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HALIFAX, 26th July, 1873.

We are now able to furnish a pretty full Report of Farm, Garden and Orchard Crops throughout the Province, from information collected by Members of the Central Board of Agriculture in their respective counties.

In former years, we have had continually to remark upon the diversity of weather reports from different counties, drought and heat prevailing on one side of the Cobequid Mountains, whilst cold and wet were grieving the farmers on the other; drying winds burning up the grass in Yarmouth, whilst close, muggy weather was rotting the hay in Cape Breton. This year, there is a remarkable uniformity in the terms of the communications received from all parts of the Province, as to the weather that has prevailed since the opening of the season, and nearly all express highly encouraging anticipations of the harvest and crops.

The dry, and comparatively warm, weather of May afforded an excellent opportunity for preparing the land, and for sowing and planting. One result of this appears to be, that much more seed has been put into the ground than usual; more potatoes have been planted, and more grain sown. More care also has been exercised in the choice of seed, since the numerous importations of improved varieties made by the Board.

The dry seed time was followed by cold, ungenial weather. In wet places,

potato seed rotted in the ground, turnips that were sown early were an easy prey to the fly, and tender plants in gardens failed to make a start. The grass looked thin and weak, and backward. But July brought welcome rains and warmth, and a remarkable change has been wrought over the face of the whole country. The grass has thickened and filled out, potatoes have grown rampant, fruit trees have vivid-shining foliage and rapidly swelling fruit, and the sleek coats of the cattle everywhere show how the pastures have improved.

HAY CROP.

In Cumberland County, HIRAM BLACK, Esq., reports that although the grass, in early part of June, looked very badly, yet the frequent showers and warm weather have so improved it that there will be "one of the best upland hay crops ever harvested." He speaks in similar terms of the best English marsh. Poor crops are this year confined to poor or neglected fields. Dr. HAMILTON says that, in King's County, the grass on rich upland was "never much better in quality or quantity," but on poor lands will be light. J. J. O'BRIEN, Esq., with reference to East Hants, describes the hay on rich land as "above average," but on old meadows and high, dry uplands a light crop. D. ARCHIBALD, Esq., writing from Musquodoboit at an early period (11th July), could not speak so hopefully, but said: "As we are now being blessed

with frequent showers, the lowland hay crop may far exceed our expectations." COLIN CRISHOLM, Esq., reports, of Antigonishe County, a "rapid and abundant growth," and "every prospect of a fair crop. JOHN ROSS, Esq., M. P. P., Boularderie, reports grass injured by drought, but heavy rains since 10th July. H. DAVENPORT, Esq., Sydney, finds that, in his district, notwithstanding the drought, the hay crop will be better than last year, and "at least an average." GEORGE CAMERON, Esq., Guysborough Intervals, remarks hay crop as having latterly been "brought on amazingly,"—above an average looked for, although low intervales were damaged by torrents on 9th and 10th July. BEN. ZWICKER, Esq., of Mahone Bay, reports Lunenburg County as having a hay crop this year fully equal to the abundant crop of last year; although the spring was twelve days earlier than last year, yet the grass retained its freshness longer this year than last. In Annapolis, on the other hand, CHAS. B. WHITMAN, Esq., writes that the crop is not equal to the exceptional abundance of last year, but will nevertheless be "at least an average." AVARD LONGLEY, Esq., writes from the same County:—"Hay an average yield, and excellent quality." JOHN DAKIN, Esq., similarly reports of Digby: "hay will prove a fair average crop." CHAS. ALLISON, Esq., reports from Queen's County, that, notwithstanding the early drought, the hay crop is

likely to be an average one. A. C. A. DOANE, Esq., described the Timothy and other grasses as heading out well in Shelburne County, and giving promise of a "favourable result." From all these observations, it is obvious that we now only require a week or two of good weather to enable every farmer in the Province to fill his barn with excellent hay.

POTATOES.

In King's County, the breadth planted is "much in excess of last year," and they "never looked more prosperous; in Hants', they have "come up very well," and a good crop is expected; in Annapolis also, where there is fully an average breadth planted, they came up very well, and present appearances promise "assuredly an abundant return;" in Guysborough, "growing rapidly;" in Queen's County, they look well and promise a good crop; in Digby, "the quantity planted is much larger than last year, and promise to yield well;" in Barrington, there is prospect of a "plentiful yield;" in Antigonishe, they present a "healthy appearance," and promise a fair crop; about Sydney, "potatoes everywhere luxuriant, and a large breadth planted;" in Halifax County generally, as in Musquodoboit, "potatoes uncommonly beautiful;" in Cumberland, they were "got in early, in land beautifully fitted, and promise a heavy yield." There will be no want of good potatoes this year, should the disease keep off.

GRAINS.

In Shelburne, barley, oats and corn are "growing finely." In Queen's, grains of different kinds, so far, promise well. In Annapolis, grain fields give good promise, but corn is somewhat backward. In Digby, oats, barley and buckwheat are "all looking well," In Cumberland, an increased area of oats was sown, which "look finely;" twice as much barley as usual was sown, and buckwheat also looks well. In Antigonishe, barley "looks very well," and will prove an average crop. In Cape Breton, there are complaints of drought. In King's County, the quantity of oats sown is larger than usual, and they are very forward; wheat and rye look well, but corn is backward. In Halifax County, the oat crop, although "behind the season in growth," "stands

thick upon the ground, and shows a rich green colour;" buckwheat vigorous and good. In Hants', "grain promises well." In Guysborough, wheat and other grains are "promising," straw at least good.

ROOTS AND VEGETABLES.

The early part of the season was very trying to these, and some districts have suffered more than others. For details, we must refer to the various reports published at length. Between bad seed and a bad season, there are large blanks in many vegetable gardens; but wherever the young plants came up and survived, there is now a luxuriant growth.

FRUIT.

In Mr. Whitman's Report, it is stated that, in Annapolis County, this season's crop will not be nearly as great as that of last year, which was unusually fine, yet some orchards are loaded, and there will be a fair yield. In Mr. Longley's district, the prospects are far below average. Dr. Hamilton thinks "it is difficult to say what the fruit crop will be," but it will be much below the usual average in King's County. As the apple crop has failed in England this year, and we have not very encouraging reports from the States, it is probable that our fruit-growers will get prices sufficient to make up, to some extent, for the scanty crop that is now anticipated. We have seen no indication in the Halifax market that cherries have been abundant. Plums also do not promise well. Garden strawberries have grown large, but the wet weather has given size at the expense, to some extent, of flavor,—yet it has been a very good season for this fruit.

The fields supply food for the mind as well as the body. We have never seen the country look finer at this season of the year than it does at the present time; everyone must appreciate and enjoy it, whether he or she be painter or poet, botanist or simple admirer of beauty. But the mental food that our fields yield, is not brought into market on the farmers' waggons. Our citizens must go out into the country and gather for themselves, and they will get with it health and strength, and refreshing sleep and quiet enjoyment, all of them better than Bank notes or Pacific stock, or city lots or Champagne Dinners.

HINTS FOR JULY.

(From the Gardener's Monthly.)

FLOWER GARDEN AND PLEASURE GROUND.

If thanks be due to the man who invented sleep, as some writer particularly insists, how many thanks are due to the one who invented mowing machines. When the writer was a boy he had to rise "with the lark," and go out with the mowers, in order that the grass might be cut before the dew went off from it; now, if he chooses, he can lie in bed and dream his thanks to the sleepy fellow, resting assured that with a good mower he can cut any time in the day. But thanks are not only due to the invention of the mowers, but to those who have so sedulously improved them. It is not more than a year or two ago but we could hardly go over a lawn with our machines without a pony. Now the hand mowers will do an immense amount of work in a short time, and unless in very extensive places a horse is not thought of. But to us the greatest triumph of the mower is that we need not set aside all other manner of work whatsoever, and go to mowing because the cutting time has come. We can now mow long grass as well as short grass—and indeed this is perhaps the greatest gain of all. It was the fault of some of the earlier machines that we had to cut often, which meant, of course, pretty close, and this close cutting weakened the grass to such an extent that small creeping weeds were aided in their growth by being brought fair to the sunlight and in the struggle for life the grass was crowded out. In view of this we have to recommend that the lawn should be left to grow without mowing every few years, if grass is to be permanent. Now we have machines which will cut at any height. For our part we do not see the beauty of a very close shave, and think that an even and regular growth of half to one inch, prettier than one cut so low down. But this is a matter of taste, and we do not insist, only a very short cut is fatal to a long-lived lawn. With the improved hand mowers of the present day, there is probably no one among our readers but will want to have a neat little bit of grass in good keeping about his house.

But passing from the lawn to the trees upon it—the time is coming when transplanted trees of the past fall and spring will suffer more than during any other part of the season. If they show a vigorous growth of young wood, no danger need be apprehended, as it indicates the roots are active and can supply all the moisture the foliage calls for; but if no growth has been made, no roots have been formed, and the leaves are living for the most part on the sap in the wood

and bark, and hot, drying weather will tell with injurious effect on such trees. This is generally first shown by the peeling off of the bark on the southwestern side of the tree—the most drying aspect; and where such exhaustion appears probable, much relief may be afforded by cutting back some of the branches, syringing with water, occasionally, shading the trees where practicable, or wrapping the trunk in hay-bands, or shading the southwest with boughs or boards.

Plants set against walls and piazzas frequently suffer from want of water at this season, when even the ground near them is quite wet. Draw away the soil around each plant so as to form a basin; fill in with a bucketful of water allowing it time to soak gradually away, and when the surface has dried a little, draw in loosely the soil over it, and it will do without water for some weeks. This applies to all plants wanting water through the season. If water is merely poured on the surface, it is made more compact by the weight of water, and the harder the soil becomes, the easier it dries; and the result is the more water you give the more is wanted.

Keep the pruning knife busy through the trees and shrubs, with the object of securing good form. Judgment will soon teach one which shoots would spoil the shape if not taken out.

In most kinds of soil the keeping the surface loose by hoeing and raking in dry weather, will be an excellent method of keeping the main body cool and moist—admitting the air, which is a good non-conductor. In soils, however, which are deficient in loam, and in which sand prevails to a great extent, frequent stirrings have a drying tendency, and a mulching of short grass, or decaying vegetable matter, of any kind, will be found very useful around transplanted trees, shrubs and other things.

We should like to call attention to a note we gave last year, that some beautiful objects for lawn decorations can be made of Wistarias, by training them as standards. A young plant is selected and trained to a stake six feet high. When the plant reaches this it is headed off. The second year the stake may be taken away, and the young plant will support itself. It will never make running branches after this, as it takes all its nutritive powers to overcome gravitation and sustain itself erect. A beautiful umbrella-like head is formed, and its hundreds of drooping flowers in Spring thus shown off to beautiful advantage. Another point of interest to a nurseryman in this is, that with this check to growth the reproductive powers are called into play, and the plants then usually produce seed abundantly. There is hope for numerous improved varieties as soon as

these facts become generally known. This is a very good season to train plants up for this purpose.

Many of the earlier sown annuals will be seeding now and those flowers which opened first will make the best seed to save. Where seed is not desired, it is best to cut all as it forms. The annuals will continue to bloom much longer for this care. In getting seed of the Double Hollyhocks, much difficulty is often experienced. The petals prevent the pollen from falling on the pistil. It is best, therefore, to fertilize them by hand. They then produce as much seed as the single ones. Another advantage of this artificial hybridization is, that we can get any color we please from seed. If, for instance, we want to reproduce the kind perfect, fertilize with its own pollen; but if we would raise new varieties, use pollen from a plant of different color from the one we employ for seed.

Those who wish for a good supply of window flowers next winter, should commence preparations about the end of the month. The Chinese Primrose, Cineraria, Mignonette, Alyssum and other desirable plants should be sown in pots and kept in a cool frame until they grow. Most people fail with these beautiful plants by sowing too late. The Wallflower is a nice, old-fashioned window flower, and cuttings of the double kinds should be struck at once. Cuttings of Geraniums and other things for this coming winter's blooming may still be put in.

We have so often spoken of hedge management in these *hints*, that it seems to us as if every one ought to know about it; but is wonderful how few do. Only recently one whom we know to be one of our most attentive readers and to have been one from the beginning remarked as he passed, what everybody calls a very beautiful Norway Spruce hedge on our grounds, that it was really beautiful, but it was a great error to have it so unnecessarily wide at the base. This hedge is five feet high and five feet wide at the base, which makes it rather wider than it is high; of course it is trimmed into a truncate triangular form.

Now it is one of the essentials of a permanent, prosperous hedge, that it must be at least as wide at the base as it is high, and that it must be trimmed with a flat or gently curved surface to a point at the top. The light then has a chance to play directly on every part of the leaf surface, without which it is impossible to have a hedge long in order. For that part which receives the greater share of sunlight, will get stronger, and that which gets the least gradually grows weaker, till a thin, poor base is the final result. This is one great object in pruning to remedy.

The Gladiolus has become one of our most popular summer flowers. Those

who have collections of them arrange the varieties very tastefully according to their colors. Take a list of colors as they flower, so as to arrange them properly next year. We give the same advice for Petunias, Verbenas, and Geraniums. The various shades of colors of these varieties properly arranged, make beds peculiarly pleasing. This is one of the arts of modern flower-gardening, to arrange flowers properly according to shades of color.

NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL FAIR.

The Thirty-third Annual Cattle Show and Fair of the New York State Agricultural Society will be held upon the grounds of the Albany Agricultural and Arts Association, near the city of Albany, opening on the 24th of September, and closing on the 1st day of October next.

The grounds will not be open to the public on Sunday, September 28th.

It has for some time been desired to hold the Fair for a full week and it is believed that, with the extension of the duration, a corresponding increase of benefit will accrue to exhibitors, and that the intervention of a Sunday will not be found objectionable, as in most cases exhibitors and their employes have heretofore been compelled to be away from home either the Sunday before or the Sunday after the show.

The grounds purchased by the Albany Association are most suitable, both in soil and surface. The situation is very accessible by steam and horse railroads, and live stock and goods can be received and unloaded at the rear entrance to the grounds.

The plans for the permanent buildings to be erected are such as to afford larger and better accommodation than the Society has ever before been able to offer to exhibitors.

The premium list is now ready, and copies will be immediately sent by mail to all persons who have exhibited within three years past, and to all persons who may apply for them.

BARRINGTON AND CLYDE SOCIETIES' UNITED AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION, 1873.

Exhibition to be held on the second Tuesday in October, or first following fine day, at Barrington Head.

Premiums open to the County of Shelburne, to be awarded to Competitors for articles of their own growth or production, or three months' possession in case of Stock. Exhibitors not members of Barrington Society or Clyde River Society,

must pay an entrance fee of fifty cents at the time of making entries. The age of all live Stock, with breed and description as far as possible, must be given; and every article whatsoever must have name attached, with the number of Exhibitor.

All entries must be made in writing, and handed to the Managing Committee on or before Saturday preceding the day of Exhibition, and a number will be supplied to each Exhibitor.

Nothing will be received after 9 A. M. on the day of Exhibition, and no article on exhibition to be removed before 3 P. M.

Exhibitors will be expected to look after the proper arrangement of whatever they exhibit; care and safe keeping of Stock, &c., under the direction of the several Committees.

The award of Premiums will be announced at 2 P. M., and Premiums will be paid by Treasurer of said Societies after the day of Exhibition.

LIST OF PREMIUMS.

Best Horse or Mare,	\$2 00
2d do. " " " "	1 00
Largest Ox, " " " "	2 00
2nd " " " "	1 00
Best Beef Ox, " " " "	2 00
2nd " " " "	1 00
Best Working Ox, " " " "	1 50
2nd " " " "	75
Best Yoke Working Oxen, " " " "	2 00
2nd " " " "	1 00
Best pair Steers, 4 years old, " " " "	2 00
Best Bull or Steer Calf, " " " "	1 00
2nd " " " "	50
Best Heifer Calf, " " " "	1 00
2nd " " " "	50
Best Cow, " " " "	2 00
2nd " " " "	1 50
3rd " " " "	1 00
Best Bull, one year old and upwards, " " " "	1 00
Best Pig, 6 to 12 months old, " " " "	2 00
2nd " " " "	1 50
Best Sheep, " " " "	1 00
2nd " " " "	50
Best Ewe and Lamb, " " " "	1 00
2nd " " " "	50
Best pair Brahma Fowls, " " " "	50
" " Spanish Fowls, " " " "	50
" " Native Fowls, " " " "	50
" Collection Fowls, " " " "	1 00
Best 5 lbs. Butter, " " " "	75
2nd " " " "	50
Best Cheese, " " " "	1 00
Best half-quintal Dry Codfish, " " " "	1 00
2nd " " " "	50
Best half-bushel Wheat, " " " "	50
" " Barley, " " " "	50
" " Oats, " " " "	50
Best 6 Ears Corn, " " " "	50
Best peck Beans, " " " "	50
" " Peas, " " " "	50
Best Show of Vegetables of any kind, " " " "	1 00
2nd " " " "	50
Best half-bushel Early Rose Potatoes, " " " "	50
2nd " " " "	25
Best half-bush. any other kind " " " "	50
2nd " " " "	25
Best 6 Blood Beets, " " " "	50
2nd " " " "	25
Best 5 Mangold Beets, " " " "	50
2nd " " " "	25
Best 6 Belgian Carrots, " " " "	25

" " Table " " " "	\$0 25
" " Parsnips, " " " "	25
" " Turnips, " " " "	50
2nd " " " "	25
Best head Cabbage, " " " "	50
2nd " " " "	25
Best 2 heads Cauliflower, " " " "	50
Best Hubbard Squash, " " " "	50
Largest Squash of any kind, " " " "	50
Largest Pumpkin, " " " "	50
2nd " " " "	25
Best dozen Tomatoes, " " " "	50
2nd " " " "	25
Best pair Cucumbers, " " " "	25
Best dozen Apples, " " " "	50
2nd " " " "	25
Best dozen Plums, " " " "	50
2nd " " " "	25
Best Collection of Flowers, " " " "	25
2nd " " " "	15
Best Wheat Breed, " " " "	50
Best Home-made Carpet, " " " "	1 00
" " Mat, " " " "	50
" Patchwork Quilt, " " " "	50
" Sample Home-made Cloth, " " " "	50
" pair Mittens, " " " "	25
" pair Socks, " " " "	25
" pair Boots, " " " "	50

A Special Committee will be appointed for articles not included in Premium Lists, and Premiums will be awarded according to amount of funds unappropriated.

Reports on Crops.

FROM DR. C. C. HAMILTON, M. D., CORNWALLIS.

My Dear Sir,—In reply to your note of the 8th inst., requesting a "report on the present condition and prospect of the field crops," I beg to say that on the whole I never knew them present a better aspect at this season of the year. The Spring being dry was favourable for getting in the various crops, and with the exception of hay and late sown grain nothing has suffered for the want of more rain.

The grass on rich upland, good dyked marsh and intervales, was never much better, considering both quality and quantity. On poor and late uplands, and similar dyked marshes, the crop will be light, owing to the want of warmer weather earlier in the season; on the whole there will be a fair average yield.

The dyked marshes overflowed by the Saxby storm, (with the exception of the Wickwire and point dyked marshes which are good,) have not yet recovered from the injury done to them, by the salt water, and will not until taken up and thoroughly seeded again.

The breadth of potatoes planted is much in excess of last year, and it is the general opinion never looked more prosperous. Some few fields are now in bloom, and should the season continue favourable we may expect a much larger crop than for some years past.

The quantity of oats sown is also larger than usual, and the year very forward for

the season, some fields already showing the head. The yield must be greater than previous years.

A few patches of winter wheat and rye are forward, and will no doubt yield well. There is but a small quantity of Summer wheat sown with us, and it is too soon to predict the result, as the weevil may affect it, which is not the case with the winter wheat.

Corn, owing to the cold dry Spring is not locking well, but the warm weather of the past week is changing its colour, and we may yet have a fair yield.

Haying is about coming, although the grass is "young," as the farmers express it.

It is difficult to say what the fruit crop will be, but judging from the orchards in my own vicinity, I should think it will be much below the usual average crop.

Taking the appearance of all the crops, I think the farmers are likely to have an abundant return for their labour.

Yours, &c.,

C. C. HAMILTON.

July 14th, 1873.

FROM COLIN CHISHOLM, ESQ., MARYDALE, ANTIGONISHE.

MARYDALE, ANTIGONISHE Co., }
July 12th, 1873. }

Dear Sir,—In reply to yours of the 8th inst., asking for a report of the field crops in this district, I beg to say, that although the hay crop had not a very early start, yet the plentiful supply of rain we have received this month, caused a rapid and abundant growth, and upon the whole there is every prospect of a fair crop. The spring having been a dry and favourable one, farmers were enabled to sow their wheat and oats early, all of which look very well, and should there be seasonable rains there will be an average crop, but it is impossible to say how far the former may be injured by the weevil. Barley looks very well, and will prove about an average crop. Potatoes have come up very well, and present a healthy appearance, and should the blight not appear early there will be a fair crop. Fruit will not be very plenty, although there were a few blossoms on the trees, as the greater part of the few put out have fallen. Owing to a dry and cold Spring the sowing and planting of root crops, such as turnips, carrots, beets, cabbage, had been retarded, which leaves them in &c., a very backward condition; however the recent rains and pleasant growing weather we are now enjoying, have produced a favourable change in the appearance of the crops, and from all the information received from the adjacent sections of the county there appear to be indications of an abundant harvest.

Yours, &c.,

COLIN CHISHOLM.

FROM HENRY DAVENPORT, ESQ.,
SYDNEY, C. B.

Dear Sir,—The early season was both very dry and very cold, but favorable for farming purpose, more than an average amount of Spring work was got through earlier than usual here. Complaints have been made that drouth has affected grains and grass, but I cannot think to any serious extent. However, we have recently had no want of heat and some rains, within the last twenty-four hours, a little deluge, and things now look promising. The hay crop will be better than last year, and at least an average. As far as I have seen, grains, extensively sown this year, look promising. Potatoes every where luxuriant, and a large breadth planted. Culinary vegetables of all kinds doing well, and the prospect for fruits very good. In fact I may sum up by saying everything looks well.

Very truly I am yours,

H. DAVENPORT,

Sydney, 10th July, 1873.

FROM AVARD LONGLEY, ESQ.,
PARADISE, ANNAPOLIS CO.

PARADISE, July 12th, 1873.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your favour of the 8th inst., requesting information concerning the crops in this district, I beg to hand you the following:—

Hay—an average yield, and excellent quality.

Cereals—wheat looking well, yet but little sown; barley, oats and buckwheat, also, looking well. Rye, very little sown in this place. Indian corn, backward and unpromising. Potatoes promise very well, and fully an average breadth planted. Fair prospect for turnips, mangolds, &c. Beans and peas promise well. The prospect for the products of the Kitchen Garden is not very encouraging, seeds generally not coming up well.

Fruit—the apple crop will probably be far below the average. The trees blossomed full, and about the time the apples were setting, there was a prospect of an abundant yield, but there are not but few apples to be seen where there was a promise of many. The probability is that the yield of cherries, plums, and pears will be below the average.

Yours,

A. LONGLEY.

FROM DAVID ARCHIBALD, ESQ.,
UPPER MUSQUODOBOIT.

Dear Sir,—Allow a correspondent, through the medium of your valuable journal, to give briefly, some hints respecting the present appearance and future prospects of crops generally in this locality. The Spring and sowing season was dry, giving a favourable opportunity to the

farmer to plough, to plant, and sow, and in consequence a much larger breadth of land has been sown and planted than there was in either of the two preceding years. Although the weather was dry and very favourable for tilling the soil, yet it remained cold, uncommonly so for the season of the year, and until near the last of June, but little warmth was felt. The hay crop, it is supposed, will not be up to the average of former years. June being dry and cold, has told largely against it up to the present. But, as we are now being blessed with frequent showers, the lowland hay crop may far exceed our expectations. The oat crop, although behind the season in growth, stands thick upon the ground, and shows a rich green colour. Potatoes uncommonly beautiful, a dry season seems always to suit the potato crop, its present appearance, particularly on warm dry soils, indicates a yield above an average. Buckwheat looks vigorous and good, late frosts have not left their mark upon it, and late frosts we had, yet through the influence of moisture in the morning atmosphere, our crops have escaped its blighting influence.

Wheat where sown looks very promising, its growth is forward, and if weevil spare it, will reward our toil. Barley stands close upon the ground, is good in colour, but short in growth. Peas and beans look very forward for the season. Early sown turnips suffered from the ravages of the turnip fly, but those sown later look vigorous and healthy. The fruit crop, with us, is a matter of small moment; yet, where the crop is cultivated, gives promise of a fair yield, and, upon the whole the crop prospects in this vicinity are pretty encouraging. The high price obtained (within the last few years,) for all kinds of farm produce, has given a healthy impulse to the farming interests throughout our country. We trust that our Legislature will increase their interest in the agricultural welfare of this Province, and that the day is not far distant when our country will take a creditable stand as a largely producing Agricultural one.

Upper Musquodoboit, July 11th, 1873.

FROM HIRAM BLACK, ESQ.

AMHERST, July 14th, 1873.

Dear Sir,—In answer to your inquiry respecting the crops, I would say that although the grass in the early part of June looked very badly, the frequent showers and the warm weather have so improved it that there will be one of the best upland hay crops ever harvested. The same will apply to the best English marsh, but there will be a light crop on the middling and poor soils. Taken as a whole, the English hay crop promises a much better yield than last year, decidedly more than an average crop. The later grasses give every promise of yielding fully

an ordinary return. The Spring was so dry that an unusual opportunity was afforded the farmers to get the crop in early in splendid condition; consequently an increased area of oats was sown, which look finely. The same may be said about the buckwheat, though this crop will depend largely on the absence of early frosts. Twice as much barley as usual was sown. The area under wheat is probably less than in former years; but this crop looks well, though the returns from the latter will depend on the ravages of rust and weevil. Potatoes were got in early in land beautifully fitted, and promise a heavy yield. Turnips average in prospects and extent.

Altogether the prospects of the husbandman are very encouraging; but the blight, the frost, and the insect may greatly change them.

Yours truly,

HIRAM BLACK.

FROM JOHN DAKIN, ESQ.

DIQBY, July 14th, 1873.

Dear Sir,—I send you a short report of the present condition and prospects of the field crops in this locality.

As regards the potato crop, the quantity planted is much larger than last year; the sorts mostly cultivated are the Early Rose, Blue Nose, and Carter's. Oats, barley and buckwheat are all looking well. Quite large quantities of roots have been planted, and promise to yield well. Hay will prove a fair average crop.

Our Agricultural Society is gaining the confidence of our people, the number of members at present is one hundred.

We are to have an Exhibition in October.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN DAKIN.

FROM CHARLES B. WHITMAN, ESQ.

BRIDGETOWN, 12th July, 1873.

Dear Sir,—Your letter was duly received, and agreeable to its request, I proceed to give a brief statement of the condition of the crops in the County of Annapolis.

The fields now present a very flourishing appearance, and promise in general an abundant yield. The grass lands look well, and though the crop is not equal to the unusual abundance of last year, nevertheless it will be at least an average. There is not much cut yet, but a commencement has been made and preparations for general haying are making their appearance. The grain fields give good promise. The quantity of wheat sown in this county is very limited, owing principally to the losses in late years caused by weevil. The Indian Corn is somewhat backward. The early part of the season being cold and wet, its growth was considerably retarded; but under the influence

of the last few weeks it has been remarkably rapid, so that now the promise far exceeds what might have been expected. Turnips, carrots, and mangold wurtzel are not cultivated to any considerable extent. This doubtless is a great oversight, as these roots are well known to be far more valuable than hay for feeding and fattening stock. Of the three, the mangold wurtzel is probably the best, and yet it is the least grown, though much less exposed to the attacks of insects, which are so injurious to the turnip. Potatoes are far more cultivated than any other of the root crops. This year they came up very well; and, if we are to judge by the display of leaves and by the flowers, which in some cases are already to be seen, then assuredly there will be an abundant return. Altogether, so far as I have observed, the root crops look well. The apple, as it is one of the principal products of the County, deserves special mention. The crop of last year was unusually fine, but as might be supposed that of this season is not nearly so great. Yet some orchards are quite loaded, and generally there will be a fair yield. Cherries are not cultivated extensively except at Bear River. They are said to be very abundant.

Considering the Field Crops generally, there is no reason for complaint; the labor of the cultivator will probably be bountifully repaid, and every industrious farmer made to feel that the hand of the diligent maketh rich, when he sees that his calling ensures him both profit and independence.

Yours respectfully,

CHAS. B. WHITMAN.

FROM A. C. A. DOANE, ESQ.

BARRINGTON, 12th July, 1873.

Dear Sir,—In compliance with your request respecting the condition of the Field Crops in this section of the country, I beg to state that owing to the cold and dry weather in May and June, vegetation was considerably retarded. Many of the smaller seeds, as beets, carrots, parsnips, turnips, cabbage, &c., did not vegetate well, and to the few that sprouted, the insects proved very destructive, particularly to turnips and cabbage. Several plots of ground had to be resown. The indications now are somewhat better, but on the whole the root crops and garden vegetables are not so promising as usual. Potatoes are generally looking well, and there is a prospect, unless disease ensues, of a plentiful yield. The kind mostly planted is the Rose.

Recent rains have tended greatly to promote the growth of grass. Clover is vigorous and in full bloom. Timothy and other grasses are heading out well. Except in high or sandy lands, the crop seems as good as usual, and it is believed the haying, which is just being commenced,

will show a favorable result. White clover is abundant on the pasture lands. Wheat is seldom sown. Barley, oats and Indian corn are growing finely. We regret these cereals are not more generally sown, as good crops are frequently obtained.

This is an auspicious season for fruit. Apple trees bloomed exuberantly, and they are now well-filled with young apples. Plum trees also give promise of being productive, and oven berries are abundant. It is gratifying to know that considerable interest is being taken in fruit culture, and that the prospects of success are encouraging.

Yours respectfully,

A. C. A. DOANE.

FROM BENJAMIN ZWICKER, ESQ.,
MAHONE BAY.

Dear Sir,—In reply to yours of the 3rd inst., I beg to say that I can give you a very favorable report of the prospects of the crops of every kind in this County. I have been to Kingsburg through South, and I have also been to Chester, and have seen people from New Germany, and received the same answer from all that the crops of every kind look very favorable. I never saw them look better. The country really looks cheering to the farmer. Last year we had an abundant crop of hay, and from what I can hear my own opinion is, that the crop this year will be fully equal to last year. The weather was all that the farmer could desire to make the crops good. We have had such beautiful rains lately, excellent for the growing of cabbage and turnips, as they are all done setting out the plants. It is the French Turnip that we generally grow. The farmers have now fairly commenced haying this week; some have cut some last week. Although the Spring was about twelve days earlier than last year, yet the grass retained its freshness longer this year than last. I have kept a regular journal of the weather for the last twenty years, so that I can tell how the wind and weather was every day this year. The farmers were blessed with fine weather for farming operations, and we ought to be very thankful to the Giver of all good. The apple and plum crops are also very promising.

I shall be most happy to give you information at any time on the crops of this County. Yours, very truly,

B. ZWICKER.

MAHONE BAY, July 14th 1873.

FROM CHARLES ALLISON, ESQ.

KEMPT, QUEENS CO., July 14, 1873.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your favor of the 8th inst., respecting the prospects and present state of the crops in this locality, I would say that hay, which is our principal crop, is likely to be an

average one, although, owing to the dry cold weather in May and the early part of June, fears were entertained that the crop would be a failure. Potatoes in general look well, and promise to be a good crop. The grain of different kinds so far promises well, but it is too soon to form an estimate of what the crop is likely to be. Turnips and other roots, so far, look well and promise to be an average crop. Apples which thrive well here, and are being cultivated to a considerable extent, are likely to be a failure, owing to a heavy frost which occurred while the trees were in blossom.

The weather is now very dry, and crops of all kinds are suffering for want of rain, having had none of any consequence for about four weeks.

Yours, very truly,

CHARLES ALLISON.

FROM J. J. O'BRIEN, ESQ.

NOEL, 12th July, 1873.

Dear Sir,—Agreeably to your request of the 8th inst., I beg to state for your information that the crops in this part of the County, on the whole have a favorable appearance. The Spring was dry and cold, the chance for getting in a large crop was good and well improved, but the growth was slow until the showers in June, which brought the crops of all kinds on rapidly. As far as my information and observation go, the hay on rich land will be above an average, but on the old meadows and high, dry uplands a light crop. The rain was rather late coming. Recent showers have been favorable. The grain promises well. Wheat is rather thin, but the oats and barley look well. Potatoes have come up very well and if the blight does not prevent we may expect a good crop. Turnips, beans, and other roots and vegetable crops are doing well for this season of the year. I may mention that the Alsike clover seed, obtained from Mr. Saunders' Seed Store, Argyle Street, has proved a success wherever it has been tried, a very important supplement to the hay crop. It makes a heavy, nutritious and palatable hay, comes to maturity just in time for the timothy hay, and as far as has been tried stands the winter better than the red clover.

The fruit crop promises pretty well but not so large as we were led to hope for by the blossoms which were uncommonly plenty of all sorts, strawberries especially—a frost about the middle of June caused, it is said, a serious deficiency.

The above has reference more particularly to East Hants. I hope, however to have information from West Hants in a few days, which I intend to forward to you. Yours respectfully,

J. J. O'BRIEN.

SECOND LETTER FROM J. J. O'BRIEN, ESQ.

NOEL, 17th July, 1873.

Since writing you a few days ago, I received, from a friend in west Hants, the following:—

"The hay in West Hants will be a fair average, but below that of last year in quantity; and that, owing to the coldness of the spring, there will be more weeds, which will render the quality less marketable. The grain and root crops promise remarkably well."

Yours, &c.,
J. J. O'BRIEN.

FROM JOHN ROSS, Esq., M. P. P.

BOULARDERIE, July 14th, 1873.

It is not easy to judge in our district how the crops may turn out. The spring has been dry, which favoured the farmer in getting a large crop in the ground; but it has also been very cold, which kept vegetation backward. When the weather became warm, it still kept dry, which injured the prospects of our hay crop, which, under ordinary circumstances, will hardly be up to an average.

The heavy rain we had since the 10th inst., I think, has been in time to save all the other crops, which look promising, though backward.

JOHN ROSS.

FROM GEORGE CAMERON, Esq.

GUYSBORO' INTERVALE, }
July 15th, 1873. }

Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your esteemed favour of the 8th inst.; and, in reply, I am happy to be able to report that the field crops look in good condition at the present time.

The weather in the month of May being exceptionally fine, and therefore very favourable for the operations of the husbandman, the result is that a larger breadth of land has been planted and sown this year than usual. And not only has the seed been put in in greater quantity, but, I believe, also, in very good condition, for, the ground being dry, the harrow performed its work splendidly.

The growth of vegetation was somewhat retarded by drought, in the month of June; but we have been more than compensated by the refreshing showers with which we have been favoured since the commencement of July, and the rapid growth of the crops has shown the beneficial effects of an abundant supply of heat and moisture. The seasonable showers have brought on the hay crop amazingly; and, I believe, it will be above an average crop. On low intervale lands, this crop, as well as some others, has been damaged in some places

by the overflowing of the rivers, caused by the torrents of rain which fell on the morning of the 10th inst. and the preceding night. Spring wheat and other grains appear promising. The growth of straw will be good; but it is too early to form an opinion respecting the grain. I do not know of any winter wheat being sown in this district. The Potatoe crop looks well, and is growing rapidly; and there is prospect of an abundant yield, the dry weather in the early part of the season being rather favourable than otherwise to this crop. Fruit trees, especially plum and crab-apple trees, made a good show of blossoms, and there is prospect of a good crop. The grub have injured the Gooseberries. Currents are plentiful. The pastures are excellent, and the produce of the dairy will be large.

Upon the whole, the prospects of a bountiful harvest were never better, and there is every indication that the labors of the husbandman will be amply rewarded. The face of nature wears a cheerful and encouraging aspect; and the rich appearance of the fields cannot fail to inspire feelings of gratitude in the hearts of the people towards the giver of "Every good and perfect gift."

Yours obediently,
GEORGE CAMERON.

Communications.

THE OAKFIELD DEVONS.

OAKFIELD, JUNE 2ND, 1873.

Dear Sir,—As the thorough-bred Stock imported by the Board of Agriculture are brought here for the general benefit of the Province, although they become the property of individuals, I feel it my duty as the purchaser of the herd of Devons last Fall, to inform the agricultural public through your columns of their present state.

Heifer "Pink" had a heifer calf in January—doing well. Heifer "Primrose" had a heifer calf in March, which had some obstruction in the throat, which prevented it swallowing, and died after about ten weeks' nursing. Cow "Lady Anne" had two heifers in June, and they are both doing well, she gives plenty of milk to raise both calves.

"Maid of Miller Hill" will not calve for some time. She and "Blossom" are both going on and growing nicely. I depended for some time on the Devon bull belonging to our County Society, which is kept near Gay's River, but the "facilities" offered by the freight trains for moving valuable cattle are not great, and I have been for some months past trying to purchase a thorough-bred bull in this or the neighbouring Province. I had nearly given up my search as hopeless, but through the

kind assistance of Hugh McMonagle, Esq., the well known stock raiser of Sussex-vale; I was enabled to complete the purchase from W. B. Scovill, Esq., of Kings Co., N. B., of the four year old thorough-bred Devon bull "Havelock," imported from Ontario by the New Brunswick Board of Agriculture in 1870, and I am happy to say that he arrived here safely by rail yesterday.

My Devon Herd therefore, now consists of a bull, three cows, two heifers and three calves, and I trust I may be able to convince the farming public that pure blood stock can be raised to as good advantage in Nova Scotia as in Ontario, so that our Agricultural Societies may obtain such improved stock as they want without sending their money out of the Province.

My Ayrshire Herd now consists of one two year old bull—Senator; one cow with heifer calf; one two year old heifer, in calf to the celebrated New Brunswick bull, Chieftain, and which will shortly calve; and two yearling heifers. The four heifers were purchased by me from the celebrated herd of Hugh McMonagle, Esq., of Sussex-vale, and were exhibited by him last October, at the Sackville Exhibition, where I bought them. These Ayrshires are all of the dark brown colour, now so much preferred, and are very pretty cattle, small, light limbed and graceful.

I regret, however, to find that on a large place, such as mine, there are many inconveniences in keeping up two separate herds of cattle, and I have therefore decided upon disposing of the Ayrshire herd and confining my attention more particularly to the Devons as being a breed of more general utility, both for dairy and beef purposes.

I remain yours obediently,
J. WINBURN LAURIE.

WANTED—A STUMPING MACHINE.

DEAR SIR,—Can you give me any information as to the best sort of Stumping Machine? I get all sorts of advice. Some say, heat and fire to burn out the stumps; others tell me that the quickest way to deal with stumps is to chop round them, and then trust to a pair of stout oxen to turn them out. This may be so, but in these days of mechanical invention, it hardly seems reasonable to assert that brute force is better than science; and I think that there must be machines better capable of doing the work. Perhaps some of your readers can give me some information as to a suitable machine, and the best way to use it.

Faithfully yours,
J. WINBURN LAURIE.
Halifax, July 22nd, 1873.

Reports of Agri. Societies.**YARMOUTH COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

Court House, YARMOUTH, }
Wednesday, May 7, 1873. }

Quarterly Meeting. A large attendance. Vice-President, L. E. Baker, Esq., in the chair.

Minutes of last quarterly meeting read and approved.

Number of members for 1872, to date, 70; amount subscribed, \$217.50.

Committee appointed at quarterly meeting in February, to ascertain whether a lot of land, suitable for exhibitory or other purposes of Society, could be procured, reported that they had obtained the offer of two lots, either of which from their situation would answer the wants of the Society, viz:—1st. A lot of land owned by John M. LeCain, containing 26 acres, and situated near Ward's Corner; consideration \$1,700; terms \$300 on completion of purchase, balance in yearly instalments of \$200, and interest. 2nd. The Homestead Farm of Amos Pitman, containing forty acres, and situated on Starr's Road; consideration \$4,000.

Report received, and voted,—That the President, L. E. Baker, and William Burrill, Esqs., be a committee, to purchase either of said lots of land, as to them may seem most fit, and will best subserve the interest of the Society, and to put the same in order for Exhibition to be held in October.

Question as to the expediency of withdrawing premiums on neat stocks, under at least, one half grade improved blood, and amendment of the Premium List accordingly, taken up.

After a lengthy discussion, voted unanimously, That in the preparation of Premium List, for the present year, premiums be allotted, on neat stock of full and half grade, improved blood, at double the amount allowed on stock under one half grade, or having no pedigree; and also that provision be made in Premium List for the different breeds.

It was, for the present, not considered advisable to go further in this direction, but was generally conceded that to fully accomplish the objects of the Society, the gradual and final exclusion from premiums of stock not having at least a preponderance of improved blood would become necessary.

Voted,—That the President, Secretary, and Geo. S. Brown, Esq., be a committee to amend and prepare premium list, and also to nominate and select committees for the coming exhibition.

Voted,—That the Secretary procure a Herd Book, and have the same in pre-

paration for the Exhibition; and that all exhibitors obtaining premiums on stock, be required to furnish name, pedigree, &c., of animals, to the intent that the same be entered therein.

It was suggested that, in view of provision having been made in and by the Agricultural Act of 1873 for an increase of grant but subject to the amount of subscriptions raised, it would be well for all persons intending to become members of the Society to do so at once, and thus enable the Premium Committee to provide for an increase in premiums.

Meeting adjourned.

THOS. E. CORNING,
Secretary.

TOWNSHIP OF CLEMENTS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

CLEMENTS, 13th June, 1873.

Dear Sir,—I beg to apprise you that an Agricultural Society was duly and legally formed yesterday at Clementsdales, by the name of the Township of Clements Agricultural Society,—that the President, Mr. Cereno Purdy, Vice President, Mr. Dow Potter; Secretary and Treasurer, Rev. W. M. Godfrey, together with five directors were properly and duly elected. The subscriptions will be duly paid up by July; and we beg as a Society to be duly acknowledged by the Board of Agriculture, so that we may participate in any benefits which may arise from our organization.

We also will be happy to receive from you any instructions which may help us onward.

Yours obediently,
W. M. GODFREY,
Secy. Clements Ag. Society.

CONSTITUTION OF RICHMOND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**NAME.**

The Society shall be called the Richmond County Agricultural Society.

MEMBERSHIP.

Interest in the business of farming, and the annual payment of one dollar, shall constitute membership in this Society.

OFFICERS.

The Officers shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and five members Directors.

MEETINGS.

There shall be held quarterly meetings each year, on the first Tuesday of December, March, June, and September.

Other meetings, called "Special," may be called by the President and Secretary, or upon the written request of five members.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

The President shall act as chairman at all meetings of the Society when present, call special meetings, and perform the usual duties pertaining to his office.

The Vice-President shall assist the President and in his absence act in his place.

The Secretary shall keep a record of the business of the Society, minutes of meetings, an account of receipts and expenditure, call meetings by advertisement when properly directed to do so, conduct the correspondence, and perform such duties as may be required for the advancement of the interests of the Society.

The Treasurer shall keep the funds of the Society and disburse on the order of the President and Secretary, and make a written report of the state of the funds at the annual meeting.

The Officers and Directors shall take charge and keep for the benefit of the Society all animals, plants, seeds, roots, models, implements, &c., with all and everything that may become the property of the Society, by purchase or otherwise, and shall make such use of the Society's property as in their judgment shall be most beneficial to the Agriculture of the District; shall report at the annual meeting in December upon the proceedings, offer remarks upon the state of Agriculture, and recommend measures to advance the interests of the Society.

This Constitution may be amended by a vote of two thirds of the members present in favor of such amending, at any quarterly or yearly meeting.

The foregoing Constitution was adopted on the 3rd day of July, 1873.

Officers chosen:—President: Robert Hill, Esq.; Vice President: Robert McKenzie, Esq.; Secretary: Mr. M. McRae; Treasurer: Mr. Duncan McRae; Directors: Messrs. Donald McInnes, Donald McRae, William Calder, Duncan McLean, and Allan McRae.

FOR SALE,

The undernamed Pure-bred Ayrshire Stock, recorded on the Nova Scotia Herd Book:

2 year old Bull SENATOR.
2 year old Cow, "PINK," with heifer calf.
2 year old Heifer, "MYRA," in calf to Bull Chief-tain 2nd—N. B. Herd Book.
Yearling Heifer CERES—N. B. Herd Book, No. 49.
Yearling Heifer NORA—N. B. Herd Book, No. 48.
All these animals are entered in the Nova Scotia Register of Thorough-bred Ayrshire Stock, and Certified Pedigrees will be furnished the purchasers.

For further particulars, &c., enquire of
COLONEL LAURIE.

Oakfield, July 15th, 1873.

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