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W. W. Wood

THE COLONIAL FARMER,

DEVOTED TO THE AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS OF NOVA-SCOTIA, NEW-BRUNSWICK,
AND PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND.

VOL. I. HALIFAX, N. S., JUNE, 1842. NO. 12.

From the British American Cultivator, No. 1.

CHEAP HOUSES.

There has been within the last four years introduced in this District, a style of houses as yet comparatively unknown to other parts of the Province. We feel a pleasure in bringing it into general notice, as it will, no doubt, be brought into general use as soon as its good qualities are fully known. The houses constructed on this style are denominated "the unburnt brick house." The few brief hints we intend to give at this time on the subject, will be more to elicit correspondence than to give a detailed description of the process of building. If those who are more acquainted with the matter than we are, should fail to give the particulars, we will advert to it in our next, and endeavour, by the ensuing spring to give creditable testimonials in their favour, and clearly elucidate the subject to the understanding of all classes who take an interest in reading our Journal. These buildings cost about the same price as a frame, and a farmer who could do much of the work within himself, could erect the walls of such a building nearly as cheap as shingled logs. The material for the brick is prepared much in the same manner as for common brick, with the exception of its being mixed with straw. The dimensions of the brick are 6 inches thick, 4 inches wide, and 18 inches long. A number of houses have been built this last summer by contract, at the rate of £1 per hundred bricks (including making) containing an area of 75 feet of wall. The walls of a house, 30 feet square and 15 feet high, at that rate would cost only £34. The common practice is to rough-cast, and then built upon a good stone wall, are considered the warmest and most durable house that we have. There are within a circuit of 10 miles of this city, at least 200 of these houses, and the most of them have been built within the last 2 years. We have seen houses, barns, stables, and sheds built upon the same plan. All seem to be satisfied, and recommend their neighbours "to go and do likewise." Much credit is due to the person who introduced this valuable plan of buildings in our country, and if any are solicitous to hear further on the subject, he would no doubt answer, through the columns, any inquiries that may be made.

From the British American Cultivator, No. 2.

Sir,—As you have requested me to furnish you with such information as I possess, respecting the new style of building alluded to in your last, and as I should be truly glad to aid you, in the smallest degree, in your laudable undertaking, especially in attempting to spread the knowledge of an invention in which I have always been deeply interested. I shall not scruple to lay before your readers a plain statement of what I know about it. Perhaps I shall be pardoned for stating, at the outset, that if I am not the person who introduced the fashion into this country, at least I am not aware of any individual attempt of the kind, on this side of the Atlantic, till I erected my driving-house in 1835. Indeed I am a little cautious on this point; for it would give me the highest gratification to be considered the originator of an invention so useful as this, and so particularly adapted to the wants of the climate. Nothing, it is said, contributes so much to stamp the character of a people, in the estimation of strangers, as the style of the dwellings they inhabit. Whether, sir, I shall get the credit of a successful projector or not, I can assure you I had my share of the obloquy which projectors have to put up with at the beginning. You would have been amused to have heard the thousand reflections cast upon my judgment by passers-by, when they found me occupied in building with mud." Some said that of course the first rains would wash it all level, and that there would be no passing along the turnpike road for the dirt which would inundate it. Others thought that length, but were nevertheless quite positive that it would never stand the intense frosts of this country, which, they said, would crumble it into dust in a single season. Taken as a whole, the only gentlemen who gave me an encouraging word were a few of Dutch descent, who frequently said, "let it go on, that will be a good invention." With the generality of people my hand-work was as much an object of ridicule as ever the palace

which the Russian Empress built of ice could be to the beholders. You will not therefore think it strange that I should wish to get the credit of it, now the thing has succeeded. Great improvements have been effected, by myself and others, in the details, since that my first effort. And, proceeding from this, as the head quarters of the system, this style of building has been more and more adopted, in many instances by gentlemen of the first consequence, without my having yet heard of a case where any one is dissatisfied with it on trial. Since finding that it so fully answered my expectations, I have lost no opportunity of recommending it to others on every occasion, and I know that you will be doing a great public good, and gain applause for yourself by widely extending, as you sir will have the power of doing, the knowledge of this method through the province. That I consider the material quite good enough for the construction of a handsome house, is proved by the attempt which my friends and neighbours know I have been engaged this last summer in making, to produce a dwelling which shall not do discredit to the township. I have been also repeatedly applied to for instructions by gentlemen anxious to adopt this plan, and have sent workmen in consequence into various districts, and in two or three instances into the States.

You call this style, as many others do, "the unburnt brick house," and we frequently also hear it called "mud-building." I would not quarrel with the name of anything, if it was not calculated to mislead.—And as I think it of consequence to give this art a correct appellation, I will venture to suggest the name of "clay-building."—The first thought which "unburnt brick" conveys, is of the very thing which the brick-maker produces, except that it is not burnt. This is by no means the case, and persons unacquainted with the matter, excepting by the name, might dismiss it, as being an absurd thing to save the expense of burning where fuel is so cheap. On the other hand, persons hearing it called "mud-building," might hastily suppose that any soil in the state commonly called mud would serve the purpose, and this might lead to lamentable failures. If you call it "clay-building," you name it after an ingredient which it must possess in order to succeed, and possessing which in any considerable proportion, it can hardly fail. The Devonshire and Hampshire buildings, from which the hint was borrowed, are called *cob-walls*, but they are not exactly raised in the manner we now practice and recommend.

I have said, sir, that these buildings may be constructed with any description of clay, but I think the strong blue clay the best.—It need not however be so pure and free from stones as the brick-maker requires. (as it is well known that the least mixture of limestone spoils earth for bricks intended to be burnt). On the contrary, for our purpose, I believe that the clay is all the better for containing a large proportion of small stones or gravel, or that the same might judiciously be mixed with it, if convenient, and that, in that case, no straw would be required. The small stones or gravel would, by themselves, be quite sufficient to give the requisite solidity and binding nature to the material, and showing here and there on the surface, they would give an admirable hold to the plaster which is subsequently to be applied. I believe that the clay and small stones well kneaded together, do in the course of time grow into a solid mass, though I must leave to the learned to explain how that takes place. I remember well, when I used, many years since, to be sometimes at Muddiford in Hampshire, a place on the sea coast, I observed how small chunks of blue clay, from the under soil of the surrounding land, when they came by any accident in the way of the tide, used to be carried backwards and forwards by the ebbing and flowing of the sea, rolling up with them the sand and small pebbles, till they grew to be frequently as big as a flour barrel, and then, if cast by a storm on the dry land, they would lie there and harden into the solidity of a rock, and it was from a piece of them that the shoemakers used to make their lap-stones.—This was the school, I used to think, where the builders of that country, many, many generations before, first learnt to make their cob-walls; for there are buildings of that sort at Christ Church, close by, which are said to be six hundred years old.

If the clay be pure, and gravel or small stones not procurable,

straw must be used. I find that it takes about one covt. of straw to one hundred bricks, of the dimensions given in your last, which were very correctly stated.

You were about right also as to the expense, the walls being supposed one foot in thickness, which is substantial enough for a two-storied house. A barn which I have built has the walls eighteen inches thick. It need hardly be remarked that the cost will vary according to the price of labor and other local circumstances.

I shall add such remarks as at present occur to me respecting the mode of proceeding. A box or mould is to be prepared of the dimensions you state, as also one for bevelled bricks for arches, &c. We temper the clay by the aid of horses. A place is scooped out about fifteen inches deep, twenty-five feet long, and half that in width.—Into this the clay and water is thrown, and a boy mounted on one horse and leading another, walks them backwards and forwards until every part is thoroughly kneaded, another person, the meanwhile, throwing in the straw in very small quantities at a time. Sometimes a circular ditch is made, for a horse to go round in, after the fashion of a cider mill. You may save labour in obtaining the clay by ploughing it up on a spot whence you intend taking it. The bricks are set to dry in loose or hollow walls, similar to those used in common brick yards. The foundation for a wall of this description should be laid with stone and mortar, and raised a few inches above the level of the ground. The bricks are to be laid in the same material of which they were made, instead of in mortar. And here it will be proper to point out the advantage of making these squares or bricks, over the older fashion of cob-walls. In constructing the latter, it is necessary to wait for each successive layer of the material to dry, before another can safely be added, lest the wall should subside unequally, and out of form, and the length of this delay depends on the state of the weather. With the bricks, the artificer proceeds uninterruptedly, and with much greater security against any such accident, and his building may be completed with all that celerity so generally desired by inhabitants of America. When the walls are quite dry, the last finish is to be given them by a good coat of plaster, made of lime and sand, and not of clay, though this is sometimes done. You will then have a dwelling of a most durable description, and as handsome as you choose to make it. It will be intimately superior to a frame house, being, both warm in winter and cool in summer—so much so indeed that underground cellars, for the purpose of preserving articles from frost and heat, may be altogether dispensed with; and most people in this neighbourhood find their underground cellars to be a great nuisance, and a cause of damp and vermin.

If I were to add that this description of house is as good as one of brick or stone, many would think it was saying a great deal, considering how cheap it is in comparison. But my firm opinion is, that it is very superior in healthiness and comfort to the best brick houses, and to most sorts of stone ones. Every one knows how very porous burnt bricks are, and what a quantity of water each one will drink up when plunged into it fresh from the kiln. From this it happens that the damp is continually making its way from the outside inwards. Unburnt clay, on the contrary, has nothing of this imperfection, and I could give the most incredulous person a convincing proof of this, by exhibiting to him the opposite condition of the paper on two walls in my own house, one built of each material.

But it is time to draw this communication to a close, which I shall do with wishing success to your useful labours, and hoping that your paper may soon rival and surpass any of the kind on this Continent.

I am, Sir, yours,

THOS. SHEPPARD.

Sheppard's Tavern, Yonge Street, 26th January, 1843.

SLINKING OF CALVES.

"The most common cause of abortion in cows," says White, "is improper feeding during the winter and spring, before they are turned to pasture. The filthy pond-water they are often compelled to drink, and feeding on the rank fog-grass of October and November, especially when covered with hoar frost, are likewise frequent causes of miscarriage. I remember a farm near Berkeley, in Gloucestershire, which afforded a striking proof of the injuries of stagnant pond-water, impregnated with dung and urine. This farm had been given up by three farmers successively, in consequence of the losses they sustained through abortion in their cattle, their not being in season (that is, not conceiving), red water, and

other diseases. At length Mr. Dimmery, after suffering considerably in his live stock for the first five years, suspected that the water of his ponds, which was extremely filthy, might be the cause of the mischief. He therefore dug three wells upon his farm, and having fenced round the ponds to prevent his cattle from drinking there, caused them to be supplied with well water, in stone troughs erected for the purpose, and from this moment his live stock began to thrive, became uncommonly healthy, and the quality of the butter and cheese made on his farm was greatly improved. It should be observed, that on this farm the cattle were regularly fed with good hay during the winter, and kept in good pasture in summer; so that there cannot exist a doubt that the losses sustained by Mr. Dimmery were entirely attributable to the unwholesome water the animals were compelled to drink."

"In order," adds Mr. White, "to show that the accident of warping may arise from a vitiated state of the digestive organs, I shall here notice a few circumstances tending to corroborate this opinion. In January, 1783, all the cows in the possession of farmer D'Euruse, near Chandvilliers, in Picardy, miscarried. The period at which they warped was about the fourth or fifth month. The accident was attributed to the excessive heat of the preceding summer; but as the water they were in the habit of drinking was extremely bad, and they had been kept upon oat, wheat, and rye straw, it appears to me more probable that the great quantity of straw they were obliged to eat in order to obtain sufficient nourishment, and the injury sustained by the third stomach in expressing the fluid parts of the masticated mass, together with the large quantity of water they probably drank while kept upon this dry food, was the real cause of their miscarrying. A farmer at Charentin, out of a dairy of twenty-eight cows, had sixteen slip calf at different periods of gestation. The summer had been very dry, and during the whole of this season they had been pastured in a muddy place, which was flooded by the Seine. Here the cows were generally up to their knees in mud and water, and feeding on crowfoot, rushes, and the like. Part of the stock had recently been brought from Lower Normandy, where they had all been affected with indigestion by feeding upon lucerne, from the effects of which they had been relieved by the operation of paunching. In one, the opening made was large enough to admit the hand for the purpose of drawing out the food; the rest were operated on with a trocar. In 1783, all the cows in the parish of Beaulieu, near Mantes, miscarried. All the land was so stiff as to hold water for a considerable time; and as a vast quantity of rain fell that year, the pastures were for a long time, and at several periods, completely inundated, on which the grass became sour and rank. These, and several other circumstances which have fallen under my own observation, plainly show that keeping cows on food that is deficient in nutrition, and difficult of digestion, is one, if not the principal, cause of their miscarrying. It is stated by Mr. Handwin, that feeding in pastures, when covered with white frost, has been observed to occasion abortion in these animals."

From the Farmer's Cabinet.

ROTATION OF CROPS.

Mr. Editor—In your very valuable paper I have found contained much valuable information on the subject of Agriculture; from the application of which, in many instances, I have realized immense benefit. One question, however, of paramount interest to farmers, still remains unsettled, and that is—What system of rotation of crops should be adopted, with a view to immediate profits and the continual improvements of the soil? I have carefully remarked many experiments which have been made in my own neighborhood, in this particular branch of husbandry, and among the many instances of failure, there has been one of success, which it is my present purpose to communicate, for the benefit of such as may see proper to improve the hint. The example to which I refer is that of an old practical hard-working farmer, who commenced in the world as a day laborer, and who is now worth at least one hundred thousand dollars, not taking into the account many heavy pecuniary losses he has at various times sustained. This man when thirty years of age, by the avails of his industry, added to a small legacy, was enabled to purchase and pay, in part, for a farm of one hundred and thirty acres of land, one hundred of which was under cultivation, but in a very low state. The farm is altogether upland, with a soil composed of loam, clay and sand, in chief of which the latter preponderates, the former being least considerable. When he commenced farming, he adopted a particular system of rotation, of

which he has implicitly adhered from that time to the present, which is forty years, and his success is the best comment on the worth of the experiment. His mode was as follows:

Having divided his farm into eight fields of equal size, as near as possible, three of those fields are sowed with wheat each year, one with rye, one planted with corn, two in clover, and one an open fallow, on which corn had been raised the year previous. One of the two clover fields is kept for mowing, the other for pasture, both of which are ploughed as soon after harvest as possible, and prepared for wheat in the fall. All the manure which is made on the farm for one year, is hauled in the spring on the field intended for open fallow, which is then ploughed, and after one or two cross-ploughings through the summer, is also sowed with wheat in the fall. The field on which rye is sown, is that from which a crop of wheat had been taken the same year, and which had yielded three crops. Corn is planted on the field from which rye had been gathered the year previous, the stubbles of which are ploughed down in the fall. Clover seed is sown early in the spring on two of the wheat fields, those which have been most recently manured. By this method each field yields three crops of wheat, two of clover, one of rye, and one of corn, every eight years. Each field, in the meantime, has lain an open fallow, and received a heavy dressing of manure, perhaps at an average of fifteen four-horse loads per acre. His crop of wheat is seldom less than fifteen hundred bushels, but often much more. His average rye crop is about four hundred and fifty bushels, and his corn crop, annually, about five hundred bushels—all of which grain, at the present low prices, would amount to more than *two thousand dollars* annually, and at former prices to double that amount, and his farm is withal very highly improved.

Yours, P. W.

MAKING PORK.—Mr. Cornell, (page 33.) says he cannot make pork at \$3.50 per cwt., with corn at 50 cents, potatoes 20 cents. But if all should cease making pork under those circumstances, pork would rise and corn would fall. What is the remedy? for we want to know out here in the West, being in just "a fix." The price of pork at Chicago this winter has been from \$1 to \$2.25. A great portion of the hogs being of the landpike variety, being great consumers and small porkers, I do not think they have averaged more than \$1.50 per cwt. Corn in the same market, 60 pounds to the bushel, 25 cents. Oats, 18. Potatoes, I cannot say what at Chicago; but here, 40 miles from there, plenty at 12 cents; and corn, 16 cents; oats, 14 cents. Now at these prices, I am confident that every man who has put his grain inside of these long legged, lantern jawed swine, has lost money. But—and here I am "stalled." If it had not been for this immense "waste of grain," could it have been sold, even at these prices? It certainly does appear me that it would be a beneficial remedy to have a better breed of hogs more generally diffused through the country.

And I too am certain that we never shall be wiser by reading of such experiments as Mr. Cornell alludes to; but we should be wiser if several gentlemen would take a lot of pigs and measure and count the cost of every article of food from weaning till butchering time, and give the result to the public, as to the breed, age, cost, weight, &c.

I suggest to agricultural societies to offer premiums for such detailed experiments. It would be far more beneficial than it would be to publish to the world that Mr. Penitice owned the best bull or the best boar at the fair, while at the same time everybody knew that Mr. Stay-at-home had a much better one that was not there, and consequently could not get the premium. Let the premiums be—not for the biggest bull, for if that was not a bull, it would be a boar; but let them be for those who produced the most beneficial and useful examples for their fellow citizens to follow. In this way we would soon learn how many bushels of corn it took to make a hundred of pork, instead of hearing how much more an old sow weighed after she had drunk a bucket of swill than she did before. We want more facts and less puffing.—*Albany Cultivator.*

THE TURNIP FLY.—After numberless trials to prevent the ravages of the turnip fly, the only way which I found at all successful, is, to collect all the weeds I can on the farm, and lay them in heaps all round the field-sown with turnips; on the plants coming up and showing the least appearance of being attacked by the fly, the heaps to windward are set on fire, brimstone is put on the fire, and thus the strong smoke, which is very offensive to the insect, is wafted over the crop. If this is continued till the turnips get into

the rough leaf, they will be safe; but if before this the process is stopped for five or six hours together, in a fly-working day, the crop most likely will be lost; therefore I have not scrupled on a Sunday to have the fires lighted before the morning, and also before the afternoon service. I think the smoking plan might be serviceable to protect hops from the insects which attack them. The turnip fly commences, and ceases to commit its depredations, at such different times, in different seasons, that no one can with any degree of certainty fix the time for sowing, when the crop shall be least likely to be injured. The fly likes only the smooth seed leaf of the turnip, and if that is eaten, the plant dies. When they cannot meet the seed-leaf so they will eat holes in the rough leaf, but they cannot thus destroy the plant. When corn crops are mowed, they will then prey upon the young clover plants. No one has been able to prove where the fly is produced. Some assert that it comes out of the earth; others that it is bred in the seed. I made an experiment two years ago, which satisfied myself and those who I showed it to, that the fly comes out of neither. When my turnips were sown, I covered a piece of land with a large square of thin gauze, which I so fastened down, that no insect could creep under it. Under the gauze, the turnips were not touched by the fly; all around it, they were eaten and destroyed by it. Where the insect is generated is not known; it flies in the air like other insects, and although it may appear strange to us, it has the power to discover where is the food for it, as soon as the turnip leaf appears above the ground.—*From Hillyard's Practical Farming.*

METHOD OF ASCERTAINING THE WEIGHT OF CATTLE WHILE LIVING.—This is of the utmost utility for all those who are not experienced judges by the eye, and by the following directions the weight can be ascertained within a mere trifle. Take a string; put it round the beast, standing square, just behind the shoulder blade; measure on a foot rule the feet and inches the animal is in circumference; this is called the girth. Then with the string measure from the bone of the tail which plumbs the line with the hinder part of the buttock; direct the line along the back to the fore-part of the shoulder-blade; take the dimensions on the foot rule as before, which is the length, and work the figures in the following manner: Girth of the buttock, 6 feet 4 inches; length, 8 feet 3 inches; which, multiplied by 23, (the number of pounds allowed to each superficial foot of all cattle measuring less than seven and more than five feet in girth), makes 713 lbs.; and allowing 14 lb. to the stone, is 50 stone 13 lbs. Where the animal measures less than nine and more than seven feet in girth, 31 is the number of pounds to each superficial foot. Again, suppose a pig or any small beast should measure two feet in girth, and two feet along the back, which multiplied together makes four square feet; that multiplied by eleven, (the number of pounds allowed for each square foot of cattle measuring less than three feet in girth), makes 44 lbs., which divided by 14 to bring it to stones, is three stone two pounds. Again, suppose a calf, sheep, &c. should measure four feet six inches in girth, and three feet nine inches in length, which multiplied together, makes sixteen and a half square feet; that multiplied by sixteen, (the number of pounds allowed to cattle measuring less than five feet, and more than three in girth), makes 264 lbs., which divided by fourteen, to bring it into stones, is eighteen stone 12 pounds. The dimensions of the girth and length of black-cattle, sheep, calves, or hogs, may be exactly taken this way, as is at all necessary for any computation or valuation of stock, and will answer exactly to the four quarters, sinking the offal, and which every man who can get over a list of chalk may easily perform. A deduction must be made for a half-fatted beast, of one stone for twenty, from that of a fat one; and for a cow that has had calves, one stone must be allowed, and another for not being properly fat.—*Cattle Keeper's Guide.*

TRANSPLANTING CABBAGES, CELERY, AND OTHER VEGETABLES.—Have at hand, when you pull up the plants, a bucket of water, considerably thickened with rich mould stirred into it, and dip the roots of each bunch of plants in this muddy water before you lay them down. Always cut off about half the length of Celery leaves when you transplant it. Many other vegetables succeed best when the leaves are shortened at the time they are removed. Swedish Turnips should have roots as thick, at least, as a penicil before they are taken up.

COLCHESTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At a Quarterly Meeting of the Colchester Agricultural Society on the 6th April, 1842.—The President and Secretary submitted a Report drawn up by them since the last meeting, by direction of the Committee of Management, and forwarded to the Central Board of Agriculture as required by "the Act for the encouragement of Agriculture and Rural Economy in the Province," when the following Extracts from such Report were ordered to be published in the *Colonial Farmer*:

"The undersigned beg to submit to the Central Board that the intention of the Legislature has not been realized in this County. This Society was organized in 1839 as a Central Society, and contemplated that all Societies subsequently formed in the County should become branches and enjoy equal advantages from any Provincial Grant, having the whole County as a field of operation, and embracing every settlement within its range. It has so happened that a large portion of the County must be deprived of any participation in the Provincial Grant as the law now stands. Immediately after the publication of the act, a Society was formed at Tatamagouche to which your Board awarded one third of the sum granted the County. Since then another Society has been organized in Upper Stewiacke, which no doubt expects an equal share so that the very extensive settlements of Gay's River, Upper Shubenacadie and Lower Stewiacke, Londonderry, Portauquique, Escondido and Five Islands, are effectually debarred from any participation in the Provincial bounty. Would it not therefore be expedient to amend the law, and make one Society in each County the medium through which the grant should be appropriated upon some general principle applicable to all parts of the County, and to which all should be alike eligible, the only condition being that individuals participating be Members of some Society within the County—at the same time making it imperative upon the Central Societies that the exhibitions and prizes should be alternately held and awarded at the different locations, where such Branch Societies are formed.

"The undersigned would also submit that Agriculture cannot be prosecuted to any extent or with much benefit, until labor becomes more abundant. This can only be accomplished by a judicious system of Emigration. If the Legislature would grant a small sum to each County to be placed at the disposal of the Agricultural Societies for the following purposes, we are fully satisfied it would become a powerful auxiliary in accomplishing so desirable an object, viz. to ascertain what quantity of uncultivated land may be in the market, its location as to Roads, Schools, Places of Worship, Mills, &c. with descriptions of the quality of soil, and the sums for which such lands could be purchased at per 100 acres, and upon what terms, together with the probable number of Emigrants that might be absorbed in each County in each year, without reducing labor too low, or raising provisions too high. A general inquiry of this nature, and imparted to a Board at each seaport where Emigrants are likely to arrive, would greatly facilitate the settlement of wilderness lands and enable this province to keep pace with the Sister Colonies and very materially aid in carrying into effect the laudable system of emigration about to be adopted in the Mother Country."

EDWARD CARRITT, Secretary.

THE RESTIGOUCHE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Open to all Farmers in the County, (reserving, that any person not connected with the Society taking a Prize shall become a Member thereof,) awarded the following Prizes at their Annual Grain Show, held in the Court-House, Dalhousie, on the second Tuesday in April instant, viz.:

FOR WHEAT.—First Prize to sack No. 2, containing two bushels, weighing 113 lbs. 1 oz. equal to 68 lbs. 8½ oz. per bushel, grown by John Currie, of Point Le Leme, from seed imported by the Society last year, 20s.—Second Prize to sack No. 6, weighing 65 lbs. 15 oz. per bushel, owned by John Douglas, 15s.—Third Prize to sack No. 10, weighing 65 lbs. 15 oz. per bushel, sown by Jas. Menzies, 10s.

BARLEY.

First Prize to sack No. 1, for the best two-rowed, weighing 107½ lbs. equal to 53 lbs. 12 oz. per bushel, by John Currie, 20s.

Second Prize to sack No. 9, weighing 52 lbs. 10 oz. per bushel, by Robert McIntosh, of Nash's Creek in the Parish of Durham, 15s.

Third Prize to sack No. 7, for the best four-rowed ditto, weighing 53½ lbs. per bushel, by Donald Connacher, 20s.

Fourth Prize to sack No. 2, weighing 52 lbs. 15 oz. per bushel, by Donald Mc'Nish, 15s.

OATS.

First Prize to sack No. 4, for the best black, weighing 81 lbs. 1 oz. equal to 40½ lbs. per bushel, by A. Mc'Nair, of Heron Island, 20s.

Second Prize to sack No. 11, weighing 39½ lbs. per bushel, by Walter Blair, 15s.

Third Prize to sack No. 6, for the best white, weighing 48½ lbs. per bushel, by Donald Mc'Millan, of Black Lands in the Parish of Colborne, 20s.

Fourth Prize to sack No. 4, weighing 45 lbs. 10½ oz. per bushel, by Donald Mc'Nish, 15s.

GRATIFICATIONS.

For a sample of six-rowed Barley, weighing 52 lb. 9 oz. per bushel, grown by John Dickie, Parish of Durham, 20s.

For a sample of Sliely Wheat or headless Barley, weighing 61 lbs. 8½ oz. per bushel, by John Douglas, 20s.

For a sample of Field Peas, two bushels, by James Menzies, 15s.

The attendance at this Exhibition was highly gratifying, the samples of grain generally pure, and of an improved quality; the Wheat in particular was very superior, of which alone there were thirty bushels, the lightest weighing 61½ lbs.; and it is worthy of remark, that the best sample was the produce of the Society's imported Wheat of last year, that weighed but 61 lbs. per bushel; thus clearly proving the advantage of a frequent change of seed from a distance; and the whole Exhibition presenting a cheering assurance of the capabilities of our soil, the adaptation of our climate to the culture of Grain, notwithstanding the shortness of our summers—and in ordinary seasons, of a certain reward to the husbandman for his labour when industriously and judiciously applied. It was pleasing to witness the lively interest shown by those concerned in the prosperity of the Society, and the spirit of emulation manifested by the competitors, whose greatest pride appeared to be, not only in having the heaviest Grain, but the freest from mixture with other grain, or the seeds of noxious weeds.

After which a Meeting of the Society was held, when it was Resolved, that the following Premiums be offered for the growth of the current year, viz.:

WHEAT

For the best Spring	£1 0 0
The second ditto.....	0 15 0
The third ditto.....	0 10 0

BARLEY

For the best two-rowed.....	1 0 0
The second ditto.....	0 15 0
For the best four-rowed.....	1 0 0
The second ditto.....	0 15 0
For the best six-rowed.....	1 0 0
The second ditto.....	0 15 0
For the best headless ditto.....	1 15 0
The second ditto.....	0 15 0

GRASS SEEDS

For the best sample of Timothy, (a bushel) ...	1 20 0
The second ditto.....	0 15 0
For the best sample of Clover, (one bushel)....	1 10 0
The second ditto.....	0 15 0

INDIAN CORN

For the best sample, not less than two bushels. 1 0 0	
The second ditto.....	0 15 0

PEAS

For the best sample, not less than two bushels. 1 0 0	
The second ditto.....	0 10 0

BEANS

For the best horse, not less than two bushels... 1 0 0	
The second ditto.....	0 15 0

VEGETABLES

For the best general show of Vegetables.....	1 10 0
The second ditto.....	1 0 0
The third ditto.....	0 10 0
For the best show of Potatoes, in bushel samples 1 0 0	
The second ditto.....	0 10 0
For the best Swedish Turnips.....	1 0 0
The second best.....	0 10 0
For the best Carrots.....	1 0 0
The second ditto.....	0 10 0

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

For the best improved Agricultural Implement, produced by the inventor or maker.....	1 10 0
The second ditto.....	0 15 0

CLOTH.	
For the best Cloth, not less than 15 yards.....	1 0 0
The second ditto.....	0 15 0
The third ditto.....	0 10 0

STRAW BONNETS.	
For the best.....	1 0 0
The second ditto.....	0 15 0
The third ditto.....	0 10 0

STOCKINGS.	
For the best lamb's wool, not less than 6 pairs....	1 0 0
The second ditto.....	0 15 0
The third ditto.....	0 10 0

The Grain samples to contain each two bushels and the whole to be the growth, produce, and manufacture of the County of Restigouche; the Show to take place at the Annual Exhibition, to be held on the second Tuesday in April next.

It has been suggested by the Committee of the House of Assembly, on the subject of Agriculture, that the several Societies should procure statistical returns from their respective Counties, of the quantities of Grain, Potatoes, Turnips, Hay, &c. grown in each year: the Members of this Society are therefore requested to furnish the necessary information to the Secretary, to enable him to comply therewith.

DUGALD STEWART,

Dalhousie, April 28, 1842. Secretary and Treasurer.

From the British American Cultivator.

THE IMPORTANCE OF SYSTEMATIC ECONOMY IN FEEDING HORSES.

The cost of feeding horses is such a heavy charge upon the farmer that none should be kept whose labour is not absolutely required. It demands the most serious consideration from every agriculturist, as to the number absolutely required to perform the necessary work upon the farm, as well as to the most advantageous and economical method of feeding those that are to be kept, so as to make them fully equal to the labour they will have to perform. The distance travelled by a team in ploughing an acre of land, the furrow eight inches wide, will be twelve miles, and 660 yards, besides the turnings at the head-lands, which in a field of 200 yards long, might be something over half a mile. It has been proved that a team going at the respective rates of a mile and a half, and two miles an hour, will plough in nine hours as follows:—

WIDTH OF FURROW.	RATE PER HOUR,	A.	R.	F.
Eight inches,	1 mile and a half,	1	0	0
Nine inches,	do	1	0	20
Eight inches,	2 miles,	1	1	10
Nine inches,	do	1	2	0

It is of some importance to the farmer to know how he can keep his horses in good working condition fully equal to their work, with the least possible expense. There are three things respecting the food of horses, deserving of serious attention from every man that keeps them.

- 1st—The food most natural for them.
- 2nd—The quantity of food requisite to keep their condition equal to their work.

3rd—The best manner of giving them their food with a view of its being speedily eaten, so that they may lie down to rest.

The most natural food for a horse is corn, hay, and grass; but man, having reduced that noble animal to a state of servitude, has also adopted various sorts of food suitable to his state of vassalage. For a length of time it was supposed that grass, corn, and pulse constituted the only sort of fodder in which was contained the nutriment required for the sustenance of horses; and in consequence of the expensive nature of these articles in some seasons, many farmers did not give sufficient nutritive food to their horses; whilst others, that took pride in the appearance of, and condition of their teams, used to incur a heavy expense by running into the opposite extreme. It has, however, now been fully proved that beside corn, pulse, and grass, various other articles may be substituted, without detriment to the health or strength of the animals; and that various means of preparing the ordinary food may, also, with great advantage be adopted. The plants most usually substituted in Britain for hay and corn, or rather conjointly with them are, potatoes, parsnips, carrots, Swedish turnips, and Mangel wurtzel, together with straw, beanstalks, pea haulms, gorse, vetches,

clover, and other cultivated grasses cut green. In British America most of these plants may be converted to the same purpose.

The quantity of fodder required for a horse, depends upon its kind and quality. The allowance for cavalry horses is, every twenty-four hours, twelve pounds of hay and ten pounds of oats, (or fourteen pounds of bran in lieu); and these horses, upon their allowance, are always in good condition and equal to their work. The highest allowance for horses working the mails, and other fast coaches in England, that travel at the rate of twelve or fourteen miles an hour, is twelve and a half pounds of oats, two and a half pound of bran, and fourteen pounds of hay or straw cut.

Horses ought to be well groomed and well fed. If they suffer from bad grooming, and bad feeding, they cannot be equal to the performance of more than half work; and consequently, not only half the value of their labour, but also half the labour of the man that follows them, will be completely wasted. Every labourer, kept beyond what there is full employment for upon the land, is an additional and unnecessary charge to the farmer of from £25 to £35 a year. It is therefore of importance that the farmer should quit the number of labourers to the work that is to be done. To keep too many labourers in proportion to the work, is an inexcusable waste of money, whilst to keep too few is a ruinous economy. Whatever number of labourers may be required, should always be paid liberal though not extravagant wages. The employer has a right to demand a full day's work from the labourers, but the labourer in return is justly entitled to wages equivalent to his labour. A man that is badly paid and badly fed is not able to do a full day's work, and he must be less than a man who would expect it of him.

Whatever fodder be used, it should be supplied in such a form as to be eat with that the poor animals might enjoy refreshing rest; to secure this, the fodder should be cut or crushed, and placed in the manger. If this plan was adopted, when the respective feeds will have been consumed, every horse will lie down to rest; his hunger being satisfied, there will be no temptation to keep him standing for hours, as would be the case, were his rack stuffed with hay, according to the too general custom of farmers. With respect to corn and peas, the general practice is to measure each feed; but that mode is neither just towards the horse nor his owner. The nutriment contained in every variety of grain, depends upon its weight—and there will be more or less nutriment, according to the weight, in the same measure. There is likewise a great misunderstanding with respect to the relative value of different kinds of grain, as food for horses, which, where many are kept, is productive of no small loss. To guard against this loss the price and weight of the different kinds of grain, with respect to each other, ought to be taken into consideration. Suppose a bushel of oats to cost two shillings, and its weight to be forty pounds: the relative value of other grains to oats, according to that price would be as follows:

Oats.	Wick Beans.	Horse Beans.	Common Grey Peas.	Barley.	Rye.
Weight, 40 lb	60 lb	56 lb	60 lb	50 lb	52 lb
2s.	3s	2s. 5d.	3s.	2s. 7d.	2s. 9d.

By attending, therefore, to the market prices, one sort of grain might with great advantage be substituted for another, with benefit to the farmer, and without the slightest detriment to the horses. By the following table, it will likewise appear, that the weight as well as the price of corn is deserving of serious attention. This experiment was made with oats, but the same principle is applicable to every other kind of grain. Such tables as these are useful to the farmer, not only as regards the feeding of horses and cattle, but to enable them to judge accurately of the value of grain for other uses, and what proportion the market prices of the several grains bears to their comparative real value. With respect to oats, though seasons and varieties may make some difference, yet the result will be nearly as follows:—

Weight of bushel, Avoirdupoise.	Produce in Meal.	Produce in Husk.
42 lb	25 lb 2 oz.	16 lb 14 oz.
40	23 6	16 10
38	21 12	16 4
36	20 3	15 13
34	18 11	15 5
32	17 5	14 11
30	16 1	13 15

From the above it will be perceived that husks are much cheaper to buy as husks, than as poor corn; and generally speaking, grain is much cheaper to buy for horses than hay, independent of the extra work they will be equal to by being corn fed. They must, however, always have a due proportion of hay, and perhaps the proportion observed in the food allowed for the army horses, is as near what it ought to be as is necessary. Suppose a working horse of middling size, to have ten pounds of oats and two pounds of beans in the twenty-four hours—it will require hay or some other substance, such as chaff or cut straw, to increase its bulk to about thirty pounds, before the functions of digestion can be carried on in perfection. A certain quantity of bulk being requisite for that purpose, independent of the quality. The same observation applies to the feeding of all other animals, but more especially such as are fattening, or in the dairy, where quickness of digestion is of such great importance. The nutriment contained in good hay. If there be plenty of it given, is sufficient to keep a horse to look at, in good condition; but corn is indispensable to enable him to stand hard work; and no man that intends to make a livelihood by cultivating land, ought ever to keep a horse that is not, both as to condition and spirits, fully equal to his work. It is supposed that, by weight, hay does not contain of substantial nutritive matter, in comparison with oats, more than as one part to three—that is one pound of oats contains fully as much real nutriment for the horse as three pounds of hay.

When oats, weighing about thirty-six to forty pounds the bushel, is sold for one and eight pence to two shillings; ten pound of oats will cost about as much as thirty pounds of hay when selling for about five dollars the hundred bundles. This proportion will show the relative value of hay and oats, according to the market price of both at any period. These calculations may be useful to any individual keeping horses, or fattening cattle. About thirty pounds of dry food will be sufficient in the twenty-four hours for a middling sized farm horse. The thirty pounds should contain ten pounds of grain coarsely ground or crushed, or about one bushel and a half per week. This will amount to about eighty bushels of oats in the year, and might be grown on two acres of land very easily. During the winter months the oats should be mixed with steamed potatoes, carrots, or some other vegetables, mixing a small quantity of salt occasionally. If horses are stabled during the summer, they might be fed with vetches or clover, from about the first week of June to October. Each horse would require from 50 to 60 pounds of clover or vetches, given with the usual quantity of ground or bruised grain in the twenty-four hours. A quarter of an acre of good clover or vetches, would afford abundant food for one horse during the four summer months. Work horses might be very profitably kept in this way, and perhaps they should be always so kept in summer on a well regulated farm, where no horses were regularly at work. There is considerable time and labour lost in sending work horses to, and fetching them from their pasture, and it is generally supposed that two horses from grass are not equal to as much work as one horse would be well groomed and fed on clover and grain.

The following table had appeared some time ago in *The Sporting Magazine*, and is deserving the attention of farmers and others keeping horses. It is said to have been proved that the quality and quantity stated in this table, are fully sufficient to keep a moderate sized horse in good working condition, and in every respect equal to any work that may be required from them by a farmer. Each column forms the mixture of food for one horse during the twenty-four hours:—

	lb	lb	lb	lb
Oats, peas, or beans, ground or crushed...	5	10	5	5
Hay cut into chaff	8	10	7	7
Straw do	7	10	10	8
Potatoes steamed	5	0	0	0
Malt dust or oil cake	0	2	0	2
Bran	0	0	0	7
Grains	0	0	0	0
	30	30	30	30

About two ounces of salt should be added occasionally. Although this table shows that the various kinds of fodder enumerated as being sufficient to keep a horse in full work in condition, yet it must be evident to all that are acquainted with the properties of different kinds of fodder, that other articles, such as carrots, parsnips, and Swedish turnips may be substituted for a part of the hay, but of course, a larger weight will be required. If horses are al-

lowed the full quantity of one bushel and a half of oats, or the weight of some other grain weekly, cut straw or pea haulms, may be very beneficially given to them occasionally, instead of hay. Small doses of nitre, and flour of sulphur, should also, be frequently administered to horses in this climate.—In feeding horses during the winter months with steamed vegetables, they should be given to them warm, unless the stables are very close, and no chance of the food being frozen. Indeed in any case, we believe, that it is the most judicious method to give the steamed food warm and mixed. A great loss is sustained in feeding any species of animals in this country with raw vegetables. We believe that it is a loss of fully one half of the food consumed. To any farmer who may think differently, we would recommend to make a careful experiment. Much food is wasted by the neglect of proper preparation of it for the use of animals, and careful attention in placing it before them in due quantity and at the proper time.

Mr. Buckminster, Editor of the Massachusetts Ploughman, gives the following interesting and instructive account of his experimental farming.

PROFITS OF FARMING.

THE BUCKMINSTER FARM.

At the request of a number of friends, the Editor of this paper is induced to give a particular account of some of his farming from April 1st, 1835, to April, 1841—six years.

He complies with this request more readily as the principal facts are well known to his own townsmen, and can be attested to by many others.

In April, 1835, he hired for one year the farm which belonged to the heirs of his father, Major Lawson Buckminster, late of Framingham. This farm had for many years been much neglected, and its natural powers had been dormant. It consisted of 12 acres—about thirty of the same being wood land. The farm was always considered a grain farm, and better adapted to that than a grass meadow, and nearly all the highland was equally of being tilled.

In 1836 he purchased the whole, and sold off all but 75 acres of the cleared land. This he determined to bring into grass as soon as he could. Half a dozen acres were planted with corn, and grass seed was sown among the corn after the third hoeing, in July, on several acres. This seed was covered by passing a hand rake between the rows of corn. It succeeded well, and last summer being the fifth, it yielded a very fair harvest of hay. It was green sward land, and the sod, turned in May, was left undisturbed.

In August he ploughed up several acres of green sward land, which had yielded but a small burthen, rolled the furrows close, spread a dozen to fifteen loads of compost manure, and sowed one peck of herds grass and one bushel of red-top to each acre. He harrowed the furrows lengthwise, then diagonally, to mingle intimately the manure with the soil. The seed was covered with a bush harrow—the small loose sods were rolled down in some cases, and in others they were raked off into the dead furrows.

This system was pursued the following year, and in the course of three seasons nearly thirty acres of the mowing land were turned over and seeded down immediately to grass, on the furrow. No grain was sown, and but very little was raised on the farm during the six years. The great objects were grass and hay. In addition to this farm he had other land which yielded him about ten tons of good hay. After the first year he kept on the average thirty head of cattle, most of them young, they fed on the hay that was so merchantable; forty head were kept through one winter. The manure from this stock was all used on the farm, and none repurchased.

In 1837 he sold to Mr. Williams, in Hanover street, hay and oats that were mown for fodder, to an amount exceeding \$500. In 1838 he sold a mow of hay to a townman, Mr. Moulton, for \$400, and to others he retailed hay to the amount of \$70, making more than \$500 worth for that year, and nearly all of it was taken at the barn. In 1839 he retailed his hay to individuals in the country to the amount of \$500 more. It being his determination to sell off half the hay which t'c farm produced.

He fattened no more than two hogs in a year, but he sold many of his cattle for beef after letting them have the benefit of his full feed on their return home from a country pasture. In one of these years he sold for beef twenty head of young cattle, besides a number of heifers for the dairy. In another he sold eighteen head for beef, and the quarters brought him 7½ cents per pound.

Many of his neighbors told him he would ruin the farm by selling so much hay. They chose to let theirs remain stationary, and not turn much of the green sward. They planted and used all their manures for planting grounds.

In 1839 he leased out the farm, requiring the lessee to spend half the hay upon it, and giving him liberty to sell the remainder, provided he would raise no grain nor potatoes. In 1840 he leased it on similar terms. In 1841 he sold the 75 acres of cleared land and about 15 acres of the wood land to Deacon E. Belknap and to Deacon Austin Rice for more than double the sum which he gave for it, though lands in general had not risen in value, and though the farm had been advertised for sale for more than a year before he purchased it.

After the first year but very little labor was bestowed upon the land except in hay time. There was nothing for a hired man to do in April, May, or June; and the labor of August was upon the green sward, ploughing and converting the rowen into manure for the future grass crop. By turning thirty acres of the green sward, and not taking off an exhausting crop of grain, he was continually making the land richer, though he sold half the hay and bought not one load of manure. If he turned under the sod a quantity of grass and grass roots equal to ten tons per acre, he gained of the farmer who turned no green sward not less than 10 times 30—that is, not less than 300 tons of this kind of manure during three of these years.

Some of this land thus ploughed and sowed was low, and had never been planted or ploughed—some of it was high and warm; and in no instance has the grass been winter-killed when it has been sown as early as the first of September, and had a proper coat of manure spread on the surface.

A few acres of this farm consists of a sandy loam, and is not suitable for grass. On these he raised buckwheat for hogs and for bees.

It ought to be stated that nearly an acre of the coarse meadow had been brought into good English grass, while he owned it, and that the cost of this did not exceed that of the labor of one man and a yoke of oxen one week. The value of the manure, twelve dollars for twelve loads, added to the labor would amount to \$24, counting man and oxen \$2 per day. This piece of meadow has now been mown three seasons, and good judges were of the opinion that not less than two tons per acre were cut last summer on that part which was finished, though no dressing had been applied since it was seeded down. This grass was worth not less than \$12 per acre, standing in the field. This ground has therefore already repaid three times the expense of reclaiming it.

As an offset to this expense it ought also to be stated that while the writer owned it he cleared the timber and the wood from nearly three acres of the land; and that the value of these was more than six times the cost of preparing the meadow.

The purchasers of this farm lived near it, and were witnesses of the mode pursued in the management of it. They have expressed their satisfaction with their bargain, and would not surrender it for a small sum. They had supposed the farm was a poor one, since a former occupant had not been able to keep twenty head of cattle on it, though he often purchased hay in the spring.

During these six years about fifteen acres of this farm remained a pasture. Six cows, one yoke of oxen, and two horses, most of the time, were pastured on it, making a part of the average stock of thirty head which were wintered on the hay.

During this term of six years an orchard of old apple trees was ploughed; the fruit was sold one year, on the trees, to Mr. Rand, for \$60. The standing grass, that year, was worth \$30. The net produce of the orchard that year was about one-fourth of the whole sum for which the orchard had been before offered for sale.

One load of the hay, carried to Mr. Williams, of Boston, by a team of four cattle, brought \$57.61—the price was \$1,17 per hundred. Hay and beef during those three years were higher than usual; but hay in Framingham has averaged more than \$15 per ton for thirty years past. A fair estimate is \$12 per ton before the grass is cut. Mr. Moulton gave \$1,12½ per hundred, and took the hay at the barn. The mow was 28 feet by 20, and was well packed; one foot in height—that is, 560 cubic feet—were estimated at one ton.

Two to three acres were used annually for buckwheat—one acre of ruta bagas yielded between 7 and 800 bushels. One and a half acres were in corn after the first year.

If this system had been pursued and not more than one or two

acres kept in tillage, an immense quantity of hay might have been harvested in the course of a few years, without purchasing manure and without the expense of half as much labor as is bestowed on many farms where much land is kept in tillage, the harvests of which are barely sufficient to repay the labor.

This farm was not ruined by selling off half the hay. This farm was not naturally so well adapted to grass as thousands of farms in this State are. This farm became richer yearly, though no manure was purchased. This farm, in six years, doubled in value, though leased for two of them to tenants who made no improvement. Why may not other farms be increased in value by similar means? The plough was the principal means of rendering it productive.

From the Central New-York Farmer.

AGRICULTURAL LABOR—FARMING OPERATIONS, &c.

We are aware that the life of the Farmer is considered by many, one of care and toil, and that the return of the time for the commencement of agricultural labors, instead of being hailed with delight, is considered as but the return of the dull routine of labor and perplexity which are usually regarded as the necessary attendants upon agricultural life. It appears to us that these sentiments have obtained great credence in this country than a strict examination of the subject will warrant, and we invite the reader to accompany us in a review of the pleasures and advantages of agricultural pursuits.

The sentiments to which we have alluded have undoubtedly become prevalent in this country in consequence of the imperfect manner in which our farming operations have been conducted,—and from the fact that very little of science or system have been observed in the cultivation of the soil. Agriculture has been looked upon as an occupation suited only to the lowest grade of intellect, and it has not until recently occurred to the great body of farmers, that the soil was capable of being improved to an almost unlimited extent, and that science and skill were quite as necessary to the successful prosecution of the labors of the farmer as in any of the other avocations in which our citizens were employed.—In this state of things it is not strange that men of science, and who seek for pleasure as well as profit in their pursuits should shun rural avocations as not congenial to their feelings, and inclinations, and consider the life of the agriculturist as one of labor and toil, without any redeeming qualifications. We are ready to admit that for the farmer who cultivates his land without system and without regard to improvement, and takes no other view of the subject than to count his dollars and cents or to desire a support for his family, the pursuit of agriculture, has few pleasures and but little to induce him to admire the works of Nature or respect and honor the occupation in which he is employed.

But to the individual who can derive pleasure from the contemplation of the works of nature, and who takes pride in demonstrating to those around him, the degree of improvement which may be effected by the judicious application of capital and labor to the soil, and desires the permanent improvement of "the soil and the mind," the life of the farmer presents inducements, such as are rarely to be met with in the other avocations. Nothing can be more gratifying to the mind of a friend of improvement than to witness around him on his own farm the result of his own well directed exertions, and as he walks through his fields he views with feelings of pleasure and delight, the success which will always crown the labors of the intelligent husbandman. Let it not be supposed that agriculture is the only occupation which requires labor and exertion. Our own observation, (for we have never been engaged in any business except farming,) for several years past has fully satisfied us that those who arrive at distinction in the professions and who do business sufficient to support themselves and families, must labor and undergo fatigue and anxiety quite equal to that required of him who tills the soil. Were we to choose among all the occupations in which men are engaged we would name agriculture as the one most congenial to our feelings, and one in which more real pleasure and more rational enjoyment is to be found than in any other with which we are acquainted.

Farming, if not always the most profitable, is certainly the most independent of all pursuits. Individuals it is true, sometimes make a fortune in other occupations, much sooner than can be done on the farm; but there is no business which promises a more sure and certain remuneration for the labor employed. This to the man who desires a sure and competent support for his family, is a matter

of no little consequence and will be taken into the account in deciding upon a business for life. But it is not desirable that all should be farmers. We must have mechanics; we cannot well do without merchants; need physicians and ministers of the Gospel, and it is sometimes convenient to have lawyers on whom we can call for aid when the mysteries of the law are to be explained. We would advise every individual to pursue such avocations as are best suited to his inclinations; but above all, we would advise the farmer to be contented and proud of his calling; to prosecute it with a determination to arrive at the highest results; to envy none who may seem to be in advance of him in the road to wealth and distinction, but to rely on his own exertions and energies to secure to himself the good will and esteem of community.

The season has now arrived in which the farmer should be engaged in active operation on the farm; and to those who are fond of their calling and who take pleasure in improving their farms, the return of this season will be full of interest, affording as it does an opportunity to repeat his experiments in the great laboratory of nature,—to demonstrate as far as his means will admit, the degree of improvement, of which his soil is susceptible, and to increase as far as practicable, both his knowledge and his resources. That there are those engaged in cultivating the soil, who do not entertain any of the above sentiments, may be true; but they are unworthy of the name of Farmers, and ought immediately to seek some other means of obtaining a livelihood.

But in order to derive either pleasure or profit from agricultural pursuits, it is necessary that all the different departments of labor should be performed in the most skillful and approved manner, and with an eye to the ultimate improvement of the soil. The farmer should now, if he has not already done so, review his past practices and method of cultivation, compare his rotation of crops with that of farmers on similar soils, look to his cattle, sheep and swine, and see if better breeds cannot be obtained; in short, institute a comparison between his own practice and that of the most successful farmers around him, with the view of arriving at the most correct results,—and when his plan is once marked out, let the whole be conducted in the most approved manner, and each department be attended to, in its proper season, and he can hardly fail of receiving a reward for his labors.

Improvement should be the motto of every farmer and each should make it a point to carry out the principle as far as his means will allow. Let us all resolve that the present year shall witness an improvement in our farming operations, and we shall hereafter have less reason to complain of the unpleasant and uninteresting nature of agricultural pursuits.

From the Farmer's Cabinet.

GRAVEL IN SWINE.

A farmer of Delaware county, Penn., who keeps a stock of hogs, lost one, after protracted disease in 1839; the following year three died, and in 1841 five died. So many becoming diseased, led to an examination after death, to discover if possible the cause. The symptoms in all were the same, and all those which were attacked with the disease or died were barrows or males. On a careful examination of those that died the last year, it was found that they were afflicted with gravel; pebble or gravel being discovered in the bladders and in the urethra, which obstructed or prevented the passage of the urine. The result was irritation, inflammation, mortification and death. In one case the bladder was found burst, and its contents discharged into the cavity of the abdomen. The vessels of the kidney, and those leading to the bladder were distended with a partially indurated secretion or matter, which, when macerated between the fingers, discovered particles of a sandy character. A quantity of the pebble or gravel which was obtained from them has been preserved. It is presumed that they are of the same character as those obtained from the human subject. It is worthy of remark, that though there was the usual proportion of females among the stock, none of them were visibly affected with the disease; in that respect following the same general law that has been noticed in the human family. No remedy has been thought of or suggested, but that of killing off the whole stock or family that has displayed such a remarkable predisposition to this form of disease, and to replace them with new recruits from different families where this newly discovered malady has not been known to exist. In several of the western agricultural papers, a disease in swine has been the subject of numerous essays, called the "worm in the kidneys." Quere,—is not the above identical with it? and is not the

supposed worm the indurated secretion above mentioned? which assuming the form of the vessel containing it, has been erroneously taken to be a worm. This suggestion is merely thrown out to promote future careful investigation and inquiry, that truth may be arrived at, and should any examinations be made, it is hoped the results of them may be published in some of those very useful and valuable agricultural Journals that are now so generally read by farmers. It may be remarked that the above family of hogs has long beer on the farm, and have bred "in and in," consequently any defect of constitution, or peculiarity of character, has had abundant time to perfect and display itself most conspicuously with out adulteration.

ACQUOLA.

January 17th, 1842.

METHOD OF MAKING GOOD BUTTER.—From a letter in the Calculator from T. C. Peters, London, we take an extract as to the method in which the best Butter brought to the London Market is made. It is substantially the same as recommended by Messrs. Robbins & Brooks, in our 1st No.

The Irish Butter is considered the best. It owes its superiority to the care taken in the inspection.—They make five different sorts, and it is put up in packages of from 70 to 80 lbs. The butter which they export to foreign countries is in pickle, and will keep in good order for a long time. The coopers use none but most thoroughly seasoned oak timber for making up the firkins. If well seasoned they say there is no danger of any woody flavor being imparted to the butter.

Their method is as follows—and is worthy of adoption by our farmers:

The milk is churned generally; and long and careful experience and observation has shown that all things being equal, butter made from churned milk will keep much longer in good condition, than that made from churned cream alone. The milk is strained into pans at night, and stands till morning. It is then put into stew jars; and so divided that the jars will hold three milkings. The morning's milk is put in at night, and the night's milk again in the morning. The whole is occasionally stirred with a thin, flat stick, until it has become thoroughly curdled. It is considered best when it commences curdling at the bottom. The whole is then put into the churn, and churned with a rapid motion.—The temperature of the milk is quite important; as if it be too cold or too warm, it froths very bad; and warm or cold water must be added, as circumstances may require. The proper degree of temperature may be ascertained by a little practice. The butter when taken from the churn is washed in clear spring, or well water, until all the butter-milk is washed out. It is then worked over, and salted, according to the season and the market. The best salt is the "Liverpool stored salt," which is very fine and dry. It is made as fine and uniform as possible by rolling it on a table with a rolling pin. It is not considered fit to put into a firkin until it has stood a week or so, and been thoroughly worked over at least twice. Every particle of butter milk is worked out. Cows should have free access to salt.—Central N. Y. Farmer.

THE WIFE.—How ready she is to adapt herself to all his ways! and with whims, sometimes as many as the stars, yet for every one she has her own sweet spell. And then the thousand capacities never called out before! And how well pleased she is to find that, as the task is sent so is the strength sent with it. How ready is she to unlearn courtship, and to learn content, perhaps the hardest and the least ready of her task; but she does learn it. And the work day of life comes, which, cling to it as she will, must make her give up the angel and take to the woman. She has to "beat the compass" of domestic cares: "Nor-nor-east, and nor-nor-west," and God speed her if she do it conscientiously! No point must be passed—the drawing-room, the nursery, and, good luck, the larder; all must, as by magic, be the result of her own clear and steady rule. She knows that, unless she manages, all will go wrong; and she knows as surely, that, if she seems to manage, all will not go right.

"She who ne'er answers till a husband cools,
And if she rules him, never shows the rules;
Charms by accepting, by submitting sways,
Yet has her humor most when she obeys."

A sensible woman knows all this. And she knows more: she knows how to have smiles ready in the midst of all her toil, and sometimes her care; smiles for her husband, and good humor for his friends. The tears are all her own, and almost all that she can

will sigh call her own; for a woman will cry at things that men pass by with indifference; and if she keeps her tears to herself, surely they are her perquisites—her privilege. All these capabilities and soothing powers are expected, ay, and found in a woman. Women ever have, and ever will have, if they do their duty, these duties to perform; and to do them with cheerful patience and a smiling face, is the best charm for constancy. Can we fancy man, only for one day, in their position? The servants would all be wharped, the children whipped and sent to bed, and himself, by nightfall, just fit for Bedlam.

STAGGERS IN HORSES.

"Messrs. Editors—Permit me to give you the result of a remedy for the staggers in horses, used by Mr. Wesley Gray of this county. He makes a crucial incision thus— from two to two and a half inches in the forehead of the horse down to the bone, dissects up triangles, and introduces a tea spoon full of pulverised cantharids; the skin is brought over and confined by stitches. In a few hours the flies begin to inflame the part, a copious flow of mucus from the nose ensues, and the symptoms of the disease abate. A deep sore is formed, the after treatment of which consists in occasional cleansing by warm soap suds. Mr. Gray has succeeded in curing several horses by this method, and as the experiment is easily tried, and if opportunity offers, I trust some of your numerous readers will repeat it, and report the result in the Cultivator." *Brandon, Miss., 1842.*

YOUNG OF THE SOUTH."

The staggers is one of the most fatal diseases to which the horse is subject, and we thank our correspondent for a remedy which promises relief. Veterinarians divide staggers into two kinds; the stomach staggers, and the mad staggers. The first arises from over feeding, eating too great a quantity of food, or food of an improper nature. In removing this disease, the stomach pump has been within a few years used with much success; clearing the stomach and affording speedy relief. Before the adoption of the pump, stomach staggers was rarely cured. Unless removed, the disease affects the brain, that organ becomes inflamed, and blind or mad staggers ensue. In either of these diseases, or any stage of them, bleeding rapidly and in large quantities, with the exhibition of physic, has formed the most probable means of cure. When inflammation of the brain has ensued, or as a preventive to such a result, the remedy used by Mr. Gray appears to us very proper. The exhibition of physic at the same time would doubtless add to its efficacy.—*Albany Cultivator.*

SMUT IN WHEAT.—Several contributors to the *Cultivator* give very proper instruction for pickling and liming seed wheat for the prevention of smut; but the dressing, however efficacious in itself, is not in many cases sufficient without further attention. It should be borne in mind that smut is a very infectious disease; and wheat seed, even after it is pickled, should not be spread out to dry upon a floor, upon which smutted wheat had previously been threshed. Neither should it be put into smut tainted sacks for the purpose of carrying to the field.

I have several times tried the experiment of inoculating seed wheat with smut, after the seed had been pickled, limed, and dried for sowing, by means of taking a sample of it in my hand and rubbing it with the powder of smut balls, then sowing it apart from the other. The result was, in every instance, I found smut in the produce of the inoculated samples, and none in the produce of the bulk from which they were taken. Smut is also sometimes taken to the field in unfermented dung, made from the straw of smutted wheat of the former year's growth.

KEEPING COWS.—Farmers are too negligent as to the kind of cows they keep. There are many cows which do not pay to the owner the expense of keeping them, and occasion an annual loss. It costs no more to keep a cow that will average nine or ten quarts a day than one that will average only six or seven; and the difference in amount would in the course of the year be a handsome profit. If we estimate the cost of keeping a cow at twenty-five dollars, we shall find that if a cow gives six quarts per day the loss in keeping will be \$4.75. If the yield is eight quarts per day, then the profit will be about \$5. If the milk is ten quarts per day, the profit will be \$11.75. Now is the time to ascertain whether your cows are worth keeping or not; and the farmer should look well to this part of his husbandry.—*Cultivator.*

THE HORSE CHESTNUT.

Our friend A. Bergen, of New Utrecht, L. I., informs us that in 1839 he planted a small piece of ground, purposely planted and sown, with nuts from the black walnut and the horse chestnut in alternate rows. This was done in the fall, and in the spring they both came up finely, the chestnuts starting first. In the growth, the walnuts have far exceeded the chestnuts, although the latter have been manured; but it seems to little purpose, since while some of the walnuts are seven feet high, the chestnuts are not more than seven inches; and he requests us to account for this singular difference.

We know not that we can do this satisfactorily, having never attempted the cultivation of the horse chestnut, but we do not hesitate to ascribe it to the proximity of the black walnuts, and their cloister influence. Every one is aware of the fatal effect which the common butternut, (*Juglans cathartica*), has on all trees, so decisive indeed, that in our forests not a tree or shrub is ever found within the spread of its branches; and the black walnut, (*Juglans nigra*), possesses many of the same qualities. The soil too in which the nursery of Mr. B. was planted may not have been without its influence. The horse chestnut is well adapted to light lands, and thrives well on such, though they may be rather sterile, while in heavy clay it is always stunted and unhealthy. The black walnut on the contrary grows best in a strong, stiff soil, and rather moist than dry. The horse chestnut has large leaves, and requires more than the usual space to receive the necessary supply of air and light. All these causes may have had more or less influence; but it is to the presence of the walnuts that we attribute the mischief. In a young nursery of thrifty locusts, in order to occupy the whole ground, we three years since transplanted seedling butternuts between the locust rows. The result has been, that the butternuts have grown rapidly, while the locusts have scarcely the last year advanced at all. This spring we have removed a large part of the butternuts, and presume the locusts will again go ahead.—*Albany Cultivator.*

[If Grass seeds are sowed with Buckwheat, the succeeding crop of grass will be larger than if they had been sowed with Barley; and if sowed with Barley it will be better than if sowed with oats. Grass will grow under the Rock maple much better than under the Beech or Pine. A sprinkling of Locust trees increases the grass on sandy ground, while nothing will grow under the shade of the Cedar of Lebanon. It is not alone by exhausting the soil that some vegetables injure others. The Butternut certainly enriches the soil; but there is another way in which many vegetables destroy or starve their neighbours. A curious microscopic observer about 160 years ago cultivated a number of plants in vessels of glass, for the purpose of observing the progress of the roots. He noticed that minute drops of a fluid were always formed at the ends of the fibres during the night; he judged these drops to be an excrementitious fluid thrown off by the plant. Among other experiments he had planted several useful vegetables in the same glass with the weed accounted to be most injurious to them. In every case in which the terminating fibres of the root of the useful plant came near to one of the little drops of fluid upon the root of the weed, he observed that it quickly appeared as if it had been eaten off by an insect, but as he was not able to discover any animalcule feeding upon these fibres, and yet saw that in every instance in which they came nearly in contact with the fluid they were quickly shortened, their points being eroded, he concluded that this fluid had the power of dissolving the terminating fibres and thus preventing the growth of the rival plant.

(See the Leipzig "Acta Erud. orum.") Vegetables have a very close analogy to animals; they not only wear defensive armour, but likewise use offensive weapons to protect themselves, and sometimes to rob their neighbours. The tender bud of the tree is protected from the storms and cold of the winter by a tiling of horny scales, mostly coated with wax. Many leaves are guarded from small insects by down, every hair of which has on the point a minute drop of a viscid fluid like birdlime. The Cacti, Nettles,

and many other plants are protected by poisonous stings, while many warn all enemies to keep their distance, by a terrific display of thorns and prickles. The roots in the mean time, while searching for food, by dropping their excretions near the roots of more feeble plants, disable them from procuring their share of nourishment. In hot countries many trees and plants grow upon other trees, robbing them of a part of the juices furnished by the roots as our bald Eagle lives by robbing the fish hawks. We have here one plant of this kind, the "Dodder," a small vine about the size of a packthread, which when it springs up stretches to the nearest vegetable and winds two or three times round it, growing fast to it, it then proceeds to another which it entwines, and in this way in the course of the season it will extend several yards, winding itself about all that it reaches, among which there will be some large strong plants that appear to be in no danger from so small an enemy. But the stem and leaves of every plant which it hugs in its harlot embrace, invariably and very quickly perish, the stump and roots still surviving and furnishing food to the destroyer.—

ED. COL. FAR.]



THE COLONIAL FARMER.

HALIFAX, N. S., JUNE, 1842.

We have now continued our paper for one year; our patrons can best judge with what success, and whether our selections contain much that is useful. We are indebted to gentlemen in different parts of the Province for several well written essays upon Agricultural subjects, and hope to receive from practical farmers who may have been more successful than their neighbours, some additional information. Our climate differs materially from that of the British Islands, and we have insects and diseases that affect our crops which are rarely noticed in the adjoining States, while we are little affected by some which injure theirs. We must therefore in some cases learn from our own experience. The Farmer whose Wheat has escaped rust or smut better than that of others for a series of years, and he whose Potato crop has ripened well when other fields near him have been affected with the black blight, would confer a favor upon their brother farmers by detailing the management which has caused this difference. By trying experiments upon a small scale, little can be lost, and sometimes very useful information may be gained. The Physician values works which give detailed accounts of particular cases successfully treated, by many different persons; and some very good treatises on farming have been formed upon the same plan; as it makes a common stock for the good of all, of the knowledge, which though divided among many, was unknown to the greater number. As a sample of the value of this kind of information we would refer to the account of draining a Bog of 15 acres by R. McG. Dickey, Esq. of Amherst, from which it appears that this gentleman at a comparatively trifling expence has changed a worthless bog into land worth forty shillings an acre yearly rent. There can be little doubt that his publication will stimulate some others, who possess similar tracts, to imitate his practice, who would

otherwise never have thought of it. There are certain practices of good farmers in Europe which have very rarely been tried here, such as making pastures for a time of rich land which has been long under cultivation, a practice found very profitable in Europe, while here, in most places the only rich pasture is the aftergrass of the mowing land. When limestone can be readily procured, the effects of lime upon the land could easily be ascertained, and the results of experiments on different soils, and in different quantities, would, if exactly detailed, be of service to many if made public. The communication of useful knowledge is a species of giving which enriches the receiver, without impoverishing the giver, and as there is no man so learned that he cannot be taught something useful of which he is ignorant, so there are few so unlearned that they cannot teach something useful. As for ourselves it is certainly our wish to make our paper useful, and worthy of the support of the Farmer, but it would be folly for us to predict how far we shall be able to realize our wishes; for our work is of a kind that will speak for itself, and that will be judged according to its merits.

As our paper is designed to circulate Agricultural information, and to have no connection with politics, we cannot admit the Address delivered to the Colchester Agricultural Society. The improvement of our Agriculture is equally important to all parties, and we shall always be ready to publish well written pieces on this subject; but if we once admit writings on disputed political topics they will soon, we conceive, like Aarons Serpent, devour the rest. It is therefore our intention, as we know it to be that of the Central Board, that this paper shall have nothing to do with party politics or disputed points of Legislation. In our Mother country we see persons of all parties uniting to promote the Science of Agriculture, and happy to act in concert upon a subject that they feel to be useful to all. Some of our Agricultural Societies have, wisely, as we think, adopted the Rule that no subject of a polemical or political nature should be brought forward at any of their meetings. It is not possible, probably, for us to push on any project successfully, when an exciting subject of another kind is presented to our imagination. During the ages of barbarism when most of the Countries of Europe were divided into petty clans, perpetually at war with each other, it was customary for the Clergy on the approach of some religious festivals, to proclaim "God's Peace," during which the contending parties assembled at churches as friends. That these were agreeable meetings, even to our ferocious ancestors, we may conclude from the numbers who were christened by the name of Gottfried.* Under a free Government like ours there will always be political parties, and party spirit at times will stir up strong excitement, but "there is a time for all things." And we would strongly urge all Agricultural Societies to act when they meet as our forefathers did during the time of "Gods Peace," attending only to the business before them, and leaving political disputes for another time, for united action pushed on with zeal rarely fails of success, but if party spirit once gets into our Agricultural Societies it will make them useless.

We have already been indebted to the pen of Mr Ross for a very well written essay, and the real reason that caused us to defer mentioning his name, was, that as he had lately been engaged in a political contest, we conceived that it would be more fairly estimated at that time if the name of the author were not known.

* Gotts Fried, Gods peace—German.

PEAT, AND RICH MOULD.

Many writers confound these two very different substances under the name of vegetable matter, sometimes observing that a soil may

be barren in consequence of the excess of vegetable matter. This language is calculated to mislead, and confuse the young student in agriculture. In Europe there have been disputes concerning the origin of peat, and some very whimsical theories formed upon the subject. Here, where there are such great quantities, and where it is constantly forming, we have only need to use our own eyes to see how it originates. Most of the soil of our swamps on barren land is peat. These swamps were once ponds; they are for the greater part on elevated situations, and rarely have any considerable stream running through them, although in heavy rains great quantities of water run into them. There is always a considerable quantity of wood imbedded in them, mostly in a decayed state. A large proportion of the peat was originally what is technically called the "Epidermis" of vegetables, comprehending the "Ross," or hard outer bark of the trees, and the thin paper-like outer bark of the shrubs and evergreen plants. This is by far the most imperishable part of vegetables, and in a vastly greater proportion upon the slowly-growing trees and shrubs of the barrens, than on the productions of a fertile soil. Together with the "ross" of the firs there is a considerable quantity of resin which falls from the trees with it. This is increased by the leaves of the various shrubs of barren heathy ground which generally hold a considerable proportion of resin, together with the astringent antiseptics, tannin, and gallic acid. These last are indeed contained in the barks of nearly all trees and shrubs of the barrens in large proportions. Their taste is not perceptible in any considerable degree in the "Ross," but as this was originally bark, abounding in astringent matter, there is good reason to think it still retains it, neutralized by oxygen, for which astringents have such an affinity that they will take it from nitric acid, as any one may convince himself by putting a solution of nitrate of silver into a strong decoction of black spruce bark, or dwarf laurel leaves, when the silver will be deposited in a metallic form. There is also a considerable quantity of charcoal and a portion of the shells of small bugs of various kinds (coleopterous insects) mixed with the other ingredients. For the land where peat is found is covered with trees of the fir kind, always liable to be overrun by fires in dry seasons; and one heavy rain, after the ground has been smoothed by a fire which has burnt off the moss and strainer of small bushes, carries more material into the swamps than had entered them for seven years before, and it is at such times that the charcoal is floated in, together with the shells of innumerable bugs who had been killed by the fire that burnt off the moss in which they burrowed. When the wood of bogs is destroyed they produce moss, diminutive shrubs, and small juiceless sedges, which abounding in resin, tannin or woody matter, have very little mucilage, and for this reason decay very slowly. These substances are deprived of a part of the soluble matter they once contained by steeping in water for ages. It is not strange that this when drained and exposed to the air should prove a barren soil; it is composed of the half decayed remains of vegetables natives of a barren soil, vegetables which can thrive only on a poor soil. To make this support the plants of a fertile soil something must be added to it which it has not, and it must be deprived of a part of something which it has.

The Vegetables which grows on fertile soils hold a large quantity of mucilaginous matter instead of resinous, and a considerable quantity of potash. When dead they change to a fine mould in which the natives of such soils grow rapidly, and of this kind of vegetable matter there is never an excess, the ground that has most of it being the most fertile. Between the fertile mould produced by the decayed leaves of cabbage, turnips, or tobacco, and the peat formed from "Ross," resin, sulphur, and decayed moss, there are

many gradations; and when swamp soil is used to increase the manure, the best should be chosen. That which has been formed from the leaves and decayed wood from hardwood land should be preferred, and such is to be found in the swamps which have a considerable brook passing through them, formed from a number of rivulets which descend from a hardwood hill. The best for fuel, and least valuable for manure, is in the swamps near which the only growth of wood is of the Fir or Pine family, and very small and scrubbed. Yet this barren peat is the best to plough in deep upon clayey ground to serve as a drain, for it will change but little in half a century; it is also useful to mix with putrescent manure in the summer to preserve it for the next season. Being itself incapable of fermentation it prevents the fermentation and decomposition of the manure. But in the spring, when to fit it for use, it is necessary to induce some fermentation it may be readily made to heat by turning, and mixing with it a portion of seaweed or of the pickle of meat or fish. Where large quantities of peat have been mixed with the soil, it is always disposed to produce sorrel, which continues to flourish for many years; some have supposed this to be caused by an acid in the peat but it is more probably owing to the coarseness of this kind of soil which does not in the course of many years become fine and compact, and the sorrel has been observed to occupy ground manured with a mixture of wood ashes and peat, as readily as that which was covered with peat alone.

PERENNIAL RYE GRASS.

It will probably be useless to sow this in any part of Nova-Scotia, I have sowed several bushels and seen a considerable quantity sowed by others, but have never seen it in a single instance, escape being killed by the winter. On some newly cleared small fields with a dry gravelly soil in a warm sheltered situation a few miserable sickly plants may sometimes be seen rising 6 or 8 inches and dying in the course of the Summer, but on open ground not a single plant has survived.

Upon a piece of ground sowed with Sainfoin, about two-thirds the plants died the first winter, but the remainder was healthy, and gave a large crop. The following winter destroyed a part of this, and the third winter finished the whole. It is however very possible that by raising seed here for several seasons, it would accommodate itself to the climate. Beets raised from seed grown in Alsace had their leaves killed by the first white frost, in the fall, but when the seed raised from these Beets was sowed the leaves of the crop were not more affected by frost than our common Beets.

ORCHARD GRASS.

This is a tall grass, growing a little above the height of Timothy. It produced a good crop on Mr. Fairbanks's farm in Dartmouth the last season, although the ground had been so bare of snow the preceding winter that the Timothy was injured in many places. Should this generally resist our winters it must prove very useful, for Timothy has been so often sowed upon many of our fields that the land seems to be "tired of it," and would undoubtedly produce larger crops of a new kind, which had not previously grown upon it.—E.D.

A small quantity of the seed of this grass has been imported for sale by Dr. Naylor.

WEEDS IN GRASS LAND.

OX-EYE DAISY.—This plant will probably abound in the ensuing summer, being liable to increase in dry seasons such as the last. It is a fortunate circumstance that the only two weeds which spread much in our mowing land, The Crowfoot and the Ox-eye Daisy,

will both make very tolerable hay. The daisy is by many accounted worthless, because being earlier in flower than our common grasses, it is generally mowed too late. But if it is mowed when nearly all in flower, but before any of the seed is ripe, it will be found equal to the average quality of the hay in Halifax market, for Cows; but horses do not appear to be fond of it. When it is allowed to ripen its seed it produces a great quantity, which is generally spread with the manure over all the cultivated ground. When there is a succession of dry seasons, perhaps the best way to master it, is, to give a top-dressing to the grass land sufficient to make it produce at least two tons of hay to the acre, when the daisy will be found to be mostly suffocated by the clover.

CROWFOOT OR BUTTER CURS.—This prefers moist and rich soils. Cattle eat it willingly early in the season, but it becomes so very acrid when in flower that they then avoid it. It loses its acrimony by drying, and makes very good hay, but it is like the Daisy, too early for Clover and Timothy, often turning black and decaying before mowing time. Top-dressing will not diminish the proportion of Crowfoot; to get rid of it, the land should be ploughed, a crop of roots taken from it, and then be laid down with clean seed. The practice of using the sweepings of the barn floor for grass seed always serves to introduce weeds. Wherever Crowfoot forms the principal part of the crop it should always be mowed while it is full of flowers, as it will then make very good hay for Cows.

DANDELIONS.—On some rich grass land which has been kept up by top-dressing this plant prevails to such an extent as materially to lessen the hay crop, but it gives a great quantity of excellent fall-feed. Breaking up the land, and raising a crop of roots will get the better of it for a time.

WOOLLY HEAD, OR THORNLESS THISTLE.—A single root of this plant sprung up in Preston above 50 years ago on a piece of ground which had been sowed with Rye Grass. It has now spread for several miles around, in pastures. It is eaten by cattle till it flowers, when the stems become too hard and woody. It is not a very troublesome weed in cultivated ground.

SORREL.—This weed is often very troublesome to new settlers upon dry woodland lately cleared; it flourishes in the coarse turfey Jayer that covers such land, and almost completely fills it with roots which cannot be taken out by the hoe or harrow because they are guarded by the roots of the trees. Great care should be used to prevent its introduction by new settlers, but if a piece of land that cannot well be spared to remain idle till the stumps rot so that the plough can be used, should be overrun with Sorrel, it may be destroyed by a crop of potatoes, but will require some extra labor. A Gentleman of the Army who had turned Farmer and who had an acre or two over-run with Sorrel, observed to an old Farmer that it poisoned the land, yielding but a small crop itself, and destroying grass, grain, and potatoes wherever it grew. "No," said the other, "it does not injure your land, but its roots are so well covered by the roots of the trees that your light harrow, and hoes do not reach them; when the roots of the Beech and Hemlock decay so that you can use the plough you will find it no worse than any other weed. However I will show you that it does not poison the land." He immediately ordered a thick bed of Sorrel about four rods square to be hoed up (as neither plough nor harrow could be used among the hemlock roots,) and planted it with potatoes without manure. As soon as they appeared above ground he hoed them; and repeated his hoeings every third or fourth day till he had hoed ten times. At their first appearance they looked miserably, but began to mend after the third hoeing. The roots of the Sorrel were completely killed by being not allowed any leaves for three

weeks, and decaying, furnished sufficient manure to the potatoes, which yielded a large crop.

RATTLE-GRASS.—When much the greater part of the grass roots are killed by an unfavourable winter, or by being long-flooded, this weed will often spring up with one or more plants to every square inch, on ground where it had not been seen for twenty or thirty years, and when it has got possession it is apt to keep it, if neglected. If it is upon land that you do not wish to break up, mow it as soon as it begins to flower, and as soon as it is raked off sow grass seed on the ground, and immediately give it a top dressing of manure. It will not then appear the following season.

PERSONS LOST IN THE WOODS.

In searching for persons lost in the woods the following rules should be observed. We will suppose that the tract to be searched is bounded on the East by a lake, or the sea shore, and that it is to be traversed in a Northerly direction. The party assemble on the edge of the lake. A steady intelligent man is appointed to lead each flank. The right flank leader halts within a rod of the lake. The left flank leader (who should have a pocket compass) marches westerly, the party following him, and leaving a man within two rods of the right flank leader; another within two rods of him, &c. till all the men are formed in a line at the distance of two rods from each other. The word, "Ready," is then given from the left flank and repeated along the line to the right flank; from which the word, "March" is given when the party advances—the right flank leader going at a pace not exceeding a mile and a half per hour, and every man keeping his proper place by looking to his right-hand man. Close thickets and heaps of windfallen trees must not be avoided, but searched thoroughly, and for this reason it is necessary to advance slowly. The men who arrive after the line is formed should hasten to the left flank and there take their places; the leader still falling to the left, and always keeping on the flank. If he perceives by his compass that the line is wheeling, by going too fast; he gives the word, "slower," which is repeated along the line. When the line does not touch water, roads, or any fixed limit, the right flank leader steers his course by a compass.

By proceeding in this manner a hundred men may go over a large tract in a day with the certainty that they have left no human creature unseen upon it. In forming the men it should be observed that the most intelligent should be distributed throughout the whole line to direct the awkward and inexperienced, and should there be any considerable number who carry spirituous liquor with them, it would be best to leave them to form a party by themselves, as in the after part of the day they would almost certainly break the line, and introduce confusion, being at that time generally noisy and inattentive, with a portion who are quite stupid.

On the frontiers of New England where this mode of hunting for lost persons originated, the back settlers had, at first, no roads, but only a line of blazed trees leading from one house to another, and not only children but grown persons who were natives of Europe were occasionally lost in the woods. When this happened active men immediately went about to spread the news, and almost every able-bodied man immediately set off as soon as he could prepare a knapsack with two or three days provision. In some instances 1500 men have assembled on the third day in a very thinly settled district, and never did they feel themselves better rewarded for their labour, than when they succeeded in restoring children safe to their anxious parents.

SMOKEY CHIMNIES.

Common errors in building Chimneys in the country are, making

fireplace too large, and too deep; and the flue too large below, and too small above. There should always be a certain proportion between the size of the fire-place and that of the flue; remembering that a larger flue is required in a house of one story only, than in one of a greater height, and that if you wish a great part of the heat to be thrown into the room, the fire-place must not be deep, but that the jambs must spread more than they generally do.

As a smokey Chimney is very uncomfortable, and as it is so tedious a job to pull down and rebuild it, that farmers often submit to bear this evil for years; we would recommend the following mode, which will in most cases be found effectual. Reduce the height of the fireplace by building a new back, and jambs, within it; raising the back within five inches of the inside of the mantel-piece, and carrying back and jambs about two or three inches higher than the bottom of it. If heat in the room is desired, give more flare or spread to the jambs than they had before.

Besides preventing the Chimney from smoking, this alteration of the fireplace will save a considerable quantity of wood. Some may think that it will make the fireplace too small, but they will generally find it large enough; as a much smaller fire will keep a room warm, when it can be brought half a yard forward of its old position.

NEW AGRICULTURAL PUBLICATIONS.

We have received from Toronto the two first numbers of the *British American Cultivator*, a new Agricultural paper published monthly at one dollar per year, (including postage) We are happy to learn by the second number that the Proprietors have engaged Mr. William Evans of Cote St. Paul, near Montreal, to undertake the task of editing this work. We consider his name as a sure guarantee that it will be second to none now published in America. Mr. Evans is the author of the excellent "Treatise on the Theory and Practice of Agriculture adapted to the Cultivation and Economy of the Animal and Vegetable productions of Agriculture in Canada." He learned the business of a Farmer in Europe, and had long experience in Canada. Whoever has read his book must be sensible that it is the work of an honest and candid man, who possesses so large a share of good plain common sense, that there is little danger that he will either be led astray by his own enthusiasm, or imposed on by the puffs of others, in matters connected with the science of which he is a master.

Farmers in the British Colonies, as well as the American States are derived much useful knowledge from the *Albany Cultivator*, and will long respect the memory of the late Judge Buel; and we are sure the time is coming when we shall be able to repay some of our obligations.

The American Agriculturist.—This is the title of a neat monthly magazine of 32 pages, published in New York City, by Geo. A. Stearns—A. B. and A. R. S. Allan, Editors—terms, \$1 in advance. This work is destined to render valuable assistance to the Agriculturist. The first number, sent to us by a friend, contains much valuable matter.

The Central New York Farmer is another excellent monthly paper. It contains 16 large octavo pages—and is offered at the moderate rate of 2s. 6d. per annum. The fourth number, which has just appeared, promises well. We wish it success.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—An Agricultural Society has been organized at Clare, in Digby County. *President*, Francis Bourneuf; *Vice-Presidents*, Charles Doucette, and Charles LeBlanc; *Treasurer*, Augustus Melinson, Esq.; *Secretary*, Mark Ducette.

CAPPE BRETON CENTRAL COUNTY SOCIETY.—*President* elect for 1842, John Lewis Hill, Esq.; *Secretary*, A. F. Halliburton, Esq.

CENTRAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

At a Meeting of the Central Board of Agriculture held in the Province Building 30th April, 1842—Present: The Hon. JAMES McNAB, Hon. WILLIAM YOUNG, JOHN E. FAIRBANKS, THOMAS WILLIAMSON, MATTHEW RICHARDSON, and EDWARD PRYOR, JUNR., Esquires.

Read letters from Messrs. William Kidston & Sons, the Agents of the Board in Glasgow, acknowledging the receipt of the orders and remittances sent on the 4th March, and stating that a bull and heifer of the West Highland breed had been shipped in the *Acadian*, for the Hants' Society, but that the Clydesdale stallion and sheep ordered for the Board, could not be shipped by that vessel for want of room—that another ship, however, was expected to be put up shortly for Halifax, and they hoped to be able to send the stock by her, and recommended that they should be empowered to employ a man to take charge of it on the passage. Directed a reply requesting Messrs. Kidston to obtain a suitable person on the most moderate terms, who was accustomed to cattle, and would give them his whole attention during the voyage, and suggesting that some passenger or other person desirous of emigrating, might be found to undertake this task for a reasonable sum.

Read a letter from Messrs. Blackwood & Sons, of Edinburgh, offering to present the Board with the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, and the Prize Essays of the Highland Society of Scotland, of which they are the publishers, and directed a reply gratefully accepting this liberal offer, and requesting the works to be sent to the Agents of the Board.

Read a letter from Messrs. Neil McLellan, Martin McPherson, and John McDonald, the Office bearers of the Society at Brondcove, in the County of Inverness, with a copy of various resolutions adopted at a general meeting, by one of which the Society had determined to unite their share of the Legislative grant to their own contribution, and to expend the whole, under the guidance of a trustworthy experienced farmer, in the purchase of seed oats, barley and wheat, and of some rams of the most approved species in Prince Edward Island, in time for the approaching Spring. By another resolution, the Society requested the Board to import a winnowing machine for them from Boston, similar to the one sent last year to Port Hood. Directed that the machine should be ordered, and the sum of £33 remitted the Society out of the grant, that they might be enabled to carry their laudable design into immediate effect.

Read a letter from Mr. D. A. Munro, the Secretary of the Wallace Society, acknowledging a communication from the Board, in which they suggested a union with the Society at River Philip, or otherwise that they should allow the latter £15 out of the £35 assigned them for the present year. In the County of Cumberland, as in several others, to wit, Colchester, Pictou, and Kings, more than three Societies have been organized, each contributing the full sum required by the Act, and animated apparently by the same wholesome desire and spirit of improvement now so widely diffused, and which the Board are anxious to keep up and propagate far and near. The existence and spread of these institutions they look upon as the surest indication, as it is the most gratifying proof of their success in arousing the public mind, and convincing the farmers of Nova Scotia how much they have to learn, how essentially their honourable labours would be lightened as well as stimulated by free and intelligent communication with each other, and how effectually their pecuniary interests and true respectability would be promoted by their uniting to carry out and second the munificent designs of the Legislature. No act, perhaps, was ever framed in a wiser and more liberal spirit for the encouragement of agriculture, or held out more tempting inducements to the cultivators of the soil than the act of 1841, under which the Board derives its existence, and while the Board will strictly obey its requisitions, they are desirous of giving it the most extended influence and a liberal construction. If favoritism or party spirit ever entered into their meetings, or their acts recognized any distinctions save those which belong to the most industrious and intelligent, their utility and power would be at an end, and in settling the disputed questions that will sometimes arise, as the Board will conduct themselves with strict impartiality, they trust their recommendations or decisions will be cheerfully acquiesced in, and viewed in the most favourable light. In the case before them, they had the power, under the Act, of apportioning the £75 to each County among three Societies only, and had assigned the Wallace Society £35 with the sugges-

tion before stated. It now appeared that the River Philip Society could not conveniently unite either with the Amherst or Wallace Societies, on account of the distance from both places, and as their report of the 1st of January indicated a most praiseworthy and active spirit, the Board was unwilling to abandon them, and on a view of the whole case, adhered to their former recommendation. The Wallace Society had offered to allow them £10, but the additional £5 would not, it was hoped, materially incommode them, more especially as their own proceedings evinced an anxious desire, while improving their local husbandry, that the other districts of that fine county should participate in the public grant.

The Board at a previous meeting had adopted the same policy with the Cornwallis Society, assigning them £37 10s, and recommending that £15 should be allowed to the Society in the western part of the Township, which otherwise would be excluded a second time.

Read a letter from George S. Milledge, Esq. the Secretary of a Society formed on the 24th of March, for the western portion of the County of Annapolis under the title of the Annapolis Royal Agricultural Society, at which the necessary officers were appointed. The Committee of management had held a full meeting and reported that fifty-six members had joined, and that the sum of £10 and upwards had been paid in to the Treasurer. The Board had great satisfaction in adding this Society to their list, and awarded to it the £25 reserved for the County of Annapolis at their meeting of the 19th March.

Read a letter from G. W. McLellan, Esq. the Secretary of a Society organized on the 19th instant, at Londonderry, when a spirited subscription was entered into, and officers were duly elected. The farmers present at the meeting were animated by the best spirit and were willing to join heart and hand in the good cause, for which so large a scope is presented in that beautiful and thriving Township. It extends twenty miles along the Bay of Fundy by ten in breadth, and from the quantity of marsh on the different Rivers and the Bay, of which about twenty five miles are now under dyke, beside other portions that are about to be enclosed, it bids fair to be one of the largest Agricultural Townships in the Province. The Board sincerely regretted, therefore, that having no notice of the organization of the new Society, they had apportioned the whole sum for the County of Colchester this year, but recommended that the Truro Society should allow them a share of the £50 assigned to them on the 12th March. And as a Society has likewise sprung up in Stewiacke, the Board suggested the advantage of their forming a Central Society with branches, as in the County of Sydney.

Read several other Letters from Societies, and directed suitable answers thereto.

The Board having subscribed for fifty copies of the *Mechanic & Farmer*, published at Pietou, directed that Mr. Stiles should be desired to send 6 copies to each of the non-resident members of the Board, 6 copies to the County of Inverness, for Mr. Young, and the remaining 20 copies, together with the 20 dozen copies, formerly ordered, of Small's Veterinary Tablet, to the Secretary of the Board at Halifax, that the same may be generally distributed.

The Board having also voted £30 to continue their subscription for 250 copies of the *Colonial Farmer* to the next meeting of the Legislature, and their object being to distribute the paper as widely as possible, and to excite a taste for Agricultural knowledge and inquiry, they determined that three copies of each number should be sent by Mr. Nugent to every member of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly resident in the country, and that the remaining copies should be distributed by the Board as heretofore.

The attention of the Board was next turned to the new manure lately discovered by Mr. Daniel in the neighbourhood of Bristol, and which had attracted considerable notice in England: and the Secretary was requested to apply for further information to Henry Hudson, Esq. the Secretary of the Royal English Agricultural Society in London, and at same time to make some inquiry as to the Andes or Peruvian sheep, and their capacity of adapting themselves to the English climate. It appears that a pair had been introduced from Peru about twenty years ago, and that there are now about eighty in Great Britain, chiefly in the hands of noblemen, and in Zoological Gardens.

Similar enquiries were directed in Boston, and a correspondence invited with the Agricultural Society of Massachusetts, which has exercised so extensive and beneficial an influence in that State.

The Board then adjourned.

The Drilling Match of the Halifax Agricultural Society, was held on Friday the 20th May. The farm of the Hon. H. De was the scene of competition; and those who attended were entertained with substantial refreshment at his mansion.

The distribution of prizes was as follows:—

1st Prize,	£2 10 0	Wm. Winters,
2nd ...	2 0 0	Wm. Mitchell,
3rd ...	1 10 0	Conrad Cline,
4th ...	1 0 0	James Walker,
5th ...	0 12 6	Wm. Cline,
6th ...	0 7 6	A. M. Collough, Jun.

FOR THE COLONIAL FARMER.

Conversing some days ago with a scientific and practical Agriculturist on the best mode of bringing wood land into cultivation I was requested to send to your paper the result of my own experience on the Glebe Land at Parrsborough. I name the spot because I do not pretend to extensive experimental knowledge, and yet feel such confidence that extensive injury is done to some spots by the common practice of burning that I am willing to submit my opinion for public consideration. Six years ago I came to the country without skill but yet desirous of bringing the Glebe into good grass land. I employed the most intelligent workmen I could obtain, and acceded to the plan universally adopted of cutting down the trees and burning them on the spot. The first year I always planted Potatoes, and the second sowed Barley or Oats among the stumps—with Clover and Timothy. So much reliance did I place on popular opinion that I spent no small sum in carrying boughs to the spots that were deficient in order to secure what is called a good burn. For five years I followed this plan and prepared 12 or 15 acres, without being yet able to cut a ton of hay. My failure compelled me to observe and reflect, and I noticed in the summer some spots where the grass seed appeared to thrive, while moss alone seemed to cover the fields at large especially where pieces of wood were burned and on which I had reckoned on the large crop. The favoured spots I found to have escaped the burning.

To corroborate the opinion I now formed I talked to the farmer who owned the best grass upland in my neighbourhood; and discovered that their farms had been cleared by men called idlers—slovenly who were too indolent to burn the trees after they were cut down. I found on almost every farm a superior piece of land which it always proved to be the piece which had been reserved not far from the house for fire wood. The best farm I found had been cleared by a man who gathered the timber and made potash, so that the land escaped burning.

I remarked also that on many farms where old windfalls had been buried many years ago, and were covered by decayed leaves and soil since formed, that if these old windfalls are ever disturbed by deep ploughing a luxuriant crop is sure to overhang them. And the shocking barrenness of large tracts of land over which the fires occasionally have run in dry summers, and which so much detracts from the pleasure of travelling through our forests, corroborated my opinion that fire destroys the fertility of the land.

Theory assuredly confirms this opinion; but so rooted is the system in the minds of our ordinary Farmers, who continually repeat that they always thought that nothing impeded their progress so much as the difficulty of burning land; that I feel as if little attention will be paid to my views unless I shew why the burnt land yields a present advantage, though ultimately so injurious. The Potash from the burnt wood I imagine attracts much moisture from the atmosphere, and thus produces a good first crop; but is not a lasting manure—and every thing else productive in the soil has been consumed. I hope, however, that some scientific Agriculturist will explain this point more at large.

Many poor settlers I am aware are obliged to resort at first to the mode of bringing some of their land speedily into cultivation, and I think they should do as little as possible. They might adopt a plan common in New Brunswick where the soil has obtained a better character, perhaps on this very account. They ring or girdle the trees—an expeditious process by which they decay faster than if cut down, and in a few years they fall and take the stumps out with the plough, or perhaps they might do still better by making Potash, for the encouragement of which I think the Legislature would do well to give a bounty. (Quere)—Is it owing at all to the practice of using Potash that the land in Canada produces wheat, which we find so difficult, except in old restored soils, though ours is a more northern Latitude?

N. A. COSTER.

Parrsborough Rectory, April 25th, 1842.

AMHERST, COUNTY CUMBERLAND, 9th May, 1842.

SIR,—I have been requested by a friend to Agriculture to forward to you the practical experience and results of reclaiming ten acres of Bog Marsh in the years 1824 and 1825, as will be seen by the subjoined account of the outlay and income, particularly made by me at the time. This bog was immediately joined to the upland and situated at the confluence of two small brooks, principally covered with alders, and the greater portion so soft that it was almost impossible for any beast to walk over it. The whole surface appeared to be covered with a slimy substance, arising from the deposit of these brooks and a vegetable matter that had grown with the deposit. In place of deriving any yearly value upon this bog previously to the time of making the experiment I now speak of, I always looked upon it as a nuisance, serving only as a mire for my cattle so much so that I frequently wished that it was disconnected from my farm altogether.

In the first place in 1822 and 1823 I cut vent drains so as to divert the water from these brooks and divided the bog from the land. Then I rooted out the alders and piled them and when they were burnt. I then cut small drains, laying it in flats or ridges of from thirty to forty yards in width, in which state it remained for a year, when I commenced a complete opening up of the drains. You will observe that up to this time I kept no particular account of my outlay, but it might probably amount to £15 or £20, but not more than that. In 1824 I opened an account against the Marsh. In the autumn of that year I ploughed and cross-drained it and sowed it early in the April following before the frost was out, and as soon as the frost permitted the cross drains were thoroughly opened. Here follows the account:

DR.	15 acres of Bog Marsh.	
To 25 days draining, @ 5s.....	£6	5 0
17 days ploughing, pair of horses and man, @ 10s. 8	10	0
8 days cross-draining and levelling ditch banks, @ 5s.....	2	0 0
6 bushels Seed Wheat, @ 8s.....	2	8 0
3½ do Seed Oats, @ 3s. 6d.....	0	13 ½
25 do do @ 2s. 6d.....	3	2 6
19 do do @ 2s. 4d.....	2	4 4
4 do Seed Barley, @ 4s.....	0	16 0
110 lb Clover Seed, 60s.....	3	0 0
2 bushels Timothy, @ 10s.....	1	0 0
12 days Harrowing, @ 10s.....	6	0 0
4 days Sowing Seeds, @ 5s.....	1	0 0
3 days clearing out cross drains, @ 5s.....	0	15 0
39 days Reaping, @ 6s.....	11	14 0

4 days Carting Grain, @ 15s.....	3	0 0
Thrashing Wheat and Barley.....	5	12 0 ½

N. B.—No charge made for thrashing Oats, as it was supposed the straw was worth the labour.

Whole outlay.....£58 0 0

1825. Contra. Cr.		
By 35 bushels Barley, @ 4s.....	£7	0 0
444 do Oats, @ 2s. 6d.....	55	10 0
65 do Wheat, @ 10s.....	32	10 0

Whole income from first crop.....£95 0 0

The foregoing account was particularly kept by me at the time, although I performed a considerable part of the labour myself and with my own team and had my servant hired by the year; but for my own satisfaction I thought it better to make the charge against the Marsh as if I had had to hire all the work by the day. I did not keep this account for the purpose of publication, but solely for my own satisfaction and to be shewn to my neighbours for the purpose of stimulating them to go and do likewise, but I am very sorry to say, that although all my neighbours have had the advantage of my experience and are aware of the profits arising therefrom yet only too few of them have benefitted by it. There are hundreds of acres in this County in the same state that mine was before I commenced these improvements and to the best of my knowledge there are only two persons of the very many who have witnessed the fruits of my labour, that have followed my example. Although it is a generally admitted maxim that "example goes before precept," yet it has not verified itself in this instance and I can only express my regret that people are so careless of their own individual interest, and appear afraid of venturing a pound although the certain result would be equally satisfactory as mine has proved.

Now sir, it will be seen that the first crop I took from this Marsh was in 1825, and the preceding account shows the profit that arose upon the first crop; but this is not the best or the most profitable part of the result, for the Marsh has been in mowing ever since and the actual annual rent is more than £30, and I believe I can with safety say that there is no marsh in this County that produces a heavier crop or a better quality of hay.

If the Central Board is of opinion that the foregoing simple statement of facts will be beneficial to the owners of similar Marsh lands they are perfectly at liberty to have it published in the Mechanic and Farmer or in any other way they may think most conducive to the advancement of Agriculture.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

R. M. G. DICKEY.

To Mr. Titus Smith, Secretary, Halifax.

From the Mechanic and Farmer.

COLCHESTER AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The annual Ploughing Match of this Society, in Truro, took place on Tuesday the 3rd inst., in a field of Mr. William Flemings, he himself taking the first prize, Robert Payne, the second, and Samuel Jas. Blair, the third.

A large concourse of people assembled on the occasion, who took a deep interest in the proceedings, as the individuals competing were known to be very superior ploughmen, and had met previously on similar occasions. The experienced farmers chosen as judges, had much difficulty in deciding to which of the above individuals the several prizes should be awarded, and every one present was highly gratified with the excellent manner in which the work was performed.

EDWARD CARRITT, Secretary.

Truro, 4th May, 1842.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE PICTOU AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Committee of the Agricultural Society met at Harper's, 4th May, 1842, M. I. Wilkins, Esq., in the chair.

Mr. Taylor reported that the following quantities of seed had arrived, and also the quantities which have been applied for by members of the Society. The Committee have agreed that they be sold at the prices affixed:

- 50 bushels Tea Wheat, to be sold at 7s. per bushel.
- 17 bushels applied for already.—33 bushels for sale.
- 20 bushels Bald Wheat, to be sold at 8s.
- 15 bushels applied for.—5 bushels for sale.
- 18 bushels Potato Oats, to be sold at 3s. per bushel.
- 18 bushels applied for.
- 61 bushels Black Oats, to be sold at 2s.
- 18 bushels r. tied for.—43 bushels for sale.
- 3½ bushels Vetches; if sold to be at 22s. 9d. per bushel. All not disposed of by the 6th inst., to be distributed in equal proportions among all the members of the Society—with a request that they endeavour to save the seed.

That the price of the Clover Seed be 10d. per lb., and be sold only to members of the society—and no member to be entitled to more than 30 pounds.

That the bushel of wheat from Mr. Lord, which was sent by Mr. McGowan, be offered for sale at the cost, 15s. 9d.—at which price Mr. Wilkins agrees to take it, if no other person will do so before the 10th instant.

MART. I. WILKINS,
Vice-President and Chairman.

PICTOU, 13TH MAY, 1842.

The Committee met this evening. Present—J. W. Harris, Esq., John Taylor, James D. B. Fraser, Esq., John Lamb, James Ross, Thomas Campbell, John Stiles.

Read minutes of the previous meeting.

The Secretary submitted the Invoice of Agricultural Implements imported from the United States.

Resolved, That the following articles, recently imported from Boston, be sold at the prices affixed, to members of the Society only—until further notice.

Wyman's six tine manure fork.....	10s. 0d.
" four tine " 	8 0
Willis' four tine.....	8 0
Harlow's shovel forks.....	8 0
Root forks.....	8 0
Harper's fork, first quality.....	7 6
" second quality.....	6 6
" strapped forks.....	7 0
Harlow's hay forks.....	5 0
Cast-steel Scythes.....	6 0
Steel back " 	5 6
Common " 	5 0
Breaking-up hoe.....	6 9
Scythe-snaiths.....	6 0
Horse manger safety springs.....	2 0
Hay rakes, first quality.....	1 10½
" second quality.....	1 9

The Horse Rake and the Plough to be kept in the mean time for patterns, and that the members of the Society be allowed to make trial of them under the direction of the Committee.

Resolved, That the balance due to Peter McGowan, Esq. Hector McKenzie, and J. Stiles, be paid out of the funds of the Society.

Resolved, That the President and Secretary apply to the Central Society at Halifax, for the balance coming to this Society from the Provincial funds, for 1842.

J. W. HARRIS, President.
J. STILES, Secretary.

TO PRESERVE HAMS FROM FLIES.—For several years we have preserved our hams in charcoal: we lay the hams down in a barrel pounding the charcoal, and placing it between the hams.—The meat keeps entirely sweet. Flies never touch the meat.

TO HARDEN IRON.—Take the heart of an exchange broker, dry it in the sun and pound it fine in a mortar; sprinkle a little of the dust on an iron blade while hot, and it will give a temper to skin a flint without turning the edge.

PROSPECTUS.

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TO BE PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY.

Great Inducement.

The 'Colonial Farmer' and Agricola's Letters and Correspondence combined.

THE CHEAPEST AGRICULTURAL PAPER IN BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

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TERMS.—One copy, 5s.; Six copies, 25s.; Twelve copies, 50s. Twenty-five copies, 100s per annum, in advance.

With Agricola's Works, as follows:

One copy of each.....	£0 12
Six copies of the Colonial Farmer, and one copy of Agricola's works.....	1 12
Twelve copies of ditto, with two copies of ditto.....	3 2
Twenty-five copies of ditto, with three copies of ditto....	5 17

In order to put the *Colonial Farmer* in more immediate connection with the Central Board, and to hold a more frequent intercourse with Agriculturists and Agricultural Societies, the subscriber has determined to publish the above paper—(half its present size)—every fortnight, instead of monthly, as heretofore. He has been urged to this course by numerous influential agricultural friends, and he believes it will meet with general approbation from its patrons.

The circulation of the work is rapidly increasing, and every possible exertion will be used by the publisher so to improve it, time to time as to make it more worthy of support. The opinions of practical farmers—and the press, however, at the present time, are so flattering, that the Publisher cannot shut his eyes to the fact, that the superiority of a periodical, almost exclusively devoted to the interests of the Agriculturist, over all others, will, no distant day, be more generally felt and acknowledged.

The publisher is not sufficiently egotistical to assert that he makes the *Colonial Farmer* the best Agricultural paper in British North America—but he will endeavor, so far as practical science, and industry are concerned—to make it second to none. Well written original Essays will be procured, and appropriate selections made from the latest and best Agricultural works published in England and the United States, and attention will be paid to the publication of new inventions, and improvements in Agricultural Implements. In addition, each number will contain a statement of market prices of produce.

At least one number in each month will be embellished with executed cuts of animals or machinery—as arrangements have been entered into to secure this desideratum.

Secretaries of Agricultural Societies, and Post Masters, throughout the Provinces are requested to act as Agents.

Any paper publishing this Prospectus one week, and enclosing us a copy—will receive our thanks, and be entitled to the paper for one year.

RICHARD NUGENT,
Proprietor.

Halifax, April, 1842.

"THE COLONIAL FARMER,"

TITUS SMITH, EDITOR; R. NUGENT, PROPRIETOR.

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