—"It was one great object of government, in all the eastern empires, to encourage population and agriculture. The original law of the Creator, 'increase, multiply, and replenish the earth,' has never been forgotten in Asia, where, in modern as in ancient times, a numerous progeny is looked upon as the chief blessing which heaven can bestow. The monarch distributed rewards annually to such as had many children. To render population a blessing, it is necessary that the earth should produce sufficient nourish-

ment for its inhabitants. The fine climate and fertile soil of Asia invited its possessors to avail themselves of this bounty of nature. To make agriculture flourish became an object of public attention, and of imperial munificence. The Satraps, whose provinces were best cultivated, enjoyed most of the royal favor; and superintendents were appointed to inspect their rural labors and economy. Hence the public works and canals at Babylon, similar to those in Egypt, to assist the fertility of the earth. In such reputation was husbandry held, that precepts concerning it entered into their books of religion. The saint, according to Zoroaster, was to plant useful trees, to destroy noxious animals, to convey water to the dry lands, and to follow the labours of agriculture. "He who sows the ground with care and diligence," says the Zendavesta, acquires a greater stock of religious merit than he could gain by fasting and sacrifices." In the spring of every year a festival was celebrated, designed to represent the primitive equality and the present connexion of mankind. The monarch of the East, exchanging the splendour of his throne for more genuine greatness, freely mingled with the humblest but most useful of his subjects. On that day the husbandmen were admitted, without distinction, to the table of the King and his satraps. The sovereign accepted their petitions, enquired into their grievances, and conversed with them on equal terms. "From your labours," said he, "we receive our subsistence; you derive your tranquility from our vigilance; since, therefore, we are mutually necessary to each other, let us live together like brothers, in concord and love." As agriculture, the true and permanent source of wealth and prosperity, was thus honoured and encouraged in Asia, the mode in which the sovereigns raised their revenues was not oppressive to their subjects.

In Greece, owing to its situation and soil, agriculture did not receive such care and attention as in other countries. But says the Abbe Millot:—"As the Greeks increased in knowledge, they quickly became sensible of the importance of agriculture, to which they had shown great dislike, before they became thoroughly acquainted with the benefits of society. It is agriculture which peoples and supports kingdoms, and procures for them their most solid riches. It is upon agriculture that the happiness of nations situated in a fertile soil depends. Plenty of natural productions procures other wealth, or prevents the people from being sensible of the want of it. Without the fruits of the earth all other riches are but a useless burden, and we sometimes see the fable of Midas by woeful experience realized. It was for that reason that the sages of

antiquity, particularly Xenophon, applied to the study of this subject, with which they ought to have been still better acquainted; their lessons being limited to the common practice of their own times. Socrates, the wisest philosopher of antiquity, said:—"Agriculture is an employment the most worthy of the application of man; the most ancient and the most suitable to his nature. It is the common nurse of all persons in every age and condition of life, it is the source of health, strength, plenty and riches; and of a thousand sober delights and honest pleasures. It is the mistress and school of sobriety, temperance, justice, religion, and, in short, of all virtues, civil and military."

War and agriculture were the two chief employments of the Romans. Lucius Quintius Cincinnatus, a celebrated dictator, was taken from the plough to command the Roman armies. After having accomplished the desire of his friends, set the affairs of the state in order, and instituted good laws, he resigned his office, and retired to his farm. The senators commonly resided in the country, and cultivated the ground with their own hands; and the noblest families derived their surnames from cultivating particular kinds of grain. To be a good husbandman was accounted the highest praise; and whoever neglected his ground, or cultivated it improperly, was liable to the animadversion of the censors. That the Romans were very attentive to every part of husbandry, appears from the writers on that subject, Cato, Varro, Pliny, Columella, Palladius, &c. Virgil, Horace, Ovid, and others, have written pastoral poems. Celsus, the physician, as well as others, wrote on agriculture.

Thus we see what agriculture was thought of in ancient times; how it was encouraged, fostered, developed and promoted by every possible means; how the tillers of the soil took an enthusiastic and permanent interest in their peaceful and prosperous vocation; how kings, generals, commanders, consuls, dictators, philosophers, sages, poets, and men in the highest rank in arms, in arts and literature, devoted their talents and energies to the practice of this most ancient and honorable occupation; how the governments and kingdom of antiquity assisted and encouraged the husbandman, and made his calling an honorable, a dignified and remunerative employment.

These kingdoms and empires have passed away; but agriculture, from the creation of the world down to the present day, has maintained its position, its dignity, its attractiveness, its usefulness and its interest amidst the wreck of nations and the incessant change going on amongst the kingdoms and empires of the world.

"Agriculture is the most healthful,

most useful, and most noble employment of man," as well as "the true basis of a nation's wealth." It is the most certain source of strength, wealth and independence. Commerce flourishes by circumstances precarious, contingent, transitory, almost as liable to change as the winds and waves that waft it to our shores. She may well be termed the younger sister, in all emergencies; she looks to agriculture for defence and supply. "In a moral point of view," Lord Russell says, "the life of the agriculturist is the most pure and holy of any class of men; pure, because it is the most healthful; and vice can hardly find time to contaminate it; and holy, because it brings the Deity perpetually before his view, giving him thereby the most exalted notions of supreme power, and the most fascinating and endearing view of moral benignity."

God speed the plowshare. Tell me not  
Disgrace attends the toil,  
Of those who plow the dark green sod,  
Or till the fruitful soil.  
Why should the honest plowman shrink  
From mingling in the van,  
Of learning and of wisdom, since  
'Tis mind that makes the man?

God speed the plowshare, and the hands  
That till the fruitful earth,  
For there is in this world, so wide,  
No gem like honest worth.  
And though the hands are dark with toil,  
And flushed the manly brow,  
It matters not, for God will bless  
The labors of the plow.

MR. J. B. JACKSON, carriage maker, Jacksonville, writes as follows on the subject of Ellesmere (Yorkshire) Pigs:

I beg to acknowledge, with thanks, your much esteemed favour of 2nd inst. with the pedigree certificate enclosed. I had given up all hopes of ever receiving such—of course it has not made any difference, as I had no opportunity to exhibit him, but hope this fall to do so. He is a very fine animal and no disgrace to his royal forefathers, which I feel satisfied you have followed out very correctly. He has been a great improvement on our stock of pigs, the like never before equalled here. I have yet the sow No. 14 which we received from you; she has been idle all winter, but is now to have a litter on the first of August, if nothing happens. She is not so large as the boar, but a good shape, would weigh standing in good keep about 225 lbs., and the boar over 450 lbs. She has had two litters—raised seven live pigs with but two boars; so as yet there has been but himself near here, as those have gone to a considerable distance away.

AFTER three years of trial, the "Cattle Feeder" promises at last to prove a useful potato in this Province.

## CAMPER ON CATTLE DISEASE.

TRANSLATED BY ROBERT MORROW, ESQ.

(Continued.)

### OF THE NATURE OF THE DISTEMPER AND OF THE MEANS OF CURING IT IN CATTLE.

THE distemper is (as you will admit, I think, according to the symptoms of which I have spoken, and the alteration of the parts immediately after the death of the animals) a putrid contagious fever by which the blood is vitiated, and which causes, at the same time, great inflammation in the viscera of the stomach and of the chest, as well as in the throat, the tongue, in the nose, the eyes, and sometimes even in the brain; so that, however, mortification principally takes place in the viscera and intestines of the belly and the chest. The omasum (third stomach) is especially very much affected in consequence of its form and of its functions. Although the disease presents some external symptoms which differ among them, it is always the same and never varies in its beginning, affecting nevertheless one part of the animal more powerfully than the others. It is accompanied with such prostration of strength in all the powers of the body, and with so great relaxation of the fibres of the muscles of the intestines in particular, that they are found to be in a state of total inactivity; the food is no longer carried from the stomach to the mouth; so that rumination entirely ceases. The omasum (third stomach) has no ejection which causes the food remaining accumulated there to dry up and it is found to be over digested. The gall bladder did not appear to be very much distended, partly because its relaxation impedes evacuation; whilst the secretion always continues. The bladder is in the same state.

The distemper differs then from the small pox and measles, and ought consequently to be treated as a putrid fever. It is not only a simple fever with inflammation; for in this case it would be that anodynes were always beneficial; whilst experience teaches us that bleeding, anodynes with saltpetre, and other similar remedies, have never been of the least assistance. Bleeding, even so happily employed in inflammatory diseases, has almost always been fatal in the distemper.

What is more singular, is that cattle young or old, which have once been more or less affected with this contagion are never again attacked by it, or at least very rarely, if we can give credit to the observations of the Marquis de Courtivron.\*

These then are the four principal things which must be kept in view:—1st. To endeavour to prevent the disease, and to lessen its effects; 2nd. To secure the hu-

mours from corruption; 3rd. To preserve the strength of the animals; finally 4th. To purge the intestines as soon as the disease breaks out.

The only means of preventing the contagion is to put a stop to the introduction into the country of animals which are attacked by it, as well as hay, straw, or such other material susceptible of being impregnated with the morbid virus. The skins of the animals which have died from this disease must be handled with the greatest discretion. Those who take care of the sick ought to be excluded from the other stables, or at least have access to them only after having changed their clothes; but we should especially prevent domestic animals, such as dogs and cats, from carrying it from one place to the other.

Experience has unhappily taught us long since that it is impossible to employ these precautions; our frontiers are disposed in such a way that we cannot prevent the introduction of the distemper into these Provinces, which are so much enclosed within the bordering countries, that all foresight in this respect becomes useless, if our neighbours do not first begin to protect themselves from it. The letter from Haller proves to us how important it is to kill the infected animals the moment that the disease breaks out.

Dr. Bates advised, in 1714, the magistrates of the County of Middlesex to buy, kill and burn immediately all the animals in the stables where the contagion might break out; but the mortality soon became so great that they had not sufficient fuel to put this advice into execution, so that in September they were already obliged to bury the animals. The mortality prevailed only three months in this part of England; in the others it lasted three years. According to a note by Dr. Bates it had already killed by that time in Holland more than three hundred thousand horned cattle.

The Marquis of Courtivron thinks that the skins of animals which died of the distemper do not communicate the contagion. Many clever men of this country have the same idea, which others however reject. This question appeared to me so important, especially for this city, that I asked permission of the magistrates to make experiments upon this subject, which was not only granted, but they also authorized me to make them at the expense of the city.† In the meantime

† I placed on the 25th February, 1769, in a straw shed at the country house of M. Warm Jds, near Haren, two yearling calves, near which they at first put the skin of a cow which died of the distemper; eight days after I put with them another skin which I had had washed, and of which the water tinged with blood had been swallowed by these two calves, without their being attacked with the disease. The 7th of April I inoculated one of these calves with matter taken from the nostrils, and the other with the watery

\* Memoires de l'Académie des sciences, 1748.

they thought proper to positively forbid the admission of the skins as being contagious.

The Government of Friesland, animated with the laudable zeal of watching over the welfare of its people, forbade after the example of some other Provinces the use of tallow from the cattle which died of the distemper; but this only made them use it clandestinely; and experience taught that no inconvenience resulted from it. The Government of Friesland thought then, and with good reason, that they ought to permit (by a placard of 1745) the use of this tallow, in order to lighten more or less by this means the losses which the unfortunate inhabitants of this Province had sustained.

The same paternal care likewise induced these worthy magistrates to prohibit the use of the flesh of the animals which died of the contagious disease; but they eluded these wise measures; the peasants availed themselves of the eagerness of the needy citizens in order to derive from it a small profit, and they consumed quite a large quantity not only in these Provinces, but likewise in Germany, where they showed nevertheless a great dislike for the animals which died of the distemper, but there resulted from the use of it no disease among the people which might be attributed to the use of this pestiferous meat.

But I return to the best means of preserving the blood from corruption; you know already how mortal are the effects of this putrefaction. Nothing would be more desirable than to see doctors and persons who love useful experiments combine in order to find some remedy against this disease.

Experience shows us that Peruvian Bark is the best specific which one can employ for this purpose. Pringle, to the honor of the English doctors, has demonstrated this truth to us by many experiments, which I have myself repeated and have found perfectly correct. Flesh, says Pringle, may be preserved during an entire year in a decoction of Peruvian Bark.

matter from the eyes of a cow which had been cured of the contagion; but these matters produced no effect, either because they were too old, or because they no longer had virtue; these calves consequently did not become sick, and the trial made with the skins appear to be doubtful. I inoculated them again the 28th April, in the stable of our society at Groningen, upon the shoulder and behind the haunch, with matter taken the 14th of the same month from the nose of a cured cow, but also without result; doubtless because this matter was spoiled and mouldy, as it had been kept damp in a corked bottle. However, these calves afterwards took the disease from other inoculated cattle which were very sick in the same stable, so that one of them died the 16th 3<sup>o</sup>. which proves that they were susceptible to the contagion, and which they would without doubt have taken if it were true that the skins always surely communicate it. Nevertheless these trials do not prove anything and require to be repeated.

Some doubtless will object that Ramazzini and others have administered Peruvian Bark in the distemper without success. I admit that this remedy does not drive out the fever, and that it no longer produces effect when the disease has once broken out; and that because medicines no longer undergo coction in the stomach, and consequently being no longer absorbed, they do not pass into the blood.

Others have administered saltpetre, cream of tartar, camphor, and many other similar remedies, but as the stomach was without function they were all alike useless. In a word nothing operates on the animal attacked by the distemper, unless a little energy remains, and in this case the animal cures of itself.

In order to preserve some hope, we must begin in good time to prepare the humours, whilst the animals are still sound, and when the contagion menaces the country. But Peruvian bark is a remedy too dear, however, beneficial it may otherwise be; for this reason I have made trials with willow bark which has been recommended in England as a good specific against tertian fever, and this tree being very common in our country; besides, the horned cattle as by a natural instinct are very fond of eating its leaves and young shoots.

I have then, after the example of Pringle, made decoctions of the same quantity of Peruvian bark, of the bark of the ash and the bark of the white willow, in which I put the same day, (25th December, 1765) a piece of flesh from the same calf, of equal size and into vessels of the same capacity. I put also into a similar jar a piece of the same calf into very pure rain water. Then I exposed all these vessels upon a stone pipe of the stove of the warmest green house in the garden of the Academy, at the constant heat, day and night, of 62 to 68 degrees Fahrenheit. I found on the 30th December, that the piece of flesh placed in the decoction of ash bark was beginning to spoil. The decoction of willow bark had an agreeable smell, but was becoming turbid; and the flesh deposited in the rain water had already quite a bad smell. In a word, on the 27th January, 1769, the piece of veal put into the decoction of Peruvian bark had not undergone any alteration, no more than the decoction itself. That in the ash bark had the fetid odor of corrupt meat; that in willow bark began to have a bad smell; and the flesh put in the rain water was already entirely decomposed, and the water itself had regained its first clearness and had not the least smell.

The bark of the willow therefore resisted putrefaction during some weeks, a shorter time, however, than the Peruvian bark, and a little longer than the ash. In order to render this decoction of willow

bark more efficacious, I have mixed sulphuric acid with it. Many cows received daily of this decoction mixed with their ordinary drink, and drank it without the least repugnance. I have tasted the milk, cream, butter and cheese from these cows, in which I have found no bad taste; the milk food did not then experience any injury from this beverage. The farmers who had care of these cows assured me that they calved more easily and recovered more quickly after having brought forth. I cannot, however, assert what the success of this decoction will be until the contagion breaks out in the stables where cows are found which have been made to drink of it; and it is to be hoped that this may never take place.

Nevertheless, I do not pretend that we ought to confine ourselves to this remedy only; there are many others, such as salt, saltpetre, camphor, and among plants which grow here in abundance, camomile flowers, calamus, mint, &c.

I have already frequently observed how little we can hope from the remedies which we administer when the disease has broken out. We can then no longer expect any good effect either from Peruvian or willow bark, or from camomile flowers, or from camphor when the animal has ceased to ruminate. We ought then to have recourse to external remedies, that is to say, we must, in imitation of Pringle, apply blisters upon the back and near the shoulders, after shaving off the hair. We will be fully convinced of this if we compare the observations of this celebrated doctor upon the utility of this remedy in putrid and bilious fevers.

What shall I now say of the use of water, the curry-comb, the brush, in order to keep the animals clean? I do not think that they can be injurious; but have we not seen that the same enormous number of animals died in Holland and in Friesland, where they are well washed, curried and brushed, as in Gorecht and in the province of Drenthe, where the stables and the cows also are in a most dirty condition? And what deserves still more attention is that there escaped in proportion as many of these disgustingly dirty animals as of those which are admired in Holland and Friesland on account of the whiteness and glossiness of their coats. Why then burden the farmers with an increase of useless and expensive labor? Who would besides succeed in keeping clean, cows whose weakness renders them incapable of standing upright, and which soil themselves by continual diarrhoea? All this advice has generally been given by persons who consider the matter simply theoretically, and who would wish to see a stable as clean as their room. I do not, however, censure this care, but I think that it will be of little use.

You doubtless wish that I would express my opinion upon fumigations with vinegar, sulphur, tobacco, gunpowder, tar, leather, horn and other ingredients, which in burning throw out a bad smell. Upon this let us consult experience, and we shall find that all these means have been fruitlessly employed.

I have already remarked in passing that the ancients, such as Columella, Cato, Vegetius, and others, have made much use of salt, whole eggs, honey, garlic, onions, &c., without succeeding in curing the disease. To-day we speak of these same remedies as new discoveries, and we administer them with as little success as formerly.

All the antidotes, all the specifics, so esteemed against the pestilence have been tried, such as theriaca, diascordium, &c.; and all these remedies prove to be hurtful, on account of the opium in them, which, as we know, is injurious to the action of the intestines upon the food, and is besides an obstructive. The opium, which can have no good effect, ought then to be considered as positively hurtful for those animals which have naturally a good constitution, and which consequently we may hope to cure. Some doctors, who attribute all diseases to worms, think that sulphur, tobacco, and mercurial remedies, are the most efficacious. I will only remark here that these remedies, although they may not be in other cases bad, cannot penetrate into the blood, at least unless we administer them before the disease has broken out.

I have already said that bleeding must be avoided; but what can we hope from blisters which have so often been employed in vain? The inflammation, the splacelus of the intestines and the lungs, does not depend upon the matter, which, at the crisis of the disease, falls upon some part from which it may be diverted; there is an entire inflammation of the blood, which affects the intestines from the beginning of the disease. Purgatives as well as emetics are absolutely useless during all the time that the intestines are inert. Injections may be useful in order to clear the rectum and to prevent gangrene; they afford also some relief to the animal, but do not contribute anything to its cure. The owner loses then, besides his cattle, all the money which he spends for these remedies,

The removal of excrement from the rectum, with the hand anointed with grease, as Engelman recommends, was already known to Columella,\* and there are none of our farmers, so to say, who are ignorant of it. But this remedy, which with cattle has the same effect as the injection, cannot be used with young calves. The cows with calf suffer more, as I have already said, because they almost always miscarry. There are some who, according to the statement of Gœlicke,† have employed abortives; but he does not say with what success. I think that they would serve as little purpose with animals as with women, because we do not know any such remedies in nature. Perhaps it would not be wrong to cause the cows to miscarry, by introducing the hand into their body the moment we perceived the first symptoms of the disease; one might at least make a single trial of it. Puzos, and several others who

have written upon the science of Obstetrics, speak of it with praise, although I look upon it as impossible with women.

Shall we perforate, as Engelman proposes, the abdomen of the animals, in order to let out the wind?‡ I do not think that this can be of any service, for this symptom is a sign of approaching death, and a proof that all is putrid and corrupt in the paunch. If, however, we wished to make a trial of it, the most suitable place would be the left flank, exactly below the short ribs, on account of the situation of this part of which I have already spoken.§

I conclude then, firstly; That the horned cattle of our provinces do not of themselves take the distemper; nor should we attribute it to damp, or to cold, nor to any other local cause; but that it comes to them from some other place by contagion. Secondly; That, after daily experience, we know that the animals which have once been cured of this disease, are never again attacked by it. Thirdly; That young subjects have for the most part been cured in the meadows, according to the very accurate observations of Engelman,|| especially during the months of August and September.¶ Fourthly; Finally that it is more than probable that this contagious disease will become endemic and constant in this country; or in other words, it has already been naturalized here a long time, as the small-pox and measles are among men.

Considering then the small success of all these remedies, in order to avoid useless expense, and to attain with some certainty the end that we propose, which is to preserve the cattle, we must take the part of inoculating, not the cows or the oxen, but the young calves, because these, not being yet with young, we risk only their lives; and if we succeed in curing them, the sexual parts are not injured, but become even stronger in the end; and more than this observant farmers have remarked, that bearing cows, although cured of the disease, often calve with difficulty. Besides, a sucking calf which has been cured of the contagion, is more valuable to its owner.

But I abuse your patience. I shall now recapitulate, in a few words, what has been accomplished in this way. I ought at first to remind you of the gratitude which Messieurs Nozeman, Agge Kool and Tak, have deserved from their fellow-citizens, for having made at their own expense, in 1755, experiments in inoculating cattle. They had, I admit, the example of Dodson in England; but being the first to imitate that example for the good of society was doubtless a great merit. Of seventeen horned cattle which they inoculated, they saved only three, of these, two which appeared to be convalescent for fifteen days, died afterwards of most violent distemper.

Professor Schweneke says, in his letter, which has already been mentioned, that of six cattle inoculated in 1757, at the age of one and two years, none perished in the operation.

The trials made at Brunswick in 1746 had quite a happy success; the animals which favourably underwent inoculation were not any further attacked with the contagious disease. The experiments of Layard, in 1757,

‡ Ibid, vol. VII., page 333.

§ See plate XXVIII., fig. 2, EFGHK.

|| Ibid, page 347, No. 1.

¶ Ibid, page 348.

who, out of eight inoculated animals, saved at least three, and of which he had the fourth killed, in order to examine its internal condition, form a medium between the experiments of Nozeman, Kool and Tak, and those of Professor Schweneke. The Bishop of York had five animals inoculated, of which he saved four, among them were two cows in calf, which, however, did not miscarry;\* and Surgeon Bewley saved three others which had also been inoculated.

But the trial of Grashuys seem to destroy all hope; for six animals which had been perfectly cured of inoculation, were afterwards attacked naturally by the distemper, and four of them died, the other two recovered.† He did not, however, lose hope of succeeding better, when repeated experiments should have pointed out more efficacious means.

All this must not then frighten us. When at the beginning of this century they undertook to inoculate for small-pox in England, many children died from it; others suffered a long time from abscesses or other similar evils. They used too much variolic matter, and made the incisions too deep. At the present time we know, by unquestionable evidence, what little matter it requires, and how small the wounds should be; we also know the danger there is in keeping the patients too warm and too much shut up. We can then truly say that inoculation is now a mathematically calculated guarantee against this terrible scourge of mankind.

If it is true, as we must acknowledge, that of the thousands of persons inoculated, some die in consequence, there is room to believe that it must be ascribed to some hidden cause. Let us then inoculate the calves with little matter, making slight incisions in the skin. Let this be done in the spring, during the summer and autumn, chiefly upon young subjects; but this should be only after their stomachs have been purged, and the animals fed with soft food, and which requires little rumination. And let all persons in easy circumstances in this country unite in order to bring to perfection this interesting subject, by constantly renewed trials; and that they reciprocally communicate the observations which they may be able to make, in order to preserve as much as possible the horned cattle, which form the chief wealth of our provinces.

\* Phil. Trans., vol. 1, page 535.

† Uitgezogte Verhandelingen, part III., page 256.

LUNENBURG AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—At a meeting held on the 18th December, 1878, the following were appointed officers for the present year, viz:—*President*, Capt. William Young; *Vice-President*, Robt. Lindsay; *Treasurer*, John Morash; *Secretary*, James J. McLachlan; *Directors*, Dr. Charles Aitken, John Bailey, sr., John Anderson, jr., E. L. Nash and Andrew Rodenhiser. C. E. Kaulbach for Central Board.

ONE of the most remarkable facts recently ascertained in regard to the hardiness of plants, is that *Primula verticillata*, which cannot stand the winter out of doors in England, does so in Mr. Harris's Nursery in Halifax.

\* Lib. VI., cap. 6.

† Ibid, parag. 13, page 123.

## LOVE OF HOME AND COUNTRY.

[Paper read before Paradise West Grange No. 706, Annapolis Co., by Mrs. W. E. Starratt.]

SINCE my connection with the Patrons of Husbandry, I have passed many pleasant hours within the walls of our little Grange room; but, on reviewing the past, I notice that one of the most important features of our organization, viz., literary effort, has received very little of our attention.

'Tis true we have a literary committee who have very kindly exerted themselves for our benefit and amusement, but I am of the opinion that every member of our Order should assist in doing what they can to interest its members when business does not claim our time, thus, in a measure, relieving the committee, and giving variety, which is termed "the spice of life."

There is one power which every individual should cultivate according to his or her ability, but which is much neglected, and this is the power of utterance. The mind was not made to be shut up in itself, but to give it voice, and to exchange views with other minds. By so doing we understand ourselves better, and our conceptions grow clearer in the very effort to make them clear to one another. To those who from modesty cannot orally communicate their thoughts, we would suggest the pen, and tho', as is too frequently the case, the pen is laid aside with our term of school life, save for business or friendly correspondence, yet, by dint of industry and patience, we may gather up the fragments of youthful genius, and from under the rubbish which the increasing cares of life have heaped upon it, bring to light pure gems of thought, sentiments both true and beautiful. By calling upon our mind for its highest stretch of intellectual capacity, we shall find we have done ourselves a kindness, and each day we may make greater demands, and receive each day a more ready response. Some may interest us by their experience in cultivating flowers, and some may give recipes useful to the matrons, and those gifted with the melody of song may stimulate to greater achievements in agriculture by the inspiring songs used in the Grange; thus, by all adding their mite, much interest would be aroused, and our brethren would have less cause to complain of intellectual starvation. I have said we should all do something, and trust it is plain that not one of our members but could in some way benefit the order; and altho' I do not presume to favor you with an essay, such as our learned Sister "Ceres" would write, but only a few

thoughts which present themselves in connection with our own loved homes.

It is an undisputed fact that the love of country and home is strong in the breast of all, no matter what nation or clime, whether in our own beloved land, in the "sunny south," or in the remote regions of the Pole.

"There man deems his own land of every land the pride,

Beloved by Heaven o'er all the world beside,  
His home the spot of earth supremely blest,  
A dearer, sweeter spot than all the rest."

There is something in the word home that wakes the kindest feelings of the soul, and quickens the slumbering pulsations of the human heart. It is no wonder that it has been the theme of the most touching ballads, and that the loftiest harps have been tuned to sing of "Home, Sweet Home." We love our favored land where we have enjoyed so much peace under the gentle sway of our beloved Queen, and in our loyalty and patriotism, point to "Merrie England" as the land most highly prized and dearly loved.

"Great God! we thank thee for this home,  
This bounteous birthland of the free!  
Where wanderers from afar may come  
And breathe the air of liberty."

There are many instances on record of deep devotions to home and country, but none more touching to English hearts than that of the late lamented Princess Alice of Hesse, who, though truly wedded to the land of her adoption, remembered, with emotions of keenest attachment, her native land and loved home, and in her last hours requested that her children should be taken thither and instructed in all that pertained to their mother's early home; also, that the flag of her country should cover the casket which contained her remains.

In Switzerland they have an ancient but simple air called the "Rans des Vaches." The music of this air produced an effect so powerful on the minds of the Swiss soldiery that the playing of it was prohibited by the French generals. It is imagined that the "Rans des Vaches" imitates the lowing and bleating of the cattle, which made the blood boil in the veins of those soldiers, recalling to their minds the valleys and mountains of their own dear land, their early life, their first loves and other associations, which caused them to desert, that they might again mingle in the scenes of early days.

We read that some Greenlanders were, in the course of the last century, brought to Copenhagen, where they were most kindly entertained. They beheld the magnificence of the Court of Denmark with extreme indifference, and in attempting to return to their homes in an open boat lost their lives.

The African robbed of his freedom, torn from his hut in the cocoa-land, from his wife and little ones, and borne to a

land of strangers and toil, weeps as he thinks of his home far away; and tho' strife and toil may crush his spirit, and hope long deferred almost die in his bosom, yet the love of home cannot be quenched, and in his dreams he visits his old land, and a smile born of happier days flits over his care-worn brow, but alas! it is a dream!

The dusky Micmac, in whose melancholy history there is much to awaken our sympathies, is not devoid of this characteristic, "The Love of Home." Two hundred years ago the Indian lived in peaceful possession of the forest and the stream. His unerring arrow whistled through the forest, the smoke of his wigwam rose in every valley, the warrior stood forth in his glory, the shout of victory rang through the mountain and glade; but where are they now? They have almost withered from the land, and what few remain, how changed, how unlike their bold, untamed progenitors.

"They die not of hunger or lingering decay,  
The steel of the white man hath swept them away."

But not without a struggle has the red man relinquished his native village. There is something in his heart which passes speech, as he remembers that here he lived, here he worshipped the "Great Spirit," and here are the Graves of his Fathers—here, indeed, was his home!

We might briefly refer to some of the requirements necessary for the promotion of comfort and happiness in those cherished spots we so fondly designate "Our Homes," and the position woman should occupy in that department. That a good home is one of the first requisites for human happiness, all admit, and it should consist in a comfortable family homestead, adorned with all those beauties, and perfected with all the conveniences which ideality, intellect and affection can suggest. This home-providing principle, pervades the entire animal and vegetable kingdom. The foxes have holes; squirrels, rabbits and reptiles excavate their habitations in the earth, in which to shelter themselves from the merciless storms and pinching cold; bears have their dens in the deep hollow tree, where they snugly lie in their cozy beds, and sleep through the long winter, awaking only with the returning spring. Fowls and birds choose their domiciles, and most ingeniously construct their habitations with twigs plastered with mud, and softened with down from their own breasts. The soaring eagle builds his home in the rugged crag, the hawk in the high tree; even fish deposit their spawn in crevices among the rocks, which serve as temporary homes for their young.

In the vegetable kingdom, every tree has its home in the cleft of the mountain, or by the rich banks of the stream; every



herb and the smallest flower a place where it plants its roots in search of some permanent residence; every ear of corn its home on the stalk, and every kernel of grain its own little cell. The very hills make themselves homes, and the waters their places of abode. Man, noble and intelligent, is no exception to this great home-law, but on the contrary, exemplifies it most perfectly. Endowed with social qualities, he seeks and craves a home, which shall be the centre of most of the joys of life, and every care should be taken that home should be very attractive, a peaceful retreat from the busy, rushing, crushing outside world—a place within whose enclosure we may say to strife and discord, “thus far shalt thou come, and no farther,”—a place where the songs of the birds are the sweetest, the flowers most fragrant, and every by-path a pleasant association.

When God finished his wondrous work of creation, his crowning act was the formation of man, but we learn that God saw that it was not good for man to be alone, and that he made woman, and gave her to Adam for a companion and helpmate. Our mother Eve, in her innocence, is represented as surpassingly lovely in form and feature, and no doubt elicited Adam's warmest love and admiration.

The human race has been deteriorating for six thousand years or more, and woman has been in a measure despoiled of many of her graces by false education and custom, but she is still man's admiration, and though all the sex do not possess a “beautiful face,” there are many gifted with a “beautiful soul.” The wise man of the Bible says “that beauty is vain, but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.” We would not by any means undervalue Heaven's beautiful gift; yet we are of the opinion that there are many sterling qualities to be sought after in a companion for life—far exceeding personal appearance. Man without woman and woman without man are imperfect beings; but united by the ties which bind kindred hearts may each honorably fill the place assigned to them.

Woman in her weakness cannot go forth unaided to struggle with life's ills, but the strong arm of her protector, and a large place in his heart, what can she not accomplish? As the graceful vine, which has long twined its foliage about the oak, and been lifted by it into sunshine, will cling more closely in the raging storm, so it is beautifully ordered that woman more dependent, and the ornament of man in his prosperity, should be his solace and comfort in adversity. How often have we remarked that disasters which break down the spirit of man, and prostrate him in the dust, seem to call forth woman's energies, and she rises superior to every obstacle.

We cannot agree with many, that woman's destiny points to the public walks of life or to the professions which have hitherto been almost exclusively monopolized by the sterner sex, neither to the tented field, where carnage and blood, and the groans of the wounded and dying cause the stoutest heart to sicken. Surely from such scenes, timid, shrinking woman must recoil; but where is the labour assigned her? We, unhesitatingly, answer, in her home. Here she erects her throne; here sways her regal sceptre, and here asserts her queenly authority. Here her companion learns to appreciate her, and here her children rise up to call her blessed, as can be adduced from the testimony of many great and good men, who have attributed all their prosperity to a mother's influence. And since the destinies of nations are moulded in the home, and by a mother's early training, how important that woman should be thoroughly educated, morally, mentally and physically, that she may better discharge the very important duties assigned to her. Time was when woman turned her wheel, plied her needle, and her task was done. Time is when her intellectual powers require to be called forth, and inactivity on her part is fatal to the elevation of the race; but the gem of all others which enriches her character is unaffected piety. This must be her ornament, her star, by which she may most surely guide those under her care through the many vicissitudes of life, and finally into the haven of rest.

### PROVINCIAL Agricultural and Industrial EXHIBITION. HALIFAX, 1879.

THE Provincial Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition of Nova Scotia, will be held in the City of Halifax, by authority of the Provincial Legislature and under the auspices of the Central Board of Agriculture, under the immediate management and direction of Committees appointed by the Corporation of the City.

The Exhibition will commence on Monday, 29th September, and close on Friday, 3rd October.

Live Stock must be entered on or before the 6th September; Manufactures, Implements and Produce, on or before the 20th September.

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C. & W. Anderson's, Barrington St.  
Wm. Lowe's, Spring Garden Road.  
James Finlay's, Pleasant St.  
D. M. Story's, Brunswick St.  
H. Harris's, Halifax Nursery.  
The bookstores in the City.  
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