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PROVINCIAL INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF 1868.

For the purpose of carrying out the Provincial Industrial Exhibition, the General Committee have appointed the following Sub-Committees, and upon these the actual work of preparation now devolves. Sub-Committees for special purposes will be selected from time to time, by the Executive Committee, from the general list of the Commission:—

I.—Executive Committee.

- THE HON. THE CHIEF JUSTICE, *Chairman*.
- " PROVINCIAL SECRETARY.
- THE COMMISSIONER OF MINES.
- ANDREW M. UNIACKE, Esq.
- WILLIAM CUNARD, Esq.
- P. C. HILL, Esq.
- JOHN STARR, Esq.
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- W. S. SYMONDS, Esq.
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- JOHN DOULL, Esq.
- DR. LAWSON, *Secretary*.
- B. G. GRAY, *Assistant Secretary*.

II.—Sub-Committee on Finance, Contracts, and Expenditure.

- THE COMMISSIONER OF MINES.
- JOHN STARR, Esq.
- JOSEPH J. NORTHUP, Esq.

III.—Sub-Committee on Jurors.

- JOHN STARR, Esq.
- JOSEPH J. NORTHUP, Esq.
- DR. LAWSON.

IV.—Sub-Committee to nominate Committees.

- JOHN DOULL, Esq.
- WILLIAM MONTGOMERY, Esq.
- W. S. SYMONDS, Esq.

V.—Sub-Committee on Building and Accommodation.

- WILLIAM MONTGOMERY, Esq.
- P. C. HILL, Esq.
- W. S. SYMONDS, Esq.
- WILLIAM CUNARD, Esq.
- JOSEPH J. NORTHUP, Esq.

VI.—Sub-Committee on Police and Tickets.

- COLONEL LAWRIE.
- ANDREW M. UNIACKE, Esq.
- HENRY PRYOR, Esq.

IMPORTATION OF SEEDS—A GOOD EXAMPLE.

We have received from Mr. McCrindle of Ellershouse a parcel of samples of seeds imported by him from Britain, and have to beg his acceptance of our best thanks for his attention. We have had them sown, and hope to be able to give a satisfactory report of the results. The

seeds include the Tam Finlay oat, a favourite kind in Scotland, some beautiful barley, the Dulmahoy seedling potato, Walker's Regent potato, and several of the new and improved varieties of field turnip seeds, King of the Swedes, and Dickson's Defiance, a purple top Swede. We understand that Mr. McCrindle has distributed these seeds freely among the farmers of his neighborhood. Such efforts are highly praiseworthy, and cannot fail to prove of benefit in agricultural districts. We hope that many others will take the hint, and go and do likewise.

THE SEASON AND OPERATIONS.

Halifax, June 22, 1868.

Continued wet weather throughout May and the early part of June, retarded operations both on the farm and in the garden; the result is, that much less ground is cultivated this year than usual in many localities. The grass was winter-killed on exposed spots, and in the Windsor marshes we hear that harm has likewise been done by the frost. But the wet spring has been favorable to grass, and the few hot days which we had in the middle of June had a wonderful effect

upon it. Never have we seen the fields and woods so fresh and green as at the beginning of June this year, but we still require favorable weather for a month or two to give even an average crop of hay. Red clover has suffered more than other hay plants, and in some places is quite killed out. The gathering of wild strawberries commenced in Halifax and Hants Counties on the 20th June; lilacs and horse chestnuts had been in bloom for a week previously, and the first flowers of the English hawthorn opened on the 19th.

The prospective scarcity of oats and potatoes next fall, consequent upon the unfavorable season we have had for planting, both here and in Prince Edward Island, naturally suggests the propriety of seeking in some other way to provide for winter food. The season for turnip sowing is now upon us, and it is not too late to put in a crop of Swedes, which, if properly manured and cared for, will give a profitable return. If every farmer in this province will sow an acre of Swedes, with three hundredweight of bone dust, this month, an average crop of 600 bushels will be obtained, which, even with a short crop of hay, will carry a few cows through the winter very comfortably. The Swedish is the only kind that should be grown for winter use. The Yellow kinds do not give so heavy a crop in this country, and the White kinds are only suitable for fattening cattle in the fall, which with our system of fall pasturing is not required as in Britain.

It is now time to begin to prepare live stock for THE EXHIBITION in October. They will require to be kept in good pasture, and supplied with extra feed as occasion may require. In wet weather they should be sheltered, and at all times kept clean by an occasional brushing down; this will greatly increase the comfort and improve the appearance of the animals.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

It is time now to have full crops of cabbages and cauliflowers planted for fall and winter use. The wet character of the season is bringing up an amazing quantity of weeds, and every crop must be carefully and frequently hoed for the next month or two, particularly carrots, mangolds, potatoes, parsnips, &c. Seed onions require careful hand-picking of the weeds, and the same is necessary in the case of sweet herbs, and all weak growing crops. Peas require to be supported by rods. Tomatoes should be planted without delay in the warmest and most sunny part of the garden. Cucumbers will now be in the rough leaf, and require no further attention, except careful weeding. This is a good season for celery, but although it prefers a moist soil, too much wet is injurious, if there be not proper provision for drainage.

ORCHARD AND FRUIT GARDEN.

In exposed localities many fruit trees have been killed or severely injured by the intensity of the frost of last winter. The apple trees have now set their fruit in most localities, and there is a pretty good show; but with so much moisture, the trees will, no doubt, shoot out into wood more than usual. Currant bushes are suffering from caterpillars, and gooseberries from mildew in some places. The caterpillars require to be picked off, which is the only remedy. In regard to mildew, good cultivation, and plenty of old manure to encourage vigorous growth, appear to be the best remedies. An American gooseberry, the Houghton Seedling, is said to be not liable to the mildew. Strawberries have been severely winter killed, and new beds should be made up without delay to replace the old ones. Garden raspberries have likewise been killed down where not protected, and will yield no fruit this season. In sheltered gardens, however, or where the canes were laid down under brush or mats, there will, no doubt, be heavy crops of this delicious fruit. If the merits of the European garden raspberries were properly known, there would never be another wild raspberry picked for sale in Nova Scotia.

FLOWER GARDEN.

This is the time for neatness and beauty in the flower garden. Parterres of tender bedding plants are now made up, annuals transplanted from the hot-bed, &c. It is necessary to bear in mind that all these require a rich as well as light soil, and that old rotten manure is essential for the production of fine flowers. Verbenas, antirrhinums, portulaccas, phlox drummondii, dahlias, calceolarias, &c., should all be planted in warm sunny situations, whilst pansies, hollyhocks, and sweet Williams prefer a little shade. It is not too late now to sow mignonette in the open border. We hope many of our floriculturists are using their efforts in preparing specimens of plants and flowers for the Great PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION in October next. Should we not be visited by an early fall frost, such plants as dahlias, hollyhocks, balsams, African and French marigolds, zinnias, asters, antirrhinums, verbenas, &c., may, with a little care, be had in their greatest perfection at that season of the year.

THE ROCHESTER FAIR.

The next Annual Fair or Exhibition of the New York State Agricultural Society is to be held at Rochester, from 29th September to 2nd October inclusive. Copies of the Premium List may be obtained on application to "The Secretary of the New York State Agricultural Society, Albany, N. Y." In reference

to the competition for the State Fair, the *Utica Herald* remarks editorially:—"It appears to be the prevailing opinion in Buffalo, where the State Fair was held last year, that Rochester, in being selected as the place for holding the coming fair, has been visited with a serious misfortune. This feeling results from a misunderstanding between the Buffalo authorities and State Fair officials last year. It was claimed by the latter that Buffalo did not fulfil its part of the contract for the location, while the former were inclined to denounce the State Fair as a failure and a nuisance. However this may be, it is evident that the cities of the State are as urgent for the presence of the annual exhibition, as are the unnameable seven cities for the birth-place of Homer. Whatever Buffalo may say to the contrary, there is little fear that the State Fair will ever go begging for a locality in which to be held."

[Rochester is an ambitious place in matters of rural economy, and will, we doubt not, do justice to itself in efforts to carry out the State Fair to a satisfactory result.—Ed.]

HOP CULTURE.

Furtive attempts have been made at different times to introduce the culture of hops into Nova Scotia. Of late years the Halifax brewers, instead of importing their hops from England, have been bringing them down by the Grand Trunk Railway and the *Carlotta*, from Belleville and other places in Ontario, where neither the climate nor the soil is better for hop culture than the Halifax peninsula. An attempt was made, 20 years ago, to establish a hop garden in the parish of Sackville, within fourteen miles of the city, and the hops still flourish there to testify that the experiment did not fail from any deficiency of soil or climate. We should like to see the experiment tried again by some industrious farmer, and therefore quote the following results from the April number of the New York State Agricultural Society's monthly journal:—

Brighton, Monroe Co., N. Y., }
March 16th, 1868. }

BENJ. P. JOHNSON, Esq.:

Dear Sir,—In commencing our hop yard, we purchased six bushels of roots, for which we paid \$2.00 per bushel, and set them on a dry, undulating, rich, sandy loam, (formerly a tobacco field) well exposed to the sun. The vines were planted in rows seven feet apart each way, with four roots in each hill, and four male hills equally divided through the field. The hills should have been placed at least eight feet apart each way, and there should have been ten male hills, or one to every ten in the rows each way.

The first year we raised potatoes between the rows. The second year we staked the yard according to Collins' patent horizontal system, and kept the ground clean from weeds with horse and hand hoes. Picking commenced the second week in September, with the result of 824 bushels green hops, weighing, when dried, 1656 pounds, which we sold for 60 cents per pound.

The following statement of the expense of starting the yard, speaks for itself on the subject of profitable farming:

1878.	THE HOP YARD.	Dr.
To 5 bushel sets, at \$2 per bushel.....		\$10.00
1100 stakes, at one cent. each.....		11.00
26 pounds twine, at 20 cents per pound..	5.20	
Sharpening and setting stakes.....	2.80	
Putting twine on stakes.....	0.50	
Tending, cultivating and hoeing.....	5.50	
Picking 824 bushels, at 6 cents per bushel	41.20	
Cost of drying and baling.....	15.80	
40 yards baling cloth, at 20 cents per yd.	8.00	
Delivering hops.....	2.00	
Total.....		\$102.00
1868.	THE HOP YARD.	Cr.
By 1656 pounds hops, at 60 cts. per pound		\$993.60
30 bushels hop roots, at \$3 per bushel..		90.00
Total.....		\$1083.60
Deduct expenses.....		102.00
Profits.....		981.60

The hops were ripe for picking two weeks before it was possible to procure kiln room for drying, and this delay in picking (it is estimated) lost for us about the sum of \$100, which we might otherwise have received for the hops, in addition to the sum (993.60) received for the same.

COLLINS, LANDON & MOONEY.

HAYMAKING.

Grass and clover, when ready to be cut down, contain a considerable quantity of sugar, gum, mucilage, albuminous and other soluble compounds, which are all liable to be washed away by heavy showers of rain. As long as grass is still quite fresh, rain falling upon it has little or no injurious effect, for fortunately a coating of waxy or fatty matter covers the epidermis, and wraps, so to speak, the whole vegetable matter in a waterproof mantle. Rain for this reason may fall for days on newly cut grass without doing any injury to it; but the case is very different if, by repeated turnings, the crop has become more or less bruised and rain then descends upon the half-made hay; not only are sugar, gum and other soluble matters then liable to be washed out, but the bruised state of the plants, admitting at least a partial diffusion of the various constituents through the lacerated cell-walls, induces fermentation, which, if not checked at once, causes further loss. During the fermentation soluble albumen and sugar are destroyed—two of the most valuable elements of nutrition. In showery weather, grass, recently cut, should,

for this reason, not be turned over more than is absolutely necessary, and under all circumstances it is desirable to handle the crop as lightly as possible, in order that it may not get much bruised.

I have seen farmers spending labor in turning hay on overcast days, on which a dew-point hygrometer showed the air to be nearly saturated with moisture, proving that evaporation could not possibly take place at the time, and rain might be expected at any moment

As long as grass and clover are still quite fresh the proportions of water to sugar in the green plant are too large to encourage fermentation; the nitrogenous constituents in newly-cut grass, moreover, only become ferments after the vitality of the plant has been destroyed, and the vegetable cells and vessels have become ruptured by partial drying, and their contents have been mingled together. With the evaporation of water, and the more or less complete destruction of the living organization of the plant, the conditions become more favourable for active fermentation. Should the weather unfortunately turn showery at that stage of the haymaking process, and the air becomes saturated for many days and weeks together, the half-made hay often begins to ferment already in the field. When this takes place, the hay loses in quality and becomes much more liable to heat afterwards in the stack. If, on the contrary, fine and warm weather sets in, and evaporation proceeds with rapidity, the percentage of moisture soon sinks sufficiently low to prevent altogether, or greatly to retard, fermentation. The hay remains sweet and shows far less tendency to heat in the stack, even if it actually contains more moisture than hay made in unfavorable weather. The more quickly the hay can be made in the field, and the less it gets bruised, or loses color there, the less likely it is to heat in the stack. Much hay is injured, however, when it is quickly made and in a fine season; it looks to be ready before it is so.

If dried ever so much and ever so carefully in the field, hay nevertheless heats to some extent in the stack. A slight fermentation, so far from being injurious, may be useful, for, as is well known, peculiar aromatic principles are thus generated, which certainly renders hay more palatable, and, it may be, more nutritious. As long as the green color is retained, there is no danger of the hay losing in quality, but if the heat in the stack becomes so intense and continuous as to turn the hay decidedly brown, I have no hesitation in saying that considerable loss in feeding matter is incurred.—*Dr. Voelcker in Journal of Agl. Soc'y of England.*

[Our friend Prof. Voelcker is of course unacquainted with the common method

of making Hay in Nova Scotia, by taking it into the barn as soon as it is fit to be taken out of the sun, by which means we save all loss from fermentation and the chemical changes that necessarily occur where Hay is made and stored in the open field. The above remarks of Dr. Voelcker are very instructive, and we hope our readers will ponder them.—Ed.]

SORRY HE SOLD HIS FARM.

The doctor says he "never new a man to sell his farm who did not regret it." This is perhaps stating it a little too strong. But being one of the oldest pastors in Western New York, he has had good opportunities for observation. I think men engaged in other pursuits, who buy farms expecting to find nothing but pleasure and profit in agriculture, are generally very glad of an opportunity to dispose of them. Such men seldom regret selling. But with a farmer the case is very different. He either sells because he thinks he can buy a better or cheaper farm, or because he is tired of farming, and proposes to live in the city. In the latter case he is almost certain to wish himself back again on the farm. I heard of such a case the other day. A farmer was offered last spring what he thought a high price for his farm, and accepted the offer, thinking he could live comfortably in the city on the interest of the money. After trying it six or eight months, he offered the purchaser one thousand dollars to let him have the farm back, giving him the summer crops and the wheat into the bargain. A farmer who sells expecting to buy another farm, finds it not so easy to suit himself as he expected. If you must sell, the better plan is to know beforehand where you are going.—*J. Harris in American Agriculturist.*

TREES.

In England trees have been defined as excrescences of the soil that enable spendthrift landlords to pay their debts. In Scotland, Dr. Johnson found the country so bare of trees that the wind had it all its own. In Nova Scotia, our lumbermen look upon trees as things like wild beasts to be hunted down wherever found, and even in Halifax we occasionally see fine old trees, under which the weary traveller has been accustomed to rest, ruthlessly hewn down to make way for city improvements. Now we have no wish to defend trees that are out of place. If a useless tree stands in the middle of the Queen's Highway, or the middle of a farmer's hayfield, we think it ought to be cut down, rooted out and burnt up with all possible despatch. There are many other places

also, in which trees are unsuitable, unnecessary, and absolutely pernicious. But having gone thus far we do not wish to go any further; but rather desire to put in a plea for trees when they are in their proper place.

Daily, trees are being cut down all over the country, and daily nature is making efforts to re-clothe our hills again. But all over the American Continent there is a slow and sure process of rooting out and burning up going on, which may in time convert a large tract of country into a dusty, unshaded, and unsheltered Abyssinian desert.

In several parts of the United States much attention is bestowed upon trees. They are planted for their shade, their shelter, their beauty, the feeling of comfort which they bring around a home, and the privacy and fresh air which they give in a crowded city.

The taste for trees exists in the city of Halifax, and some of our streets, such as Morris street and Brunswick street, are pleasant to walk upon. Magnificent edifices do not give half the comfort to a passer-by which he experiences from the shade or shelter of a wayside tree.

If trees are useful in the city, they are equally so in the country, where they can be so much more readily obtained, and where greater scope is presented for their tasteful disposition. How many farmer's houses do we see scattered over the hills of Nova Scotia, without a single twig to temper the cold blast of winter, or shade the weary toiler in the hot season of the year!

In planting trees, it is very necessary to exercise some discretion in the choice of kinds. In this climate we require hardy trees; in front plots in the city, neat compact-growing trees, such as the maple, the English lime, and horse-chestnut should be chosen, whilst in the country the choice is much greater. The present is the best time to make preparation for planting trees; that is to say, to decide upon the kinds to be planted, and the situations where. If we wait till the trees are out of leaf, a person who is not familiar with the different kinds of trees will either be at a loss to make a choice at all, or else make a bad one.

The suitability of the different trees for our soil and climate is best ascertained by examining trees that have been subjected to their influence for sometime. There are, in various parts of the city and country a large number of planted trees that will afford the required information.

The maples are perhaps more suitable than most others for shade trees, and may be readily obtained. The rock or sugar maple is the best, of neat habit and at the sametime rapid growth, the leaves of a vivid green; but the soft maple, on account of the great richness of its Autumn

foliage, tinged with the brightest hues of Canadian sunsets, ought to be interspersed with the other kind. The moosewood or striped maple probably does not thrive as a planted tree except where the soil is moist; but its foliage is very fine, of a pale yellow green colour. The spiked maple is a pretty little tree that grows in clusters, but has neither height nor habit to render it effective, at least as a single object. All these maples are common in our woods, and stand moving, even after they have attained considerable size.

The horse chestnut thrives remarkably well in Halifax, as in many other cities, and if largely planted would greatly improve the aspect of many localities.

The laburnum is a most beautiful tree, of small size and well suited to front plots, but is rather too tender for our climate. In sheltered places however, it succeeds better in Halifax than elsewhere in the Dominion, and the prettiest tree of it which we have seen for many years throws out its golden blossoms every summer, in front of a gentleman's residence in Brunswick street. In Ontario it can only be kept alive with difficulty.

The European larch is a graceful tree when in foliage, and although grown in a greenhouse in England last century, is now known to be perfectly hardy, even in Nova Scotia. The European larch is first cousin to our native hackmatack or "juniper," and fine specimens of it may be seen in front of the Bishop's residence in Hollis street. In favourable localities it grows to a great size. At the May meeting of the Botanical Society of Edinburgh, Professor Balfour gave the following measurements of larches at Monzie Castle in Perthshire:—"One trunk measured, at 2 feet from the ground, 21 feet 4 inches in circumference; and at 4 feet, 17 feet 8 inches; diameter, 6 to 7 feet; and spread of branches from 40 to 50 feet. Another tree measured at 4 feet from the ground, 13 feet 8 inches in circumference, and 4½ feet in diameter."

One of the hardiest and most suitable shade trees for the city which we have, is the English lime tree. A stranger coming into Halifax if he be a lover of trees, has his attention at once attracted by the circumstance that the few shade trees to be seen in our streets are mostly limes, for the lime is not commonly grown in other American and Canadian cities. The lime tree (*Tilia Europæa*), called in German and Dutch, linden, is known as a native tree, not only in Britain, but generally in the middle and north of Europe. It is described by Theophrastus and Pliny, and seems to have been more generally diffused in ancient than in modern times. Then it was a forest tree, now a planted one. It is a great favorite in Europe at the present time; is generally planted in public places, parks and squares, in France, Germany,

Holland and Great Britain. Its large size, handsome appearance, and profusion of sweet flowers, well adapt it for this use. The wood is used for various purposes. The Russian mats used by gardeners and upholsterers are made from its bark. The flowers secrete a large quantity of nectar, and exhale a delicious scent. The tree attains a great age. The principal street of Berlin is called Unter den Linden, from the lime trees which are planted on each side. The lindens in front of our Province Building have long stood the cold blasts of winter, and the hot scorings of city fires, and when a countryman goes a-lobbying for a road commission, he might well tell his friends when he goes home that he had been under the lindens.

In Switzerland and the South of Europe, another species, the *Tilia grandifolia*, is more prevalent than the European linden. It is quite hardy, and might be extensively planted as a shade tree, having larger leaves and being of more robust growth than the common kind.—Trees of it may be obtained in the Halifax Horticultural Gardens.

On another occasion we hope to enter fully into the merits of other trees suitable for ornamental planting.

INFORMATION FOR THE PEOPLE.

If a thousand persons were found dead in their beds in the city of Halifax tomorrow morning there would probably be a coroner's inquest. If their stomachs were sent to Dalhousie College for analysis, and the report showed that they had all died of an over-dose of oxalic acid, there would probably be a strong verdict by an indignant jury that great carelessness had been exercised by some unfortunate vendor of drugs.

Now, at the present season of the year, there is daily vended in the public markets of the city of Halifax, a poison that is not less virulent than the one we have spoken of, and which has, in other localities caused the loss of valuable lives, and more frequently disagreeable illness, which may after all perhaps have done good in some cases by frightening people into taking better care of their health. We do not say that deaths from this cause have occurred in Halifax city, because we have no facts. Dead men tell no tales. But when poisonous substances are commonly sold in a community and liable to be served up at daily dinner, the suspicion naturally arises that more or less injury, if not even death, must occasionally result.

At this season of the year, we do not know any substance that is more agreeable to the palate, and more conducive to health, than RHUBARB. Who will, in May or June, refuse rhubarb pie? If such exist, he must be some outcast or Abyssinian barbarian who has never pene-

trated the spring fogs of Nova Scotia, and does not know what it is to enjoy fresh vegetables after having been frozen out of them for half a year. Beneath the leaf of the rhubarb however, lies the poisonous snake, to which we wish to call attention.

Rhubarb as sold in the Halifax market consists not of the stalks only, but of the *ribs of the leaves*. The coloured gardeners of Dartmouth and Preston, anxious to give bulk for the money, strip off the *blades of the leaves*, and allow the *ribs* to remain, as if they were edible material as well as the stalks. We do not blame the coloured persons. They do not pretend to say which are the lions and which are the tigers. The ladies and gentlemen of Halifax pay their money and have their choice. All we wish to say is, that wholesome as are rhubarb stalks, the leaf ribs are anything but wholesome, and a large number of well authenticated cases of poisoning from eating them have been reported in the medical and scientific journals of London and other cities. After this warning, we hope that housewives will be careful to strip off the *leaf ribs* and throw them away, before cooking their rhubarb stalks.

CULTIVATION OF SUMACH (RHUS CORIARIA, L.)

BY PROFESSOR INZENZA, OF PALERMO.

At Colli, it covers a large area of the dry slopes of the Sicilian mountains. The soil best adapted for sumach is one eminently dry. It thrives especially in hilly lands with gentle slopes, where the water drains off rapidly. It is propagated by suckers, which spring up around the parent plant. These are set in lines at intervals of 2 feet in rectangular holes. The leaf is largely exported as a tanning material both to England and America. The gathering takes place in September, when the leaves are put into baskets and carried to the thrashing floor, where they are thrashed with the flail, which breaks up the leaves and separates the petioles and midribs. The broken leaves are then sent to the mill and reduced to powder. The value of sumach is about 10s. a quintal or 175 pounds. By a return from the custom-house it appears that the export of sumach from Palermo, on which duty was paid, in 1867 was:—In leaf, 2282 tons; in powder, 15,413 tons.—Illustrations of the mode of culture and process of preparing the leaf were exhibited, and samples of the sumach, as it is known in commerce. Dr. Cleghorn remarked that he believed that the *Rhus coriaria* might be profitably cultivated in the hills of the Punjab, which is nearly in the same parallel of latitude with its natural habitat, and where *Rhus cotinus* and other species are widely diffused.—*Bot. Soc., Edin.*

REPORT ON THE OPEN AIR VEGETATION AT THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN, EDINBURGH, MAY, 1868.

BY MR. M'NAB.

At the last meeting of the Botanical Society, (9th April, 1868), I stated that vegetation had gone on at the same rapid pace as it had done during the previous months, most plants being from three to four weeks in advance of ordinary seasons. The weather since last meeting has been comparatively mild, with the exception of the 10th, 11th, 12th, and 14th April, when the morning temperatures fell respectively to 30°, 27°, 31°, and 28°; also on the 6th of May when the thermometer again indicated 28°, all other morning temperatures varying between 35° and 48°. This last frost has done considerable damage to the young growths of many of the Sikkim Rhododendrons, while the hybrid varieties are apparently untouched. During the past month the progress made by many of the trees and shrubs is remarkable, and for my own part I have never seen so many of them in flower during the month of April as have been observed this year. Amongst them may be recorded lilacs, laburnums, thorns, particularly *Crataegus praeox* and *C. oxyacanthoides* (the last mentioned being in full flower on the 22d day of April) also the perfumed cherry (*Prunus Mahaleb*), double flowering cherry, *Gean*, *Wistaria sinensis*, *Robinia Caragana*, numerous species of *Cytisus*, *Azalea pontica*, &c., &c. Many herbaceous plants are also far advanced when compared with former years, the lily of the valley for instance, which in this part of the country is rarely seen in flower in open borders before the end of May, was partially in bloom this year on the 1st of May. At the present date (14th May) the horse-chestnut, double, single, and scarlet thorns, bird cherry, service trees, *Rhododendron Catawbiense*, and *R. ponticum*, Ghent azaleas, with many others are now in flower, kinds rarely seen in bloom before the end of May, and in this part of the country generally not sooner than the beginning of June. However, locust trees, deciduous magnolias, tulip trees, hop and common hornbeam, *Catalpa* tree, liquid-amber, walnut, *Platanus occidentalis*, deciduous cypress, with many oaks, chiefly the American varieties, also ash, and some varieties of beech are not much further advanced than they usually are during ordinary seasons. As a rule, it may be stated that most of the North American trees are generally the last of coming into leaf.

The prevalence and intensity of the north-westerly gales during the month of April has done considerable damage to many of the forest and ornamental flow-

ering trees, particularly those kind whose foliage was early developed, the western side of many being nearly leafless, or with scanty foliage, while the eastern side is full of foliage and of a rich green colour. This is particularly to be remarked in limes, horse-chestnuts, birches, sycamores, geans, and larches. In the case of thorns, many of the trees, where much exposed, are perfectly brown on the western side, while the east side is green, and now flowering abundantly.—*Bot. Soc., Edin.*

CARE OF PASTURES.

Observations, made this spring for the purpose, have shown the great superiority of the new grass where it has grown on land not closely grazed the previous autumn. The protection which the old grass afforded from the severe freezing and the sharp blasts of winter, resulted in a growth from three to five times as great as on closely grazed surfaces, during the first start of the fresh grass. When the latter had grown an inch, the former, by actual measurement, had grown four or five inches. There are several advantages in permitting long grass in autumn, and indeed at all times of the year. Physiologists, as well as practical horticulturists, know that keeping the foliage cropped short, lessens the extension and developments of the roots. A pasture grazed short all the time will therefore be found to have a thinner turf or mass of roots than one that has a luxuriant growth. The stronger roots will make an early and more vigorous push in spring. The old grass, rotted down, serves as a top-dressing. It protects the young plants when the snow disappears, and keeps them warmer. The earth freezes less in winter when thus protected. We have found by examining the soil in the early part of winter, where a bare and exposed surface had frozen down to a depth of six inches, that closely grazed pasture was frozen four inches, and grass a few inches high, making a covering of two or three inches, was frozen two or two and a half inches, while a thicker covering, as in rich pastures, had prevented the freezing of more than an inch. This striking difference must have a great influence on early growth.

Some farmers pursue the mistaken idea of turning too many animals into their pastures, with the hope of getting all they can from the land. He is like the man who would starve his team for the purpose of reducing the expenses of horse labor, or him who should feed out in spring all his seed, that he might sell the rest of his grain. They would obtain more from their field if they allowed the grass to grow a foot high. We have seen those who were too poor to be economical, and wasted half their grain feed by keeping it con-

stantly eaten close into the roots. They continually worked at the short end of the lever.

One of the finest farms we ever had the pleasure of examining, devoted chiefly to grazing, would cut nearly a ton of grass in the pasture at any time. The beef cattle which fattened on these pastures, were worth in market from a hundred and fifty to two hundred dollars each. These fields were subject to plowing and rotation every few years, with heavy seeding when laid down. A part were kept permanently in grass—being mowed four or five years, and then pastured two years with cattle. When the hay began to fail, they were restored by the pasturing. Top-dressing was given only when the land was in meadow, and never to pasture, as it rendered the feed strong and unpalatable. Plaster was found not only to add to the quantity of grass, but as was asserted, to sweeten it and improve its fattening qualities.—*Country Gentleman.*

WHITE CHESTER PIGS.

Any one who has for sale young pigs of the White Chester breed, may hear of a purchaser by addressing a note to the Editor of the *Agricultural Journal*. We are at all times desirous of meeting the views of buyers and sellers of pure stock, and notices of such are inserted in the *Journal* as a matter of course without any charge. We hope, therefore, that persons who want to buy, or have pure stock to sell, will take the trouble to make their wants known through the *Journal*.

Reports of Agri. Societies.

PARRSBORO' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The last annual meeting of the Society was held at Daniel York's (adjourned the same day from the Town Hall, Mill Village,) on Tuesday, the 4th December, 1866. The previous year's report was then read and approved of. All the officers were re-elected for 1867. Letters were read from two persons, stating that they had withdrawn from the Society.

The Committee met at Daniel York's, Mill Village, on Tuesday, the 2nd April, 1867. It was then resolved that bounties be paid this year on wheat and compost only, viz., on wheat, 5s. for 10 bushels—on compost, 5s. for 20 loads made,—that bounties to the amount of £6, due in 1866, but not then claimed, be allowed,—that the Society take 21 Nos. of the *Journal of Agriculture* for 1867, to be sold to members at half price.

The Committee met at Daniel York's, Mill Village, on Tuesday, the 5th November, 1867, when payments on wheat raised in 1867, £11 5s.; on compost made

in 1867, £17; keeping Chester White boar, £6 10s.—to the amount of £34 15s. were paid. It was resolved that the Society's Chester White boar be transferred from the Halfway River section to the Advocate Harbor section, if wanted there; if not that the officers of the Society dispose of him this season to the best advantage,—the charge for his services to be the same as last year. The Society's ram at Maccan was sold for 15s. It was resolved that the Society's ram at Halfway River remain in that section this season, and at Maccan next season; and that the ram at West Brook be transferred to Diligent River for this season. It was resolved that the members in any section may make regulations to suit themselves for the use of their ram and his safe keeping during the season, if they wish to deviate from those made by the Society. The sum of £5 was voted to aid the funds for the Provincial Agricultural Exhibition to be held in Halifax in the autumn of 1868. It is expected that the members will subscribe as much more from their own funds for the same purpose. The Society's ram for the Mill Village section died suddenly last fall. It is not known whether it was from accident, disease or injuries. He was a native of Prince Edward Island,—equal in size to about four ordinary sheep, and in high condition. He had been among several flocks last fall, and has left some improved stock.

Our hay crop this year is unusually good, and most of it was harvested in good condition,—on uplands generally it is twice as good as it was last year—on low grounds and marshes it was perhaps no better than last year. Potatoes are a failure generally, from having been attacked early in the season with the dreaded blight, they are scarcely half the usual crop; a few fields planted early on dry ground furnished a fair crop. Wheat did well wherever sown; it is entirely free from rust and weevil. Swedish turnips succeeded well. There is a partial failure of oats and buckwheat. Apples were a light crop. Beets, carrots, parsnips and cabbages did well; these vegetables are only cultivated here in gardens. Peas were a fair crop, but they are here very little sown in fields. Cranberries, strawberries and gooseberries were unusually plentiful; but blueberries, raspberries and blackberries were light crops.

JOHN T. SMITH, *Sec'y.*

RIVER PHILIP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

At the annual meeting of the above named Society, held in December, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, Robert Donkin; *Vice Pres.*, Richard Black; *Sec'y.*, O. B.

Davison; *Treas.*, James Cove; *Directors*, Stephen Oxley, Asa Fillmore, senr., Rufus Thompson, Richard Cove, senr., Andrew Taylor, Geo. Thompson, senr., Richard L. Black, jr.

The exhibition of stock was in general very poor, especially live stock. Butter and cheese were called good. Wheat was a fair round kernel and good weight, but not altogether free from other seeds. Oats good, first prize weighing 42½ lbs. Timothy seed was also good. Woollen cloths highly spoken of. The Society thinks of purchasing some improved stock from Central Board.

OTIS B. DAVISON.

RIVER JOHN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Our duties were undertaken in circumstances rather unfavourable. The number of Societies sanctioned by law had already been established in the County, and we were necessarily in doubt as to our success; but are happy to state that all difficulties have been removed by Parliament.

We held several meetings during the summer, and corresponded with some parties to secure a bull for the season, but considered the price of those offered too high, and it was thought most advisable to hire one.

The funds being too limited to procure the amount of stock that could be of general service to the Society, we resolved to raise eighty dollars, which, together with the amount from subscriptions and the Provincial Grant, made about two hundred dollars. This sum was invested in stock bought at the late provincial sale at Halifax. The stock is—One Ayrshire bull calf, one Durham bull calf, two Leicester rams, one South Down ram lamb, one white Chester boar and one black Berkshire sow.

We regret it was not easy to hold an exhibition, as it would prove a means of exciting an interest and of stimulating to efforts in agricultural pursuits. The Society is but in its infancy, and needs only the support and fostering patronage of the public to become a blessing to the whole population. There are seventy numbers on the list; and it is encouraging that all classes of the community, as well as farmers, take a lively interest in the welfare of the Society.

RECEIPTS.

Amount from subscriptions.....	\$70.00
Money borrowed.....	30.00
Provincial Grant.....	50.00

\$200.00

EXPENDITURES.

Paid for stock.....	\$156.00
Cost of purchasing and transporting stock	19.27½
Three copies "Agricultural Journal".....	1.50
Incidental expenses.....	2.50
Sundries, per Secretary's account.....	5.57

\$184.84½

After adoption of the above report the following were elected office-bearers for the ensuing year:—*Pres.*, R. Maclean; *Vice Pres.*, Donald Macdonald; *Sec'y*, John Mackenzie; *Treas.*, John Cameron; *Directors*, James Langill, John Henry, Nelson Sutherland, John Fattric, Alexander Fullerton.

JOHN MACKENZIE, *Sec'y*.

AYLESFORD AGR. SOCIETY.

This Society held its annual meeting on Tuesday, 3rd of December, most of the members present. The following officers were then chosen for the current year:—*Pres.*, Archibald Walker; *Vice Pres.*, W. J. Armstrong; *Sec'y*, John Foster; *Treas.*, William Rhodes; *Directors*, James Smith, Edward Armstrong, Joseph Neiley, James P. Rouch, Robert Neiley; *Auditors*, George Foster, Edward Armstrong.

The following are the receipts of the past year:—

	Cr.
By balance from 1866.....	\$11.00
" Cash from 44 members.....	44.00
" Provincial Grant.....	52.00
	\$107.00
	Dr.
To cost of wintering Bull.....	\$24.00
" do. summering do.....	20.00
" One South Down Ram.....	21.00
" One Shropshire Down Ram.....	26.00
" Expenses of procuring above sheep.....	10.00
" One Leicester Ram.....	20.00
" Keeping Ram one year.....	6.00
	\$127.00
	107.00
Balance against Society.....	\$20.00

The Aylesford Agricultural Society now owns one Devon bull, a very fine animal; one Leicester ram, purchased of J. Northup, Esq., Halifax, in the autumn of 1866—he is probably as fine a sheep as can be found in the Province; one South Down and one Shropshire Down, purchased by Judson Armstrong at the sale of stock imported by the Board of Agriculture—these sheep are much thought of by the Society; one Leicester ram, purchased in New Brunswick.

The following is the state of the crops:—Hay, an abundant crop. Wheat, below an average. Rye, below an average. Barley, an average. Oats, good. Corn, excellent, far above an average. Buckwheat, good. Potatoes, below an average. Turnips, very good. Apples, below an average. Beans, much damaged by wet. Upon the whole, the prospect of the farmer is not very bright.

JOHN FOSTER, *Sec'y*.

MILFORD HAVEN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the Milford Haven Agricultural Society was held on Tuesday, December 3rd. The office-

bearers for the ensuing year were appointed as follows:—*Pres.*, Donald Boyle; *Vice Pres.*, Thomas McDonald; *Sec'y*, David Scranton; *Treas.*, John Morgan; *Directors*, William Tory, John Nash, Alexander Maney, Charles W. Boles, Henry E. Tory.

There have been purchased, for the use of the Society, 11 lamb rams, which are to remain the property of the Society. The Society has been divided into three districts, to facilitate the distribution of the rams, viz.,—The Intervale, Riverside and Manchester; each of these districts have been subdivided into sections, with as near as possible the same number of members in each. The annexed account will show how our funds have been expended:—

EXPENDITURE.	
Cost of 11 Rams.....	\$57.50
Telegram to Dr. Lawson.....	0 91
Secretary's fee.....	0 66
Postage and stationery.....	0 50
Treasurer's fee.....	0 25
	\$59.82

RECEIPTS.	
Member's subscriptions.....	\$45.00
Paid to Society by Intervale District for use of superior Ram.....	6.10
	\$51.10
Leaving a balance of \$8.72 against the Society.	

DAVID SCRANTON, *Sec'y*.

WALLACE AGRICULTURAL SOC'Y.

At the annual meeting of the Wallace Agricultural Society, held on the 3rd inst., the following business was transacted:—The accounts for the past year were submitted, audited, and report adopted, of which the following is a synopsis:

Balance in Treasurer's hands at last annual meeting.....	\$105.74
Received Provincial Grant.....	33.00
" subs. for the year, as per report.....	55.00
" for seeds.....	4.50
	\$198.24
Paid 4 Bulls.....	\$155.38
" Freight of seeds.....	4.00
" Rent of hall.....	4.00
" Printing and postage.....	4.50
" Contingent expenses, as per account.....	13.00
Balance in hand.....	17.87
	\$198.24

Debts due to the Society, \$95.50.

The sum of \$20 was voted to the Board of Agriculture for the Provincial Exhibition. The Society purchased 4 bulls last spring of the best breeds that could be obtained, and sold the same lately to members. The proposed exhibition was deferred at the time on account of the lateness of the harvest, and resolved to prepare for the Provincial Exhibition. The sheep purchased by the Society from England are an improvement in our flocks, so far as to double the weight in mutton. The wheat got from the Board last spring was sold to seven different

farmers, of whom two only have reported the yield,—the one 13 and the other 14 fold. The beans did well, but got no report of the yield. The peas are superior, and yielded well. This year's crop was the best here for some years. The potato blight lingers here still. Hay crop very heavy.

The cost of drain tile in this Province precludes our farmers from bringing that article into general use. Under-draining is very much needed, especially in our clay soils.

Officers for the ensuing year are as follows:—*Pres.*, George Tuttle; *Vice Pres.*, Charles B. Oxley and William Smith; *Sec'y*, Donald Mackay; *Treas.*, S. Fulton; *Directors*, T. M. Morris, J. P. McIntosh, William Peers, Kenneth Mackenzie and Angus Nicolson.

DONALD MACKAY, *Sec'y*.

A RARE PLANT IN FLOWER.—A remarkable plant, perhaps more curious than beautiful, is now in flower in the Royal Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, and is supposed to be the first of its kind that has yet flowered in England. It is a species of agave nearly allied to the so-called American aloe, said to flower "once in 100 years," but differs from its brother and most—if not all—other members of the agave family by carrying its flowers on a pendulous or drooping flower spike some ten feet long, curving to one side, with the point nearly reaching to the ground; the flowers are closely packed around the stem, and number some thousands. The plant was raised from seed received at the Gardens from Mexico about twenty-five years ago, so that in England, although perhaps not in its native country, it appears to be of very slow growth. The name at present attached to the plant is *Agave dasyliriodes*, but it may probably turn out to be a new species or variety.—*Times*.

MUFFINS.—Take 1 quart new milk, 2 eggs, 2 table-spoonsful yeast, butter the size of an egg. Warm the milk, and mix with other ingredients at night; in the morning turn into muffin rings, or drop on tins, and bake a light brown. To be eaten with butter for breakfast.

ALFRED SAUNDERS,

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

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NOVA SCOTIA
PROVINCIAL
INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION,
1868.

Official Notice to Intending Exhibitors.

INTENDING Exhibitors are requested to intimate to the Secretary of the Provincial Exhibition as early as possible, the nature and extent of their exhibits, in order that the necessary accommodation may be provided. Special attention is called to the following Regulations; but as the dates named for receiving entries have been extended as far as practicable to afford every convenience to Exhibitors, it is hoped that all those who are in a position to do so, will afford the necessary information long before the days specified.

1. Every intending competitor must transmit to the Secretary, not later than the dates mentioned below, an entry certificate, containing a correct list of the animals or articles which he intends to exhibit, together with certificates of pedigree in the case of thorough-bred stock. Any competitor failing to transmit his entry certificate at the proper time will be excluded from competition.

2. Horses, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, must be entered on or before SATURDAY, 5th Sept., one month preceding the show.

3. Grain, field products, manufactures of all kinds, natural history specimens, minerals, fish and furs, fine arts, naval architecture, building materials, carriages, and articles not elsewhere enumerated, may be entered up to Saturday, 26th September, one clear week preceding the show.

4. Exhibitors of heavy machinery and bulky articles, requiring extensive or unusual accommodation, should communicate with the Secretary during the first week in September, in order that there may be time for the committee to make the requisite arrangements.

Copies of the Priz List, containing full details of the arrangements for the Exhibition, may be obtained on application to PROFESSOR LAWSON, General Secretary; or to

B. G. GRAY, Assistant Secretary,
54, Bedford Row, Halifax.

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MESSRS. R. H. ALLEN & CO., 189 and 191 Water Street, New York, who conduct the largest business in Agricultural and Horticultural Implements, of all American houses engaged in general dealings of the kind, have just issued a new edition of their very complete and handsome Catalogue for the current and coming season. It fills 272 pages, illustrated with nearly 600 engravings, and is sent to applicants for \$1.00—less than the actual cost of production, and this amount is deducted on the receipt of orders from those who have paid it. Every Farmer or Merchant engaged in dealings with Farmers in the Dominion, ought to have a copy of this Catalogue.

In our present condition there is no subject so important as the introduction of labor-saving machinery and tools on the farm and in the household.

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April, 1868.

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June 1868.

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April, 1868—2m.

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

PRICES.

Half inch Bone..... \$24.00 per ton.
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Delivered free of charge, on board the Cars at Richmond Depot.

Purchasers will save trouble by sending their own bags, which, together with orders, may be left at Stalord's Leather Store, 25 Water Street.

JAMES STANFORD.

Halifax, N.S., June, 1868.

GREAT
Provincial Agricultural & Industrial
EXHIBITION
OF 1868.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS

By County & District Agricultural Societies, towards the Provincial Exhibition of 1868

Western Halifax Agricultural Soc'y, half of grants for two years	\$100 00
Antigonish Agricultural Society	100 00
Windsor Agricultural Society	100 00
Yarmouth County Agri. Society	100 00
Egerton Agricultural Soc'y, E. R., Pictou, the Society's annual grant for '68, about	60 00
Dartmouth Agricultural Society	50 00
North Sydney Agricultural Society	40 00
Pictou Agricultural Society	40 00
Parrsborough Agricultural Society	40 00
Union Society of East Cornwallis	40 00
Sydney Agricultural Society	40 00
Newport Agricultural Society	40 00
Lower Musquodoboit Agricultural Society	30 00
Upper Musquodoboit Agricultural Society	30 00
Baddeck Agricultural Society	30 00
Middle River of Victoria Agri. Society	30 00
Boularderie Agricultural Society	30 00
Mabou and Port Hood Agri. Society	30 00
Shubenacadie Agricultural Society	30 00
West Cornwallis Agricultural Society	24 00
St. Ann's Agricultural Society, South Gut	20 00
Minidie Agricultural Society	20 00
Broad Cove Agricultural Society	20 00
Fenwick Agricultural Society of Noel and Maitland	20 00
Bridgewater Agricultural Society	20 00
Bridgetown Agricultural Society	20 00
Mahone Bay Agricultural Society	20 00
Weymouth Agricultural Society	20 00
Paradise Agricultural Society	20 00
Upper Stewiacke Agricultural Society	20 00
Merigomish Agricultural Society	20 00
Hardwoodland Agricultural Society, Nine Mile River	20 00
Chester Agricultural Society	20 00
Maxwellton Agri. Soc'y, Co. of Pictou	20 00
Onslow Agricultural Society	20 00
King's County Agricultural Soc'y, Horton	16 00
Digby Agricultural Society	15 00
Red Islands Agricultural Society	12 00
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North Shore St. Ann's Agricultural Soc'y	6 00
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\$1345.00

Intimations of additional Subscriptions by Societies should be sent to PROF. LAWSON, the Secretary, without delay.

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