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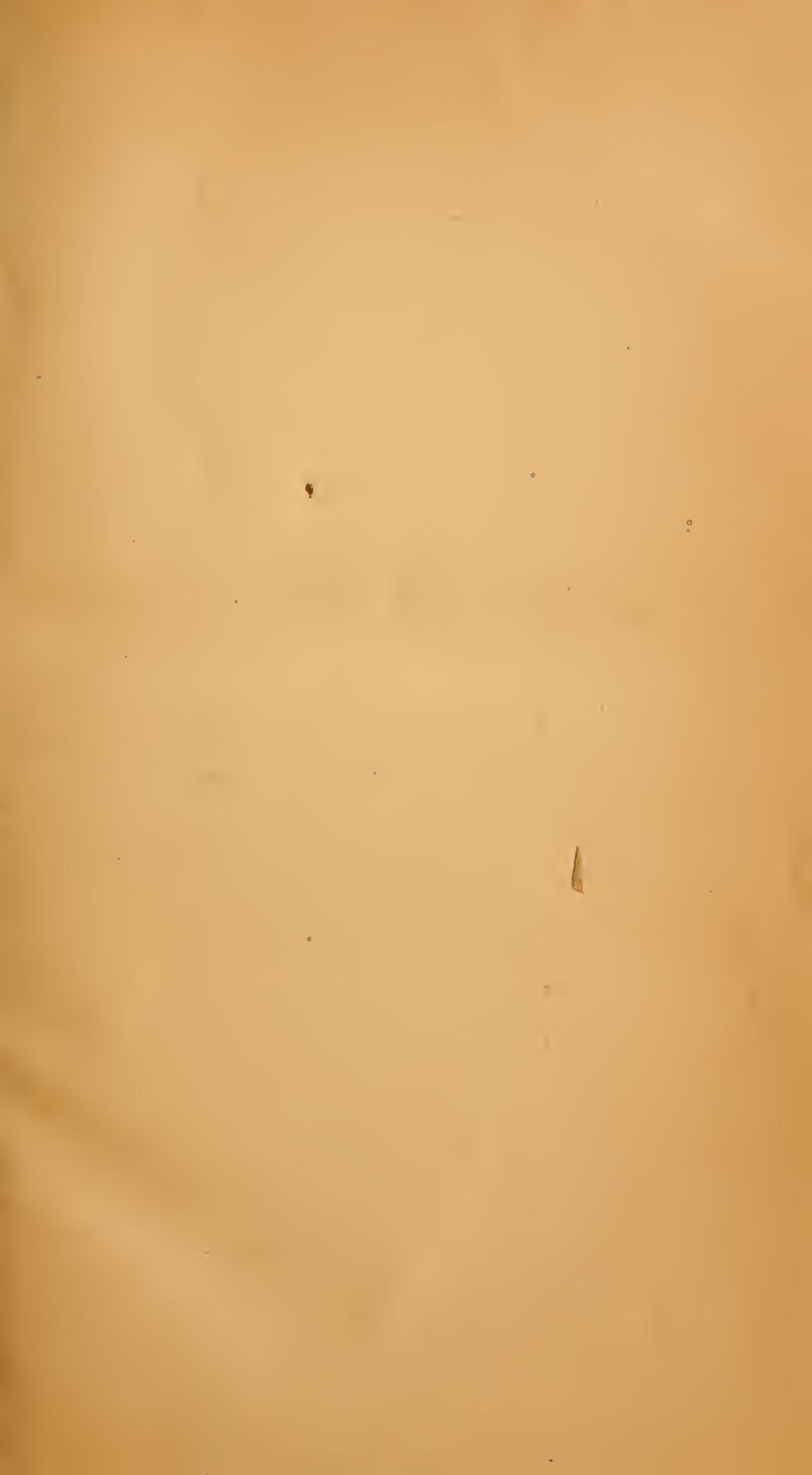


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TRANSACTIONS  
OF THE  
NORFOLK  
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,  
FOR  
1854.

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PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY.

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# ADDRESS

ON THE

Joys and Delights of the Farmer's Life,

AND THE

MEANS OF THEIR ATTAINMENT,

TO THE

NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

AT THEIR SIXTH ANNIVERSARY AT DEDHAM,

September 27th, 1854.



DEDHAM:  
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UNIVERSITY OF  
MASSACHUSETTS

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AMHERST, MASS.

## ADDRESS.

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!

OR rather and better may I not say, Brother and sister farmers of my good old native County of Norfolk! You of the bone and sinew of the land, that gather here from those beneficent labors that feed alike the prince and the peasant, the toiling artisan and the singing poet, and who thus like Atlas of olden fable bear up the great *world* on your shoulders! And ye gentler, fairer ones, who throng hither from the homes that you bless and brighten, with tokens of noble usefulness from farm house and dairy,—with the various attractions of cunning needlework or the fragrant loveliness of flowers! You whose blessed office it is to soothe and aid as help-meets—present or *prospective*—the harder sex, and thus bear full *half* the burdens! I rejoice in the honor of meeting you here to-day, as you come up from your weary yet worthy labors to joyful festival, and of congratulating you on the nobility and glory of your calling, and at the various joys and delights of the farmer's life; that it has its feast days as well as its work days, its fascinations as well as its hardships, its thrilling poetry as well as its dull and dreary prose. Indeed, the very word “farm” has music in it to my ears, and, from my boyhood, there were but few joys that seemed to my

mind to equal those of country and farming life. Oh! in the growing summer time, and in the bountiful autumn, what a dreary confinement—what a joyless prison is the great, noisome, tumultuous city, walled up with brick and mortar, and the close, compact, crowded town! Oh, give me the pleasant, open, sunshiny fields, the grassy lawns with the flowers and the dew drops, and the woods with their musical leaves, where the shadows dance in and out and the streams leap and sing on their gladsome way, where my soul is refreshed with nature, ever new and beautiful nature, and in whose quiet, lonely haunts of beauty, I may meet God as it were face to face. What a pleasure even is it—a pleasure to soul as well as sense—to the selfish anticipations of future good living, as well as to the disinterested heart of philanthropy, to see these goodly shows of fresh vegetables, and tempting, luscious fruits, that are to strengthen the stout arm of labor and paint with new charms the flushing cheek of beauty! And what a greater delight still, to wander over the pleasant farms and through the dear old farm houses, whence these treasures are gathered. Ripening in the autumnal sunbeams, there lie the great yellow pumpkins with their shining faces tantalizing the longing cows as they stand agaze at their nutritious glories over the unkind bars, or conjuring up, in the minds of passing school children, visions of spicy pies and future thanksgiving suppers. And near by, now sitting erect, now lying down or turning their sides to the warmth, like villages of marmots on the far western prairies, are the various tribes of crook-neck and bell-neck, of custard, and marrow, and hardshell. Heaps of golden corn, with the glowing red ear—that joy of youth and maiden in the dear old husking frolics—begin to give their light to the barns, and white turnips, with great sleepy cabbages, suggestive of the steaming boiled pot and well fed wash-

ing day, are still growing in the fields, while through the sere leaves, like live coals glow the glossy red apples, and gleam like bottles of nectar the yellow pears, not to name the fragrant, juicy peaches, or here and there on tree and trellis, or half hidden in the more luxurious and dainty glasshouse, the rich clusters of the bounteous grapes. It is a pleasure even to hunt through farm house and dairy; to count the long rows of glistening milk pans, their tops coated with gold; to turn over the big cheeses, peep into the choice cream-pot and taste the sweet, fresh flavor of the butter; and, by and by, after the ripening frosts have come, the chestnut basket and the old tub of walnuts and butternuts in the garret under the eaves, and the wreaths of dried peaches and apples even, shall not be without their charm, especially for the sly, mischievous youngsters, in the long winter evenings and of a Saturday afternoon. But other joys and delights belonging to other seasons, continual, unceasing and ever varying, greet the farmer as the joyful months dance their mystic round. The green meadows and the waving grain, over which with gentle feet and fanning wings glide the zephyrs,—the Indian corn, lifting its green, shining banners in the joyful air, true child of our blazing suns, decking the face of our hard northern soil with a very tropical richness, and rejoicing with the rich dark green of its broad glossy leaf, the eye of every beholder.

Then the farmer has his music. The distant bleating of the frolicsome lambs in the mountain pastures; the lowing of the well fed cattle, reposing in the shadows of the old oak by the spring, or reclining with full udders on the hill side; the gentle cooing of brooding doves; the murmur of the bees that distil his honey; the trilling crake of the busy hen, or quack of talkative duck, mingling with the innocent whistlings of young chicks,

interrupted now and then by the startling clarion of paternal Shanghai, or an authoritative gobbling of pompous turkey ; and the scent of the apple blossoms ; the balmy fragrance of clover fields and the spicy perfume of the new-mown hay ; make an air of paradise for the farmer, under the dewy shadows of the ancient trees, that scatter new beauty around them as they bend lovingly over the old farm house and the well filled barns. There are but few, indeed, who do not cherish with me in a secret corner of their hearts, a lingering love of the farmer's life, and of the farm, the fostering mother of so many of us, and the kind feeder of us all. Even the great and prosperous merchant there, is glad to look at times farmward, and rejoices to leave his ships, his wharves, and his close and gloomy counting room, with its day book and leger, its cash book and bank book, and breathe the free country air, and scent the breath of opening blossoms and new-mown hay ; and often, as he sits uneasily in his chair, he indulges in visions of a fair and happy time in the future, when he shall spend the pleasant summer hours in his own garden, gay with the flowers he has planted, and stroll beneath the bending boughs of his richly burdened fruit trees, his own peculiar Eden. And the poorest mechanic, and humblest laborer, too, in whose heart nature yet throbs, longs for his little fertile acre, and dreams of a sunny cottage, garlanded with vines, and of a patch gay with fair blossoms and bounteous of fruits, sweeter, that his own hands have tilled the soil, and tenderly fostered and trained the beneficent trees. This passion for the country and the fields, and love of dear nature, however scoffed at, however hidden and buried by worldliness and avarice, never quite dies out of the heart ; and I heard, lately, of a hard, severe man, whose whole narrow life had been worn away in the mere pursuit and accumulation of

wealth, who, on being confined to the couch of pain and sickness, that proved his death bed, begged those around him to gather from the garden handfuls of sweet spring violets, that, way back in the simple days of his tender, innocent childhood, he had so loved, and scatter them on his pillow, that he might lay his worn and faded cheek against them, and so—he died.

It is upon these pleasures of field and country, my friends, that I shall speak to you now. Addressing you as a plain, practical farmer, with none of the flowers of oratory, but bringing forward only some of the humble fruits of my own observation and experience, mingled, I hope, with a few grains of good, homely, common sense.

The joys, delights and glories of a farmer's life, and the means of their attainment,—this is the subject I would present for your consideration ; hoping, perchance, to win some one heart not yet awakened to its attractions, and gain yet a new devotee at the beneficent shrine of Agriculture,—at least, to arouse a new consciousness of the farmer's noble calling in those “to the manor born,” who enjoy the unprized privilege of inheriting paternal acres and of holding unimproved from their fathers the broad, productive fields of a New England farm. For, on the farm, the farm of the North or the South, of the East or the West, are all things based ; the great warehouses of the merchant, the shops of the trader, the mighty manufactory with its whirling spindles, and the work-bench of the busy mechanic. It loads with its various productions the big ships on the sea, it freights the well filled canal-boat, and the floating palaces of steam that swim the giant rivers ; the farm, the great producer, fills them all and feeds them all ! And the farmer, that owns the world, and from whom its wealth, its comforts and luxuries come, is its unconscious king ; scarcely beginning, even in these new days of scarcity

and high prices, to use his sceptre or dream of his growing power. But there is a grand distinction between the farmer and he who merely owns or lives upon a farm, or, as I might better say, between the true and real farmer and the farmer by courtesy, or by calling only. Between the man who generously and thoroughly tills his productive, joyful acres, and him, who, with unwilling and begrudging toil, scarcely scrapes from the worn out surface of his impoverished soil a scanty and miserable support, and in starving his sorrowful fields also starves in the end himself. Oh, many such men are there merely living on farms, a burning shame to the farmer's noble calling, to his glorious mission of transforming this fair earth by the power of culture into an Eden, and making this world a Paradise.

We will suppose ourselves visiting farms, my friends, and here is one of the kind we mention. We come first to the barn. It is of mere boards, its great cracks open to the winds of heaven, or perhaps shaky and rickety when in winter the poor cows shiver as they devour a double portion of the sedgy hay, striving in vain to supply undue warmth; and underneath it there is no commodious paved cellar, where the well-fed swine may fatten, and in which to economize the manures, both liquid and solid. But there it lies, thrown out in slovenly heaps, through storm and sunshine, heat and cold, sending a stench up into the pure air as its precious gases are swept away by the robber winds, while the rains wash its rich fertilizing juices into the roadside gutter, whence tall pestilent weeds and great burdocks shall by and by flourish in a useless and shameful luxuriance, while our friend, the farmer, by courtesy and name only, carts mere refuse straw and useless stubble out into his fields, under the pretence of manuring his starving farms. The fertile phosphates and the fruitful

ammonia have taken to themselves wings and left the poor man, and the soluble portions of the lime and magnesia, the soda and the potash, have all run away. And then the swine, that would have grown so fat and comfortable housed in the warm cellar, suffer in growth as well as beauty, as they wallow in the half built open sty. Sometimes rooting a hole under the loose dilapidated boards, out rush the eager, hungry pigs into the garden, while over the fence bounds the gaunt, haggard mother, and round races the farmer and the expostulating farmer's wife, while sticks and stones and hogs complete the destruction commenced by the oxen, who came through the rotten rails after the last storm. His tillage lands have only been scratched by a dull and ancient horse-plough, his pastures are worn out years ago, and have never been turned, and over and over again have his fields been carried to mill. His mowing lands, never blessed with any rotation or change, and never at first plowed to any depth, or manured through those long exhausting years, have completely run out, and in much shorter and less pinching droughts than that of the last summer, crisp and sere, crumple under your feet, and almost blaze as they ineffectually try to grow. And the pale-leaved corn, early parched and curling, makes you groan in spirit for the spindling, impoverished crop ; for one loves the beautiful maize crop—above all other grains the Indian corn, the peculiar grain of our clear native skies, and the hot native suns to which we too belong ! The swamps, in place of being cleared and trenched and drained, saving abundant stores of mud as a basis of prolific composts, and absorbents of fertilizing juices, are a wild tangled waste, with stagnant water rotting the coarse sedgy grass among the useless alders, and tainting the sweet air of heaven. His ill-fed cattle, diminutive and mangy, with here and there a great rack of bones

among them, wander among the bushes, licking with a melancholy, subdued air the innutritious mosses, and cropping, here and there, resignedly, the rough wild grasses ;—the walking frames merely of what, if cared for and nourished, might have been goodly cows. And sadly the winds sigh through the miserable old apple trees, whose upper boughs bear only the foul nests of unheeded caterpillars in their broken and moss-grown tops ; while the woodpecker listens and taps for the busy worm as he hungrily circles their decaying trunks. And as we pass with a sigh his languishing hens, we say this fellow is only living or perhaps dying on a farm. Would that some real farmer could have them to redeem from destruction !

For there are three things essential to make the *true* farmer, and to attain the joys of a farmer's life, viz., Love, Labor, and Science. In the first place, a man who lives on a farm, if he would be a successful agriculturist, a real farmer, must be inspired with an earnest, hearty *love* of this noble profession. How I pity the farmer, who is so contrary to his tastes and inclinations, who is a farmer only by necessity, who don't well know how to be any thing else, and yet hates to be that. Oh ! poor and meagre and weary and miserable is a life on a farm, with its hard labor and incessant toils, where there is no attraction to sweeten it, no fondness for its pursuits, no earnest, manly devotion to the noble calling. In every profession, and especially in this, is it necessary that a man should have a native affinity, a strong loving attachment for its peculiar cares and duties.

Every man that is born on the earth's surface, has, doubtless, somewhere on the globe, a location, to which he is particularly suited ; where the soil, scenery, atmosphere, climate, every thing is especially grateful to him, —harmonious with his own system,—to which he pecu-

liarly belongs,—his natural sphere, as it may be well termed. One rejoices in the far extending sea of the rolling and luxuriant prairies ; others seek the rich moist valleys of the fertilizing rivers ; and while some climb the heights of the mountains, and revel in the clear, celestial air, the strong rocky soil, and green springy pastures of the highland vales,—others, like the great statesman and farmer of Marshfield,—peace to his wonderful ashes !—belongs to the sublime yet desolate shores of the melancholy and complaining ocean. One languishes away from the bracing breezes of our northern sky, another sighs for the softer zephyrs and the richer luxuriance of a southern paradise. And thus, in the soil and atmosphere, that seems native to the soil, and which is harmonious and attractive to the spirit, every man is happy, and, without this, a something essential and fundamental is wanting to the enjoyment of life. And so, every man that breathes has his own especial and native *calling*,—an employment or business for which he has a natural attraction—if he could only know always what it was. One is naturally a merchant ; and, before his father sent the eager boy to serve his time in the warehouses of the great city, he was always trading with his playmates and schoolfellows, and made money out of them. Another is a born mechanic, and, when he was but a child, he filled the little brook, that ran by the door, with cunning mill-wheels, whittled of pine, and fastened with pins, prophetic of the great machines and larger manufactories of his manhood. Another lives in the sweet melodies and rich harmonies of music, and travels over the world, charming the souls of men and women every where with his song ; while still another has the heavenly vision, and, from the far heights of the ideal world, sends down sublime and living thoughts to quicken the hearts of men every where, and to advance

the world. For nothing is ever done *well*—no calling, profession or employment is ever prosperous or successful, without a man's whole heart is in it;—without he goes into it, as the Italians say, '*con amore*,'—from the love of it. This, indeed, is the grand secret of all great noble success on the farm or elsewhere. Whatever a man loves to do, that he does with life, earnestness and zeal. On the contrary, whatever is distasteful to him he will engage in with indifference, and that which is done with true zeal and earnestness is alone done thoroughly and well. With what ardor and enthusiasm does the true farmer enter into his various plans for improvement; with what zeal does he approach and go through his various labors;—labors that with him are but play, and have all the fascination and enchantment of pleasure in them. And how he delights and revels in his fertile and prolific acres—what order, what neatness, what verdure, what rich luxuriance of growth almost magical is there! What bounteous harvests, what plentiful and magnificent fruits, what glorious and remunerative results do you see around you, of his earnest, joyful labors! For such a man has his heart on his work and loves it. Men who take up any employment or profession, as I fear too many of those do who happen to be born and live on a farm through accident, or convenience, or for the sake of getting a living, without any special predilection for it, any particular interest in it, and thus without any peculiar fitness for such employment, are not only never at ease or happy in it but seldom, if ever, are really successful. For it is only this inclination, interest and love for any pursuit or calling that gives an especial fitness for such calling. It is the heart in it, that makes the mind clear, earnest and active, and that inspires the busy hands and cunning fingers with skill and quickness in the chosen work. And it is this *native fitness* alone, that

prepares and adapts a man to any peculiar trade or profession. If this, the only true principle, should be applied to society, what sudden and often laughable changes would take place in the occupations and positions of men. Here is a toiling blacksmith, who would become a counsellor, or a judge ; there a poor counsellor, who would make a first rate blacksmith. The boy in the college, beating his dull brains over Latin and Greek, Algebraic formulas and conic sections, which he can never understand or make any use of, would be metamorphosed into a smart, alacrious hack driver, or an enterprising, useful express man. The good parson, droning there to his dozing congregation, would make an excellent farmer, a most scientific agriculturist, and do more good to mankind in the advancement of agricultural science in a season, than he would in the pulpit during a lifetime. And no one thing has done so much towards retarding the advancement of the science of agriculture ; towards making poor farms and miserable farmers ; towards degrading the glorious occupation of husbandry, and making it mean and contemptible in times past, as a want of hearty love and inclination for the farmer's life, and a consequent want of fitness for its manly and noble pursuits, especially in those who have been placed on a farm by the mere accident of birth, while they would rather have been born any where else. And it is mainly by the introduction of new and more living, life-giving elements—by the accession of intelligent, earnest men, filled with the love and devotion to the cause, that the science of *culture* is being quickened to a glorious progress, till at length it shall take the high and commanding position among the various professions and callings, to which it rightfully belongs.

Behold there the true cultivator ! How his soul revels in farm and garden ! How his genius expands itself

among fruits and flowers,—amid the waving fields, embowering trees, and the fair glories of the landscape that have sprung up and arranged themselves into new beauty at the magic of his touch, till we feel that among men of greatest power and noblest intellect, none have a diviner mission to their country and their race than he. For his office is to restore again to man the banished Eden, and to make this outward world of ours a Paradise of beauty and delight. Richer and greener grow the fields at his coming. New fruits hang their shining clusters filled with delicious juices lovingly over his head; new flowers open to him in grateful joy their dewy, sparkling eyes, and for him “the wilderness and solitary place shall be glad, and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose.” Need I mention, in illustration, the loved and lamented Downing! Need I turn here, my brothers! to the illustrious head, that crowns with a living grace and glory the Norfolk County Agricultural Society;—a grace and a glory every way to the annals of American culture, an honor and a blessing to our advancing New England. It is this noble fervor, this love and devotion to a pursuit that soothes its cares, that lightens its labors, and makes the severest effort seem easy—and a love of work, of hard work, is absolutely essential in the true farmer. He must be a laborer, both with his head, and with his hands. All his senses must be on the alert, all his energies aroused to persevering, laborious action. And this is another reason why there are so few good farmers, and so many who only live on a farm, and are glad to get off of it when and as they can. They don’t love their work, and so *won’t* work. The boys leave the laborious country for the specious and showy city; they forsake the busy, toilsome fields for the idle streets. It is getting to be too much the custom among us, to despise labor, to be ashamed of work, and this, especially with the young in

our farming communities, with the new generations rising up in our midst. And so there is a stronger tendency than ever before to avoid labor, to get rid of toil, to shift the burden of work on to the shoulders of other people ; to shirk and fold the useless hands and act the gentleman in gloves. Our young men seem too anxious to leave the healthful, manly farm, as well as the forge and workbench, to measure out ribbons and sell muslins in the lazy shops ; and young women, from the *same* cause, are growing up about us, fearful of staining their hands with toil, ashamed of cheese-press and churn, wash tub and moulding board, and preferring the life of a useless, gilded sporting butterfly to that of a more industrious, worthy and noble type. And so the God appointed sweat, and clean dirt of honest labor is becoming more and more despised, and the earnest toil of life is looked upon as degrading ; while the base tinsel of luxury and idleness, which deck a life of senseless frivolity, is growing every where to be admired and envied. And yet “work,” my friends, in some department of duty and action, is the great business of life. This calls out and developes all the various faculties and energies of the nature, that make the MAN ; and all things that are worth having, whether in the physical, mental or moral world, are gained by labor,—by this *hard work*. From labor springs all capital, all art, science, and culture. The grand cities, the splendid temples and monuments of art, the broods of busy commerce, whose wings whiten the seas ; the civilization that like the verdure of early spring, is gradually stealing over the earth and clothing it with a living robe of joy and beauty ; the comforts, the luxuries, the various elegancies and delicacies of refined society ;—these are all the offspring of bright-eyed, hard-handed labor. So, too, the breathing marbles of the sculptor, the glowing canvas of the painter, the inspired creations of the poet,—the great thoughts,

the burning, prophetic words that flash forth from the intellect of the mighty genius,—the great living books of the world, are all conceived and brought forth with pain and labor, and the burning brain toils as toils the earnest hand. No work of mind, no immortal production of poet or artist, prophet or sage, comes forth in its perfection from the busy forge of the mind, except it be hammered by the vigorous blows of patient industry, on the anvil of thought. So too, the greatly good man, the true philanthropist, the pure, just and noble soul, is the gradual result of toil and discipline in the man to improve and perfect himself; and thus all worth, distinction and true glory in this world, thus a noble illustrious character, and heaven itself is the recompense only of the true worker. Doubtless, there is here and there over toil; so many do-nothings as there are now-a-days, some must, as a natural consequence, be overworked. Where paupers are numerous,—and by paupers I mean people of any class, however fashionable, or however elevated in social position, who do no work themselves, and are therefore supported by the work of others;—those that labor to support such paupers must be weighed down by a double burden. Without question, there are many, too, who work to a disadvantage, from poor tools, or no tools. And now, as a new and more earnest interest has been awakened in the noble art of agriculture, that lies at the basis of all other arts, every day brings out some better invention or some fresh improvement. And blessed be every improvement that tends to lighten labor. All praise and glory be to the authors of those beneficent inventions of latter days, that are facilitating the various operations of the farm, and softening the toils, severe at best, of the humble laborer's life;—the numerous improved implements, and labor-saving machines that are beginning to work a revolution, at least on our large

farms, in the whole system of agriculture! Easier and easier runs the gliding plough, the earth is more finely pulverized, and deeper and deeper is tilled the cold hard subsoil, astonished to feel the warmth and see the new light of day. The cultivator drives the old hand-hoe from the great fields; quickly the improved cultivator succeeds; and now the new horse-hoe outstrips them all, and my good farmer in a neighboring State, assures me that in his stony *mountain* soil even, by planting corn, potatoes, and other hoed crops in rows each way, he can by the horse-hoe clean it, and keep it clean of weeds; and that, in this way, one man can do, and with greater ease, the work of several men; and so the old toiling with the hand-hoe, in the broiling sun of the torrid midsummer, grows out of date. And then comes the great reaping machines, giving a new glory to the American name abroad; and the grand threshing machines. And swift falls the affrighted grass, as the mighty mower of wood and iron, with steeds and driver, rolls magnificently over the hay fields. And still the laborers' wages rise buoyant and upward; still there is work, and still there is room. Let no mistaken economy withhold the saving farmer from displacing with deep tillers that give him a continually new and unspent soil, the miserable, old-fashioned, worn-out plough, that scratched of yore the impoverished surface of his thin exhausted acres, or from adopting any new invention that has been proved to save the farmer's time and labor. For by saving time and labor, he not only saves his money, but more and better than his money, he saves himself.

Besides the requisites of labor and earnest love of his calling, *Science* is a third essential to the true farmer, although of Scientific Agriculture we are free to confess there is as yet next to none among us. England itself, though a century before us, has vast tracts of moors and

waste lands, and the world elsewhere is only a great wilderness. And to Science, Intelligence, Information and Method are necessary. And, that he may be continually advancing in intelligence, let the farmer, especially the young farmer, seek to gather new information from every quarter—read every thing he can find that can shed any clearer, brighter light upon the pursuits and labors of his calling. Let him devote a few dollars to the selection of a small choice Library of thorough standard scientific works. Let him also assist in the formation of a farmers' club, where each may receive and impart the benefits of their personal observation and experience ; and, what is quite as important, let him subscribe for a few agricultural periodicals, edited by men of practical science, at least one weekly and one or two monthly. To this end, if need be, let him banish from his fireside the useless, and often scurrilous and debasing political journals, and especially the sickly sentimentalisms, the mawkish love tales and pamby namby verses, that sometimes gain entrance into the farmer's house under the name of Literary and even Religious Magazines. And here, I find myself very gruffly set upon, perhaps by some good old friend and brother farmer, who never had much opinion of books and reading any way, with the query, " Whether I was coming here to uphold book-farming ; " farming, which, in his dictionary, is only another word for " Humbug." Well ! my friend ! suppose we first see what " Book-Farming " is. Our intelligent and distinguished brother farmer, Rev. Charles C. Sewall, plants a piece of corn, highly manured in some new way, in rows three feet apart, the hills a foot apart, and turns out a hundred and odd bushels to the acre ; that is farming, experimental farming. He tells his neighbor Jones, who tries the experiment next year ; that is *talk* farming. My friend King, of the Journal of Agriculture, or Brown, of the

New England Farmer, records it, and other people try the experiment, and that is book-farming. Again—Friend Sewall of Medfield, Breck of Milton, Marsh of Dedham, or some other good enterprising farmer of Old Norfolk, reclaims a miserable alder swamp, and causes it to yield bountiful crops ; the farmers round want to hear about it, and see it ; so to save his time and trouble, he prints an account of it ; his neighbors ditch, drain and till their swamp as he directs in this account ; and again, that is book-farming. By and by, you or I, or some one of us who has had a wide field of observation and experience in agricultural matters for a term of years, jots down what he has seen and done in the farming line, and makes a book of it. People follow the various hints and suggestions, and good practical advice contained in it, and thus become—book-farmers ; and nothing so foolish or terrible after all. *Book-farming then, is merely the carrying out of the experiments, and practising the advice given in agricultural works and periodicals, and thus improving on the old ways and methods.* And this is vastly better, I take it, than going on in the same old beaten path, unwilling to try any thing new, and never making any improvement on our farms, any progress in agriculture—a stone in one end of the bag and corn in the other. Of course, the farmer must use his own reason and common sense in carrying out the experiments and receiving the advice of such books and periodicals. He will remember, that on the farm, as elsewhere, “ circumstances alters cases ;” that in any experiment, difference of soil, climate, position, &c., must always be taken into the account. For example, a farmer, about to plant an orchard, reads the advice of a writer, whose soil is a heavy clay, not to set trees in the fall, as the frosts will be liable to heave their roots out of the earth. But his soil is a sandy loam and doesn’t heave at all, and by waiting till

spring, before planting on his light land, the trees do not get sufficiently established in the ground before the dry weather comes, and they thus, perhaps, suffer and die for lack of moisture. In like manner another, whose hot dry land has a gravelly subsoil, reads an article by a grape grower, whose land is cold with a hard pan underneath it, on planting vines with an under drainage of cobble stones in the driest, warmest spot. He does so, and his vines fail to grow, and yet it was very good advice for a cold clay soil, though quite the opposite for a quick light land, well underdrained. And so, many other similar failures. Let it be remembered in making any experiments, that *climate, soil, position and circumstances of various kinds, must be taken into account as modifying the result*. It is from a neglect of these elements, that so many failures occur in carrying out experiments ;—that men come to such different and opposite opinions and results, and that so much undeserved odium is cast on book-farming. But we should by no means on these accounts refuse to make experiments,—for the only way to advance, progress and improve upon the old is to try the new. Let the farmer, then, seek continually to acquire information, to get new ideas ; remembering that behind every thing are those living creative ideas ; that out of them come every new improvement, every great invention, every grand and noble work. Thus are information, intelligence, and thought necessary to all scientific, progressive farming. And not less essential to any science are order and method ; and there can be no good farming, no profitable farming, certainly no scientific farming, without some system. There is yet, I fear, very little methodical farming among us. Every thing is helter skelter. Confusion, and not order, rules as yet almost every where, in barn, field and orchard. Farmers too often go to work without laying down any exact plans, or making any cal-

culations. Sometimes they hardly know till the day comes what they are going to plant, or how or where they are going to plant it. So every thing is at hap-hazard, and they would stare in surprise should you ask them at time of sowing, what was the precise number of bushels of various products they should gather without fail at harvest. Farmers, especially young farmers, would find their labors greatly facilitated, if they went into exact calculations, made plans, and kept a strict account of their farm and farm work; putting down on paper, how many and what acres they would turn up, and what fields they would lay down every year; what and how much manure each field should have; how many cords of compost, as well as of manure they would make, and to what uses it should be applied; how much corn, potatoes, grain, &c., should be raised on the ground appropriated to each, and *see that it was done*. This at first sight perhaps looks visionary, but such visions have been realized, and found to produce very blessed results, making the science of farming almost worthy to be classed with “the exact sciences.” I have known instances of scientific, methodical men, determining in this way that their corn-fields, wheat and potato-fields should yield a certain average crop year after year, and compelling them to do so. And more than this, I can name one instance at least of a farmer, who made it his business for many years, to raise a certain number of apples for the foreign market; and he managed so as to raise nearly the same average crop year after year for many years.

And here I might predict the abolition of droughts by restoring through science the equilibrium of moisture to the lower and insulating stratum of the atmosphere,—the prevention of the too early and late frosts, by protecting screens and belts of trees and other means; the importation of gardening and farming Chinese by the myriads,

and other events of the future. I might prophecy too of agricultural schools and colleges to come, of a generation of farmers versed in the principles of chemistry, learned in geological formations, familiar through personal analysis, with the nature and elements of different soils, and *testing* the experiments they have read, in the winter laboratory and study. I might censure the folly of teaching the children of our common schools in the farming districts, (a part of a curious system prevailing in our schools of dwelling on the distant, the nominal, and the useless, and neglecting the vital and the real near at hand,) the productions of Cuba or China, and never instructing them in the productive qualities of their own native farms;—the sheer vanity of learning from grammars to analyze the elements of language—mere words—while they are left in total ignorance of the elements of the soil whence they are to derive their subsistence. I might sing to you in exultant strains of the good time coming, in the glorious blessed future of our fertile and happy land, when the dignity and grandeur of the farmer's work shall be fully recognized, and his high rank in the body politic shall be universally felt and acknowledged; and when great, deep-thinking, far-seeing statesmen shall drive off the hungry horde of selfish politicians and the rabble of desperate demagogues, and legislate for the benefit and advancement of agriculture,—the interests of that primitive and glorious art that feeds, sustains and bears up the great world!! But the flying hour hurries me on. Inspired by love of his calling, with an ardent devotion to its labors; armed and equipped with intelligence, sound information, and scientific method, the farmer is *now* prepared to achieve a permanent victory over the unwilling soil, and to win and enjoy the various delights and glories of the farmer's life. And first among these delights come great and abundant crops, to feed his

household and help to feed the world ; for these bring joy to the farmer's eyes, to his mind and soul, and—in these days I am glad to say it—to his pocket. And to secure this first grand desideratum, this prime joy and glory of the farmer's life and foundation of all its other glories—great crops—two essentials are especially to be mentioned, viz : deep ploughing and sufficient and appropriate manures. And, I confess here, that I am, and ever have been, in all situations and soils, and under all possible conditions, a strenuous, unfaltering, uncompromising advocate for deep ploughing. Especially in this land where droughts, if nothing else, are unfailing, in this climate of dry seasons and wet seasons—for I consider this distinction of season to be as definitely marked here as in any tropical portion of the continent,—I regard deep tillage as an indispensable necessity—a *sine qua non* ; and, as my limits do not permit me here to repeat at length, what I have so often had to say in various papers and Agricultural Reports upon the subject, I will endeavor to condense the whole matter into a nutshell. First : deep ploughing turns up and exposes to the action of the atmosphere a new substratum of virgin soil for the use of vegetation, that has never before seen the light—a great advantage in fields long tilled, and where, years ago, the top soil has been carried to mill. Secondly : it makes a deeper bed, pulverized and enriched, in which the roots of plants may descend for nutriment ; where the subsoil is gravelly, it displaces barren stones by fertile earth and manures ; and, in clayey lands, it breaks up the cold, hard pan, mixes it with the warm nutritious soil of the surface, and allows the stagnant *dampness* to drain away. Thirdly : deep ploughing covers up the manure, prevents the escape of its volatile and nourishing gases, and, in uneven localities, forbids the rains from washing it away. And here let me say, that there is no fear of the manure

leaching downward ; there is far more fear of its *leaching upward* by evaporation into the air. It can never go too deep for the use of plants ; that is an old, and as I had hoped, a completely exploded agricultural superstition,—a superstition that I trust deep ploughing will soon bury so completely that it shall never be brought up again. Fourthly : deep, thorough tillage, by lightening up the soil, allows the warm sun to thrust down his quickening rays into its bosom. Fifthly : it thus invites the air to circulate among its particles, and impregnate them with nutritious elements ; and when we reflect that the air not only holds in its embrace all the various gases that supply food to the vegetable world, such as carbonic acid, phosphoric acid, &c.,—but that it is, in a very large measure, made up of nitrogen, the principal element of that essential of all manures, ammonia—for ammonia is nothing but the nitrogen of the air with a little hydrogen from the water—we shall see what a vastly important part the air plays in feeding plants. Indeed, it is their capacity for taking up ammonia and other stimulating and nourishing gases, that gives to lime and absorbent earths generally, very much of their value ; thus we have the sulphates, carbonates, phosphates, nitrates, acetates of lime, &c. Sixthly : in severe droughts, such deep tillage not only prevents the earth from baking hard, but as the air always contains moisture, as seen in the drops condensed even in the driest weather on stones and vessels of cold water,—its circulation through the soil deposits the moisture among the particles of earth and sand and gravel ;—and thus, in times of long protracted droughts, as you well know, a light soil of sandy loam suffers far less than one of heavy clay. The second grand essential to bountiful crops is the preparation and the application of manures. I remember my old grandfather—peace to his ashes ! used to tell his gardener to take good

care of "the jewel box," a good name that, for his barn cellar, out of which his farm and garden were to be made rich and decked in beauty and in glory. And yet how many farmers are there still about us without this farmer's "jewel box," this chest of treasure, this deposit of riches, this bank of present and future wealth. And here perhaps some niece or grand-daughter of a farmer—certainly no true daughter—a little over delicate and squeamish in her tastes, begins to unclasp her costly vinaigrette, and turn towards me expostulating eyes that beseech me to avoid the distasteful topic. But let her remember that the luscious peach that pressed her envied lips but yesterday, drew its juices from a garden rich in ammoniacal manures—that the queenly rose, whose blow and sweetness fain would rival the flush of her cheek, is "a gross feeder," and flourishes best in the strongest sweepings of the stable; while out of the black, ill-flavored mud, the delicate lily weaves her snowy petals, and opens her chalice of celestial odors. That all the various manures, however coarse and offensive, are but pure chemical elements compounded together,—a little carbon, a little nitrogen and hydrogen and sulphur and phosphorus, and so on; nice things enough when taken separately and apart.

Treasure up every particle of liquid or solid matter that can enrich and nourish your lands; let nothing escape you. Forest leaves, wash of the streets in the wayside gutter, turf and sods, decayed wood and brush, chips and shavings, earth from the wood-shed and barn-yard, the drip and cleanings of stables, hog-pen, vault, pigeon-house, poultry-yard, and ash-bin; and on the coast, the precious kelp, and even the seaweed, with the choice bones, oyster shells and clam shells, waste of woolen factories, scraps of leather, and even coal ashes; all have their uses,—all are to be considered manures, or matter

capable of enriching in some way the soil, and all are to be carefully economized. I have known a coarse, sedgy marsh to be reclaimed and brought to yield good English hay, by the mere application of coal ashes. And care must be taken in the proper preparation, as well as saving of these materials. See to it that your stables, vaults, poultry houses, &c., are filled with proper absorbents—or materials to hold the liquid and volatile portions of the manure,—such as clay, plaster, charcoal, and especially peat earth and ditch mud mingled with leaves, chips, that also contain a valuable supply of carbon, &c. The manure of a dozen fowls, well saved and mixed, is sufficient dressing for a large garden ; and that from a goodly flock of hens and pigeons properly composted, will abundantly enrich a small farm. The inhabitants of the Celestial Empire, or as they name it, “the Central Flowery Land,” the most famous agriculturists and horticulturists of all the world, in whose territory from reverence to our primitive, fundamental, and right royal art, the Emperor himself holds the annual plough,—whence come the floral splendors of Azalea and Camillia, Aster and Peony, and choicest roses,—employ as their only manures the excrements, solid and liquid, that have been allowed among us of the Occident for centuries to escape and taint the household air from long, fetid and pestilent vaults, and that we have in past ages discarded as useless. And, had I the direction of the Agricultural Societies in our land, I would offer the first, and by far the largest premium, for the best mode of saving, preparing, and applying this manure ; and the second for the economy and preparation of each and every kind of nutritious compost. Then fill up your barn-cellars, and vaults, and sink drains with clay, peat, mud, &c., that shall absorb every particle of the liquid and gaseous elements, and thus fulfil the scripture precept, “that nothing be lost,”

and remember to keep always a barrel to dissolve your bones and shells in moistened ashes !

Next comes the proper application of manure ; and here, what the envious hour forbids me to speak, that I shall ask you, brother farmers, to read in print at your homes. And with the application of manure, rises the consideration of the analysis of soils, the doctrine of specifics, and so on. And here, I catch again a faint muttering in the corner, from my gruff old friend, to whom book-learning and book-farming were so distasteful, in which, however, I am able to distinguish the phrase “ new-fangled humbugs.” Allow me, however, to say, my friend, there is no humbug about it. How are you to know, I pray you, what elements your soil needs unless you have ascertained by analysis what it already contains. I grant you there may be careless examinations by unscientific men. But, would you forever be carrying coals to Newcastle, the mother of coals,—or ship lime to Thomaston ? What would you think of a farmer, who was carting ashes on to a tract of new land just burnt over, spreading gypsum on a calcareous soil, or teaming ditch mud on to a peat meadow ? It may be, that a certain piece of land only requires one single additional element, lime or potash, carbon or ammonia, perhaps, and has a surplus of the other elements necessary to vegetable growth ; what use then, of wasting your time, labor and manure in adding to that surplus, when a little plaster, a little superphosphate, or a little ashes perhaps, would be amply sufficient, and the only thing required. Some elements, such as the phosphates for example, that abounding in virgin soils, have been well nigh exhausted in lands long tilled. What marvellous tales they tell of the prolific character of the new soil of California. Wheat fields producing at the rate of seventy-five bushels to the acre—potatoes, one of which makes a meal for a large family ; beets, bigger

than babies; carrots, the length of tall men; with cabbages of sufficient size to take the place of a farmer's family dinner table! What equally wonderful stories, and all true—they told, a quarter of a century ago, of Ohio, and the West! And what wheat crops, what great healthy potatoes were raised by our fathers here in New England formerly, which we can't raise now; and that, at an era too, when they despised all MANURE, and that it was poison to the land. And where is it gone, this land, that yielded of yore the rich harvests of wheat? Over the back of old roan, or the bay mare, our grandsires carried it in bags. It has all gone to mill, years and years ago. Out of it have been manufactured the heavy oxen, the bones and the bodies of milk-giving cows; from it the strong stalwart forms of our fathers were well knit together, and the rounded, seemly shapes and glowing cheeks of fair matrons and gentle maidens! Gone to mill, ground and ate up has the land been, long ago!—those elements of it, at least, strong for wheat, and productive of the rich full ears of heavy grain; and none of it was ever carried back and replaced. And the question arises, how shall we *bring back* this scattered soil? Plainly *by ascertaining what these lost elements are*, that have thus been carried away and consumed, and returning them or their like again to the soil. An old farm is like an old wagon, or an old house. I don't know that it is ever quite so good as when it first comes from the maker's hand.

But we have got the old house, and what shall we do with it? Let us examine it thoroughly, and see. It is strongly built, and the sills are still good, but the old roof may have to come off, and the clapboards be renewed, or perhaps a good coat of paint is all that is needed, to make it quite as spruce and genteel as the little light framed thing there over the way. Some grand old houses do I

know, here and there, made over and a little modernized perhaps, that, ten to one, you would call splendid new mansions ! And so my friends with our old farms. We must look them over, and examine them thoroughly, and see what is wanting ; the old sills, the foundation, rocks and subsoil, there is no fear of. On some places the shingling of vegetable mould has been washed away. But the paint that makes them fresh and new—the elements, that touch them with hues of deep and living green, that give the bright, rich, luxuriant aspect, are wanting. Perhaps a mixture of a little lime and carbon, or ammonia and phosphate, will furbish up the ancient farm, and make the old acres look up bright and shining again. Don't be afraid of modernizing the old house, the old land, making continually new improvements, and returning the lost elements of the once virgin soil, that shall bring back to it its early paradise. It is through such examination and analysis of the old soil, alone, that we can make the proper, necessary and economical application of manures to our well-worn fields, and reap again luxuriant, bountiful crops.

The whole subject of *specifics* we are driven to pass here, with the single remark,—from which may easily be gathered the whole philosophy and its application,—that every member of the vegetable kingdom has its own peculiar soil, in which it best flourishes ; some belong to the marshes ; some revel in the mountains ; others love the sands ; and still others the rich intervals of the fertile rivers. And, while certain elements contribute to the growth and ripening of fruits, others tend only to leaves and wood. The principle is true in regard to vegetables and animals, it is also true in regard to man.

Again : to the attainment of bountiful crops, the farmer should see to it that he has no waste land, no neglected spots, no holes and side places where pestilent

weeds may riot ; and no headlands for brush and vines. The more the ground is covered with cultivated vegetation, the longer does it retain its moisture through the drought, and the less room is there for weeds to grow. Years ago, among the German farmers near the Quaker city, I learned a lesson of economizing the soil. Among the lettuces were the cucumber and melon vines growing, when the spring first came, under their glass boxes,—underneath the early peas, flourished a later crop of abundant potatoes ; and, in the early potato fields, between the rows, throve luxuriant celery or great cabbages. Another secret of good farming is to take as many crops off the land per annum, after feeding it well, as you can. And here, our friends, the market gardeners of Roxbury, can teach us a lesson. Manure yonder level and beautiful field, with its orchard of pear trees and peach trees, in the late autumn ; plaster it in the spring, and it shall have a coat of vivid green before its neighbors ; ere the July suns begin to burn, mow its sweet luxuriant growth for your milch cows, and on the sod plant your corn. Your corn shall ripen in time to sow your wheat or rye, with a dressing of superphosphate or ashes, as the nature of the soil shall dictate,—which dressing shall help your now ripening fruit—and the next summer you shall reap your grain, in season for a goodly crop of great turnips, to grow from the not yet exhausted phosphates. I know this is a personal *hobby*,—but five crops in two years of grass and corn, and fruit and wheat, and turnips, is an object worth riding for on any hobby ; and then drill in your carrots in November, as we did last year, and have them growing the spring after, out of reach of drought and winds. It saves time and weeds, and injury of drought, to sow in the fall. I should like to show you, a few rods from here, a half acre of excellent carrots we have been pulling from, sowed at the suggestion of my

sagacious friend, Hon. Thomas Motley, late last fall. By and by, doubtless, we shall plant our potatoes mostly in November.

And here, as we come to an end, we can only hastily catalogue a few of the other noble delights and glories of the farmer's life. Among these, most of us farmers, doubtless, enumerate a good natural soil as an essential to great crops, the rich alluvial interval, or the fruitful mineral debris of the green and springy mountains. But any soil, however fertile, without proper culture, is soon exhausted, as the once famous lands of Western New York and Ohio give proof. Remember that the *true farmer makes a good soil wherever he is*, and the poor farmer ought never to have anything but poor soil, for his wretched tillage would soon exhaust the best soil in the world! I sometimes fear that rich, strong soil is a premium to laziness, encourages a lack of enterprise and energy, and makes a great deal of poor farming among us.

And I must pass by here the splendor of fine horses, and the glories of good stock of various kind; the importance of selecting and breeding cattle, not from the fame of their name, but the excellency of their nature; and thus originating prime *American* or *Massachusetts breeds*. And I must leave, too, to the Committees, the enchantments of the poultry-yard, lest cattle detain us till the cows come home, and poultry keep us till cock-crow. A bountiful supply of good fresh vegetables of all kinds, and at all seasons, is one of the most obvious elements in the enjoyment of life on the farm. What so nourishing? what has a greater air of luxurious comfort and plenty than the dinner table, loaded with these and set off by fruits? Who misses then, the questionable stimulus of the meat cart? A farmer that doesn't cultivate a garden, has no right to complain of butcher's bills

and store bills, and doctor's bills, of puny children and sickly women folks, and deserves to toil hard all his life long and lay up nothing. Why, man! there is more than half your family's living in a good garden! Then there is the beauty and glory, the refreshing delight, that comes of vines and fruit trees, that farmers ought to enrich and cultivate and till round as they would their corn, and not merely suffer them to grow as it happens, as they now so often only do; but as I have the honor to be Chairman of the Fruit Committee, and shall inflict on you a Report on Fruits, I will spare you the discussion of this topic *here and now*—like the man in the story, who forgave his enemies, at priestly suggestion, on the sick bed, with the reservation that if he ever recovered he should have “a lick at them.”

The farmer has also the delight of a pleasant landscape about him. It has been said that to a denizen of the city “a single tree and a little grass plat is a beautiful landscape,” and a farmer is never without these. For the enjoyment and health of the senses, as well as for the delight of mind and soul to them that live on it, I would always make scenery one of the first elements in selecting a farm;—the fine extensive prospect enlarging to the thoughts, the picturesque view, the pleasant lay of the land, the romantic grove, the artistic grouping of the trees;—I would pay a good price for these things to cultivate and rejoice my own soul, and the souls of my children after me. To some, this food of beauty to the inner man is more than nourishment and clothing to the body. And here let me utter my love and my prayer for the beautiful trees, that should fleck with their shadows the pleasant walks and roadsides; that should delight the dewy valleys, and wave gracefully their flitting branches over the hills. A new mansion, in the finest architectural style and coloring, seems O! so stiff, hard and desolate,

without the protecting trees ! While the plain old clumsy farm-house on the other side, with the great elm sweeping over the fresh, green yard before it, fanning the scented breezes through the open windows,—how picturesque, how beautiful it is ! How all the dear home fairies, that we remember in childhood, seem to be clustering there ! I know a great ancient thick-settled town, wealthy, and full of taste and cultivation, with many fine houses, yet that is almost wholly destitute of trees, and my eye grows weary, and my mind and soul are sad and lonely and dried up within me, it is so ugly, so desolate a scene to look upon,—even to ride through ! I wouldn't *live* there for the price of the town ! But, I know another village, through the musical shadow of whose dear old elms I first looked up to the glancing sunlight, the ancient village, I greet again to-day, and, despite its simple dwellings and all, how fair and pleasant and homelike, nestling and slumbering among the shadows, is old Dedham, now and forever. And Deerfield, her child, that wandered away to plant herself in the far Connecticut valley, it is worth a long journey only to visit her marvellously magnificent elms and maples ! Oh, how every sense and soul itself sighs among the barren, denuded hills and shadeless roads, for the fresh waving branches of the kindly trees. Over the bare dusty streets and toilsome ascents, the weary steed looks round with sad, beseeching look, as he pants for the cooling shade ; the melancholy oxen, with lolling tongues, gaze sorrowfully on the burning ground, and the patient cow, as she drops her heated milk, in her hurried homeward march, lows for some umbrageous shelter from the August sun. Then plant the elm with its waving, fanning tresses, and the maple with its leafy, beneficent branches ; let the walnut and linden flourish, and the old oak, the pride of centuries, stand ! And the lover of dear nature and the beau-

tiful, shall speak your name with praises ! The birds in their boughs shall sing to you their joyful thanksgivings ; sweetly shall humming insects lull you with their murmurs ; even the zephyrs shall fan you with cooler, softer wings as they revel among the shadows, while the worn and exhausted traveller calls down earnest blessings on him who planted the beneficent trees. But wrath and woe to the man, who, with impious hand, strikes a blow at the root of the ancient shade trees that his fathers have planted and fostered.

I know hardly a greater blessing, a sweeter delight, than that of living out of doors in the pure, healthy, invigorating, open air ; and this is a blessing, peculiar almost to the farmer's life. I would pray for nothing earthly, more delightful, than the precious privilege of thinking, writing, sleeping, breathing and living during the leafy time of year, in the glad sunshine and free air of heaven. And it is thus the farmer drinks in *freedom*, and is inspired with the noble love of liberty, so that while the denizens of cities, walled up in narrow streets and enslaved by still narrower custom and usage, too often exalt merchandise above humanity, the man of the free air and open fields is the uncompromising foe of oppression, the stanch friend, the fearless and determined advocate of freedom and humanity. It is a glory also of the farmer's life, that it teaches him to value *things—realities* above all mere forms and shows and empty names. He is called upon, not merely to think, but to do ; not to plan only, but to accomplish ; not to fancy, but to create ; not to talk or write, but to live. He learns to understand the uses and beauties of all things in nature on the earth about him. Every thing confers on him a peculiar pleasure, ministers to him its own peculiar delight. There is a charm to the intelligent farmer in the grass fields, in the waving grain, in the bending fruit trees, in the great

forests, in good cattle, in fine horses, in fowls, in the very stones and rocks of his farm, and the soil which they create, that none beside the farmer can appreciate ; and which, it takes years, especially for mere city and book-men to learn, even one by one ; but the husbandman has a peculiar eye, a peculiar appreciation of each, so that corn and hay, and cow and sheep, and oak, have far more meaning to him than to another. This is the best of all learning that comes only from life and experience. And this knowledge of realities, this command of *things*, is one element in that noble independence, which, perhaps, is the chief glory of all in the farmer's life. For who so independent as the farmer ? He stands firm on his own soil and cannot be dislodged ! He owns down to the very centre of the round world, and up to the starry zenith, a foothold on the earth which cannot be shaken—a little kingdom, where he is supreme ! And *he can* live if all the world starves. For his acres feed him, from the maple sugar of the March thaw, through the well-filled granary of autumn, to the pork, potatoes and apples of the winter cellar. He snaps his fingers at the rise of flour. Thus he can defy want and changes, and the threats of tyranny, and though he be too modest to claim the sceptre, he knows he is king, and that if he should stop farming to-day, the world would starve to-morrow. It is this habit of learning *things*, rather than mere words, and of developing the various faculties and energies of the nature by contact with things, and by continual employment and hard work, that makes the *farm* such a glorious place to rear and educate children, and to produce strong, powerful men of the truest knowledge, of the highest capacity and energy of character. And thus it happens that most of the great men of the *world* have sprung up on farms. It was the genial influences of the farm that nurtured the mighty energies of a Webster,

which, unfolding in their gigantic proportions, lifted him up, despite his defects of character, above the level of princes and potentates, and made him world-renowned ; and so he loved the farm through life, and at length retired to its peaceful bosom to lay down his great head grown weary, and died there. And, from the fresh green fields and the sweet sylvan haunts of the farm, breathing in the inspiring breeze and catching the wild free notes of the woodland songsters, sprung our own Whittier, the minstrel of freedom, the bard of humanity ! For the power such men develop comes of their early wrestling with the forces of nature, and laboring to subdue this hard Northern earth. And it is the cheerful labor, and the all embracing glory of the farmer's life, to conquer and subdue nature, to bring its wild chaos into smiling order, to civilize the savage waste, to make two blades of grass grow where only one grew before, till plenty take the place of want, and barrenness and desolation give way to culture and beauty. And what delight to the heart of the husbandman to see the dry sand hill covered with vines and fruit trees, and green with the waving corn ! What joy and exultation to gaze on the meadow, filled a few short months ago with useless alders and coarse sedge rotting in the stagnation of the pestilent waters—now rejoicing with the nodding heads of nutritious herds-grass, or rich with the luxuriance of growing crops ; and all the work of his own hand, the achievement of his own genius ! And in this is summed up the labors and the glories of the farmer's life, the husbandman's noble mission. The civilization and the culture of the earth ; the development of nature into order and beauty ; the transformation of the world into an Eden, a garden of loveliness and delight ; the bringing back to man the ancient prophetic Paradise.

“For Paradise is yet to come, and in the future years  
With unimagined splendors crowned, the golden age appears.”

And thus, while with one hand the earnest cultivator takes hold of the rough work of life, the other is lifted up to heaven, and clasped with that of angels, and the radiant holy spirits that have lived and wrought in all the ages past, that still live and labor for humanity; and inspired with high hope and joyful faith, the true farmer feels that he is the humble helper of God in the sublime work of advancing and perfecting the earth.

And how serene and blessed a retreat is the farm to old age. In the peaceful shadow of the trees, that, in his glowing youth, he had planted with his own hand; the fertile acres stretching out before him, that he for so many years has tilled, rests the patriarch farmer, gazing at the declining sun, that gilds with lingering ray the Paradise that with thought and care and labor, he had formed to bless his peaceful old age. Perchance, as around the brow of the venerable scholar, statesman and farmer of Quincy,\* the patriot wreath, won in his country's service, twines with the laurels of the academcian, and the flowers still fresh with Castalian dews! And, as he gazes on the pleasant scene of cares and labors past, his heart rises in grateful incense of joy to heaven, that he has achieved through the Divine aid such worthy ends, and has done something, by his life, towards improving, beautifying and blessing the world. And even while he gazes, dull grows his heavy ear to earthly sounds, his mortal eyes are dimmed and glazed, and as they close in pious faith upon the outward Paradise of his love, in pure celestial radiance, the fairer Paradise of his hopes unfolds its splendors to his quickened and immortal vision. And, as in its genial air he expands in the fresh beauty of

\* Hon. Josiah Quincy, Sen.

eternal youth and vigor, there beams through his awakened mind the sublime law of perpetual growth and progress that pervades all things, while he reaches upward forever and forever to still higher and grander labors, to more wide and ennobling usefulness.

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ERRATA.—In the absence of the author of the foregoing address, the following errors occurred in the printing:—Page 12, line 20, for “when” read where; p. 12, line 22, for “undue” read the needed; same p., last line, for “farms” read farm; p. 14, line 11, for “bens” read fields; p. 15, line 14, for “soil” read soul; p. 16, line 22, for “on” read in; p. 21, line 11, for “it” (twice) read them; p. 25, last line, for “myriads” read myriad; p. 29, line 14, for “blow” read bloom; p. 30, line 21, for “Camilla” read Camellia; p. 31, line 30, for “abounding” read abound; p. 32, line 3, for “that” read thought; p. 33, line 15, insert “of” between land and making; same p., line 5, leave out comma after “foundation”; p. 34, line 24, for “own” read now; p. 36, line 14, for “a” read another.

REPORTS.



## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.

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TO THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

SIR:—In obedience to the Laws of the Commonwealth, the President and Secretary of the Norfolk Agricultural Society herewith make return of the doings and expenditures of said Society, for the year 1854.

The long and severe drought, which prevailed during the season although not so destructive as anticipated at the period of its continuance, was still to a considerable degree, unfavorable to the developments of Agriculture, and had, to some extent, an adverse influence on the success of the exhibition, but notwithstanding, we have the satisfaction to state, that industry, skill and enterprise were enabled to accomplish much that was praiseworthy, and to exhibit results in the highest degree satisfactory.

The varieties of soil under cultivation ; its different grades and exposures ; and the different degrees of dryness or moisture which pervade it, operate favorably in the average of dry and wet seasons, and secure against the evils of a total failure of crops from an extreme prevalence of either cause.

The exhibition was in general superior to that of last year, and in some respects superior to all that have preceded it. The weather having been propitious in a remarkable degree, afforded every opportunity for the transportation and display of Articles and Animals, and contributed also to the number and satisfaction of the spectators.

The entire Hall, which belongs to the Society, with the exception of the space allowed to the offices, was thrown open to the accommodation of articles and spectators, affording much more space than last year.

There were not quite so many entries for Ploughing as usual, but enough, and the work was well enough performed to make a fine and animating picture, and to gratify the numerous spectators.

The Spading Match, from the circumstance, among others, that it took place in a basin, or hollow, surrounded by elevated land, constituting an amphitheatre, gave unbounded satisfaction and interest to the vast throng, and presented a scene of the most picturesque description.

The number of Horses was larger, and their quality superior to those of former exhibitions, and the mode of displaying them vastly increased the attraction of this part of the Show.

The department of Neat Stock, especially of foreign breeds, and Swine, were fully equal, if not superior, to former years ; and the Show of Poultry was peculiarly attractive. We have never seen that department more worthy of notice.

The Vegetable department contained a great variety of remarkably fine specimens. There was more Butter exhibited than at any former exhibitions, indicating an usual interest in that department.

The Ladies' Work was of a superior order, although not very abundant ; and on the whole, the Show was excellent, considering the season, and afforded general pleasure and satisfaction. More than seven hundred dollars have already been awarded—a larger amount than usual—indicating the increasing merit of the articles exhibited. An able Address, which accompanies this Report, was delivered by Rev. JAMES RICHARDSON, Jr., of Kingston, a native of this County—from which much valuable information and many important suggestions may be obtained. We respectfully refer to the Reports of the Committees for the evidence of the increasing interest manifested in the Society, and of its continued success and prosperity.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, *President.*

EDW'D L. KEYES, *Secretary.*

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FARMS.

The Committee appointed to ascertain the general condition and prospects of agriculture in this County, make the following report:

The object of this commission has not seemed to be fully understood. It has been blended with that of the Committee on Farms; and as some individuals are members of both, there may be a confusion in their respective reports. Mr. King, from whose character, acquirements and position, great advantages might have been expected, has not been able, by reason of the multiplicity of his engagements elsewhere, to be present on several occasions when we have visited different sections of the county. We lamented this circumstance, as we had anticipated much assistance from so distinguished a friend of agriculture.

Another member of this Committee, a man of great practical knowledge of farming operations, and deeply interested in the progress of our Society, has been prevented by sickness from taking such a share in the work assigned us as he would gladly have assumed,—until the larger portion of the season had passed away. The presence of both these gentlemen was indispensable to the proper performance of our duties, and to the fulfilment of the Society's expectations.

Notwithstanding these discouragements, enough has been seen and done to justify the appointment of this or some similar commission. It furnishes the means of seeing many of the best farmers in the County; learning their success and the methods by which it was attained; witnessing their experiments and results; collecting and diffusing a knowledge of various practices and opinions; forming an acquaintance with the different soils, capacities and productions of different portions of the County; studying the relations between agriculture and the mechanic arts, in which so many of our population are engaged; all of which objects are vital to the farming interests of the County. To be visited by such a Committee gratifies many persons, who from choice or by necessity seek retirement and are seldom seen from home,—men deserving of encouragement and capable of imparting much sound agricul-

tural information. Distant from the busier scenes of life, they not only foster the virtues essential to manly character, but they also often attain great practical skill in their profession. To them we are indebted for many valuable suggestions. Such a commission brings to many information respecting the Society, which they would else not have, interests them in its objects and operations, gives opportunities for inquiries, explanations, and inducements to join us, and to make themselves and their doings known by coming to the Society's meetings and exhibitions. It sometimes enables us to remove prejudices that have been formed against the Society, through misapprehension of its purposes. In many obvious ways it adds to the Society's strength, benefits and general prosperity. We have only made a beginning; and would recommend that another Committee be appointed for the ensuing year, charged to commence operations in the spring and continue them to October,—to make diligent and minute inquiries and report them in detail.

This Committee visited a number of the best farms,—especially in the north and west portions of the County;—and gained valuable information respecting the cultivation of grains, potatoes, grass, fruit and vegetables. Wherever we went we were courteously welcomed and hospitably entertained, and everywhere found facilities for acquiring the knowledge we sought. Our limited ability, arising from the circumstances mentioned above, prevents us from making such a detailed report as we could wish; but we saw abundant evidences of the improving condition of Agriculture in the County. We saw a general disposition on the part of farmers to avail themselves of the agricultural information diffused by the Society's Reports, and by weekly papers devoted to this subject; a willingness in many to overcome traditional prejudices, and to accept the improvements suggested by modern science;—a desire to experiment with new manures and to test the expediency of new crops;—a better appreciation of the importance of deep ploughing and thorough cultivation, and of the superior advantages of high-bred stock for the dairy;—and a growing conviction that under suitable conditions,—conditions within the reach of most,—farming may be a profitable business.

In some parts of the County less land is under tillage than formerly, much having been suffered to run up to wood. In poor soils this may be good policy. But, as an offset, a good deal has

been effected in the recovery and cultivation of bogs and meadows, which often prove the most productive and profitable parts of the farm. More than ordinary attention is paid to the planting and care of orchards, as the farmers find a ready and remunerating sale of their products. Our notice has been called to several instances of eminent success in this department. It seems difficult, if not impossible, to overstock the market with good fruit. Fruit trees yield cheap and abundant increase of the common food for cattle and swine. Sweet apples, in particular, are nutritious and wholesome. Milch cows are benefited by them; and we have seen beef of the greatest excellence, which had been fattened entirely upon them. Farms well stocked with fruit trees are always more saleable, and at much higher rates, than others. Indeed, instances are not wanting of farms in this County, which have been enhanced in value from ten to thirty per cent. by the addition, within a few years, of a well-cultivated and thrifty orchard of grafted fruit. A remarkable example is furnished on the farm of Mr. Grant, in Wrentham, which we mention because that whole farm is a memorable instance of what may be accomplished by industry and economy. Ten years ago it was exhausted and scarcely worth cultivating. Mr. Grant has brought it into a highly flourishing condition; and every stranger notices the orchard as one of the most striking improvements. The improvement of pastures is going on extensively. A prejudice formerly existed against ploughing up old pastures, however mossy and miserable. But the impulse given to the manufacture of butter by continued high prices, has induced an extensive and favorable change. Old pastures are ploughed, manured, cultivated and laid down, furnishing abundant feed where once were only moss and weeds. Farmers are not so easily satisfied as formerly, with the amount taken from the land. They have become better acquainted with the capabilities of the soil and with improved methods of working it,—and, instead of thirty, they look for sixty bushels of corn, at least, from the acre, and other things in proportion. Of corn this is especially true. Besides those fields that were entered for premiums, we have seen many that promised remarkably large yields. Of these, we will specify (on account of its size and excellence) that of T. Motley, Jr. Esq., of West Roxbury. Mr. Motley had ten acres in corn, which, it was thought, late in September, would yield at

least eighty bushels to the acre. This, however, is only in keeping with other things on that farm, which in almost every respect challenges competition.

We also find that more than usual attention is given to the cultivation of roots, carrots, ruta bagas, &c., as food for cattle. Farmers, like other men, experience difficulty in changing their course ; and although practical men had learned that roots could be raised at the rate of from thirty to fifty tons per acre, and scientific men had proved that carrots, from one acre, would make more beef than hay from three, perhaps four acres, still farmers hesitated at making the experiment. This was natural and right. The growing of roots is expensive. It was something to which farmers were not accustomed ; and until the experiment was successfully performed under their eyes, they were justified in going forward with great caution in the new path. From the success that has attended the efforts of several of our most distinguished cultivators, it may reasonably be expected that more attention will be paid to this branch of agriculture, and that it will prove eminently profitable.

In this connection we would mention Mr. Motley's last year's crop of ruta bagas, twenty-four hundred bushels from three acres. We have also seen the same land devoted to the same root this year. From its appearance in September, we judged it might yield an equal amount. We have observed good fields of ruta bagas elsewhere ; but for extent, for evenness and thoroughness of cultivation, for its clean and beautiful appearance, none that equalled this.

We are gratified to notice the increasing patronage of agricultural papers, and the multiplication of books treating of farming, gardening, implements and education. Farmers understand, that, if they would improve their business, they must first improve themselves, and learn to cultivate the soil on principles established by science. The time has gone by, when men laughed at book-farming. Agriculture, as an Art, cannot be improved without a competent knowledge of its theory. The practical sagacity that accomplishes so much in difficult conditions, has no insight into the mysteries of science. If a soil is exhausted by repeated croppings, practical sagacity does not know how best to restore its fertility. There must be a higher culture of the intellect, under

the guidance of principles established by an acquaintance with the powers of nature. We must consent to be taught by those who are wiser than ourselves. In our circumstances, especially, this is the only course that can render farming profitable. With a soil but moderately fertile, with high-priced and incompetent farm-laborers, with the continued emigration of enterprising young men to cities, or to the West, the farmer must avail himself of all the resources of science, so that, with the same labor and outlay, he may largely increase his crops. Observation teaches that the best cultivated farms are the most profitable ; that the land resents ill-treatment ; that money invested in manure, in deep ploughing, in minute pulverization of the soil, in repeated stirring of the soil devoted to grain crops and potatoes, comes back with interest. Similar remarks might be made respecting the choice and treatment of cows and cattle. Great light has been thrown on all these topics by papers and books, and the farmers of this County begin to appreciate the value of their instructions.

We have noticed that farming flourishes most in connection with the Mechanic Arts. These introduce a numerous population, who furnish a home market for the productions of the farm. In places where there is no such population, the number of agriculturists diminishes by emigration ; the number of farms diminishes while their size increases ; landed property accumulates in fewer hands ; foreign laborers supply the place of natives ; the number of persons profitably interested in agriculture becomes smaller, and the towns lose both wealth and influence. We consider it an advantage to the farmers to have so many flourishing, mechanical and manufacturing establishments as now exist in this County. They furnish the farmers with inducements to cultivate the land in a better manner, to keep stock of a superior quality, and to increase the amount of fruit and vegetables, of milk and butter, for home consumption. A dense population tends to sustain prices, and to counterbalance the present increased expense of farming operations.

We cannot but notice great improvements in the construction of farm-buildings in different parts of the County. We regard this as an indication of increased interest as well as success in agriculture, and of more study and reflection upon the best methods of conducting its operations. Among those recently erected we

might specify the barn of B. V. French, Esq., in Braintree, as for convenience and labor-saving an almost faultless model. Few farmers, it is true, need or could afford so expensive a structure ; but, we would advise all, of whatever means, who intend to build, to examine Mr. French's barn, because, in our opinion, it is excelled by none in the County.

We would also call the attention of farmers to the improved implements of husbandry and labor-saving machines. This is a matter of vital consequence. While the price of labor is so high and the necessity of more thorough cultivation so apparent, it is of the first importance to obtain the best implements for performing the work of the farm, and the most approved machinery for saving the cost of it. The Horse-rake, which, but a few years ago, was regarded with ridicule, is now almost indispensable. The Mower and Reaper, though not yet fitted for common use, will, in an improved form, be of invaluable benefit and saving to every large farmer. The Sub-soil or Sub-sod Plough, once having small favor, is now fast gaining friends and advocates by its usefulness. Other improved implements are brought into notice by the inventors or sellers of them ; and we recommend the examination and trial of them wherever they can be had.

We believe that a new impulse has been given to agriculture among us by the formation of our Society. By its meetings, shows, premiums and reports,—by the intelligence it combines and diffuses,—by the enterprise of its leading members,—by the improvements it has suggested or made in the quality of stock and swine, it has fully justified its existence and merited the encomiums it receives from every quarter. It is instrumental in inducing men of wealth and energy to remove from the cities into the country,—men, who by their means and efforts, contribute largely towards carrying forward the noble Art which feeds the world. It is doing much in redeeming agriculture from the charge of empiricism, and advancing it, through its transitional states, towards the character of a perfected science.

Such are some of the reflections suggested by our recent observations. There is no evidence that the value of agricultural pursuits in Norfolk County has depreciated. On the contrary, it may safely be asserted, that, taking the whole body of farmers together, there has been no time, within our remembrance, when

their labor was better paid, or enabled them to enjoy more of the comforts of life, or to give a better education to their children. A very few get rich; fewer still absolutely fail; while the many support themselves and families in all the essentials of comfort and respectability. Can more be said of any other calling?

We consider it to be within the scope of our commission to point out errors and deficiencies as well as excellencies. It was our design to do both more minutely and specifically than we are now able to do. One or two instances have attracted our particular notice, and are of common occurrence.

Farmers here, as elsewhere, attempt the cultivation of too many acres with inadequate means. Large farms cannot be profitably cultivated without large capital. Both labor and fertilizing matters are lost by expanding them over too large a surface. Many an acre in this County might be made to yield double the returns now obtained from two acres cultivated in the usual way, and at much less expense. No error is more common, and none is, at this time, more hurtful to the farmer, than the endeavor to realize greater profits from many, than from few, acres.

Comparatively few farmers *know* the value of their business, or the amount bestowed upon and taken from the land. This results from the fact that they do not keep full and accurate accounts; and, of course, do not know what farming costs nor what it yields. A manufacturer of cotton cloth knows, to a mill, what a yard of cloth costs. Where the profits are small, it concerns him all the more to know this. Few farmers know what a pound of pork or butter costs, or what amount of hay and grain is required to make a hundred weight of beef. They can make a tolerably good guess; but an exact system of farm accounts would go a great way towards determining such questions; and, of course, towards settling the matter of the profitableness or unprofitableness of their business. Indeed, there is no other way by which a farmer can tell whether his plan of operations is judicious and profitable, and wherein it is defective. As the merchant, at the close of the year, takes an account of stock, charges himself with the interest of his capital, expenses, bad debts, losses, &c., and credits his business with goods on hand, profits, debts due, &c., so should the farmer, if he would understand precisely the value of his operations. Such a practice would tend to establish habits of order and economy,

and furnish an additional source of interest in every operation connected with farming.

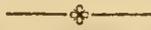
We have in mind an instance of such method and exactness of farm accounts by a young farmer in this County, which revealed to us, at once, the secret of his apparent success. His example affords a rebuke to many, and an incitement to all. So important to the farmer is the habit of keeping exact accounts, that we recommend to the Society to withhold any premium, which would otherwise be given to an individual, whose accounts do not show the cost of the article presented for premium.

In connection with the cost of agricultural productions, the question is suggested, why do we so seldom hear of apprentices to farmers? Is it because a knowledge of farming comes by nature? Or, because young men think that the time spent in apprenticeship would be lost? The present unusually high prices paid for ignorant and inefficient help would seem to indicate a different conclusion. We pay too much for what life and interest our common foreign laborers exhibit,—too much for what is actually done,—too much in proportion to the prices of what we sell from the farm. And as in all departments of manufacturing and mechanical pursuits, skilled labor is found to be most profitable to the employer, may we not presume that such would be the case in farming, most profitable and most satisfactory to all parties? If this presumption is just, it would justify some of our enterprising young men in apprenticing themselves to the best farmers and gardeners, with a view to become thoroughly acquainted with the business as both an art and a science. We believe that ultimately they would be gainers by this course,—would find steady and remunerating employment. Calls are now occasionally made for well qualified young men to manage market-gardening establishments and large farms. And if such calls could be satisfactorily answered, no doubt they would be multiplied. With the increased interest now felt in agriculture in this vicinity, and the number of wealthy men engaged in it, there must be a growing demand for skilled labor. And would not such labor on a farm be as honorable as selling tape from behind a counter, and as profitable, in the long run, as mining in California? Besides, it would tend to raise and improve the character of all farming labor,—to make it as reputable as it is indispensable. By the example and success of a few leading

men, school teaching has been elevated to the rank and pay of a learned profession, and the eminent teacher takes his position among the foremost classes of society. Farming demands learning and talents, and will reward them. They will convert it from an empirical trade to a noble and dignified pursuit ; and it will crown them with riches and honor. Our Society will have gone a great way towards fulfilling the wishes of its enlightened founders, when it shall persuade young men to devote to agriculture years of earnest and serious study,—when thought shall be wedded to labor,—when science applied to the cultivation of the soil shall redeem from unmerited contempt one of the most useful of human employments.

For the Committee,

JOHN M. MERRICK.



## REPORT ON HORSES.

The Committee have the pleasure to report,—That a much larger number of horses have been offered for exhibition than any previous year, and that there is a manifest improvement in the quality of the stock exhibited.

They have awarded the following premiums, &c. :—

To E. C. Brooks, of Dedham, for the best stallion, . . . \$10.00

Messrs. Gilson, of West Cambridge, Lawrence, of  
———, and a stranger from Vermont, exhibited superior stallions, but not being residents of the County were not entitled to awards.

To Joseph Fisher, of West Dedham, for a pair of horses, combining the properties of carriage and work horses, a premium of . . . . . 6.00

To Thomas Adams, of Roxbury, for a pair of carriage horses, a gratuity of . . . . . 6.00

To Charles Sampson, of West Roxbury, for a pair of carriage horses, a diploma.

To J. W. Clark, of Dedham, for a pair of carriage horses, a diploma.

- To E. B. Parker, of Wrentham, for a pair of excellent team horses, a diploma.
- To Joseph H. Billings, of West Roxbury, for the best single carriage horse, a premium of . . . . . 3.00
- To Leonard Ware, of Roxbury, for a superior brown mare, a gratuity of . . . . . 3.00
- To Wm. M. Stedman, of Needham, for a fine white gelding, a gratuity of . . . . . 2.00
- To Dr. Henry F. Spear, of Dedham, for a five year old black mare, a diploma.
- To Thomas Adams, of Roxbury, for a bay Morgan gelding, a diploma.
- To Joseph H. Billings, of West Roxbury, for the best four year old colt, a premium of . . . . . 6.00
- To Dr. S. S. Whitney, of Dedham, for the best three year old colt, a premium of . . . . . 5.00
- To James W. Huckins, of Squantum, for the best two year old colt, a premium of . . . . . 3.00
- To John Fussell, of Roxbury, for a superior two year old colt, a gratuity of . . . . . 2.00
- To B. W. Worley, of West Roxbury, for a two year old colt, a gratuity of . . . . . 1.00
- To Joseph H. Billings, of West Roxbury, for a two year old colt, a diploma.
- To Joseph H. Billings, of West Roxbury, for the best one year old colt, a premium of . . . . . 2.00
- To John Fussell, of Roxbury, for a superior one year old colt, a gratuity of . . . . . 1.00
- To A. W. Austin, of West Roxbury, for the best brood mare and colt, a premium of . . . . . 7.00
- To C. L. Cunningham, of Milton, for the second best brood mare and colt, a premium of . . . . . 5.00
- To E. T. Everett, of Wrentham, for a brood mare and colt, a diploma.
- To Thomas Adams, of Roxbury, for a brood mare and colt, a diploma.
- Mr. John Fussell, of Roxbury, exhibited an excellent brood mare, 19 years old.

To John Morgan, of West Dedham, for the best farm horse,  
 a premium of . . . . . 6.00  
 To C. L. Cunningham, of Milton, for a good farm horse, a  
 diploma.

Our venerable friend, Elijah Tucker, of Milton, exhibited his  
 venerable sorrel farm horse, now 32 years old, looking even more  
 vigorous than last year, and apparently renewing his youth.

For the Committee,

JOSEPH L. BRIGHAM.

*Roxbury, Oct. 2d, 1854.*



## REPORT ON LADIES' WORK.

The Committee on Ladies' Work have attended to the duty assigned them, and report:—

That the articles offered for exhibition and premium are very much handsomer than those offered the preceding two years. They would particularly mention the worsted embroidery of Miss Whittier, of Dorchester, and award her a gratuity of \$2.

To Amanda M. Thompson, of Dedham, for an embroidered blanket, a gratuity of 75 cts.

To Hannah Endicott, of Canton, and Master E. W. Colburn, of West Dedham, a gratuity of 75 cts. each, for embroidery.

To Mrs. Crawshaw, of Roxbury, a premium of \$2.00 is awarded for a beautifully made pair of ladies' gaiter boots.

To Miss M. J. Hobson, of Milton, for a silk patch quilt, the Society's diploma.

To Mrs. Mary Farmer, of Roxbury, Mrs. Stevens, of Medway, and Mrs. Richardson, of do., each a gratuity of 50 cts.

To Miss Mary Quincy, of Dedham, for stockings neatly darned, a premium of \$2.00.

The Committee regret that but one specimen of mending should have been offered, and they award a high premium for that, hoping to induce ladies to exercise their taste and ingenuity in future more equally between useful and merely ornamental articles.

To Miss Hannah Endicott, of Canton, a gratuity of 75 cts. for

one boy's cap and several pairs infants' shoes, they being the only ones of the kind offered.

To Miss Gallagher, of Canton, aged seven years, a premium of 50 cts. for pencil drawings.

To Mrs. Marchant, of Needham, a diploma, for wax flowers.

To Miss A. E. Drayton, of Dedham, a gratuity of 50 cts. each, for two embroidered skirts.

The Exhibition was indebted for a variety of contributions to Mrs. Geo. Alden, Mrs. Sumner, Mrs. Wood, and Miss M. E. Fisher, of Dedham; Mrs. Atherton, of Dorchester; Miss C. L. Smith, of Sharon; Miss Chandler, of Canton; Mrs. Ludden, of Braintree, and Miss Atwood, of Franklin.

The knit socks of Mrs. Farrington, of South Dedham, would have obtained a premium had they been sent in on Tuesday, the day before the fair; and in this connection your Committee would say, that several articles were brought in on Wednesday, the morning of the fair, some of which were very beautiful and deserving premiums, but being too late to come within the prescribed rule, no awards could be made for them.

The Committee have decided, however, to allow a gratuity of \$1.00 to Miss Clarissa Eaton, of Dorchester, for a monochromatic drawing, and four leather work picture frames, one of which was the most beautiful of the kind exhibited.

The Committee have great pleasure in noticing several articles, both of utility and beauty, contributed by venerable ladies of from 80 to 90 years of age, and they regret that it was not in their power to award premiums for the same, none having been offered for that particular description of work in the list of awards.

Your Committee beg leave to refer to the following instructions from the Board of Directors, for the future guidance of contributors:—

“It should be understood that in this department of ladies' work—while other things will receive due consideration—the premiums are intended *solely for new made* articles, which are really useful or particularly beautiful, such as Garments of every description, Bonnets, Caps, Children's Clothes, Knitting, Mending, Patching, Darning, &c., Painting, Drawing, and Designing, Models in wood, plaster or marble, &c. &c.”

Your Committee would also remind contributors that “all arti-

cles entered for premium should be delivered to the Committee on the day before the fair."

It cannot be expected that all will receive premiums, as it should be borne in mind, that in many instances several articles of the same description are offered, and it by no means follows that because an article fails to receive an award, it was not worthy of consideration, as your Committee were often at a loss to decide between the different points of merit presented.

For the Committee.



## REPORT ON WARES OF GLASS, IRON, &c.

The Committee report, that their attention was called to sundry entries, which they dispose of as follows, viz. :—

No. 1. John C. Hewins, of Dorchester, offered Horse-Shoes and Ox-Shoes, of good workmanship; two sets of Horse-Shoes were creased and punched in the ordinary manner. One shoe, of fine form, was punched with oval countersunk holes for the nails, a peculiarity which we were happy to notice here; having long since proved the superiority of that mode of nailing, in its retention of the shoe to the foot, under the most unfavorable circumstances.

The Ox-Shoes were of the wide or full-soled variety, having nail holes of *similar construction*, and being in accordance with the mode now adopted in the veterinary establishments of England and the continent. We feel a satisfaction in presenting these to the notice of the community, and award a premium of \$1.00.

No. 2. G. W. Corbett, of Jamaica Plain, offered one Horse-Shoe, of very fine form and workmanship. Gratuity of 50 cts.

No. 3. E. C. Wilder, of Dorchester, a set of Horse-Shoes, too highly polished.

No. 4. J. R. Paine, of Dover, two fine Husk Collars, good and useful articles; should be more used. A gratuity, 50 cts.

No. 5. J. R. Welcome, of Dedham, six Stoves; neat, useful, and ornamental articles, combining the cooking with the parlor arrangements. A premium, \$2.00.

No. 6. H. L. & W. C. Clapp, of Sharon, Patent Crockery

Ware, made by C. Cartlidge & Co., Long Island, N. Y., at prices less than imported Ware of equal quality. Messrs. Clapps, the Agents, exhibited Tea and Table Sets, Door Plates, Escutcheons, Bell-Pulls, Knobs, Letters and Figures for Signs, and other useful and ornamental articles of elegant workmanship and extraordinary strength and tenacity. Diploma.

No. 7. Timothy Walker, of Holliston, a Washing Machine of superior construction; besides the rubbing board, it has the wiper of the fulling mill, operated by a hand lever acting on a toggle-joint; simple—efficient. Price \$10. Diploma.

No. 8. Martin C. Forest, Foxborough, a Gold-mounted Hickory Cane, a beautiful crooked stick. Gratuity, 50 cts.

No. 9. James Daniels, East Medway, a lot of plain and mounted walnut Whip Stocks. Although Mr. Daniels is blind, your Committee must have been more than blind had they not noticed the fine proportion and the beautiful curvilinear taper of those Stocks, which would put to the blush many who had served their time at the bench. The finish also was such, that we finish with—a diploma.

No. 10. Chase, Brothers, Boston, exhibited Iron Railing, Fence, Settees, Posts, Tree Guards, Busts, Images, Vases, Animals, &c., useful and ornamental—well executed. A diploma.

No. 11. Timothy Phelps, Dedham, Hats; of a quality worthy the heads of taller men than we are.

No. 12. Boyden & Co., South Dedham, Cabinet Work; had it been offered in season, it would have been more distinctly noticed.

No. 13. Perforated, or Lace-work Mahogany Veneers—well done.

No. 14. John Mears, of Dorchester, exhibited a Machine for wringing Clothes, applicable to any tub, with which a child of ten years can wring a sheet or blanket. Price \$1.25. Has been used and approved.

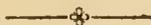
No. 15. John Mears, Dorchester, exhibited a lot of Cast Malleable Iron Horse-Shoes, new, and in various stages of wear, as taken from the hoof, designed for frosting, sharp all round—prevent balling, and give the horse a firm tread—having counter-sunk nail holes, and may be bent to the form of the foot. Price, per set, 75 cts. Have been used and approved.

Your Committee urge the expediency of contributors making the entries, and exhibiting their articles on or before 12 o'clock, M. of the first day; being present with the Committee during the afternoon, and handing in to them a written description of each article, its peculiarities and advantages, its cost or selling price—thus aiding the Committee in making up their report in a satisfactory manner—advancing the interest of the contributor, and affording information to the community.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN MEARS, Per Order.

Dorchester, Sept. 28, 1854.



## REPORT ON BEES.

Your Committee on Bees report:—

That owing to the want of a premium, or some other cause to us unknown, there is a great apathy among bee owners in presenting any thing for our consideration. And yet agriculturally, pomologically, scientifically, or *sighcologically* considered, we might suppose many would *wax* warm upon the subject. The raising of buckwheat or white clover in preference to other grains or other grasses, may depend on the prior question, whether one intends to keep bees or not. And this gives the subject its *agricultural* aspect.

The raising of thin-skinned peaches and juicy pears in preference to such as are woolly as serge, or have a skin like the rhinoceros, may depend on whether one keeps bees or not. And that gives it the *pomological* aspect. The *cellular* membrane of a hive, for the secretion of honey, gives it the *scientific* aspect. And the looking for a heavy produce in the cells, and discovering simply the depredations of the bee-moth, presents the *sighcological* aspect, not to mention certain regrets incident to an awkward handling of the insects. A full and candid treatise on the bee is a desideratum yet. We want to know *all* the facts. Our friend, Dr. Eddy, has not discussed the subject in reference to the injury of fruit, on which the public's mind is distressingly divided. It has been declared bees *will not* injure fruit, and we verily believe they

will not injure the shagbark nor the watermelon, any more than they would hurt a horseshoe or a gutta percha walking-stick. But if the fellows will not revel in a Bolmar Washington Plum, or a Bartlett Pear, then our eyes and ears, and fingers too, have deceived us. We might as well say (some of us think) that a cow will not meddle with vegetables in the garden, because she does not graze tomato plants; or that a yeoman does not like fruit because he refuses olives, as that a bee does *no* mischief because it does not do every conceivable kind of mischief, on every conceivable kind of fruit.

But we are not writing a prize essay, and therefore return to the exhibition itself, to express our opinion of what we saw in your exhibition hall.

We saw Dr. Eddy's Protective Beehive and Dr. Eddy himself, and Mr. W. S. Damrell's bees in the hive, and some beautiful drawers of honey, belonging either to the bees or Mr. Damrell, as sound ethics may determine. We heard the statements of the Doctor concerning the hive, and are prepared conscientiously to say, that we believe he has accomplished a work in which all others have failed, that of protecting the bee from the moth. No intelligent miller would attempt an invasion. Every joint is secured—or, if by an inadvertence one little crevice is exposed, he could penetrate no further than a Jew can penetrate the mosque of Omar. He might perchance *smell* the honey, but to reach it is a stubborn impossibility. Furthermore, the Doctor has provided for a most judicious ventilation, and equalizing the temperature of the hive, well adapted to preserve the operatives in an amiable spirit and excite them to an exemplary diligence,—two objects to be attained in respect to other hives.

We think Mr. Damrell's bees did creditably and profitably, and presented an interesting feature of your exhibition, and we think also that the whole subject of raising honey is yet open to discussion, experiment, and the establishing of facts. We have not altered, however, but rather cling more tenaciously to our opinion, that ambitious fruit-growers may observe caution in regard to the bee enterprise.

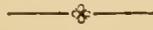
We make these strictures, however, as applicable to Norfolk County and those around Boston particularly, and not applicable to our Central or Western Counties.

The bee loves the clover field (the white clover) as the humming bird loves the honeysuckle, and will forsake many a fruit and many a flower for a sip out of the chalice of the clover. It loves also the buckwheat, and when the field is fair and beautiful with its blossoms, your ear may catch the constant hum of the bee in drowsy sweetness, lulling the senses into quietude and peace. Raise your honey where the clover and the wheat fields abound, and it will have amber clearness and save your Bolmars, your Gages, your Bartletts, and your patience.

For the Committee,

L. B. BABCOCK, *Chairman.*

*Dedham, October 6, 1854.*



## REPORT ON HEDGES.

The desire to combine the pleasing with the useful, to surround one's self with objects which are agreeable to the eye and gratify a refined taste, naturally springs up and strengthens in the breast, as man advances in intellectual culture. A perfectly plain edifice may answer the bare wants of nature, may keep out wind and rain; but if a little architectural beauty can be secured, or a little ornament be added, without a sacrifice of convenience, something is gained in point of rational enjoyment. So in the disposition and management of grounds,—grace, proportion, harmony, and variety of beautiful forms, secured by the introduction of clumps of well-chosen trees and shrubs, and in other ways, are deserving of attention, not only as furnishing an innocent pleasure, but as tending to refine and elevate the mind and feelings. The arrangements of a farm, even, should give evidence of a regard to something beyond and above the mere coarser wants of existence.

A well set and well kept hedge combines, in an eminent degree, the two elements of utility and beauty. To an American, the green hedges of old England constitute one of the most pleasing features in the landscape of that country, so fresh and beautiful. Your Committee rejoice to believe that there is a growing

appreciation of their advantages, and an increased attention to their culture among ourselves.

The abundance and cheapness of materials suitable for walls and fences, with other considerations, will long prevent our farms from exhibiting the tasteful appearance of those of the mother country, which have enjoyed the benefits of centuries of culture and improvement. Still we have ornamental grounds, and wealth will seek more and more to diffuse itself over the surface of our soil in creations of beauty as well as of utility. The taste for rural occupations and enjoyment of the pleasant airs of the country, will lead to improvements both attractive to the eye and dear to the affections. There is no reason why the beauty of a green and well cut hedge, taking the place of ugly walls and fences, should be overlooked, and it will not be. Foliage is always beautiful, and the eye seeks it and rests upon it with delight.

In the discharge of the duty assigned them, your Committee have visited the grounds of two gentlemen,—Capt. Daniel C. Bacon, of Jamaica Plain, and C. B. Shaw, Esq., of Dedham. The hedges on these grounds have been all under the care of Mr. Robert Watt, and bear evidence of his peculiar taste and skill. Your Committee took great pleasure in visiting both these places. On both, the hedges exceed the length of one thousand feet, required for a premium.

The materials used by Capt. Bacon for his hedges, are the buckthorn, the privet or prim, and the arbor vitæ. For division lines between lots, or contiguous grounds, the privet forms a very pretty and graceful hedge. Its small, delicate leaves, often thickly set, are pleasing to the eye, and have the advantage of remaining on the stem and preserving their verdure longer than those of most plants or shrubs. In parts of England the privet is an evergreen, and even here it is not uncommon for branches which lie near the ground, where they are well protected, to retain their verdure unimpaired through the winter. In setting the hedge to which we refer, Capt. Bacon used alternately a plant of the privet and one of the buckthorn. But notwithstanding the vigorous and hardy character of the buckthorn, the privet now prevails, and at the time of the visit of your Committee, (the 16th of October,) very little of the foliage of the buckthorn was visible,

but the leaves of the privet clothed the whole surface with a soft, delicate green. The hedge, which is extensive, is five years old.

The plants of the privet may be obtained at very little expense from England, or may be raised from the seed, or from slips,—the better method of the two. The only objection, of which we are aware, to the use of this material for hedges, is, that, in certain positions, the plant, though in the main very hardy, is, from some cause, subject to occasional blight or injury. It thrives in almost any soil; but dry, hot situations are least friendly to its healthy growth and vigor.

Very fine specimens of buckthorn hedges may be seen in Dedham and elsewhere in the County; but to give a detailed notice of them would be impossible within the limits prescribed for this report. The attention of your Committee has been directed particularly to hedges of the arbor vitæ, which possess some very decided advantages over all others. They are beautiful through the year. In winter, it is true, they lose their decidedly green color and assume a slightly brownish tint. But still they are beautiful, while the buckthorn, with the loss of its foliage, loses its whole beauty. There are few objects in ornamental grounds on which the eye lingers with more pleasure than on the thick, massive, and seemingly impenetrable foliage of a well cut arbor vitæ hedge.

It is an advantage attending this material, too, that the plants can be readily trained to any height almost one chooses, from that of the common hedge, to fifteen or twenty feet, or more, when a screen of that height is needed to conceal objects unsightly to the eye. Careful and proper clipping, however, is necessary, whether the plants stand alone, or are grouped in clusters, or arranged in the line of a hedge, else the branches will grow straggling and lose a great part of their beauty.

A hedge of arbor vitæ, is, of course, subject to injury from cattle, which must be carefully kept from it. From its delicacy and susceptibility to injury, too, it does not answer well on the road-side, where passers by are liable thoughtlessly to pluck branches from it, thus making holes, or giving it a ragged appearance, from which it may be some years in recovering.

There is no particular difficulty in rearing an arbor vitæ hedge, if it can be secured against depredation from the horns of cattle

and from human hands. The tree is very tenacious of life, and the expense of setting and rearing the hedge is very little greater than is required to rear one of other materials, the buckthorn or prim for example. It was formerly thought that the plants, which may be obtained in abundance from the forests of New Hampshire and Maine, must be transferred from the forest to the nursery before being used for a hedge. But experience shows, that if taken up and packed with due care, this is unnecessary. Hedges formed from plants brought directly from the forest, will succeed very well with proper treatment.

Capt. Bacon has a large extent of arbor vitæ hedge reared from plants, brought, we believe, directly from the forest six years ago. It borders on an avenue, from which it is separated by a bank wall, which secures it against depredation or injury, and on approaching the residence of the proprietor, it forms a very attractive object to the eye. Captain Bacon has in all 1,949 feet of hedge.

To the beauty of Mr. Shaw's hedge of arbor vitæ, all who have seen it will bear testimony. It was begun five years ago, the plants being taken from a nursery; and nothing could be more successful. It stands on the edge of a beautiful lawn which spreads before his house, and is graceful in its form, presenting easy curves, on which the eye dwells with peculiar satisfaction. Mr. Shaw's hedge, in a continuous line, consisting of arbor vitæ and buckthorn, is 1,100 feet, besides which he has another piece of arbor vitæ hedges of some length.

Your Committee can bestow unqualified commendation on both these hedges. But the task of assigning a premium in the case, is a somewhat invidious one; and as the Society offer a first premium of \$10.00 and a second of \$5.00, your Committee would recommend that these premiums be divided, and \$7.50 be awarded to Mr. Shaw, and the same sum to Capt. Bacon.

Your Committee have a high opinion of Mr. Watt, as a practical gardener. His taste and skill in the management of hedges of different kinds, are indisputable; in testimony of which your Committee recommend that he receive a diploma of the Society,

All which is respectfully submitted,

For the Committee,

*Dedham, Nov. 16, 1854.*

EBEN WIGHT, *Chairman.*

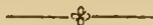
## REPORT ON ROOTS AND VEGETABLES.

The collection of roots and vegetables was not so large as on some former occasions, caused probably by the long and unusual drought of the past summer; still some of the finest individual specimens of vegetable growth were exhibited. No applications were made for premiums on root culture that would come within the rules laid down by the Society. Some very fine carrots were exhibited by Mrs. Wood, of Dedham. Your Committee awarded the premium of \$5.00, for the best conducted experiment in raising autumnal marrow squashes and winter crooked necked squashes, to E. Stone, Esq., of Dedham. There were very handsome specimens of squashes from Wm. Davenport, and also from David A. Baker, of Dedham, and B. N. Sawin, of Dover; also a remarkable variety exhibited by Mr. Amos W. Stetson, being a cross of the marrow and Cuba squash; fine Valparaiso squashes from Mr. Silas Gay, of Sharon, and four varieties from A. C. Kollock, of Canton.

Two very large, various and excellent collections of vegetables were exhibited by B. V. French, Esq., of Braintree, and by Mr. C. A. Hewins, of West Roxbury. Your Committee awarded to Mr. French, for the best variety of garden vegetables, the first premium of the silver cup, and the second premium to Mr. Hewins.

For the Committee,

JAMES M. ROBBINS, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON SHEEP.

The Committee on sheep having attended to the duty assigned them, award to Whiting Grant, of Wrentham, the first premium of \$5.00, for his flock of six sheep, his being the only flock offered for premium.

TRUMAN CLARKE, *Chairman.*

## REPORTS ON PLOUGHING.

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### DOUBLE TEAMS.

L. & J. E. Eaton, of Dedham, first premium, . . .	\$10.00
B. V. French, of Braintree, second premium, . . .	8.00
H. & M. Whiting, of Dedham, third premium, . . .	6.00
Timothy Tucker, of Milton, fourth premium, . . .	4.00

RALPH SANGER, *Chairman.*

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### SINGLE TEAMS.

Henry Goulding, of Dover, first premium, . . .	\$8.00
L. & J. E. Eaton, of Dedham, second premium, . . .	7.00
Benjamin V. French, of Braintree, third premium, . . .	6.00

For the Committee,

LUTHER EATON, *Chairman.*

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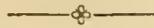
### HORSE TEAMS.

The Committee on ploughing with Horse Teams respectfully submit the following report:—

There were six teams entered; but one of the competitors, not owning his team, was struck from the list, as the regulations of the Society require competitors to own their teams, and enter them in their own names. And in awarding premiums, your Committee consider it to be their duty to conform strictly to the rules of the Society; and after a careful examination of the ploughing, which was all done well, they award the premiums as follows:—

To Hiram W. Jones, of Dover, with Ruggles, Nourse & Mason's plough, the first premium of . . .	\$8.00
To Benjamin V. French, of Braintree, with Prouty & Mears's plough, the second premium of . . .	6.00

To E. B. Parker, of Wrentham, with Ruggles, Nourse & Mason's plough, the third premium of . . . .	4.00
To D. F. Mann, of Dover, with Ruggles, Nourse & Mason's plough, the fourth premium of . . . .	2.00
To Wm. S. Damrell, of Dedham, with Ruggles, Nourse & Mason's plough, a gratuity of . . . . - . . .	2.00
For the Committee,	
HORATIO N. GLOVER, <i>Chairman.</i>	
Quincy, Nov. 12, 1854.	



### REPORT ON BREAD.

The Committee on Bread respectfully report, that they have attended to the duty assigned them, and have awarded the following premiums:—

For the best loaf of Wheat Bread, the first premium of three dollars, to Mrs. Wm. Jameson, of West Roxbury.

For the second best Wheat Loaf, the second premium of two dollars, to Mrs. B. Newell, of Dover.

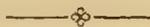
For the Bread made of Wheat and Indian offered, they have awarded a second premium of two dollars, to Mrs. A. Newell, of Needham.

For the best loaf of Rye and Indian Bread, they award the first premium of three dollars, to Mrs. A. Newell, of Needham.

For the next best loaf of Rye and Indian Bread, the second premium of two dollars, to Mrs. Sarah S. Kolloek, of Canton.

All which is respectfully submitted.

EDMUND QUINCY, *Chairman.*



### REPORT ON SPADING.

The Committee on Spading, report:—

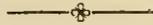
The number of entries were nine. Your Committee see decided improvements from year to year in the execution and finish of the work, and consider that of the present year very well done.

They award the

1st premium to	Patriek Igoe, Dorchester,	. . .	\$8.00
2d	“ Peter Ford, North Wrentham,	. . .	7.00
3d	“ Timothy Hickey, Dorchester,	. . .	6.00
4th	“ David Gleason, Dedham,	. . .	5.00
5th	“ Dennis Doody, Dorchester,	. . .	4.00
6th	“ David Seanlan, Dedham,	. . .	3.00
7th	“ Wm. Hickey, Dorchester,	. . .	2.00
8th	“ Thomas Smith, North Wrentham,	. . .	1.00

SAM'L DOWNER, of Dorchester, *Chairman.*

SAMUEL ELLIS, }  
 A. D. WELD, } *Committee.*  
 JON. FRENCH, }



## REPORT ON GRAIN CROPS.

The Committee on Grain Crops report only five entries of Indian corn. Many excellent fields of this staple production have been grown in various parts of the County, but the severe drought so discouraged the farmers as to deter them from entering their fields for premium. We know of several lots that yielded, with one exception, crops fully equal to those to which premiums were assigned, that were not entered. We are happy to state that the drought was less injurious than had been anticipated. The crop, though smaller than that of last year, is fully an average one; and on good land well cultivated, amply repays the labor and expense bestowed upon it. We are aware of diversities of opinion respecting the profitableness of Indian corn, some farmers having discontinued raising it on account of its small returns,—others affirming that it is less profitable than grass,—others that it is the best crop they raise. A distinguished farmer grows no corn, because in former trials he could get no more than sixty bushels from an acre! Others are satisfied with forty as a remunerating yield. We believe that on this subject most farmers have yet much to learn, especially in regard to what the yield may be when the land is properly prepared and cultivated. We apprehend that few *know* what their grain crop costs; at least their knowledge is

so indefinite as to furnish no satisfactory opinion of its profitable-ness. By this we mean that they keep no exact account of their expenditures. The corn in the bin speaks for itself; but how much the land is worth, how much is spent for labor, how much for manure, what is the value of the stover; these have scarcely ever been accurately ascertained. And without this knowledge it is impossible to determine what the corn costs. One farmer says that corn may be raised in Norfolk for fifty cents a bushel; another that a dollar will hardly cover the expense. But neither know what it does cost for want of a system of farm accounts. The difference in their opinions looks very much as if they contented themselves with guessing. Some of our most judicious farmers, however, assure us in general terms, that nothing pays better than corn, both in the crop itself and in the preparation of the land for grass. We have found the most favorable opinion on this subject in men who have taken the most pains, who have expended the most labor and money, who have ploughed deep and manured well, who have kept their land in the best condition. They certainly are the most competent judges. They observe that method of cultivation, which in other things pays a good interest. No satisfactory inference against the profitable-ness of this crop can be drawn from the results of careless or superficial culture.

We are happy to observe that the spirit of improvement noticeable in other departments of agriculture, has reached the cultivation of corn; that more inquiries are made as to the best methods of proceeding; that greater attention is paid to the selection of seed; a very important point, and one that hitherto has been much neglected; that the relative values of different varieties are carefully considered; that manure is more generally spread and ploughed in, while the quantity is increased and the quality improved; that high hilling is more discountenanced; that frequent stirring of the land by the cultivator and hoe is believed to be the surest preventive against the effects of long-continued drought; and that the old prejudice in favor of the widest distance between the rows is abating. The consequence is, that greater crops are raised from the same extent of land, and the question of profitable-ness is brought nearer to a definite solution. Some of the most rigidly conservative farmers admit that probably the highest results are not yet attained, and that the time may come, when with bet-

ter knowledge applied to the culture of corn, eighty bushels may be grown upon the acre that now yields forty or fifty. It will then be found that no more profitable field crop is raised in New England.

J. M. MERRICK.

Premiums awarded as follows, viz. :—

To Philemon Ruggles, of Milton, the first premium of	\$8.00
To B. N. Sawin, of Dover, the second premium of	5.00
To William Pierce, of Needham, the third premium of	3.00

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#### MR. SAWIN'S STATEMENT.

The field entered by me for premium measures one acre and three quarters. Though lying in one lot, yet for purposes of cultivation it may be considered as divided into two parts, one containing an acre, the other three quarters of an acre. The acre lot was in corn in 1853. In December last, I carted on to it  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cords of compost manure from the barn-cellar, and ploughed it in. In May, I carted on  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cords of unfermented manure, spread and ploughed it in,—putting no manure in the hill. The other lot was ploughed in November last, with Prouty & Mears' No. 36 plough. In May, I harrowed across the furrows. I used  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cords of unfermented manure, putting it all in the hill. On the whole field the furrows for planting were two feet six inches apart each way from the centre. Commenced planting the small, eight-rowed, yellow corn, on the 24th of May, putting four or five kernels in a hill. A cultivator was passed between the rows before hoeing. The corn was hoed twice. The surface of the ground was left level. I should have said before, that the ground was ploughed eight inches deep. The stalks were cut the first week in September. On the 7th of October, Messrs. Sawyer and Merrick selected one rod, which was considered a fair sample of the field. The corn when shelled measured sixteen quarts, and weighed twenty-seven pounds. At 56 pounds to the bushel (the Society's standard) this would give  $77\frac{1}{7}$  bushels per acre.

The expense of the crop was as follows, viz. :—

Interest on value of land, . . . . .	\$5.25
Taxes, . . . . .	54
3½ cords of manure, at \$4.00 . . . . .	14.00
8 " " " 5.00 . . . . .	40.00
Carting and applying manure, . . . . .	14.12
Ploughing and harrowing, . . . . .	4.50
Furrowing and planting, . . . . .	4.75
Seed, 21 quarts, . . . . .	84
Crow line round the field, . . . . .	12
Cultivating and hoeing, . . . . .	7.17
Cutting and binding stalks, . . . . .	4.00
Harvesting, . . . . .	9.00
	<hr/>
Cost, . . . . .	\$104.29

The value of the crop is as follows, viz. :—

Stalks, . . . . .	\$11.44
Husks, . . . . .	13.50
Half of the manure unspent, . . . . .	27.00
135 bushels of corn, . . . . .	135.00
	<hr/>
	186.94
Subtract the cost, . . . . .	104.29
	<hr/>

Leaves as profit, . . . . \$82.65 or \$47.24 to the acre.

Yours, respectfully,

B. N. SAWIN.

Dover, Oct. 21, 1854.

Mr. Sawin afterwards modified his statement by saying,—  
“since my statement was made I have finished husking, and find by actual measurement 232 baskets of sound corn. I have shelled several baskets, and found them to yield twenty quarts each of shelled corn,—which result gives 145 bushels on the one acre and three fourths.”

B. N. S.

We have examined Mr. Sawin's farm-account books, not only in reference to this crop but to all his operations, and have the satisfaction of saying that he has the means of *knowing* exactly what he expends upon his farm, and what he receives from it. His practice in this is worthy of imitation by every farmer in the County.

## MR. WILLIAM PIERCE'S STATEMENT.

The acre of corn entered by me for premium was in corn last year. The soil is a light loam. It was ploughed about the first of May, ten inches deep. On the 20th, spread six cart-loads of green manure, from 25 to 30 bushels to the load; ploughed it in six inches deep, furrowed one way with the plough. The rows were three feet apart. Put one shovelful of compost manure in the hill. Planted the corn  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 feet apart in the rows, four or five kernels to the hill. Ploughed twice between the rows and hoed twice. Harvested about the middle of October. One rod was selected by the Committee, which was considered as a fair sample of the acre. This rod yielded  $26\frac{7}{8}$  pounds of shelled corn.

## Expense of cultivation :

Interest on land, at \$80.00,	. . . . .	\$4.80
Ploughing,	. . . . .	3.00
Half the manure,	. . . . .	15.00
Carting and spreading manure and planting,		5.00
Ploughing and hoeing,	. . . . .	4.00
Cutting Stalks and harvesting,	. . . . .	7.00
		\$38.80
Cr. $76\frac{7}{8}$ bushels of Corn, at \$1.00,	$76.87\frac{1}{2}$	$90.87\frac{1}{2}$ crop.
Stalks and Husks,	14.00	38.80 cost.
	$90.87\frac{1}{2}$	\$52.07 $\frac{1}{2}$ profit.

WM. PIERCE.

*Needham, Oct. 25, 1854.*

## MR. BRECK'S STATEMENT.

The Committee on grain crops have received the following letters from Mr. Charles Breck, which are considered worth publishing, inasmuch as they show an extraordinary yield of corn, that was raised without special effort, and with no view to a premium.

MR. MERRICK,

Sir—I promised to send you an account of two extra pieces of corn, which were raised in my vicinity the present year. The

first was raised by Messrs. E. and J. Sias on a farm formerly belonging to H. Inches, Esq. As the land was rough and rocky, and as nothing extra was expected, no particular account was kept. Noticing that it was more than a usual crop, I requested Mr. Sias to keep an accurate account of the quantity, which he did. There were 178 baskets of ears. On the 25th of October I assisted in weighing some of the shelled corn, and found that a basket full of ears gave  $36\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. of corn, and  $10\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. of cobs. We then took the same weight of corn on the ear (47 lbs.) and laid it by itself to dry more, if it would. November 14th I weighed this same basket of ears and found that it had lost three pounds. We then shelled the corn, and there were 37 lbs. of corn and 7 lbs. of cobs, the latter having lost  $3\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. while the corn had gained  $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. I have measured the land,—one acre and 28 rods. At 56 lbs. to the bushel, the yield is  $117\frac{6}{10}$ ,—a fraction over 100 bushels to the acre. The corn was the Plymouth County, or smutty white. Mr. Sias says, that last year, as the land was very rough, with many fast rocks, and a part covered with slate ledge, it was manured very lightly and yielded a very small crop; or as Mr. S. expressed it, “We slighted the corn and the corn slighted us.”

This year we put on seven cords of manure, part from the piggery and part from the barn-yard. The rows were about three and a half feet apart, hills two and a half feet apart in the rows. Before we had finished planting, our old manure was gone, and on one eighth of the field we put into the hills manure green from the barn-windows. On that part the corn did not come up. We planted a second time, which greatly reduced the yield, as, being later, it was more affected by the dry weather, and did not fill out half as well as the rest. A part of the field for several rods was a slate ledge, upon which we carted several loads of loam to cover the corn with. This portion was also much injured by the dry weather. Considering both of these things, and also that the dry season must have had a bad effect upon the whole field, and that the whole field was measured and the whole corn in the field instead of that from a single rod, and the calculations made from actual weight, the crop must be regarded as an extra one.

The other field belonged to Mr. J. F. Twombly, and, as you saw, was on the southerly side of Milton Hill. I did not see the

corn until after it was harvested. As it lay on the floor it appeared to me so large a crop that I offered to assist in measuring it and the land. On the 25th of October we measured the whole except six or eight baskets that were in another place, weighing one basket in every ten or fifteen. There were 202 baskets, which weighed on an average  $38\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., the basket we used being a small one. We put one by itself to dry. November 14th I shelled it and found that the corn weighed  $28\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. and the cobs  $6\frac{1}{4}$  lbs,—the whole having lost  $3\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. in drying. Adding the other six baskets, we have 208, which, at  $28\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. each, would give  $105\frac{8}{10}\frac{5}{10}$  bushels of shelled and dry corn. The land measuring 186 rods, gives 91 bushels to the acre. Of this piece no particular account was kept, as nothing extra was expected. A fair lot of manure was used, part in the hill, part ploughed in. The corn was planted in drills, rows from 3 to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet apart, the kernels about 6 inches apart in the drill. The manure falling short, a cord of green manure from the piggery was put in the drills on a part of the field. This manure was so strong that the corn did not come up, and had to be planted over again, and some of it a third time, which made it late, and consequently there was a large quantity of *pig-corn*, I should judge 20 or more baskets. But for this circumstance, the field would, without doubt, have yielded more than 100 bushels to the acre. If after these, and the still greater report which you will make of Mr. Ruggles' corn, any person doubts that 100 bushels can be raised on an acre, I hope that the next time I have 202 baskets to pick up and move in one afternoon, he may not only "be there to see," but to help do the work, and he will probably be satisfied.

Respectfully yours,

CHARLES BRECK.

*Milton, Nov. 15, 1854.*

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#### MR. RUGGLES' STATEMENT.

The acre of land entered by me for premium was surveyed by Mr. Charles Breck. The land was cultivated in one direction only, the seed having been planted in drills, the kernels dropped six inches apart, alternately on each side. I have found by sev-

eral years' experience that this is a profitable mode of planting, provided you have the same number of stocks as if the seed were planted in hills. The rows run north and south, three and a half feet apart. I cut out the suckers as food for cows. I have not found that cutting the suckers affects the crop materially, unless the corn is very stout, and then it improves the crop by letting in more sun. Some farmers imagine that when the sucker is fully grown, its nutriment returns to the main stock, and so to the ear. No experiment has satisfactorily proved this point, any more than that the nutriment which supported a limb, returns to the trunk when the limb has decayed. Three fifths of the acre were in corn last year, the remainder in peas and potatoes. That part which was in corn did as well this year as last. The whole was ploughed in the spring. I spread and ploughed in six cords of common barn-yard manure, made chiefly by cows. Then harrowed. After a few days ploughed again, and let it remain in the furrow, that it might lie more loose than it would be if harrowed after the last ploughing. I put four cords of manure in the drills,—two of piggery manure and two of barn-yard mixed together by shovelling over two or three times. Planted on the 18th and 20th of May, leaving the soil as light as possible over the seed. The seed was soaked three days, and if the corn was sprouted a little, so much the better. It would get up the sooner. Hoed twice,—the first time I ploughed,—the last time I only went through with the hoe. I cut the suckers soon after the silk appeared, and the stalks after the corn turned hard. The corn was the variety called smutty white.

*Expenses.*

Interest on cost of land, . . . . .	\$9.00
Taxes, . . . . .	1.00
Manure, two thirds exhausted, . . . . .	31.67
Seed, . . . . .	75
Drawing and spreading manure, . . . . .	4.00
Ploughing and manuring in drills, . . . . .	8.00
Planting and hoeing, eight days, . . . . .	10.00
Cutting suckers and stalks, . . . . .	5.00
Husking and getting in fodder, . . . . .	7.50

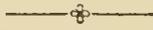
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\$76.92

*Value of Crop.*

170 baskets of corn, each weighing 45 lbs., cobs 6½ lbs., corn 38½ lbs., equal to 116 7-8 bushels, at \$1.00,	\$116.87½
Suckers, . . . . .	8.00
Two tons of stalks, . . . . .	15.00
Two tons of stover and husks, . . . . .	10.00
	<hr/>
	\$149.87½
Subtract cost, . . . . .	76.92
	<hr/>
Profit, . . . . .	\$72.95

PHILEMON RUGGLES.

*Milton, Nov. 8, 1854.*

## REPORT ON STRAW MANUFACTURES.

Your Committee on Manufactured Straw beg leave to report:—  
That they award to Miss Staples, of Dedham, the first premium  
of three dollars, for the best specimen of 100 yds. straw braid.

Also, award to Mrs. J. R. Cushman, of Medfield, the second  
premium of two dollars, for a specimen of 100 yds. straw platt.

Also, a gratuity of eight dollars to Miss Juline Pond, of Frank-  
lin, for a new and beautiful specimen of a Grass Bonnet, manu-  
factured from *native grass*, in imitation of Leghorn platt.

In behalf of the Committee,

H. C. FISHER, of Franklin, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

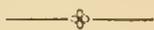
Timothy Phelps, of Dedham, for best specimen of Moleskin  
Hats, \$1.00.

Monotiquot Mills, East Braintree, for specimens of Tapestry  
Carpeting, \$2.00, and for Wilton Rug, a diploma.

Elizabeth Bigelow, Dover, for specimens of Woollen Hose and  
half Hose, a diploma.

Thomas Draper, of Canton, for beautiful specimens of Hoods, Scarfs, Muffs, &c., manufactured of German Worsted and Silk, \$3.00.

For the Committee,  
ISAAC FISKE, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON CARRIAGES.

Your Committee on Carriages are happy to report, that the exhibition for the present year was superior to any preceding year. The whole number of entries for exhibition and premium was six, consisting of two family Carriages, one of which was contributed by Cushman & Baker, of Medfield, the other by C. Morse, of South Dedham ; also, two covered Wagons, one light Express, and one open Buggy, (which was admired by all who viewed it) contributed by Cushman & Baker, of Medfield.

Your Committee would award :—

The first premium for the best family carriage, of	\$5.00
“ second “ “ “ “ covered wagon, . .	4.00
“ third “ “ “ “ open carriage, . .	3.00

To Cushman & Baker, of Medfield.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

HENRY PARTRIDGE, JR.,	} <i>Committee.</i>
FREEDOM GUILD,	
E. T. EVERETT,	



## REPORT ON IMPROVING MEADOW AND SWAMP LANDS.

The Committee of the Norfolk County Agricultural Society, upon improving Meadow and Swamp Lands, respectfully report :—

That B. F. Dudley of Milton, has requested their attention to a lot of land upon his farm in that town, which he has reclaimed, and for his results desires a premium. Mr. Dudley requested the Chairman to visit the land, which he accordingly did on the 29th

of June last, whilst the crop of grass was on the land, after it was cut. It appeared of fine quality and in great abundance ; and if Mr. Dudley can succeed in more thoroughly effecting his drainage through the adjoining piece not belonging to him, there is reason to believe that his improvement may be rewarded with permanent returns hereafter quite as great as those of the present year. His statement is subjoined. In view of the success of Mr. Dudley, and of the pains he has been at, as well as of the fact that this is the first application that has been made for two years in the County for a premium on this account, your Committee recommend that the premium of fifteen dollars be awarded.

In behalf of the Committee,

C. F. ADAMS, *Chairman.*

#### STATEMENT OF B. F. DUDLEY, OF MILTON, ON RECLAIMED MEADOW.

The lot of Land to which this statement refers, contains  $1\frac{1}{4}$  acres 24 rods ; it is situated in the midst of the most valuable part of the farm, at the base of a steep hill ; it was completely saturated with water oozing from numerous springs.

The subsoil was clay, covered with a soil which appeared to be composed of nearly equal parts of earth and vegetable matter, averaging about one foot in depth.

The natural products of this land were brake, meadow cabbage, moss, &c. ; it was free from stumps, bushes, and stones.

In September, 1852, it was ploughed nearly a foot deep, in some places reaching the subsoil ; owing to a press of work, the drains were not made until after the first ploughing. A margin drain was cut along the base of the hill, of sufficient depth to cut off the springs, also a centre drain three feet wide and eighteen inches deep ; two cross drains were opened from the margin to the centre.

The centre drain was left open, the margin and cross drains were covered. About one third of an acre of this land lying on the side of the centre drain opposite the hill, was so situated that a margin ditch could not be cut, and it was therefore laid down in beds.

The meadow received no further attention until June, 1853, when it was cross-ploughed, and the remains of the turf piled and burnt. In August, the large quantity of ashes remaining on the ground was spread, the land manured, harrowed, and on some portions of it the cultivator was used.

About the 15th of August it was sown with herdsgrass, red-top and English turnip, bushed and rolled.

The crop of turnips was gathered the first of November. June 28th, 1854, commenced cutting the grass; that which was mowed first remained in the field until the 3d of July, protected from the dew at night by hay covers.

The remainder was in the field five days, and the weather being fine, the hay was thoroughly made.

September 1st, the second crop was cut, and on the 8th it was put into the barn.

The following is a statement of the expenses and value of the crops:—

<i>Expenses.</i>	
First ploughing, . . . . .	\$30.00
Second do. . . . .	14.00
Draining, . . . . .	16.00
Piling and burning turf, . . . . .	6.00
3½ cords pig manure, and carting, . . . . .	21.00
Spreading turf ashes and manure, . . . . .	1.50
Grass and Turnip Seed, . . . . .	3.12
Sowing, Harrowing, &c., . . . . .	5.00
Harvesting Hay, at \$5.00 per ton, . . . . .	32.50
“ Turnips, . . . . .	6.00
	\$135.12

*Value of the Crops.*

307 bushels Turnips, at 20 cts. . . . .	\$61.40
4 tons (1862 lbs.) first crop Hay, at \$21.00 per ton, . . . . .	103.46
1 ton (1140 lbs.) at \$19.00 per ton, . . . . .	29.83
	194.69
Total value, . . . . .	194.69
Expense brought up, . . . . .	135.12
	\$59.57
Net profit, . . . . .	\$59.57

## REPORT ON MIXED CROPS.

The only entry for a premium was by Mr. Cheever Newhall, of Dorchester. We consider Mr. N.'s experiment to be eminently successful, and award to him the Society's first premium of \$6.

J. M. MERRICK,  
C. C. SEWALL,  
C. BRECK.

*To the Trustees of the Norfolk Agricultural Society.*

GENTLEMEN :—Among the premiums offered by your Society the present year, is one for the best conducted experiment in the cultivation of mixed crops of grains and vegetables, in alternate rows.

In order to ascertain whether or not Indian corn and cabbages could be grown together in this way profitably, I selected what I supposed to be one acre of good clayey loam, which had been in grass seven years, and had been mowed and pastured every year. This was ploughed in the month of May, nine inches deep, with a Michigan plough ; eight loads of night soil, after being thoroughly mixed with about four cords of loam from the same field, were spread evenly over the surface and well harrowed in. On the first day of June, the land was marked out with a plough exactly six feet apart, and cabbages set in the furrow two feet apart,—three or four days afterwards, corn was planted between each row of cabbages, in hills twenty-two inches apart, five or six kernels in a hill ; at the first hoeing it was thinned out, leaving four stalks in each hill. Both the cabbages and corn were hoed twice only.

The cabbages were marketed in September and October, and sold for one hundred and fifteen dollars.

In the month of August, twelve barrels of the corn were gathered green and sold in Boston for fifteen dollars ; the remainder of the crop was cut up near the ground about the 15th of September, and shocked upon the field. The first week in October it was husked, and produced eighty-eight baskets of corn on the ear. On the eleventh of November, one basket was shelled and weighed thirty-eight and one half pounds, making 3388 lbs., which, divided by 56 lbs., the standard for a bushel, gives sixty and one half bushels, which, together with the twelve barrels sold

green, supposed to be equal to one and one quarter baskets of ears to each barrel or fifteen baskets of  $38\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. each shelled corn, making 577 lbs. of corn, divided by 56 gives  $10\frac{1}{4}$  bushels, or seventy and three fourths bushels on 38,484 square feet of land, being a fraction over eighty bushels per acre, or more properly a half acre, as the corn occupied but one half of the land.

Since the crops have been taken off, the land has been surveyed; a certificate of the measurement is herewith submitted.

CHEEVER NEWHALL.

*Dorchester, Nov. 13, 1854.*

*The Estimated cost of Crop.*

Ploughing the land, . . . . .	\$7.00
8 loads of night soil, . . . . .	24.00
Composting, carting out, spreading and harrowing,	16.00
Planting corn, . . . . .	2.50
Setting out cabbage plants, . . . . .	3.00
Cost of cabbage plants and seed corn, . . . . .	3.37
Marking out, . . . . .	75
Cultivating and hoeing twice, . . . . .	10.00
Cutting up and housing corn, . . . . .	4.00
Husking corn, . . . . .	4.00
Marketing cabbages and green corn, . . . . .	21.67
Interest on land, . . . . .	18.00
Taxes, . . . . .	1.50
	<hr/>
	\$115.79
Net profit on $141\frac{1}{3}$ rods, . . . . .	89.71
	<hr/>
	\$205.50

*Value of Crop.*

$60\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of corn, . . . . .	\$60.50
12 bbls. of corn, sold green, . . . . .	15.00
Corn fodder, . . . . .	15.00
2,476 cabbages, . . . . .	115.00
	<hr/>
	\$205.50

This certifies that I assisted in gathering and husking Mr. Newhall's crop of corn, raised upon the 38,484 square feet of land, measured by Ebenezer Tolman, Esq.; that said land produced eighty-eight baskets; that I shelled one basket, filled as all the others were, and it weighed 38½ lbs. exclusive of cobs. I further certify that I sold the cabbages and green corn raised upon the same piece of land for one hundred and thirty dollars.

RICHARD HOWARD.

*Dorchester, Nov. 13, 1854.*

CHEEVER NEWHALL, ESQ., Sir—Agreeably to your request, I have measured the piece of land upon which you raised corn and cabbages this season; and it contains thirty-eight thousand four hundred and eighty-four square feet, or three quarters of an acre, twenty-one rods and ninety-seven square feet.

EBEN TOLMAN, *Surveyor.*

*Dorchester, Nov. 9, 1854.*

## REPORT ON POULTRY.

The Committee on Poultry report as follows:—

For the best pair Black Spanish,	T. B. Calder, Dedham,	\$2.00
“ “ “ “	Black Shanghæes, H. H. Martin, East Stoughton,	2.00
“ “ “ “	White Shanghæes, T. H. Sullaway, Canton,	2.00
“ “ “ “	Marsh or Forbes' Shanghæes, Sebrina Smith, Dedham,	2.00
For the best pair Bantams,	T. Shapleigh, Dedham,	2.00
“ “ “ “	White Guineas, James S. Drayton, Dedham,	2.00
“ “ “ “	Live Fowls, Humphrey Smith, W. Roxbury,	4.00
“ 2d best live Fowls,	Dr. W. T. G. Morton, W. Needham,	3.00
“ 3d “ “	“ Lewis Simonds, Dedham,	2.00
“ the best Ducks,	Dr. W. T. G. Morton, West Needham,	2.00
“ “ “ Geese,	“ “ “ “ “	3.00
“ “ “ Turkeys,	Lemuel Kingsbury, Needham,	3.00
“ “ 2d best Turkeys,	Dr. W. T. G. Morton, W. Needham,	2.00

For the best experiment in raising, keeping and fattening any breed of Fowls, with a statement thereof, Dr. T. W.

G. Morton, . . . . . 6.00

We recommend the Society's Diploma to H. S. Ballou, of Blackstone, for his Spangled Bramas.

To Lemuel W. Burrill, Robert Martin, Thomas Fagan, Charles Small, George F. Richards and Reuben Hollis, a gratuity each of \$1.00.

ROBERT MANSFIELD, *Chairman.*

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STATEMENT OF MR. MANSFIELD.

I send you the following statement of the income from five fowls the present season. There was a daily memorandum kept, of eggs laid, of the time of three of the hens' setting, the number of chickens raised, &c. My fowls were not entered for premium, but this statement is submitted for publication, if worthy. I believe *the equal to the production of these fowls has never been published.* They have averaged more than three eggs in four days, to each hen, when not setting or going with the chickens. Here is the result:—

*March 28, 1854.*

To one rooster, half game, half native, . . . . .	50
To four hens, half Spanish, half Poland, . . . . .	2.00
To four dozen eggs to set, . . . . .	72
To five bushels Corn, . . . . .	5.00
	<hr/>
	\$8.22

*Credit.*

By 441 eggs, . . . . .	6.61
By one rooster, used at home, . . . . .	50
By two chickens used, . . . . .	80
By eight chickens, . . . . .	3.20
By sixteen chickens, . . . . .	3.20
By four hens, at 50, . . . . .	2.00
	<hr/>
	16.31
	8.22
	<hr/>
	\$8.09

This account commenced the 28th of March, 1854, and closed the 26th of September, 1854.

ROBERT MANSFIELD.

STATEMENT OF DR. WM. T. G. MORTON.

1853.	<i>Poultry.</i>	<i>Dr.</i>
March 16—To	25 hens, . . . . .	12.50
“ “ “	1 rooster, . . . . .	1.00
“ “ “	6 geese, . . . . .	6.00
“ “ “	5 ducks, . . . . .	4.00
“ “ “	1 peacock, . . . . .	3.00
“ “ “	2 pair wild geese, . . . . .	20.00
“ “ “	5 Hong Kong geese, . . . . .	15.00
“ “ “	8 Bremen “ . . . . .	16.00
“ “ “	5 China “ . . . . .	15.00
“ “ “	3 pair Aylesbury ducks, . . . . .	15.00
“ “ “	1 “ Java “ . . . . .	5.00
“ “ “	3 White Poland “ . . . . .	6.00
“ “ “	3 Turkeys, . . . . .	4.50
		123.00
“ “ “	3 white China geese, . . . . .	45.00
	1 pair Caribbean geese, . . . . .	30.00
	1 “ Egyptian “ . . . . .	30.00
	9 Brama Pootra, . . . . .	18.00
	88 bushels Corn, . . . . .	92.80
	27 “ Meal, . . . . .	29.22
		245.02
		\$368.02

1853.	<i>Poultry.</i>	<i>Cr.</i>
Aug. 1, by	900 eggs, from March 16, 1853, to Aug. 1, 1853, . . . . .	15.00
March 1, 1854, by	2200 eggs, from Aug. 1, 1853, to March 1, 1854, . . . . .	36.00
July 22, by	1568 eggs, from March 1, 1854, to July 22, 1854, . . . . .	26.00
Sept. 23, by	470 eggs, from July 22, 1854, to Sept. 23, 1854, . . . . .	7.90

Aug. 1, 1853,	to 2 pair ducks,	. . .	10.00
" " "	to " geese,	. . .	20.00
" " "	to 25 chickens,	. . .	12.50
Dec. 23, "	to 6 " .	. . .	3.00
June 1, 1854,	to 3 Bremen Geese,	. . .	15.00
" " "	to 3 Hong Kong geese,	. . .	15.00
" " "	to 3 China "	. . .	15.00
" " "	to 1 pair wild "	. . .	10.00
" " "	to 3 Aylesbury ducks,	. . .	15.00
" " "	to 3 white Poland "	. . .	15.00
" " "	to 3 Muscovy "	. . .	15.00
			<hr/> 230.40
" " "	to 3 white turkeys,	. . .	15.00
July 1, "	to 25 chickens,	. . .	11.00
July 11, "	to 1 pair Bremen geese,	. . .	10.00
" " "	to 1 " Hong Kong "	. . .	10.00
" " "	to 1 " China "	. . .	10.00
" " "	to 1 " Muscovy ducks,	. . .	10.00
" " "	to 1 " Brama Pootra,	. . .	10.00
" " "	to 1 " red Shanghai,	. . .	10.00
" 13, "	to 50 chickens,	. . .	23.00
" 27, "	to 40 " .	. . .	16.00
Aug. 17, "	to 22 " .	. . .	8.80
Sept. 2, "	to 12 " .	. . .	6.00
" 15, "	to 75 " .	. . .	30.00
" " "	to 1 goose,	. . .	2.00
" 16, "	to 7 chickens,	. . .	3.25
			<hr/> 175.05
" " "	to 2 pair ducks,	. . .	4.00
" 25, "	to 4 chickens,	. . .	1.87

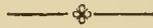
*Stock on hand, Sept. 25.*

31 ducks,	. . . . .	31.00
33 hens, Shanghai,	. . . . .	16.50
7 Brama Pootra,	. . . . .	14.00
3 white China geese,	. . . . .	45.00
1 pair Egyptian "	. . . . .	30.00
1 " Caribbean "	. . . . .	30.00
2 " wild "	. . . . .	20.00
1 " China, "	. . . . .	10.00

5 pair Bremen geese, . . . . .	20.00
3 " Aylesbury ducks, . . . . .	7.50
1 " Java " . . . . .	5.00
1 peacock, . . . . .	3.00
1 rooster, . . . . .	1.00
	<hr/> 238.87
	<hr/> \$644.32

Sept. 22—I hereby certify that the above account is correct.

G. H. P. FLAGG.



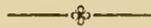
### REPORT ON FAT CATTLE.

The Committee on Fat Cattle, report:—

That they award the first premium of eight dollars to George Babcock, of Brookline, for his pair of Oxen, weighing 4200 lbs.

For the Committee,

WM. FAIRBANKS, *Dedham.*



### REPORT ON STEERS.

The Committee on Steers have attended to the duty assigned them, and offer their brief report:—

The whole number offered for premium, or found in the pens, was three pair, none under three years old.

To Robert Porter, of Stoughton, the Committee award the first premium of five dollars, for his twin Steers of three years and three months, of Durham and native breed, natives of Vermont.

To Oliver Dean, of Canton, for his Steers three years and five months old, native and Durham, the Committee award the second premium of four dollars.

For the Committee,

D. KIMBALL, *Chairman.*

## REPORT ON WORKING OXEN.

The Committee on Working Oxen regret exceedingly that not more attention is given by the farmers of the County of Norfolk, in bringing out more of those fine Oxen which the County is known to possess, for exhibition, and for a trial of skill in drawing.

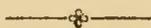
There were but four entries, two of which were made by the venerable Josiah Quincy, of Quincy.

We have awarded the premiums as follows, viz. :—

To Josiah Quincy, of Quincy, for a fine pair of four-year old Steers, who handled their load of two tons admirably, the first premium of . . . . .	\$8.00
To Timothy Tucker, of Milton, the second premium of . . . . .	6.00
To Josiah Quincy, of Quincy, the third premium of . . . . .	5.00
To Henry Goulding, of Dover, the fourth premium of . . . . .	3.00

The Committee would say in conclusion, that the place selected for the trial is very unfavorable for such a purpose ; and if the same is to be hereafter used, they would suggest that it be graded and gravelled.

CALVIN RICHARDS, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON HEIFERS.

The Committee on Heifers award the following premiums :—

To J. H. Billings, W. Roxbury, for a Heifer, 3 years old, Ayrshire breed, a gratuity of \$2.00, there being none offered worthy of the Society's premium.

To S. J. Capen, Dorchester, for a Heifer, 2 years old, Ayrshire breed, 1st premium, . . . . . \$3.00

To E. W. Bray, Canton, for a Heifer, 2 years old, Ayrshire breed, 2d premium, . . . . . 2.00

To S. J. Capen, Dorchester, for a Heifer, 1 year old, Durham breed, 2d premium, . . . . . 2.00

To Wm. Pierce, Needham, a Heifer, 17½ months old, grade, 1st premium, . . . . . 3.00

To Seth Blake, Dover, for a Heifer, 15 months old, grade,  
2d premium, . . . . . 2.00

To Mark C. Hoyle, S. Dedham, for a Heifer, 17 months old,  
native breed, 1st premium, . . . . . 3.00

To D. D. Hammant, Medfield, for a Heifer, 28 months old, na-  
tive breed, 2d premium, . . . . . 2.00

To Lewis Bullard, Dedham, for best Heifer Calf, under one  
year, a premium of . . . . . 3.00

To B. V. French, Braintree, for a Heifer, 16 months old, North  
Devon breed, 1st premium, . . . . . 3.00

To " " " " " " " 2d premium, 2.00

To Aaron D. Weld, West Roxbury, for two Heifers, grade, 2  
years old, a gratuity of . . . . . 4.00

To Dr. Morton, of Needham, a gratuity of \$5.00 on 2 Heifers  
and 3 Calves, they being the best specimens of Alderney stock  
presented, but not coming under the Society's rules, could not  
compete for premium.

The Committee would say that several fine specimens of stock  
would have been entitled to premiums, had they been owned long  
enough in the County.

A. S. DRAKE, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON MILCH COWS.

The Committee on Milch Cows have the satisfaction to report  
at this time that the contribution of stock, both in numbers  
and in point of excellence, has been superior to that of any  
former year. The whole number entered for premium was  
twenty-one. And although in this respect we may not suffer in  
the comparison with older Societies, still we cannot but feel that it  
is not what it should be, nor what we have a right to expect from  
Norfolk County. For considering the ability and means that we  
so largely possess, together with the great inducements in a pe-  
cuniary point of view, it is but fair to say, that we should equal  
at least, if not excel, any other County ; for by our near proximity

to the Boston market, together with those in our own immediate neighborhoods, we are enabled to realize as large, if not a larger profit from the dairy, either by the sale of butter or milk, than almost any other section of the State. And coupled, too, with this, is another important consideration, which is, the high price of good, selected stock in our vicinity, enabling thereby the farmer to go extensively and profitably into the rearing of blood and native stock, of the very best that this or any other country affords. The supply of choice milch cows for sale, never equals the demand. We are now importing from abroad blood stock at a cost of from \$200 to \$300 per head, not a whit better than can be bred at home for half that money. It is with pleasure, however, that we can say that an interest is being awakened in this behalf, both as a matter of profit, as well as for the gratification it affords. Much valuable stock is now being introduced that will be a credit to our county.

In the report of last year, the Committee endeavored to show the great importance attached to the care and keeping of stock ; inasmuch that by a proper regard to these, in the way of gentle treatment and judicious feeding, an ordinary quality of stock even, may be so benefited and improved as to become profitable ; while, on the other hand, by neglect of these, a stock possessing a high degree of excellence naturally, may be so impaired and injured, as to render them not only unattractive to the taste, but, as a matter of business, unprofitable and disastrous in its results.

As has been before stated, the exhibition in point of excellence, as a whole, may be considered superior to that of any former year. Very fine specimens were presented of the Jersey, Devon, Ayrshire, Durham and native stock. But it would perhaps be presumptuous, at any rate hazardous, to venture a decision, as to which particular breed is entitled to the largest share of credit and confidence, inasmuch as each has its peculiar characteristics, so each has its ardent admirers. We will be content to give a passing notice of some of the most prominent.

And, first, it may be said that the Jerseys are growing very much in favor in this vicinity. And although in quantity their yield of milk may fall below the average of any other breed, yet, in quality, it probably vastly excels all. So that this alone, other things being equal, must give this breed a commanding promi-

nence with stock growers. Some very fine specimens were presented by Mr. Edward King, of Dorchester, and Dr. Morton, of West Needham, and Mr. C. L. Cunningham, of Milton; those owned by Dr. Morton had not been in his possession long enough to entitle him to the Society's premium, but in view of their beautiful proportions and apparent merit, the Committee have awarded a gratuity. A very good representation of his stock will appear in the cut.

Of the Devons, there is much to be said in their favor. They are good feeders, of hardy constitution, and generally very handsome in their proportions. For the yoke, this breed is probably unequalled by any other, and for the dairy, particularly in the product of butter, they may be said to take a high stand; but their yield of milk in quantity, as a general thing, will fall below either that of the Ayrshire or Durham. Benjamin V. French, Esq., of Braintree, exhibited a fine specimen of the Devon, and also a grade cow of great apparent excellence, both of which, from the representations given, entitle them to a very high rank in the class to which they respectively belong.

Of the Ayrshire, some very fine specimens were exhibited by Mr. Samuel J. Capen, of Dorchester. It may be said perhaps with great truth of this breed, that, as a whole, they are probably not excelled in their yield of milk by any other; they are hardy, easy to keep, and generally docile and of good proportion.

The Durhams presented by Mr. Capen were also possessed of much excellence. This is a breed of large growth, and generally require, to produce an equal quantity of milk, a more generous feed than perhaps any other breed; but by attention and liberality in this respect, they may be made to yield in full proportion to their extra cost of keeping. Appended is a statement from Mr. Capen, of the yield of one of his cows, to which we have awarded the first premium. Enoch Train, Esq., of Dorchester, presented a Durham cow and calf of high apparent rank; but as no written statement was submitted as to her yield, she was necessarily placed under another list of the Society's premiums. Of the native and grades, some very fine animals were on exhibition.

Thus the Committee have passed upon the different breeds, without, as before said, feeling that they are called upon to give

JERSEY CATTLE, IMPORTED BY DR. W. T. G. MORTON, ELLERTON FARM, WEST NEEDHAM, NORFOLK COUNTY, MASS., AUG. 1, 1834.





an opinion as to which, all things considered, is entitled to the highest rank. Each have their peculiarities, and what by some would be considered a defect, would, by others, be overlooked as of no importance or objection; but that some breeds, taken as a whole, do possess substantial advantages over others, is a fact that in the opinion of the Committee cannot be denied, and hence grows the necessity of a judicious selection, not only of a particular breed, but the most desirable and valuable animal in each of its respective breeds; for upon this, in a great measure, depends the success of the stock grower or milk producer.

Competitors should be reminded that under the head of "Milch Cows," where the product of milk or butter is the criterion upon which to decide of their merit, that by the rule of the Society, a *written* statement is required in relation thereto, and in no case have the Committee awarded a premium where a compliance with this rule has been neglected. So that of the twenty-one on exhibition, only four were put into this list, from the fact that only four statements in writing were submitted, excluding, undoubtedly, stock of high rank, and that, but for this omission, would have been placed in competition under this head for the Society's premiums. It is to be hoped that this will be remedied in future.

For stock, under the head of the different breeds, no certificate is required; but here even it would be of great service, inasmuch as the Committee are obliged to rely almost entirely upon their own judgment and observation; and, in very many cases, where the stock to be passed upon would seem to be of nearly equal worth, it must be obvious that to discriminate and judge justly, is a most difficult undertaking. The number and amount of premiums at the disposal of the Committee may be said to be liberal; yet we have indulged somewhat largely in the award of gratuities,—it is believed, however, only in proportion to the amount of excellence of the stock exhibited.

There are other points that might be dwelt upon with profit in connection with this subject, but which perhaps would be more proper to come from some other source, and in some other form. It is to be hoped that an elaborate and well defined theory may be presented at some future time by the Society, upon the selection of breed, rearing, and mode of keeping milch cows. At present

there is so much difference of opinion upon these points among even our most prominent and well-informed stock owners, that the conclusions to be arrived at are confused and unsatisfactory. There is also the subject of the comparative value of roots for winter feed, with that of corn or other meal. It would be doing good service to have these, and other points that might be named in connection with the subject, considered and reported upon to the Society.

Appended are the premiums awarded and the statements that have been submitted.

The following premiums have been awarded by the Committee on Milch Cows:—

For cows not less than three years old, as follows,

Jersey, 1st premium to Edward King, Dorchester,	.	\$5.00
do. 2d " " C. L. Cunningham, Milton,	.	3.00
Ayrshire, 1st " " S. J. Capen, Dorchester,	.	5.00
do. 2d " " S. J. Capen, " . . .	.	3.00
Durham, 1st " " S. J. Capen, " . . .	.	5.00
do. 2d " " Enoch Train, " . . .	.	3.00
Devon, 1st " " B. V. French, Braintree,	.	5.00
do. 2d " " E. W. Bray, Canton, . . .	.	3.00
Grade, 1st " " B. V. French, Braintree,	.	5.00
do. 2d " " S. J. Capen, Dorchester,	.	3.00

On milch cows, with certificates of the product of milk and butter from each.

1st premium to S. J. Capen, Dorchester,	.	.	\$10.00
2d " " Edward King, " . . .	.	.	8.00
3d " " C. C. Sewall, Medfield, . . .	.	.	6.00
4th " " Ebenezer Richards, Dedham, . . .	.	.	4.00

The Committee would also recommend the following gratuities.

To Dr. W. T. G. Morton, of West Needham, for his Jersey cow, (not having been in his possession long enough to entitle him to a premium,) a gratuity of . . .	.	\$3.00
To M. P. Wilder, Dorchester, for his grade cow, . . .	.	3.00
To A. D. Weld, West Roxbury, for his cow "Beauty," . . .	.	3.00

To M. P. Wilder, Dorchester, for his native cow "Brindle," the Society's diploma.	
To C. S. Cunningham, Milton, for his grade cow, a gra- tuity of . . . . .	3.00
To Joseph H. Billings, West Roxbury, for his grade cow, a gratuity of . . . . .	3.00
For the Committee, JOHN H. ROBINSON, <i>Chairman.</i>	

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STATEMENT OF MR. CAPEN.

The cow offered for premium by me, is of the Durham breed, —nine years old. She calved on the 30th of September, 1853. From the 15th to the 25th of the next October, she averaged 24 qts. of milk per day, weighing 54 lbs. She was fed on grass and 2 qts. of meal and 4 qts. of shorts per day. From the 15th to the 25th of January, she averaged 16 qts. of milk per day.

SAMUEL J. CAPEN.

*Dorchester, Sept. 26, 1854.*

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STATEMENT OF MR. KING.

GENTLEMEN—The Alderney heifer exhibited by me I imported in July, 1853. She had a very long passage, (over 55 days,) and was extremely low in flesh on her arrival. She dropped her calf February 1st, 1854, which is also on exhibition. I think, from observation, she is a fine specimen of the breed; the quantity of milk which she has produced from February 1st to September 25th, averages a fraction over  $9\frac{1}{2}$  qts. per day. I am not able to state the quantity of milk to make one pound of butter, but this will vouch, that a quart of her milk will yield much more cream than any cow I ever owned or ever knew.

Very respectfully yours,

EDWARD KING.

*Dorchester, Sept. 26, 1854.*

## STATEMENT OF MR. SEWALL.

HON. E. L. KEYES, Dear Sir—Please enter for premium my spotted cow “Belle.”

This cow was three years old last July. Her first calf is now three weeks old. The calf was removed from the cow September 15th. We have since made *seven* pounds of butter from seven days' milk of this cow. The butter is on exhibition.

Yours respectfully,

CHARLES C. SEWALL.

*Medfield, Sept. 26, 1854.*

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Mr. Ebenezer Richards contributes a heifer 4 years and 6 months of age, of three-quarters blood Ayrshire. Calved 5th of November, 1853. For five months from calving she averaged 11 qts. per day. And has averaged 7 qts. ever since, and still gives milk. She will calve 15th of October, 1854. Raised in Dedham by Mr. Richards.

Attest, F. A. BAKER.

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## REPORT ON BULLS.

The Committee are happy to report, that there was, in the present exhibition, a marked increase, over that of any former year, in the number, as well as improvement in the character, of this class of animals. By a rule of the Society, only such animals as are of pure blood are allowed to be competitors for a premium. Of the wisdom and justice of such a rule, there are, undoubtedly, different opinions. This rule was not adopted, however, without deliberate consideration, and an adherence to it, at least for the present, seems to be justified by the character of the stock exhibited to-day. Our pens were never before filled so largely, with fine specimens of the Ayrshire, Devon, Durham and Jersey breeds. Of the Devons and the Jerseys, in particular, there were several animals which attracted the notice, and commanded the admiration of every visitor.

An impulse has now been given to the improvement of stock in this County, which it is of the greatest importance to encourage. Whether this can be done most effectually by introducing extensively the best foreign breeds, or by causing a more careful and judicious selection from our native breeds,—though not a matter of doubt with the majority of the Committee—is questioned by many intelligent farmers. Certainly, there are instances enough in proof of the benefit of judicious crossing of the native and foreign breeds, to authorize continued endeavors, on the part of the Society, to enlarge their number, by awarding premiums only to the best bulls of strictly pure blood. Where such crossing is practised, as well as where only animals of pure blood are kept, improvement is observed at once, both in the character of the dairy, and of the calves fattened for slaughter; and this improvement is sufficient to show the absurdity, on the score of profit, of the common mode of selecting and rearing stock. Whether it may not be expedient to encourage, at a future day, the crossing of different breeds, *upon a more extended scale*, by offering premiums for the best grade Bulls, is a point worthy of discussion. To many, there seems to be no good reason why a race may not be propagated, by careful selection from our native breeds, or by judicious crossings, which shall be better adapted to our climate, soil, and keeping, than is any purely foreign breed. No good reason why, if England has her Devons, Durhams and Herefords, and Scotland her Ayrshires, and Ireland her Kerrys, and Jersey her Alderneys, *which are worth importation at enormous cost*, America may not have a breed of peculiar form, size, beauty and excellence, adapted to her peculiar climate and soil;—*home-bred*, and, therefore, better fitted for *home-keeping*. We hope that profitable suggestions upon this whole subject, may, hereafter, be given to the Society, by some one whose experience and study shall lend authority to his words.

Meanwhile, we would encourage the REARING of *the best classes of stock* upon the farms of Norfolk County, confident that such stock may be kept here, more easily and with better results, than any which is purchased elsewhere.\* At the same time, we would

\* Animals are wont to thrive better *at home, than from home*. The most celebrated foreign breeds are said to “do much better in their own locality, than when removed.”

insist that the utmost care and attention should be bestowed on the *selection and rearing* of all stock. We sometimes hear it said that a *bull is a bull*, and that any chance offspring is as good for the farmer's stock, as that of the best selected breed, whether of pure or mixed blood. Such a belief, and the practical conclusions drawn from it, must forever prevent the improvement of the dairy, and the comfort and profit of farming.

Mr. Colman remarks, in his *European Agriculture*,† that “the South Devons,” which he distinguishes by very marked differences from the beautiful “North Devons,” “are animals identical with the great mass of cattle to be found in New England.” “In respect to them, as far as I could learn, no particular pains have been taken to improve their breed, and to see what could be made of them, as in the case of the Short Horns, the Herefords and the North Devons.” May not this last remark be made, with equal fitness and force, respecting the mass of the cattle now in New England? And in the beauty and excellence of the fine North Devons, Durhams, Ayrshires, and Jerseys, exhibited to-day, have we not sufficient encouragement to attempt the improvement of our native breeds, in a rational way?

Among the several animals on exhibition, we mention a Jersey bull, owned by the Hon. J. Quincy, senior, and to him presented by the late Hon. T. H. Perkins,—to whom the friends of agriculture owe many obligations. We take pleasure in commending so good an animal to the notice of the farmers in this County. To Mr. Quincy we return our most grateful acknowledgments for the interest he has manifested in our Society, and for his generous endeavors to advance the cause of agriculture both here and elsewhere.

Dr. W. T. G. Morton, of West Needham, offered a pure blood Devon bull, and one of the finest of his class. This animal had received the highest premium of the Society at a former exhibition, and was, therefore, excluded from competition for a similar premium at the present time.

N. S. Dexter, Esq., of Dedham, offered a fine native bull;—Mr. Eliphalet Kingsbury, of Dedham, a bull, three fourths Durham;—Mr. H. Leeds, of Milton, a bull, half Devon and half Al-

† Vol. 2, page 316.

derney. All these animals were possessed of good points and highly promising character. But, by the rules of the Society, were not competitors for any premium. To encourage the exhibition of such animals, we award to each of their owners—to Messrs. Dexter, Kingsbury and Leeds, the diploma of the Society.

Lyman Kinsley, Esq., of Canton, exhibited an Alderney bull, which is of the highest character, in all respects. We can now only mention this animal with favor, having before awarded to him the highest premium of the Society. To Mr. Kinsley we return our acknowledgments for the considerate regard which he has manifested for the interests of our Society.

John P. Jones, Esq., of Medway, exhibited a bull, twenty months old,—the offspring of the Society's Ayrshire cow by a Devon bull. We consider this animal one of the most promising character, and award to Mr. Jones a *gratuity* of \$3.00.

C. Loring Cunningham, Esq., of Milton, exhibited a bull calf—the offspring of a fine native cow, by an Alderney bull from the celebrated stock of the late Hon. Daniel Webster. We consider this animal worthy of particular mention and favor.

#### BULLS.

*Devon*—To B. V. French, the 1st premium of \$5.00, and the second of 3.00.

*Calf*—To B. V. French, the 1st premium of \$3.00.

*Ayrshire*—To Richard Richardson, Medway, the 1st premium of \$5.00 ; S. J. Capen, the 2d of \$3.00 ; and to B. Hawes, of Wrentham, a diploma.

*Durham*—To James A. White, of Wrentham, the 1st premium of \$5.00 ; T. N. Woodward, of Brookline, the 2d of \$3.00.

*Alderney*—To C. L. Cunningham, of Milton, the 1st premium of \$5.00 ; to E. W. Bray, of Canton, the 3d of \$3.00.

*Calves*—To Edward King, of Dorchester, the 1st premium of \$3.00 ; to A. D. Weld, of Roxbury, the 2d of \$2.00.

We have endeavored to do justice to all who contributed to this part of the exhibition, and shall claim only the merit of honest intentions—if it be thought, by any, that our judgment is at fault.

For the Committee,

CHAS. C. SEWALL.

## REPORT ON SWINE.

The display of swine at the Norfolk Agricultural Fair, was the finest ever seen in Massachusetts.

The attention of farmers in Norfolk County seems to have been especially directed to the subject of swine. The Suffolk breed in particular, is regarded with much enthusiasm.

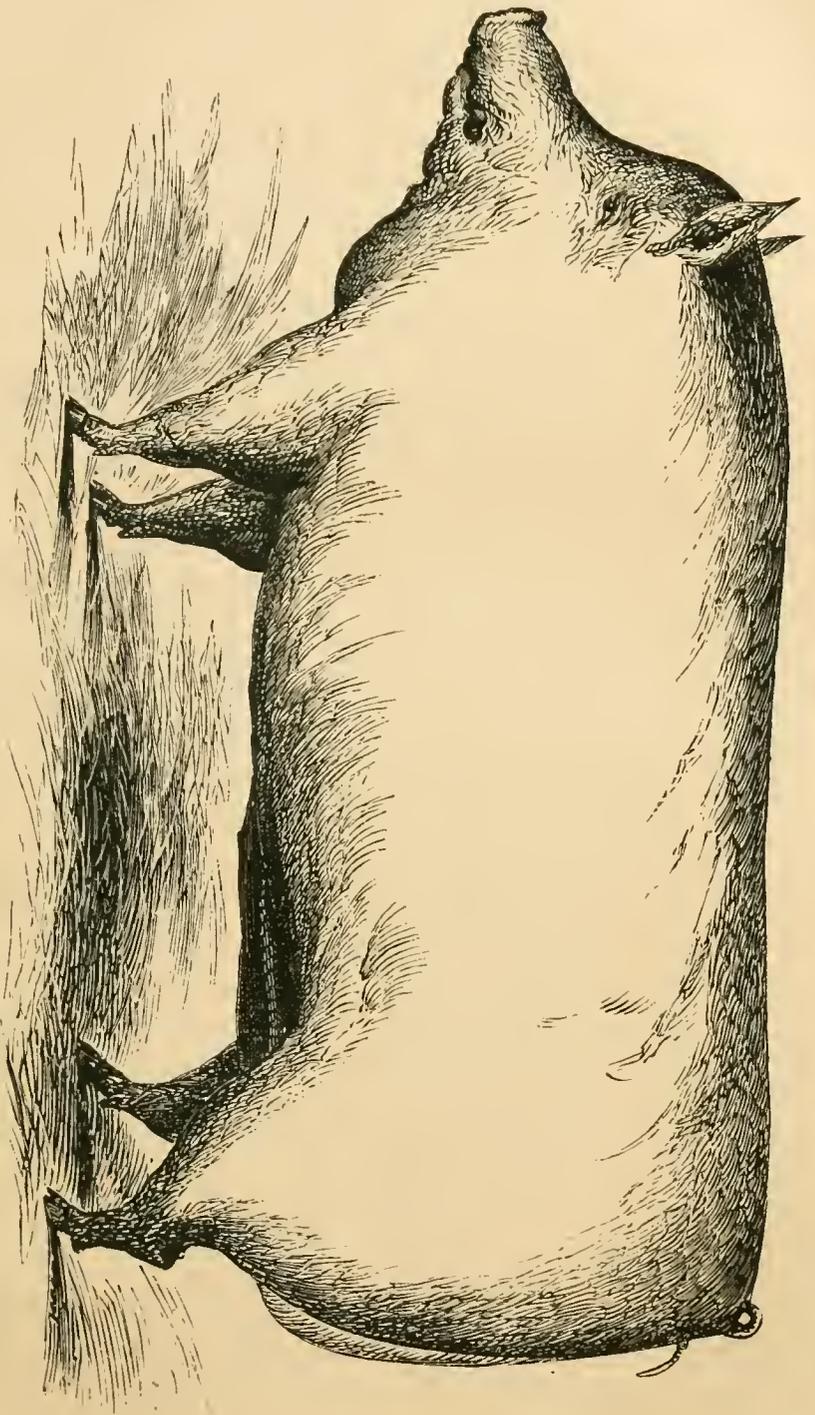
The first annual Report of the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture of Massachusetts, 1854, says, page 92, "We see that the Suffolk, or rather a cross of the Suffolk with some other breed, holds the highest place in public estimation in all parts of the State."

It is claimed and coincides with the views of your Committee, that in point of economy, this breed of hogs is much easier kept, and take on fat faster at less expense, than any other known. There is much less waste in cutting up for the barrel; the pork is sweeter, and more delicate. They are docile, thrifty, and mature early, weighing at twelve to eighteen months, two hundred to four hundred and fifty pounds, and occasionally as high as five hundred. The extent to which these weighty considerations have a bearing upon the Massachusetts farmers, cannot be better conveyed than by instancing the fact that the Committee saw a few days since, at the farm of Dr. Morton in West Needham, a pair of pure Suffolks, imported from the yard of Prince Albert for the sole purpose of getting a different strain of blood into his herd of Suffolks, which have already carried more prizes from the Norfolk County Show than any others in it, and from which a boar and a sow each took your Society's first premium at their last exhibition. (*See cut.*)

Mr. B. V. French, of Braintree, whose efforts for the promotion of agriculture are well known, exhibited an imported boar of superior merit.

Mr. Franklin King, of Dorchester, exhibited an imported Essex boar, fifteen months old, which the Committee considered worthy of high consideration.

Dr. W. T. G. Morton, of Needham, filled six pens with pure Suffolks from his herd, which elicited much attention, and were a great credit to the Society as well as the owner; great care and expense having been bestowed in importing and breeding from the



**IMPROVED, SUFFOLK BOAR.**

Bred by Dr. Morton, Etherton Farm, West Needham, Mass., for which the *First Prize* was awarded by the Norfolk Agricultural Society, at the Exhibition, 1854.



choicest specimens. The profit in raising swine by the New England farmer, is not in the breed alone; there should be warm comfortable piggeries, with conveniences for manufacturing manure. This is one of the largest sources of profit, and one which is entirely lost sight of by many. The best piggery for embracing these considerations, which the Committee are acquainted with, to which they would recommend all to examine previous to building, is at West Needham, Mass., on the farm of Dr. Morton; a hundred cord of manure is annually made by his process at a very small expense.

The Committee on Swine have awarded premiums as follows, viz. :

To Franklin King, of Dorchester, for his imported Essex Boar, 15 months old, the Society's diploma.

To B. V. French, of Braintree, for his imported Suffolk Boar, 2 years old, the Society's diploma.

To Dr. W. T. G. Morton, of West Needham, for the best Boar, not less than 6 months old, the 1st premium of . \$6.00

To Charles Sampson, of West Roxbury, 2d premium of 5.00

To S. J. Capen, of Dorchester, 3d premium of . . 4.00

To N. Dunbar, of Canton, a gratuity of . . . 2.00

To H. L. Stone, of Grantville, a gratuity of . . . 1.00

To W. T. G. Morton, of West Needham, for the best breeding Sow, with or without pigs, the first premium of 6.00

To Dr. Eben Wight, of Dedham, 2d premium of . 5.00

To Richard Richardson, of Medway, 3d premium of . 4.00

To M. P. Wilder, of Dorchester, for the best litter of weaned Pigs, not less than four in number, from 2 to 6 months old, the 1st premium of . . . 5.00

To William Flagg, of West Needham, 2d premium of 3.00

To Augustus Stevens, " " 3d " 2.00

To G. W. Billings, of Dorchester, a gratuity of . . 1.00

To C. C. Sewall, of Medfield, for the best fat Hog, the first premium of . . . . . 6.00

To H. L. Stone, of Grantville, 2d premium of . . 5.00

HIRAM W. JONES, *Chairman.*

## MR. CHARLES C. SEWALL'S STATEMENT.

Hon. E. L. KEYES :—I enter for premium two hogs, weighing, together, 656 pounds. These hogs are of Suffolk breed, sixteen months old, and have been fed chiefly on swill and milk until within four weeks ; since then, they have had meal in their swill three times daily.

Yours, respectfully,

CHAS. C. SEWALL.

*Medfield, Sept. 26, 1854.*

## CHARLES SAMPSON'S STATEMENT.

A Suffolk boar, 2 years old,—he has served several sows the past year, and I know of no sow having less than 11 pigs that he has served, and some have had 13.

In reference to what kind of stock the above sow and boar produce, I respectfully refer you to Eben Wight, Esq., one of the Society's Committee on Swine for the year 1853.

Very respectfully,

CHAS. SAMPSON.

## H. L. STONE'S STATEMENT.

One Suffolk sow, 3 years old, live weight 573 pounds, fed on bran and weeds through the summer, with another sow of about the same size, and kept in a cool barn cellar. The two sows have had one peck of corn meal between them during this month of September, and a few weeds daily, with an occasional handful of shelled corn. The other sow has a litter of pigs, and has eat more than half the food.

*Grantville.*

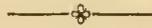
H. L. STONE.

## METHOD OF PRESERVING APPLES.

The fruit must be taken from the tree by hand, wrapped in paper, (common "tea-paper" is preferable,) and put in cork dust, which costs about \$1.25 per barrel. One barrel of cork dust is sufficient for four barrels of fruit. It is not necessary to

head the barrel. By this method, apples will retain their flavor for six or eight weeks longer than by the ordinary way. It is perhaps unnecessary to say that the fruit must be sound, and not over-ripe when put in. The fruit, when barrelled, must be kept in a cool place ; but, from my experiments, it is a matter of indifference whether it is damp or dry. I have tried this method of preserving my apples for three years, and have, from time to time, exhibited them at the Horticultural Rooms. The cork dust will retain its efficiency for some years.

A. W. STETSON.



## REPORT ON DAIRY.

For the best produce of butter for four months, from the 20th of May to the 20th of September, quantity as well as quality being taken into view, two samples of 20 lbs. each were offered for premium.

The Committee award to the Rev. C. C. Sewall, of Medfield, the first premium of . . . . . \$10.00  
 To Mr. Edmund T. Everett, of Wrentham, the second premium of . . . . . 8.00

Appended to this report will be found letters giving an account of the quantity produced, the number of cows, and general management of the dairy in these two cases.

For the best 40 lbs. of butter,—that drawing the premium to be placed on the dinner table for consumption,—three lots were offered. The Committee found it a very nice matter to decide in regard to the premiums in this case. After mature deliberation they award

To Mr. George Crosby, of Medway, the first premium of \$20.00  
 And they recommend that to the Rev. C. C. Sewall, of Medfield, there be given a gratuity of . . . . . 10.00

The Committee take pleasure in noticing a very extraordinary produce of butter, in a forty pound lot, from the Alderney heifers recently imported from Jersey, England, offered by Dr. W. T. G. Morton, of West Needham, and they recommend that he receive a diploma from the Society. The ages of the heifers, as Dr.

Morton states, are one 20 months, one 2 years, and one 3 years. They were received direct from England ten days ago, and the forty pounds of butter were made from them within the last nine days.

Six boxes of butter, of not less than 12 pounds, were offered. The Committee assign to

Mr. Benj. N. Sawin, of Dover, the first premium of \$6.00

To Mr. John Mansfield, of W. Needham, the 2d premium of 4.00

To Mr. Robert Mansfield, of " " the 3d premium of 2.00

No specimens of Cheese were offered.

For the Committee.

A. LAMSON, of Dedham, *Chairman.*

*September 27, 1854.*

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Hon. E. L. KEYES—Dear Sir :—I enter, for premium, 40 lbs. butter, made upon my farm, this day, for use at the dinner table.

Also, 20 pounds butter, as a specimen of 943 pounds made from the milk of 5 cows and 2 heifers, since the 20th of May last.

The feed of these cows and heifers has been, chiefly, grass and corn fodder. To this was added, a few weeks ago, 1½ bushels of meal and pumpkins for a week past.

We have before stated our method of keeping the milk and making the butter, and having made no change in the management of the dairy, refer to past volumes of transactions of this Society for more minute statements.

Yours, respectfully,

CHAS. C. SEWALL.

*Medfield, Sept. 25, 1854.*

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*To the Committee on Dairy.*

GENTLEMEN :—I offer for premium a box of butter, containing twenty pounds.

This butter is a part of 660 pounds made on my farm between the 20th of May and 20th of September. I have kept eight cows, which have received no other keeping than they found in the pasture (no extra feed). The milk was strained into tin pans, and

stood from 24 to 36 hours in a cool room, then skimmed, the cream put in stone jars and kept cool till churned.

Churned twice a week, salted with ground rock salt. The family since July 1st has embraced fifteen persons.

Churn used was a common barrel churn.

No coloring put in the butter.

Yours, respectfully,

EDMUND T. EVERETT.

*Wrentham, Sept. 25th, 1854.*



## REPORT ON FRUITS.

In the last annual report of the Fruit Committee of this Society, the vast importance of fruit culture was urged on the ground of economy in living, of health, of refreshment, and of enjoyment, in hopes to stimulate to an increased planting and cultivation.

It has been found by observation and experience,

1st. That fruit is a very economical article of food when compared with meats and mixed dishes, even at its present scarcity and consequent high price.

2d. That it is not only the most conducive of any other article of diet to the general health of families, particularly of the young, but that it is a panacea in many diseases, and that it is the most salutary and strengthening medicine for invalids.

3d. That to all, young and old, and of every condition and stage of life, fruit of various kinds, forms a delicious refreshment, and that it is a universal delight.

4th. That it is a diet most of all favorable to mental activity, and contributing, in a high degree, to liveliness of spirits and serenity of mind.

And besides these reasons for its more extended culture and use, it should be observed, that, as fruit is thus the principal food of a highly cultivated, refined and paradisaical state of society, it will be more and more in demand continually; and the wise agriculturist and thrifty farmer will find his account in making large plantations of various fruits. In New England, fruits of all kinds, save apples, are still extremely scarce and high; and even this

more common fruit, the year preceding, was beyond the reach of the great mass of people. During the last year, and in fact, we may say in most years, peaches, in this part of the country, are to the many, wholly unattainable as an article of regular common food, however it may be in New Jersey and its highly blessed neighborhood; and at no time can eatable pears be purchased in our market, save at most exorbitant prices. And yet, there is no reason why, in heavy, clayey soils, properly drained and manured—for such soils doubtless are most desirable, being native and specific to the pear—or in any well-tilled soil that is retentive of moisture, orchards of this so various and delicious fruit might not be grown as easily and as universally as those of the apple, and made to bear more regularly and abundantly, as is the nature of the pear to do. And we believe that a large orchard of Bartletts, Andrews' and Flemish Beauties, or a plantation several acres in extent of Onondagas, (Swan's Orange,) Lawrences and Columbias, would be one of the grandest and most glorious horticultural experiments that could be tried in New England, and would in the end bless the originator with the richest golden harvest. And we hope speedily to see encouraging prizes offered by our various Agricultural Societies, for such orchards and plantations of pears. We have space however in this report to dwell only upon one point in fruit culture, suggested partly by the past season, which has been so peculiarly distinguished by the excessive coldness of its winter, and the severe long protracted and extensive drought of its summer; and this is the subject of "Mulching" our fruit trees.

There are three grand difficulties that beset the common farmer in his efforts for the growth and perfection of his fruit trees and fruit, from which, indeed, the most learned, skilful and accomplished fruit-grower cannot wholly escape.

1st. The labor, expense, and difficulty of properly enriching and tilling the soil around his trees.

2d. The great severity of our winters—or, more correctly, the violent changes from warmth to cold, and the sudden and alternate freezing and thawing that distinguish the wet season, or the winters and springs of our climate, and that often prove so destructive to trees and vines of various kinds.

And the 3d, and perhaps greatest trouble of all, the frequent

length of our dry seasons, and the excessive severity of our droughts.

It would be difficult, perhaps impossible, to name any *one* thing that would prove a perfect panacea for all these evils, and that could cure them all by one and the same application. And yet, we will venture to assert that the practice of thoroughly mulching our trees will approach nearer to such a panacea, and will prove more effectual in the removal of these difficulties than any thing else that could be devised. As much as we ourselves have said, as much as has been written in regard to the matter, we think the subject is by no means exhausted, and that the various benefits of mulching are but very little understood in regard to its action upon fruit trees and fruits.

1st. In regard to its effect upon the tillage of the soil. If the farmer has little time and means to expend in enriching the ground about his trees, let him cover the surface above their roots with fresh mown grass or leaves—the best mulching—or with hay, straw, shavings, chips or sawdust, and he will find not only that the moisture that contains the food of the tree will be preserved, but that the earth is kept as light, as friable, and almost as pulverulent, as though it was continually tilled. And when the mulching has become sufficiently decayed, he can increase its beneficial effects by turning it under, previous to applying new. A gentleman whom I have long known as a very intelligent, skilful and highly successful arboriculturist—I allude to Henry L. Penniman, Esq., of Dedham—makes no other application than that of new mown grass to his thrifty and productive trees. Nature herself in her fresh green waving groves and gigantic forests often growing out of the bed of decaying rocks, always thus mulches and nourishes her trees and keeps them flourishing and vigorous. This kind of nourishment, though deficient doubtless in exhausted soils in certain necessary elements of growth, has the advantage of never being injurious to trees by its overstimulating qualities, as is the case sometimes with stable manure, superphosphate, guano, &c.

2d. The protection afforded to the roots of trees in winter by mulching, is such as to prevent the violent action of heat and cold, that so often proves fatal to the peach especially, and not infrequently, in high northern latitudes, to the quince and pear. In-

deed, few peach orchards or pear orchards will be allowed to remain in coming times without this protection.

3dly. Mulching in times of drought prevents evaporation, and thus secures sufficient moisture and a consequent abundant supply of the gaseous elements, contained in the moisture, which composes the food of plants and trees. For deprived of the nutritious elements thus held in solution in water by the drying up of the soil, the young tree, recently planted, withers, fades and dies; the larger trees languish, the leaves grow yellow, the fruit is either for the most part knerly and imperfect, or drops prematurely from the tree, while that which remains and matures goes swiftly to decay after it is gathered. Of these evils, mulching is the greatest cure yet discovered, and its effect always is to produce a healthy, thrifty, generous growth, with fair, juicy, abundant and lasting fruits.

Your Committee have awarded the following premiums for the most staple fruit of New England :—

*Apples*.—For the best collection of Apples, to William Clapp, of  
Dorchester, 1st premium, . . . . . \$5.00  
Hon. Benjamin V. French, of Braintree, 2d, . . . . . 3.00  
Moses Kingsbury, of Dedham, 3d, . . . . . 2.00  
For the best dish of Apples, not less than one dozen specimens :

To Mrs. Amos Wood, of Dedham, . . . . . 2.00

Your Committee also awarded diplomas to the following persons, for the beautiful specimens, and in many cases valuable collections presented by them,—the Committee having exhausted the premiums within their gift.

To Edward M. Richards, of Dedham, collection of Apples and Pears; A. W. Stetson, of Braintree; Thomas Barrows, of Dedham; Calvin Bigelow, of Dover; Richard Richardson, of Medway; A. Richardson, of Medway; Jesse Farrington, of Dedham; Wm. Whiting, of Dedham; Francis Guild, of Dedham; Dr. Francis Howe, of Dedham; Dr. Eben Wight, of Dedham; Ira Cleveland, Esq., of Dedham; John Drayton, of Dedham; J. W. Page, of West Roxbury.

Also, to Lewis Bullard, Esq., of Dedham, for the “Honey come eat me” Apple, from a tree 200 years old, planted by the Rev. John Allin, the first minister of Dedham, with the request that Mr. Bullard furnish the Secretary an inscription to insert in the Diploma.

The Committee also recommend a gratuity of \$2.00 to the Hon. President of this Society, for a splendid assorted basket of fruit ; also to E. M. Richards, Esq., for a basket of assorted fruit.

*Pears.*—There were but few contributors. The specimens presented being generally inferior, owing no doubt to the very dry season.

For the best collection of Pears, the first premium is awarded to Hon. M. P. Wilder, . . . . \$5.00  
 Samuel Downer, Esq., of Dorchester, 2d, . . . . 3.00  
 Edward S. Rand, Esq., of Dedham, 3d, . . . . 2.00  
 To Samuel Downer, Esq., of Dorchester, for the best dish of Pears, . . . . 2.00  
 To Lewis Wheeler, a diploma.

*Peaches.*—But few were offered ; those presented being mostly late Crawfords, with one exception.

Henry Goulding, of Dover, presented 46 kinds, mostly seedlings, and is entitled to the first premium of 5.00  
 John D. Bradley, of Milton, 2d, . . . . 3.00  
 Thaddeus Clapp, of Dorchester, 3d, . . . . 2.00  
 Also, diplomas to Willard Lewis, of Walpole, Curtis & Lincoln, and John Baker, of West Dedham.

*Grapes.*—To C. S. Holbrook, of East Randolph, for the greatest variety of splendid foreign Grapes, 8 kinds, the Committee recommend a premium of . . . . 5.00  
 To Charles Sampson, of West Roxbury, for the largest and best collection of foreign grapes, . . . . 5.00  
 To Mrs. George Hallet, of West Roxbury, 2d, . . . . 3.00  
 Diplomas to Chas. B. Shaw, of Dedham, and Joseph W. Clarke, of Dedham, for very fine specimens.

*Native Grapes.*—Amos W. Stetson, of Braintree, presented four varieties of native grapes, some of which the Committee consider valuable—they therefore award him the highest premium of \$3.00.

Also, diplomas to Richard Richardson, of Medway, G. F. Thayer, of Quincy, Francis Marsh, of Dedham, and G. & C. Craft, of Brookline.

For the Committee,  
 JAMES RICHARDSON, JR., *Chairman.*

November, 1854.

## REPORT ON APPLE ORCHARDS.

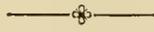
The Committee on Apple Orchards report that only one orchard has been presented for examination.

This belonged to Mr. Whiting Grant, of Wrentham, consisting of Baldwins, Greenings and Russets, principally of the former variety. One half of the trees were planted three years since; the other portion four years. The trees are very thrifty and well taken care of, and evince good cultivation and judicious management. The land has been cultivated with corn and potatoes, and the soil well tilled.

This being the only orchard which the Committee were called to examine, they award the first premium of *fifteen dollars* to Whiting Grant, of Wrentham.

For the Committee,

E. M. RICHARDS, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON FLOWERS.

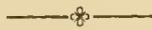
First premium to Mrs. Amos Wood, of Dedham, for a large, round bouquet, . . . . .	\$2.00
Second premium, for 20 handsome hand bouquets, and a collection of fine verbenas, to E. S. Rand, of Dedham, . . . . .	2.00
Third premium, for 20 varieties of verbenas, to J. W. Clark, of Dedham, . . . . .	2.00
Fourth premium, for a large bouquet of asters, to Miss Mary B. Morse, of Medfield, . . . . .	2.00
Fifth premium, for a large collection of dahlias, asters and roses, to Mr. Kelley, of Forest Hill, the only contributor of dahlias, . . . . .	1.00
Sixth premium, for a very handsome bouquet of assorted flowers, to Miss Rebecca Sewall, of Medfield, . . . . .	1.00
Seventh premium, for bouquets, to Myra Smith, of Needham, Mrs. Ellis Bacon, of Walpole, and Mrs. McIntosh of Dedham, each . . . . .	1.00

Elegant specimens of *Cryptomeria japonica*, by E. S. Rand, of Dedham.

The Committee regret to say that the finest flowers, and the most tastefully arranged bouquets, were entered too late to secure premiums. They were contributed by M. P. Wilder, of Dorchester, and E. S. Rand, of Dedham. Also a cotton plant, by Charles Breck, of Milton.

All these contributions are worthy of special notice, for the beauty of the flowers and the taste displayed in the arrangement.

J. M. MERRICK, *Chairman*.

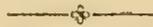


## REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The Committee on Agricultural Implements, award as follows :

For the best and largest assortment of agricultural implements, to Henry Partridge, Jr., of Medfield,	\$15.00
For the best specimens of agricultural implements manufactured in the county, to the same, first premium of	6.00

E. L. KEYES, *Chairman*.



## REPORT ON FARMS.

The Committee on Farms announce with regret that but a single farm in the County was presented for their examination. This fact would seem to indicate an absence of laudable pride among the farmers of Norfolk. Scores of men show fine bulls, and cows, and calves, horses, poultry and pigs, and receive, as they deserve, commendation therefor; but the possession of a fine animal, is, too often, a mere matter of accident,—a fortunate purchase,—the happening in the neighborhood of a fine bull or stallion, or the like,—and too seldom the effect of systematic and judicious breeding. In fine, a man *may* sweep the show of prizes on stock, and yet be a very indifferent farmer; but when he exhibits a well-tilled and economically managed

farm in proof of his claim to the honorable title of a *good farmer*, its every acre of ploughed land and meadow, orchard and forest, hill-side and plain,—its snug farm house and kitchen garden, out-houses and yards,—its vehicles and farm implements,—the farm horses, or oxen, in good condition for labor,—the cows clean as cats, carrying home daily gallons of good milk,—the swine, examples of contentment and obesity,—the very house dog, in his happiness, giving to his tail a hospitable wag,—all these declare in language that cannot be mistaken, and cannot deceive, the home of the thriving farmer.

Are there none such in Norfolk? This volume of the Transactions of your Society is your accredited ambassador to other Counties, States and countries, charged, it is presumed, to give as fair and favorable an account as facts will justify. The silent but eloquent envoy points with pride to the thriving condition of your Association,—to the immense concourse of persons who are annually attracted to your shows,—to the noble array of live stock exhibited,—the groaning tables heaped with luscious and tempting fruits, coaxed from an unfriendly soil, or forced during an intemperate season,—the many and varied evidences of female taste, and skill, and perseverance;—but what is said concerning *the farms* of Norfolk? Scarcely a syllable!

Now it is not the fact that there are no longer farms in Norfolk County creditable to her farmers and worthy of commendation. There are many such, but their proprietors; we fear, are determined to keep them profoundly secret.

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#### FARM OF DR. W. T. G. MORTON, AT WEST NEEDHAM.

The only farm presented for examination belongs to Dr. W. T. G. Morton; and it happened, unfortunately, that it was not presented within the time specified by the rules of the Society; the Committee, in consequence, are unable to award any premium.

They award to Dr. Morton a gratuity of \$20.

The farm gave evidences of continued and well-directed labor; the buildings were all good and in good condition; the neat-cattle were of excellent quality and in fine order; the swine, which are well and widely known in the United States, made good their claim to their high reputation; and the poultry, in many

varieties and in immense numbers, did great credit to the Doctor's "selection, breeding and management."

A full account of Dr. Morton's farm, with its expenses and receipts, is appended. The minuteness of this account, and the careful manner in which it has been kept, reflect great credit upon Dr. Morton, and Mr. G. H. P. Flagg, by whom it is prepared.

For the Committee,

WILLIAM S. KING, *Chairman.*

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#### STATEMENT OF DR. MORTON.

*To the Committee on Farms:—*

GENTLEMEN—In consequence of the prevalent idea among farmers, that none but large and decidedly model farms are considered worthy of premium, I feel a good deal of reluctance in calling your attention to the small number of acres which I cultivate. But experience and observation having taught me that small farms make the largest relative dividend, I shall, in conformity with these views, submit a sketch of my agricultural operations for the past season.

My farm now contains sixty-six acres, and was the parsonage of this parish before it came into the hands of my family. Our first purchase included but six acres, whereon was a beautiful site for a building. This land was covered with bushes, and the low ground was miry. We immediately cleared and planted it. The ground was elevated in the centre, and on its highest point a thrifty oak, a foot in diameter, stood "solitary and alone." Here a two story gothic cottage was erected, of convenient size and shape. At the top of this cottage is a large reservoir, supplied with water by a hydraulic ram, raised thirty feet, from a running stream of spring water on the premises. This reservoir supplies with water the different rooms in every story of the house, and also a fountain in front of the mansion; it irrigates the flower and vegetable garden; supplies the tenant's house and horse stable, and by the use of hose, can throw a stream of water over nearly all the buildings, (which, besides the above, consist of two tenements, a barn, horse stable, carriage house, tool house, piggery,

henery, ice house, &c.) Some rods from the cottage, and on the north side, he erected the barn, fronting south, into a basin-shaped yard, connected, with a roof over it, of sufficient height to allow the sun to strike under. On the south side of this yard is the piggery, with sliding doors to connect with the barn-yard. On the east and west sides of this yard, are gates, by which we pass into one and drop the material for composting, and drive out of the other. It will be seen, by the annexed statement, that a good stock of hogs are kept through the year ; and we manage, by scattering corn among the mud and manure, to make them perform most of the labor of composting. If they do not sufficiently mix muck and manure, we shut up the hogs by the sliding doors, and open both gates and plough through and through, and then let them on again. The shed is covered, and no liquid but urine being there, any deficiency of moisture is made up by letting in water from a four thousand gallon cistern, supplied from the roofs of the out-buildings. These are so arranged, that the water is conducted from all of them into the cistern, which is of wood, and stands above ground, at a sufficient height to discharge water through a pipe into a trough in front of the cattle-stalls ; and, also, when desirable, into the swill boiler.

These improvements have all been so uniformly done in the summer months, that but for the stock, no help would have been required during the winter. There not having been, formerly, stock enough on the place to fully occupy one man's time, a lot of twenty acres (about half in wood) was purchased, with the view of the laborer's time being employed in winter, and cultivating the other half, which was done with great success, which I think will be conceded by the Committee, when they examine the annexed account of the results of the agricultural operations on the limited scale of the two pieces of land above mentioned.

With the view of arriving at definite conclusions, as to the profit of cultivating the different crops, I have caused to be entered, every night, the labor and expense of each day, in a *Farm Record*. From this book, I put the entries under the separate heads, and have struck a balance, and transmit herewith a copy of the same, embracing every entry in detail, which the Committee are at liberty to make such use of as they see fit.

We have not, until this fall, come into possession of the other part of the parsonage,—embracing forty acres, a part, of deep sandy loam; the other part, meadow, with plenty of muck, adjoining the six acre plot; with mansion house surrounded with old elms, a barn and out-buildings suitable for occupation by a foreman, and at a convenient distance from the cottage.

The first step, this fall, on the forty acre parcel, was to plough one half of it thirteen inches deep, (with three yoke of cattle,) and dig 500 cords of mud; which amount we ascertained by measuring the ditches. This sufficiently drained the low land. We are now carting it on to the light upland, which has been literally *skinned* for years; and the returning carts convey sandy gravel from under the barn, which will help reclaim the meadow, and leave a large manure and root cellar under and adjacent to the barn.

Although I have and intend in future to devote much attention to the manufacture of composts, yet I have been, also, endeavoring to test the more recently introduced fertilizers. In this connection, I beg leave to introduce the following.

### *Hay Experiments.*

Designed to test the comparative value of cow and concentrated manures as top dressings for mowing lands,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  acre was selected that had been laid down to grass three years, cutting, in ordinary seasons, from one and a half to two tons per acre. There is a fair subsoil; the surface is black loam, the subsoil yellow loam, gravel below. The land was divided into plots, and extended from moderately high to low ground.

No. 1 was dressed with coarse compost, at the rate of 15 cords per acre. The expense in carting and spreading was \$3.75 for 24,070 feet, or \$6.75 per acre.

No. 2 was dressed while the snow was on the ground with 176 lbs. of guano, costing \$5.28, or \$12.00 per acre; being at the rate of 400 lbs. per acre.

No. 3 was left without dressing, to show the natural yield of grass, and to give a standard of comparison.

*Results.*

In the fore part of July, the grass from each plot was cured and weighed.

The grass from the manure plot shrunk 42 per cent.

“ “ guano “ “ 49 “  
 “ “ nothing “ “ 52 “

The hay from each plot was weighed separately.

No. of plot.—Application to.		Cost per Acre.	lbs. Hay per Acre.	lbs. Gain per Applica. per Acre.	Loss per Acre.
No. 1.	15 cords compost, one half remain- ing unspent, . . . . .	\$30 00	4,200	1,000	\$22 00
No. 2.	400 lbs. guano, . . . . .	12 00	4,310	1,110	3 12
No. 3.	Nothing, . . . . .		3,200		

*Expenses of Corn.—One Acre.*

15 cords compost manure, . . . . .	60 00
Carting out and spreading, . . . . .	10 50
Ploughing and harrowing, . . . . .	6 62
Dropping manure, furrowing and planting, . . . . .	11 25
Ashing corn, . . . . .	50
Cultivating, . . . . .	1 50
Hoeing first time, . . . . .	4 00
Guano, super-phosphate lime and applying, . . . . .	3 00
Cultivating, . . . . .	1 00
Hoeing second time, . . . . .	3 00
“ third “ . . . . .	2 50
Turnip seed and sowing, . . . . .	62
Harvesting, . . . . .	7 00
Interest on land, . . . . .	4 41
Taxes, . . . . .	56
	\$ 116 46

*Products.*

71 bushels of corn, at \$ 1.00, . . . . .	71 00
Husks and stalks, . . . . .	10 00
One half of manure unspent, . . . . .	30 00
	\$ 111 00
Loss, . . . . .	\$ 5 46

*Expenses of Potatoes.—Half Acre.*

5 cords manure, . . . . .	20 00	
Carting out and spreading, . . . . .	3 50	
Ploughing and harrowing, . . . . .	5 00	
Dropping manure, furrowing and planting, . . . . .	5 75	
Seed, . . . . .	5 00	
Cultivating, . . . . .	1 25	
Hoeing first time, . . . . .	5 00	
Cultivating, . . . . .	1 00	
Hoeing second time, . . . . .	3 00	
Harvesting, . . . . .	7 50	
Interest on land, . . . . .	2 20	
Taxes, . . . . .	28	
	<hr/>	\$ 59 48

*Products.*

98 bushels potatoes, . . . . .	147 00	
One half of manure unspent, . . . . .	10 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 157 00
		59 48
		<hr/>
Profit, . . . . .		\$ 97 52

*Expenses of Fodder Corn.—Half Acre.*

6 cords compost manure, . . . . .	24 00	
Carting out and spreading, . . . . .	2 00	
Ploughing and harrowing, . . . . .	3 50	
Dropping manure, furrowing and planting, . . . . .	5 25	
Seed, . . . . .	2 00	
Cultivating, . . . . .	1 50	
Hoeing first time, . . . . .	2 00	
“ second time, . . . . .	3 75	
Harvesting, . . . . .	1 00	
Interest on land, . . . . .	2 20	
Taxes, . . . . .	28	
	<hr/>	\$ 47 43

*Products.*

5¼ tons corn, (Green,) . . . . .	50 00	
One half manure unspent, . . . . .	12 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 62 00
		47 43
		<hr/>
Profit, . . . . .		\$ 14 57

*Expenses of Carrots.—Half Acre.*

10 cords compost manure, . . . . .	40 00
Carting out and spreading, . . . . .	3 75

Ploughing and harrowing, . . . . .	4 00	
Dropping manure and preparing drills, . . . . .	14 00	
Sowing seed by hand, . . . . .	4 00	
Cultivating, . . . . .	1 00	
Weeding first time, . . . . .	6 00	
"    second time, . . . . .	8 50	
Thinning out, . . . . .	1 50	
Harvesting, . . . . .	7 00	
Interest on land, . . . . .	2 20	
Taxes, . . . . .	28	
	<hr/>	\$ 92 23

*Products.*

350 bushels carrots, at 37½ cts., . . . . .	131 25	
Tops, . . . . .	3 00	
One half of manure unspent, . . . . .	20 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 154 25
		92 23
		<hr/>
Profit, . . . . .		\$ 62 02

*Expenses of Sauce Garden.*

4 cords compost manure, . . . . .	16 00	
50 lbs. guano, 50 lbs. super-phosphate lime, . . . . .	3 00	
Ploughing, . . . . .	2 50	
Preparing ground and planting, . . . . .	2 50	
Transplanting, . . . . .	2 62	
Weeding and hoeing, . . . . .	5 00	
Harvesting, . . . . .	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 33 62

*Products.*

One half manure unspent, . . . . .	8 00	
1 bushel peas, . . . . .	1 68	
3½ bushels beans, . . . . .	7 00	
58 ears sweet corn, . . . . .	58	
3,126 cucumbers, . . . . .	15 63	
290 tomatoes, . . . . .	2 13	
1,081 peppers, . . . . .	5 40	
3 bushels potatoes, . . . . .	4 50	
2 bushels parsnips, beets and carrots, . . . . .	1 00	
1 bushel turnips, . . . . .	50	
260 lbs. corn stover, . . . . .	1 00	
2 bushels melons, . . . . .	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 49 42
		33 62
		<hr/>
Profit, . . . . .		\$ 15 80

*The Number and Value of my Stock and Expenses is :—*

Jan. 1, 1851.	
1 horse,	\$ 150 00
2 cows, at \$75,	150 00
9 breeding sows, at \$25,	225 00
16 pigs, at \$10,	160 00
15 pigs, at \$6,	80 00
4 boars, at \$50,	200 00
35 hens,	18 00
2 roosters,	3 00
5 turkeys,	10 00
27 geese,	81 00
4 wild geese,	20 00
15 ducks,	30 00
1 peacock,	1 50
1 pair Caribbean geese, imported,	30 00
1 pair Egyptian geese, “	30 00
1 pair white China geese, “	30 00
1 pair Java ducks,	10 00
1 pair grey China geese,	10 00
1 Devon bull, 2 Devon heifers, 1 Devon calf, 6 Jersey heifers, 4 Jersey calves, 1 Jersey bull, 3 yoke oxen and 1 stag,	2,019 00
Amount paid for labor, at \$1.25 per day,	368 00
4 tons hay, purchased at \$20,	80 00
5 “ “ “ at \$10,	50 00
1½ tons of straw, purchased,	21 00
Taxes,	35 00
Grain for horse,	55 00
“ “ poultry,	83 90
“ “ oxen,	78 77
“ “ cows,	86 50
“ “ hogs,	438 90
Scraps for “	80 76
	<hr/> \$4,635 33

*The Produce is as follows :—*

1854.	
71 bushels corn,	\$71 00
5¾ tons fodder corn,	50 00
98 bushels potatoes,	147 00
350 bushels carrots,	131 25
Carrot tops,	3 00
Vegetables from sauce garden,	41 42
8 bushels potatoes among nursery trees,	12 00
Husks and stalks,	11 00

	120 bushels turnips, . . . .	30 00
	Pumpkins, . . . .	1 50
	3½ tons hay, . . . .	70 00
	1 veal calf, . . . .	7 50
	3,263 quarts milk, . . . .	97 86
	54 sows served by boars, \$2.00 each,	108 00
	3,400 nursery trees, . . . .	170 00
	Use of bull, . . . .	21 00
May 9.	By 2 pigs sold to Hon. F. P. Stanton, Tenn.,	75 00
“ 27.	“ 1 “ Augustus Stevens, Mass.,	14 00
“ 30.	“ 2 “ Joseph Garrett, “ .	26 00
“ 31.	“ 1 “ “ “ “ .	15 00
June 1.	“ 3 “ Hon. John Wentworth, Ill.,	45 00
“ 20.	“ 2 “ “ James Hillyer, Geo.,	30 00
“ 22.	“ 1 “ John Cameron, Mass., .	7 50
July 11.	“ 2 “ Samuel Sands, Esq., Md.,	30 00
“ “	“ 2 “ Hon. A. G. Brown, Miss.,	30 00
“ “	“ 3 “ “ J. C. Clements, Ala.,	75 00
“ “	“ 1 “ “ F. P. Stanton, Tenn.,	30 00
“ 20.	“ 2 “ F. Tyler, N. Y., .	30 00
“ 25.	“ 3 “ Hon. A. P. Edgerton, Ohio,	45 00
“ “	“ 2 “ A. Hyatt Smith, Wis.,	30 00
“ 31.	“ 2 “ Samuel Sands, Esq., Md.,	30 00
“ “	“ 3 “ Hon. L. D. Campbell, Ohio,	45 00
“ “	“ 2 “ ——— Tyson, N. Y., .	30 00
Aug. 22.	“ 37 “ Joseph Garrett, Mass., .	200 00
“ “	“ 1 “ John Cameron, “ .	4 00
“ “	“ 1 “ George T. Caswell, Mass.,	35 00
“ “	“ 1 “ ——— Watson, “	35 00
Oct. 26.	“ 2 “ Hon. A. Rencher, N. C.,	30 00
“ “	“ 2 “ “ Jackson Morton, Fla.,	30 00
“ “	“ 2 “ “ I. P. Walker, Wis.,	30 00
“ “	“ 2 “ J. A. Lamar, Ala., .	30 00
“ “	“ 2 “ May Webb, Ohio, .	30 00
“ “	“ 2 “ Dr. E. V. Dickey, Pa., .	20 00
“ “	“ 2 “ E. B. Powell, Esq., D. C.,	125 00
“ “	“ 3 “ New York, . . . .	150 00
Sept. 27.	“ 3 Jersey heifers, 3 Jersey calves, 1 Jersey bull, 1 Durham cow, 2 Devon heifers, 1 yoke oxen, . . . .	1,580 00
“ “	“ 11 geese, sold to Hon. John Went- worth, Ill., . . . .	55 00
“ “	“ 9 ducks, sold to do. do. do.	45 00
“ “	“ 3 turkeys, “ do. do. do.	15 00
“ “	“ 6 geese sold to Hon. F. P. Stanton, Tenn.,	30 00
“ “	“ 2 ducks “ “ “ “ “	10 00
“ “	“ 4 hens, &c., “ “ “ “	20 00

Sept. 27.	By 204 chickens, sold to market,	.	84 30
" "	" 18 ducks sold to market,	.	9 00
Nov. 17.	" 3,152 eggs,	.	52 54
	Keeping cattle,	.	30 00

*Stock on hand.*

1 horse,	.	.	.	150 00
4 breeding sows, at \$ 25,	.	.	.	100 00
12 pigs, at \$ 10,	.	.	.	120 00
2 pigs, at \$ 15,	.	.	.	30 00
2 boars, at \$ 50,	.	.	.	100 00
3 Jersey heifers, 1 Jersey calf, 1 Devon bull, 1 Devon				
cow, 2 yoke of oxen and 1 stag,	.	.	.	1,110 00
1 pair Egyptian geese,	.	.	.	30 00
1 pair white China geese,	.	.	.	30 00
1 pair Caribbean	"	.	.	30 00
2 pair wild	"	.	.	20 00
5 Bremen	"	.	.	15 00
1 pair grey China	"	.	.	10 00
89 hens and chickens,	.	.	.	44 50
3 roosters,	.	.	.	4 50
15 ducks,	.	.	.	30 00
1 peacock,	.	.	.	1 50
1 pair of Java ducks,	.	.	.	10 00
				<hr/> \$ 6,045 37
				4,635 33
				<hr/>
Net profit,	.	.	.	\$ 1,410 04

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

HENRY W. RICHARDS, *Treasurer, in account with the Norfolk Agricultural Society.*

## DR.

Balance in Treasury, Nov. 30, 1853, . . . . .	\$1,123 51
Cash received, admission fees of 51 new members, . . . . .	237 00
“ “ donation from Lyman Kinsley, Esq., . . . . .	50 00
“ “ for sale of grass, . . . . .	10 00
“ “ from the Commonwealth, . . . . .	600 00
“ “ at Cattle Show, 1854, in part, . . . . .	247 75
Cash borrowed, . . . . .	1,300 00
	<hr/>
	\$3,568 26

## CR.

Cash paid for printing and incidental expenses, . . . . .	\$586 76
“ “ premiums, . . . . .	567 00
“ “ balance expenses of Cattle Show, 1853, . . . . .	147 38
“ “ balance for erecting hall and fixtures, . . . . .	384 97
“ “ Secretary's salary, . . . . .	50 00
“ “ insurance on hall for seven years, . . . . .	47 50
“ “ interest, . . . . .	53 32
Cash returned, amount borrowed, . . . . .	1,294 50
Balance in Treasury, Nov. 29, 1854, . . . . .	436 83
	<hr/>
	\$3,568 26

The Society own real estate, occupied by them, valued at \$6,129 89, including the pens, furniture, &c., attached to the premises. They owe \$1,000 for cash borrowed.

HENRY W. RICHARDS, *Treasurer.*

*Dedham, Nov. 29, 1854.*

ORDER OF EXERCISES AT CHURCH,  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION  
OF THE  
NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,  
At Dedham, Sept. 27, 1854.

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AT half past eleven o'clock, A. M., a procession was formed on the Society's grounds, consisting of the officers and members of the Society and invited guests, under the direction of Col. Thomas Adams, of the city of Roxbury, and marched, escorted by the Dedham Band, to the church of the Rev. Dr. Lamson, where the following exercises were performed. Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, President of the Society, presided, and introduced the services by the subjoined remarks :—

FARMERS AND FRIENDS,

*Again the earth hath yielded her increase and the trees of the field their fruit.* Again we assemble in this consecrated place to receive instruction, and to render thanks to the Giver of all good for the blessings with which He has rewarded industry and enterprise in the arts of life, and to celebrate, by these and other appropriate services, the Sixth Anniversary of the Norfolk Agricultural Society.

To Him our gratitude is especially due for the uninterrupted harmony and prosperity of our Association, and particularly for the preservation of the life and health of its members, this day living witnesses of the divine goodness.

FELLOW LABORERS—By your presence and counsels our Society has been elevated to its present flourishing condition, and upon your examples and coöperation will depend much of its future usefulness. Let us rejoice in the progress which has been made since the organization of our Society. This is apparent in better cultivated farms and in the great increase of crops,

as seen by the premiums awarded, particularly in five fields of Indian corn offered the last year, and yielding, on an average, more than one hundred bushels to the acre.

The report of the Visiting Committee on Farms this year also assures us of decided and gratifying improvement in the arts of cultivation and in rural taste and architecture. The enterprise of our members in the breeding of domestic animals has greatly improved the character of our stock, and promises, ere long, to place this department of husbandry on a par with that of any other part of New England; especially is this noticeable in our Devon, Jersey and Suffolk breeds, and in the improvement of our horses. Let us also rejoice in the completion of our new Agricultural Hall, which offers not only conveniences for our exhibitions and entertainment, but comfortable shelter from the inclemency of the weather, and secures to us many other important advantages, in the possession of our show grounds and in their convenient arrangement for our exhibitions.

While we acknowledge our obligations for these accommodations, we would not forget our indebtedness to the citizens of Dedham, who have, since our last meeting, placed a belfry, spire, and an appropriate emblem on our hall. Neither would we cease to remember the kind coöperation of the ladies of Norfolk from the day of the organization to the present hour.

But while we review the evidences of past success and consider the cheering prospects before us, let us remember that our prosperity and advancement depend upon efficient action and untiring perseverance.

FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES—Let us continue to extend to each other the right hand of fellowship,—to work in harmony and love, and to fulfil our high mission until the cause we seek to promote shall attain its sublime and glorious object, ever remembering that the history of a prosperous people is inscribed, not on the roll of military fame or political preferment, but it is read in the peaceful triumphs of the plough.

FARMERS—Advance in your glorious career,—persevere in this noblest of all arts until the vision of prophecy is fulfilled, "*when your threshing shall reach unto the vintage, and the vintage unto the sowing time, and ye shall eat old store, and bring forth the old because of the abundance of the new.*"

At the conclusion of these remarks, prayer was offered by Rev. Charles C. Sewall, of Medfield.

The following hymn was then sung

#### ORIGINAL HYMN.

BY A LADY OF DEDHAM.

Again with magic wand  
Has Autumn touched our land,  
And changed the scene;—  
The woods, in farewell dress,  
Delight us not the less,  
In fading loveliness,  
Than Summer sheen.

And now, as oft before,  
 The fruits, a plenteous store,  
     Salute our eyes;  
 And for the golden corn,  
 Through welcome rain new-born,  
 Shall fervent thanks each morn  
     Like incense rise.

With cheerful heart we toil,  
 We plough, we plant the soil,  
     Of bounteous earth :  
 Knowing each tree and flower,  
 Cherished by sun and shower,  
 Shall yield an ample dower,  
     Of priceless worth.

O God, our praise and prayer,  
 Unceasing as Thy care,  
     Would rise above ;  
 Thy hand is ever near  
 To bless and crown the year ;  
 Then we will never fear,  
     But trust Thy love.

The Annual Address was then delivered by Rev. James Richardson, Jr., of Kingston. (See p. 5.) At the conclusion of the address, a voluntary was performed by the choir, and the benediction pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Lamson. The Society and their guests then reassembled in procession and marched with spirited music to the hall, where an agricultural banquet had been prepared, and of which about nine hundred ladies and gentlemen partook.

#### EXERCISES AT DINNER.

The company being seated, a blessing on the feast was invoked by the Rev. Mr. Merrick of Walpole. When the busy play of knife and fork had ceased, the premiums awarded by the several Committees were announced by the Secretary, Hon. E. L. Keyes.

The President then introduced the intellectual part of the entertainment by some brief and well-chosen remarks, and proceeded, by the announcement of appropriate sentiments, to elicit responses from the guests present on the occasion.

The first sentiment was complimentary to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The following letter from His Excellency the Governor was then read.

*Worcester, Sept. 25, 1854.*

DEAR SIR,—After consultation with my friends here, I have concluded that I cannot leave here to accept the honor of your invitation to be present at the Norfolk Cattle Show.

Our own takes place on Wednesday and Thursday. I am a member of the Society, and am to make the address on Thursday, and have reluctantly yielded to the suggestion that I ought not to be absent on either day.

Do express to any one who may take the trouble to inquire, my regret in not being able to be present. And I can assure you personally, that few things could give me more pleasure than to meet you, and share with you the interesting incidents of the occasion.

If I were present, I might venture to offer as a sentiment at your dinner table:—

THE NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—Though it may not boast of its years, in the wisdom of its Head and the strength of its Members, it may challenge comparison with the oldest branches of the Agricultural family of the Commonwealth.

Very truly and respectfully yours,

EMORY WASHBURN.

Hon. M. P. Wilder.

In the absence of the Governor, the Secretary of State, Hon. E. M. Wright, responded in an appropriate manner.

The Chair then read the following letter from Hon. Charles Sumner, Senator in Congress.

*Boston, Sept. 25, 1854.*

MY DEAR SIR,—I am grateful for the honor done me by the invitation of your Society, and also for the kind manner in which you have conveyed it. But another engagement promises to occupy my time so as to deprive me of the pleasure thus kindly offered.

From the mother earth we may derive many lessons, and I doubt not that they will spring up abundantly in the foot-prints of the Norfolk Agricultural Society. There is one which comes to my mind at this moment, and which is of perpetual force.

The good farmer obeys the natural laws; never does he impotently attempt to set up any statute of man against the great ordinances of God, determining day and night, summer and winter, sunshine and rain. The good citizen will imitate the good farmer; never will he impotently attempt to set up any statute of man against the great ordinances of God, which determine good and evil, right and wrong, justice and injustice. Let me

express these correlative ideas in a sentiment, which I trust may be welcome at your festival:—

THE GOOD FARMER AND THE GOOD CITIZEN—Acting in conformity with the laws of God rather than the statutes of man, they know that in this way only, can true prosperity be obtained.

Believe me, dear sir, with much respect,

Very faithfully yours,

CHARLES SUMNER.

Hon. Marshall P. Wilder.

Mr. Wilder then introduced Hon. Josiah Quincy, by remarking, That the Society were honored by the presence of its eldest member, the FARMER OF QUINCY, not like Cincinnatus from the military camp, but like Cincinnatus from the field, and even more noble than he, has brought his plough and his team with him. I give you—

OUR OCTOGENARIAN FARMER—Unlike that plant which blossoms but once in a hundred years, he bids fair to bloom and bear fruit through the whole century.

To this sentiment Mr. Quincy replied in a very happy and instructive speech, referring to his long experience as a Norfolk farmer, having been for fifty-seven years a cultivator of the soil in that County. His speech was received with much approbation and applause.

The next toast was—

OUR REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS—May they remember that all which is worthy of legislative care springs from the soil. In lavishing their appropriations on the sword, may they not forget the plough and the spade.

To this, Hon. J. Wiley Edmands, Representative in Congress from this District, and the Hon. S. P. Benson, M. C. from Maine, responded in appropriate speeches. The latter gentleman urged the yeomanry of the country to ask Congress for such aid as might be needed for the cause of Agriculture, assuring them that if they were united in the request, and would march boldly up with their petition, it would not be refused.

The following was then announced—

THE ORATOR OF THE DAY—His labors to-day afford ample proof that what he preaches he is able to practice.

Rev. James Richardson, Jr., replied to this sentiment in his eloquent and usually happy style.

A sentiment was then offered alluding to the *Judiciary*, which called up His Honor Justice Mellen, who made a learned and well digested speech, evincing much research and practical knowledge, and it is to be regretted that we have not a report of it for these pages.

The exercises were then closed by the singing of the following

### AUTUMN HYMN.

BY DR. T. W. PARSONS.

TUNE—"Auld Lang Syne."

Should Autumn's golden days depart,  
 And never leave behind  
 A lesson to the grateful heart—  
 A harvest for the mind ?

For Autumn and his golden days,  
 For all his goodly things,  
 We'll sing a cheerful song of praise,  
 For all that Autumn brings.

Dear God ! who gav'st the kindly rain  
 On summer's drouth to fall,  
 Thy sun and rain made strong the grain,  
 But Autumn ripened all.

For Autumn's glad and golden days,  
 For all his blessed things,  
 We'll sing a cheerful song of praise,  
 For all that Autumn brings.

Though Autumn suns more coldly shine,  
 Earth's glory is not lost :  
 Night bears the Pleiad's radiant sign !  
 Morn shows the silver frost !

And though his fields be bare and brown,  
 Old Autumn's praise we'll sing :  
 October's gold shall be his crown,  
 And Autumn shall be king !

# Officers of the Society.

1854.

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MARSHALL P. WILDER, of *Dorchester*.

---

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SAMUEL D. BRADFORD, of *West Roxbury*.

CHEEVER NEWHALL, of *Dorchester*.

JOHN GARDNER, of *Dedham*.

RALPH SANGER, of *Dover*.

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CALVIN FISHER, JR.,  
ARTEMAS ALDRICH,

BENJAMIN HAWES,  
HARVEY E. CLAP.

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Chilson, Paul  
 Pickering, Asa 2.

## BRAINTREE.

Arnold, John B.  
 Arnold, Joseph A.  
 Bowditch, Ebenezer C.  
 Chace, George  
 Dyer, Isaac  
 Dyer, Joseph  
 Fogg, Charles M.\* 1854.  
 French, Benjamin V.  
 French, Mrs. B. V.  
 French, Jonathan  
 Hollis, Caleb  
 Hollis, David N.  
 Hollis, John A.  
 Hollis, Josiah  
 Ludden, Joseph T.  
 Mansfield, John  
 Mansfield, Warren  
 Morrison, Alva  
 Niles, Daniel H.  
 Penniman, Ezra  
 Perkins, Oliver  
 Potter, Edward  
 Randall, Apollos  
 Stetson, Amos W.  
 Stetson, Caleb  
 Thayer, Ebenezer C.  
 Thayer, Hezekiah\* 1854  
 Vinton, Thomas B.  
 Wales, George  
 Willis, George W.\* 1852 30.

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Amory, James S.  
 Babcock, George  
 Bartlett, James  
 Bird, Jesse  
 Blake, George Baty  
 Craft, Samuel  
 Crafts, George  
 Corey, Elijah  
 Corey, Timothy  
 Dane, John\* 1854  
 Dane, John H.  
 Ferris, Mortimer C.  
 Fisher, Francis  
 Frazar, Amherst A.  
 Griggs, Thomas  
 Henshaw, Samuel  
 Howe, Frank E.  
 Howe, James Murray  
 Howe, John  
 Jameson, William H.  
 Kellogg, Charles D.  
 Lawrence, Amos A.  
 Parker, Montgomery D.  
 Sampson, George R.  
 Shaw, G. Howland  
 Stearns, Charles, Jr.  
 Stearns, Marshall  
 Thayer, John E.  
 Trowbridge, John H.  
 Turner, John N. 30.

## CANTON.

Abbott, Ezra  
 Billings, Uriah  
 Billings, William

\* Deceased.

Bowditch, J. I.  
 Bray, Edgar W.  
 Capen, Samuel  
 Deane, Francis W.  
 Deane, Thomas  
 Downes, George  
 Draper, Thomas  
 Dunbar, James  
 Dunbar, Nathaniel  
 Eldridge, John S.  
 Endicott, John  
 Everett, Leonard\* 1852  
 Fenno, Jesse, Jr.  
 French, Charles H.  
 French, Thomas  
 Fuller, Daniel  
 Guild, Horace  
 Howard, Lucius  
 Huntoon, Benjamin  
 Kinsley, Lyman  
 Kollock, Jeremiah  
 Lincoln, Frederic W.  
 Mansfield, William  
 McIntosh, Adam  
 McIntosh, Roger S.  
 McKendry, William  
 Messinger, Vernon A.  
 Messinger, Virgil J.  
 Morse, William  
 Shepard, James S.  
 Spare, Elijah  
 Spaulding, Corodon  
 Stetson, Joseph  
 Sumner, James T.  
 Tilt, Benjamin B.  
 Tucker, Edmund  
 Tucker, Ellis  
 Tucker, Jedediah  
 Tucker, Nathaniel, Jr.  
 Tucker, Phineas  
 Tucker, William  
 Wentworth, Edwin  
 Wentworth, Nathaniel  
 White, Elisha  
 White, Nathaniel S. 48.

## COHASSET.

Beal, Solomon J.  
 Beal, Mrs. S. J.  
 Doane, James C.  
 Johnson, William B.  
 Sohler, William D.  
 Souther, Laban  
 Tower, Abraham H. 7.

## DEDHAM.

Adams, Benjamin H.  
 Alden, Abner  
 Alden, Francis  
 Alden, George  
 Alden, Leonard  
 Alden, Samuel F.  
 Ames, William  
 Babcock, Samuel B.  
 Bacon, Silas D.  
 Baker, David A.  
 Baker, Joel M.  
 Baker, Obed  
 Baker, Timothy  
 Balch, Benjamin W.  
 Barrows, Thomas  
 Bates, Martin  
 Bosworth, Isaac C.  
 Boyden, Addison  
 Boyden, Benjamin  
 Brooks, Edward C.  
 Bryant, Austin\* 1851  
 Bullard, Elijah  
 Bullard, John\* 1852  
 Bullard, Lewis  
 Burgess, Ebenezer  
 Capen, Charles J.  
 Capen, Oliver  
 Carroll, Sanford  
 Chase, James M.  
 Chickering, Horatio  
 Clapp, Edward  
 Clapp, Nathaniel  
 Clark, Joseph W.  
 Clarke, Horatio  
 Cleveland, Ira

Cleveland, Stephen H.  
 Cobb, Jonathan H.  
 Colburn, Allen  
 Colburn, Nathaniel\* 1853  
 Colburn, Waldo  
 Coolidge, George  
 Cormerais, Henry  
 Crane, Ebenezer P.  
 Crocker, Amos H.  
 Crossman, Charles B.  
 Cushing, Henry W.  
 Damrell, William S.  
 Daniell, Ellery C.  
 Day, Joseph  
 Deane, John  
 Dixon, Rufus E.  
 Doggett, John  
 Donahoe, Patrick  
 Downing, James  
 Drayton, John  
 Duff, John  
 Dunbar, Thomas, Jr.  
 Eaton, John  
 Eaton, John Ellis\* 1854  
 Eaton, Luther  
 Ellis, Calvin F.  
 Ellis, Charles  
 Ellis, Colburn  
 Ellis, George  
 Ellis, Merrill D.  
 Ellis, Oliver  
 Fairbanks, William  
 Farrington, Charles  
 Farrington, James  
 Farrington, Jesse  
 Farrington, John B.  
 Field, William  
 Fisher, Alvan  
 Fisher, Alvan J.  
 Fisher, Ebenezer S.  
 Fisher, Freeman  
 Fisher, James R.  
 Fisher, Joseph  
 Fisher, Thomas  
 Fleming, Douglas  
 Foord, Enos  
 French, Abram

Fuller, George  
 Gardner, John  
 Gay, Ebenezer F.  
 Gay, Jeremiah W.  
 Gay, Lusher  
 Gay, William King  
 Gleason, David  
 Green, Elisha  
 Guild, Francis  
 Guild, Henry  
 Harnden, Harvey  
 Hartshorn, Richard D.  
 Haynes, Edward, Jr.  
 Hildreth, Henry O.  
 Holmes, Edward B.  
 Houghton, William A.  
 Howe, Francis  
 Howe, Josiah D.  
 Hoyle, Mark C.  
 Inches, Martin B.  
 Jackson, Marcus B.  
 Johnson, Edwin  
 Keyes, Edward L.  
 Kingsbury, Lewis H.  
 Kingsbury, Moses  
 Lamson, Alvan  
 Mann, Henry A.  
 Mann, Herman\* 1851  
 Mann, Samuel C.  
 Mann, William H.  
 Marsh, Martin  
 Marsh, Mrs. Martin  
 Mason, William  
 Mitchell, Francis N.  
 Morgan, John  
 Morse, John  
 Morse, John L.  
 Motley, Thomas  
 Noyes, Nathaniel  
 Otis, Benjamin H.  
 Patterson, Albert C.  
 Phelps, Timothy  
 Phillips, Freeman  
 Quincy, Edmund  
 Rand, Edward S.  
 Rand, Edward S., Jr.  
 Rand, William T.

Rice, John P.  
 Richards, Abiathar  
 Richards, Edward M.  
 Richards, Henry White  
 Richards, Jeremiah F.\* 1852  
 Richards, Mason  
 Richards, Reuben  
 Richards, Reuben A.  
 Richards, William B.  
 Rodman, Alfred\* 1853  
 Russell, Ira  
 Sampson, Ezra W.  
 Scanlan, David  
 Scott, Joel  
 Shaw, Charles B.  
 Sherman, Charles B.  
 Sherwin, Thomas  
 Sigourney, Henry H. W.  
 Slafter, Carlos  
 Smith, Henry  
 Smith, Lyman  
 Smith, Nathaniel  
 Smith, Nathaniel, Jr.  
 Smith, Thomas  
 Spear, Henry F.  
 Stimson, Jeremy  
 Stone, Eliphalet  
 Sumner, William R.  
 Sutton, Enoch\* 1853  
 Taft, Ezra W.  
 Thompson, Joshua P.  
 Thompson, Robert\* 1854  
 Tubbs, Benjamin H.\* 1854  
 Vose, George H.  
 Wales, Samuel, Jr.  
 Washburn, Alexander C.  
 Waters, Joseph W.  
 Weatherbee, Comfort  
 Weatherbee, Jesse  
 Weatherbee, John E.  
 Webb, Moses E.  
 Webb, Seth, Jr.  
 Wellecome, Jacob H.  
 White, John\* 1852  
 Whiting, Hezekiah  
 Whiting, Horace  
 Whiting, Moses

Whiting, William  
 Whitney, Samuel S.  
 Wight, Ebenezer  
 Wilson, John F.\* 1853  
 Winslow, George  
 Wood, Mrs. Amos 182.

## DORCHESTER.

Abbott, William E.  
 Adams, Benjamin W.  
 Ago, Patrick  
 Austin, William R.  
 Bacon, Charles H.  
 Baker, Edmund J.  
 Baker, Walter\* 1852  
 Baldwin, Enoch  
 Barnes, Parker  
 Barry, Michael O.  
 Bass, Seth B.  
 Billings, Lemuel  
 Bispham, Eleazer J.  
 Bradlee, James B.  
 Bramhall, Cornelius  
 Breck, Henry, Jr.  
 Brewer, Darius\* 1854  
 Brooks, Noah\* 1852  
 Brooks, Williams B.  
 Brown, Augustus  
 Browne, George M.  
 Capen, Aaron D.  
 Capen, Samuel J.  
 Capen, Thomas W.  
 Carruth, Charles  
 Carruth, Nathan  
 Childs, Nathaniel R.  
 Clapp, John P.  
 Clapp, Richard  
 Clapp, Thaddeus  
 Clapp, William  
 Codman, John  
 Codman, Robert  
 Copenhagen, Arnold Wm.  
 Crane, Nathaniel  
 Curtis, Ebenezer  
 Cushing, Abel  
 Cushing, Abner L.

- Cushing, Benjamin  
 Davis, Barnabas  
 Dearborn, Axel  
 Denny, Daniel  
 Dorr, James  
 Downer, Samuel  
 Follansbee, Isaac W.  
 Foster, William H.  
 Fowler, M. Field  
 Gilbert, Samuel, Jr.  
 Gleason, Moses  
 Gleason, Roswell  
 Gleason, Sewall\* 1854  
 Grew, Henry  
 Groom, Thomas  
 Hall, Oliver  
 Hall, Samuel  
 Hammond, Horatio  
 Hardy, Alpheus  
 Hewins, John C.  
 Hickey, Timothy  
 Hickey, William  
 Holbrook, Nathan  
 Holmes, Ebenezer  
 Hooper, Franklin Henry  
 Hooper, Robert C.  
 Hooper, Robert C., Jr.  
 Houghton, George A.  
 Howe, Charles  
 Humphrey, Henry  
 Hunt, Charles  
 Jacobs, Benjamin  
 Jones, Nahum  
 King, Edward  
 King, Franklin  
 Lec, James, Jr.  
 Leonard, Joseph  
 Liversidge, Stephen\* 1852  
 Marshall, William  
 May, John J.  
 Means, James H.  
 Mears, John  
 Mears, John, Jr.  
 Miller, Erasmus D.  
 Minot, John  
 Moseley, Flavel  
 Nazro, John G.  
 Newhall, Cheever  
 Newhall, John M.  
 Payson, Thomas  
 Perrin, Augustus W.  
 Peters, Henry H.  
 Pierce, Charles Bates  
 Pierce, Edward L.  
 Pierce, Jesse  
 Pierce, Lewis  
 Pierce, Robert  
 Pierce, William  
 Pierce, William B.  
 Pierce, William P.  
 Pope, Alexander  
 Pope, William, Jr.  
 Preston, Edward  
 Preston, John  
 Preston, John, 2d  
 Prince, William G.  
 Prouty, Lorenzo  
 Rice, George Woods  
 Richardson, George  
 Richardson, William H.  
 Rideout, Asa  
 Robie, John  
 Robinson, Mrs. Diantha A.  
 Robinson, Eli W.  
 Robinson, John H.  
 Robinson, Stephen A.  
 Ruggles, Edward H. R.  
 Safford, Nathaniel F.  
 Scudder, Horace\* 1851  
 Spear, Luther  
 Spooner, John P.  
 Sumner, Clement  
 Swan, James  
 Temple, Hannaniah  
 Temple, William F.  
 Thayer, Benjamin W.  
 Tileston, Edmund P.  
 Tileston, Samuel  
 Tolman, Ebenezer  
 Tolman, William  
 Train, Enoch  
 Tremlett, Thomas  
 Trull, John H.  
 Trull, Mrs. J. H.

Trull, John W.  
 Tuttle, Joseph  
 Vose, Robert  
 Vose, Robert, Jr.  
 Welch, John II.  
 Welch, Mrs. J. H.  
 Whipple, John L.  
 Wilder, Marshall P.  
 Wilder, Mrs. M. P.\* 1854  
 Williams, Sidney B.\* 1854  
 Woodman, James  
 Worthington, William  
 Worthington, William F.  
 Wright, Edmund  
 Wright, Mrs. Edmund  
 Wright, Otis 148.

## DOVER.

Allen, Jared  
 Allen, Timothy  
 Bacon, Aaron  
 Baker, Jabez  
 Battelle, John  
 Battelle, Ralph  
 Bigelow, Calvin  
 Bigelow, William A.  
 Chickering, Daniel  
 Chickering, Otis  
 Cleveland, William  
 Fearing, Perez L.  
 Goulding, Henry  
 Jones, Hiram W.  
 Mann, Daniel  
 Mann, Daniel F.  
 Mann, Hollis  
 Newell, Jesse  
 Perry, Elijah  
 Perry, Mrs. Mehitable  
 Richards, Calvin  
 Richards, Luther  
 Sanger, Ralph  
 Sawin, Benjamin N.  
 Shumway, Amos W.  
 Shumway, John W.  
 Smith, Abner L.  
 Tisdale, William

Upham, Walter W.  
 Wall, Patrick  
 Wilson, Ephraim 31.

## FOXBORO.

Aldrich, Henry D.\* 1854  
 Belcher, Lewis W.  
 Burr, Simeon  
 Capen, James  
 Carpenter, Daniels  
 Carpenter, Erastus P.  
 Cary, Otis  
 Fisher, Albert  
 Foster, James W.  
 Guild, Freedom  
 Hersey, David  
 Hodges, Alfred  
 Kingsbury, Joseph  
 Leonard, Samuel B.  
 Leonard, Sanford  
 Pettee, David  
 Pettee, Joseph G.  
 Pettee, Simon E.  
 Shepard, Jeremiah M.  
 Sherman, Job  
 Sumner, Charles C.  
 Torrey, Martin  
 Wyman, David 23.

## FRANKLIN.

Adams, Peter  
 Adams, Ward  
 Baker, David P.  
 Bullard, Piam  
 Daniels, Albert E.  
 DeWitt, Archibald  
 DeWitt, Mrs. Mary Ann  
 Fisher, Herman C.  
 Fisher, Maxcy  
 Fisher, Walter H.  
 Green, Martin  
 Harding, Lewis  
 Hills, Theron C.  
 Knapp, Alfred  
 Metcalf, Alfred G.

Metcalf, Erasmus B.  
 Metcalf, William  
 Miller, John W.  
 Miller, Philip W.  
 Morse, George W.  
 Morse, Joseph  
 Nason, George W.  
 Ray, James P.  
 Ray, John P.  
 Rockwood, Erastus  
 Thayer, Davis, Jr.  
 Wadsworth, Joseph H.  
 Whiting, Joseph  
 Whiting, Joseph M.  
 Whiting, William E. 30.

## MEDFIELD.

Adams, George F.  
 Allen, Noah  
 Allen, William C.  
 Baker, Joseph H.  
 Balch, Albert  
 Bullard, John E.  
 Carson, Joseph  
 Chenery, William  
 Cheney, Nathaniel H.  
 Cheney, Seth  
 Cushman, Jacob R.  
 Davis, George  
 Ellis, Caleb  
 Ellis, John  
 Ellis, Samuel  
 Fisher, Hinsdale  
 Fisher, Wm. Quincy  
 Fiske, George  
 Fiske, Isaac  
 Hamant, Caleb S.  
 Hamant, Charles  
 Hamant, Daniels, Jr.  
 Harding, Nathan  
 Hartshorn, Joseph  
 Hartshorn, Warren  
 Hewins, William P.  
 Partridge, Mrs. E. A.  
 Partridge, Henry, Jr.  
 Richardson, Simeon

Richmond, Thomas T.  
 Roberts, Mrs. Helen M.  
 Roberts, Robert  
 Salisbury, William  
 Sewall, Charles C.  
 Smith, George M.  
 Stedman, Cyrus  
 Thayer, Elijah  
 Turner, John A. 38.

## MEDWAY.

Adams, Edward  
 Adams, Elisha  
 Adams, Lyman  
 Adams, Wyman  
 Barber, George\* 1851  
 Cary, William H.  
 Clark, James P.  
 Clark, Willard P.  
 Crosby, George  
 Daniels, Adams  
 Daniels, Jas. Willard  
 Daniels, Paul  
 Daniels, William  
 Ellis, James H.  
 Fisher, Milton M.  
 Harding, Theodore  
 Henderson, William  
 Hurd, Julius C.  
 Jones, John P.  
 Kingsbury, Gilbert  
 Lovell, Asahel P.  
 Lovell, Zachariah  
 Lovering, Warren  
 Mann, James  
 Mason, Horatio  
 Metcalf, Luther  
 Morse, Asa D.  
 Partridge, Clark  
 Partridge, George  
 Richardson, E. F.  
 Richardson, Jeremiah D.  
 Richardson, Joseph L.  
 Richardson, Moses  
 Richardson, Richard  
 Slocumb, Christopher

Walker, John S.  
Walker, Timothy  
Wheeler, Abijah R. 38.

## MILTON.

Adams, Samuel  
Amory, Francis  
Arnold, John, Jr.  
Babcock, Josiah  
Babcock, Lemuel Whiting  
Babcock, Samuel  
Baldwin, Edward  
Beal, Jonathan  
Bradlee, John D.  
Breck, Charles  
Bunton, Jesse  
Cook, Samuel  
Copeland, Charles L.  
Copeland, Lewis  
Cornell, Walter  
Cunningham, C. Loring  
Cunningham, Francis  
Davenport, Lewis  
Davenport, Nathaniel T.  
Davis, William H.  
Dow, John R.  
Dudley, Benjamin F.  
Emerson, Joshua  
Fenno, Rufus P.  
Forbes, Robert Bennett  
Hall, George W.  
Hinckley, Thomas H.  
Hobson, Miss Martha J.  
Houghton, Jason W.  
Hunt, Charles K.  
Hunt, George  
Kent, George W.  
Pope, Ebenezer\* 1853  
Raymond, George  
Robbins, James M.  
Rodgers, Octavius T.  
Rogers, Henry, Jr.  
Rowe, Joseph  
Ruggles, Philemon  
Thayer, Jason  
Thompson, George

Todd, Robert M.  
Tucker, Elijah  
Tucker, Timothy  
West, Henry 45.

## NEEDHAM.

Alden, Otis  
Ayling, Isaac  
Buck, Charles  
Buck, Miss Frona P.  
Buck, Miss Mary M.  
Bullen, Ichabod  
Carter, Josiah H.  
Daniell, George K.  
Dewing, Warren  
Eaton, George E.  
Emmons, Charles P.  
Flagg, Solomon  
Flagg, William  
Gardner, Elbridge  
Gilbert, Luther  
Harris, John  
Harris, John M.  
Harvey, Stephen F.  
Holland, John  
Hollis, Elisha P.  
Howland, George  
Hubbard, Gardner G.  
Hunnell, Horatio H.  
Hunting, Israel  
Kimball, Benjamin G.  
Kimball, Mrs. Betsey G.  
Kimball, Daniel  
Kingsbury, Lauren  
Kingsbury, Lemuel  
Kingsbury, Thomas  
Kingsbury, William A.  
Longfellow, Nathan  
Lovewell, Charles B.  
Lyon, William  
Mansfield, John  
Mansfield, Robert  
Mansfield, Mrs. Robert  
McCrackin, John  
McIntosh, Mrs. Hannah P.  
Mills, John

Mills, Matthias  
 Morton, Otis, Jr.  
 Morton, William T. G.  
 Newell, Artemas  
 Newell, Benjamin  
 Newell, Mrs. Martha S.  
 Noyes, Josiah  
 Peabody, Ezekiel  
 Pierce, William  
 Revere, George  
 Robinson, Henry  
 Sawyer, Otis  
 Scudder, Marshall S.  
 Seagrave, Saul S.  
 Shaw, George W.\* 1852  
 Snelling, Nathaniel G.  
 Stedman, Francis  
 Stedman, William M.  
 Stone, David  
 Stone, Henry L.  
 Sumner, Lewis  
 Ware, Dexter\* 1851  
 Ware, Reuben  
 Wells, John  
 Whitaker, Edgar K.  
 Wood, Henry

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## QUINCY.

Adams, Charles Francis  
 Adams, Ebenezer  
 Bartlett, Ibrahim\* 1853  
 Bass, Josiah  
 Bass, Lewis  
 Baxter, Daniel  
 Baxter, Elijah  
 Baxter, George L.  
 Beale, George W.\* 1851  
 Beals, Nathaniel H.  
 Billings, Lemuel  
 Brackett, Lemuel  
 Brigham, Josiah  
 Carr, John J.  
 Curtis, Noah  
 Eaton, Jacob F.  
 Emmons, N. H.  
 Fellows, Ensign S.

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Frederick, Eleazer  
 Glover, Horatio N.  
 Green, John A.  
 Greenleaf, Daniel  
 Greenleaf, Thomas\* 1854  
 Horton, Lloyd G.  
 Miller, Charles E.  
 Morton, William S.  
 Munroe, Israel W.  
 Newcomb, James  
 Newcomb, John B.  
 Quincy, Josiah  
 Richards, Lysander\* 1852  
 Robertson, Joseph W.  
 Rodgers, Clift  
 Savil, John  
 Spear, Charles A.  
 Stetson, James A.  
 Thayer, Gideon F.  
 Torrey, William  
 Walker, William  
 White, Nathaniel  
 Willard, Solomon  
 Williams, Francis

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## RANDOLPH.

Alden, Ebenezer  
 Alden, Horatio B.  
 Belcher, Allen A.  
 Belcher, J. White  
 Buck, Nathan\* 1853  
 Burrill, David  
 Holbrook, C. S.  
 Holbrook, Elisha  
 Leeds, Joseph  
 Maguire, James  
 Maguire, James F.  
 Mann, Ephraim  
 Niles, Jacob  
 Snow, Zenas  
 Stevens, Richard  
 Tower, Isaac  
 Turner, Royal W.  
 Turner, Seth  
 Wales, Apollos  
 Wales, Ephraim

Wales, John, 2d  
 Wales, Jonathan  
 Whitcomb, Alfred W.  
 White, Adoniram  
 White, Jairus  
 White, Jonathan 26.

## ROXBURY.

Adams, Thomas  
 Andrews, Alfred A.  
 Appleton, Charles T.  
 Bacon, William, Jr.  
 Bartlett, Henry  
 Blake, S. Parkman  
 Bowditch, Azell  
 Bray, Charles F.  
 Brigham, Joseph L.  
 Bryant, Charles W.  
 Chandler, John G.  
 Clarke, John J.  
 Codman, Henry\* 1853  
 Comins, Linus B.  
 Copeland, Benjamin F.  
 Copeland, Charles\* 1853  
 Copeland, Franklin  
 Cotting, Benjamin E.  
 Crawshaw, Joseph  
 Crosby, Benjamin H.  
 Davenport, George  
 Davis, Gilman  
 Dearborn, Henry A. S.\* 1851  
 Ellis, Charles  
 Ellis, Charles M.  
 Eustis, William  
 Fisher, Warren  
 Fiske, George A.  
 Francis, Ebenezer  
 French, Jonathan  
 French, Mrs. J.  
 Fuller, H. Weld  
 Fussell, John  
 Gardner, Francis  
 Gray, Henry D.  
 Guild, Frederic  
 Guild, Henry  
 Guild, James

Hendee, Charles J.  
 Hewes, John M.  
 Hewins, Whiting  
 Hickling, Charles  
 Huston, William R.  
 Keene, James  
 Kidder, Frederic  
 King, William S.  
 Kingsbury, William B.  
 Kittredge, Alvah  
 Lee, Wm. Raymond  
 Lemist, Edwin  
 Lewis, Daniel  
 Lewis, Franklin H.  
 Lewis, Samuel S.  
 Lowell, John A.  
 Mann, Benjamin  
 Mathes, Albert R.  
 McBurney, Charles  
 McIntosh, William H.  
 Parker, Augustus  
 Parker, George J.  
 Pickering, Henry W.  
 Pike, Charles S.  
 Putnam, Allen  
 Rich, Naphtali D.  
 Ritchie, James  
 Robinson, Jonathan P.  
 Ropes, Joseph S.  
 Sargent, Epes  
 Seaverns, F. W.  
 Shed, Henry P.  
 Simmons, David A.  
 Skinner, Elias  
 Sleeper, John S.  
 Stevens, Amos  
 Stone, Ebenezer W.  
 Sturgis, James  
 Thwing, Supply C.  
 Tolman, James  
 Trescott, Elijah, Jr.  
 Vinson, Cornelius M.  
 Walker, Samuel  
 Way, Samuel A.  
 Whiting, William (Montr. Av.)  
 Williams, Aaron D.  
 Williams, Aaron D., Jr.

Williams, David W.  
 Williams, Mrs. D. W.  
 Williams, Dudley  
 Williams, G. Foster  
 Williams, George H.  
 Williams, Stedman\* 1852  
 Williams, Thomas B.  
 Wilson, Granville W.  
 Winslow, Edward  
 Wiswall, Samuel 95.

## SHARON.

Bullard, Benjamin  
 Drake, Asahel S.  
 Gay, George W.  
 Hewins, Elijah  
 Johnson, Lucas  
 Johnson, Otis  
 Lothrop, Howard A.  
 Mann, George R.  
 Mann, William R.  
 Morse, Harvey  
 Sanger, John M.  
 Smith, Lewis  
 Turner, Calvin 13.

## STOUGHTON.

Atherton, James  
 Atherton, William  
 Belcher, Orin  
 Belcher, William S.  
 Capen, Samuel  
 Clapp, Lucius  
 Curtis, Samuel W.  
 Gay, Lemuel  
 Goldthwait, Daniel A.  
 Hodges, Leonard  
 Hodges, Samuel W.  
 Littlefield, Charles  
 Page, Frederick A.  
 Porter, Luther  
 Porter, Robert  
 Southworth, Amasa  
 Southworth, Asahel  
 Southworth, Consider A.  
 Sumner, Francis C.

Swan, Elisha  
 Talbot, Newton  
 Tolman, Ebenezer W.  
 Tucker, Wales 23.

## WALPOLE.

Allen, Jeremiah  
 Allen, Lewis  
 Bacon, William  
 Bird, Charles  
 Bird, Francis W.  
 Boyden, Horatio  
 Clap, Edmund W.  
 Clap, Warren  
 Clarke, Mrs. Betsey M.  
 Clarke, Truman  
 Ellis, James  
 Ellis, Joseph\* 1851  
 Gould, John A.  
 Gray, Smith  
 Guild, Charles  
 Hawes, Joseph\* 1849  
 Hyde, George B.  
 Lewis, Willard  
 Merrick, John M.  
 Neal, Benjamin  
 Pierce, Shadrach S.  
 Plimpton, Calvin G.  
 Shepard, E.  
 Smith, Metcalf  
 Stone, Ebenezer  
 Thompson, Edwin  
 Wilson, Edwin 27.

## WEST ROXBURY.

Allen, Stephen M.  
 Arnold, Joseph  
 Austin, Miss Florence  
 Austin, William Percy  
 Bacon, Daniel C.  
 Bacon, William B.  
 Bailey, Luther C.  
 Balch, Joseph\* 1849  
 Balch, Joseph W.  
 Billings, Joseph H.  
 Billings, Mrs. J. H.

Billings, Miss Mary  
 Blake, William  
 Bond, George William  
 Bradford, Samuel D.  
 Bradish, Levi J.  
 Brown, Benjamin  
 Browne, Horace E.  
 Butters, J. A. C.  
 Cabot, Stephen  
 Cass, Aaron  
 Cass, Francis W.  
 Cass, Henry W.  
 Curtis, Joseph H.  
 Dabney, Charles W., Jr.  
 Davis, Francis  
 Dixwell, John J.  
 Dudley, Ephraim M.  
 Dunn, Theodore  
 Enslin, William  
 Farrington, Ebenezer T.  
 Gooding, George  
 Gould, Joseph D.  
 Greenough, David S.  
 Hall, David P.  
 Head, Francis C.  
 Henchman, Nathaniel H.  
 Hewins, Charles A.  
 Keith, William  
 Lamb, Reuben A.  
 Lawrie, Andrew B.  
 Low, John J.  
 Mackintosh, Charles G.  
 March, Andrew S.  
 McIntosh, William  
 Meserve, Andrew T.  
 Meserve, Isaac H.  
 Minot, George R.  
 Morse, Charles  
 Motley, Thomas, Jr.  
 North, George G.  
 Orange, Thomas  
 Page, Kilby  
 Parkinson, John  
 Pratt, John C.  
 Prichard, Jeremiah  
 Richards, Edward  
 Russell, George R.

Sampson, Charles  
 Shaw, Francis G.  
 Smith, Joseph M.  
 Smith, Melancthon  
 Spaulding, Solomon R.  
 Sturgis, Russell  
 Swett, Samuel W.  
 Taft, Reed  
 Ticknor, William D.  
 Townsend, David  
 Tufts, James  
 Weld, Aaron D.  
 Weld, Mrs. A. D.  
 Weld, Aaron D., Jr.  
 Weld, Miss A. K.  
 Weld, Stephen M.  
 Westcott, Stephen  
 Whytal, Thomas G.  
 Williams, Henry H.  
 Williams, Moses  
 Williams, Nehemiah D.\* 1852  
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## WEYMOUTH.

Burrill, Ansel  
 Fifield, Noah  
 Howe, Appleton  
 Humphrey, Ebenezer  
 Humphrey, Lemuel  
 Hunt, Atherton N.  
 Hunt, Elias  
 Jones, James  
 Kingsbury, Fisher A.  
 Loud, Joseph, Jr.  
 Nash, Abner P.  
 Richards, Elias  
 Shaw, Nathaniel  
 Shaw, Theron V.  
 Tirrell, Albert  
 Tirrell, James  
 Tirrell, Wilson  
 White, James  
 White, Thomas 19.

## WRENTHAM.

Aldrich, Artemas  
 Cheever, Otis G.

Clap, Harvey E.	Grant, Whiting	
Clay, Nehemiah	Hawes, Benjamin	
Everett, Edmund T.	Ide, Edwin S.	
Everett, Melatiah	Larkin, Lyman B.	
Faxon, Francis G.	Mann, Howard	
Fisher, Calvin, Jr.	Parker, E. B.	
Fisher, Hiram B.	Pond, Jabez E.	
Fisher, Silas P.	Pond, Lucas	
Ford, Peter	Starkey, Gardner H.	
Fuller, Chauncey G.	Stone, Curtis	
Gassett, Henry, Jr.	Ware, Asa	
Grant, George	White, James A.	26.

## MEMBERS RESIDING OUT OF THE COUNTY.

De Reynoso, Bernard	Slade, Robert, Boston,	
Edmands, J. Wiley, Newton,	Smith, George W., Boston,	
Goddard, Thomas, Boston,	Tappan, Lewis W., Boston,	
Gould, George, Newton,	Wheeler, Lewis, Cambridge,	9.
Minot, George W., Boston,		

Members admitted,	.	.	.	1,077
Members deceased,	.	.	.	43



# Norfolk Agricultural Society.

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## LIST OF PREMIUMS FOR THE YEAR 1855.

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### PROGRESSIVE HUSBANDRY.

For the best conducted and most improved Farm during five consecutive years, commencing in the year 1850,—of which the occupant shall present annually to the Trustees a satisfactory account of the whole management of the Farm,—of the crops produced, of the improvement made, and the cost of the same,—of the stock kept and the capital employed,—a premium of *One Hundred Dollars*, to be paid in 1855.

NOTE. Whenever any Farm shall be entered for this premium, the Secretary of the Society shall give notice thereof to the Trustees in the Town in which such Farm is situated; and the said Trustees, in conjunction with the Committee on Farms, will be required to examine the Farm from time to time, and to certify the general management of it, and the mode of keeping the cattle, particularly in regard to their comfort and cleanliness.

### MANAGEMENT OF FARMS.

For the most valuable and economical improvements in the cultivation and management of Farms *entire*, during the year, including lands, crop, stock, and all other appendages,

First premium,	\$25.00		Third premium,	\$12.00
Second “	15.00		Fourth “	8.00

Competitors for these premiums must give notice of their intention to the Secretary, on or before June 15. Farms offered for inspection will be viewed by the Committee from the 20th June to 10th July, and also in September. Any extraordinary field crop will, on notice, be visited by the Committee, and a report of the same be made to the Society.

## IMPROVING MEADOW AND SWAMP LANDS.

For the best conducted experiment in reclaiming wet meadow or swamp lands, by drainage or otherwise, on not less than one acre, with a statement, in detail, of the course of management and the produce, &c.,

First premium,       \$15.00 | Second premium,       \$10.00

## OLD PASTURE LANDS.

For the best conducted experiment in restoring and improving old pasture lands, with an account of the means employed and the expense of the same,

First premium,       \$8.00 | Second premium,       \$6.00

For the best written report given by any member of the Society, and worthy of publication, of any improvement observed in any meadow, or swamp, or old pasture lands in the County,—other than those lands for which the above mentioned premiums may be claimed,

A premium of \$10.00

## CLEARING AND ENCLOSING UNIMPROVED LANDS.

For the best conducted experiment of clearing unimproved lands, on not less than one acre; conditions and specifications the same as in meadow and swamp lands,

First premium,       \$15.00 | Second premium,       \$10.00

## PLOUGHING.

DOUBLE TEAMS. For the best performance in ploughing, at least one-eighth of an acre—within one hour—not less than eight inches in depth. The Michigan double plough may be used,

First premium,	\$10.00		Third premium,	\$6.00
Second “	8.00		Fourth “	4.00

SINGLE TEAMS. For the best performance in ploughing, at least one-eighth of an acre, not less than six inches deep,

First premium,	\$8.00		Fifth premium,	\$4.00
Second “	7.00		Sixth “	3.00
Third “	6.00		Seventh “	2.00
Fourth “	5.00			

**HORSE TEAMS.** For the best performance in ploughing with horses,

First premium,	\$8.00		Third premium,	\$4.00
Second, “	6.00		Fourth “	2.00

**NOTE.** A *Double Team* will consist of two yokes of oxen, with or without a driver ; or a team of one yoke of oxen and a horse also, with or without a driver. *Single Team*, one yoke of oxen without a driver. Competitors must own their teams and ploughs, and enter the same in their own names. Notice to compete must be given to the Secretary on or before the Saturday previous to the Exhibition. In awarding premiums, one hour will be allowed for the performance of the work, regard being had to the width and the depth of the furrow-slice, and the evenness, ease and quiet with which the work is performed.

### EXPERIMENTS IN SUBSOIL PLOUGHING.

For the most satisfactory experiment, on not less than one acre of land, of the effect of subsoil ploughing, to be determined by the difference in the value of the crops, raised on equal portions of equally manured land, of equal quality, one-half of which having been subsoil ploughed, the other half ploughed in the usual manner,—statements of the depth of ploughing, in each instance, together with all the particulars of culture required,

First premium,	\$10.00		Second premium,	\$7.00
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### SPADING.

For the best performance in spading, not less than ten inches in depth, on a piece of not less than one hundred square feet of sward land ; due regard being had to time, the thoroughness of the pulverization of the soil, and the state in which it is left for the reception of seed,—

First premium, \$8, and diploma ; second do., \$7 ; third do., \$6 ; fourth do., \$5 ; fifth do., \$4 ; sixth do., \$3 ; seventh do., \$2 ; eighth do., \$1.

### EXPERIMENTS ON MANURES.

For an exact and satisfactory experiment in the preparation and application of manures, either animal, vegetable or mineral, due regard being had to economy, a premium of \$15.00.

For an exact and satisfactory experiment in the application *alone* of manures, in the best manner, and with the greatest economy,

First premium,	\$10.00		Second premium,	\$5.00.
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## TURNING IN CROPS AS A MANURE.

For the most satisfactory experiment of turning in crops as a manure, either *green* or *dry*, on not less than *one-half acre of land*, a detailed account of the whole process to be given in writing,

First premium,           \$8.00 | Second premium,       \$6.00

## COMPARATIVE VALUE OF CROPS AS FOOD FOR CATTLE.

For the most satisfactory experiment upon a stock of cattle, not less than four in number, in ascertaining the relative value of the different kinds of fodder used, with a statement in detail of the quantity and value of the same, as compared with English hay, the experiment to be made in the three winter months,

First premium,           \$15.00 | Second premium,       \$10.00

## FATTENING CATTLE.

For the most satisfactory experiment in *feeding* cattle, with a statement in detail of the process and the result,

First premium,           \$10.00 | Second premium,       \$5.00

## FATTENING SWINE.

For the most satisfactory experiment in *feeding* swine, with a statement in detail of the process and the result,

First premium,           \$8.00 | Second premium,       \$5.00

## SOILING OF CATTLE.

For the most satisfactory experiment of the *soiling* of cattle, with a detailed statement of the process and the result,—regard being had to the *saving of manure*, and to the comparative *expense of pasturing*,

First premium,           \$15.00 | Second premium,       \$10.00

## GREEN FODDER.

For the best conducted experiment in raising corn fodder or other succulent feed to be used green,—on not less than *one-half acre* of land,—with a statement, in detail, of the mode and cost of cultivation, a premium of

\$7.00

## HAY.

For the largest quantity and best quality of English Hay per acre, not less than two acres, produced on any farm in the County, regard being had to the mode and cost of cultivation, a premium of \$6.00

## CULTIVATION OF GRAIN CROPS.

1. For the best conducted experiment in *Wheat*, on not less than *one-half* acre of land, first premium, \$6; second do., \$4.

2. For the best conducted experiment in *Rye*, on not less than *one* acre of land, first premium, \$4; second do., \$2.

3. For the best conducted experiment in *Oats*, on not less than *one* acre of land, first premium, \$4; second do., \$2.

4. For the best conducted experiment in *Barley*, on not less than *one* acre of land, first premium, \$4; second do., \$2.

5. For the best conducted experiment in *Indian Corn*, on not less than *one* acre of land, first premium, \$8; second do., \$5; third do., \$3.

6. For the best conducted experiment in raising *White Beans*, on not less than *one-half* acre of land, a premium of \$6.

Claimants for premiums on Grain Crops are required to notify the Chairman of the Committee on Grain Crops on or before the 15th of November, by a written statement, containing the following particulars:—a description of the soil; the value of the land; the interest on that value; the amount of taxes; the value of manure, or ashes, or plaster used; the cost of seed; the expense of preparing the ground, of sowing or planting; of cultivating and harvesting the crop, and the total value of the crop raised; that by a single glance the net profit of the production may be seen.

NOTE. Applications for premiums on Small Grains to be made on or before the first of July, and on Indian Corn on or before the fifteenth of August; not less than a half bushel of each kind to be shown at the annual exhibition. The quantity to be ascertained by weight, as follows:—Corn, 56 lbs. to the bushel; Rye, 56; Barley, 46; Buckwheat, 46; Oats, 30; Wheat, 60.

## MIXED CROPS.

For the best conducted experiment in the cultivation of mixed crops of grains and vegetables, in alternate rows—first premium,

\$6; second premium, \$4. This must be made on not less than one acre of land, and a statement in detail of the expense and product will be required.

### ROOT CULTURE.

1. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Potatoes*, a premium of \$6.00
2. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Sugar Beets*, a premium of \$8.00
3. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Carrots*, a premium of \$8.00
4. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Parsnips*, a premium of \$8.00
5. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Ruta Baga*, a premium of \$8.00
6. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Mangel Wurtzel*, a premium of \$8.00
7. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Flat Turnips*, a premium of \$5.00
8. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Onions*, first premium, \$5; second do., \$4.

Samples of one bushel to be presented at the annual exhibition.

These crops must be raised on not less than *one-half* acre of land, except *Parsnips*, which may be on *one-quarter* of an acre, and the quantity ascertained by weight, as follows:—Carrots, 55 lbs.; Sugar Beets, 60; Mangel Wurtzel, 60; Ruta Baga, 60; Parsnips, 45; Round Turnips, 50.

NOTE. Application for premiums on Root Crops to be made on or before the 10th of Sept. It shall be the duty of the several Committees on these experiments, to take into consideration the character of the soil on which the crops have been raised, the capital employed, the whole management and cost of the experiment, and to award the premiums with particular regard to the general merits of the applicant, who shall be required to make a detailed statement on or before the 20th of November.

### VEGETABLES.

AUTUMN AND WINTER SQUASHES. For the best conducted experiment on raising the *Autumnal Marrow* and *Winter Crook-neck Squash*, on not less than *one-fourth* of an acre of land, at least one dozen to be exhibited at the Exhibition, a premium of \$5.00

CABBAGES. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Cabbages*, on not less than *one-half* acre of ground, a premium of \$5.00

FOR THE BEST COLLECTION AND VARIETY OF GARDEN VEGETABLES, regard being had to the quantity as well as quality exhibited—first premium, a Silver Cup of the value of \$10; second do., \$5; third do., \$4; fourth do., \$3; fifth do., \$2; sixth do., \$1. \$10 may be awarded at the discretion of the Committee.

POTATOES. For the best new variety of *Seedling* Potatoes, superior to any kind now in cultivation, a premium of \$20.00

For the best collection of Potatoes, not less than a *peck* of each variety, a premium of \$5.00

### KITCHEN GARDEN.

For the best kitchen garden, on not less than one quarter of an acre of ground,—regard being had to the quantity, variety and excellence of the vegetables therein, and the mode and expense of cultivation,—a premium of \$5.00

### ANIMALS.

*To be entered in the names of their proper Owners, who must have had them six months before Exhibition.*

NOTE. In all cases where it is found that animals entitled to the first premium, have before received the same at any former exhibition of the Society, a Diploma, certifying that said animal is the best, shall be awarded instead of the premium. The Diploma of the Society shall be awarded at the discretion of the several Committees, for animals exhibited from without the limits of the County.

FAT CATTLE. For the best *beef animal*, fattened within the County, regard being had to the manner of feeding, and the expense thereof,—first premium, \$8; second do., \$5; third do., \$3.

BULLS. For the best *Bull*, not less than *one year old*, on satisfactory evidence being given that he shall be kept for use in the County for nine months from the day of exhibition,—Jersey, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Ayrshire, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Durham, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Devon, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3.

For the best Bull Calf of any of the above classes, under one year old,—first premium, \$3; second do., \$2; third do., \$1.

**Cows.** For Cows not less than three years old,—Jersey, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Ayrshire, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Durham, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Devon, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Grade, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Native, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3.

**HEIFERS.** For Heifers from one to three years old,—Jersey, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Ayrshire, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Durham, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Devon, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Grade, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Native, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2.

Best Heifer under one year old,—first premium, \$3; second do., \$2; third do., \$1.

**MILCH Cows.** For the best Milch Cow, not less than three years old, with satisfactory evidence of the quantity and quality of her milk, and the manner in which she has been fed, certificates of which must be filed in writing, of the product of her milk and butter made from the cow during two periods of ten days each. Three months, neither more nor less, shall elapse between the two periods of trial aforesaid, and the last trial shall be completed before the date of the Annual Exhibition. In cases where the milk is not made into butter, the quantity and weight of the milk must be stated, time of the cow's calving, and quality of the calf. Verbal statements cannot be depended upon or received. First premium, \$10; second do., \$8; third do., \$6; fourth do., \$4.

**STATE SOCIETY'S PREMIUMS.** For the best dairy, of not less than six cows, which shall be owned by the exhibitor, and kept within the County not less than five months previous to the Cattle Show,—first premium, \$75; second do., \$50; third do., \$25.

**PRODUCE OF MILK FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR.** For the best conducted experiment with a stock of Milch Cows, not less than ten in number, and yielding, each Cow, not less, on an average, than eight quarts per day, for a period of one year,—with a statement, in detail, of the character, age and breed of the cows, and of the method and expense of feeding them, a premium of \$25.

For a similar experiment, with a stock of not less than six cows, and with same conditions, a premium of \$15.

For a similar experiment, with a stock of not less than four cows, and with same conditions, a premium of \$10.

HEIFERS IN MILK. Not more than three years old,—first premium, \$6; second do., \$5; third do., \$4.

### WORKING OXEN.

For the best pair of Working Oxen, not less than four years old, regard being had to their size, strength, docility, training and appearance. In testing their power, the load is not to exceed two tons,—first premium, \$8; second do., \$6; third do., \$5; fourth do., \$3. In case the oxen are raised and owned by the exhibitor, 50 per cent. shall be added to the premium.

STEERS. For the best pair of three years old Steers, and under four, broken to yoke,—first premium, \$5; second do., \$4; third do., \$3. Same as in the case of oxen.

TWO YEARS OLD AND UNDER THREE,—first premium, \$5; second do., \$4.

ONE YEAR OLD AND UNDER TWO,—first premium, \$3; second do., \$2.

TOWN TEAMS. For the largest and best team of Oxen from any town or city in the County,—first premium, \$20; second do., \$15; third do., \$10.

### THOROUGH BRED AND PART THOROUGH BRED STOCK.

STALLIONS, WITH SAME GUARANTEE AS PRECEDING.

For the best Stallion of 4 years old and upwards, a premium of

						\$15.00
do.	2d best	do.	do.	do.	do.	10.00
do.	3d best	do.	do.	do.	do.	8.00

### THREE YEARS OLD COLTS.

For the best 3 years old Colt, a premium of

						\$6.00
“	2d best	“	“	“	“	4.00
“	3d best	“	“	“	“	3.00

## TWO YEARS OLD COLTS.

For the best 2 years old Colt, a premium of	\$5.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	3.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	2.00

## ONE YEAR OLD COLTS.

For the best 1 year old Colt, a premium of	\$5.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	3.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	2.00
“ 4th best “ “ “	1.00

## BROOD MARES AND COLTS.

For best Brood Mare and Colt by her side, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “ “	4.00

## CARRIAGE HORSES 15 TO 16 HANDS HIGH, OPEN TO ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

For the best pair of Carriage Horses, a premium of	\$20.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	15.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	10.00

## SINGLE HORSES, OPEN TO ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

For the best Buggy or Chaise Horse, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “	4.00

## SADDLE HORSES, OPEN TO ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

For the best Saddle Horse, a premium of	\$8.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	6.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	4.00

## HORSES OF ALL WORK.

For best Stallion of 4 years old and upward, a premium of	\$15.00
“ 2d best “ “ “ “	10.00
“ 3d best “ “ “ “	8.00

No Stallion to be entitled to a premium without a guarantee of his remaining in the County six months.

## BROOD MARES OF ALL WORK, WITH COLTS AT SIDE.

For the best Brood Mare and Colt, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “	4.00

## THREE YEARS OLD COLTS OF ALL WORK.

For the best 3 years old Colt, a premium of	\$6.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	4.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	3.00

## TWO YEARS OLD COLTS OF ALL WORK.

For the best 2 years old Colt, a premium of	\$5.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	3.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	2.00

## ONE YEAR OLD COLTS OF ALL WORK.

For the best 1 year old Colt, a premium of	\$5.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	3.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	2.00
“ 4th best “ “ “	1.00

## SINGLE FARM HORSES, OR HORSES OF ALL WORK.

For best Farm Horse, or horse of all work, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “ “	4.00

## PAIRS OF FARM OR TEAM HORSES.

For the best pair of Farm or Team Horses, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “ “	6.00

The premiums proposed to be offered by this list amount to the sum of \$333.

Assurances are given from several gentlemen, members of the Society, that *if necessary* to carry out this recommendation, the sum of \$200 shall be furnished the Treasurer for that purpose.

Every entry for premium must be made before 12 o'clock of the first day of the exhibition, and the Stock must be present the second day.

It must be distinctly understood, that premiums will not be awarded to any animal that does not in the opinion of the Committee possess decided merit.

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In behalf of several gentlemen belonging to the Society, I hereby guarantee that the sum of two hundred dollars shall be placed at the disposal of the Treasurer, should it be found necessary in order to carry out the premiums proposed to be offered for Horses.

JOSEPH L. BRIGHAM.

*November 21, 1854.*

### SWINE.

For the best Boar, not less than six months old,—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$5 ; third do., \$4.

For the best Breeding Sow, with or without Pigs,—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$5 ; third do., \$4.

For the best litter of Weaned Pigs, not less than four in number, and from two to six months old, regard being had to their age,—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3 ; third do., \$2.

For the best fat Hog, with statement of the method of keeping,—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$5.

### SHEEP.

For the best flock, not less than six in number,—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3.

### LIVE FOWLS.

For the best pair of Black Spanish, \$2 ; do. do. Black Shanghaes, \$2 ; do. do. White Shanghaes, \$2 ; do. do. Marsh or Forbes Shanghaes, \$2 ; do. do. Dorkings, \$2 ; do. do. Poland, \$2 ; do. do. Bolton Grays, \$2 ; do. do. Barn-yard Fowls, \$2 ; do. do. Fowls, \$2 ; do. do. Guinea Fowls, \$2 ; do. do. Bantams, \$2 ; do. do. Ducks, \$2.

For the best conducted experiment in raising, keeping and fat-

tening any of the various breeds of fowls, with a statement, in detail, of the method, expense and profit of the same, particularly of the amount of eggs produced from a given number of hens, in order to determine their laying properties, and also their condition in flesh and market value,—*no premium to be awarded without such statement*,—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$4.

For the best lot of Geese, \$3 ; do. Turkeys, \$3 ; second best lot of Turkeys, \$2.

For the best lot of Live Fowls, not less than twelve, \$4 ; second best lot, not less than six, \$3 ; third best lot, not less than six, \$2.

No Fowls entered after nine o'clock shall be entitled to a premium.

## DAIRY.

For the best produce of BUTTER, on any farm within the County, for four months, from the 20th of May to the 20th of September, a sample of not less than twenty pounds to be exhibited,—*quantity* as well as *quality* to be taken into view, with a full account of the manner of *feeding* the Cows, and the general management of the milk and butter,—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$8 ; third do., \$5 ; fourth do., \$3.

NOTE. It will be seen that these premiums are offered for the best produce on the *Farms*, and not simply for the best specimens exhibited. Competitors will therefore be particular in keeping an account, and preparing a statement of the entire produce within the time mentioned. Each lot presented for premium must be numbered, but not marked ; any public, or known mark, must be completely concealed, nor must the competitors be present at the examination.

For the best 40 lbs. of Butter, that drawing the premium to be placed upon the dinner table for consumption, a premium of \$20.

For the best box of Butter, of not less quantity than 12 lbs.,—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$4 ; third do., \$2.

NOTE. Butter to be presented on the morning of the second day.

CHEESE. For the best specimen of Cheese, of not less than 50 lbs.,—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3 ; third do., \$2.

BUTTER. For the best and most satisfactory statement at the Annual Exhibition in 1855, of the quantity produced from the milk of any number of Cows, not less than four nor more than seven, from January 1st, 1855, to the day of exhibition, in the fall, including a description of the character, age and breed of the

Cows, and a particular account of the feeding and general management,—first premium, \$8 ; second do., \$6.

For any number of Cows more than seven,—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$8.

### BREAD.

For the best loaf of Wheat and Indian, of two to four lbs. weight,—first premium, \$3 ; second premium, \$2.

For the best loaf made of Unbolted Wheat, which shall be grown in the County, of two to four pounds' weight,—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

For the best loaf of Rye and Indian, of four to six lbs. weight,—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

For the best loaf of Wheat Bread, of two to four lbs. weight,—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

The bread presented for premium must be made on the day previous to the Exhibition, by some female member of a family, exclusive of hired persons, in whose name the entries shall be made, and to whom the premiums shall be awarded. The bread shall be baked in the oven commonly used by the family in which it shall be made. A written statement of the process of making the bread shall accompany each loaf.

There shall be Committees appointed to judge of the several descriptions of bread, to whom the names of the contributors shall not be known, and no person shall serve on said Committees if any member of his family shall be a competitor.

### FOREST TREES.

For the best plantation of Forest Trees, of either of the following varieties, viz. :—White Oak, Yellow Oak, Locust, Birch, White Ash, or Walnut, Scotch Larch, Norway Spruce, Pitch Pine and White Pine, or other varieties, not less than three years old, and not less than one thousand trees, a premium, to be awarded in 1855, of \$20.

For the best Plantation, to contain not less than five hundred trees, a premium of \$10.

ORNAMENTAL PLANTING. To any city or town of Norfolk County, for the largest number and best growth of ornamental trees, which shall be planted in a public square or on the roadside,—first premium, \$30 ; second do., \$20.

To any individual or Society, regard being had to the number of persons associated, for the largest number and best growth of ornamental trees, which shall be planted in a public square or on the roadside,—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

These premiums to be awarded in the autumn of 1855, and if awarded to a city or town, to be graduated by the population according to the census of 1850.

### FRUIT TREES.

APPLE ORCHARD. For the best Apple Orchard, of not less than *seventy-five trees*, which shall have been set out since 1850, and which shall be in the best and most thriving condition in 1855,—first premium, \$15 ; second do., \$10 ; third do., \$7.

PEAR TREES. For the best engrafted or budded Pear Trees, set out since 1850, and which shall be in the most thriving condition in the autumn of 1855, not less than *twenty-five trees*,—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

RENOVATION OF OLD APPLE ORCHARDS. For the most satisfactory experiment in the renovation of *old Apple Orchards*, not less than *ten trees*, on any one farm, which, being reclaimed, shall in 1855 be in fine productive fruit,—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$6.

PEACH ORCHARDS. For the best Peach Orchard, of not less than *fifty trees*, set out since 1850, and which shall be in the most thrifty bearing condition in the autumn of 1855,—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

For the Peach Orchard, of not less than *fifty trees*, grown from pits planted since 1851, on the spot where the trees stand, which shall be in the best condition in 1855,—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

SEEDLING APPLES OR PEARS. For the best variety of *new Seedling Apples or Pears*, of decidedly superior quality, *one*

*dozen specimens* to be exhibited, together with a history of its origin, a description of its growth, and the bearing character of the tree,—first premium, \$10; second do., \$5.

### SEEDLING GRAPES.

For a new variety of *Native or Seedling Grape*, equal or superior to the *Isabella*, ripening, in this County, in the open air, by the *middle of September*, prolific and suitable for the table,—first premium, \$20; second do., \$10.

### CRANBERRY VINES.

For the most successful experiment in transplanting Cranberry Vines, or raising them from the seed, which shall be in the most flourishing and productive state on the first of September, 1855. Competitors will be required to give a particular account of their several operations.

First premium, \$15.00 | Second premium, \$10.00

### HEDGES.

For the best *live Hedge Fence*, of not less than one thousand feet in length, premium to be awarded in 1854.

First premium, \$10.00 | Second premium, \$5.00

### DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

FANCY ARTICLES,—including Needlework, Crotchetwork, Shellwork, Millinery, Drawings, Paintings, &c.

For such articles in this department as may be deemed worthy, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

NOTE. It should be understood that, in this department of Ladies' work,—while other things will receive due consideration,—the premiums are intended *solely for newly made* articles which are really useful, or particularly beautiful. For well made garments of any kind; for stocking knitting of wool, cotton, or silk; for bonnet and cap making; for all articles of children's wear, well made or tastefully embroidered; for neat and thorough mending, patching, and darning; for drawing, designing, or painting in oil or water colors; for models in plaster, wood, or marble, &c.

Children under 12 years of age, attending the public schools, are not invited to offer any thing for premium, except such articles as will show their docility, diligence, and good behaviour at school, and shall be accompanied with a certificate of approbation from their school teacher. To such articles particular attention will be given, and premiums at the discretion of the Committee.

MANUFACTURES OF STRAW. For the best Straw Bonnet,—first premium, \$8 ; second do., \$6.

For the best specimen of Straw Braid,—not less than 100 yards,—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

MANUFACTURES OF CLOTH, FLANNELS, HOSIERY, &c. *Cotton Cloth.* For the best specimen of Cotton Cloth, of any description, not less than twenty-eight yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Woollen Cloth.* For the best specimen of Woollen Cloth, of any description, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Cotton and Woollen mixed.* For the best specimen of Cotton and Woollen Cloth, of any description, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Flannels.* For the best specimen of Flannel, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best specimen of Cotton Flannel, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best pair of Woollen Blankets, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Hosiery, &c.* For the best specimen of Silk Hose, a premium of \$1.50.

For the best specimen of Silk Half Hose, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Woollen Hose, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Woollen Half Hose, a premium of 50 cents.

For the best specimen of Cotton Hose, a premium of 50 cents.

For the best specimen of Cotton Half Hose, a premium of 25 cents.

For the best specimen of Worsted Hose, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Worsted Half Hose, a premium of 50 cents.

For the best specimen of Sewing Silk, not less than one pound, a premium of \$2.

For the best specimen of Knitting Yarn, not less than one pound, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Spool Thread, not less than one pound, a premium of \$1.

For the best Fleece of Wool, a premium of \$1.

For the best dozen Grain Bags, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of neat and thorough mending, patching, or darning of garments, hose, &c., a premium of \$1.

#### CARPETINGS, RUGS AND FLOOR CLOTH.

For the best "Common" Ingrain 2 ply Carpeting ;

do. do. "Fine" do. do. do.

do. do. "Superfine" do. do. do.

do. do. "Common," "Fine," or "Superfine" Ingrain 3 ply Carpeting ;

do. do. Brussels Floor Carpeting ;

do. do. Tapestry do. do.

do. do. Velvet Carpeting.

For each of these descriptions of Carpeting, a premium or the Society's Diploma, at the discretion of the Committee.

NOTE. Ingrain 2 ply Carpetings will be judged by the comparative merits of pieces of similar weight ; or, disregarding weight, by the quality of colors, the taste of shading, and the evenness in spinning and weaving.

For the best piece of Stair Carpeting, the Society's Diploma.

For the best Hearth-Rug, the Society's Diploma.

For the best specimen of Painted Floor Cloth, a premium or the Society's Diploma, at the discretion of the Committee.

COUNTERPANES. For the best Counterpane,—regard being had to quality and expense of materials,—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

NOTE. Any article, in either of the foregoing departments, which shall have been manufactured in *the family* of the person presenting it, will receive the particular consideration of the Committee, and, if worthy, a suitable premium.

GLASS, EARTHEN, STONE AND WOODEN WARE. For the finest collections and best specimens of articles in each of these departments, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

BRASS, COPPER, TIN, IRON AND BRITANNIA WARE. For the finest collections and best specimens of articles in each of these departments, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

CABINET WORK. For the best specimen of Cabinet Work, a premium, or the Society's Diploma.

IRON FENCING, GATES AND POSTS. For the best specimens of each,—regard being had to cost and utility, as well as ornament,—a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

STOVES. For the best Farmer's Cauldron Stove ;

do. do. Cooking do.

do. do. Parlor do.

—a premium of \$2 each.

HORSE AND OX SHOES. For the best specimens of Horse and Ox Shoes, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Horse Shoes *for meadow land*, a premium of \$1.

INDIA RUBBER GOODS. For the finest collection and best specimens of India Rubber goods, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

BRUSHES, COMBS, HATS, CAPS AND GLOVES. For the finest collection and best specimens of each of these articles, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

LEATHER, AND ARTICLES MANUFACTURED THEREFROM.

For the best specimen of Thick Boots, a premium of \$2.00

do. do. Calfskin, do. 3.00

do. do. Thin Boots other  
than Calfskin, do. 2.00

do. do. Kipskin, do. 2.00

do. do. Thick Brogans, do. 1.00

do. do. Fine Brogans, do. 1.00

do. do. Ladies' Boots, do. 1.00

For the best specimen of Upper or Sole Leather, or Morocco, a premium or gratuity, each, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best single Carriage Harness ;

do. do. double do.

do. do. Cart Harness,—a premium or gratuity, each, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best Riding Bridle, a premium of \$1.00

do. do. do. Saddle do. 2.00

do. do. Carriage or Cart Whip, a premium of 1.00

CARRIAGES, WAGONS, CARTS, &c.

For the best specimen of Family Carriages, for one horse or for two horses ;

For the best Covered Wagon ;  
 do. do. Open do.  
 do. do. Farm do.  
 do. do. do. Cart ;  
 do. do. Farm Wheelbarrow,—a premium or gratuity, each,  
 at the discretion of the Committee.

JELLIES, PRESERVES, PICKLES AND KETCHUPS. For the finest collection and best specimens of each, made of articles of domestic growth, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

NEW INVENTIONS. For any new invention of decided superiority and usefulness to the farmer, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

NOTE. It is to be understood that all articles presented for premium, in each of the foregoing departments, shall have been manufactured or produced within the County during the last year, and by the person presenting them. Also, that, in every case, the Examining Committee shall have the right to substitute the Society's Diploma for a premium or gratuity, or to give it where no premium or gratuity has been awarded, at their discretion.

Articles in either of the above departments, contributed to the exhibition by persons not resident in the County, shall receive suitable attention from the Committee, and, if worthy, be awarded the Society's Diploma.

## FRUITS AND FLOWERS.

Accommodations will be provided for the exhibition of Fruits and Flowers, and Committees will be appointed to examine and report on such as may be presented. Whoever may present, is requested to furnish a minute, in writing, of the name of the owner, and a list of his contributions.

### FRUITS.

For the best collection of *Apples*,—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3 ; third do., \$2.

For the best collection of *Pears*,—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3 ; third do., \$2.

For the best collection of *Peaches*,—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3 ; third do., \$2.

For the best *dish* of *Pears*, not less than one dozen specimens, a premium of \$2.

For the best *dish* of Apples, not less than one dozen specimens, a premium of \$2.

GRAPES. For the best collection of *Foreign Grapes*,—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3.

For the best collection of *Native Grapes*, a premium of \$3.

FLOWERS. Premiums will be awarded on Flowers and Bouquets, in amount not exceeding \$15.

### AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

For the most extensive and finest collection of Agricultural Implements,—first premium, \$15 ; second do., \$10 ; third do., \$5.

For the best Agricultural Implements manufactured within the County and exhibited by the manufacturer,—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$4.

For the best report, by any member of the Society, of any new or improved Agricultural Implement,—describing its construction and operation, its cost and its benefit, and, in particular, its applicability to the soil of Norfolk County,—a premium, if worthy of record, in proportion to the value of such report, at the discretion of the Committee.

### AGRICULTURAL LABORERS.

For a certificate,—signed by his employer, and countersigned by any two Trustees of the Society residing in the same town,—of the superior character and qualifications of any man or boy, in the employment of a member of the Society for a period, next preceding, of not less than two years, attesting the industry, integrity, respectful demeanor, and general good habits, during that time, of the bearer of such certificate,

A premium of Membership of the Society, and a Diploma.

### PRIZE ESSAYS.

For the best Essay on either of the following subjects, which may be considered by the Trustees worthy of publication :—

FOREST TREES. For the best Essay on the raising and cultivation of Forest Trees, a premium of \$10.

INSECTS. For the best Essay for the destruction of Insects injurious to vegetation, such as *Curculio*, *Borer*, *Canker-Worm*, *Caterpillar*, *Cut-Worm*, *Squash-Bug*, *Striped-Bug*, *Rose-Bug*, &c., &c., a premium of \$20.

POTATO DISEASE. For the best Essay on the prevention of the Potato Disease, a premium of \$10.

PRESERVATION OF WINTER FRUIT. For the best Essay on the preservation of Apples and other Winter Fruits, \$10.

PRESERVATION OF VEGETABLES. For the best Essay on the preservation of Vegetables, a premium of \$10.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION. For the best Essay on Agricultural Education, a premium of \$10.

FARM ACCOUNTS. For the best Essay on a system of Farm Accounts, \$10.

For the most valuable Essay upon the comparative value and adaptation to the climate and soil of Norfolk County of the several foreign and native breeds of Cows and Oxen, \$10.

For the best Prize Essay on Domestic Poultry, \$25.

For the best Essay on *Fences for Farms*, uniting economy, strength, and appearance, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the extermination of *Weeds and Plants*, destructive to crops, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the preservation and application of Liquid Manure, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the introduction of new Fruits and new articles of Field Culture, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the best manner of subdividing farm cultivation with reference to Economy and Profit, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the value and application of Phosphate of Lime, as a fertilizer of the soil, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on Bees and structure of Hives, with particular reference to feeding Bees, and guarding against the spoliations of the Bee Moth, a premium of \$10.

For an Essay on any subject connected with Agriculture, Horticulture, Manufactures, or Mechanics, which the Trustees may consider worthy, a premium of \$10.

For the best plan for a Barn and Barn Yard, with regard to the keeping of the Hay, the comfort of the Cattle, the ease and convenience of tending them, and the making and preserving the Manure, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the proper time and manner of cutting the trees on wood land, a premium of \$10.

These premiums will not be awarded unless the Essays offered, shall, in the judgment of the Committee appointed to decide upon them, be deemed in themselves worthy of an Award without reference to their comparative merit.

## RULES AND GENERAL REMARKS.

It is understood that all premiums will be restricted to articles of the growth and manufacture of the County, unless otherwise specified in connection with it. Essays and agricultural implements being excepted from this rule, are open to general competition.

Any gentleman, not a member of the Society, entitled to a premium of five dollars, or upwards, shall receive the amount exceeding the sum of five dollars, and shall thereafter become a member.

The stock and articles intended for exhibition and premium, butter excepted, must be on the ground at or before 12 o'clock on Tuesday, the first day of the Exhibition. Animals will not be allowed to be removed from the pens before 3 o'clock on Wednesday, the second day, and all other articles not until 5 o'clock, without the permission of the Committee.

The animals while on the ground will be fed at the expense of the Society.

No person serving on any of the Committees shall have a vote in any case, when he shall be personally interested as a competitor.

All other Entries for premiums must be made in writing, and shall be placed in the hands of the Recording Secretary, on or before the 15th of November.

Premiums awarded, and not called for within *six months*, will be considered as given to the Society, in aid of its funds.

After the objects for Exhibition are arranged, they will be under the care of the Committees, and cannot be removed without their consent.

No object or article will be entitled to a premium, unless it possesses points of superiority; and the Committees have the discre-

tionary power of withholding premiums, if, in their opinion, the articles or objects are not deemed worthy to receive the same.

The Trustees have carefully revised and approved of the foregoing proposals for *Premiums*. The respective Committees, appointed to award the same, are required to enforce a strict conformity to all of the rules in relation to Entries and Certificates.

In the appointment of *Committees*, the Trustees will seek for the most judicious and skilful individuals in the various towns in the County, *to award the Premiums*; but should they fail to secure the aid of the ablest and most experienced men in the above capacity, they will rely upon the forbearance which, they believe, will be generously extended towards sincere and unwearied efforts.

As it will become the duty of the Society to make to the Legislature an exact report of its doings, the Trustees deem it of the highest importance, that earnest and persevering efforts should be made by the citizens of every town in the County, to bring out the results of their skill and industry.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, *President*.

EDWARD L. KEYES, *Secretary*.







TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

NORFOLK

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

FOR

1855.

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PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY.



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ADDRESS,

BY

REV. J. M. MERRICK.



## ADDRESS.

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I WAS somewhat surprised recently by the remark of a farmer, who sneered at Agricultural Societies, intimating that in his opinion they were little better than collections of quacks, boasting also that he had fair crops, although he belonged to no such fraternity. He holds but a moderate rank as a farmer in regard to the extent and thoroughness of his operations. Yet within five or six years his farm has increased in value. He has a new and flourishing orchard, improved stock and enlarged buildings, and exhibits unmistakable evidences of progress. Behold the proofs of his error! He has caught the spirit he disowns, is borne along by the stream he opposes. He is too intelligent not to profit by the impulse given to his business by men whose efforts he would ridicule. He breathes an atmosphere which they have diffused. In agricultural improvements wealthy amateurs,—call them fancy farmers if you like,—must take the lead. It is fortunate for others that they are willing to do so. By experiments conducted with more or less wisdom, and at great expense, they eventually stand upon a higher level. Through success and failure their general course is onward to superior methods of tillage, to larger crops, to better shaped animals, to more convenient tools; and, through the agency of the press and the power of

sympathy others share in these results and occupy the same higher position. It is a generous enthusiasm leading to noblest benefits. Why does an acre that once yielded forty bushels of corn now yield a hundred? Why are eight hundred bushels of roots raised upon an acre instead of three hundred? Why is the average produce of butter nearly doubled? Why do mowing fields yield two tons to the acre instead of one? How is it that oxen of the largest size are well fatted at three years of age? or that pigs of improved forms and properties are fit for slaughter at nine or ten months, when it formerly required two years to reach that condition? Because theorists have theorized, and experimentalists have experimented, and rich men have freely spent their money, and fancy farmers have carried out their fancies, and book farmers have diligently studied their books, and agricultural chemists have investigated the qualities of soils and manures, and skilful mechanics have embodied the principles of natural philosophy in better machines and tools than our fathers dreamed of; and then all have brought their contributions into a common stock, and formed Agricultural Societies; and these again have distributed the accumulated gains into a thousand channels, and the practical farmer has reaped the result of the whole operation in additions to his knowledge and skill. The individual theorists and chemists and fanciers and book men may not always increase their wealth; they are not an eminently selfish race. But the community gains, and even they who ungenerously depreciate the enterprise, come in for their share of the profits.

Here then is the justification of our Association. And yet I have not mentioned all the elements that enter into the result. In scarcely any other art do improvements advance so slowly as in agriculture, when not impelled by associated activities. The farmer works alone, and

misses the impetus of society. Why does the Italian peasant scratch the ground with a wooden plough drawn by a donkey and a woman?—or the Egyptian fellah partially disturb three inches of soil with a crooked stick? Partly because in their countries there is no common sentiment in which they and their fellow-laborers can sympathize; no associations to create that sentiment; no free thought to stimulate it; no sufficient intelligence for its basis; no means of diffusing it were it created. An enlightened public opinion does not quicken their minds to reflection or animate their labors by the hope of larger gains.

I think, however, I may be excused from pressing upon this audience the grounds that justify associations like ours. The existence of this and similar societies is vindicated by the fruits they have produced.

It is right that we should celebrate the Annual Ingathering of the Harvest. No other interest better deserves such a commemorative service; for agriculture “is a spring that sets in motion the grand machine of business, manufacturing and commercial; nor can a sail be spread without the assistance of the plough. Every other source of independence or of plenty is perishing or casual; this is the great Art, which every enquirer into nature ought to improve.”

The end of agriculture is to multiply food; and abundant food multiplies men and advances civilization; for, “nations are not populous in proportion to the land they occupy, but to the food they produce.” To produce the greatest amount of food at the least expense is the problem for farmers to solve. It is evident that to do this requires the combination of intelligence and labor; for agriculture is an actual producing, and a theory to account for, and increase the produce. The practical occupation precedes the theoretical system. Farmers composted

manure before science explained the philosophy of the operation ; and knew that wheat demanded lime before they understood the reason. Men cultivate the earth to live, ages before they learn the best methods of cultivation, before the principles that lie beneath rules are ascertained. Then comes the wise man, who through his acquaintance with science leads the way to better methods.

But we must not suppose that the system of agriculture pursued in this community was unwisely adopted, or has been blindly followed by successive generations, because they could not justify it on scientific principles. It is its own justification ; because the system grew out of the soil and climate of New England, and out of the circumstances of our people. No theory can prove it inappropriate. Hence we deprecate radical changes. With eyes open to defects, with candor enough to acknowledge them, we would improve the system, by higher culture of the farmer himself. Our worst enemy is persistent ignorance. We cannot hope to maintain our relative position, nor to gain the highest success, against our formidable rivals of the west, unless we make a greater effort to combine labor with scientific knowledge. In practical sagacity our farmers are unrivalled ; but agriculture is a complicated business, embracing a wide range of subjects connected with the soil, the atmosphere, manures and their application, tools and their use, and the various methods of operation. It requires a ready wit, mechanical invention, power to adapt means to ends, wise judgment and calculation. These are qualities that distinguish the genus Yankee, qualities produced and fostered by our position in a new country, by common school education and by poverty. Our young men are trained to reason and discriminate, and he who has not had the discipline which brings out these qualities stands a small chance of success.

But much more than this is demanded by our condition. School learning is rather a preparation for special training than a substitute for it. We admit this in reference to every branch of business except agriculture, in which the highest skill is thought to come as reading and writing did to Dogberry—by nature. The boy who is destined to Law or Medicine goes from the town school to the high school, from the high school to college, from college to the school of law or medicine, and after fifteen or twenty years' study is deemed qualified to commence the practice of his calling. But the farmer's son has no special instruction; with the imperfect education of the common school he undertakes a task that might employ the best talents amply developed by culture. The consequence is that he is apt to walk implicitly in the beaten track, to believe that his father employed and exhausted all wisdom, and that the practical sagacity acquired by experience furnishes a sufficient pledge of success. But, how can an art be properly improved without a knowledge of its theory? Practical sagacity has no insight into the mysteries of science. If the soil be exhausted by repeated croppings, it does not know the best means of restoring its fertility. It may hit upon a lucky guess, or it may lose time and money for nothing. If we would not forever blunder along in the dark we must banish our foolish cant about book-farming, recognize our ignorance and consent to be taught by men wiser than ourselves. We must get rid of the idea of the all-sufficiency of practice and the worthlessness of theory. Let us state in a few words what we mean by practical and theoretical. "A mere practical farmer is a man who knows how to manage his ground to advantage. His natural abilities and the education of his circumstances enable him to do this. A theoretical farmer, on the other hand, is a man who understands the principles on which agricultural

operations depend." He may not have acquired dexterity in their application. He may be less successful at first than the other. That is no reason against his ultimate success. For the best farmers that I know are intelligent book-farmers, not brought up to the business, but having adopted it in mature life and conducting it on just principles, make it profitable. Such men may fail at first; and the man of routine who dreads or dislikes innovations may be diverted by their mistakes. We have enjoyed a laugh at the blunder of the farmer, who, in attempting for the first time to trim his apple-trees, placed his ladder against the limbs he sawed off and gained knowledge through artificial bumps upon his forehead. Such blunders are fair game. Put the mere practical farmer and the man of science in a new position; let them be required to determine on the cultivation of a new article, or the use of a new manure, or the renovation of a worn-out soil, or the probable result of a new method, and there can be little doubt whose judgment would be safest. There can be little doubt which would be most likely to foresee what part of a proposed system is erroneous and what correct. The man of routine is then at sea without compass. The man of science has a guide in his knowledge and his intellectual discipline, not infallible, but of inestimable advantage. The merely practical man is apt to look at proposed changes through the spectacles of prepossessions engendered by habit,—forgetting that there is nothing so destructive as unreasoning conservatism, nothing so unnatural as an effort to counteract the laws of the world's onward movement. No man can originate improvements, however well he may perform specific tasks, unless he understands the principles on which the processes depend. The end of life will find him in the place he occupied at its beginning. The man of science has liberalized his

mind by the study of first principles and is not hampered by his experience. Practice not directed by science can do something, but it works at great disadvantage; for general principles impart the inclination as well as quicken the capacity for improvement, make its progress more rapid and prevent the adoption of error.

It is a truth recognized in every department of industry that intelligent labor is always the most successful labor. The agent of a cotton mill speaking of the money value of mere reading and writing says, "the best mill in New England worked by operatives who are unable to write their names, would never yield the proprietor a profit." If knowledge is so *desirable* in manufacturing, in which guidance of nicely arranged machinery is a chief employment, how *essential* is it to men, who are perpetually in contact with natural forces, now more, now less active,—men who are required to decide questions of the rotation of crops, of the application of manures to various soils,—to make accurate and long-continued experiments in feeding and fattening cattle? Manufacturers employ the best scientific knowledge and skill in the production of a yard of calico. Is it less important that a farmer should know the cost of a gallon of milk or a bushel of grain, or a pound of beef? Manufacturers and mechanics work on dead materials, and their labors are consequently less liable to be affected by causes beyond their control than those of the farmer. He deals with living growths, that are modified by light, heat, moisture, electricity and chemical affinities,—and hence he needs knowledge both to facilitate his operations and to multiply indefinitely the productions of the soil;—in other words, to grow the largest crop with the least expense, at the same time improving the condition of his land. The manufacturer would soon be ruined, who should persist in using machinery and employing meth-

ods in fashion fifty years ago. Why should the farmer close his eyes to the progress of the world? Surely the art of farming is not what it was in the days of the Pharaohs. Why should we think that wisdom will die with us! Is it too much to hope that the time will come when farming shall not be altogether a tentative, experimental, and therefore uncertain art, but that principles shall be *established* corresponding to the immense interests involved in agricultural operations?

Why are some whom I see before me recognized as eminently successful farmers, held up as examples honorable to Norfolk County? Because they know how to employ their means judiciously, and because they endeavor to bring, and so far as themselves are concerned, have brought farming into good repute as an exact science and a profitable art. The farmer must work. That happy necessity is laid upon him. Is it not better that he should work intelligently than ignorantly?—adding to his own experience the results of ages of experimenting, the improvements that successive generations have made upon the rude attempts of the savage?

Let the farmer consider that his first duty is self-culture. If his early education was imperfect, there is so much more need of increased activity in manhood. Perhaps there is no calling in which appropriate knowledge is so sure of contributing to immediate success as agriculture. Hitherto none has suffered more from the lack of it.

And here I am reminded that most of the education our young farmers receive is merely elementary and preparatory, and that no school of agricultural science yet furnishes the necessary specific instruction. Shall this deficiency remain? Will not our wealthy men, whose munificence is proverbial, endow a school in which young men may be taught the theory and the practice of farm-

ing, in connexion with a farm on which experiments shall be conducted with all the skill and discrimination which present knowledge and experience can suggest? With such a school we might hope that some certain principles would be established as guides to practice instead of our ever-varying, unreliable rules. A series of experiments upon manures and soils, on a large scale, conducted with rigid accuracy for a dozen or a score of years, might reasonably be expected to furnish a clue to practices that would ensure success. Is there any other industrial pursuit that better deserves the encouragement implied in such an enterprise?

Or, if we cannot establish a public school, can we not induce some intelligent farmers to open private schools for students in agriculture? Farm schools are common in Great Britain, and are not only well attended, but at some of them crowds of applicants wait for admission. The scholars study and work, learn theory and practice, and in a few years become capable of superintending a large farm. They obtain so much information and such practical skill that they have only to ask for employment in order to obtain it. I can scarcely imagine a better method of improving our agriculture or of interesting our young men in so noble and manly a calling.

But where are the pupils? Are not our young men leaving farming for what they esteem easier and more profitable callings? Certainly. The more reason for doing something to detain them, something to rescue farming from its ill name and to place it on a level with the most favored pursuits? The soil of Norfolk County presents a great variety of character, but much of it is excellent. Under good management it is abundantly productive. Its average crops are larger than those of Ohio. Sufficient and well directed tillage will bring remunerating returns. Perhaps there never was a more

favorable time to invest money and labor in farming. I am persuaded that for some years to come agriculture will be the leading interest of the country—not only in its extent and the amount of its productions, for that is always the case, but in regard to profit. There is no probability that the prices of produce will ever rule as low as they did years ago. Money being more abundant will be worth less, and all that money buys worth more. He who takes the flood tide in the present state of affairs and guides his bark by knowledge, will be carried on to fortune.

In considering the profitableness of farming in this vicinity we should remember these things; first,—that no farmers live so well and spend so much on themselves and families as New England farmers,—none that make the soil contribute so much to the soul and character,—none who use such excellent implements,—none who have more convenient buildings, better furniture and houses,—none who educate their children better and contribute more to those religious and moral institutions that perpetuate their blessings,—none that identify themselves more intelligently with the government and laws of their country,—none whose real manhood is more purely developed in all the important relations of life,—none whose character inspires more confidence and respect. Even the common laborers earn three times as much as in the most prosperous countries of Europe, and have every facility which such men can have of rising into the class of land-holders and employers. We would not have it otherwise. No money is better spent than that which multiplies the comforts and conveniences of home and secures the maintenance of institutions, which so largely promote the virtue and happiness of the people. Out of the farmers' homes come the men whose character dignifies our social life, and the women whose

pure hearts and cultivated intellects constitute its most attractive grace. All this outlay comes from labor expended on the land, and leaves, it must be confessed, only a small portion as profits or surplus. But may we not do better? Is not this labor employed in many, perhaps in most instances, without that amount of intelligence and skill, which would render it remunerating on a much larger scale? While the comforts of the farmers surpass those of most other laborers, may they not be increased by a wiser use of the means at their disposal? As now conducted, farming demands too continuous labor and leaves too little time for literary pursuits and social intercourse, for the development of intellect and the formation of character. It is well that there is a great deal left for us to know and to do; and there is reason to believe that we have not yet arrived at the most economical methods of operation; that we have scarcely begun to apply the resources of science and the principles of mechanics to the cultivation of the earth. There is no wisdom in remaining satisfied with any state of things that we can improve, nor ought our energies to be paralyzed by the magnitude of difficulties to be overcome.

2d. That we always speak of the profits of farming comparatively—not of what is necessary to the comfortable and respectable support of a family,—but we compare the pecuniary success of the farmer with that of the merchant and manufacturer. When we see the fortunes they sometimes accumulate, our sympathies are excited for the farmer, who after a life of toil, leaves only a farm worth three or four thousand dollars. We omit many qualifying circumstances that might be regarded as compensations,—the farmer's diminished anxieties, his fewer risks, his peaceful life, the habits of economy he is obliged to form, and the greater security he enjoys from extreme vicissitudes; and more than all,

the fact that farmers seldom wholly fail and come to nothing. While they are generally sure of a living, and many add to their stores, only a very few engaged in commerce acquire fortunes, and in one of the largest and most important branches of manufactures in New England, scarcely a man *has failed* to fail. I have no expectation that the majority of young men will be influenced by this consideration, or that they will cease to be excited by the magnificent results that occasionally attend mercantile adventures, but I am none the less convinced that, taking all things together, and in the long run, the intelligent cultivation of the soil offers a most reasonable prospect of success, a sure path to competence if not to wealth.

3d. For this additional reason, the system of farming among us is in a state of transition from the established routine of practice to a better order founded upon the diffusion of science and upon the greater employment of machinery. The sturdiest conservative must admit the increase of knowledge and its increased application to agriculture. It diffuses itself slowly yet surely from the studious mind to the laboring multitude, suggesting improvements in every department of the business. There is an active spirit of research, of enquiry, of experiment. Science, and especially the science of chemistry, is successfully applied to the analysis of soils and the composition of manures. Prejudices are conquered, doubts solved, light let in upon darkness, and the effect is seen in more thorough culture and in annually increasing crops. The process advances, and its blessings reach even those who set themselves defiantly against it.

Machinery is destined to work an immense change in farming. The ingenuity of our mechanics is unbounded. Already they have discovered valuable applications of great principles to the facilitation of labor ; and there is

every reason to believe that the machines now in use will be simplified and furnished at smaller cost and employed with less expenditure of power, and that others will be invented that shall shorten many processes and lighten the burden and enlarge the products of toil.

On the prairies of the west, mowing and reaping machines are now indispensable, and owing to the high price of labor will be brought into use here. This will compel a better cultivation of the soil, its more thorough ploughing and pulverization and rolling, which are great benefits in themselves, while they render the use of machines easier. Add to these, corn-droppers and shellers, seed-sowers, sub-soil ploughs, horse-hoes, improved harrows and rakes, threshers and winnowers, and perhaps one of these days steam threshers and ploughs, and we have facilities for saving labor that will more than balance the high price of hand-labor by enabling the farmer to dispense with a large portion of it. These and similar things are producing a revolution in farming, that will render it more attractive and more productive. By their means we shall be able to cultivate more land with less labor and expense than at present, or to cultivate the same amount of land better, and with a corresponding augmentation of productions. This conviction has taken strong hold of the minds of the best farmers of Europe, who receive with enthusiasm and employ to great advantage the inventions of our countrymen in this department. We ought not to be behind them in enterprise.

We may add to these the reclaiming of meadows, deeper ploughing and drainage, less dependence on poor pastures and more green soiling, more careful selection of farm stock, more roots for fodder, good barn cellars, the more general use of guano, lime, bones, salt and other concentrated manures solid and liquid, greater economy in the application of manures, more frequent taking up

of lays and less top-dressing,—in short, a constant reference to the principles on which a rational tillage of the soil ought to be founded. By these and similar means we may hope to inaugurate a new era in agriculture, which shall combine intellectual progress and pecuniary profit.

4th. Another thought should have some weight with the young farmers of Norfolk County before they abandon farming as unprofitable. They live near a great centre of population demanding to be fed, and if the old routine of grass and corn proves unprofitable, may they not enquire whether vegetables and fruits may not be substituted in their place? These are so perishable that they cannot be brought from a great distance, and therefore competition with more fertile regions is avoided. It seems nearly impossible so to supply the market as materially to reduce the price of these things. Ten or a dozen acres cultivated garden-fashion may be made to support a family better than many large farms do now. The orchard too, is a source of profit, when managed with judgment. The nearer farmers approach to the practices of the gardeners, the more likely will they be to succeed, whether they supply the daily markets or not.

I might extend this thought further and say that the farmers of Norfolk County have not only the advantage of Boston market, but also of that near and profitable market which is furnished by the mechanics and the manufacturing population of our villages. The artisan is placed side by side with the farmer, the consumer with the producer, an arrangement the most advantageous so far as the distribution of agricultural productions is concerned, and the general prosperity and morality of the people. I do not say that this arrangement leads to the maximum of production. For *that* much land and a free use of capital are necessary, and it tends to the depopulation of a country and the separation of its various in-

terests. Happily for us our farms are generally small, and their productions, instead of one or two great staples, consist of hay, grain, vegetables, pork, butter, milk, poultry, eggs, &c. These must be marketed often and with little expense. In forming our ideas of farming as a profession, we are apt to overlook these, and yet in the aggregate they amount to more than all the cotton, rice and sugar raised in the United States. Our farming interests are closely connected with those of mechanism and manufacturing. No civilization approaches towards perfection that does not present this union, and the more thorough the union, the more does each pursuit contribute to the prosperity of the others.

Every mechanic's shop, every steam engine at work, every stream occupied by a mill, yields something to the farmer's profit by furnishing a ready market for his produce, while the perception of mutual dependence and support benefits his moral nature. When one interest predominates the body suffers. There are in Massachusetts towns in which there are no mechanics, no mills, scarcely any trades. Farming is the sole business. The young men remove to the west or to cities. The population diminishes. The farms become fewer in number and of larger size. The property is concentrated in few hands. The social and moral condition of the town and usually its interest in education deteriorates. But the gross amount of agricultural productions is increased, and the profits still more increased in consequence of the easier control of capital. I consider this unfortunate. So far as it extends, it approaches a social condition in which the community is divided into classes with opposing interests. It tends to lessen the number of small farmers living on their own property, and to multiply laborers who cannot hope to become land-owners. Were it not for the unbounded territories of the west such a state of

things might be perpetuated, and the time would come when multitudes of dependent men would beg for the privilege of toil,—the poor privilege of keeping body and soul together. Whatever tends permanently to lower the wages of labor is an injury to the State. Whatever is lost to the wages of the laborer is added to the wealth of the land-owner, without a corresponding compensation for the unequal distribution of profits, in an increase of social benefits.

There is hardly another circumstance that adds so much to the value of land and labor as a near and easily accessible market, where the productions of the soil may be exchanged for other necessities of life. This market the farmers of Norfolk County have in the capital, and in numerous manufacturing and mechanics' villages. They have intelligence and enterprise enough to avail themselves of its advantages. There is scarcely a limit to the demand for their productions, while facilities for reaching the consumer are unequalled. Let them abandon the idea of fortune making in the west, and adhere to the incomparable blessings of education, religion and social refinement at home. Let them remember that for generations agriculture in this country has supported tens of thousands of excellent citizens,—supported them, I venture to say, in as high a state of civilization as the tillers of the land ever reached on this earth. With every year the inducements to cultivate the soil are multiplied,—high prices, ready markets, increasing knowledge, improved machinery, and the examples of successful individuals.

It may be said that the soil is hard and the struggle unceasing. Does not history teach us that agricultural prosperity is usually proportioned to the difficulties to be overcome? Is it not so in every department of human activity? Compelled to honorable toil we gain things

that more than compensate for fertile fields and milder skies,—energy, enterprise, aptitude for business, a *habit* of industry, and all the manly virtues that flourish in the farmer's home. We may have failed in Norfolk County to raise the greatest crops of corn and grass, though I think rarely ; but we have never failed to raise a crop of fair women who adorn and bless our homes, and men who cherish “constitutional freedom and that passion for liberty which are the great and earliest glories of our English race. Poor as our soil may be compared with others, ungenial as our climate may be, it is precisely in consequence of these, that, under Providence, our farms are tilled by free men ;” that the products of labor are so widely distributed, maintaining so large a number of families in the enjoyment of almost unequalled blessings.

The moralist looks with satisfaction upon the growing disposition and ability of the dwellers in cities to indulge that love of rural life, “that affection for green fields, that strong desire for country pleasures, of which at one time or another almost every one is conscious. To till the earth is a kind of natural instinct, outliving many others, carrying men back when wearied with the toils of other callings to their paternal farms,—or, where no ancestral acres tempt them, making them toil the more earnestly that they may at length become the possessors of fields of their own, to which they may in peace retire.” To what better use can the rich devote their wealth than to multiply the means of human support while surrounding themselves with the beauties and comforts of a highly cultivated farm, creating out of rude materials the loveliest paradise ?

To the young men of our County, who have been educated by institutions that teach them to place the highest value upon character, we commend agriculture for its moral tendencies as the great conservative element of society.

Amid the agitations and excitements that occasionally sweep over the country the farmers stick to the soil and increase its value by their labor, giving it in fact by that labor all the value it has. Their calm pursuits moderate popular phrenzies, and fit them to fulfil the highest duties to society. They may be slow, cautious, discriminating, averse to sudden movements, perhaps too conservative, too timid in adopting ideas and plans, the importance of which others clearly discern ; but they are the men to be relied on for substantial efforts, for the performance of their social obligations. You know where to find them. They are necessarily tied to their homes, which are for them realities around which their affections cluster. Others may lead the movements of the age as light skirmishers, but the heavy masses that are to secure the ultimate victory will be found among the cultivators of the soil. Men who pay taxes, maintain schools and churches and impress their character permanently upon the country, can never be unfaithful to the great interests of social life. In their retired homes, with leisure for the agricultural newspaper or the scientific treatise, surrounded by the fruits of honest labor amid the grand or lovely scenes of nature, the ever-freshly uttered words of God, they may enjoy as large a share of earthly happiness as falls to the lot of mortals.

REPORTS.



## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.

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TO THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

SIR,—In obedience to the Laws of the Commonwealth, the President and Secretary of the Norfolk Agricultural Society herewith make return of the doings and expenditures of said Society for the year 1855.

The Society, since its last annual exhibition, has added to its grounds, by purchase, eight acres of land, at a cost of \$2500, which has been enclosed by a tight board fence, at a cost of \$750.

This addition was required, to afford room for a course or track in which animals might be displayed and their qualities of beauty and speed tested, in presence of the numerous spectators which are accustomed to attend the annual exhibition.

An increased amount of Premiums, guaranteed in part by the public spirit and liberality of members of the Society, in order to increase the attraction and add to the interest and usefulness of the Horse department of this Show. The experiment proved to be highly successful, affording an agreeable and wholesome pastime to a large and intelligent concourse of citizens from this and the neighboring counties, including ladies, who were accommodated with seats, elevated and commodious, enabling them to overlook the entire enclosure devoted to the display of horses, without danger, and out of the reach of annoyance from the crowd. The income produced by this addition to the attraction of the Show, will undoubtedly compensate for the additional outlay for the land.

The number of entries for Ploughing and Spading were not

quite so numerous as on former occasions, but the performances were very creditable in each department, and seemed, as usual, to attract the attention of a large number of visitors. These departments form an essential feature in the business of Agriculture, and should not be permitted to lose their proper rank in the exhibition, on account of their frequent repetition; and we trust that there will be no falling-off hereafter in the interest of competitors for the premiums offered.

The show of Stock was not quite so extensive as on some former occasions, owing in some measure to the drought that continued for several weeks previous to the exhibition, affecting the feed and pastures. There was a good display, however, of Milch Cows, which constitute an important feature in our exhibitions, as they do in the success and profit of the farmers of the county.

There was an excellent display of the various kinds of Fruit, such as Apples, Pears, Peaches, Grapes, &c., for the cultivation of which this section of the State has long been famous.

The Flower Show surpassed any of our previous exhibitions, in the arrangement, the variety, and in the fine and animating effect they produced.

The State Society's Premium of one hundred and fifty dollars for the best experiment in the Dairy department, was awarded (the first premium of \$75.00,) to Dr. Morton, of Needham.

The Address was delivered by Rev. J. M. MERRICK, of Walpole, and is contained in this volume, and will amply repay perusal, as the production of a mind devoted to the great cause of Agriculture, fully conscious of its importance, and skilled in the knowledge of its general traits, necessities, and demands.

The Dinner was satisfactory to the numerous company of gentlemen and ladies who partook of it, and was honored and enlivened by the presence and eloquence of his Excellency the Governor of the Commonwealth, the venerable Josiah Quincy, the Norfolk Farmer, several members of Congress, the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, whose pleasant countenance and harmonious fusion with the farmers constitutes him a most agreeable guest on all such occasions.

A letter from the Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, who was prevented from being present, indicated a most lively and generous in-

terest in the affairs of Agriculture generally, and especially in the welfare and prosperity of this Society.

The receipts of the exhibition were liberal, amounting to the sum of two thousand dollars, which affords a foundation for the belief that the prospects for the future are hopeful and encouraging.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, *President.*

EDWARD L. KEYES, *Secretary.*

## REPORT ON HEDGES.

The Committee on Hedges have a very agreeable duty assigned them. One needs not ask for a more pleasant occupation on one of our sunshiny days, in the bright month of October, when the rich hues of autumn begin to tint the foliage, than occasionally to pass an hour in wandering over grounds well disposed in gardens and lawns, with clumps of trees and flowers and a border of green hedge.

There are hedges of buckthorn, presenting, in the summer months, a dense and impenetrable mass of leaves, on which the eye pauses to gaze with peculiar delight, unwilling to turn away. Of these no better specimen can be any where found, than one belonging to Dea. Martin Marsh, of Dedham, though not of sufficient length to compete for a premium of the Society. No hedge of buckthorn has this year been entered for examination, and only one of arbor vitæ.

Your Committee, last year, dwelt at some length on the beauty and advantages of hedges composed of different materials, and they will now only express the wish that they may be extensively cultivated, both for ornament and use. It is well to bestow some thought on the embellishment of grounds, thus opening new sources of pleasure of a pure, tranquil and elevating character. Let the air, if possible, come to us loaded with fragrance, and while we inhale its invigorating draughts, let the eye rest on colors and forms of beauty, exhibiting all the delicate pencillings of light and shade which mark the seasons and hours, and the perpetually occurring changes in the surrounding atmosphere.

Last winter, in this vicinity, proved somewhat unfriendly to hedges, particularly the arbor vitæ. It is singular that a plant, which is indigenous so far north—which is found in perfection in the forests of New Hampshire and Maine—should not be hardy enough to bide the severity of our winters. But some of our winter or spring winds, the latter especially, as observation teaches, prove terribly blighting, even to trees which are native to our soil, particularly such as stand on the borders of woods, or where they are

exposed to strong currents and receive the full force of the sweeping blast. Both the pine and the common red cedar, hardy as they are esteemed, frequently suffer, exhibiting in spring a blighted appearance, though occupying their natural position. Transplanted trees are more likely to suffer in this way, because generally more exposed. The arbor vitæ, though taken from a more northern latitude, is, when standing alone, unprotected by other trees, peculiarly subject to injury among us, from the blighting winds referred to. Many were lost last winter or in early spring. In a compact hedge they are less subject to injury from the above mentioned cause, though for some reason not fully explained, a peculiar blight, last winter, fell partially on hedges—confined in some instances to a single plant, in others extending to several in succession. Some of these plants afterwards recovered, while others, though seemingly possessing life at the root, lost all appearance of vitality above the surface of the ground, thus producing ugly gaps. The only remedy seemed to be to remove the blighted plants and substitute others. In two or three years, it is supposed, the beauty and uniformity of the hedge may be thus restored. This peculiar blight, however, is rare; we have no account of its previous occurrence, and the experience of last winter even, does not destroy our general confidence in the value of the arbor vitæ as a material for hedges.

The arbor vitæ hedge, entered for premium this year, belongs to Horatio Chickering, Esq., on East Street, Dedham, and has from the first been under the care of Mr. Robert Watt, who, at the recommendation of the Committee, last year received the diploma of the Society for his peculiar skill and taste in the arrangement of hedges. It consists of two parts, one of 757 feet, planted by Mr. Watt in 1851, four years ago last spring; the other of 672 feet, planted in 1853, two years ago; in all 1429 ft. The plants were brought directly from the woods of Maine, and were set in the hedge without having had the benefit of nursery planting. The result has proved entirely satisfactory. Few, if any, plants have been lost, though for the space of a rod, or perhaps half a rod, near one of the buildings, the effect of a strong current of wind is visible. The part of the hedge which has been longest set—that bordering on East and Walnut Streets—is now about two or two and a half feet in height, perfectly wedge-shaped,

and exhibits a beautiful and uniform appearance. It is protected from depredation or injury on the side next the street by a light, open fence, which is needful, where a hedge of this material is planted at level on the borders of a highway.

For the hedge above described, which does so much credit to the proprietor, and to Mr. Watt, who has had the entire charge of it, your Committee recommend that the Society grant the first premium of \$10.00.

For the Committee,

EBEN WIGHT, *Chairman.*

*Dedham, October 17, 1855.*



## REPORT ON FLOWERS.

The Committee on Flowers report the following premiums :

Finest collection of cut Flowers, to Parker Barnes, of Dorchester . . . . .	\$3.00
Second best—to A. I. Washburn, of South Braintree . . . . .	2.00
Third best—to B. V. French, of Braintree . . . . .	1.00

### BOUQUETS.

Finest—to Marshall P. Wilder, of Dorchester . . . . .	2.00
Second best—to Mrs. A. B. Hall, of West Roxbury . . . . .	1.00

And the following gratuities :

To E. Stone, of Dedham, for cut flowers . . . . .	1.00
To James Nugent, of Roxbury, for pansies and dahlias . . . . .	1.00
To Miss Elisabeth Sewall, of Medfield, basket of flowers . . . . .	2.00
To Myra Smith, of Needham, for floral monument . . . . .	1.00
To Hannah McIntosh, of Needham, for asters and dahlias . . . . .	1.00

Also, a diploma to each of the following :

- Marshall P. Wilder, of Dorchester, for cut flowers.
- Mrs. Russell, of Dedham, for vallota purpurea.
- Mary Wiggin, of West Roxbury, for prickly pear.
- E. S. Rand, Jr., of Dedham, for fine seedling petunias.
- A. I. Washburn, of South Braintree, for bouquet.
- James Nugent, of Roxbury, for bouquet.

Macey Randell, Jr., of Sharon, for bouquets.

Mrs. Dr. Spear, of Dedham, for fine basket of flowers.

Parker Barnes, of Dorchester, for splendid display of dahlias.

The Committee regret that a fine display of verbenas, from J. W. Clark, of Dedham, and a beautiful collection of lilies stocks and asters from M. B. Williams, of Brookline, should have arrived too late to compete for premium.

The Committee are happy to be able to state that a table eighty feet long has been fitted up with bottles for the proper exhibition of cut flowers, and that thus a want, long felt by the Society, has been supplied.

Suitable arrangements have also been made for the exhibition of pot plants, bouquets, &c.; and it is confidently hoped that Norfolk county, always noted for the beauty of its flowers, will at this exhibition, peculiarly its own, not only sustain its acquired reputation, but gain new praise and honor.

The Committee would recommend the following prizes for the year 1856 :

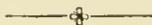
For the best collection of cut flowers . . . . .	\$4.00
Second best . . . . .	2.00
Third best . . . . .	1.00
For the best bouquets, or tastefully arranged baskets of flowers, not less than four, . . . . .	4.00
Second best . . . . .	2.00
Third best . . . . .	1.00
For the best collection of twenty named dahlias, re- gard being had to <i>colors</i> and symmetry of flower, . . . . .	3.00
Second best . . . . .	2.00
For the best single bloom, . . . . .	1.00
For the best collection of twelve pot plants, regard being had to new and rare varieties and well-grown specimens, . . . . .	3.00
Second best . . . . .	2.00
For the best single specimen, . . . . .	1.00
For the best collection of new seedling verbenas, . . . . .	2.00
For the best new seedling, . . . . .	1.00
To be awarded in gratuities, at the discretion of the Committee, . . . . .	12.00

Exhibitors will bear in mind, that all articles for premium, must be entered and arranged before four o'clock on the afternoon of the first day of the Show.

For the Committee,

ED. S. RAND, JR., *Chairman.*

October 20, 1855.



## REPORT ON GRAIN CROPS.

The Committee on Grain Crops report five entries of Indian corn, one of wheat, two of rye, one of corn and cabbages, and one of corn and potatoes.

The season was generally considered favorable to small grains ; and from several parts of the county we hear of good crops, and have seen many fields apparently equal to any that were entered for premiums. The high price of bread-stuffs has induced many to try the cultivation of wheat, and they have found it profitable. From twenty to twenty-five bushels have been grown upon an acre with but little more trouble or expense than would have been incurred for a crop of rye. The general prejudice against the cultivation of wheat begins to wear out, where it is found that failures do not result from our climate, nor from the fact that our lands have been long under the plough, but mainly from over stimulation with rank manure. Wheat sown on turned-in clover, or on good land, well manured and cultivated the previous year with potatoes, yields a fair return. Strong manure, applied directly to wheat, causes the stalk to grow rank and tender, and to be easily blasted. Numerous instances of success the present year, justify the belief that our farmers will turn their attention more and more to this crop.

The season has been peculiarly unfavorable to corn. That which was planted early and well attended to, yielded about an average crop ; but nearly all was attacked by the early frosts so severely as to diminish the amount of sound corn to a large extent. The smallest estimate we have heard is that of Mr. L. Clapp

of Stoughton, who reckons his loss at ten per cent.\* Others consider that the frost injured their corn to the extent of a quarter or even a third of an average yield. This experience will probably suggest the importance of early planting. We know that the time of planting depends on so many circumstances, such as the weather, the condition of the land and the general forwardness or backwardness of the season, that no rule can be laid down applicable in all cases. We have usually noticed that those who plant as early as the season will permit, are most sure of a crop. There is less danger from the late frosts of spring than from the early frosts of autumn. Though the early-planted corn may seem to grow slowly at first, yet it is then striking its roots into the manure and preparing for a vigorous start whenever the hot weather shall come.

The early frost also renews the question of what kinds of corn should be planted. There is no uniformity of practice among the farmers in this respect. There ought not to be. The smutty white, the brown, the large eight-rowed yellows, and the small so-called Canada, are the favorite varieties. Each man consults the records of his experience, the nature of his soil, the amount and quality of his manure, and selects for planting that kind of seed which he thinks (taking these things into consideration,) most likely to yield the largest crop. So uncertain, however, is our climate, that the largest crop may not always be safest, and common prudence would dictate that in the selection of seed, a farmer should remember the possibility of an early frost. He can afford to make some deduction from the yield, to ensure its early ripening.

It will be seen from the interesting report of Mr. Clapp, that guano may be used under corn to advantage. If all our farmers, who are able, would conduct their experiments with equal care, and note the results with equal minuteness, a large amount of useful knowledge would soon be obtained. What we want is certainty—at least definite statements of experiments accurately conducted

\* Some farmers have assured us that their corn was not injured at all by frost. Indeed, we saw several fields apparently as green as in July, while adjoining fields were white as in November. No doubt the frost obeys a law of operation; but it has so many seeming freaks and vagaries, and caprices, that no human judgment can anticipate its actions.

—including all the elements of the operation. Then if the experiment is a failure, we should know *why* it failed ; if successful, we can profit by it. In either case, a positive addition is made to our agricultural knowledge.

Every year we have the same question propounded and discussed as to the profitableness of Indian corn. On no other subject do opinions vary more widely. On no other do farmers more nearly agree in practice. We do not believe they would continue to grow corn and to enlarge their fields according to their ability, unless there was good reason for the common opinion that it pays for cultivation. The average yield in this county is about thirty bushels to the acre. Farmers can better afford to raise fifty bushels than thirty. Is it too much to hope that the time is coming when, in consequence of increased knowledge and facilities of operation, fifty bushels to the acre will be the average production in this county ?

The Committee award to Mr. E. N. J. Sias, of Milton, \$8.00  
 To Mr. J. F. Twombly, of Milton, the second premium of 5.00  
 To Mr. P. Ruggles, of Milton, the third premium of . 3.00

J. M. MERRICK, *Chairman.*

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#### STATEMENT OF MR. P. RUGGLES.

I planted one acre and a half of ground, wanting five rods, as measured by Mr. C. Breck. I applied compost manure at the rate of eight cords to the acre, which is as good as more, if the land has been well cultivated before. My method of cultivation has been the same as stated in my communication last year. On two thirds or more of the field the frost has reduced the crop one fourth ; on the other third, less. One acre was measured off—of which the proceeds were as follows :

147 baskets of corn, each weighing 43 lbs. The shelled corn weighs 35 lbs.—cobs, 8 lbs. Also, 8 baskets of poor corn. The whole at 56 lbs. to the bushel, equal to  $96\frac{7}{8}$  bushel.

96 $\frac{7}{8}$ bushels at \$1, . . . . .	\$96.87
Suckers, . . . . .	10.00
Two tons of stalks, . . . . .	16.00
Stover and husks, . . . . .	12.00

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\$134.87

Amount brought up, . . . . .	\$134.87
<i>Expenses</i> —Interest, . . . . .	\$9.00
Taxes, . . . . .	1.00
Manure, two thirds, . . . . .	30.00
Seed, . . . . .	.75
Drawing and spreading manure, . . . . .	4.00
Ploughing and manuring, . . . . .	8.00
Planting and hoeing, . . . . .	10.00
Cutting suckers and stalks, . . . . .	5.00
Harvesting, &c. . . . .	7.50
	75.25
Profit,	\$59.62

On the whole field (one acre and seventy-five rods) there were 135 bushels.

P. RUGGLES.

*Milton, November 10, 1855.*

Our only criticism on this statement is, that Mr. R. seems to reckon his poor corn at a rather high figure, calling eight baskets equal to six good ones.

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#### MR. L. CLAPP'S STATEMENT.

The kind of corn raised by me, is the brown corn, originally from New Hampshire. Its weight, when dry, is 60 lbs. to the bushel. My piece of land contains by measurement just an acre. Soil a light, gravelly loam. Planted last year to potatoes in the sward, with a shovelful of manure in the hill—hills four feet apart each way. Crop 200 bushels. Ploughed this year the second week in May, seven inches deep. Spread on eight cords stable manure, harrowed and ploughed in. Furrowed one way in rows four feet apart. Planted 17th and 18th of May, in hills two feet apart in the row. Put a table-spoonful of guano in each hill; covered it with about an inch and a half of loam before dropping the seed. Planted four kernels in each hill. Hoed three times, the last time without ploughing. Cut stalks the 10th of September; harvested the 15th and 16th of October. Finished husking the 24th of October. Had 135 baskets, weighing, when shelled,

35 lbs. to the basket, and making  $84\frac{3}{8}$  bushels, at 56 lbs. to the bushel.

To ascertain the weight of the cobs, I shelled, November 8th, two bushels of ears. The first weighed in the ear 38 lbs. 10 oz. ; the corn weighing  $29\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., and measuring nearly 17 qts. The cobs 9 lbs. 2 oz. The second bushel weighed in the ear 39 lbs. Corn  $29\frac{3}{4}$  lbs.—cobs  $9\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. ; corn measuring 17 qts.

<i>Expense</i> —Interest on land, . . . . .	\$3.00
Taxes, . . . . .	.30
8 cords manure spread, . . . . .	48.00
Guano, 275 lbs. . . . .	8.00
Ploughing and planting, . . . . .	10.00
Seed, . . . . .	.50
Hoeing, . . . . .	9.00
Cutting and binding stalks, . . . . .	4.50
Harvesting, . . . . .	9.50
	<hr/>
	\$92.80
Crop, stalks and husks, . . . . .	\$33.00
Manure unspent, . . . . .	25.00
$84\frac{3}{8}$ bushels corn, at \$1.04, . . . . .	88.05
	<hr/>
	\$146.05
	92.80
	<hr/>
Profit, . . . . .	\$53.25

The frost on the night of Aug. 31, injured some late planted corn in this neighborhood, to the estimated extent of nearly one half. My own, I think, was injured from the same cause at least ten per cent.

You will see by my statement, that I have used some guano. To test its value, four rows were planted without guano. These were harvested separately, and compared with four rows adjoining. The result was at the rate of ten bushels to the acre in favor of guano, the corn being also sounder. In another experiment on sward land, where a table-spoonful of guano was put in each hill without any other manure, the result was nearly a total failure, yielding only at the rate of ten bushels to the acre of sound corn ; while the corn adjoining, planted with a shovelful of

compost manure in the hill, yielded at the rate of 38 bushels. The corn treated with guano, although planted first, was behind the other through the season, and of course was more injured by the frost.

I have used guano with potatoes, when a table-spoonful was put in the hill; the result, as compared with a shovelful of manure in the hill, was as six bushels with guano, to seven with manure, the potatoes being of equal quality. Soil a light gravelly loam. I have also tried an experiment on grass land, 150 lbs. being sown on half an acre of low, moist land. The guano was sown at the commencement of a heavy rain, about the 20th of April. In this case the result was highly satisfactory, the crop being double of last year, while all around it was lighter. In another experiment on grass, made about three weeks later, on higher land and in fair weather, no perceptible difference was noticed. Squashes, turnips, beans and peas were raised successfully with guano. Onions a total failure; beets nearly so. It was also used with barley and a small piece of wheat; but as no comparison was made with other manures, its value in these cases could not be ascertained; the crops, however, were good.

I have often heard the opinion expressed, that a hundred bushels of corn could not be raised on an acre; but I am satisfied that if on a rocky, thin soil, 84 bushels can be raised in an unfavorable season, 100 may easily be raised on a suitable soil in a favorable season. In fact, the opinion was often expressed, that had the season been favorable, 100 bushels would have been raised on the acre offered by me for premium. I have no doubt that with high manuring and high cultivation, corn may be made a profitable crop. Without these conditions, no crop can be made profitable.

LUCIUS CLAPP.

*Stoughton, Nov. 10, 1855.*

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#### MR. A. L. SMITH'S STATEMENT.

The field of wheat which I enter for premium contains one half acre by measurement. Planted with corn last year, and manured with a shovelful of compost in the hill—all the manure the field has had for twenty years. Soil a gravelly loam. The 28th of

April I ploughed the land seven inches deep. On the 29th sowed one bushel and two quarts of Scotch Fife wheat. Before harrowing, I spread four bushels of ashes and one bushel of air-slacked lime, which were harrowed in with the wheat. Harvested the first week in August, and produced nine bushels and two quarts. The seed was not soaked in any preparation. The field was free from rust and smut during the season. The kernel plump and sound.

*Expense.*

Interest and taxes, . . . . .	\$1.66
Ploughing and sowing, . . . . .	1.62
Seed, . . . . .	3.72
Ashes and lime, . . . . .	.50
Harvesting and threshing, . . . . .	2.00
	<hr/>
	\$9.50

*Crop.*

Nine bushels and two quarts wheat, . . . . .	\$18.12
Straw, . . . . .	4.00
	<hr/>
	\$22.12
	9.50
	<hr/>
	\$12.62

Yours, &c.

A. L. SMITH.

Dover, November 10, 1855.

MR. TWOMBLY'S STATEMENT.

DEAR SIR—The field of corn entered by me for a premium, was measured by Mr. Charles Breck, and contains one acre, one quarter and eight rods, and is the same field which was planted last year with corn, (with a few rods added,) an account of which was reported through you to the Society. This spring it was ploughed with a horse, after spreading about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cords of manure to the acre. It was then marked out with a plough one way, and manure put in the drills at the rate of about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cords per acre, making in the whole about 7 cords per acre. The field was planted about the middle of May, in drills, the kernels about six inches

apart in the drills, with the Plymouth county or smutty white corn, the rows from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 feet apart. It was ploughed and hoed twice. The last of September and the first of October the whole was cut up at the bottom, carried to the barn and husked, and we had 240 baskets of good corn and 8 of pig corn, which I think is equal to 4 of good, which would make 244 baskets. I have shelled and weighed several baskets, and found them to average 29.75 lbs. each, equal to 129.62 bushels of 56 lbs. each on 1 acre 1 qr. 11 rods of land, being at the rate of 98.29 bushels per acre. The land on which the corn was raised is a strong loamy soil, sloping to the west. I think that it was not injured by the frost, but a part of it was, very probably, by the dry weather, and the whole of it was very much, as you saw, by the high wind, which nearly levelled the whole field. Had I selected the best acre, I have no doubt that it would have produced over 100 bushels.

The value of the crop I estimate as follows :

129.62 bushels of corn, at \$1 per bush.	\$129.62	
$4\frac{1}{2}$ tons of corn fodder and stalks, \$9,	40.50	
	<hr/>	\$170.12

Expense of cultivation I have estimated as follows :

Interest on the land, at \$200 per ann.	\$16.00	
Taxes supposed to be about . . . . .	1.30	
Carting manure, ploughing, hoeing, &c. . . . .	27.00	
$8\frac{1}{4}$ cords of manure, at \$6, less $\frac{1}{3}$ , . . . . .	33.00	
Harvesting and husking corn, . . . . .	10.00	
	<hr/>	87.30
		<hr/>
	Profit,	\$82.82

from 1 acre 1 qr. 11 rods, or at the rate of \$62.80 per acre.

I have estimated the value of the corn fodder at \$40.50, from the fact that last year the fodder from a smaller piece of ground, which was saved by salting down with five or six hundred pounds of barley straw, kept my cow through the winter without any grain in as good order as she could have been kept on two tons of English hay.

JOSIAH F. TWOMBLY.

Milton, Nov. 9, 1855.

## STATEMENT OF E. &amp; J. SIAS.

DEAR SIR—The field of corn entered by us for a premium, was measured by Mr. Charles Breck, and contained in the whole one acre and thirty-four rods. Our method of cultivation was as follows: The land, which was in grass, was ploughed with a double mould-board plough the 24th of April. On the 28th of April about  $4\frac{3}{4}$  cords of piggery manure was spread and harrowed in. The field was marked out with a plough only one way, in rows three feet apart, and manured in the hill with about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cords of compost barn manure. It was planted from the 8th to the 11th of May with what we call the Plymouth county or smutty white corn, in hills about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet apart, four kernels making a square of six inches, with one in the centre. We are of the opinion that we can raise as much corn by planting three feet apart each way, as in any other. The field was cultivated three times and hoed twice; hilled up but very little. The stalks were cut from the 8th to the 12th of September; sunned one day, and then hung up under the roof of the barn until perfectly dry. We think that the corn was injured very much by the dry weather, and also by the high winds, which injured most of the corn in this vicinity very much. It was not injured much, if any, by the frost. We prefer planting early; we had rather be cut by the frost in the spring, than in the fall. The corn was harvested the last of September and the first of October, and there were 213 baskets of sound corn and 11 of refuse (considered equal to five of good corn)—making 218 baskets from 1 acre and 34 rods, being at the rate of 109.15 per acre. We had selected what we thought before harvesting to be the best acre, which we kept by itself, and carefully weighed, and there were 109.89 bushels.

*Value of the Crop.*

109.89 bushels of corn, at \$1, . . .	\$109.89	
$1\frac{1}{2}$ tons of stalks, . . . . .	18.00	
2 " of husks and butts, . . . . .	12.00	
	<hr/>	\$139.89

*Cost of Crop.*

Interest on land, \$200 per ann. . . . .	\$12.00
Taxes, about . . . . .	1.30
$8\frac{1}{4}$ cords manure, 2-3ds exhausted, . . . . .	31.00

Ploughing, . . . . .	5.00	
Spreading manure and harrowing, . . . . .	5.00	
Manuring in the hill and planting, . . . . .	6.50	
Hoeing, . . . . .	9.50	
Cutting and houseing stalks, . . . . .	5.25	
Harvesting and husking, . . . . .	7.75	
		<u>\$83.30</u>
	Profit per acre,	<u>\$56.59</u>

In the above statement we have put the value of the corn at \$1 per bushel, which is about 8 or 10 cents below the present value. But of this, as well as the other estimates, the Committee can judge for themselves. The labor, although higher than many reports that we have seen, we think is as low as we should be willing to do the same for any other person.

E. & J. SIAS.

P. S. Our butts and husks, which were moist at the time of husking, we have salted down with thin layers of fresh hay, in which way they make valuable fodder, especially for young cattle.

*Milton, Nov. 9, 1855.*

First premium of \$8, to Messrs. E. & J. Sias, of Milton.

Second premium, of \$5, to Mr. Josiah F. Twombly, of Milton.

Third, of \$3, to Mr. P. Ruggles, of Milton.

First premium on wheat, \$6, to Mr. A. L. Smith, of Dover.

The Committee regret that several other statements which were expected, were not received in season. Many fields of corn, not entered for premiums, have come under the notice of the Committee, and of others they have heard the most flattering accounts. A gentleman in Dorchester, has probably 500 bushels of shelled corn from five acres. In another town in that vicinity, five acres are thought to have yielded four hundred bushels. In several towns we have seen fields estimated at from forty to seventy bushels per acre. When we remember that the average crop in the county is not over thirty bushels, these results are extremely gratifying. They encourage new efforts on the part of farmers—not to gain premiums only, but to get from their land the largest crops with the least comparative expense; at the same time leaving their soil in best condition.

## REPORT OF VISITING COMMITTEE.

The Committee upon the general condition of Agriculture in the county, are obliged, from circumstances beyond their control, to make a limited and imperfect report.

The high prices of all agricultural productions last spring, induced the farmers to bring into cultivation as much land as their means would allow. Some went beyond this limit, and reaped disappointment. Nothing is harder than to convince men that the course they and their fathers have long followed, may not be the best in the present circumstances; or that the profit from three acres *may* be equal to what they have usually received from five. No theory of farming, however cunningly framed, can disturb the convictions of education and experience. It is only by noticing the results of their neighbor's efforts, that they can appreciate the importance of a method different from that to which they have been accustomed. We have seen this season two fields separated only by a road—the situation and soil of both the same. One produced seventy-five bushels of corn to the acre; the other was judged by its appearance before harvest likely to yield twenty-five bushels. The former belonged to a man whose whole land comprised but a few acres; the latter to a farmer who counts his acres by the hundred.

This is a specimen of what is seen in every part of the county; although it would be wrong to deny that a manifest improvement is in progress. There is no doubt that a hundred bushels of corn can be raised on one acre with no more expense and labor than are originally laid out to raise the same amount on three acres. Intelligent farmers who see this, are not slow to appreciate the advantages of a process that saves so much labor. The same or a similar remark may be made of other crops. The pith and marrow of the improvement now most desirable, and now in fact beginning to be made, consists in concentrating all the energies and means of the farmer upon narrow limits and practising the highest and most thorough kinds of culture. In other words, the nearer farmers approach to the practices of gardeners, the greater probability of success.

In our intercourse with farmers, we have usually found a ready

acknowledgment of the correctness of this doctrine. When the truth is seen and felt, it will not be long in finding a practical application. Such facilities exist for the diffusion of information, that experiments successfully tried soon reach every portion of the community interested in them. We are reminded by this remark, of the extended use of guano. But a few years ago it was looked upon with distrust by many of our best farmers, who could not imagine how so small a quantity of manure could contain fertilizing elements sufficient to supply the demands of the growing crops. Such scepticism was natural, and wise in man, whose means would not allow of expensive experiments upon doubtful conditions. By gradual advances, guano has made its way into every town in the county, and during the past season large quantities have been used. How large we cannot tell ; but we know of towns in which scores of persons have employed it, with various results, as might have been expected. So powerful an agent, used by persons unacquainted with its nature, must necessarily, in some instances, have been unwisely managed, and of course disappointed the expectations formed of it. This is the price paid for wisdom. But from numerous inquiries we learn that in most cases it has been attended with satisfactory results ; especially upon dry and loose soil. We anticipate a rapidly growing demand for this article, not only because it is more condensed and therefore more easily and uniformly applied than other manures, but also because it will be found cheaper than any other, taking into account the duration of its influence. It is earnestly to be desired that farmers will keep minute records of their experiments with guano, phosphates, and other concentrated manures, and publish both successes and failures for the public instruction. More questions have been asked of this Committee for information in regard to the character and method of using guano, than in regard to any other, perhaps all other agricultural topics, indicating a wide-spread interest.

The increased attention paid to farming implements and buildings, is very noticeable in almost every direction. The saving of labor and manure, the comfort and growth of cattle, the amount and quality of hay, the preservation of roots, are all facilitated by good farm buildings, to say nothing of what might justify extended notice, the gratification of a pure taste.

In farmers' families also is seen the influence of good and bad,

of convenient and inconvenient buildings—their influence upon the amount of labor, the comfort and happiness and health of the various individuals. We often hear from the housewife, “this kitchen is well contrived to do work in; or badly adapted to that end.” What a world of difference is here! And how surely must it tell upon the temper and character of those who spend so large a portion of their lives there! Whatever facilitates labor in the house promotes order, neatness and comfort. How these react upon the taste and feelings of the family, does not need to be shown. We have sometimes thought that farmers, whose chief business is out-of-doors, did not always sympathize so much as they should with their wives and daughters, whose labor is full as severe as their own. We hope we mistook. At any rate, it is not amiss in us to invite the attention of farmers to such an arrangement of their houses and other buildings as will render domestic labor as easy and pleasant as possible.

The barn cellar commends itself so powerfully that no new barn is found without it; and the farmer who sets himself defiantly against it as a needless innovation upon old usages, finds his neighbors going beyond him in all the elements of prosperity. One man assured us that he could not be persuaded of its necessity, until he saw that those who had cellars, in a few years began to sell hay. The manure heap is a bank that never refuses liberal discounts.

We have seen in several places a new interest in raising horses. This is a business that has not heretofore been much practised in this county. But in almost every direction we observe fine young horses, that will soon pay a handsome profit. The late exhibition in Dedham, in connection with our annual fair, showed the feeling that exists in reference to horses, and has served to stimulate the efforts of our farmers in this direction.

It may also be observed, that notwithstanding the objections brought against fine high-bred stock on the score of expense and want of adaptation to our climate and soil, yet the number of such cattle has largely increased during the past year. Not perhaps with the design of maintaining entire herds, so much as the improvement of our native breed by judicious crossings. But cattle require food; and scarcely any subject presses more closely upon our farmers than that of the summer keeping of their stock.

Many old pastures are abandoned to wood and bushes, and others are grown over with moss. Farmers tell us that they must reduce their stock, or improve their pastures, or find a substitute for grass. Many are sceptical as to the expediency of renovating a worn-out pasture, and others think they cannot afford the expense. Some experiments have been made probably in every town, which show that to break up, manure and seed down old pastures is as profitable an investment of money as a farmer can make; especially if he lives within a milkman's route. It would be a benefit to the agricultural community if those, who have done most and best in this line, would send the detail of their operations to the newspapers, or incorporate them with the transactions of our Society.

We find but one opinion among farmers as to the profitableness of corn-fodder as a supplement to the pasture. It comes just when the pasture begins to fail, and furnishes a grateful and valuable food. It is believed that an acre of good land well cultivated will yield twenty-five tons of green fodder or seven tons of dry. Every year the culture of this article is extending itself. We would observe that the sweet corn furnishes the most profitable fodder; not so large and heavy as some other kinds, but more tender and nutritious, and so agreeable to cattle that they eat it with little waste.

It would require too much space to detail the numerous instances of reclaiming bogs and meadows, that deserve to be mentioned. In every direction we see this work going on, from small lots to acres; and in every case, the particulars of which have come to our notice, with decided profit. One farmer has reclaimed and improved ten acres within two years, at an expense of \$1,500, and this year has cut thirty tons of good hay. This is an illustration, on a somewhat large scale, of what is done in hundreds of instances on a smaller scale. Several individuals have observed to us, that they had just discovered they had hitherto been neglecting the most valuable part of their farms.\*

\* We cannot help referring particularly to the improvements effected by Capt. Asa Pickering of Bellingham. This gentleman's valuable farm was sixteen years ago wholly uncultivated, covered with bushes and bogs. By almost incredible labor, with his own hands he has made a beautiful and profitable farm—beginning the enterprise after his fiftieth year. Using the hand hoe, he turned over five or six acres of bogs and hassocks, then carted

At the commencement of the season, the prospects of farming were very promising; but the promise was not realized. The crop of hay was considerably less than usual. In most places potatoes yielded a fair crop, of good quality and tolerable amount. The rot was less extensive than for several years past. We look with satisfaction upon the efforts of farmers to multiply and prove new varieties. Experience shows that the tendency of all sorts of potatoes is to degenerate in quality by long cultivation. Hence the necessity of frequent change of seed and change of locality. The early frosts damaged the corn to a large extent, and proved a serious loss in this most important crop.

In our visits to the farmers, we every where meet a cordial welcome, and receive abundant information of the details of their operations. Every where we found gratifying evidences of the benefits conferred upon the agriculture of the county by this Society. We are convinced that a powerful impulse has been given to the labors of the farmer by the information it imparts, by the spirit it diffuses, and by the annual Fair, which brings together the yeomanry of the county to compare notes, and to exhibit the results of the year's work. Although the productions of the farm have not this season reached their usual amount per acre, yet in consequence of the cultivation of a larger number of acres, the total value of agricultural produce is probably as large as ever. It would gratify us to go into details upon several topics included in this Report; but we should find it difficult to make such discriminations as would be satisfactory to our numerous friends, unless we protracted this notice to an unreasonable length. We have seen much to encourage the efforts of those who would bring farming into the best repute, as an exact science and a profitable employment.

In the course of their observations, the attention of the Committee was directed to a fine bed of carrots, on the grounds of

in gravel and manure. These mowing fields are now in admirable order. He has also built a large covered drain across his farm, besides almost fabulous quantities of stone wall. This labor has been well directed, and is every way creditable to Mr. P.'s ability and judgment. He is still in a vigorous old age, and in walking over his farm, and showing with honest pride his extensive improvements, can without difficulty tire out much younger men.

Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, of Dorchester,—some notice of which we deem worthy of record in the Transactions of the Society.

These carrots were in rows—with alternate rows of Nursery pear trees intervening—at the distance of four feet apart. Half of them were of the White Belgian variety, and half of the Orange Red. The whole space occupied by the trees and the roots was 8,200 square feet of ground. The soil had been entirely exhausted by the previous use of it; and, in order to restore it to the highest tilth, was dressed, last fall, with 800 lbs. guano and six cords stable manure. It was then ploughed deeply *six* times, and again, *four* times in the spring. The trees, of which there are 3,600, had made vigorous growth; and of carrots there have been harvested 180 bushels, weighing, on the public scales, 9,000 lbs. This is equal to 956 bushels, or more than 21 tons to the acre. Had the carrots been sown in the usual manner—in rows two feet apart—the yield would have been more than 40 tons per acre; and at the present price of these roots, would afford the handsome return of \$600.

If we add to the actual yield of carrots, the value of the Nursery trees grown upon the same soil, we shall readily understand the propriety of such heavy manuring and frequent ploughing as this small plot of ground has received. We shall learn, too, again, the often disregarded fact, that a liberal outlay alone ensures, under ordinary circumstances, a large return.

J. M. MERRICK,  
C. C. SEWALL.



## REPORT ON FRUIT TREES.

The Committee on Fruit Trees have made the following awards:  
For the best Apple Orchard, to Silas Smith, of Foxboro',  
the 1st premium, . . . . . \$15.00  
To S. B. Sumner, of Needham, the 2d premium, . . . 10.00  
To Henry Goulding, of Dover, the 3d premium, . . . 7.00  
For renovation of old Apple Orchards, &c., the 1st premium to Henry Goulding, of Dover, the only applicant.

For the Committee,  
EDWARD M. RICHARDS.

## REPORT ON ENCLOSING UNIMPROVED LANDS.

The Committee on Clearing and Enclosing Unimproved Lands, would report :

There has been but one field entered for premium this year, that of Cheever Newhall, Esq., of Dorchester, which the Committee visited the 25th of July, and again on the 30th of August. The Committee feel that they cannot do better than to let Mr. Newhall tell his own story, which is done very satisfactorily in his report. The Committee regret that there are no more applicants for these premiums, which are annually offered by the Society. Many of our farmers are every year clearing up land, which, if entered for a premium, would be entitled to receive it, and the account thus furnished would be very useful to the public ; and yet this premium, as well as the one for Improving Meadow and Swamp Lands, have but very few competitors for them. Those few experiments which are made public, like Mr. Newhall's and Mr. Weld's, show that they not only pay well in a long run, but that they almost pay for themselves as they go along, and in the end add much to the value of the farm. A person who travels over the back land, as I am in the habit of doing, will find very much, even in old Norfolk county, which might be reclaimed at a small expense in comparison to the value of them afterwards. And at a time like the present, when all kinds of produce find a ready market at a large price, may we not hope that a few more of our enterprising farmers will report their doings, and thus, by giving their experience to the public, many others may be induced to go and do likewise.

While the Committee cheerfully award to Mr. Newhall the first premium of \$15, they cannot but hope that another year there may be more competitors.

For the Committee,

CHARLES BRECK.

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### STATEMENT OF MR. C. NEWHALL.

The land I present to the notice of the Committee, is that examined by them on the 25th of July last. The lot contains six acres, and came into my possession about seven years ago, and

had not been cultivated within the memory of the oldest person in the vicinity, and was covered over with forest trees, consisting of pitch-pine, red cedar, white birch and poplar, together with blueberry, barberry and fern bushes. It remained in this condition until the winter of 1854, when I commenced cutting down the forest trees and mowing the bushes, leaving about fifty of the red cedars standing on the borders of the field; about three fourths of the lot was ploughed in the spring, and about one half of the whole planted with potatoes, Indian corn, cabbages and early peas. They grew as well as could be expected on land but partially subdued and in a rough state. The wood and crops were sold; the proceeds fell short of the sum expended on the lot about one hundred dollars.

This year the whole of the land was ploughed twice, and well harrowed; manure to the value of \$24 per acre applied, spread evenly over the land and ploughed in; in addition to which, manure to the value of \$16 was applied to two acres of squashes in the hills, which were placed eight feet apart each way—making the whole cost of the manure this year \$160.

My man has rendered an account of the sales of the produce for the year, as follows:

Potatoes, . . . . .	\$115.35	
Squashes, . . . . .	176.00	
Green peas, . . . . .	51.87	
Sweet corn, . . . . .	27.23	
Cabbages, . . . . .	75.47	
	<hr/>	\$445.92
Estimated value of ruta бага, . . . . .		15.00
“ “ corn fodder, . . . . .		9.00
		<hr/>
		\$469.92

I have kept no exact account of the expenses, but believe they will amount to about the same, *this year*, as the value of the produce, leaving a balance in the two years against the lot of land of one hundred dollars. One acre of the foregoing was sowed the first week in September, with herds grass and red top, and now promises to produce a large crop next year; the other five acres are in perfect order for any crops.

CHEEVER NEWHALL.

Dorchester, October 31, 1855.

## REPORT ON VEGETABLES.

The Committee on Vegetable and Root Culture, respectfully offer the following Report :

The number of exhibitors in this department was thirty-seven. The specimens of vegetables and roots exhibited, made a very respectable appearance, and were of superior character. This is true, whether we do or do not consider the severe drought of the season. It is true of potatoes, squashes, pumpkins, beets, carrots, turnips, &c. &c., which formed a very creditable portion of the exhibition.

The Committee regret that they had not, at the day of exhibition, and that they have not had since that time, statements of the modes of their culture, or of "the best conducted experiments in raising them." Premiums for the best experiments, in this regard, they consequently are not prepared to award.

To Mr. Cheever Newhall, of Dorchester, for the best collection and variety of vegetables, regard being had to the quantity as well as the quality exhibited, the Committee award the first premium—a silver cup of the value of . . . . .	\$10.00
To Mr. B. V. French, of Braintree, they award the second premium of . . . . .	5.00
To Mr. J. W. Clarke, of Dedham, the third premium of . . . . .	4.00
To Mr. T. G. Whital, of West Roxbury, the fourth premium of . . . . .	3.00
To Mr. William Whiting of Dedham, the fifth premium of . . . . .	2.00
To Mr. Charles Breck, of Milton, for the best collection of potatoes, 18 varieties, not less than a peck of each variety, the Committee award a premium of	5.00
To Rev. C. C. Sewell, of Medfield, for 10 varieties, a gratuity of . . . . .	5.00
To Mr. S. C. Mann, of Dedham, for 12 varieties, do.	5.00

For the Committee,

D. KIMBALL, *Chairman.*

The following notes, from Messrs. Mann and Colburn, were passed to the Committee at the time of the exhibition :

MR. MANN'S NOTE.

If your attention is called to twelve varieties of potatoes, exhibited by me, I desire to state that they were sent mainly for the purpose of showing the result of *light seeding*. They were all grown from small potatoes, not large enough for cooking, and were all cut so that not more than two eyes remained on a piece. Two pieces were put in a hill. They were planted about the first of June, in different locations, and where they escaped the effect of the late drought, the crop was good. The crops not yet being gathered in, I only measured the produce of one variety, namely, that kind grown from bits cut from the seed end, taking not over *one eighth* part of the potato, and this I often cut in two pieces, the remaining *seven eighths* of the potato being used for the table. This gave me one bushel from eighteen hills. It was not an experiment with me this year; I risked this manner of planting from the result of former trials.

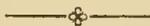
I also exhibit a sample of potatoes grown from bits cut from the *seed end* two months previous to planting,—the principal part of the potato having also been used for the table. The seed in all cases was *limed* immediately after cutting.

SAMUEL C. MANN.

MR. COLBURN'S NOTE.

I have presented a bushel of "Jenny Lind" potatoes. I planted one peck of seed and raised three bushels from thirty-two hills. The bushel is a fair sample of the whole of them. They were raised on low land, on rich, deep soil. Respectfully submitted by

CHARLES COLBURN, of *Dedham*.



REPORT ON SPADING.

The Committee of the Norfolk Agricultural Society for the award of premiums on Spading, having attended to their duty, beg leave to report :

The Spading Match has become one of the most interesting features of our exhibition, whilst the great improvement manifested in this department shows that our farmers have profited by the lessons of previous years, and are fully aware of its importance.

It would be useless, here, to repeat the benefits of thorough spading; but it may be of advantage to state the plan on which your Committee made their decisions.

It is difficult to convince competitors that time is not the main point; and although there was a decided improvement in this respect over previous years, yet there is room for still more.

Not only *time*, but the *depth*, *fineness of pulverization*, and *general finish* presented by each lot at the conclusion of the work, are to be taken into account.

On the outside, at the head of each lot, a stake was driven, with a number marked on it plainly, and the men then drew for the choice of numbers.

Each lot contained one hundred square feet, and before commencing, it was distinctly cut round and marked out.

The shortest time occupied in performing the work was sixteen minutes, and the longest twenty-four. The recipient of the first premium did not perform his work in the shortest time, but excelled in the above-mentioned requisites of good spading.

The following premiums were awarded by your Committee :

1st premium,	for best spading,	to Peter Ford, of North		
		Wrentham,	diploma and	\$8.00
2d	“	next “	Dennis Doody, Dorchester,	. 7.00
3d	“	“	Timothy Hickey, “	. 6.00
4th	“	“	Thomas Barber, W. Medway,	5.00
5th	“	“	Dan McColoff, Dorchester,	. 4.00
6th	“	“	Wm. Hickey, “	. 3.00
7th	“	“	Charles Ford, Rockville,	. 2.00
8th	“	“	Michael Kelly, Roxbury,	. 1.00

For the Committee,

AARON D. WELD, *Chairman.*

## REPORT ON DAIRY.

The duty of the present Committee on "Dairy," is confined to a consideration of the two articles of butter and cheese, of which specimens may be exhibited,—several subjects, which might receive attention under the general head of Dairy, being very properly assigned to special committees, as those on "Milch Cows," on improving "Old Pasture Lands" (very important), on "Food for Cattle," "Soiling," &c.; and the Committee for the State's premium on Dairy.

Of the value of butter and cheese, as articles of food, and their economical importance in the management of farms, your Committee need not speak. It is desirable that growing attention be given to them by American farmers, care being taken to produce those of the best quality, whether for the foreign or domestic market. No American farmer should be satisfied, till he can produce butter and cheese which will bear comparison with the best product of foreign lands.

Butter has been known from a remote, though not the remotest period of antiquity. The Jews do not appear to have been acquainted with it, at least in its solid and concrete state. It is true, the term occurs several times (ten, we believe,) in our English common version of the Old Testament. But the best critics now pronounce the translation erroneous. In recent critical versions the Hebrew word is translated "milk"—thick milk or cream, perhaps. Thus, Job xxix. 6: "When I washed my steps in milk," instead of "butter." Again, in the celebrated passage, Isa. vii. 14, "Milk and honey shall he eat," instead of "butter and honey." Some may fancy that they find express mention of butter in Proverbs xxx. 33—in King James's version, "Surely the churning of milk bringeth forth butter." But the translation—"The pressing of the milker bringeth forth milk," certainly comports better with what follows—"the wringing of the nose bringeth forth blood." One distinguished critic renders the line thus: "the pressing of milk brings forth cheese," more likely than "butter."

The Greeks and Romans were not originally acquainted with butter. The Greeks derived a knowledge of it from the Scythians, or Thracians, and the Romans from the Germans. Milk and

cheese are spoken of by the old Greek writers from the time of Homer, but not butter. Hippocrates, in the fifth century before Christ, is the first Grecian writer who mentions it, referring its origin to the Scythians. Herodotus, the father of history, in the same century, describes the process of making it among the same people. The Scythians probably owed the discovery to accident. The milk, which in their frequent wanderings they took with them in skins, would by agitation exhibit particles of butter, and this suggested the process of churning, a process originally rude and simple.

Butter was very little known, however, either among the Greeks or Romans, till a comparatively late period. The first recommendation of it as an article of food, is by Dioscorides, a little before the time of Christ. He mentions its medicinal or healing virtues, on which Galen, who wrote two hundred years later, is more full. Galen affirms that he had seen it made of cow's milk, though Dioscorides makes mention only of sheep and goat's milk. Pliny ascribes its invention to the "barbarous nations," that is, as he generally uses the term, the ancient Germans and Britons; and says, that it was made from the milk of the sheep, the goat, and the cow.

Still it was little, if at all, used as an article of food, the recommendation of Dioscorides notwithstanding. It was used in medicine, and as an ointment in baths, and sometimes, as among the Egyptian Christians, was burned in lamps instead of oil. In the ancient Roman Catholic churches its use in lamps was sometimes permitted, when oil failed. The ancient butter, however, appears to have been a very inferior article; it was not solid, or concrete, like ours, but liquid, and is always referred to as poured out, and not cut.

Butter is mostly used in the more northerly countries of Europe. In the southern, where olive-groves abound, its use is, in a great measure, superseded by that of oil.

The making of good butter is an art. Its good or bad quality is sometimes attributed to food or pasturage; and this has an effect, no doubt. Certain it is, that particular plants fed upon by cattle, impart a flavor, sometimes disagreeable, to butter. But more, we believe it is now admitted, depends on the making. Speaking of Great Britain, a writer, whose opinion is entitled to great respect, says: "In every district where fine butter is made, it is universally attributed to the richness of the pastures, though

it is a well-known fact, that, take a skilful dairy-maid from that district into another, where no good butter is usually made, and where, of course, the pastures are deemed very unfavorable, she will make butter as good as she used to do ; and bring one from this last district into the other, and she will find that she cannot make better butter there, than she did before, unless she takes lessons from the servants or others whom she finds there." The "peculiarly rich and delicate flavor" of the butter of the Highlands of Scotland, this writer ascribes not to the "old grass on which the cows feed in those remote glens," but to the process of working. He observes in this connection, that cream from the milk last drawn from the cow, is as superior in *quality* to that from the milk first drawn, as in *quantity*—an argument for thorough milking, if there were no other.

"The particular nature of Bretagne butter, whose color, flavor and consistence, are so much prized, depends," says a French writer, "neither on the pasture, nor on the particular species of cow, but on the mode of making."

It is not, of course, meant to be asserted by your Committee, that there is no difference in animals, nor in food or pasturage, affecting the quality of the butter produced by them, but they are desirous of drawing attention to improved modes in the making, for which there is certainly room.

Of the best produce of butter on a farm, for four months, with accompanying statements, quantity as well as quality being taken into view, the Committee regret to say, that there was this year no presentation.

Only one specimen of a lot of 40 lbs. was offered, for which the Committee award to Dr. W. T. G. Morton, of Needham, a premium of . . .	\$20.00
For the best box of butter, of not less than 12 lbs. to James R. Fisher, of Dedham, the 1st premi- um of . . . . .	6.00
To Mrs. E. Clapp, of Stoughton, 2d premium of	4.00
To Francis Gay, of Dover, 3d premium of . . .	2.00
Only one lot of <i>Cheese</i> , of not less than 50 lbs., was offered, for which the Committee award to Mrs. E. Clapp, of Stoughton, the 1st premium of	\$5.00
For the Committee,	

A. LAMSON, *Chairman.*

## REPORT ON MILCH COWS.

The Committee have to report, that the whole number entered for premium was twenty-three; the most of which would rank high in the several breeds to which they respectively belong. There were some very fine Jerseys—a greater proportion than at any former exhibition. The show of Blood stock of other kinds was good; taken as a whole, it was very creditable. It is to be regretted, that greater care is not taken to keep and render in to the Committee statements of the yield of Milk or Butter, as required by the rules of the Society. Only one *written* statement was presented, that from Dr. Morton, of Needham, some extracts from which are appended to this report, which, for precision and minuteness of detail, is entitled to great credit.

The exhibition of Milch Cows is one of the most interesting features in our annual Cattle Show, and it is to be hoped that more pains will be taken in the future to make this department as attractive as it is important. There is the material in Norfolk county to do it; all that is required, is the effort.

The Committee award the following premiums for cows not less than three years old:

Jersey,	1st	premium to Dr. W. T. G. Morton, Needham, for his cow "Beauty,"	\$5.00
"	2d	" Dr. Morton, for his cow "Dairy Maid,"	3.00
Ayrshire,	1st	" Edward King, Dorchester,	5.00
"	2d	" Dr. Morton, Needham, for his cow "Hornet,"	3.00
Durham,	1st	" Dr. Morton,	5.00
Devon,	1st	" B. V. French, Braintree.	5.00
Grade,	1st	" David P. Hale, W. Roxbury,	5.00
"	2d	" Dr. Morton, Needham, for his cow "Blossom,"	3.00
Native,	1st	" John Fussel, West Roxbury,	5.00
"	2d	" David P. Hale, W. Roxbury,	3.00

For Milch Cows, with written statements,—

1st premium to Dr. Morton, Needham, for his cow  
"Woodbine," . . . . \$10.00

2d premium to	Dr. Morton for his cow "Fanny,"	\$8.00
3d	Dr. Morton for his cow "Nonesuch,"	6.00
4th	Dr. Morton fo his cow "Challenge,"	4.00

The Committee also recommend the following gratuities :

To S. W. Welch, of Dedham, grade cow,	. . . . .	\$2.00
To John Fussel, of West Roxbury, native do.	. . . . .	2.00
To Edward King, of Dorchester, the Society's diploma for his Jersey cow, which is excluded from a pre- mium this year, having taken the 1st last year.		

For the Committee,

JNO. II. ROBINSON, *Chairman.*

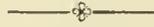
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#### STATEMENT OF DR. MORTON.

The Committee in this abstract omit much of the detail of state-  
ment submitted, and present only the aggregate yield of the sever-  
al periods of seven days each of butter, as required by the rules  
of the Society, as follows :

		lbs.	oz.
"Woodbine" made in	7 days from May 2, . . . . .	11	5
"	" " May 26, . . . . .	13	8
"	" " June 15, . . . . .	14	4
"	" " Sept. 7, . . . . .	10	4
	Total in 28 days, . . . . .	49	5
"Fanny" made in	7 days from May 2, . . . . .	10	8
"	" " May 26, . . . . .	11	8
"	" " June 15, . . . . .	11	11
"	" " Sept. 7, . . . . .	9	3
	Total in 28 days, . . . . .	42	14
"Nonesuch" made in	7 days from May 2, . . . . .	10	0
"	" " May 26, . . . . .	10	8
"	" " June 15, . . . . .	11	4
"	" " Sept, 7, . . . . .	8	5
	Total in 28 days, . . . . .	40	1

				lbs.	oz.
“ Challenge ”	made in 7 days from	May 2,	.	11	8
“	“	“	May 26,	10	12
“	“	“	June 15,	12	3
“	“	“	Sept. 7,	7	13
Total in 28 days,				42	4



## REPORT ON ROOT CROPS.

### STATEMENT OF MR. JNO. H. ROBINSON.

Herewith I send you a statement of the yield of my Carrot crop, grown on one acre and a twelfth of land, as per annexed certificate of measurement.

They are all the orange carrot, and were sown about the 25th of May, upon ground carefully prepared by good dressing, with good manure, and ploughing twice before ridging; the manure spread after the first ploughing. The entire cost of labor and manure I estimate as follows:

Ten cords manure from barn cellar, and spreading,	\$55.00
Ploughing twice,	10.00
Ridging, and preparing for seed,	5.00
Sowing with hand-sowing machine,	5.00
First hoeing,	6.50
Second do., and hand weeding,	15.00
Third do. “ “	12.00
Fourth, hoeing only,	3.75
Labor, digging, topping and putting into cellar,	30.00
Total,	<u>\$142.25</u>

The entire yield (26 tons 1375 lbs.) estimated at	
\$12.00 per ton,	\$320.25
Deduct cost of crop,	142.25
Net profit of crop on 1 1-12 acres,	<u>\$178.00</u>

They were all weighed upon town scales; and, estimating 43 bushels for the ton, would make the measurement 1,148 bushels, or about 1,059½ bushels to the acre. The dry weather in July

and August checked their growth and materially lessened the yield ; but for that it would, I think, have been much greater.

Annexed are certificates of contents of lot and weight of carrots.

Respectfully submitted, JNO. H. ROBINSON.

*Dorchester, November 26, 1855.*

#### CERTIFICATE OF CONTENTS OF LOT.

I hereby certify, that the carrot patch, entered for competition at the Norfolk County Agricultural Society's Show of 1855, at Dedham, by Mr. J. H. Robinson, of Dorchester, was surveyed by me, and has an area of 1  $\frac{1}{12}$ th of an acre.

CHAS. L. LIGHT, *Surveyor.*

*Dorchester, November 10, 1855.*

#### CERTIFICATE OF WEIGHT.

Weight of carrots for Mr. John H. Robinson, 26 tons 1375 lbs.

JAS. T. DALRYMPLE, *Weigher.*

*Dorchester, November 23, 1855.*

The Committee consider Mr. John H. Robinson entitled to the first premium of \$8.00, for the best conducted experiment in raising carrots.

For the Committee, D. KIMBALL, *Chairman.*

#### REPORT ON FAT CATTLE.

The Committee on Fat Cattle report :

That they award the first premium of eight dollars to George Crosby, of East Medway.

It was the opinion of the undersigned, that Mr. Crosby was entitled to the second premium also ; but a majority of the Committee thought otherwise, on account of his offering two cattle in one pen.

There were no others offered for premium, except two, which were entered, but were not on the ground.

Two others were on the ground, but not entered.

MAXCY FISHER, *Chairman.*

## REPORT ON FRUITS.

Your Committee beg leave to submit the following report :

On account of the past unfavorable season for the maturing of Fruit, the display is not as good as on former exhibitions, although the number of varieties exceeds that of any previous exhibition ; and your Committee are happy to perceive an increasing interest in this very important branch of horticulture.

*Apples.* For the best collection of apples, your Committee, without hesitation, award Thaddeus Clapp, of Dorchester, the 1st premium of \$5.00.

For the second best collection, B. V. French, of Braintree, the 2d premium of \$3.00.

For the third best collection, Aaron D. Weld, of West Roxbury, \$2.00.

For the best dish of apples, not less than one dozen specimens, John Drayton, of Dedham, for his display of the Cogswell apple, \$2.00.

To Job. S. Whipple, of Washington, D. C., for contribution of the Washington apple, a new and beautiful variety, the Society's diploma.

*Pears.* For the best collection of pears, M. P. Wilder, of Dorchester, is awarded the 1st premium of \$5.00. Mr. Wilder's contribution consisted of one hundred varieties.

For the second best collection, Aaron D. Weld, of West Roxbury, the 2d premium of \$3.00.

For the third best collection, B. V. French, of Braintree, the 3d premium of \$2.00.

For the best dish of pears, your Committee are authorized to award a premium of \$2.00 ; which would have been given to Mr. Lewis Wheeler, of Cambridgeport, for his dish of Bartletts, had the contribution been made within the county ; and as the Committee could not decide between a dish contributed by Mr. M. P. Wilder, of Dorchester, and one from C. S. Holbrook, of East Randolph, the premium was withheld.

*Peaches.* For the best collection of peaches, Henry Goulding,

of Dover, is awarded the 1st premium of \$5.00. Mr. Goulding exhibited ninety varieties.

For the second best collection, Warren Dewing, of Needham, the 2d premium of \$3.00.

For the third best collection, F. H. Clark, of Dedham, the 3d premium of \$2.00.

*Grapes.* For the best collection of foreign grapes, the 1st premium of \$5.00 is awarded to C. S. Holbrook, of East Randolph.

For the second best collection, J. W. Clark, of Dedham, \$3.00.

For the best collection of native grapes, Richard Richardson, of Medway, a premium of \$3.00.

Also, your Committee would respectfully recommend, that Mrs. Crehore, of Milton, be presented with the Society's diploma, for her contribution of Diana grapes. Also to E. A. Bracket, of Winchester, the Society's diploma for contribution of the Diana grape.

*Plums.* A very fine contribution of plums, from E. Morse, of Medfield, attracted your Committee's particular notice; but as no provision was made, the Committee awarded a gratuity of \$3.00. The liberal use of lime to prevent the working of the *curculio* was given as the reason of this superior collection.

Also, baskets of assorted fruit, from M. P. Wilder, of Dorchester—C. S. Holbrook, of East Randolph—and E. M. Richards, of Dedham, were considered meritorious by your Committee; but as no provision was made for them, they were necessarily passed over.

In conclusion, your Committee make honorable mention of Fruits, contributed by the following parties:

Capt. G. I. Van Brunt, J. W. Clark, E. M. Richards, E. Stone, W. H. Mann, of Dedham; Stephen Baker, Dorchester; Warren Dewing, Needham; Cheever Newhall, Dorchester; Samuel B. Scott, Franklin; I. Cleveland, Dedham; Henry Goulding, Dover; Francis Sumner, Edmund Crosby, Dedham; J. W. Page, Aaron D. Weld, West Roxbury; Supply Clapp, Wm. Whiting, Mrs. M. Fairbanks, Mrs. Eben Fisher, Francis Marsh, Dedham.

For the Committee,

ELIPHALET STONE, of Dedham.

## ON BEES.

GENTLEMEN—Permit me to offer an extra-official report concerning one of the industrial departments, taken under the fostering wing of your Institution.

While on the grounds to-day, I was accosted by several Bee-fanciers, who supposed your humble servant to be still in office, and some of whom supposed there was yet a premium on Honey and Hives.

Mr. Cyrus Bullard, of Medway, holding the copyright for Norfolk county, of an invention of Sylvester Davis, of Claremont, N. H., presented a model Hive, for inspection and a premium. Premium there is none, and Committee none. As a volunteer, I examined its structure, heard the narrative of its claims, and promised to state the representations to the proper authorities. It is called the Platform Beehive; has arrangements for swarming, and dividing swarms, and transferring swarms; has arrangements for feeding the bees, ventilating the bees, and recreating the bees; is furnished with a manufactory, kitchen and parlor; has a trap to catch the bee-moth; and, over and above all, and all other hives with which I am acquainted, has provision for locking up the bees, when the Coolidge's Favorites, and Gages, and Bartletts are ripening for the harvest—thereby acknowledging that bees are thieves; a concession to which all men are not converted.

The objection thereto, in my extra-official judgment, is, that an arrangement combining so many desiderata, will require great watchfulness. It requires vigilance at all seasons of the year, which can be given only by a few particularly fixed in their habits.

The Hive, as such, certainly possesses great merits, and we commend it to all who design to *keep* bees. Of three or four patent rights I have the honor to own, this offers the best advantages for feeding and restraining these little humming birds.

I learn there will be several competitors at future exhibitions, if inducing premiums can be offered.

S. B. BABCOCK, *Ex-Committee*  
on *Bees and Honey.*

*Dedham, September 26, 1855.*

## REPORT ON STRAW MANUFACTURES.

Your Committee on Straw Manufactures respectfully report:— That the exhibition for the present year is superior to that of last; but the contributors are far less in number than might reasonably be expected in a county which takes the lead in this branch of manufacturing of all others in this vicinity. They award to Herman C. Fisher, of Franklin, a premium of \$6.00, and a diploma, for the best Bonnet. There was a very beautiful bonnet contributed by Miss Jedida Staples, of Dedham.

For the best specimens of Straw Braid, not less than 100 yards, a premium of \$3.00, and a diploma, to Mr. Sanford Leonard, of Foxboro'. There were some very excellent specimens of Straw Braid contributed by L. C. Baker, of Dedham, and Mrs. J. R. Cushman, of Medfield.

CHARLES HAMMANT, *of Medford,* }  
 NATHANIEL CLAPP, *of Dedham,* } *Committee.*



## REPORT ON DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

The Committee on Manufactures of Cloth, Flannel, Hosiery, Yarns, Hats, &c., have attended to the duties assigned to them, and respectfully report :

That they award to Timothy Phelps, of Dedham, for a fine specimen of moleskin hats, the Society's diploma.

To Messrs. Tuck & Hodges, of Stoughton, for the best specimen of woollen yarn, a premium of . . . 1.00

Also, to the same gentleman, for hose, socks, and shirts, the Society's diploma.

To Messrs. Kaley, Smith & Co., of Canton, for good specimens of knitting cotton and carpet twine, a diploma.

To Messrs. Eames & Mayo, of Needham, for beautiful specimens of glue, a premium of . . . 1.00

Messrs. Winslow & Lord, of Needham, presented a good article of glue.

To Henry B. Baker, of South Dedham, for a bird-cage, a gratuity of . . . . . .50

To William E. Ramsdell, of Medway, for some finely arranged curtain fixtures, on a new plan, the Society's diploma.

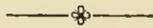
Jesse Fairbanks, of West Dedham, presented some very heavy, well-finished milk cans.

To Dr. Morton, of Needham, for two specimens of hand drills, a new invention, and a beautiful article, the Society's diploma.

To James Daniells, of Medway (a blind man), for some finely wrought whip stocks, a gratuity of . . . . .50

For the Committee,

E. W. TAFT, of *Dedham*.



## REPORT ON PRESERVES.

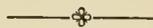
The Committee on Jellies, Preserves, and Pickles, award to Julia A. Lyon, of Needham, on twenty-two jars of Jellies and Preserves, a premium of . . . . . \$3.00

To Mrs. Eliza A. Wight, Dedham, for two jars of Pickles .50

To Parker Barnes, of Dorchester, for four jars of Tomato Ketchup, put up in 1850, a diploma.

For the Committee,

WM. H. DAVIS, of *Milton*, *Chairman*.



## REPORT ON CARRIAGES.

The Committee on Carriages and Wagons award to Ellis & Bestwick, of Dedham, for two single horse four-wheel carriages, a premium of . . . . . \$4.00

To Baker & Cushman, of Medfield, for one covered and one open wagon, . . . . . 4.00

FREEDOM GUILD, of *Foxboro'*, *Chairman*.

## REPORT ON HORSES.

*For thorough bred and part thorough bred Stock.*

To Frederick Boyden, of Topsfield, the Society's diploma for his superior thorough bred stallion "Tricolor," and a gratuity of . . . . .	\$15.00
To Joseph H. Billings, of West Roxbury, for the best three year old colt, a premium of . . . . .	6.00
To Joseph H. Billings, of West Roxbury, for the best one year old colt, a premium of . . . . .	5.00
To G. Howland Shaw, of Brookline, for the best brood mare and colt, a premium of . . . . .	10.00
To Arthur W. Austin, of West Roxbury, for the second best do., a premium of . . . . .	8.00
To B. P. Williams, of West Roxbury, for the third best do., a premium of . . . . .	6.00
To J. L. Brigham, of Roxbury, for a mare and colt, the Society's diploma.	

*For Single Buggy or Chaise Horses.*

To William B. Bacon, of West Roxbury, 1st premium,	\$10.00
To Wm. B. Kingsbury, of Roxbury, 2d premium, . . . . .	8.00
To Ellis Tucker, of Canton, 3d premium, . . . . .	6.00
To John H. Robinson, of Dorchester, 4th premium, . . . . .	4.00
To Leonard Ware, of Roxbury, the Society's diploma, for a superior brown mare.	

*Carriage Horses.*

To Thomas Adams, of Roxbury, 1st premium, . . . . .	\$20.00
To John W. Wolcott, of Roxbury, 2d premium, . . . . .	15.00

*Horses of all work.—STALLIONS.*

To Lambert Maynard, of Boston, the Society's diploma for his superior trotting stallion, "Trotting Childers," and a gratuity of . . . . .	\$15.00
To French Morrill, of Danville, Vt., the Society's diploma, for his Bullrush Morgan stallion, a horse of remarkable power and speed—and a gratuity of . . . . .	15.00

To William Lawrence, of Maine, the Society's diploma for a superior stallion—and a gratuity of . . . . .	10.00
To H. K. White, of West Roxbury, for the best stallion, a premium of . . . . .	15.00
To G. W. Briggs, of Dorchester, for the second best stallion, a premium of . . . . .	10.00
To E. C. Brooks, of Dedham, the Society's diploma, he having received the first premium last year.	

*Brood Mares and Colts.*

To S. J. Capen, of Dorchester, for the best brood mare and colt, a premium of . . . . .	\$10.00
To Lowell Mann, of Walpole, for second best do., a premium of . . . . .	8.00
To C. Loring Cunningham, of Milton, the Society's diploma for a superior mare and colt, she having received the 2d premium last year.	
To John Fussel, of Roxbury, 4th best do., a premium of	4.00
To Benj. Neal, of Walpole, a gratuity for mare and colt,	4.00

*Three years old Colts.*

To James Huckins, of Roxbury, for the best three year old colt, a premium of . . . . .	\$6.00
To John Fussel, of Roxbury, 2d best do., a premium of	3.00
To B. M. Worley, of West Roxbury, 3d best do., do.	3.00
To J. L. Brigham, of Roxbury, Society's diploma for three year old colt.	

*Two years old Colts.*

To James Huckins, of Roxbury, for best two year old colt, a premium of . . . . .	\$5.00
To Samuel Bradstreet, of Dorchester, for second best do., a premium of . . . . .	3.00
To Benjamin Neal, Walpole, third best do., premium of	2.00
To H. K. White, of Roxbury, and John Fussel, of Roxbury, each a Society's diploma for two year old colts.	

*One year old Colts.*

To S. J. Capen, of Dorchester, for best one year old colt, a premium of . . . . .	\$5.00
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To C. Loring Cunningham, Milton, for second best do., a premium of . . . . .	3.00
To J. L. Morse, of South Dedham, for third best do., a premium of . . . . .	2.00
To Benjamin Hawes, of Wrentham, for fourth do., a premium of . . . . .	1.00
To H. K. White, of Roxbury, for a superior one year old colt, the Society's diploma.	

*Farm Horses.*

To Cheever Newhall, of Dorchester, for the best farm horse, a premium of . . . . .	\$10.00
To W. T. G. Morton, for the best pair of farm horses, a premium of . . . . .	10.00

P. S. It would be well to note, that the gratuities to Messrs. Boyden, Maynard, Morrill, and Lawrence, were given them for exhibiting their fine animals; the rules of the Society not allowing premiums to stock owned out of the county.

For the Committee,

J. L. BRIGHAM, *of Roxbury.*



## REPORT ON SWINE.

For the best Boar,—

To Benjamin V. French, of Braintree, 1st premium of	\$6.00
To W. T. G. Morton, of Needham, 2d do. of . . . . .	5.00
To William. P. Snow, of Dorchester, 3d do. of . . . . .	4.00

For the best Breeding Sow,—

To W. T. G. Morton, of Needham, 1st premium of . . . . .	\$6.00
To Benjamin V. French, of Braintree, 2d do. of . . . . .	5.00
To Samuel S. Seagraves, of Needham, 3d do. of . . . . .	4.00

For the best weaned Pigs,—

To W. T. G. Morton, of Needham, 1st premium of . . . . .	\$5.00
To Marshall P. Wilder, of Dorchester, 2d do. of . . . . .	3.00
To Henry Goulding, of Dover, 3d do. of . . . . .	2.00

For the Committee,

GEORGE K. DANIELL, *of Needham.*

## REPORT ON HEIFERS.

The Committee on Heifers award the following premiums :

To W. T. G. Morton, of Needham, on Jersey heifer, 18 months old, the 1st premium of . . . . .	\$3.00
To S. J. Capen, of Dorchester, on best Ayershire heifer, 1 year old, 1st premium of . . . . .	3.00
Durmams,—not any worthy of premium.	
To B. V. French, of Braintree, on best Devon heifer, 1 year old, 1st premium of . . . . .	3.00
To Edward King, of Dorchester, on best grade heifer, 22 months old, 1st premium of . . . . .	3.00
To William Palmer, of West Roxbury, on the best grade heifer and calf, 2 years 5 months old, 2d premium of . . . . .	2.00
To William Goward, of Dorchester, on the best native heifer, 2 years 6 mos. old, 1st premium of . . . . .	3.00
To Lewis Bullard, of Dedham, on the next best native heifer, 15 mos. old, the 2d premium of . . . . .	2.00
To W. T. G. Morton, of Needham, on the best heifer under 1 year old, Alderney, 1st premium of . . . . .	3.00
To Thomas Smith, of Dedham, on 2d best heifer under 1 year, native, the 2d premium of . . . . .	2.00
To S. J. Capen, of Dorchester, on 3d best heifer under 1 year, Ayershire, the 3d premium of . . . . .	1.00

A. S. DRAKE, *of Sharon, Chairman.*



## REPORT ON STEERS.

The Committee on Steers report, that but three pair of Steers were exhibited to them. First premium for the best pair of one year old steers to Robert Porter, of Stoughton, \$3.00.

The Committee thought that two pair were not worthy of a premium.

NATH'L TUCKER, *of Canton, Chairman.*

## REPORT ON BULLS.

The Judges on Bulls, report, that the entries were not so large as usual, but were more select. In Alderneys it required their nicest consideration to determine in regard to their superiority. The grades were as fine as have ever been exhibited.

*Durhams*—The 1st premium they award to Daniel C. Bacon, of W. Roxbury, for his Durham bull, three years old, \$5.00

The 2d premium to Enoch Train, of Dorchester, for his Durham bull, fourteen months old, . . . . . 3.00

*Devons*—The 1st premium they award to B. V. French, of Braintree, for his Devon bull “Monatiquot,” two and a half years old, . . . . . 5.00

*Alderneys*—The 1st premium they award to D. C. Bacon, of W. Roxbury, for his Alderney bull, two years and four months old, . . . . . 5.00

The 2d premium they award to Edward King, of Dorchester, for his Alderney bull, nineteen months old, . . . 3.00

And the Judges recommend gratuities of \$2.00 each to A. D. Weld, of Roxbury, and Dr. W. T. G. Morton, of Needham, for their fine Alderney bulls.

The Committee further award to S. J. Capen, of Dorchester, the 1st premium for his Ayrshire bull, of . . . . . 5.00

B. V. FRENCH, of <i>Braintree</i> ,	} <i>Judges.</i>
CHEEVER NEWHALL, <i>Dorchester</i> ,	
FREEDOM GUILD, <i>Foxboro'</i> ,	
LEWIS PEIRCE, <i>Dorchester</i> ,	



## REPORT ON WORKING OXEN.

The Committee on Working Oxen, having attended to the duty assigned them, submit the following report :

They would again urge upon the farmers of Norfolk the importance of presenting their oxen to contend for the premiums offered by the Society ; for, by comparison, trial and consultation between

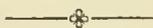
the several owners, that spirit for improvement will be obtained, which is the object of the Association.

There were seven pairs entered, six of which contended for the premiums ; one very fine pair, belonging to the Hon. Benjamin V. French, of Braintree, were not presented at the trial.

The premiums were awarded as follows :

To Josiah Quincy, of Quincy, from his team of three yokes, for a pair five years old, the first premium of	\$8.00
To Benjamin N. Sawin, of Dover, 2d premium of	6.00
To Cyrus Harmon, of Needham, 3d premium of	5.00
To Mrs. E. G. Edson, of Dedham, 4th premium of	3.00

CALVIN RICHARDS, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON PLOUGHING.

### DOUBLE TEAMS.

Your Committee submit the following Report :

That five claims were presented for premiums ; and although the ground, on which the work was done, was less favorable, in some respects, than in some former years, yet the performance of each claimant was so good, that your Committee would be happy, did the means of the Society warrant, to award a premium to each. But the great expenses incurred, during the past season, by the enlargement of the Society's grounds, in connection with the usual demands on its funds, preclude the gratification of their wishes in this respect.

Your Committee were unanimous in recommending, that the Society's premiums be awarded as follows, viz. :

To E. W. Robinson, of Dorchester, 1st premium,	\$10.00
To Horace and Moses Whiting, of Dedham, 2d do.	8.00
To Luther Eaton, of Dedham, 3d do.	6.00
To Josiah Quincy, of Quincy, 4th do.	4.00

Your Committee add, that it affords them no small satisfaction to witness the interest manifested in the "Ploughing Match." They consider this as an indication of the interest felt by the pub-

lie on this subject—as an indication of the growing conviction in the community at large, of the *great benefits resulting from deep and thorough ploughing*. It is extremely desirable that *every* farmer should understand how much both the *quality* and *quantity* of crops are affected by *rightly preparing* the soil for the reception of the seed. When it is considered, for example, that instead of twenty or thirty bushels of corn to the acre, as was the common crop under the former method of shallow ploughing, there can be raised upon the same ground, under the present improved mode of cultivation, forty, sixty, eighty, and in some cases even an hundred bushels to the acre, the great advantage of the latter method must be apparent to every candid and reflecting mind. And although all do not adopt it, it is nevertheless a pleasing consideration, that the number of those who do adopt it, is *increasing*.

The former Lieutenant Governor Robbins, on a public occasion, remarked, “that it was the work of an age to *establish a principle*.” It is the work of an age to introduce and establish a new principle and practice in agriculture. We are now doing such a work. Our Society, by its public exhibitions, by its annual reports, and in various other ways, is affording essential aid toward the accomplishment of this important object.

Your Committee add, in conclusion, that it was to them a pleasant circumstance that the venerable Farmer of Quincy, although he has seen more than fourscore years, was present on the ground at the “Ploughing Match.” He told us in the Hall, as it will be remembered, that fifty years ago he was made a trustee of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society. For a longer period he has felt and manifested a deep interest in the advancement of this cause. He has been a friend not only of this cause, but of every cause that tends to ameliorate the condition of his fellow men. And whether in the councils of the State or of the Nation, at the head of the oldest University in the country, or in the walks of private life, he has shed around him a good influence. His example has been a benediction to this Society and the community. Let the Society and community imitate *that example*, and all *similar examples*. Then agriculture, and all the best arts and virtues of life, will be cultivated and adorned.

Respectfully submitted,

RALPH SANGER, *Chairman*.

Dover, November, 1855.

## SINGLE TEAMS.

The Committee on Single Teams report one entry for Ploughing :

Benjamin N. Sawin, of Dover ; and they award him the first premium of \$8.00. Plough, Prouty & Mears, No. 154.

For the Committee,

BENJ. G. KIMBALL, *of Needham, Chairman.*

## HORSE TEAMS.

The Committee on Ploughing with Horse teams, respectfully report. There were but three teams entered, and they award as follows :—

To Benjamin V. French, of Braintree, with Prouty & Mears' plough, the 1st premium of . . . .	\$8.00
To Charles Buck, of Needham, with Ruggles, Nourse and Mason's plough, the 2d premium of . . . .	6.00
To Joel Morse, of Medfield, with Ruggles, Nourse and Mason's plough, the 3d premium of . . . .	4.00

For the Committee,

H. N. GLOVER, *of Quincy, Chairman.*

## REPORT ON ORNAMENTAL TREES.

The Committee on Ornamental Trees, set by the road-side, award to Cheever Newhall, of Dorchester, the first premium of \$10.00. The streets on which these trees are set out, are wide, nearly or quite 100 feet, affording ample room to do justice to the enterprize. The trees are elm, rock maple, and thorned acacia. Most of them have done well, and do great credit to Mr. Newhall.

The whole number set out, are—elms, 134 ; rock maple, 50 ; three-thorned acacia, 5 ; ash, 63 ; horse chestnut, 3 ; and 8 of other varieties.

For the Committee,

B. V. FRENCH, *Chairman.*

## REPORT ON POULTRY.

The Committee on Poultry report as follows :

To J. B. Calder, for the best pair of black Spanish,	\$2.00
To Zebrina Smith, best pair Marsh stock,	2.00
To I. C. Russell, for Bolton Greys,	2.00
To Hobart Smith, best pair barn-yard fowls,	2.00
To Daniel Fernandez, best pair Bantams,	2.00
To Albert Coburn, best pair ducks,	2.00
To Dr. W. T. G. Morton, best lot of geese,	3.00
To Lemuel Kingsbury, best lot of turkeys,	3.00
To Dr. Morton, second best turkeys,	2.00
To Dr. Morton for best lot of live fowls,	4.00
To S. Sampson, second best lot of live fowls,	3.00
To William Reed, Charles Small, A. G. Baker, and T. S. Hubbard, a gratuity each of	1.00
To William W. Worley, a gratuity of	.50

ROBERT MANSFIELD, of *Needham*, *Chairman*.



## REPORT ON BREAD.

The Committee on Bread ask leave to report, that there were *nine* specimens of Wheaten Bread offered for competition; and they award the 1st premium of \$3.00 to Mrs. J. D. Howe, of Dedham,—and the 2d premium of \$2.00 to Mrs. R. D. Page, of Jamaica Plains.

There was but one specimen of Wheat and Indian Bread offered, which was by Mrs. A. Newell, of Needham, to whom the Committee award the 2d premium of \$2.00.

There was but one loaf of unbolted Wheat Bread offered, for which the Committee award the 2d premium of \$2.00, to Mrs. Ellis Bacon, of South Walpole.

Of Rye and Indian Bread there were three loaves offered; and the Committee award the 1st premium of \$3.00 to Mrs. Ellis Bacon, of South Walpole.

All which is respectfully submitted, for the Committee, by  
EDMUND QUINCY, of *Dedham*.

*Dedham*, September 25, 1855.

## REPORT ON LADIES' WORK.

The Committee on Ladies' Work have attended to the duty assigned them, and report :

That the number of articles offered for exhibition and premium is smaller than on preceding years, but generally of better quality.

Seven counterpanes and quilts were offered, neither of which were worthy the first premium.

To Mrs. Lucretia Fuller, of West Dedham, the 2d premium of \$2.00 was awarded for a knit quilt.

To Mrs. Prescott, of Quincy, a gratuity of \$1.00 ; and to Mrs. Newell, of Dover, a gratuity of 50 cents, for a wrought counterpane.

Several rugs were offered ; but however much they may have contributed to the interest of the exhibition, they were not deemed worthy of premium or gratuity.

Several beautiful specimens of crochet work were presented ; no premium being offered for that description of work, the Committee award a gratuity of \$1.50 to Bridget Harkin, of Dedham, for crochet collars ; a gratuity of \$1.00 to Miss Turner, of Roxbury, for a crochet tidy ; a gratuity of \$1.00 to Miss Henrietta Spaulding, of Dedham, for crochet work ; and a gratuity of 50 cents to Miss Crehore, of Dedham.

For the best specimen of woollen hose, a premium of \$1.00 to Mrs. J. P. Clark, of Medway ; for the best specimen of woollen half-hose, a premium of 50 cents to Mrs. J. P. Clark, Medway.

For a beautiful specimen of knit cotton hose, a premium of 50 cents and a diploma, to Miss E. B. Conant, of Randolph.

For the best specimen of woven cotton hose, 50 cents, to J. Bestwick, Dedham.

Many beautiful specimens of needle-work were offered.

To Miss H. A. Barnes, of Dorchester, the Committee award a gratuity of \$2.00, for an exceedingly beautiful handkerchief and collar.

To Mrs. Frederick Taft, of Dedham, a gratuity of \$1.00 for very ingenious and beautiful specimens of needlework.

To Miss Mary Emerson, of West Dedham, a gratuity of \$1.00 for an embroidered collar.

To Miss S. J. Alden, of Dedham, \$1.50; and to Mrs. Reuben Farrington, of Dedham, \$1.00, for embroidered cape, collars and sleeves.

To Miss Bailey, of Dorchester, a gratuity of \$1.00, for an embroidered blanket; to Miss Endicott, of Canton, 75 cents, for an embroidered blanket.

To Mary L. C. Smith, of Readville, \$1.00, for a fine specimen of worsted embroidery.

To Mrs. Susan Barrett, of S. Weymouth, the Society's diploma, for a beautiful chair-covering, wrought on hair cloth.

To Mrs. C. J. Capen, of Dedham, a gratuity of \$1.00, for a lady's work basket.

To Mrs. H. Sinclair, of Canton, for pressed flowers, a gratuity of 50 cents and a diploma.

To Alfred Fuller, of Walpole, the Society's diploma for an oil painting, the only one offered for premium.

To Mrs. Billings, of Canton, for colored crayon drawings, 50 cts.

To Miss O. C. Guild, of Dedham, for Grecian painting, 50 cts.

To N. C. Baker, of West Dedham, for monochromatic drawing, a gratuity of 50 cents.

To Mrs. Gordon, of Dedham, for Grecian painting, \$1.00.

To Miss Helen King, of Dorchester, a gratuity of 75 cents, for a well-executed map of North America.

To Miss Eaton, of Dorchester, the Committee award a gratuity of \$1.00 for the finest specimen of leather work.

To Mrs. Merrill, of Dedham, 50 cents, for a shell box.

To Miss Martha A. Newell, of East Needham, a premium of \$2.00, for two neatly made bonnets.

To Mrs. Polly Richards, of Dedham, a gratuity of 50 cents, for straw baskets.

Two embroidered collars were offered by Misses under twelve years of age. That of Miss Annie Clark, of Dedham, was most worthy of notice.

To a lady, aged 77, for a beautifully embroidered skirt, contributed by Mrs. J. W. Clark, of Dedham, a diploma.

To Mrs. Burnham, of Canton, a gratuity of 50 cents, for fine specimens of hair work.

To Mrs. Kingman, of Dorchester, 75 cents for a piece of spun cloth.

To Miss Emily Mann, of Dedham, 75 cents for crochet work.

But one specimen of mending was offered, and that not worthy of premium.

To Miss Fales of Wrentham, Mrs. Hill of Foxboro', Mrs. Leonard Billings of Canton, Miss Harriet E. Fisher of Medfield, Miss Harriet F. Kendall of Stoughton, Mrs. L. Johnson of Walpole, Miss Hannah Endicott of Canton, Mrs. R. E. Blood of Dedham, Mrs. Martha Ellis of Medfield, Mrs. B. V. French of Braintree, Miss Myra Smith of Needham, Miss Carrie Titcomb of Dedham, Miss Frances C. Taft of Canton, Miss Evan of Needham, Mrs. R. Morton of Needham, Mrs. Sally Fisk of Dedham, Mrs. F. F. Stedman of Needham, and Mrs. W. E. Fuller of Needham, the exhibition is indebted for contributions.

For the Committee,

L. B. KEYES, *of Dedham.*

## TO THE COMMITTEE ON GRAIN CROPS.

## STATEMENT OF CHEEVER NEWHALL.

*Dorchester, November 30, 1855.*

DEAR SIR—The land I planted with corn this year, and which you examined in July last, has since been measured by Ebenezer Tolman, Esq., Surveyor, and found to be  $5\frac{7\frac{1}{10}}{100}$  acres. The corn upon  $2\frac{10}{100}$  acres of this land was planted in rows six feet apart, with a row of *cabbages* between each row of corn on one acre, and a row of *potatoes* between each row of corn on  $1\frac{10}{100}$  acres. The other portion of the corn was in rows three feet apart, the hills in the row 2 to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet apart, and generally four stalks in a hill.

As one half of the land planted with the mixed crop, was occupied by potatoes and cabbages, it is proper to deduct the part thus occupied, from the whole lot; the remainder will show the quantity of land in corn to be  $4\frac{66}{100}$  acres, on which was raised 796 baskets of ears, each basket yielded 35 lbs. of shelled corn, making  $497\frac{1}{2}$  bushels on the lot, besides 40 baskets small corn, which I put down at one half the value of the sound corn, say  $12\frac{1}{2}$  bushels, making 510 bushels, or 109 bushels and a fraction to the acre, and this too without any extra manure or labor, except ploughing twice to the depth of ten inches each time, with the usual harrowing afterwards.

I would further remark, that at least one-tenth of the hills on the whole lot was destroyed by the wire-worm, and replanted on the *eleventh day of June*.

I do not offer my crop of corn for premium, but to do my part towards convincing the farmers of our county, that one hundred bushels of corn *can* be raised on an acre.

Very truly yours,

CHEEVER NEWHALL.

REV. J. M. MERRICK.

## REPORT ON MOWING MACHINES.

The Committee appointed to witness the trial of Mowing Machines, entered in this county, for the premium of six hundred dollars, offered by the "State Society for the Promotion of Agriculture," report :

That inasmuch as it was found impracticable to carry out the design of the State Society completely, and having no opinions to give affecting the award of the premium, propose to offer simply a statement of their action in the premises. An exhibition for the trial was duly advertised, and held in Dedham, on a track of about ten acres ; at which nine machines were operated. A large concourse of citizens were present to witness the exhibition, who seemed to take a lively interest in the experiment of a machine so powerful, and heretofore so rare in New England. An account of that exhibition, by one of the Committee, was published in a county paper, the Dedham Gazette, which was supposed to give substantially the views of the Committee at the time, a portion of which, as containing a record of the doings of the Society, is annexed to the Report of the Committee on Agricultural Implements, which follows.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, *Chairman.*

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## REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The Committee on Agricultural Implements have to report nothing new as on exhibition at the Cattle Show, in this department, although there were quite a number of specimens of those long-familiar implements—the most essential in the work of Agriculture—which serve to illustrate the improvement and progress made in this branch of the science.

The Committee, in former reports, have remarked on the peculiarities of our condition, in New England, in regard to Agricultural Implements, as contrasted with the Middle and Western States. Our uneven and rocky soil, as a general characteristic, forbids the use of many of those labor-saving machines, which inventive genius is ever ready to create to the demand of necessity

and profit; and hence the narrower limit to which our show of implements is confined, so different from the extensive variety and the constant multiplication of new designs, adapted to the execution of almost every description of agricultural labor, as is seen, for example, at the exhibitions in the State of New York.

This statement is not made in the spirit of complaint at the scantiness of the articles exhibited at our exhibitions, although we believe that a public spirit, which should afford an extensive display of those splendid specimens of mechanical skill and ingenuity, which in our day—so widely different from former times—are displayed in agricultural implements, would be amply rewarded, even if new models and machines were rare, and the spectator was called to view only those with the uses and importance of which he was already familiar.

The character of our people for inventive genius and skill, is too well established in the records of the country, to allow the suspicion that the mechanics of New York and Pennsylvania surpass them in ingenuity and skill, because they do in the number of their inventions in the department of agricultural implements recorded at the Patent Office at Washington. Human ingenuity is at the command of want and necessity, which are always allied with the overpowering stimulus of profit; and it is the character of the soil that is to be cultivated in the Middle and Western States, that inspires the genius of the mechanics in those States. Our variety of implements, although meagre compared with some other sections, is probably fully equal to the demand of the times, and has kept pace with the spirit of intelligence and general improvement which prevails so universally at the present time. The difference in ploughs, rakes, shovels, hoes, axes, forks, carts, and all other ancient implements, as they appear at the present day, in contrast with the past, attest sufficiently the attention and skill bestowed on this branch of science; and the only enigma left to excite the wonder of the economist, is, that they seem to have had no other effect than to enhance the price of the crops they help to bring forth and were intended to multiply.

There seems to be a principle at work, which requires that in proportion as the fruits of the earth are aided in their production by beautiful and superior implements, the more costly they shall become. When the wooden ploughshare, with scarcely metal

enough to grow bright by the friction of the earth, as the slow-moving oxen dragged it along—stimulated more by the whip of the driver than the vigor of their bodies—was the only instrument to break the glebe, the potato, that staple commodity of the million, was supplied for one-eighth of a dollar per bushel, while the superb instrument, which has now become an object of attraction and almost veneration in the crystal palaces of the world, with the Koohinor and Minnie rifle, cannot do the same work without the exaction of a whole dollar, or eight times as much.

It would not seem to be the policy of the agriculturist to complain at the extravagant prices of his productions; but what is the peculiar blessing of improvements so greatly extolled, if the result of their introduction is chiefly seen in the enhancement of the price of the necessaries of life, to such an extreme, as to drive the people from the homes of their childhood to a country where the boasted civilizations of our section have but just commenced to dawn?

With all our commerce, and such manufactures as produce, as if by enchantment, the cities of Lowell, Manchester, Lawrence, &c., were it not for the mechanical industry of our shoemakers, who with their lapstones and waxed ends extort, by the employment of all their time and energies, their sustenance from the West, would not our towns become depopulated, and our hill-sides and valleys suffer the atrophy of neglect?

If some one, who relies more on the vain boastings of the press and the assumptions of the present generation, than on facts and figures, feels inclined to question the suggestions we have made, let him give the world the solution of the enigma we have presented, in a manner that will convey the truth to the people, and we then shall have gained something more by this report than we expected when we took up the pen.

There was, however, one peculiarity which distinguished the Implement Show of this year, and that was, that most of the articles were manufactured in the county.

There were seven ploughs, which is, after all, the chief, as it is the most ancient of agricultural implements—which, with their polished coulters and their graceful curves, suggested the idea of a greyhound that is anxious to leap to the conquest of his prey; one “improved” cultivator, which indicates that up to the present

year genius had not entirely exhausted itself on that instrument ; one "horse hoe," whose form and shape we have not retained in our memory, strange as it may seem that we should forget the implement which was apparently designed for the use of man, had been given into the possession of that noble animal, the horse, who is destined, perhaps, soon to surpass his human rival in the use of an instrument which the latter has monopolized from the days of Nineveh ; one "ox yoke," to which but a single objection could be made, which was, that it seemed made to break or to bow the necks of the faithful animals who were destined to wear it. There were a number of smaller implements, in the class of shovels, hoes, forks, &c., which were creditable to the manufacturers, and are famous throughout the country—the shovels of Ames, and the forks of Patridge.

In passing through the enclosure devoted to agricultural implements, at the show of the State Society, held at Elmira, New York, the writer of this report was obliged to inquire not only the names, but the uses of a considerable number of formidable looking implements that constituted the vast display. They plant, they sow, they dig, they pull up weeds, they reap, they mow, they cut, and they cover, and they do almost every thing that is required in the great business of cultivation. They formed a most pleasing part of the exhibition, and seemed to encourage the idea that the time was fast approaching when the combined elements of wood, water and iron might be sent into the field, to perform all the labors which the Deity imposed, according to the Scriptures, on the human husbandman, while the latter might be reposing in the shade of trees, planted by machinery, indulging in siestas, made more profound by the aroma of the pipe, and dreaming of that millenium of ease and luxury, when the farmer shall eat his bread, as well as the merchant and the lazy lord, without any accompaniment of "the sweat of the brow."

The Committee award a gratuity of \$10.00 to Mr. J. H. D. Blake, of South Braintree, for the largest display of agricultural implements. It was thought that there were not enough to entitle the exhibitor to the first premium.

An exhibition of mowing machines was held at Dedham during the summer, under the auspices of the Society and of a committee

appointed at the request of "The State Society for the Promotion of Agriculture," on its offer of a premium of six hundred dollars for the best experiment of a mowing machine, on fifty acres, within the State. It was found impracticable to carry out the design completely, in consequence of the great labor and expense of superintending the numerous trials, in various places, that would be requisite to a proper understanding of the merits of the various machines entered for premium.

The single trial, however, was well conducted, and afforded an interesting and useful spectacle to a large company of visitors, many of whom had never before witnessed the operation of that invention, which is to cause a revolution in the mode of hay gathering in all parts of the country, and especially in those States where the fields are extensive, and unobstructed by stones and stumps, and other impediments that would interfere with the wide and rapid sweep of the instrument.

A report of the trial, by one of the Committee, was published at the time, in one of the county newspapers, the "Dedham Gazette," which, being supposed to convey, in brief, the general impressions of the Committee, is inserted, as follows, as a part of this report.

### THE MOWING EXHIBITION.

The first public trial, or contest, for the premium offered by the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, for the best experiment in mowing with machines worked by horse or ox power, was held at Dedham on Tuesday last. A very respectable concourse of people assembled to witness it, but not half as large as the rarity of the exhibition and the importance and value of the invention warranted. Something of this deficiency was owing probably to want of information. A few small circulars had been distributed among distinguished farmers, which amounted to almost nothing, as public notice, and the advertisements and communications in the county papers, so far as a considerable portion of the inhabitants were concerned, might have as well been printed in Kamschatka. Some gentlemen from Worcester and Essex, interested in agricultural pursuits, were present, and contributed much to the interest of the occasion. The following are the entries for the premium of the Massachusetts Society :

W. T. G. Morton, of Needham, S. Allen's patent.

Fiske Russell, of Boston, his own patent.

James A. Howe, of Boston, Ketchum's patent.

John Dean, Dedham, Ketchum's patent.

Alvan J. Fisher, Dedham, same patent, single horse.

J. P. Adriance & Co., Worcester, Manny's patent, four feet cutter.

J. P. Adriance & Co., Worcester, Manny's patent, single horse.

J. P. Adriance & Co., Manny's patent, four feet eight inch cutter.

Hiram W. Jones, Dover, Ketchum's patent.

Mr. Eaton, of Dedham, entered and operated one of Ketchum's machines, for exhibition, and not for premium.

The lot selected was a level plain of about ten acres, the surface being somewhat uneven in many places. The soil was light, and poor from long neglect. The crop was a thin one, of May grass or Rhode Island redtop. It was such as would have been difficult to be mown by a scythe in a dry time.

The first scene consisted of six machines put upon half-acre lands, numbered from one to six. The time occupied was from twenty to twenty-five minutes.

Allen's machine had lot number one, and was the first to complete the work. It is a simple machine of about 525 pounds weight. It seems to have been an old one, considerably used, and somewhat out of repair. It did not mow as close as the other machines, although the bar which held the knives appeared to run very near the surface. Mr. Morton, the possessor, was not present, and the general impression appeared to be that the machine had not enjoyed quite a fair trial, even for a single field; and it is clear that the machine which may do best execution in one kind of grass, may utterly fail, in comparison with others, in a field of a different kind.

A subsequent trial of Allen's machine was witnessed by a portion of the Committee at the farm of Mr. A. D. Weld, in West Roxbury, which gave much better satisfaction. One of the proprietors was present, who understood its management, and the work was performed as well as by any machine in the list that has been exhibited to the Committee.

Russell's came next, and it was also the next in time. It is a wood frame, (and rather heavy for wood, weighing about 780 pounds,) with a wheel in addition to the driving wheel, affording the means of travelling without cutting—an advantage of an essential character in the convenience and economy of a farm. It is thought to be best adapted, from its weight and steady motion, to heavy grass, but the appearance of its half acre was hardly surpassed by that of any other. This was one of the machines which had the fortune to enjoy a double test of its capacity on the same day. With a heavier crop and different kind of grass, in the park of the Court-house, it turned out very beautiful work. The reputation of this machine improved as the hours of the day passed, and it is not improbable that some who were inclined to slight it in the morning, turned towards it with different views at the close of the exhibition.

The three following lots were occupied by machines manufactured after Ketchum's patent.

This machine, we have reason to believe, has heretofore held precedence. It has been longest in the field, and, to some extent, occupies the position of general favorite. It is iron, and without any wheel but the driving one, which, together, augment the burdens of the team. It cut a wider swath than any other machine engaged in the half acre contest. It cut a smooth, and comparatively even swath, and spread the grass well. It preserved its ancient reputation very well in the trial, although the impression very generally prevailed, that it had been surpassed in several points; for example, by the Manny machine, in the lightness and facility of its motions, and by the Russell machine, in the closer shaving and the more even surface of stubble, after the passage of the knives. This supposition was confirmed by the operation of a machine of this patent on the west of the Court-house, while the Russell was performing on the east side. It mowed imperfectly, as if the knives had become dull. The gentleman who had purchased the *hay*, that was to be, was led, by the circumstance, to intimate that he should not obtain quite as much as legitimately belonged to him. It is not our purpose to intimate that the Ketchum patent suffered in general reputation on the occasion, "as accidents will happen in the best-regulated families." The mowing machine, although it was known in England a cen-

tury and a quarter ago, is still but a new and imperfect thing in our country to-day. Its lever power is yet to be vastly multiplied; locomotive facilities are yet to be greatly increased, before it will become that perfect blessing which some, and especially those engaged in their manufacture, claim it to be. Vaucanson, the silk-loom inventor and improver, of Lyons, was a greater man than Jacquard, who distinguished himself in the same line, but it was necessary for the perfection of his instrument that the latter should live and labor after him.

The sixth half acre lot was occupied by a machine of Manny's patent, manufactured and entered by J. P. Adriance & Co., of Worcester. It was a medium size—between the single horse machine of three feet cutter, and the largest of their manufacture, which has a cutter of four feet nine inches. This machine, like all, we believe, of the same patent on the ground, was made with a reel. It moved with such facility, and with such comparative ease, at the tread of the beautiful and finely trained horses attached to it, that it appeared more like an ancient war chariot—moving at a peaceful triumph where the victories of Ceres instead of Mars were celebrated—than a simple weapon of the farmer. The spectators seemed at once to be charmed with its performances, and for a time, at least, it took the lead in the popular estimation. The machine, great as are its real merits, was fortunate in its proprietors and managers, who were gentlemen both in appearance and manners, and were thoroughly trained to their business. So, too, were those beautiful animals which, after performing an extra quantity of labor on and off the field, were permitted to be attached to all the other machines that had entered for premiums, and to be guided by strange drivers, in order that a system of trial might be adopted which would prevent them and others from gaining credit to their machines, on the ground of the efficiency and training of their teams and drivers. On a close examination, however, of the work after raking, it was found that it was just about on a parallel with the work of the machines of the Ketchum patent, when on their good behavior, but with a narrower cut, in two swaths of about eight inches.

#### SCENE THE SECOND.

Each of the teams and machines as above, one after another,

proceeded to cut a double swath through the field, a distance of more than forty rods. The general characteristics exhibited at this trial were not widely different from those presented in the former trial. It may, however, be stated, that it was in this experiment that the Russell machine, although unfortunate at the start, made the best work of any machine on the ground during the day.

#### THIRD SCENE.

*A trial of the Single Horse Machines.*—Machines of this character were present, of the Ketchum, Manny and Russell patents. The cutters, being more limited than those attached to the two-horse machine, served to obstruct, to some extent, that easy play and freedom of action, which characterized the larger machines. Although they did not seem to execute much more than half as much as the larger machines, they seemed to require two-thirds as much power to drag them. The result was, according to our observation, that while, previous to the trial of the single machines, there was a general desire to see their performance, after it was concluded there was an equally general disappointment. When the machines shall have become perfected, as they will be in the course of years, a single horse will be able to manage them in a manner that will satisfy such expectations as were last Tuesday aroused, only to be disappointed.

#### FOURTH SCENE.

The beautiful and well-trained horses of Adriance & Co. were successively harnessed to the several competing machines, and made a *bout* under the hand of the various drivers who had officiated when their own horses were employed.

The whole affair was impromptu. The conditions of the premium were broad and unrestricted. A full half of the spectators had probably never seen a mowing machine before, and not one in five ever before saw one in operation, and it was doubtful, at one time, if the grass would be visible when the day of trial came. But a kind Providence, with its rains and numerous merciful interpositions, caused a result which should satisfy all the wise and moderate who were present on the occasion.

## REPORT ON DAIRIES.

## STATEMENT OF DR. W. T. G. MORTON.

To the Committee appointed to award the Premiums for Dairies offered by the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture.

“I offer for your examination, six cows, whose breed, and names, are as follows; together with their product of milk for the period specified.

The names and breeds of the cows are as follows :

Hornet,	Ayrshire.
Challenge,	Durham.
Fanny,	Part Ayrshire.
Mystery,	do.
Nonesuch,	do.
Woodbine,	do.

The trial commenced April 25th and 26th, and the following statement contains the number of quarts of milk given, and the pounds of butter made therefrom. The cows were kept in pasture, but fed with fresh grass once per day, until July 16th, when they were fed with corn-fodder. In addition to the product specified, the sum of \$28.00 was received for calves, and of course there was a considerable value in their product which went to the swine.”

According to the statistics given, it appears that the six cows above named, have had made from their product of milk, an amount of butter equal to ten pounds and one ounce per week each cow for five months, being 1,331 pounds. The price of the butter was about 33 cents at that period, and the amount of the product which went to the support of the swine may be duly estimated.

Sufficient information was obtained as regards the cows and the quantity and the quality of the milk given and butter made, to induce the Committee to award the first premium of the State Society, of \$75.00, to Dr. Morton, of Needham.

WM. S. KING, *Chairman.*

## REPORT ON FARMS.

The Committee on Farms were called upon to visit but one farm, during the present year. This fact is far from reflecting credit upon the pride and public spirit of Norfolk County farmers. That there are many farms within our county limits, worthy of note, and creditable to the agricultural skill and knowledge of the tillers, we are, from personal observation, well aware ; but, officially, we are compelled to ignore their existence. The Committee appeal to the patriotism of the farmers of Norfolk, to come forward another year, and compete, in the spirit of generous emulation, for the palm of superiority.

In the absence of applications for premiums, the Visiting Committee of the Society have examined and reported upon several fine farms, which appeared to them worthy of such notice.

Members of our Committee visited the farm of Dr. W. T. G. Morton, at W. Needham. The statistics, and a very full description of the Doctor's estate, were published in the Transactions of last year, and Dr. Morton has evidenced his energy and public spirit by the improvements that he has made upon his place,—by the fine stock that he has purchased and bred,—by the convenient and comfortable stables and other farm edifices that he has erected, and by the unsurpassed contributions that he makes to our annual exhibitions.

In view of the improvements that he has planned and executed upon his farm during the last year, the Committee award to Dr. W. T. G. Morton, of W. Needham, a gratuity of \$20.00.

WILLIAM S. KING,  
CHEEVER NEWHALL,  
C. C. SEWALL,  
TRUMAN CLARK.

## ORNAMENTAL TREES.

*For the Committee on Ornamental Trees.*

GENTLEMEN—By the publications of your Society I have learned that the subject of encouraging the planting of Forest Trees has engaged the attention of its members from its formation; that in the year 1852, the very liberal premiums of thirty and twenty dollars were offered to any *city* or *town* in the county, for the largest number and best growth of ornamental trees, which shall be planted in any public square, or on the road-side. Subsequently a premium of ten dollars was offered to the *individual* who should plant in like manner the largest number. No application, I understand, has hitherto been made for either premium.

I respectfully request the Trustees to examine those I have planted on the road-side for shade and ornament, part of them bordering my own lands, and part in front of the lands of others, in the immediate vicinity; they are mostly from two to three rods apart, and are all in a thrifty condition, in number and variety as follows:

134 elm,	3 tulip,
63 ash,	2 mulberry,
50 maple,	1 poplar,
5 three-thorned acacia,	1 oak,
3 horse chestnut,	1 beech.—Total 263.

When it is considered that a beautiful tree, overarchng the road-side or bordering some broad avenue where it can grow and develop itself on all sides, is one of the finest pictures of symmetry and proportion that the eye can any where meet with, I am astonished at the indifference and neglect prevailing in nearly every part of the country.

Should this communication have even a remote tendency to awaken in the County an interest in the subject, my object in making it will be attained.

CHEEVER NEWHALL.

*Dorchester, November 10, 1855.*

STATEMENTS IN REGARD TO APPLE ORCHARDS  
AND RENOVATED APPLE TREES, OFFERED FOR PRE-  
MIUMS 1855.

The following statements have relation to the report of the Committee on Fruit Trees. See page 51.

FOXBORO', NOV. 28, 1855.

*To the Committee on Fruit Trees:*

GENTLEMEN—I take this opportunity to inform you about my orchard. The trees were set out in the spring of 1851; the distance from each other is about 25 feet; the number of trees is 121. About one half are Baldwins, 15 Seaver Sweetings, 15 Greenings; the remainder are Russets, Porters, Hubbardston Nonesuch, Northern Skies, Gilliflowers, &c., a few of each sort.

As to the management, I dug the holes  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep and from 3 to 4 feet broad, and I then mixed about one bushel of fine manure with two bushels of the top of the soil; then took a coarse wire sieve and sifted some of the manure in the hole—then placed the tree, taking great care to spread the roots in every direction; then sifted on the rest of the manure and dirt—then filled the hole with a shovel. I have planted corn amongst the trees every year since, and have not failed having a good crop, say from 30 to 40 bushels per acre. The spring after they were set out, I washed them with potash water; since that I have done nothing to them but throw a shovelful of manure to a tree when I manured my corn in the hill at planting, and to keep them well hoed.

Yours, &c.

SILAS SMITH.

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*To the Committee on Fruit Trees:*

GENTLEMEN—The apple orchard which I offer for premium contains 123 trees; 91 were set out in 1851 and 1852, except a few, that have died and did not grow well, I have dug up, and set others in their places. I set the trees 30 feet apart, and set a row of peach trees between them each way. I have raised corn and potatoes every year since the trees were set out. I manured in the hill, putting two shovelful to each tree when planting. The trees are Baldwins, Greenings, Hubbardston Nonesuch, and Porters.

HENRY GOULDING.

*Dover, September 25, 1855.*

To the Committee on Fruit Trees :

GENTLEMEN—The apple trees, which I offer for premium, were engrafted since 1845, and the most of them since 1840. I have grafted on 88 large trees and 1300 nursery trees, for which I paid out \$52.00, and worked myself with the men while grafting.

The fruit is principally Baldwins, Porters, and Hubbardston Nonesuch. The fruit that grew on twelve trees, in 1855, is as follows :

*Hubbardston Nonesuch.*

No. 1,	Grafted 1847,	Yielded 35½ bushels	10 barrels	market apples.
2,	" 1847,	" 19 "	5½ "	" " "
3,	" 1848,	" 15½ "	5 "	" " "
4,	" 1850,	" 8½ "	3 "	" " "
5,	" 1851,	" 7½ "	2½ "	" " "

*Baldwin.*

No. 1,	" 1848,	" 18 "	5½ "	" " "
2,	" 1848,	" 17 "	5 "	" " "
3,	" 1850,	" 18½ "	3 "	" " "

*Porter.*

No. 1,	" 1847,	" 15 "	4½ "	" " "
2,	" 1846,	" 14 "	4 "	" " "
3,	" 1847,	" 17½ "	5 "	" " "
4,	" 1847,	" 14 "	4 "	" " "

Respectfully yours,

HENRY GOULDING.

Dover, October 25, 1855.

GRANTVILLE, OCT. 16, 1855.

To the Committee on Fruit Trees :

The orchard, which I offer for premium, contains 150 apple trees, set out since 1850. Many of them appear to have doubled in size within three and a half years. They have always been supplied with meadow muck, and one season I applied liquid manure, composed of suds and chamber slops, to the extremities of the roots, trenching a few inches deep for the purpose. This was done in the fall.

I have never seen a single borer, and but few canker-worms about them. The earth has always been kept open at the roots, and the weeds kept down. The location is elevated, and the soil is strong gravelly loam.

S. B. SUMNER.



## POULTRY.

William T. G. Morton, Needham,	\$9
Lemuel Kingsbury, "	3
James B. Calder, Dedham,	2
Zebrina Smith, "	2
Ira C. Russell, "	2
Hobart H. Smith, "	2
Daniel Fernandez, "	2
Albert N. Coburn, "	2
Sylvanus Sampson, "	3
William Reed, "	1
Charles Small, "	1
A. G. Baker, "	1
T. S. Hubbard, "	1
Wm. W. Worley, "	50 cts.

## GRAIN CROPS.

E. S. Sias, Milton,	8
J. F. Twombly, "	5
Philemon Ruggles, Milton,	3

## ROOT CROPS.

John H. Robinson, Dorchester,	8
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## VEGETABLES.

Cheever Newhall, Dorchester,	\$10
Benjamin V. French, Braintree,	5
Joseph W. Clark, Dedham,	4
William Whiting, "	2
Samuel C. Mann, "	5
Thomas G. Whytal, West Roxbury,	3
Charles Breck, Milton,	5
Charles C. Sewall, Medfield,	5

## FRUITS.

Thaddeus Clapp, Dorchester,	\$5
Marshall P. Wilder, "	5
Benjamin V. French, Braintree,	5
Aaron D. Weld, West Roxbury,	5
Joseph W. Clark, Dedham,	5
John Drayton, "	2
Henry Goulding, Dover,	2
Warren Dewing, Needham,	3
Caleb S. Holbrook, Randolph,	5
Richard Richardson, Medway,	3
E. Morse, Medfield,	3

## FLOWERS.

Parker Barnes, Dorchester,	\$3
M. P. Wilder, "	2
A. J. Washburn, Braintree,	2
Benjamin V. French, "	1
Eliphalet Stone, Dedham,	1
James Nugent, West Roxbury,	1
Mrs. A. B. Hall, "	1
Miss E. Sewall, Medfield,	2
Miss Myra Smith, Needham,	1
Miss Hannah McIntosh, "	1

## BUTTER AND CHEESE.

W. T. G. Morton, Needham,	\$20
James R. Fisher, Dedham,	6
Mrs. E. Clapp, Stoughton,	9
Francis G. Gay, Dover,	2

## AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Jos. H. D. Blake, Braintree,	\$10
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## BREAD.

Mrs. J. D. Howe, Dedham,	\$3
Mrs. A. Newell, Needham,	2
Mrs. Ellis Bacon, Walpole,	5
Mrs. R. D. Page, West Roxbury,	2

## JELLIES AND PRESERVES.

Julia A. Lyon, Needham,	\$3
Mrs. Eliza W. Wight, Dedham,	50 cts.

## CARRIAGES.

Ellis & Bestwick, Dedham,	\$4
Baker & Cushman, Medfield,	4

## STRAW MANUFACTURES.

Herman C. Fisher, Franklin,	\$5
Sanford Leonard, Foxboro',	3

## DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

Tuck & Hodges, Canton,	\$1
Eames & Mayo, Needham,	1
Henry B. Baker, Dedham,	50 cts.
James Daniels, Medway,	50 cts.

## LADIES' WORK.

(See pages 78-80)	\$30
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## TREASURER'S REPORT.

HENRY W. RICHARDS, *Treasurer, in account with the Norfolk Agricultural Society.*

DR.

Balance in Treasury, Nov. 29, 1854,	. . . . .	\$436 83
Cash received for admission fees of 60 new members,	. . . . .	297 00
“ “ for grass,	. . . . .	13 50
“ “ from the Commonwealth,	. . . . .	600 00
“ “ at Cattle Show of 1854, balance,	. . . . .	432 07
“ “ at Cattle Show of 1855, in part,	. . . . .	281 46
Cash borrowed,	. . . . .	1,150 00
		<hr/>
		\$3,210 86

CR.

Cash paid for printing and incidental expenses,	. . . . .	\$629 56
“ “ premiums,	. . . . .	565 50
“ “ expenses Cattle Show of 1854,	. . . . .	507 26
“ “ for making road, &c.,	. . . . .	69 93
“ “ for repairs of hall,	. . . . .	92 04
“ “ Secretary's salary,	. . . . .	50 00
“ “ for glass bottles,	. . . . .	52 57
“ “ for interest,	. . . . .	90 08
Borrowed money returned,	. . . . .	1,150 00
Balance in Treasury, Nov. 30, 1855,	. . . . .	3 92
		<hr/>
		\$3,210 86

The debt of the Society is \$1,000, incurred for the erection of their Hall;—which, with the land and fixtures attached to the same, is valued at \$6,129 89.

HENRY W. RICHARDS, *Treasurer.*

*Dedham, Nov. 30, 1855.*

NOTE.—Purchases have been made by the Society, during the past year, of about eight acres of land, which has been fenced and put in order for the accommodation of the Exhibitions, a portion of the expense of which has been paid. The above-mentioned purchases are not included in the reported amount of funds of the Society; the deeds of conveyance not having been yet executed.

ORDER OF EXERCISES AT CHURCH,  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
SEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION  
OF THE  
NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,  
At Dedham, Sept. 26, 1855.

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At twelve o'clock, A. M., a procession was formed on the Society's grounds, under the direction of Col. Thomas Adams, Chief Marshal, which marched, escorted by the East Stoughton Band, to the church of the Rev. Dr. Lamson, where the following exercises were performed. The President, Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, introduced the services by the following remarks:—

FELLOW LABORERS AND FELLOW CITIZENS :

That Divine Providence, which gives food to all flesh, causing grass to grow for cattle, and herb for the service of man, has again blessed the labor of our hands. In grateful acknowledgment of these mercies, we assemble in this temple of praise, to present our thank-offerings, and by the services and ceremonies of the day to celebrate another anniversary of our Association.

This is the Seventh Exhibition of the Norfolk Agricultural Society, and truly it is an auspicious beginning of a new era in its history. We have occasion for special rejoicing. A plentiful harvest has relieved our fear of scarcity and filled our barns and store-houses with abundance. The dark cloud which overshadowed the commercial world at the commencement of the year, has passed away, and the sun of prosperity again pours its radiance upon all the arts of industry. We have also been mercifully spared from the pestilence which in other sections has walked in darkness and wasted at noonday, and from the desolating wars, with which the Almighty is scourging most of the nations of the old world.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE SOCIETY—On this occasion, I congratulate you upon the flourishing condition of our Institution, and its cheering prospects for the future. We have recently added to its Show

Grounds several acres of land, which has been inclosed with a permanent fence, thus rendering them more convenient for the exhibition of the various departments of domestic animals, and ample for the present demands of the Association. The funds to make this purchase have been generously offered by a worthy member of this Society, who has kindly consented to wait its convenience for repayment.

The progress of agriculture and rural economy in our county received a new impulse with the establishment of this Society, and has advanced simultaneously with it. The evidence of this is apparent in the general interest now manifested by the public in agricultural and horticultural pursuits—in improved arts of cultivation—in the rapid multiplication of fruits and the increase of crops—in the introduction and rearing of the best breeds of stock, especially of milch cows, swine, and fine horses—and in the better construction of buildings, as farm-houses and barns. Among the causes which have produced these favorable results, we recognize the enterprise, union and devotion of the members of the Society.

FELLOW ASSOCIATES—I have cheerfully labored with you; but it is these, it is your own harmony and energy which have given efficiency to our efforts. For all these I most sincerely thank you, and most earnestly desire that they may continue to reflect honor upon you, and to advance the interests of our Association. Let us, however, remember that our exhibitions are not mere holidays, but should be occasions for mutual instruction. Here the results of labor are exhibited; here mind acts on mind—experience is compared with experience—emulous resolutions are formed—personal exertion is stimulated, and a laudable ambition is encouraged. To accomplish the objects for which this Association was formed, you have only to persevere in the praiseworthy course which you have so honorably commenced. But the time allotted to these exercises demands of me great brevity, and therefore on these topics I cannot enlarge.

In conclusion,—let union, energy, and progress be your motto. Thus shall you develop the natural resources of our wealth, advance the cause of agriculture and rural art—improve the social condition of the present generation, and transmit to posterity the richest of all temporal blessings—fruitful fields, abundant harvests, and domestic happiness.

At the conclusion of the address by the President, prayer was offered by the Rev. Abijah R. Baker, pastor at West Needham. The choir then sung the following

#### ORIGINAL HYMN.

BY MISS ANNE S. TILESTON, OF DORCHESTER.

While Autumn her rich gifts imparts,  
And grateful pleasure fills our hearts,  
O, let us bow before His shrine,  
And humbly thank the Power Divine.

Spring's living green that decks the fields,  
 The golden glow the harvest yields,  
 And sun and rain that earth expand,  
 Are gifts from His all-bounteous hand.

Still Peace her angel-wing outspreads,  
 And o'er our land her influence sheds;  
 From other climes compelled to roam,  
 Here Truth and Freedom find a home.

May Plenty smile on all around,  
 And labor with success be crowned;  
 And while these blessings we implore,  
 O, may our hearts Thy name adore.

And when Life's Autumn comes at last—  
 Seed-time and harvesting all past,  
 May deeds we've sown in faith and love,  
 Ripen to glorious fruit above.

The Annual Address was then delivered by Rev. J. M. Merrick, of Walpole. He treated his subject in an able and interesting manner, evincing much practical knowledge. It may be found in the preceding pages. At the conclusion of the address, a voluntary was performed by the choir, and the benediction pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Lamson. The Society, with the invited guests, were formed in procession again, and marched to their Agricultural Hall, to partake of the banquet which had been prepared for the occasion.

#### EXERCISES AT THE DINNER.

The assembly being seated, the blessing of Heaven was invoked by the Rev. Dr. Hitchcock of Wrentham. After a suitable time had been devoted to discussing the products upon the dinner-tables, which had been prepared by Mr. J. B. Smith of Boston in his usual good style, the President introduced the intellectual part of the entertainment with some brief congratulatory remarks on the progress and success of the Society. He then announced the first sentiment as follows:

OLD MASSACHUSETTS, the nursery of industry, enterprise, talent and patriotism; her plants have been widely disseminated, and have been found to flourish and bear fruit in every soil and every clime.

His Excellency Governor Gardner responded to this sentiment, substantially as follows :

He was present at considerable personal inconvenience, but he felt as a citizen, by birth, of Norfolk County, as a farmer of Norfolk County, that he had a right as well as a true pleasure in being with them that day. He felt, after the promise he had given, that it would be treachery and desertion to leave them ; and whatever other faults he had, and he had many, it should never be written on his tombstone that he would desert his friends. He presumed that, in the dim vista of past ages, all of us had derived our names from some peculiarity of occupation or looks, or something of that nature. We all of us know that Rufus meant red, and also that Mary, that most beautiful of names, was derived from its most beautiful prototype. So he thought it probable, that in those middle ages his ancestors derived their name from their fondness for the pursuits of horticulture. Whether it was so or not, was apocryphal ; but this he knew, that some of their descendants in the present day were not entirely and utterly forgetful of that most beautiful occupation. He had felt, as he looked over the exhibition of agricultural industry that day, how much we had to be thankful for ; that we were placed here, in this country, where we are not confined to a single staple of production, but where, though our soil is sterile and the climate cold, almost every thing that enters into the necessity or comfort of mankind can be produced in all their abundance and beauty. In the process of education there were all grades of school—the infant school, the primary school, and college.

Now we here in America, in regard to agriculture, were raised in the primary stage of instruction—it was useless to deny it—but we looked forward to the day (and occasions like this would hasten it) when we should have graduated with all the degrees.

He concluded with a compliment to Mr. Wilder, the President ; and gave the following :

May Massachusetts long continue to retain her proud preëminence among her sister States, and may Norfolk County continue to sustain her preëminence among her sister counties of Massachusetts.

The next regular sentiment was in compliment to the Judiciary, and Judge Sanger was called on to respond. Failing to do so, his father, Rev. Ralph Sanger, was called up, and happily responded.

The President here announced that he had received a letter from Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, delegate from the State Board of Agriculture, which was read by the Secretary as follows :

BOSTON, SEPT. 24, 1855.

MY DEAR SIR—It is with real regret that I find myself unable to represent the State Board of Agriculture at the Norfolk County Cattle Show

and dinner on Wednesday next. But the engagement, of which I forewarned you some weeks ago, is imperative and inexorable, and it involves an absence from the State on Tuesday and Wednesday both. Supposing that your festival was on Thursday, I had cherished the hope of attending it, until a late moment. I can only now beg you to offer my apologies wherever they may be needed, and to accept for yourself the assurance of my sincere sorrow at such a conflict of duties.

I have too often, my dear Sir, had the privilege of being present at festivals, both Agricultural and Horticultural, under your Presidency, not to be sensible that the loss is wholly my own. I remember particularly the rich treat I was permitted to enjoy as an humble guest at the very first Norfolk Show—when you were surrounded by the Websters and Everetts, and Lincolns and Dearborns, and Adamses and Manns, who made that occasion more memorable as an intellectual exhibition, than it was even for its striking specimens of the animal and vegetable kingdom. Some of these noble voices have been silenced forever; but you have a peculiar art of summoning to your side those who can say “a word in season,” and no dessert at which you preside ever fails to be furnished with “apples of gold set in pictures of silver.”

Meantime the great staples of such an occasion, the cattle and the corn, the fruits of the field and of the garden, the products of the dairy, and better than either, the honest yeomanry to whom we are indebted for them all—will be sure to be on hand; and nobody will miss the holiday rhetoric of so mere an amateur as myself. Yet I have a deep interest in the success of Agriculture, and more especially of Norfolk Agriculture; and, were I able to be present on this occasion, I should watch for the performance of a certain Michigan plough, with my good friend and excellent farmer Robinson for its driver, with something of personal concern. But I am for “speeding the plough,” by whomsoever it is driven, and will not, therefore, detain you longer than to subscribe myself,

Respectfully and faithfully, your friend and servant,

ROBERT C. WINTHROP.

Hon. M. P. Wilder, President Norfolk Society.

P. S. Pardon me for playing on your name in the following sentiment:

*The Agriculture and Horticulture of Norfolk County*—They have presented for many years past this striking paradox: that the higher and more successful the cultivation, the more every just observer has been compelled to exclaim, “*Wilder, and Wilder!*”

The next regular sentiment was in compliment to Mr. Charles L. Flint, the Secretary of the Board of Agriculture, to which he responded in an appropriate and interesting manner.

The President then gave as a sentiment:

THE VENERABLE FARMER OF QUINCY—Once more we bid him welcome, as the eldest and most honored member of our Society. His name

will need "no storied urn or animated bust" to preserve its memory fresh in the hearts of the farmers of Norfolk.

Mr. Quincy responded to this toast in a felicitous and happy manner. He contrasted the present state of agriculture in New England with that of the last century—alluded to John Adams, Thomas L. Winthrop, and others with whom he was associated in the State Society for the promotion of this cause more than fifty years ago. He felt it to be his duty to sustain agricultural societies, not only by sending his stock and the products of his farm, but by being present as a competitor himself.

Mr. Quincy's remarks were received with much applause, and when he sat down, the band played "Auld Lang Syne."

Other sentiments were offered by the President, which called up the Orator of the day, Rev. J. M. Merrick, Hon. William S. Damrell, and Hon. Linus B. Comins, members of Congress, Hon. James Ritchie, Mayor of Roxbury, Deacon Samuel Greele of Boston, and Rev. Dr. Hitchcock of Wrentham. Eloquent speeches were made by these gentlemen, which contributed much to the interest and utility of the occasion.

The Premiums were then announced by the Secretary of the Society, Hon. E. L. Keyes.

The following Ode was then sung by the assembly, which concluded the exercises of the Seventh Anniversary of the Norfolk Agricultural Society.

### O D E,

BY MISS ANNE S. TILESTON, OF DORCHESTER.

TUNE—"Auld Lang Syne."

Here gathered round the social board,  
 We'll heart and voice combine ;  
 And for the blessings on us poured,  
 In grateful praises join.  
 Then let the joyous strain resound,  
 And loud the chorus sing ;  
 While mirth and plenty here abound,  
 And we our offerings bring.

We bring the fruits of vine and tree,  
 The treasures of the soil ;  
 And honored midst Earth's children be  
 The hardy sons of toil ;

No cares of wealth their thoughts engage,  
 But with a manly heart,  
 On Nature's wide and ample stage  
 They nobly act their part.

By Spring's mild showers and Summer's heat,  
 The seed is gently nursed ;  
 And, fostered by their influence sweet,  
 Will into beauty burst.  
 And when o'er us no ray doth shine,  
 And adverse fortunes lower,  
 Remember sun and shade combine  
 To form the perfect flower.

And as the seasons circle round  
 With each succeeding year,  
 Long, long may we, in concord bound,  
 Again assemble here.  
 And though Old Time should plant "Crows' Feet,"  
 And leave a "frosty pow,"  
 Yet may our hearts still warmly beat,  
 As joyous then as now.

# Officers of the Society.

1855.

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MARSHALL P. WILDER, of *Dorchester*.

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Billings, William  
 Bowditch, J. Ingersoll  
 Bray, Edgar W.  
 Capen, Samuel  
 Deane, Francis W.  
 Deane, Oliver  
 Downes, George  
 Draper, Thomas  
 Dunbar, James  
 Dunbar, Nathaniel  
 Eldridge, John S.  
 Endicott, John\* 1855  
 Everett, Leonard\* 1852  
 Fenno, Jesse, Jr.  
 French, Charles H.  
 French, Thomas  
 Fuller, Daniel  
 Guild, Horace  
 Howard, Lucius  
 Huntoon, Benjamin  
 Kinsley, Lyman  
 Kollock, Jeremiah  
 Lincoln, Frederic W.  
 Mansfield, William  
 McIntosh, Adam  
 McIntosh, Roger S.  
 McKendry, William  
 Messinger, Vernon A.  
 Messinger, Virgil J.  
 Morse, William  
 Shepard, James S.  
 Spare, Elijah  
 Spaulding, Corodon  
 Stetson, Joseph  
 Sumner, James T.  
 Tilt, Benjamin B.  
 Tucker, Edmund  
 Tucker, Ellis  
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 Tucker, Phineas  
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 Wentworth, Nathaniel  
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Beal, Solomon J.  
 Beal, Mrs. S. J.  
 Doane, James C.  
 Johnson, William B.  
 Sohler, William D.  
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 Tower, Abraham II. 7.

## DEDHAM.

Adams, Benjamin H.  
 Alden, Abner  
 Alden, Francis  
 Alden, George  
 Alden, Leonard  
 Alden, Samuel F.  
 Ames, William  
 Babcock, Samuel B.  
 Bacon, Silas D.  
 Baker, David A.  
 Baker, Joel M.  
 Baker, Obed  
 Baker, Timothy  
 Balch, Benjamin W.  
 Barrows, Thomas  
 Bates, Martin  
 Bean, Albion  
 Bickner, Samuel R.  
 Blaney, Henry  
 Bosworth, Isaac C.  
 Boyden, Addison  
 Boyden, Benjamin  
 Brooks, Edward C.  
 Bryant, Austin\* 1851  
 Bullard, Elijah  
 Bullard, John\* 1852  
 Bullard, Lewis  
 Burgess, Ebenezer  
 Burgess, Edward P.  
 Capen, Charles J.  
 Capen, Oliver  
 Carroll, Sanford  
 Chase, James M.  
 Chickering, Horatio  
 Clapp, Edward  
 Clapp, Nathaniel

- Clark, Joseph W.  
 Clarke, Horatio  
 Cleveland, Ira  
 Cobb, Jonathan H.  
 Colburn, Allen  
 Colburn, Nathaniel\* 1853  
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 Coolidge, George  
 Cormerais, Henry  
 Cox, John, Jr.  
 Crane, Ebenezer P.  
 Crocker, Amos H.  
 Crossman, Charles B.  
 Cushing, Henry W.  
 Damrell, William S.  
 Daniell, Ellery C.  
 Day, Joseph  
 Deane, John  
 Dixon, Rufus E.  
 Doggett, John  
 Donahoe, Patrick  
 Downing, James  
 Drayton, John  
 Duff, John  
 Dunbar, Thomas, Jr.  
 Eaton, John  
 Eaton, John Ellis\* 1854  
 Eaton, Luther  
 Ellis, Calvin F.  
 Ellis, Charles  
 Ellis, Colburn  
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 Ellis, Merrill D.  
 Ellis, Oliver  
 Endicott, Augustus B.  
 Fairbanks, William  
 Farrington, Charles  
 Farrington, James  
 Farrington, Jesse  
 Farrington, John B.  
 Field, William  
 Fisher, Alvan  
 Fisher, Alvan J.  
 Fisher, Ebenezer S.  
 Fisher, Freeman  
 Fisher, James R.  
 Fisher, Joseph
- Fisher, Thomas  
 Fleming, Douglas  
 Fogg, David S.  
 Foord, Enos  
 French, Abram  
 Fuller, George  
 Gardner, John  
 Gay, Ebenezer F.  
 Gay, Jeremiah W.  
 Gay, Lusher\* 1855  
 Gay, William King  
 Gleason, Daniel  
 Gould, George  
 Green, Elisha  
 Guild, Calvin, Jr.  
 Guild, Francis  
 Guild, Henry  
 Harnden, Harvey  
 Hartshorn, Richard D.  
 Haynes, Edward, Jr.  
 Henck, John B.  
 Hildreth, Henry O.  
 Holmes, Edward B.  
 Houghton, William A.  
 Howe, Francis  
 Howe, Josiah D.  
 Hoyle, Mark C.  
 Inches, Martin B.  
 Jackson, Marcus B.  
 Johnson, Edwin  
 Keyes, Edward L.  
 Kingsbury, Lewis H.  
 Kingsbury, Moses  
 Lamson, Alvan  
 Mann, Henry A.  
 Mann, Herman\* 1851  
 Mann, Samuel C.  
 Mann, William H.  
 Marsh, Francis  
 Marsh, Martin  
 Marsh, Mrs. Martin  
 Mason, William  
 Mason, William H.  
 Mitchell, Francis N.  
 Morgan, John  
 Morse, Curtis G.  
 Morse, Otis

Morse, John  
 Morse, John L.  
 Motley, Thomas  
 Noyes, Nathaniel  
 Onion, Henry  
 Otis, Benjamin H.  
 Patterson, Albert C.  
 Phelps, Timothy  
 Phillips, Freeman  
 Quincy, Edmund  
 Rand, Edward S.  
 Rand, Edward S., Jr.  
 Rice, John P.  
 Richards, Abiathar  
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 Rodman, Alfred\* 1853  
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 Sampson, Ezra W.  
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 Scott, Joel  
 Shaw, Charles B.  
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 Slafter, Carlos  
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 Smith, Henry  
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 Spear, Henry F.  
 Stimson, Jeremy  
 Stone, Eliphalet  
 Sumner, William R.  
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 Taft, Ezra W.  
 Thompson, Joshua P.  
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 Tubbs, Benjamin H.\* 1854

Van Brunt, Gershom J.  
 Vose, George H.  
 Wakefield, Thomas L.  
 Wales, Samuel, Jr.  
 Washburn, Alexander C.  
 Waters, Joseph W.  
 Weatherbee, Comfort  
 Weatherbee, Jesse  
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 Webb, Moses E.  
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 Weld, Joseph R.  
 Wellcome, Jacob H.  
 White, John\* 1852  
 Whiting, Hezekiah  
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 Barnes, Parker  
 Barry, Michael O.  
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 Bispham, Eleazer J.  
 Bradlee, James B.  
 Bradstreet, Samuel  
 Bramhall, Cornelius  
 Breck, Henry, Jr.  
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 Brooks, Noah\* 1852  
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- Browne, George M.  
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 Childs, Nathaniel R.  
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 Follansbee, Isaac W.  
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 May, John J.  
 Means, James H.  
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 Rideout, Asa  
 Robie, John  
 Robinson, Mrs. Diantha A.  
 Robinson, Eli W.  
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 Scudder, Horace\* 1851  
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 Foster, James W.  
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Hersey, David  
 Hodges, Alfred  
 Kingsbury, Joseph  
 Leonard, Samuel B.  
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 Pettee, David  
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 Shepard, Jeremiah M.  
 Sherman, Job  
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 Sumner, Charles C.  
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## FRANKLIN.

Adams, Peter  
 Adams, Ward  
 Atwood, Shadrach  
 Baker, David P.  
 Bullard, Piam  
 Daniels, Albert E.  
 DeWitt, Archibald  
 DeWitt, Mrs. Mary Ann  
 Fisher, Herman C.  
 Fisher, Maxey  
 Fisher, Walter H.  
 Green, Martin  
 Harding, Lewis  
 Hills, Theron C.  
 Knapp, Alfred  
 Metcalf, Alfred G.  
 Metcalf, Erasmus B.  
 Metcalf, William  
 Miller, John W.  
 Miller, Phillip W.  
 Morse, George W.  
 Morse, Joseph  
 Nason, George W.  
 Ray, James P.  
 Ray, John P.  
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 Bullard, John E.  
 Carson, Joseph  
 Chenery, William  
 Cheney, Nathaniel H.  
 Cheney, Seth  
 Cushman, Jacob R.  
 Davis, George  
 Ellis, Caleb  
 Ellis, John  
 Ellis, Samuel  
 Fisher, Hinsdale  
 Fisher, Wm. Quincy  
 Fiske, George  
 Fiske, Isaac  
 Hamant, Caleb S.  
 Hamant, Charles  
 Hamant, Daniels, Jr.  
 Harding, Nathan  
 Hartshorn, Joseph  
 Hartshorn, Warren  
 Hewins, William P.  
 Partridge, Mrs. E. A.  
 Partridge, Henry, Jr.  
 Richardson, Simeon  
 Roberts, Mrs. Helen M.  
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 Salisbury, William  
 Sewall, Charles C.  
 Shumway, Benjamin F.  
 Smith, George M.  
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Adams, Edward

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 Adams, Wyman  
 Barber, George\* 1851  
 Barber, Thomas  
 Cary, William H.  
 Clark, James P.  
 Clark, Willard P.  
 Crosby, George  
 Daniels, Adams  
 Daniels, James Willard  
 Daniels, Paul  
 Daniels, William  
 Ellis, James H.  
 Fisher, Milton M.  
 Harding, Theodore  
 Henderson, William  
 Hurd, Julius C.  
 Jones, John P.  
 Kingsbury, Gilbert  
 Lovell, Asahel P.  
 Lovell, Zachariah  
 Lovering, Warren  
 Mann, James  
 Mason, Horatio  
 Metcalf, Luther  
 Morse, Asa D.  
 Partridge, Clark  
 Partridge, George  
 Richardson, E. F.  
 Richardson, Jeremiah D.  
 Richardson, Joseph L.  
 Richardson, Moses  
 Richardson, Richard  
 Slocumb, Christopher  
 Walker, John S.  
 Walker, Timothy  
 Wheeler, Abijah R. 39.

## MILTON.

Adams, Samuel  
 Amory, Francis  
 Arnold, John, Jr.\*  
 Babcock, Josiah  
 Babcock, Lemuel Whiting  
 Babcock, Samuel

Baldwin, Edward  
 Beal, Jonathan  
 Bradlee, John D.  
 Breck, Charles  
 Bunton, Jesse  
 Cook, Samuel  
 Copeland, Charles L.  
 Copeland, Lewis  
 Cornell, Walter  
 Cunningham, C. Loring  
 Cunningham, Francis  
 Curtis, Daniel T.  
 Davenport, Lewis  
 Davenport, Nathaniel T.  
 Davis, William H.  
 Dow, John R.  
 Dudley, Benjamin F.  
 Emerson, Joshua  
 Fenno, Rufus P.  
 Forbes, John M.  
 Forbes, Robert Bennett  
 Hall, George W.  
 Hinckley, Thomas H.  
 Hobson, Miss Martha J.  
 Houghton, Jason W.  
 Hunt, Charles K.  
 Hunt, George  
 Kent, George W.  
 Pope, Ebenezer\* 1853  
 Raymond, George  
 Richards, Reuben A.  
 Robbins, James M.  
 Rodgers, Octavius T.  
 Rodgers, Henry, Jr.\* 1855  
 Rowe, Joseph  
 Ruggles, Philemon  
 Thayer, Jason  
 Thompson, George  
 Todd, Robert M.  
 Tucker, Elijah  
 Tucker, Timothy  
 Twombly, Josiah F.  
 West, Henry 49.

## NEEDHAM.

Alden, Otis

Ayling, Isaac  
 Buek, Charles  
 Buek, Miss Frona P. H.,\* 1855  
 Buek, Miss Mary M.  
 Bullen, Ichabod  
 Carter, Josiah H.  
 Daniell, George K.  
 Dewing, Warren  
 Eaton, George E.  
 Eayrs, William C.  
 Emmons, Charles P.  
 Flagg, Solomon  
 Flagg, William  
 Gardner, Elbridge  
 Goss, Daniel J.  
 Harmon, Cyrus  
 Harris, John  
 Harris, John M.  
 Harvey, Stephen F.  
 Holland, John  
 Hollis, Elisha P.  
 Howland, George  
 Hubbard, Gardner G.  
 Hunnewell, Horatio H.  
 Hunting, Israel  
 Kimball, Benjamin G.  
 Kimball, Mrs. Betsey G.  
 Kimball, Daniel  
 Kingsbury, Lauren  
 Kingsbury, Lemuel  
 Kingsbury, Thomas  
 Kingsbury, William A.  
 Longfellow, Nathan  
 Lovewell, Charles B.  
 Lyon, William  
 Mansfield, John  
 Mansfield, Robert  
 Mansfield, Mrs. Robert  
 Mausfield, William  
 McCrackin, John  
 McIntosh, Mrs. Hannah P.  
 Mills, John  
 Mills, Matthias  
 Morton, Otis, Jr.  
 Morton, William T. G.  
 Newell, Artemas  
 Newell, Mrs. Martha S.

Noyes, Josiah  
 Peabody, Ezekiel  
 Pierce, William  
 Revere, George  
 Robinson, Henry  
 Sawyer, Otis\* 1855  
 Scudder, Marshall S.  
 Seagrave, Saul S.  
 Shaw, George W.\* 1852  
 Snelling, Nathaniel G.  
 Stedman, Francis  
 Stedman, William M.  
 Stone, David  
 Stone, Henry L.  
 Sumner, Lewis  
 Sumner, Samuel B.  
 Ware, Dexter\* 1851  
 Ware, Reuben  
 Webber, Aaron D.  
 Wells, John  
 Whitaker, Edgar K.  
 Wood, Henry 70.

## QUINCY.

Adams, Charles Francis  
 Adams, Ebenezer  
 Bartlett, Ibrahim\* 1853  
 Bass, Josiah  
 Bass, Lewis  
 Baxter, Daniel  
 Baxter, Elijah  
 Baxter, George L.  
 Beale, George W.\* 1851  
 Beals, Nathaniel H.  
 Billings, Lemuel  
 Brackett, Lemuel  
 Brigham, Josiah  
 Carr, John J.  
 Curtis, Noah  
 Eaton, Jacob F.  
 Emmons, N. H.  
 Fellows, Ensign S.  
 Frederick, Eleazer  
 Glover, Horatio N.  
 Green, John A.  
 Greenleaf, Daniel

Greenleaf, Thomas\* 1854  
 Horton, Lloyd G.  
 Miller, Charles E.  
 Morton, William S.  
 Munroe, Israel W.  
 Newcomb, James  
 Newcomb, John B.  
 Quincy, Josiah  
 Richards, Lysander\* 1852  
 Robertson, Joseph W.  
 Rodgers, Clift  
 Savil, John  
 Spear, Charles A.  
 Stetson, James A.  
 Thayer, Gideon F.  
 Torrey, William  
 Walker, William  
 White, Nathaniel  
 Willard, Solomon  
 Williams, Francis 42.

#### RANDOLPH.

Alden, Ebenezer  
 Alden, Horatio B.  
 Belcher, Allen A.  
 Belcher, J. White  
 Buck, Nathan\* 1853  
 Burrill, David  
 Holbrook, Caleb S.  
 Holbrook, Elisha  
 Leeds, Joseph  
 Maguire, James  
 Maguire, James F.  
 Mann, Ephraim  
 Niles, Jacob  
 Snow, Zenas  
 Stevens, Richard  
 Tower, Isaac  
 Turner, Royal W.  
 Turner, Seth  
 Wales, Apollos  
 Wales, Ephraim\* 1855  
 Wales, John, 2d  
 Wales, Jonathan  
 Whitecomb, Alfred W.  
 White, Adoniram

White, Jairus  
 White, Jonathan 26.

#### ROXBURY.

Adams, Thomas  
 Andrews, Alfred A.  
 Appleton, Charles T.  
 Bacon, William, Jr.  
 Bartlett, Henry  
 Blake, S. Parkman  
 Bowditch, Azell  
 Bowditch, Azell C.  
 Bray, Charles F.  
 Brigham, Joseph L.  
 Bryant, Charles W.  
 Chadwick, Joseph H.  
 Chandler, John G.  
 Clarke, John J.  
 Codman, Henry\* 1853  
 Comins, Linus B.  
 Copeland, Benjamin F.  
 Copeland, Charles\* 1853  
 Copeland, Franklin  
 Cotting, Benjamin E.  
 Crawshaw, Joseph  
 Crosby, Benjamin H.  
 Davenport, George  
 Davis, Gilman  
 Dearborn, Henry A. S.\* 1851.  
 Ellis, Charles  
 Ellis, Charles M.  
 Eustis, William  
 Fisher, Warren  
 Fiske, George A.  
 Francis, Ebenezer  
 French Jonathan  
 French, Mrs. J.  
 Fuller, H. Weld  
 Fussell, John  
 Gardner, Francis  
 Gray, Henry D.  
 Guild, Frederic  
 Guild, Henry  
 Guild, James  
 Hendee, Charles J.  
 Hewes, John M.

Hewins, Whiting\* 1855  
 Hickling, Charles  
 Huckins, James  
 Huston, William R.  
 Keene, James  
 Kidder, Frederic  
 King, William S.  
 Kingsbury, William B.  
 Kittredge, Alvah  
 Lee, William Raymond  
 Lemist, Edwin  
 Lewis, Daniel  
 Lewis, Franklin H.  
 Lewis, Samuel S.  
 Lowell, John A.  
 Mann, Benjamin  
 Mathes, Albert R.  
 McBurney, Charles  
 McIntosh, William H.  
 Parker, Augustus  
 Parker, George J.  
 Pickering, Henry W.  
 Pike, Charles S.  
 Putnam, Allen  
 Rich, Naphtali D.  
 Ritchie, James  
 Robinson, Jonathan P.  
 Ropes, Joseph S.  
 Sargent, Epes  
 Shed, Henry P.  
 Simmons, David A.  
 Skinner, Elias  
 Sleeper, John S.  
 Stevens, Amos  
 Stone, Ebenezer W.  
 Sturgis, James  
 Thacher, Thomas, Jr.  
 Thwing, Supply C.  
 Tolman, James  
 Trescott, Elijah, Jr.  
 Vinson, Cornelius M.  
 Walker, Samuel  
 Ware, Leonard  
 Way, Samuel A.  
 Weston, Lycurgus B.  
 Whiting, Wm. (Montr. Av.)  
 Williams, Aaron D.

Williams, Aaron D., Jr.  
 Williams, David W.  
 Williams, Mrs. D. W.  
 Williams, Dudley  
 Williams, G. Foster  
 Williams, George H.  
 Williams, Stedman\* 1852  
 Williams, Thomas B.  
 Wilson, Granville W.  
 Winslow, Edward  
 Wiswall, Samuel  
 Wolcott, John W. 101.

## SHARON.

Bullard, Benjamin  
 Drake, Asahel S.  
 Gay, George W.  
 Hewins, Elijah  
 Johnson, Lucas  
 Johnson, Otis  
 Lothrop, Howard A.  
 Mann, George R.  
 Mann, William R.  
 Morse, Harvey  
 Sanger, John M.  
 Smith, Lewis  
 Turner, Calvin 13.

## STOUGHTON.

Atherton, James  
 Atherton, William  
 Belcher, Orin  
 Belcher, William S.  
 Capen, Samuel  
 Clapp, Lucius  
 Curtis, Samuel W.  
 Gay, Lemuel  
 Goldthwait, Daniel A.  
 Hodges, Leonard  
 Hodges, Samuel W.  
 Littlefield, Charles  
 Page, Frederick A.  
 Porter, Luther  
 Porter, Robert  
 Southworth, Amasa

Southworth, Asahel  
 Southworth, Consider A.  
 Sumner, Francis C.  
 Swan, Elisha  
 Talbot, Newton  
 Tolman, Ebenezer W.  
 Tucker, Wales

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## WALPOLE.

Allen, Jeremiah  
 Allen, Lewis  
 Bacon, William  
 Bird, Charles  
 Bird, Francis W.  
 Boyden, Horatio  
 Clap, Edmund W.  
 Clap, Warren  
 Clarke, Mrs. Betsey M.  
 Clarke, Truman  
 Conant, George  
 Ellis, James  
 Ellis, Joseph\* 1851  
 Gould, John A.  
 Gray, Smith  
 Guild, Charles  
 Hawes, Joseph\* 1849  
 Hyde, George B.  
 Lewis, Willard  
 Mann, Lowell  
 Merrick, John M.  
 Neal, Benjamin  
 Pierce, Shadrach S.  
 Plimpton, Calvin G.  
 Shepard, E.  
 Smith, Metcalf  
 Stone, Ebenezer  
 Thompson, Edwin  
 Wilson, Edwin

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## WEST ROXBURY.

Allen, Stephen M.  
 Arnold, Joseph\* 1855  
 Austin, Arthur W.  
 Austin, Miss Florence  
 Austin, William Percy  
 Bacon, Daniel C.

Bacon, William B.  
 Bailey, Luther C.  
 Balch, Joseph\* 1849  
 Balch, Joseph W.  
 Billings, Joseph H.  
 Billings, Mrs. Joseph H.  
 Billings, Miss Mary  
 Blake, William  
 Bond, George William  
 Bradford, Samuel D.  
 Bradish, Levi J.  
 Brewer, Otis  
 Brown, Benjamin  
 Browne, Horace E.  
 Butters, J. A. C.  
 Cabot, Stephen  
 Cass, Aaron  
 Cass, Francis W.  
 Cass, Henry W.  
 Curtis, Joseph H.  
 Dabney, Charles W., Jr.  
 Davis, Francis  
 Dixwell, John J.  
 Dudley, Ephraim M.  
 Dunn, Theodore  
 Enslin, William  
 Farrington, Ebenezer T.  
 Gilbert, Luther  
 Gooding, George  
 Gould, Joseph D.  
 Greenough, David S.  
 Hall, David P.  
 Head, Francis C.  
 Henchman, Nathaniel H.  
 Hewins, Charles A.  
 Keith, William  
 Lamb, Reuben A.  
 Laurie, Andrew B.  
 Low, John J.  
 Mackintosh, Charles G.  
 March, Andrew S.\* 1854  
 McIntosh, William  
 Meserve, Andrew T.  
 Meserve, Isaac H.  
 Minot, George R.  
 Morse, Charles  
 Morse, Robert M.

Motley, Thomas, Jr.  
 North, George G.  
 Orange, Thomas  
 Page, Kilby  
 Parkinson, John  
 Pratt, John C.  
 Prichard, Jeremiah  
 Richards, Edward  
 Richmond, Thomas T.  
 Russell, George R.  
 Sampson, Charles  
 Seaverns, Thomas W.  
 Shaw, Francis G.  
 Smith, Joseph M.  
 Smith, Melancthon  
 Spaulding, Solomon R.  
 Sturgis, Russell  
 Swett, Samuel W.  
 Taft, Reed  
 Taylor, Horace B.  
 Ticknor, William D.  
 Townsend, David  
 Tufts, James  
 Watt, Robert  
 Weld, Aaron D.  
 Weld, Mrs. A. D.  
 Weld, Aaron D., Jr.  
 Weld, Miss A. K.  
 Weld, Stephen M.  
 Westcott, Stephen  
 Whytal, Thomas G.  
 Williams, Benjamin P.  
 Williams, Henry H.  
 Williams, Moses  
 Williams, Nehemiah D.\* 1852  
 88.

## WEYMOUTH.

Burrill, Ansel  
 Fifield, Noah  
 Howe, Appleton  
 Humphrey, Ebenezer  
 Humphrey, Lemuel  
 Hunt, Atherton N.

Hunt, Elias  
 Jones, James  
 Kingsbury, Fisher A.  
 Loud, Joseph, Jr.  
 Nash, Abner P.  
 Richards, Elias  
 Shaw, Nathaniel  
 Shaw, Theron V.  
 Tirrell, Albert  
 Tirrell, James  
 Tirrell, Wilson  
 White, James  
 White, Thomas 19.

## WRENTHAM.

Aldrich, Artemas  
 Cheever, Otis G.  
 Clap, Harvey E.  
 Clay, Nehemiah  
 Everett, Edmund T.  
 Everett, Melatiah  
 Faxon, Francis G.  
 Fisher, Calvin, Jr.  
 Fisher, Hiram B.  
 Fisher, Silas P.  
 Ford, Peter  
 Fuller, Chauncy G.  
 Gassett, Henry, Jr.  
 Grant, George  
 Grant, Robert P.  
 Grant, Whiting  
 Hawes, Benjamin  
 Ide, Edwin S.  
 Larkin, Lyman B.  
 Mann, Howard  
 Parker, Ebenezer B.  
 Pond, Jabez E.  
 Pond, Lucas  
 Starkey, Gardner H.  
 Stone, Curtis  
 Ware, Asa  
 White, James A.  
 Wiggin, James S. 28.

## MEMBERS RESIDING OUT OF THE COUNTY.

Balch, Wesley P., Jr., Boston	Minot, George W., Boston
Copeland, R. McCleary, Boston	Slade, Robert, Boston
De Reynoso, Bernard	Smith, George W., Boston
Edmands, J. Wiley, Newton	Tappan, Lewis W., Boston
Goddard, Thomas, Boston	Wainwright, Peter, Boston
Gould, George, Newton	Wheeler, Lewis, Cambridge
	12.

Members admitted	.	.	.	1,149
Members deceased	.	.	.	57



# Norfolk Agricultural Society.

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## LIST OF PREMIUMS FOR THE YEAR 1856.

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### PROGRESSIVE HUSBANDRY.

For the best conducted and most improved Farm during five consecutive years, commencing in the year 1856,—of which the occupant shall present annually to the Trustees a satisfactory account of the whole management of the Farm,—of the crops produced, of the improvement made, and of the stock kept,—a premium of *One Hundred Dollars*, to be paid in 1860.

NOTE. Whenever any Farm shall be entered for this premium, the Secretary of the Society shall give notice thereof to the Committee on Progressive Husbandry, annually in September, who will be required to examine the Farm, and to certify the general management of it.

### MANAGEMENT OF FARMS.

For the most valuable and economical improvements in the cultivation and management of Farms *entire*, during the year, including lands, crop, stock, and all other appendages,

First premium,	\$25.00		Third premium,	\$12.00
Second “	15.00		Fourth “	8.00

Competitors for these premiums must give notice of their intention to the Secretary, on or before June 15. Farms offered for inspection will be viewed by the Committee from the 20th June to 10th July, and also in September. Any extraordinary field crop will, on notice, be visited by the Committee, and a report of the same be made to the Society.

### IMPROVING MEADOW AND SWAMP LANDS.

For the best conducted experiment in reclaiming wet meadow or swamp lands, by drainage or otherwise, on not less than one acre, with a statement, in detail, of the course of management, and the produce, &c.,

First premium,      \$15.00 | Second premium,      \$10.00

### OLD PASTURE LANDS.

For the best conducted experiment in restoring and improving old pasture lands, with an account of the means employed and the expense of the same,

First premium,      \$8.00 | Second premium,      \$6.00

For the best written report given by any member of the Society, and worthy of publication, of any improvement observed in any meadow, or swamp, or old pasture lands in the County—other than those lands for which the above-mentioned premiums may be claimed,

A premium of \$10.00

### CLEARING AND ENCLOSING UNIMPROVED LANDS.

For the best conducted experiment of clearing unimproved lands, on not less than one acre; conditions and specifications the same as in meadow and swamps lands,

First premium,      \$15.00 | Second premium,      \$10.00

### PLOUGHING.

DOUBLE TEAMS. For the best performance in ploughing, at least one-eighth of an acre—within one hour—not less than eight inches in depth. The Michigan double plough may be used,

First premium,	\$10.00		Third premium,	\$6.00
Second “	8.00		Fourth “	4.00

SINGLE TEAMS. For the best performance in ploughing, at least one-eighth of an acre, not less than six inches deep,

First premium,	\$8.00		Fifth premium,	\$4.00
Second “	7.00		Sixth “	3.00
Third “	6.00		Seventh “	2.00
Fourth “	5.00			

HORSE TEAMS. For the best performance in ploughing with horses,

First premium,	\$8.00		Third premium,	\$4.00
Second “	6.00		Fourth “	2.00

NOTE. A *Double Team* will consist of two yokes of oxen, with or without a driver; or a team of one yoke of oxen and a horse also, with or without a driver. *Single Team*, one yoke of oxen without a driver. Competitors must own their teams and ploughs, and enter the same in their own names. Notice to compete must be given to the Secretary on or before the Saturday previous to the Exhibition. In awarding premiums, one hour will be allowed for the performance of the work, regard being had to the width and depth of the furrow-slice, and the evenness, ease and quiet with which the work is performed.

### EXPERIMENTS IN SUBSOIL PLOUGHING.

For the most satisfactory experiment, on not less than one acre of land, of the effect of subsoil ploughing, to be determined by the difference in the value of the crops, raised on equal portions of equally manured land, of equal quality, one half of which having been subsoil ploughed, the other half ploughed in the usual manner,—statements of the depth of ploughing, in each instance, together with all the particulars of culture required,

First premium,	\$10.00		Second premium,	\$7.00
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### SPADING.

For the best performance in spading, not less than ten inches in depth, on a piece of not less than one hundred square feet of sward land; due regard being had to time, the thoroughness of the pulverization of the soil, and the state in which it is left for the reception of seed,—

First premium, \$8, and diploma; second do., \$7; third do., \$6; fourth do., \$5; fifth do., \$4; sixth do., \$3; seventh do., \$2; eighth do., \$1.

### EXPERIMENTS ON MANURES.

For an exact and satisfactory experiment in the preparation and application of manures, either animal, vegetable, or mineral, due regard being had to economy, a premium of \$15.00.

For an exact and satisfactory experiment in the application *alone* of manures, in the best manner, and with the greatest economy,

First premium,	\$10.00		Second premium,	\$5.00
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## TURNING IN CROPS AS A MANURE.

For the most satisfactory experiment of turning in crops as a manure, either *green* or *dry*, on not less than *one-half acre of land*, a detailed account of the whole process to be given in writing,

First premium,       \$8.00 | Second premium,       \$6.00

## COMPARATIVE VALUE OF CROPS AS FOOD FOR CATTLE.

For the most satisfactory experiment upon a stock of cattle, not less than four in number, in ascertaining the relative value of the different kinds of fodder used, with a statement in detail of the quantity and value of the same, as compared with English hay, the experiment to be made in the three winter months,

First premium,       \$15.00 | Second premium,       \$10.00

## FATTENING CATTLE.

For the most satisfactory experiment in *feeding* cattle, with a statement in detail of the process and the result,

First premium,       \$10.00 | Second premium,       \$5.00

## FATTENING SWINE.

For the most satisfactory experiment in *feeding* swine, with a statement in detail of the process and the result,

First premium,       \$8.00 | Second premium,       \$5.00

## SOILING OF CATTLE.

For the most satisfactory experiment of the *soiling* of cattle, with a detailed statement of the process and the result,—regard being had to the *saving of manure*, and to the comparative *expense of pasturing*,

First premium,       \$15.00 | Second premium,       \$10.00

## GREEN FODDER.

For the best conducted experiment in raising corn fodder or other succulent feed to be used green,—on not less than *one-half acre of land*,—with a statement, in detail, of the mode and cost of cultivation, a premium of

\$7.00

## HAY.

For the largest quantity and best quality of English Hay per acre, not less than two acres, produced on any farm in the county, regard being had to the mode and cost of cultivation, a premium of

\$6.00

## CULTIVATION OF GRAIN CROPS.

1. For the best conducted experiment in *Wheat*, on not less than *one-half* acre of land, first premium, \$6 ; second do. \$4.
2. For the best conducted experiment in *Rye*, on not less than *one* acre of land, first premium, \$4 ; second do., \$2.
3. For the best conducted experiment in *Oats*, on not less than *one* acre of land, first premium, \$4 ; second do., \$2.
4. For the best conducted experiment in *Barley*, on not less than *one* acre of land, first premium, \$4 ; second do., \$2.
5. For the best conducted experiment in *Indian Corn*, on not less than *one* acre of land, first premium, \$8 ; second do., \$5 ; third do., \$3.
6. For the best conducted experiment in raising *White Beans*, on not less than *one-half* acre of land, a premium of \$6.

Claimants for premiums on Grain Crops are required to notify the Chairman of the Committee on Grain Crops on or before the 15th of November, by a written statement, containing the following particulars :—a description of the soil ; the value of the land ; the interest on that value ; the amount of taxes ; the value of manure, or ashes, or plaster used ; the cost of seed ; the expense of preparing the ground, of sowing or planting ; of cultivating and harvesting the crop, and the total value of the crop raised ; that by a single glance the net profit of the production may be seen.

NOTE. Applications for premiums on small Grains to be made on or before the first of July, and on Indian Corn on or before the fifteenth of August ; not less than a half bushel of each kind to be shown at the annual exhibition. The quantity to be ascertained by weight, as follows:—Corn, 56 lbs. to the bushel ; Rye, 56 ; Barley, 46 ; Buckwheat, 46 ; Oats, 30 ; Wheat, 60.

## MIXED CROPS.

For the best conducted experiment in the cultivation of mixed crops of grains and vegetables, in alternate rows—first premium,

\$6; second premium, \$4. This must be made on not less than one acre of land, and a statement in detail of the expense and product will be required.

### ROOT CULTURE.

1. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Potatoes*, a premium of \$6.00
2. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Sugar Beets*, a premium of \$8.00
3. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Carrots*, a premium of \$8.00
4. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Parsnips*, a premium of \$8.00
5. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Ruta Baga*, a premium of \$8.00
6. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Mangel Wurtzel*, a premium of \$8.00
7. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Flat Turnips*, a premium of \$5.00
8. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Onions*, first premium, \$5; second do., \$4.

Samples of one bushel to be presented at the annual exhibition.

These crops must be raised on not less than *one-half* acre of land, except *Parsnips*, which may be on *one-quarter* of an acre, and the quantity ascertained by weight, as follows:—Carrots, 55 lbs.; Sugar Beets, 60; Mangel Wurtzel, 60; Ruta Baga, 60; Parsnips, 45; Round Turnips, 50.

NOTE. Application for premiums on Root Crops to be made on or before the 10th of September. It shall be the duty of the several Committees on these experiments to take into consideration the character of the soil on which the crops have been raised, the capital employed, the whole management and cost of the experiment, and to award the premiums with particular regard to the general merits of the applicant, who shall be required to make a detailed statement on or before the 20th of November.

### VEGETABLES.

AUTUMN AND WINTER SQUASHES. For the best conducted experiment on raising the *Autumnal Marrow* and *Winter Crook-neck Squash*, on not less than *one-fourth* of an acre of land, at least one dozen, to be exhibited at the Exhibition, a premium of \$5.00.

CABBAGES. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Cabbages*, on not less than *one-half* acre of ground, a premium of \$5.00

FOR THE BEST COLLECTION AND VARIETY OF GARDEN VEGETABLES, regard being had to the quantity as well as quality exhibited—first premium, a Silver Cup of the value of \$10; second do., \$5; third do., \$4; fourth do., \$3; fifth do., \$2; sixth do. \$1. \$10 may be awarded at the discretion of the Committee.

POTATOES. For the best new variety of *Seedling* Potatoes, superior to any kind now in cultivation, a premium of \$20.00

For the best collection of Potatoes, not less than a *peck* of each variety, a premium of \$5.00

#### KITCHEN GARDEN.

For the best kitchen garden, on not less than one quarter of an acre of ground—regard being had to the quantity, variety and excellence of the vegetables therein, and the mode and expense of cultivation—a premium of \$5.00

#### ANIMALS.

*To be entered in the names of those persons who have had them in their possession in the County six months before Exhibition.*

NOTE. In all cases where it is found that animals entitled to the first premium, have before received the same at any former exhibition of the Society, a Diploma, certifying that said animal is the best, shall be awarded instead of the premium. The Diploma of the Society shall be awarded, at the discretion of the several Committees, for animals exhibited from without the limits of the County.

FAT CATTLE. For the best *beef animal*, fattened within the County, regard being had to the manner of feeding, and the expense thereof—first premium, \$8; second do., \$5; third do., \$3.

BULLS. For the best *Bull*, not less than *one year old*, on satisfactory evidence being given that he shall be kept for use in the County for nine months from the day of exhibition—Jersey, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Ayrshire, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Durham, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Devon, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3.

For the best Bull Calf of any of the above classes, under one year old—first premium, \$3; second do., \$2; third do., \$1.

Bulls and Heifers raised in the County, two years old and under, fifty per cent. more than the regular premium.

Cows. For Cows not less than three years old—Jersey, first premium, \$5; second do., 3. Ayrshire, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Durham, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3; Devon, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Grade, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Native, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3.

HEIFERS. For Heifers from one to three years old—Jersey, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Ayrshire, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Durham, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Devon, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Grade, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Native, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2.

Best Heifer under one year old—first premium, \$3; second do., \$2; third do., \$1.

MILCH COWS. For the best Milch Cow, not less than three years old, with satisfactory evidence of the quantity and quality of her milk, and the manner in which she has been fed, certificates of which must be filed in writing, of the product of her milk and butter made from the cow during two periods of ten days each. Three months, neither more nor less, shall elapse between the two periods of trial aforesaid, and the last trial shall be completed before the date of the Annual Exhibition. In cases where the milk is not made into butter, the quantity and weight of the milk must be stated, time of the cow's calving, and quality of the calf. Verbal statements cannot be depended upon or received. First premium, \$10; second do., \$8; third do., \$6; fourth do., \$4.

PRODUCE OF MILK FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR. For the best conducted experiment with a stock of Milch Cows, not less than ten in number, and yielding, each Cow, not less, on an average, than eight quarts per day, for a period of one year—with a statement, in detail, of the character, age and breed of the cows, and of the method and expense of feeding them, a premium of \$25.

For a similar experiment, with a stock of not less than six cows, and with same conditions, a premium of \$15.

For a similar experiment, with a stock of not less than four cows, and with same conditions, a premium of \$10.

HEIFERS IN MILK. Not more than three years old,—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$5 ; third do., \$4.

### WORKING OXEN.

For the best pair of Working Oxen, not less than four years old, regard being had to their size, strength, docility, training and appearance. In testing their power, the load is not to be less than 3,000 pounds,—first premium, \$8 ; second do., \$6 ; third do., \$5 ; fourth do., \$3. In case the oxen are raised and owned by the exhibitor, 50 per cent. shall be added to the premium.

STEERS. For the best pair of three years old Steers, and under four, broken to yoke,—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$4 ; third do., \$3. Same as in the case of oxen.

TWO YEARS OLD AND UNDER THREE,—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$4.

ONE YEAR OLD AND UNDER TWO,—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

TOWN TEAMS. For the largest and best team of Oxen from any town or city in the County,—first premium, \$20 ; second do., \$15 ; third do., \$10.

### THOROUGH BRED AND PART THOROUGH BRED STOCK.

STALLIONS, WITH SAME GUARANTEE AS PRECEDING.

For the best Stallion of 4 years old and upwards, a premium of						\$15.00
do. 2d best	do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	10.00
do. 3d best	do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	8.00

THREE YEARS OLD COLTS OR FILLIES.

For the best 3 years old Colt, a premium of						\$6.00
“ 2d best	“	“	“	“	“	4.00
“ 3d best	“	“	“	“	“	3.00

## TWO YEARS OLD COLTS OR FILLIES.

For the best 2 years old Colt, a premium of	\$5.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	3.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	2.00

## ONE YEAR OLD COLTS OR FILLIES.

For the best 1 year old Colt, a premium of	\$5.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	3.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	2.00
“ 4th best “ “ “	1.00

## BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

For best Brood Mare and Colt by her side, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “ “	4.00

## CARRIAGE HORSES 15 TO 16 HANDS HIGH, OPEN TO ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

For the best pair of Carriage Horses, a premium of	\$20.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	15.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	10.00

## SINGLE HORSES, OPEN TO ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

For the best Buggy or Chaise Horse, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “	4.00

## SADDLE HORSES, OPEN TO ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

For the best Saddle Horse, a premium of	\$8.00
“ 2d best “ “	6.00
“ 3d best “ “	4.00

## HORSES OF ALL WORK.

For best Stallion of 4 years old and upward, a premium of	\$15.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	10.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	8.00

No Stallion to be entitled to a premium without a guarantee of his remaining in the County six months.

## BROOD MARES OF ALL WORK, WITH FOALS AT SIDE.

For the best Brood Mare and Colt, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “	4.00

## THREE YEARS OLD COLTS OR FILLIES OF ALL WORK.

For the best 3 years old Colt, a premium of	\$6.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	4.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	3.00

## TWO YEARS OLD COLTS OR FILLIES OF ALL WORK.

For the best 2 years old Colt, a premium of	\$5.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	3.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	2.00

## ONE YEAR OLD COLTS OR FILLIES OF ALL WORK.

For the best 1 year old Colt, a premium of	\$5.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	3.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	2.00
“ 4th best “ “ “	1.00

## SINGLE FARM OR DRAUGHT HORSES OF ALL WORK.

For the best Farm or Draught Horse, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “	4.00

## PAIRS OF FARM OR TEAM HORSES.

For the best pair of Farm or Team Horses, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	6.00

The premiums proposed to be offered by this list amounts to the sum of \$333.

Assurances are given from several gentlemen, members of the Society, that *if necessary* to carry out this recommendation, the sum of \$200 shall be furnished the Treasurer for that purpose.

Every entry for premium must be made before 12 o'clock of the first day of the exhibition, and the Stock must be present the second day.

It must be distinctly understood, that premiums will not be awarded to any animal that does not, in the opinion of the Committee, possess decided merit.

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In behalf of several gentlemen belonging to the Society, I hereby guarantee that the sum of two hundred dollars shall be placed at the disposal of the Treasurer, should it be found necessary in order to carry out the premiums proposed to be offered for Horses.

JOSEPH L. BRIGHAM.

*November 21, 1854.*

#### SWINE.

For the best Boar, not less than six months old—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$5 ; third do., \$4.

For the best Breeding Sow, with or without Pigs—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$5 ; third do., \$4.

For the best litter of Weaned Pigs, not less than four in number, and from two to six months old, regard being had to their age—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3 ; third do., \$2.

For the best fat Hog, with statement of the method of keeping—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$5.

#### SHEEP.

For the best flock, not less than six in number—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3.

#### LIVE FOWLS.

For the best pair of Black Spanish, \$2 ; do. do. Black Shanghaes, \$2 ; do. do. White Shanghaes, \$2 ; do. do. Marsh or Forbes Shanghaes, \$2 ; do. do. Dorkings, \$2 ; do. do. Poland, \$2 ; do. do. Bolton Grays, \$2 ; do. do. Barn-yard Fowls, \$2 ; do. do. Fowls, \$2 ; do. do. Guinea Fowls, \$2 ; do. do. Bantams, \$2 ; do. do. Ducks, \$2.

For the best conducted experiment in raising, keeping and fat-

tening any of the various breeds of fowls, with a statement, in detail, of the method, expense and profit of the same, particularly of the amount of eggs produced from a given number of hens, in order to determine their laying properties, and also their condition in flesh and market value—*no premium to be awarded without such statement*—first premium, \$6; second do., \$4.

For the best lot of Geese, \$3; do. Turkeys, \$3; second best lot of Turkeys, \$2.

For the best lot of Live Fowls, not less than twelve, \$4; second best lot, not less than six, \$3; third best lot, not less than six, \$2.

No Fowls entered after nine o'clock shall be entitled to a premium.

#### DAIRY.

For the best produce of BUTTER, on any farm within the County, for four months, from the 20th of May to the 20th of September, a sample of not less than twenty pounds to be exhibited—*quantity* as well as *quality* to be taken into view, with a full account of the manner of *feeding* the Cows, and the general management of the milk and butter—first premium, \$10; second do., \$8; third do., \$5; fourth do., \$3.

NOTE. It will be seen that these premiums are offered for the best produce on the *Farms*, and not simply for the best specimens exhibited. Competitors will therefore be particular in keeping an account, and preparing a statement of the entire produce within the time mentioned. Each lot presented for premium must be numbered, but not marked; any public, or known mark, must be completely concealed, nor must the competitors be present at the examination.

For the best box of Butter, of not less quantity than 12 lbs.—first premium, \$10; second do., \$5; third do., \$3.

NOTE. Butter to be presented on the morning of the second day.

CHEESE. For the best specimen of Cheese, of not less than 50 lbs.—first premium, \$5; second do., \$3; third do., \$2.

BUTTER. For the best and most satisfactory statement at the Annual Exhibition in 1856, of the quantity produced from the milk of any number of Cows, not less than four nor more than seven, from January 1st, 1856, to the day of exhibition, in the Fall, including a description of the character, age and breed of the

Cows, and a particular account of the feeding and general management—first premium, \$8 ; second do., \$6.

For any number of Cows more than seven—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$8.

### BREAD.

For the best loaf of Wheat and Indian, of two to four lbs. weight—first premium \$3 ; second premium, \$2.

For the best loaf made of Unbolted Wheat, which shall be grown in the County, of two to four lbs. weight—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

For the best loaf of Rye and Indian, of four to six lbs. weight—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

For the best loaf of Wheat Bread, of two to four lbs. weight—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

The bread presented for premium must be made on the day previous to the Exhibition, by some female member of a family, exclusive of hired persons, in whose name the entries shall be made, and to whom the premiums shall be awarded. The bread shall be baked in the oven commonly used by the family in which it shall be made. A written statement of the process of making the bread shall accompany each loaf.

There shall be Committees appointed to judge of the several descriptions of bread, to whom the names of the contributors shall not be known, and no person shall serve on said Committees if any member of his family shall be a competitor.

### FOREST TREES.

For the best plantation of Forest Trees, of either of the following varieties, viz.:—White Oak, Yellow Oak, Locust, Birch, White Ash, or Walnut, Scotch Larch, Norway Spruce, Pitch Pine and White Pine, or other varieties, not less than three years old, and not less than one thousand trees, a premium, to be awarded in 1856, of \$20.

For the best Plantation, to contain not less than five hundred trees, a premium of \$10.

ORNAMENTAL PLANTING. To any city or town of Norfolk County, for the largest number and best growth of ornamental trees, which shall be planted in a public square or on the roadside—first premium, \$30 ; second do., \$20.

To any individual or Society, regard being had to the number of persons associated, for the largest number and best growth of ornamental trees, which shall be planted in a public square or on the roadside—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

These premiums to be awarded in the autumn of 1856, and if awarded to a city or town, to be graduated by the population according to the census of 1850.

### FRUIT TREES.

APPLE ORCHARD. For the best Apple Orchard, of not less than *seventy-five trees*, which shall have been set out since 1851, and which shall be in the best and most thriving condition in 1856—first premium, \$15 ; second do., \$10 ; third do., \$7.

PEAR TREES. For the best engrafted or budded Pear Trees, set out since 1851, and which shall be in the most thriving condition in the autumn of 1856, not less than *twenty-five trees*—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

RENOVATION OF OLD APPLE ORCHARDS. For the most satisfactory experiment in the renovation of *old Apple Orchards*, not less than *ten trees*, on any one farm, which, being reclaimed, shall in 1856, be in fine productive fruit—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$6.

PEACH ORCHARDS. For the best Peach Orchard, of not less than *fifty trees*, set out since 1851, and which shall be in the most thrifty bearing condition in the autumn of 1856—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

For the Peach Orchard, of not less than *fifty trees*, grown from pits planted since 1852, on the spot where the trees stand, which shall be in the best condition in 1856—first premium, \$10 ; second do., 5.

SEEDLING APPLES OR PEARS. For the best variety of *new Seedling Apples or Pears*, of decidedly superior quality, *one*

*dozen specimens* to be exhibited, together with a history of its origin, a description of its growth, and the bearing character of the tree—first premium, \$10; second do., \$5.

### SEEDLING GRAPES.

For a new variety of *Native or Seedling Grape*, equal or superior to the *Isabella*, ripening, in this County, in the open air, by the *middle of September*, prolific and suitable for the table—first premium, \$20; second do., \$10.

### CRANBERRY VINES.

For the most successful experiment in transplanting Cranberry Vines, or raising them from the seed, which shall be in the most flourishing and productive state on the first of September, 1856. Competitors will be required to give a particular account of their several operations.

First premium, \$15.00 | Second premium, \$10.00

### HEDGES.

For the best *live Hedge Fence*, of not less than one thousand feet in length,

First premium, \$10.00 | Second premium, \$5.00

### DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

FANCY ARTICLES—including Needlework, Crotchetwork, Shellwork, Millinery, Drawings, Paintings, &c.

For such articles in this department as may be deemed worthy, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

NOTE. It should be understood that, in this department of Ladies' work—while other things will receive due consideration—the premiums are intended *solely for newly made* articles which are really useful, or particularly beautiful. For well made garments of any kind; for stocking knitting of wool, cotton or silk; for bonnet and cap making; for all articles of children's wear, well made or tastefully embroidered; for neat and thorough mending, patching, and darning; for drawing, designing, or painting in oil or water colors; for models in plaster, wood, or marble, &c.

Children under 12 years of age, attending the public schools, are not invited to offer any thing for premium, except such articles as will show their docility, diligence and good behaviour at school, and shall be accompanied with a certificate of approbation from their school teacher. To such articles particular attention will be given, and premiums at the discretion of the Committee.

MANUFACTURES OF STRAW. For the best Straw Bonnet—first premium, \$8 ; second do., \$6.

For the best specimen of Straw Braid, not less than 100 yards—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

MANUFACTURES OF CLOTH, FLANNELS, HOSIERY, &c. *Cotton Cloth.* For the best specimen of Cotton Cloth, of any description, not less than twenty-eight yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Woollen Cloth.* For the best specimen of Woollen Cloth, of any description, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Cotton and Woollen mixed.* For the best specimen of Cotton and Woollen Cloth of any description, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Flannels.* For the best specimen of Flannel, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best specimen of Cotton Flannel, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best pair of Woollen Blankets, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Hosiery, &c.* For the best specimen of Silk Hose, a premium of \$1.50.

For the best specimen of Silk Half Hose, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Woollen Hose, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Woollen Half Hose, a premium of 50 cents.

For the best specimen of Cotton Hose, a premium of 50 cents.

For the best specimen of Cotton Half Hose, a premium of 25 cents.

For the best specimen of Worsted Hose, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Worsted Half Hose, a premium of 50 cents.

For the best specimen of Sewing Silk, not less than one pound, a premium of \$2.

For the best specimen of Knitting Yarn, not less than one pound, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Spool Thread, not less than one pound, a premium of \$1.

For the best Fleece of Wool, a premium of \$1.

For the best dozen Grain Bags, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of neat and thorough mending, patching, or darning of garments, hose, &c., a premium of \$1.

#### CARPETING, RUGS AND FLOOR CLOTH.

For the best "Common" Ingrain 2-ply Carpeting ;

do. do. "Fine" do. do. do.

do. do. "Superfine" do. do. do.

do. do. "Common," "Fine," or "Superfine" Ingrain 3  
ply Carpeting ;

do. do. Brussels Floor Carpeting ;

do. do. Tapestry do. do.

do. do. Velvet Carpeting.

For each of these descriptions of Carpeting, a premium or the Society's Diploma, at the discretion of the Committee.

NOTE. Ingrain 2-ply Carpetings will be judged by the comparative merits of pieces of similar weight ; or, disregarding weight, by the quality of colors, the taste of shading, and the evenness in spinning and weaving.

For the best piece of Stair Carpeting, the Society's Diploma.

For the best Hearth Rug, the Society's Diploma.

For the best specimen of Painted Floor Cloth, a premium or the Society's Diploma, at the discretion of the Committee.

COUNTERPANES. For the best Counterpane—regard being had to quality and expense of materials—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

NOTE. Any article, in either of the foregoing departments, which shall have been manufactured in *the family* of the person presenting it, will receive the particular consideration of the Committee, and, if worthy, a suitable premium.

GLASS, EARTHEN, STONE AND WOODEN WARE. For the finest collections and best specimens of articles in each of these departments, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

BRASS, COPPER, TIN, IRON AND BRITANNIA WARE. For the finest collections and best specimens of articles in each of these departments, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

CABINET WORK. For the best specimen of Cabinet Work, a premium, or the Society's Diploma.

IRON FENCING, GATES AND POSTS. For the best specimens of each—regard being had to cost and utility, as well as ornament—a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

STOVES. For the best Farmer's Cauldron Stove ;

do.	do.	Cooking	do.
do.	do.	Parlor	do.

—a premium of \$2.

HORSE AND OX SHOES. For the best specimens of Horse and Ox Shoes, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Horse Shoes *for meadow land*, a premium of \$1.

INDIA RUBBER GOODS. For the finest collection and best specimens of India Rubber goods, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

BRUSHES, COMBS, HATS, CAPS AND GLOVES. For the finest collection and best specimens of each of these articles, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

LEATHER, AND ARTICLES MANUFACTURED THEREFROM.

For the best specimen of Thick Boots, a premium of	\$2.00
do. do. Calfskin, do.	3.00
do. do. Thin Boots other than Calfskin, do.	2.00
do. do. Kipskin, do.	2.00
do. do. Thick Brogans, do.	1.00
do. do. Fine Brogans, do.	1.00
do. do. Ladies' Boots, do.	1.00

For the best specimen of Upper or Sole Leather, or Morocco, a premium or gratuity, each, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best single Carriage Harness ;

do. do. double do.

do. do. Cart Harness—a premium or gratuity, each, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best Riding Bridle, a premium of	\$1.00
do. do. do. Saddle, do.	2.00
do. do. Carriage or Cart Wnip, a premium of	1.00

## CARRIAGES, WAGONS, CARTS, &amp;c.

For the best specimen of Family Carriages, for one horse or  
for two horses ;

For the best Covered Wagon ;

do. do. Open do.

do. do. Farm do.

do. do. do. Cart ;

do. do. Farm Wheelbarrow—a premium or gratuity,  
each, at the discretion of the Committee.

JELLIES, PRESERVES, PICKLES AND KETCHUPS. For the finest collection and best specimens of each, made of articles of domestic growth, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

NEW INVENTIONS. For any new invention of decided superiority and usefulness to the farmer, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

NOTE. It is to be understood that all articles presented for premium, in each of the foregoing departments, shall have been manufactured or produced within the County during the last year, and by the person presenting them. Also, that in every case, the Examining Committee shall have the right to substitute the Society's Diploma for a premium or gratuity, or to give it where no premium or gratuity has been awarded, at their discretion.

Articles in either of the above departments, contributed to the exhibition by persons not resident in the County, shall receive suitable attention from the Committee, and, if worthy, be awarded the Society's Diploma.

## FRUITS AND FLOWERS.

Accommodations will be provided for the exhibition of Fruits and Flowers, and Committees will be appointed to examine and report on such as may be presented. Whoever may present, is requested to furnish a minute, in writing, of the name of the owner, and a list of his contributions.

The following premiums will be awarded :

For the best collection of cut flowers, \$4 ; second best, \$2 ; third best, \$1. For the best bouquets, or tastefully arranged baskets of flowers, not less than four, \$4 ; second best, \$2 ; third best, \$1. For the best collection of twenty named dahlias, regard being had to *colors* and symmetry of flower, \$3 ; second best, \$2. For the best single bloom, \$1. For the best collection of twelve pot plants, regard being had to new and rare varieties and well

grown specimens, \$3; second best, \$2. For the best single specimen, \$1. For the best collection of new seedling verbenas, \$2. For the best new seedling, \$1. To be awarded in gratuities, at the discretion of the Committee, \$12.

### FRUITS.

For the best collection of *Apples*—first premium, \$5; second do., \$3; third do., \$2.

For the best collection of *Pears*—first premium, \$5; second do., \$3; third do., \$2.

For the best collection of *Peaches*—first premium, \$5; second do., \$3; third do., \$2.

For the best *dish* of Pears, not less than one dozen specimens, a premium of \$2.

For the best *dish* of Apples, not less than one dozen specimens, a premium of \$2.

GRAPES: For the best collection of *Foreign Grapes*—first premium, \$5; second do., \$3.

For the best collection of *Native Grapes*, a premium of \$3.

### AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

For the most extensive and finest collection of Agricultural Implements—first premium, \$15; second do., \$10; third do., \$5.

For the best Agricultural Implements manufactured within the County, and exhibited by the manufacturer—first premium, \$6; second do., \$4.

For the best Report, by any member of the Society, of any new or improved Agricultural Implement—describing its construction and operation, its cost and its benefit, and, in particular, its applicability to the soil of Norfolk County—a premium, if worthy of record, in proportion to the value of such report, at the discretion of the Committee.

### AGRICULTURAL LABORERS.

For a certificate—signed by his employer, and countersigned by any two Trustees of the Society residing in the same town—of the superior character and qualifications of any man or boy, in the employment of a member of the Society for a period, next

preceding, of not less than two years, attesting the industry, integrity, respectful demeanor, and general good habits, during that time, of the bearer of such certificate,

A premium of Membership of the Society, and a Diploma.

### PRIZE ESSAYS.

For the best Essay on either of the following subjects, which may be considered by the Trustees worthy of publication :—

FOREST TREES. For the best Essay on the raising and cultivation of Forest Trees, a premium of \$10.

INSECTS. For the best Essay for the destruction of Insects injurious to vegetation, such as *Curculio*, *Borer*, *Canker-Worm*, *Caterpillar*, *Cut-Worm*, *Squash-Bug*, *Striped-Bug*, *Rose-Bug*, &c., &c., a premium of \$20.

POTATO DISEASE. For the best Essay on the prevention of the Potato Disease, a premium of \$10.

PRESERVATION OF WINTER FRUIT. For the best Essay on the preservation of Apples and other Winter Fruits, \$10.

PRESERVATION OF VEGETABLES. For the best Essay on the preservation of Vegetables, a premium of \$10.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION. For the best Essay on Agricultural Education, a premium of \$10.

FARM ACCOUNTS. For the best Essay on a system of Farm Accounts, \$10.

For the most valuable Essay upon the comparative value and adaptation to the climate and soil of Norfolk County of the several foreign and native breeds of Cows and Oxen, \$10.

For the best Prize Essay on Domestic Poultry, \$25.

For the best Essay on *Fences for Farms*, uniting economy, strength, and appearance, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the extermination of *Weeds and Plants*, destructive to crops, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the preservation and application of Liquid Manure, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the Introduction of new Fruits and new articles of Field Culture, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the best manner of subdividing farm cultivation with reference to Economy and Profit, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the value and application of Phosphate of Lime, as a fertilizer of the soil, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on Bees, and Structure of Hives, with particular reference to feeding Bees, and guarding against the spoliations of the Bee Moth, a premium of \$10.

For an Essay on any subject connected with Agriculture, Horticulture, Manufactures, or Mechanics, which the Trustees may consider worthy, a premium of \$10.

For the best plan for a Barn and Barn Yard, with regard to the keeping of the Hay, the comfort of the Cattle, the ease and convenience of tending them, and the making and preserving the Manure, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the proper time and manner of cutting the Trees on woodland, a premium of \$10.

These premiums will not be awarded unless the Essays offered, shall, in the judgment of the Committee appointed to decide upon them, be deemed in themselves worthy of an Award without reference to their comparative merit.

## RULES AND GENERAL REMARKS.

It is understood that all premiums will be restricted to articles of the growth and manufacture of the County, unless otherwise specified in connection with it. Essays and Agricultural Implements being excepted from this rule, are open to general competition.

Any gentleman, not a member of the Society, entitled to a premium of five dollars, or upwards, shall receive the amount exceeding the sum of five dollars, and shall thereafter become a member.

The stock and articles intended for exhibition and premium, butter excepted, must be on the ground at or before 12 o'clock on Tuesday, the first day of the Exhibition. Animals will not be allowed to be removed from the pens before 3 o'clock on Wednesday, the second day, and all other articles not until 5 o'clock, without the permission of the Committee.

The animals, while on the ground, will be fed at the expense of the Society.

No person serving on any of the Committees shall have a vote in any case, when he shall be personally interested as a competitor.

All other Entries for premiums must be made in writing, and shall be placed in the hands of the Recording Secretary, on or before the 15th of November.

Premiums awarded, and not called for within *six months*, will be considered as given to the Society, in aid of its funds.

After the objects for Exhibition are arranged, they will be under the care of the Committees, and cannot be removed without their consent.

No object or article will be entitled to a premium, unless it possesses points of superiority ; and the Committees have the discretionary power of withholding premiums, if, in their opinion, the articles or objects are not deemed worthy to receive the same.

The Trustees have carefully revised and approved of the foregoing proposals for *Premiums*. The respective Committees, appointed to award the same, are required to enforce a strict conformity to all the rules in relation to Entries and Certificates.

In the appointment of *Committees*, the Trustees will seek for the most judicious and skilful individuals in the various towns in the County, *to award the Premiums* ; but should they fail to secure the aid of the ablest and most experienced men in the above capacity, they will rely upon the forbearance which, they believe, will be generously extended towards sincere and unwearyed efforts.

As it will become the duty of the Society to make to the Legislature an exact report of its doings, the Trustees deem it of the highest importance, that earnest and persevering efforts should be made by the citizens of every town in the County, to bring out the results of their skill and industry.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, *President*.

EDWARD L. KEYES, *Secretary*.







TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

NORFOLK

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

FOR

1856.

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PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY.

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A D D R E S S ,

B Y

H O N . M A R S H A L L P . W I L D E R .



# ADDRESS.

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GENTLEMEN OF THE AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY:\*

THE official position in which your suffrages have placed me, renders it my duty to address you at this time. Were I to consult my own inclination, I should listen with great pleasure to some of the distinguished cultivators whom I see around me, and whose scientific attainments and practical knowledge well qualify them for this service. But in the discharge of this trust, I am inspired with the hope that you will indulge me in the privilege of sharing in your discussions, and in the treasures of your ripe experience.

Amidst the rapid strides of the arts and sciences in our time, it is gratifying to know that Pomology has not been stationary. Few subjects exhibit so remarkably the progress of civilization and improvement as the cultivation of fruit. It is now only about a quarter of a century since the establishment of the oldest horticultural society in America. Then, these associations were

\* The Annual Address before the Norfolk Agricultural Society was delivered by Hon. Josiah Quincy, Jr., but as he was disinclined to have it published, the Trustees, at a regular meeting, unanimously passed a vote requesting their President to permit the publication, in lieu of it, of this address, delivered about the same time, before the National Pomological Society, at Rochester, New York, which request was complied with on the part of the author.

few and feeble ; now they are numerous and influential, extending from the British Provinces to the Gulf of Mexico, and from ocean to ocean,—all working together in harmony with each other, and aiding our association, whose field is our national domain. Then the fruit crop of the country was not deemed worthy of a place in our national statistics ; now it exceeds thirty millions of dollars annually, and is rapidly becoming one of the most valuable and indispensable products of our Republic. Then the sales of fruit trees were numbered by hundreds, now by hundreds of thousands. Then choice fruit was a luxury to be found only in the palace of the opulent ; now it helps to furnish the table of the humble cottager, and comparatively few are the hamlets which are without their fruit tree or grape vine.

It is only eight years since the organization of this Pomological Society ; now kindred associations exist in various districts and States, and are exerting a powerful and salutary influence. Their delegates and representatives I am most happy to welcome to a participation in the privileges of this occasion.

This improvement is full of promise, and encourages us to greater perseverance. When we look back to the days of Duhamel, Miller and Forsyth, we perceive that we have made laudable progress. When we compare those numerous splendid varieties which we have obtained with the limited catalogues of the first part of the present century, we may well be proud of our actual knowledge. From the days of Henry Fourth of France, when his favorite Bon Chretien was almost the only good pear ; from the time of Queen Elizabeth, who sent to Holland to obtain lettuce for her royal table, down to the present century, there has been a gradual advance, but in our day it has indeed been astonishing, and still our course is onward and upward.

We have long since discarded the inferior fruits of La Quintinye, the skilful gardener of Louis the XIVth. We have few pears left of the celebrated catalogue of the Royal Garden of Versailles, and by the action of our own association we have rejected more than one hundred varieties as unworthy of perpetuation. At present, who would give a place in his garden to such pears as the Chatbrule, the Martin Sec, the Messire Jean, the Bourdon, the Lansac, the Cassolette, and a host of other worthless sorts? Some good fruits have survived, as the White Doyenne, Madeleine, Jargonelle, and others, but a part of these only are suited to general cultivation;—yet how limited their number, and how inferior their quality, when compared with our choice modern seedlings, and the royal profusion of fruits which now crown our tablès!

When Van Mons, the patient and skilful observer, was successfully experimenting in Europe, our Coxe, Prince, Lowell, Dearborn, Manning, and others, had commenced their course, and obtained some good results. Then most of our pears were propagated on suckers taken from the forest; now we see millions of young vigorous trees cultivated, sold, and planted in all parts of the Union, and where twenty years since not a single specimen of the *Pyrus* was to be found. The public no longer ridicule the man who plants a tree with the hope of gathering its fruit with his own hands, or the saving of seeds to improve the quality of his fruits. True, Von Mons was ridiculed all his life, and only appreciated by such pioneers as Davy, Poiteau, Diel and Drapiez. His nurseries were thrice destroyed, as wild, worthless thorn-bushes, under the false pretence of “public utility.” This was an irreparable loss, for however much his system be discussed and distrusted, it is still true that the

results of his experience have been most beneficial to the world.

An honorable member of this association and myself have in trust many of the seedlings of that great master of pomology, which have not yet fruited. We have those of the eighth generation, which, from vigor, beauty and signs of refinement, give promise of superior character, and seem to confirm his doctrine of improvement by successive reproduction. And while we are anxiously awaiting the further and ultimate results of his theory, others on this side of the Atlantic are zealously engaged in hybridization and experiments which cannot fail to be of immense advantage to the scientific and practical cultivator.

This progress should cheer us onward. No other country, in extent and variety of soil and climate, is so well adapted, or offers so great advantages to the pomologist. Not only does our correspondence from abroad testify to the truth of this statement, but our rapidly extending domain continually develops new facts in confirmation of this sentiment.

By the reports from individual fruit growers, and from associations, it appears that some varieties of the pear succeed equally as well in the extreme south part of our Union as in the north. A gentleman from Oregon Territory recently informed me that settlers there had already provided themselves with extensive orchards, and from which they gather fruits of great size and excellence. He also makes a similar report in relation to Washington Territory, and instances among others an orchard of one hundred acres, which is now yielding a large annual income to its proprietor.

A letter from the Vice President of this Society for Utah, on the borders of the Great Salt Lake, expresses the hope that it will not be long before that region shall

be a successful rival of other parts of the Union in variety and excellence of its fruits. Similar accounts are received from the district of Santa Clara.

Another communication, from an officer of this Society in California, assures me of the great progress in our cause in that State, and pledges a full report of its Horticultural Exhibition for our Transactions. One of my neighbors who went to California in 1854, and now residing in Napa city, writes: "Such is the rapid growth of vegetation in that district, that apple trees, from seed planted in the spring of 1853, and budded the same year, yielded fruit in the autumn of 1855." He says, "I wish you could take a look at our peach orchard, loaded with three to four thousand baskets of fruit. You could hardly believe that the trees had made all their growth, and were most of them raised from seed, since I came to California, February 1, 1854. The crop from this orchard is now (July 18, 1856,) going to market, and we expect will amount to between ten and twenty thousand dollars." The proprietor of that crop has called on me within a few days, confirms these statements, and reports that the crop and prices fully realized all anticipations.

Such is the zeal now manifested in the cause of Pomology, and such are the facilities for intercommunication, that we are continually receiving valuable contributions from all parts of the country and the world.

When we consider the progress of the grape culture in the single State of Ohio, and its great increase in other States, amounting now to more than two millions of dollars annually—the immense quantities of peaches and strawberries brought to our markets, the rapid multiplication of the apple, the pear, and other fruits throughout our land, and the millions of trees annually sent out from this vicinity and other parts, it is not easy

to calculate the future importance of fruit culture, whether viewed as a means of furnishing luxuries for our table, or articles of domestic and foreign commerce.

In my last address, I called your attention to the importance of raising new and improved varieties from seed as the best method of increasing and preserving our supply of choice fruits. Whether the theory of the running out of varieties be true or false, so thoroughly am I convinced of the great practical utility of this recommendation, that I feel especially desirous, while I have the opportunity, of encouraging you to perseverance, and of guarding your minds against exposure to failures.

A false doctrine prevails among some, although founded on the theory of Van Mons, "*that scions taken from seedlings, and grafted into stocks, however strong and healthy, will not yield fruit earlier than it may be obtained from the mother plant.*" Adopting this theory as true, many cultivators have been discouraged on account of the length of the process. Whatever may have been the experience which called forth this theory from its learned author, in the localities where it originated, or where it has been advocated, my reading and personal observation constrain me to question its truthfulness; certainly its application to our own country. For instance, the fact is familiar to you all, that scions of the pear come into bearing, when grafted on the quince, earlier than on the pear stock. This is believed to result from the early maturity of the quince, which, while it does not change the variety of the pear, imparts its own precocity thereto. We realize a corresponding hastening to maturity when the scion is grafted into a pear tree which has also arrived at maturity; especially is this to be expected when the stock is in itself one of a precocious character. If any facts seem to oppose this doctrine, they may be

regarded either as exceptions to the general law, or as the results of locality and cultivation.

The physiological principle of the vegetable kingdom under which this doctrine obtains is, that the bud contains the embryo tree, and that the strong or precocious stock constrains it to elaborate more material into wood and foliage, and thus promotes both growth and fruitfulness.

Common sense, as well as common observation, confirm this statement. Witness the pear, which we have known to fruit the fourth year from seed, when grafted on the quince. We know a seedling from the Seckel pear, grafted on the Bartlett, which bore the present season, and is only four years from the seed. The Catharine Gardette, raised by Dr. Brincklé, was brought into bearing by grafting on the quince in five years, while the original seedlings, in all these instances, are only three to five feet in height, and will require several additional years to bring them into bearing. Is it reasonable to suppose that a seedling pear, which, in two years, in a given location, attains the height of one or two feet with but few branches, will fruit as early as a scion from the same seedling, when grafted on a strong tree, which elaborates and assimilates through its abundant branches and luxuriant foliage, ten times the amount of all the elements constituting growth and maturity?

Hence, enforcing a former suggestion, in respect to raising new varieties, I respectfully urge you to continue and increase your efforts, and, in order to hasten maturity and to multiply the chances of success, I confidently recommend the grafting of seedling fruits at the earliest possible moment.

In respect to the best method of obtaining choice varieties from seed, I urged you “*to plant the most mature and perfect seed of the most hardy and vigorous sorts.*”

Additional experience has confirmed my faith in this doctrine ; for, where seed have been obtained from cross fertilization of healthy and strong growers, the progeny has partaken of the same character ; but, where the parents have been of slender habit or slow growth, the offspring have exhibited corresponding qualities. If this fact may be relied upon, though the process of artificial impregnation be difficult and tedious, yet, pursued with skill and perseverance, it will ultimately secure a rich reward. We should not be disheartened by the poor success of Duhamel, or of Mr. Knight, with his hybridized pears ; for the failure of the latter is attributable to the selection of inferior varieties, from which his seedlings were raised. In reliance upon natural fertilization, I would still encourage the continual planting of the seeds of choice varieties of all kinds of fruit, in the belief that new and valuable varieties may thus be obtained. By these various processes we shall have continual accessions to our collections of such choice fruits as the Beurre Clairgeau, Beurre d'Anjou and Doyenne Boussock pears. Let nothing discourage you in this most hopeful department of pomology. Go on, persevere ;

“ Give new endeavors to the mystic art,  
 Try every scheme, and riper views impart ;  
 Who knows what meed thy labors may await ?  
 What glorious fruits thy conquests may create ? ”

These are triumphs worthy of the highest ambition, conquests which leave no wound on the heart of memory, no stain on the wing of time. He who only adds one really valuable variety to our list of fruits is a public benefactor. I had rather be the man who planted that umbrageous tree, from whose bending branches future generations shall pluck the luscious fruit, when I am sleeping beneath the clods of the valley, than he who has

conquered armies. I would prefer the honor of introducing the Baldwin apple, the Seckel pear, Hovey's Seedling strawberry, aye, or the Black Tartarian cherry from the Crimea, to the proudest victory which has been won upon that blood-stained soil.

But the production of new and choice varieties of fruit is not the only labor of the pomologist. The great annual loss from decay constrains me to say a word more on the *preservation of fruits*. Probably twenty-five per cent. of our summer and early autumn fruits either rot, or, to prevent loss, are forced upon the market at very low prices. In the hot season of the year, and with certain species of fruit, this evil cannot be entirely overcome; but that it may in a great measure be controlled by suitable fruit-rooms and other expedients; and that we may thus prolong the season of fruits beyond their usual duration, we entertain no reasonable doubt. What we especially need is valuable late autumn and winter sorts. These, however, will not supersede the necessity of suitable storehouses, without which the heat of our warm autumnal months is liable to start the ripening process, and compel us to dispose of them.

The proper construction and management of these is, therefore, commanding the attention of pomologists, both in this country and in Europe. Their success is found to depend on a perfect control of the temperature, moisture and light. After having built and managed four fruit-rooms, upon different plans, I am of opinion that a proper equilibrium of temperature and moisture cannot ordinarily be obtained without the use of ice. The preservation of the apple is less difficult than that of most other fruits, and is tolerably well understood by our farmers. Still how few specimens, even of this fruit, are brought to our spring market in a fresh and perfect condition! The art of keeping the pear, and fruits

of delicate texture, is much more difficult ; and it is to these I particularly refer.

Having heard of the great success of Mr. Schooley, of Cincinnati, Ohio, by his celebrated discovery for the preservation of meats, I opened a correspondence with him with respect to the application of the same process to the preservation of fruits. He subsequently visited me at Boston, and advised as to the construction of a fruit-room upon his principle. This I have found, during the last winter and the present summer, to operate in accordance with his statement, as illustrated by Professor Locke, in his " Monograph upon the Preservation of Organic Substances." By his plan, the temperature and moisture of the fruit-room, and consequently the ripening of the fruit, may be perfectly controlled. One gentleman informs me that he kept strawberries in a fruit-room constructed on this plan from June 1st to the 20th, in perfect condition for the table ; and he entertains no doubt of its complete success in the preservation of apples and pears indefinitely. Mr. Schooley writes me that, in the month of June, he received several barrels of Bellflower apples, which had been kept for eight months, that were sold in that market at two dollars and twenty-five cents per bushel. The remainder out of eight hundred bushels was sold at home at three dollars per bushel. These apples were purchased at random from the strolling wagons passing through the streets of Dayton, and were more or less bruised by careless picking and transportation. My own experience corresponds with these statements.

The construction of these rooms is simple. All that is required are walls made of non-conducting materials, with an apartment for the ice above the fruit-room, and with Mr. Schooley's descending flues for the cold air, so as to preserve an equable temperature and moisture, and to

hold the ripening process in suspense. The air, by passing over the ice, is deprived of its moisture, and, being cold, and specifically heavier than the surrounding atmosphere, falls through his descending flues, and, by a ventilator, escapes on one side of the room, thus creating a temperature not only cool, but dry. This principle, I am informed by a distinguished member of the medical faculty, may be applied to the construction of hospitals with great advantage, so that the air may be kept at a uniform temperature and degree of humidity. For a more particular account of this process, I refer you to Professor Locke's Monograph, and to the inventor's letter.

In these remarks, our object has been to provide against the maturing of fruits until the season when they are wanted for use. Care should, however, be exercised, especially with the pear and more delicate fruits, not to reduce the temperature much below 45 degrees of Fahrenheit, lest the vital principle of the fruit be destroyed, and the flavor lost.

Time admonishes me to be brief, but I cannot refrain from alluding to *the appropriate location, soil and treatment of fruit trees*. These are subjects surrounded with mystery, and which can be relieved only by study and personal experience. The importance of thorough draining, and perfect preparation of the soil, have not received the consideration they deserve; especially where its silicious character does not furnish a ready natural conductor to superfluous moisture. Thorough draining lies at the foundation of all successful cultivation. In cold, wet, undrained grounds, the disease of trees commences at the root, which absorbs injurious substances, and the tree ceases properly to elaborate its nutritious matter. Wherever there is an excess of water, and consequently

too low a temperature, and the soil is not properly drained and thoroughly worked, the vital energies of the plant are soon impaired and its functions deranged. I am inclined to think that death by drowning is quite as common in the vegetable as in the animal kingdom, with this difference, that it is not so sudden. How many of the diseases, such as the spotting of the leaf and fruit, the cancer, fungi and decomposition of the bark, are attributable to this cause, it is not easy to determine. Perfect drainage, which should always be accompanied with subsoiling or trenching, permits the air and light to penetrate and sweeten the soil, warms it, and prepares its latent fertilizing properties for the nourishment of the plant.

A writer in the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England says: "I have frequently found the soil of a *well-drained* field higher in temperature from ten to fifteen degrees than that of another field, not so drained, though in every other respect the soils were similar." Another advantage is, that vegetation seldom or never suffers from the drought, where the soil has been properly drained and worked.

The necessity of thorough drainage and perfect pulverization of the soil, is not less for fruits in open cultivation than for the grape under glass, where one of the prerequisites has ever been the perfect drainage of the border.

In relation to *locality*, some succeed best in one place, while others flourish well in several districts, and are elsewhere nearly worthless, and a few are adapted to general cultivation.

The affinity of the stock to the graft is of immense importance to the happy union and success of both. Some unite as though ordained by Heaven to be joined, while others resist all the appliances of art. We have seen trees made sick by the insertion of an uncongenial scion, and finally destroyed. Well does a writer remark

that “it is from the analogy of the stock and graft that healthy vigor results, and unless this analogy is sufficiently close, it is impossible to obtain fruits in perfection. Not only does this influence manifest itself in the vigor and hardiness of the tree, but also in the quality of the fruit and the time of ripening.” We must, therefore, learn on what kind of stock, in what soil and aspect, and with what treatment each variety will flourish best. As I have before remarked, every tree, plant and herb, from the cedar of Lebanon to the flag of the Nile, from the loftiest oak of the forest to the humblest daisy of the meadow, from the fantastic parasite luxuriating in solstitial air to the little flower that peeps from Alpine snows, every thing endowed with vegetable life, requires its own peculiar element and treatment, to sustain its vigor and secure its highest possible perfection. However varied this sustenance may be, and whether derived from earth, air or water, if it be uncongenial, deterioration and decay are inevitable. Every branch, twig and bud, every leaf that flutters in the breeze, is an organized and living body. Each has its correlative part, and any injury done to the one will be felt in the other.

Under these general laws, each variety requires a particular treatment, and should be nurtured with a wise reference to its peculiarities and habits. I am inclined to believe that the most valuable treatise on pomology would be one descriptive of the wants of each sort. The pomologist must, therefore, study the constitution and natural tendencies of each variety, as a father would those of his children :—

“ Each tree a child, your aid their weakness rears,  
 Directs their youth, and tends their drooping years,  
 Their different bents you mark with studious eye,  
 Their laws you give, their manners you supply ;  
 Directing thus their flowrets, fruits and leaves,  
 Your potent hand Creation’s work achieves.”

My experience has so often been solicited by private communication in relation to *the pear upon the quince stock*, that I deem it proper to introduce it in this connection, with the reasons on which it is founded. Many varieties of the pear thus grafted grow vigorously and bear abundantly. I am aware that an impression has prevailed in the minds of some unfavorable to the cultivation of the pear on the quince stock, an impression which must have arisen from an injudicious selection of varieties, or improper cultivation. In this opinion I am happy to know that I am sustained by Mr. Barry, in his address before the North Western Association of Fruit-Growers in Iowa, and by other distinguished pomologists. Pears upon the quince should be planted in a luxuriant deep soil, and be abundantly supplied with nutriment and good cultivation. They should always be planted deep enough to cover the place where they were grafted, so that the point of junction may be three or four inches below the surface. The pear will then frequently form roots independently of the quince, and thus we combine in the tree both early fruiting from the quince, and the strength and longevity of the pear stock. For instance, of trees of the same variety, standing side by side in my own grounds for ten years, and enjoying the same treatment, those on the quince stock have attained a larger size, and have borne for seven years abundant crops, while those upon the pear stock have scarcely yielded a fruit. We have also others, on the quince, which twenty-five years since were obtained at the nursery of Mr. Parmenter, where now is the most populous part of the city of Brooklyn, N. Y., and which have borne good crops for more than twenty years, and are still productive and healthy.

That the introduction and cultivation of the pear upon the quince has been a great blessing, I entertain no

doubt, especially in gardens and in the suburbs of large towns and cities. And as to its adaptation to the orchard, I see no reason why it should not succeed well, if the soil, selection and cultivation be appropriate. A gentleman in the eastern part of Massachusetts planted, in the years 1848 and '49, as many dwarf pear trees as he could set on an acre of land at the distance of eight by twelve feet, and between these rows he planted quince bushes. In the fifth year from planting he gathered one hundred and twenty bushels of pears and sixty bushels of quinces. Of the former he sold seventy bushels at five to six dollars per bushel, and he now informs me that he has lost only three per cent. of the original trees, and that the remainder are in healthful condition.

GENTLEMEN OF THE SOCIETY:—

These suggestions relative to the progress of pomology, and the means of its additional advancement, together with the motives to future improvement, present a cheering prospect to American fruit-growers. Wonders have been achieved by private enterprise; but still greater wonders are to be realized from associated effort. How great the advantages which have resulted to our country from the action of pomological societies, especially from their lists of fruits! Look, for example, to that prepared by this society. Who can estimate the amount of labor and treasure already saved to nurserymen and fruit-growers by its list of rejected varieties, by preventing the purchase and cultivation of worthless sorts! Its other lists are equally useful. It should therefore be one great object of these biennial meetings, to revise and perfect the Society's Catalogue of Fruits, and to render it as reliable as possible, that it may embody and transmit to posterity the ripest experience of the

present generation, and become a standard in pomology with those who shall come after us.

I anticipate that at no remote period we shall feel the necessity of a National Pomological Institute, with an Experimental Garden, where all the varieties true to name may be obtained, where all sorts may be thoroughly tested and distributed to the members of the society, and thus relieve the pioneers in American pomology from large expenditures and much personal inconvenience.

But I must not trespass further upon your indulgence. Yet I should not do justice to my own sense of propriety did I not signify to you my earnest desire to be relieved from the responsibilities devolving upon me as your presiding officer. These, by the aid of your fraternal counsel and coöperation, I have cheerfully sustained for six years, yielding my own convenience to your expressed wishes. I beg, however, to assure you that, whatever may be my future relation to you, it will ever be my endeavor to promote your individual happiness, and the welfare of this association.

#### GENTLEMEN OF ROCHESTER AND VICINITY:—

We have come up here not merely to gratify our curiosity, or to share your hospitality, but to witness your improvement, and to be instructed by your experience. How astonishing your progress! Within the recollection of some who now hear me, this thriving city had scarcely a beginning. The surrounding territory was then what we of New England regarded as the Great West, which has since journeyed on, and is stayed only by the rolling waters of the Pacific. From a reliable source I learn that the first nursery in this vicinity was begun in the year 1833. As late as 1840, there were only two small nurseries in Rochester, of about ten acres each, with

here and there a few patches of apple trees in other parts of the country. Now pomology is here gathering some of her choicest fruits, and witnessing some of her most extensive operations.

It is estimated that in the nurseries of Munroe county there are thirty millions of trees, and that, in the whole of the nurseries of western New York, commencing at Onondaga county, there cannot be less than fifty millions, beside the great number which have already been sent out to adorn your valleys and crown your hill-tops. These are the precious fruits which have been gathered in this locality. Add to them the progress of this science in various other sections of our Union, and what a charming prospect does our fair land present !

#### FELLOW ASSOCIATES :—

In view of this auspicious progress, let us compare our experience and results ; let us stimulate each other to yet greater exertions for the advancement of our common cause. Let us endeavor to disseminate the knowledge of the few among the many, that we may improve the public taste, add to the wealth of our republic, and confer on our countrymen the blessings of our favorite art. Thus shall we make other men happy, and keep them so,—render our own homes the abodes of comfort and contentment, and hasten the time when the garden shall feel no blight, the fruitful field laugh with abundance, and rivers of gladness water the earth.



REPORTS.



## REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.

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TO THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

SIR,—Notwithstanding the annual return of the Transactions and Expenditures of the Society may be made, agreeably to the requirements of the law, by filling out a blank received from your office, it may be advisable to state more particularly than such a form affords an opportunity to do, the spirit which prevails in the Society, in reference to improvements in Agriculture, and what has been done for the cause for which the Commonwealth bestows its bounty on it, as well as upon all similar Associations.

Since our last Annual Report, the Society has still further added to its grounds by another purchase, which affords many additional advantages in the exhibition of animals, and especially of horses, affording a much more commodious track for the display of their qualities and beauties than heretofore. These expenditures in improvements serve as an indication of the spirit and liberality which animate the members of the Society with the determination not to lag behind other Societies in the work in which they are all engaged.

The days of exhibition were the last of September and the first of October, the first of which was unpleasant and prognosticated a storm on the following day, yet the numerous pens on the Society's grounds for Cattle and Horses were all filled, and for the first time since the Society was organized, were found inadequate to the demand.

It was feared from the lowering aspect of the first day of the exhibition, and the few entries that had been made up to that time for the Ploughing and Spading Matches, that there would be a failure in those parts of the programme which have heretofore been among the most attractive parts of the exhibition. The "bright rosy morn-

ing” of the second day, suddenly, as if by the wand of an enchanter, dissipated all these fearful apprehensions. Not one of the ploughing matches, from the commencement to the present time, has been better or more fully represented, and the scene on that glorious morning presented a picture like a festival of happy people met to enjoy a holiday that would not soon again return.

One hour before the time appointed for the spading match, but one entry had been made; but at the expiration of the time, every lot that had been staked out was occupied by the heroes of the spade, most of whom had their homes across the ocean wave.

The place where the spading matches are held is formed like an amphitheatre. The contestants have their place in the centre, while the spectators look down on them from standing or sitting positions, elevated one above another, and as the sound of music calls to action, and ceases not until the contest is decided, the scene, from its picturesqueness, becomes at once interesting and exciting. This Society was the first, we believe, in Massachusetts, to introduce the trial of the spade, that important instrument in husbandry.

The exhibition of “Thorough Bred” stock in cattle and horses was an indication of the happy results of that care and liberality, on the part of the Commoawearth, which has contributed so much to the cause of agriculture. It shows not only that the wealthy men of cities, but the farmers of the country towns, are equally engaged in propagating those pure breeds of animals, which are not only profitable to wealthy proprietors, but to farmers in moderate circumstances and to the people at large. The following towns and cities were represented by Thorough Bred stock in cattle, which received premiums in number as follows:—Roxbury 5, Canton 2, Needham 3, Dedham 3, Braintree 3, Dover 1, West Roxbury 3, Quincy 2, Dorchester 1. These do not constitute but a small part of those that were exhibited.

The exhibition of horses was not quite up to the show of last year, owing to the circumstance that not so many were present from beyond the limits of the county; but the display added much to the interest of the occasion, and was witnessed by a large concourse of spectators. The exhibition of swine and poultry was very commendable, but neither of them would compare with the same department in the early days of the

Society. The contributions of the products of female taste and skill were as numerous and beautiful as on former years, showing the attention of the sex is devoted to the cause of agriculture by their mode of adorning its exhibitions with such specimens as attract a crowd of admirers. The display of flowers far surpassed that of any former exhibition. The Society was much indebted to a new contributor in that department, Mr. Hunnewell of Needham, whose display of exotics, in great variety, seemed to surpass in beauty any one ever before presented in this section of the country. The day of the exhibition turned out to be as perfect as could be for the comfort of the spectators and the purposes of the show, and we are happy to state that the result was seen in the acknowledgment of the treasurer as to the receipts of the day.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, *President.*

EDWARD L. KEYES, *Secretary.*

## REPORT OF THE VISITING COMMITTEE.

The Committee appointed to visit as many of the towns in the county as practicable, and report their observations for the benefit of the Society, submit the following report:—

In almost every town in the county are a few farmers, who are men of wealth and taste. Their large farms are well tilled, well managed, and supplied with the finest stock. They make valuable experiments in agricultural operations, introducing new methods, new implements, new seeds, new manures, new breeds of cattle. If their experiments fail, they easily sustain the loss; if they succeed, the community shares in the benefit. These men give a higher character to the business, and a large portion of the improvements in farming, within the last few years, is due to their enterprise and public spirit. One of these farms, that has never been mentioned in the Society's transactions, and is well worthy of honorable notice, is that of Mr. H. H. Humnewell, in West Needham. It includes two hundred acres, and is beautifully situated upon both sides of Wabun Lake, in one of the most delightful portions of the county. A vast amount of money has been expended, with consummate taste and skill, upon the ornamental part of the estate. The walls and hedges are substantial and handsome; many varieties of native and foreign trees and shrubs have been planted; hot and cold houses contain grapes and flowers; the buildings are models of neatness and convenience; stock of the best breed is kept; and ditches and meadows supply to the barn-yard great quantities of mud; artificial manures are freely used; the mowing machine has been employed on the place for three years, to the entire satisfaction of the proprietor; wood is sawed, corn ground, and water supplied to the house, stables and garden by a steam-engine: the land appropriated for farming purposes appears to be thoroughly cultivated and to yield large crops; productive mowing grounds have been made out of worthless meadows; and in every department are evidences of good judgment and practical skill. Orchards of apple and pear trees have been planted with excellent success. Within six years thousands of trees of various kinds have been successfully transplanted; many

acres of barren land brought into cultivation, and a pitch-pine plain converted into an elegant farm. These results testify to the owner's enterprise, and to his intelligent interest in the pursuits of rural life. We must also add that his readiness to exhibit both the methods and the results of his operations, and to encourage, by the most liberal display, the exhibitions of this Society, together with his courtesy and hospitality, renders a visit to this farm as agreeable as it is instructive. There is scarcely any way in which a man of wealth and of refinement can be more useful to the community than by "blending a liberal display of elegance and taste with a skilful and profitable husbandry." The introduction of new fruits, new seeds, new trees and improved methods of cultivation is a boon not likely to be over estimated.

Another more numerous class of farmers consists of those, who, in addition to ordinary farming pursuits, derive from the sale of wood the means of cultivating their land. Or they have a cranberry-meadow, or some other special object of interest and profit, from which they gain a living, independently of the farm. In some cases, the farm is neglected on account of this extra source of income.

Another class, quite common in this country, consists of men partly farmers and partly mechanics. They cultivate a few acres, and pursue some other calling during a part of the year. We have often observed that the lands of these men are extremely well tilled, their gardens and orchards in fine order,—examples of neatness, and producing large returns.

A fourth class, not farmers, but deriving their support from labor applied to land, is that of the gardeners and fruit-growers, a large and important body of men. No workers on the soil bring their capital and labor to so good a market as these. They are limited in territory, obliged to do their work thoroughly, cultivate their land up to the extent of its capability, grow several crops in succession, and realize from a few acres a larger income than most farmers from ten times as many. Many parts of the county are favorably situated with reference to this business, nor is there the least danger that it can be overdone. Boston and large manufacturing and mechanic villages furnish unfailing markets for produce. The price is always high and the supply below the de-

mand. The wonder is that more enterprising young men do not engage in this business.

Next come the farmers proper, who constitute the majority of all that live upon the soil. These are the most deeply interested in agricultural experiments and in the success of agricultural societies. Others have various sources of income, but the farmer must look to his land and labor. Whatever tends to make his land more productive, or to diminish his labor, or to apply it more judiciously, should arrest his attention, and gain at least a patient hearing. The creating of food is a business that can never wear out, and must always furnish employment to the great mass of mankind. Whatever renders that employment easier or more attractive or more remunerative, deserves the consideration of those engaged in it; for every thing having these results will tend also to elevate and improve the character of the farmer. Small farms, cultivated by the owners, should be objects of special interest; for they are the secret means of developing the resources of the country and of raising up hardy and industrious men, the true conservative element of society.

Although in every quarter we found but one opinion, namely, that there is an increasing interest in agriculture, the proofs of which were improved methods of tillage and larger crops, yet from hundreds of farmers our Society and its objects receive little favor or sympathy. Very few, considering the whole number, attend its annual fair, or send in contributions of their produce or stock,—partly, perhaps, because they have not made themselves familiar with its design, which is simply to improve the agriculture of the county, by exciting competition, by disseminating knowledge, by preserving and recording facts, and by bringing the experience of all to bear upon the operations of each,—partly because they are isolated from each other, and have few occasions of mutual conference, to compare notes, and to learn from their common successes and failures. This is a cogent reason why they should belong to the Society and attend its meetings. A man who lives by himself, and walks his beaten round, and repeats again and again the same experiments, is apt to become unreasonably satisfied with himself and his course. And however intelligent a man may be, it is not to be supposed that he cannot learn from the results of others' activity. It is believed by this Committee that actual

contact with our Society, and participation in its objects and labors, would promote the interest of every individual farmer. Its encouragements and rewards are distributed with impartiality, and its sole aim is to repay with large increase the time or money that each person contributes.

Hitherto our fairs have been supplied with valuable and beautiful articles from the field, the stall and the workshop, but chiefly contributed by a few towns. Now in every town we have found good farmers, who might add to the pleasure and the profit of the occasion, by bringing something of their own growth or raising, or by detailed statements of particular crops. A great amount of useful knowledge respecting the best methods of conducting various processes in draining, seeding, manuring, reclaiming meadows and other details, is lost to the community by the backwardness or indifference of those who conduct these operations.

In several towns in this county agriculture is but little attended to. In these towns the people are mostly devoted to mechanical pursuits. Much land that was formerly ploughed is now grown over with young wood, probably the most profitable use that could be made of it. It is a common remark that there is more woodland and less wood than there was twenty years ago. The railroads and manufacturing and mechanic villages have rapidly increased the value of wood, which has risen from three to six dollars a cord. This rise has induced some sowing of wood seed and setting out of young forest trees. We would refer the reader, for further information and examples, to the Report of the Committee on Forest Trees, contained in this volume, the author of that Report being a member of the Visiting Committee.

These and several other instances, on a smaller scale, show that the growth of wood may be made profitable on poor land.

No part of this county is exclusively agricultural. There are not more than one or two towns in which the produce of agricultural labor equals in value the products of manufactures. In most towns the latter exceed the former from three to ten or twelve times in value; and where the difference is greatest, the progress of agriculture is slowest. We may take a single article as an illustration. In the southern and south-eastern towns there is very little corn fodder raised, an article which the farmers in the northern and western towns consider indispensable to success,

the introduction of which is justly considered among our most decided improvements. In a wet season, like the past, there was less necessity for corn fodder than usual. But in our average summers, with their intense drought and scorching heat, our old pastures, good for little at best, are almost worthless. Examples are not wanting, of great success in renovating old pastures. We will mention one that came to our notice this season :

A well known farmer, in Stoughton, had a worn-out, mossy pasture, which he broke up and manured two years ago, and from four acres of which he has, this summer, cut eleven tons of good hay. Another farmer, noted for the amount and excellence of his butter, has, within seven or eight years, broken up, manured and cultivated more than twenty acres of good-for-nothing pasture, and laid it down again in so productive a condition, that he maintains, in excellent order, more than double the amount of stock that was ever kept on that farm before.

There is a growing conviction among farmers, that they must either expend money in improving pastures, or abandon them, or supply the deficiencies of the pasture by an increased amount of green fodder. There can be little doubt of the indispensableness of the latter course, if the object is to produce milk ; for nothing excels, in milk production, the tender, succulent leaves and stalks of young corn and recently-grown grass.

We have now in mind a farmer, in this county, who keeps seven or eight cows in the stable through the summer, and feeds them on green fodder, chiefly corn. We asked him the reasons for it. His answer was : 1. That he gets more milk than he can by any other method. 2. That he gets more manure, especially liquid manure. 3. That he saves it all by keeping a supply of mould or mud under the stable, to be taken out and renewed as often as necessary. 4. That it is less troublesome than to drive his cows to pasture ; that they are less vexed by flies, and have equally good health. 5. That his mowing land is every year growing more productive without the expense of artificial manure.\*

\* An English farmer says :—“ Where milch cows are allowed to range abroad for their food, they will never produce that quantity of milk that they will when confined, let their food be ever so plenty ; when they are not hungry, they will be searching after the sweetest spots of herbage, and thereby deprive themselves of rest. There is economy, also, in land. Thirty acres of land would be sufficient to produce food enough for forty

He estimates that on an acre of good land, twenty tons of green fodder may be raised. That which is dried is cut fine and mixed with meal or shorts, and eaten with profit. He believes that a reduced and partially worn-out farm, supposing the land to be naturally good, could be brought into prime order in five years, without extra outlay of money for manure, by the use of green fodder in connection with the raising and keeping of pigs.\* Not fattening them, but selling at the age of four or five months. His own success certainly offers great encouragement. He traces it chiefly to making a large quantity of manure; large, that is, in proportion to the size of his farm, which is small. Most of his cultivated land is in grass. He keeps it down from eight to ten years, practising top-grassing.

Now we naturally entertain great respect for a man who makes money by his business, and improves his farm at the same time. However theoretically wrong his opinion may appear, it is justified by the results of the practice that grows directly out of it. When by following out his idea, he increases the value of his land and puts money in his pocket for a series of years, we must believe in such an infallible logic.

There is not a town in the county that does not show an increased growth of carrots or ruta bagas, as supplementary articles of food for cattle. They are, perhaps, more desirable than common, in consequence of the damage done to the quality of the grass by the heavy rains, especially in the meadows, where much was lost and all injured. May it not be questioned whether hay is not generally more impaired in value by standing too long, than when cut early? Be this as it may, roots form a valuable

dairy cows, (if properly managed,) including for hay; whereas, in the common mode of feeding, twice that number of acres would not do, and they would not produce above half the quantity of milk and butter."

\* Mr. D. finds that one breeding sow will turn over and thoroughly mix with the droppings of cattle, one ox-cart load of mud or loam per week, making the best top-dressing for grass. This is his practice, and he manufactures in this way, great quantities of manure to keep his mowing lands in the most productive state. When we consider that the first want upon a farm is that of manure, and that very few farmers supply as much as they might; when we remember what a waste there often is of privy manure, of the drainings of the sink, of the leaves and stalks of plants, we should be stimulated by every such example as the one before us, to study the strictest economy in the production and application of manure.

addition to the food of cattle, both as nutriment and as an alterative in promoting health. No one article of dry food contains the variety of nutritive principles required by the constitutions of cattle. For working horses hay distends the stomach too much, and makes labor and travelling difficult, to say nothing of the fact that much hay is musty or mixed with weeds. The exclusive use of hay food induces constipation. A judicious mixture of carrots with hay, is probably the very best fodder for working horses. Their value for milch cows was well understood long since. Our acquaintance with the farming of the county has not brought to our knowledge any other way in which so large an amount of food can be raised upon the same quantity of land, and with so little labor. The idea is familiar enough in England, where land is dear and economy of space to be considered. Indeed, it was said long ago, that "the foundation of good agriculture was the raising of roots, as winter food for cattle." As land becomes more valuable here, the more clearly will it be seen that the crop which yields from thirty to forty tons of nutritious food per acre, must take precedence of others, especially in a community where there is a growing demand for horse fodder, and where new butter and milk bring the highest prices. The cultivation required is attended with a large outlay, but that is of no importance provided the income is in a far greater ratio. The crop pays for all, to say nothing of the pleasure of seeing such great and decided improvements. "Half the diseases from which cattle suffer, proceed from obstructions occasioned by dry food."

Several of our acquaintances have failed to raise large crops of carrots, from forgetfulness of the necessity of deep ploughing and high manuring. Carrots require both, and will handsomely repay all the manure and cultivation they receive.\* The land should be ploughed three times to bring it into fine tilth, and not harrowed, but simply brushed smooth, that it may be light. The

\* An account of one of the largest growths of carrots in this county may be found in Transactions of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, Vol. 1, p. 83. The crop amounted to one hundred and sixty bushels, on one-eighth of an acre, or at the rate of more than thirty tons per acre. The only peculiarity we can discover in the proceeding was, that the manure, three ox-cart loads, was ploughed in, in November. As soon as the frost was out, the land was ploughed again, and a third time in May. The most thorough culture is generally rewarded with the most remunerating crop. The tendency of men to attend to their own or their fathers' ways makes it hard for this truth to be believed.

largest and proportionately cheapest crop that we have seen, was manured with guano at the rate of over a ton and a half to the acre. In a poor and poorly tilled soil, the roots will not only be small, but irregularly shaped. The white Belgian variety grows very large, and is much esteemed.

To avoid weeds, some farmers plant carrots on land that has been kept clean, with one or two crops of corn. Others plough an old pasture very deep, with a Michigan plough, use fine manure and harrow lightly.

It is impossible for us to say how much guano has been used this year, only that large quantities have been employed in some towns, scarcely any in others, and that its use is rapidly increasing. Men begin with a bag or a few hundred pounds, experimenting cautiously, feeling their way along, and usually with decided success and encouragement.\* One neighbor after another

\* We have received the following note from Mr. Charles Breck, of Milton, one of our most accurate and intelligent experimenters:—

“I have been conducting a small experiment with guano as a top dressing for worn-out grass land, for the last three years, with very good success. In 1840, a crop of rye was taken off the land, after which the stubble was ploughed in, and grass seed sown; the scattering rye again came up, and grew well, and, could it have been easily separated, would probably have yielded a good half crop. It was mowed with the grass early, and used for fodder, since which time the field has been constantly mowed and fed, without any top dressing. From this you may conclude, that the land was as nearly run out as it could be, although it is naturally a mellow, productive soil.

“In the spring of 1854, I staked off two square rods, which, to appearance, were as nearly equal as they could be, and lying side by side. On one rod I put twelve cents worth of guano mixed with one and a half peck of sand from the road-side. On the other rod nothing was put. In July, the grass was mowed, well dried, and carefully weighed. On the rod which had no manure, there were six pounds of hay. On the rod on which the guano was used, were twenty-six pounds of hay.

“In 1855, on the first rod were only three pounds of hay, and on the rod with guano there were nine pounds. In 1856, I mowed and dried the grass carefully. On the first rod I had three pounds of hay, and on the second nine pounds, making, in three years, a *gain* of thirty-two pounds, equal to 5,120 pounds to an acre, by the use of guano, that would have cost nineteen dollars and twenty cents, with a fair prospect of its continuing some time longer, besides improving the *quality* of the hay very much.

“In answer to your enquiries about plaster, I would observe, that I have never seen any good effects from its use as a manure, although I have seen it tried many ways.”

hears of the experiment, and imitates it. One farmer mixed a ton of guano with fifty loads of meadow mud, put it in the hill, and got a large crop of corn, but a larger one of stalks. Another informs us that he mixed in the same way, spread and ploughed in, and his crop came forward a little slower than the other, but was about equally good.

Another broke up four acres of pasture overgrown with moss and huckleberry bushes, used six hundred pounds of Peruvian and twelve hundred weight of Mexican guano, laid the land down to grass without grain, and at the first mowing had at least one ton of good hay to the acre.

Another spread six hundred pounds of Peruvian on two acres of exhausted mowing land, and cut between two and three tons. Several repeated this experiment with similar results. In one case, the farmer, with less than his usual good judgment, scattered the guano unmixed, and without crushing the lumps. There was a good deal of waste and loss, but still he was more than paid for the cost of the guano, by the increased crop of grass. It is commonly thought advisable to mix guano with rich mould or mud, several weeks before using, and to shovel it over three or four times, keeping it well covered.

Another farmer laid down his land with winter rye, used three hundred pounds of guano to the acre, and had a very large crop. Others lay down their land with grass, and for four years get from a ton and a half to a ton of good hay per acre, without further dressing. A case of this kind was reported in our Transactions two years ago. The writer of that report laid down three acres with grass last fall, using three hundred pounds of guano per acre, with the very best success. For six years he has used it with corn, grass and garden vegetables, and always, as he believes, profitably, although there are but few men in the county who have so large a quantity of barn-yard manure.

During the past summer, T. Clarke, Esq., of Walpole, reclaimed two acres of wet meadow. One acre was manured with three hundred pounds of guano, the other with five cords of the best stable and barn-yard manure. The grass seed has come up equally well in both. There is no perceptible difference in their appearance. But the manure in one case cost about ten dollars, in the other about twenty-five dollars.

Similar instances, too numerous to be detailed, seem to show that guano is available in many different soils, and for various crops; that if its effects are less permanent than those of other manures, their duration may be proportioned to the expense, while the comparatively small amount of labor required for its application, furnishes an argument in its favor, easily appreciated by those who pay the present wages of farm help.

In those places where the least attention is paid to agriculture, of course the least interest is felt in this or any other manure. But where guano is most used it is most highly prized. In one town, two public spirited individuals introduced a large amount of guano, a few years ago, which was used with satisfactory results, but within a year or two several experiments have been made with super-phosphate of lime, in that place, with results still more satisfactory to the parties interested.

In one town almost wholly devoted to mechanical pursuits, we could not hear of any person who had used guano. We found, however, an excellent farmer, whose only reason for not using it was a very good one, namely, that he had a plenty of barn-yard manure.

Not a few are puzzled to understand how three or four hundred pounds of guano can maintain land in as good order as the four or five cords of stable manure which they have been in the habit of using. It is of comparatively little consequence whether the fertilizing properties of manure are distributed through a large or small quantity of matter, provided they are distributed uniformly. If the essential elements of six cords of stable manure could be compressed into one cord, and evenly distributed and buried in the field, the advantages of the manure would be secured at less expense. The mud, straw, hay, leaves, roots, corn-stalks and weeds that compose the bulk of the manure, are comparatively inert as fertilizers, and in the most favorable view, require a long season of fermentation to develop their qualities. They are receptacles of ammonia and other fertilizing agents contained in the solid and liquid animal excrements. Hence, if guano contains these fertilizing properties in a concentrated form, and if it can be furnished and applied cheaper than an equivalent amount of barn-yard manure, it will be used in preference.

The barn-yard manure contains all the properties that the

crops require. The farmer is satisfied with its operation, and wants nothing better. But he cannot, in ordinary cases, make enough of it to answer his purpose. It is a costly article to manufacture, and, at the present price of labor, it can be carried out and applied to the land only at great expense. Hence he uses guano, not as a substitute for barn-yard manure, but as an auxiliary. The time may come, under judicious management, when the land shall yield such crops as will, in their consumption and in the consequent production of manure, render guano unnecessary.

Of course all experiments will not be successful. Guano is a new and powerful fertilizer. People forget or do not know its strength, employ it too lavishly and kill their seed, or scatter it in dry weather and its ammonia evaporates, or cover it too lightly or not at all, and the same result follows, or neglect to mix it thoroughly with mould or mud before using it, and thus lose part of its virtue. There is no remedy for this but increased knowledge and experience. In England, where it has been most used, it is prized more highly each succeeding year. There, and in some of our middle and southern States, where it is extensively employed in restoring worn-out land, it is found to be a cheap, profitable and lasting manure. There is not a subject connected with farming, about which so many inquiries are made of this committee, as about guano.\*

We are obliged to report a general failure in the potato crop. Many ingenious theories have been proposed, to account for the rot, but no preventive has yet been found. Perhaps none will be found short of an entire renewal of the stock from seed grown in

\* From a series of very carefully made experiments by Mr. William Fleming, of Barochan, Scotland, he came to these conclusions:—"Particular attention should be paid when guano is used, that it be well mixed with the soil, as this is of the greatest importance to the health of the plants and the bulk of the crop, especially in the case of potatoes and turnips. It has also been found, after many trials, that the best and most economical way of using guano for the potato crop, is by adding two or three hundred pounds per acre to half the usual quantity of farm-yard dung, which will be found to give at least as good a crop as double the quantity of dung alone, whilst it is much cheaper in the first cost, and saves much cartage. For hay crops, the most profitable way of using salt, ammonia, nitrate of soda and guano, is to make a compost, &c."

the original home of the potato. Potatoes that grow wild in Chili, where the disease is not known, may revive the reproductive energies of the plant now greatly impaired by over cultivation and strong manure. New varieties from seed raised here, may do well a few years in some instances, though not always, and then submit to the general fate. We have had seedlings which rotted worse than almost any. The early dug crops fared the best, but the intense heat and heavy rains developed the disease of the others to a lamentable extent. And in fields where the rot was not excessive, the crop is small; probably the average is much under a hundred bushels per acre.

This fact shows a great falling off in the yield as in the quality. By reference to the proceedings of the Agricultural Society of Massachusetts, from thirty to forty years ago, it appears that premium crops ranged from four hundred to six hundred and fifty bushels per acre, while the average was about two hundred. There has been a gradual tendency to degeneration in the principal varieties for several years, that has discouraged farmers and led them to apply their means to more productive crops. The uncertainty of the yield deters them from making a large outlay, while the consequent high price of good potatoes prevents them from being used as food for stock.

Within two or three years, the farmers in this county have gone more largely than ever before into raising of horses and cattle. In almost every town we find breeding mares and colts, and calves from stock of the finest quality. High prices have given a new impulse to this business, which promises to be profitable on one condition, namely, that only the best breeds are raised. By this we do not mean that the full-blooded foreign breeds should be perpetuated exclusively, but that by their aid, with the best specimens of our native cattle, a breed may be formed that shall be expressly adapted to our climate, soil and feed.

The farmers hardly did themselves justice at our last fair. Although there were many excellent cows and bulls present, yet the exhibition fell far below what the county might and ought to have done, and we hope will do another year.

In more than half of the towns in the county there is not a mowing machine, and there is quite a common prejudgment

against its introduction, a fact by no means creditable to the intelligence and enterprise of our people. In this respect, however, it meets the usual fate of improvements. The same man who determined not to use the roller, and horse-rake, and corn-sheller, and afterwards used them, now condemns before hand the mowing machine. It was said that it could not be used in our fields; that it would be too heavy, and always out of order; that it would ruin the horses, who, in their turn, would ruin the grass by trampling it down. A great amount of cheap wisdom was employed to prove that it could not be used; and when it was used successfully, then the objection was that the expense was ruinous, that small farmers would be excluded from its benefits. This objection is now removed, as we shall presently show by this year's experience. The mower has triumphantly established itself, and may be regarded as a fixed fact until something better shall displace it. No doubt it will be improved, will be cheaper, lighter, and capable of doing more work at less expense. That it will do it better, seems hardly possible. Enough has been done to show that the principle of its construction is sound, and that, with more or less modification, it may be profitably employed on small farms. Several instances of its successful operation have fallen under our observation, but, inasmuch as the Committee of the State Society are preparing a detailed report upon this subject, we forbear to mention them. A single case may be given as an example.

Mr. W. Salisbury, of Medfield, informed us that Mr. Joel Morse, with one of Allen's machines, mowed for him twelve acres of grass in a day. The grass made twelve tons of hay. Mr. Salisbury said that he was perfectly satisfied with the manner in which the work was done. The grass was cut more uniformly smooth than the best mower could have done it with a scythe.

We have heard many farmers express a determination to use the machine next hay-time. As full statements of the comparative excellence of the different machines may be expected in the Report already alluded to, we do not consider it expedient to be more particular in this notice.

The late Hon. John Lowell relates an experiment which he made with plaster, with very satisfactory results. "I had a field which had been laid down to grass more than seven years, and

was very much sward-bound. I began on the worst part of the ground, and the person employed to sow it with plaster, instead of three bushels on an acre, as I directed, put the three bushels on a fourth of an acre. The effect was so surprising, that when the Trustees of the Society were at my house, I asked them separately to say where the plaster began and where it ended, and no one failed to point out the precise limits. The crop was double that of the rest of the same piece of ground, quadruple that of the preceding year.

“It is now rendered certain, by the experience of many, that the neighborhood of the salt water forms no obstacle to its use.”—*Agr. Repos. for 1816*, vol. 4, p. 272.

In the generations before ours, the leading farmers of this country used plaster largely, and with satisfactory results. But lately little attention has been paid to it, and it is difficult to find men whose testimony is decisively in its favor. It is possible that it deserves the praises which our predecessors bestowed upon it, and that it has been supplanted by guano and other new manures. If it is thought worth while to continue its use, two things should be kept in mind: first, that it will answer better on dry, light or gravelly loams than on other soils; secondly, that its effects must be waited for patiently, because it is not soluble in less than five hundred times its weight of water. Hence, if applied to grass land or pastures, it should be spread in the fall or winter, that the melting snow and early rains may dissolve it, and thus bring it in contact with the roots.

On no manure, not even guano, is there such a variety of opinions as to the mode of its operation. Nothing but numerous and long continued experiments can determine the vexed questions, both of its value and of the manner in which it produces its results.

Farmers continue to use plaster, both in hills and as top dressing; yet there are few substances employed as manure that are less satisfactory. We have asked many farmers whether they knew *any* results to follow from its use. Most of them replied, none, either good or bad. Some thought it might have fixed the ammonia in the manure or the atmosphere. Others had reclaimed old pastures by a liberal use of plaster. In the State of New York, a farmer believes that he saved his potatoes from rot in

1846, 7, 8, by two or three liberal dressings of plaster and ashes. No such result has occurred, to our knowledge, in this vicinity. In parts of England it is the practice of farmers to apply 150 to 200 weight of plaster per acre to their grass lands every year. On dry, open land, in a wet season, or on other land, at a greater distance from the sea shore than our county reaches, it may be found advantageous. It is sometimes thought to increase the activity of barn-yard manure, by being mixed with it when turned over.

The curious reader will find in the second volume of the Massachusetts Agricultural Repository for the year 1805, an Essay upon the Nature and Uses of Plaster, in which it is highly extolled. The writer says, "It seems to comprise in itself more virtues as a manure than almost any other manure of equal bulk, or even of equal weight, which is known in common practice. It will restore to good heart the old farms to which it is suited, with little expense and in a short time. It begins by turning into manure various useless substances found upon the ground, and thus prepares the way for an increase of stock. The grass obtained through plaster is peculiarly acceptable to cattle, who always single it out from other grass. It is, indeed, distinguishable to the eye and touch, and the hay from it is perhaps alike valuable. Plaster likewise appears to have a direct power in stimulating the sprouting of seeds and the growth of plants."

After a great deal more laudatory than this and more indefinite, the author adds, "It is commonly supposed to be useless near the sea."

It is gratifying to notice, in every part of the county, the increased attention given to reclaiming of meadows. The instances are too numerous to be specified, in which wet, boggy, bushy meadows, that yielded nothing whatever of value to man or beast, have been converted into excellent mowing fields, by draining, by gravel and manure. Farmers have found such meadows to be the best land they owned; that is, yielding the largest returns in proportion to the money expended upon them. Instead of poor hay, nearly worthless, and which animals will eat only to keep from starving, the reclaimed meadow furnishes from two to three tons per acre of the best hay, and hay brings milk, butter and meat.

Meadows so treated require but little labor or expense for several years.

The high price and increasing demand for cranberries have given a new impulse to their cultivation. We refer both to the improvement of natural meadows, by removing whatever hinders the growth of the vines, and by a systematic course of flooding, and to the planting of vines in meadows, expressly prepared for that purpose. Some experiments on a large scale have been commenced, but sufficient time has not yet elapsed to warrant an expression of opinion upon the results. Suffice it to say, those most interested are satisfied that they shall reap a good harvest. We have had frequent inquiries about the methods adopted, the kinds of vines, the time of setting out, the preparation of the land, &c., by parties bent on experimenting on a small scale. But our own stock of practical knowledge is small, and we can only refer inquirers to men already engaged in the business, or to various contributions in previous volumes of our transactions. In the volume entitled "Agriculture of Massachusetts, by C. L. Hunt," for 1853, will be found several excellent communications, which go into the details of growing cranberries. Also a Report upon Cranberries by the Secretary himself, which is full and complete, abounding in practical suggestions. Very few persons are aware of the extent of the cranberry culture, the demand for the fruit, or the interest recently awakened in the details of various methods. On these and various other topics, Mr. Hunt's Report affords much instruction. The market is never glutted with this article. There is no probability that it can be. The price is always high, and the demand steadily increases. We believe that in a few years many a now unproductive meadow will be worth more than all the rest of the farm. This is already the case in several instances that have come to our knowledge. We know men who have received from one hundred to five hundred dollars for their cranberries this season; and the natural meadow of Captain W. Tucker of Canton, does not probably yield a net annual profit of less than two thousand dollars. Perhaps no man in this vicinity has had more experience in this business, or is better qualified to give the necessary information to persons about commencing it.

Our principal cereal crop, Indian corn, has been remarkably large and sound this season. We have found a most gratifying

disposition, on the part of farmers, to increase the average yield, and to prove that the largest crops are proportionably the cheapest,—that fifty bushels per acre cost less per bushel than thirty. Many farmers listen with incredulity to the statement that a hundred bushels can be raised on an acre; but it has been done before, and it has been done this year, in one instance at least. We refer to the crop of the Messrs. Sias of Milton, an account of which will doubtless be furnished by the Committee on Grains.

From an experiment made in Dorchester two years ago, it was found that a mixed crop of corn and some lesser vegetable, as cabbage, which does not shade the land, and which lets in light and air, was more profitable than corn alone. Our farmers sometimes substantially adopt this method, when they alternate four or five rows of corn with as many of potatoes. May we not suggest that the experiment should be repeated by many individuals? From a comparison of results, it might be seen whether the plan of mixed crops ought to be gradually adopted.

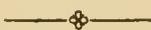
As a matter of literary curiosity, we quote a few lines from one of the earliest European navigators who ever saw Indian corn. They will show that we follow the Indian method of cultivation to a great extent,—that we do, in fact, merely perpetuate fashions set by the first cultivators. In 1607, the Sieur de Champlain, captain in the French navy, touched at the mouth of the Kennebec river. In his Journal he says, “Here we saw Indian corn, which they sow, three or four grains in a place, covering them with earth. At a distance of three feet they plant as much more, and so on. In each hill of corn they plant three or four beans of various colors. They plant their corn in May and gather it in September.” At the Saco river, “the savages told us that all who inhabited this region cultivated and sowed the land like those we had seen.” At Cape Cod, July 21st, “we landed and passed through a field of corn, planted like those we had seen before. The corn was in blossom and about five and a half feet high. There was also other less advanced, having been planted later. There were also several fields not cultivated, being left to recruit in fallow.” After having passed round Cape Cod, they “found much land well tilled in corn and other grains. All the people of this place are industrious and make provision of Indian corn for the winter, which they preserve in the following fashion. On the

declivity of the hills they make trenches in the sand, five or six feet deep, more or less, and having put the corn into sacks made of grass, they deposit it in these trenches, and cover with sand three or four feet deep. The grain is as well kept as in our granaries." "Arrived again at Saco, September 21st, and found that the Indians had gathered their corn." From these extracts it will be seen that we only pursue the methods which the aborigines invented, at a time when their civilization had reached a higher point than we usually assign to them.

We take this opportunity to return our thanks to numerous individuals, who have forwarded our objects by their readiness in furnishing the desired information. Wherever we have been we have met with a welcome reception and generous hospitality. We have formed a higher opinion of agriculture from our more intimate acquaintance with those engaged in it. Foremost in importance among industrial pursuits, it will be foremost in its pecuniary returns, when the same accurate knowledge and careful oversight are applied to it, which are found indispensable in manufactures and commerce.

For the Committee,

JOHN M. MERRICK,  
CHARLES C. SEWALL,  
EDWARD L. KEYES.



## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FARMS.

The Committee on Farms are happy to have it in their power to state that they have not been permitted, during the past year, to be idle or unoccupied in their *official* capacity. They have been invited to visit two farms. They complied with the request that were made. They attended with pleasure to their official duties; and will now proceed to give a brief account of their doings.

On the 8th July, the Committee, or a part of them, at the request of Hon. S. D. Bradford of West Roxbury, visited his farm.

They had the pleasure of meeting, on that occasion, the President of the Society, the Hon. M. P. Wilder, some of the Vice Presidents, and other gentlemen, friends of the cause of agriculture.

For a brief history of the farm and an account of its management and productions, we refer to the communications of Mr. Bradford, addressed to the Chairman, and appended to this Report.

The Committee, therefore, in this connection, remark generally that the principal production of Mr. Bradford's farm is *hay*, for which the soil seems peculiarly well adapted. At the same time, valuable crops of grain are raised. One field of rye was remarkable, both for *quantity* and *quality*. As a particular account of this may be given by the Committee on Grain Crops, we refer to the Report of that Committee, for the purpose of showing what we consider an important fact, namely, that *grain crops may be made profitable in Norfolk county*.

The fine mowing lands on Mr. Bradford's farm had received no top dressing for six or eight years. But the after crop was permitted to remain, to serve the double purpose of guarding the roots from the winter frost and enriching the ground the following season. The Committee remark, in conclusion, that an elegant simplicity and taste characterized the premises of Mr. Bradford; and we hope he may receive a reasonable profit in addition to the great and constant pleasure which the possession and intelligent cultivation of such a beautiful farm will naturally furnish him.

The Committee award to S. D. Bradford of West Roxbury, the Society's premium of \$25.00.

The other farm, visited by a part of the Committee, is situated in the town of Wrentham, and is owned by James S. Wiggin, Esq. In the communication of Mr. Wiggin, addressed to Rev. Mr. Sewall of Medfield, and annexed to this Report, will be found a detailed account of his various operations upon the farm since he has taken possession of it. These operations appear to have been conducted with characteristic energy. Great improvements have already been made on the premises of Mr. Wiggin during the short period of two years. But great as they are, they are only the *beginning* of a series of improvements, which it is the purpose of Mr. W. to carry forward to full completion. With this statement and with a reference to the full communication of Mr. W., al-

ready mentioned, the Committee award to James S. Wiggin of Wrentham the Society's premium of \$15.00.

The Committee beg leave to express the earnest wish that others would follow the example of Mr. Bradford and Mr. Wiggin, and offer their farms for examination and premium. There are, doubtless, in our county many farms which would do honor to their proprietors, and the knowledge of which would be beneficial to the community. One of the important advantages resulting from associations like ours is, to have the knowledge possessed by *individuals*, communicated to the *public*, and thus become the *common* property of *all*. Our county is highly favored in having within its limits not a few distinguished agriculturists and horticulturists who have spared no pains nor expense to add interest to our public exhibitions, and to promote the advancement of the great cause in which we are engaged.

Respectfully submitted,

RALPH SANGER, *Chairman.*

*Dover, November, 1856.*

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#### STATEMENT OF S. D. BRADFORD OF WEST ROXBURY.

The farm, which once belonged to my father, and which I inherited at his decease in 1825, was purchased by him in 1789, and consisted of thirty acres, a part of which was wood land, and all in a very rough and uncultivated condition. A great part of it was so covered by stones, and even by large rocks, that had any one made the attempt to sow seed upon it, very little would have fallen upon the soil or produced any return. In 1795 an addition was made to the farm by the purchase of twenty acres more, called "Abbott's pasture," which remains to-day in nearly the same state as when it was bought, sixty-one years ago, and is used for the pasturing of cattle.

In 1854, I purchased another farm adjoining my paternal estate, and containing about 100 acres, of which about 30 acres consist of wood land and what is called swamp, containing large

deposits of muck, now so much used in the compounding of manure. My whole farm, therefore, consists at present of say 150 acres. Its length is 1756 paces by 600 paces broad, and is all joined together and very compact.

The land mowed over this year was about seventy acres. I put into the barns 138 loads of hay, most of which was of the very first quality, besides eight to ten tons of rye straw and several loads of second crop hay. I suppose the loads to average about a ton in weight, but it is possible they may be less. Some were double loads, drawn by oxen, and some packed on what is called "the hay rigging," drawn by one horse only. I have gathered corn from about six acres, of the kind called "Pembroke," and have two acres of carrots, which I hope may yield thirty to forty tons of that useful vegetable.

I have sent to Mr. Wilder an account of the field of winter rye which attracted so much attention the day you and the other gentlemen favored me with a visit, and was not a little surprised when I received an account of the weight of the straw. The reapers remarked in the field "that they had never seen any thing to equal it even in the old country."

You are so familiar with the nature of the soil in West Roxbury, and so much at home upon all the subjects of agriculture, that I doubt my ability of saying any thing more, which is not known to you already. No one can doubt the fertility of the land in this vicinity, and by using a sufficiency of manure I could make each acre give a very large return, especially of grass, and of a superior kind. Land which, with only a small quantity of manure, will produce forty to forty-five bushels of rye to the acre, must be admitted to be of good quality, and *ought* to pay a profit.

I have said nothing of the ancient house in which I continue to dwell, at a considerable sacrifice of comfort, especially during our long and severe winters. I have attempted, in vain, to discover the year in which it was built. In looking over, however, "Dr. John Elliot's Biographical Dictionary of the settlers of New England," I find a statement by him that it was built by Colonel William Dudley, who was the grandson of Thomas Dudley, one of the first settlers of Massachusetts, and who came over in the *Arabella*. His father was Governor Joseph Dudley, and he died

1743. Dr. Elliot, in his life of him, says: "he graduated at Harvard College in 1704, applied himself to the study of the law, but did not incline to enter upon the business of his profession. In a retired spot of the town of Roxbury, he built an elegant house, and cultivated his farm." From this we may conjecture the house was built from 1710 to 1720, and, of course, is now about 146 years old. Several parts of the interior work, tradition says, were made in London, particularly the stairs and *banisters*, which are still in a good state of preservation.

S. D. BRADFORD.

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#### SECOND STATEMENT OF S. D. BRADFORD.

I beg leave to report, that the quantity of land planted with corn this season, upon my farm, was about six acres. The spring being wet, it was planted very late, and part of the seed having failed, two large fields had to be planted a second time, with the Canada yellow corn, which ripens sooner than some other kinds. The weather was so cold in August, fears were entertained at one time that the corn would not ripen at all, but the subsequent warm and dry weather soon removed these apprehensions, and we gathered four hundred and fifty-three baskets in the ear.

I have grown, this season, about eighteen tons of carrots, (the large orange,) on two acres which had been sown with this vegetable in 1854 and 1855, and had produced a large return. I expected thirty to thirty-six tons, and impute the diminished production, in part, to having used on one acre C. B. De Burgh's *super phosphate of lime*, instead of barn-yard manure. Some other vegetables, also, to which it was applied, did badly, whereas the carrots, which were manured in the usual way, gave a satisfactory return.

The season being so late and cold, I planted only about ten bushels of potatoes. A quantity rotted, and some, when dry, were not much larger than walnuts. In former years, I have planted Chenangos as early as the 14th of April, and had a very good crop.

I have grown a few tons of ruta bagas this season, which have

done quite well. I grow, of other vegetables, only sufficient to supply my own table. In ordinary years, I have a fair supply of apples. Last year I had 139 bushels of cider apples, and 50 barrels of selected fruit gathered by hand, and fit for table desert.

In pears, I have only a moderate supply ; but of the best kinds, the seekel, in particular, does well in West Roxbury. Some years I have a great abundance of peaches.

I have two farm horses, one yoke of oxen, three cows, and seldom vary from this number.

I have used upon my farm, this year, about one hundred cords of manure, all of which was taken from the barn-yard or stable, except about twenty cords of muck taken from a part of my farm, where there are large deposits of the very best quality. I have also used 3,450 lbs. of phosphate of lime.

S. D. BRADFORD.

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#### J. S. WIGGIN'S STATEMENT.

In regard to my crops, I shall speak generally. I have kept no detailed account the present year, but have gone on making improvements, cultivating my land, purchasing implements, adding to my stock, furnishing my house, and charging all to the cost of the farm ; probably, another year, I may open a profit and loss account with the farm.

Two years since found me in possession of a farm containing about twenty-three acres, entirely run out—buildings in shocking condition. I sent my carpenter from Boston, with orders to make certain repairs and alterations, which he did to my entire satisfaction, at a cost of \$3,000 to 4,000, during the fall of 1854.

The first of May, 1855, I came to the farm with my family, and passed six months. During that period, I added to my stock three cows, one yoke of oxen, one farm horse, twenty-one swine, some of which were fatted and sold. I purchased implements as fast as they were required, until I found my farm amply supplied with the very essential, with no occasion to trouble my neighbors with borrowing. During this period, I added to

my farm sixty acres, consisting of wood land, pasturage and mowing, which now makes it consist of eighty-three acres.

I also built a long range of substantial stone wall, four feet high, and trenched below frost. I also built an avenue to my house, leading from the road, across a pond, in which I had constructed a flume, partly of wood, the balance stone. Having a large supply of water at the head, which is constantly kept supplied from boiling springs, induced me to put in a hydraulic ram, and convey the water to my buildings, which has proved invaluable; yielding an abundance, saving much labor, and enables us to have the same facilities for bathing and water closets, as the Cochituate does our residence in Boston, besides all other purposes for which the element is needed.

During this period, I caused to be planted several acres of the serial crops, using only one ton of Mexican guano, which proved to be of little value, and some ashes, which I caused to be made from sods and brush, which was scraped together for the better improvement of the farm, wintered the stock before enumerated.

In October, I laid down three to three and one-half acres of winter rye, and two or more of winter wheat, from which I had a fair yield. Had these crops been put in at the usual season of the year, they would have been large, particularly the wheat, but circumstances would not admit of getting the seed in earlier. The ground for wheat was prepared with barn manure, made during the summer, and slacked lime. The seed, before sowing, was immersed in strong brine, all foreign substances skimmed off, and then shaded over in a trough, adding slacked lime, until the seed separated, and every kind was encased, and better fruit I never have seen.

After spending the winter in the city, the first of May found me again upon the farm, and I found my stock, of every kind, had not been idle. The barn yard and cellar were full of manure, and together with my former experience of the past season, I had something to do with, and could really begin the business of farming. The flume before noticed, enables me to draw down the pond, in which is deposited a rich, vegetable substance known as muck. I caused to be taken out 50 cords. Two good hands, Irish wheel-barrows, will take out six cords a day. It having had the action of the winter, I caused it to be combined,

thoroughly, with one ton of Peruvian guano. On land thus prepared, I planted eight acres of corn—different varieties: Canada, King Philip, old fashion eight-rowed, and Webster, manuring in the hill about four acres of potatoes—different varieties, one acre of white beans, one-half acre of carrots, besides the usual quantity of sweet corn, garden vegetables, pole beans, &c., &c., say one and a half acres, and my neighbors are astonished at the result of the muck and guano. The cost of the two ingredients when prepared, I calculate at \$3.50 per cord.

In addition to the crops named, I caused to be sowed about four acres of barley and two of oats, which has given me good crops; this ground was manured from the barn yard; all my crops are upon sward land, broke up this spring.

My fruit trees, which consist mostly of grafted apples, have received my personal attention. Last year they were much injured by caterpillars. I have conquered them this year,—scarcely a tree with a nest upon it, and more or less of fruit. I dug around them, transplanted some, scraped all that were worth preserving, took up those that were not, washed them twice with oil soap suds, and very soon shall make a paste of the same material, add to which, green corn manure and tobacco steeped, and paste it around the trunk, about twelve inches in height, which I apprehend will not only destroy, but prevent their future ingress.

Upon my farm are about seven acres of meadow, which I caused to be ditched through the centre, four feet in width and three feet deep, preparatory to reclaiming them into English grass. In my stone wall, when required, I have erected gates instead of bars, as they are more secure and saving of labor. I am now constructing a cement drain from the house to the barn cellar, through which could be conveyed, for useful purposes, all the drainage of sinks and water closets. Finding that my old barn was too small, I have added two wings, one for a stable, 23 by 36, the other 36 by 36, with two linters and tie upon which, makes a building 87 by 36, with paved and cemented cellar under the whole, divided into pens for hogs, with drive way from end to end; also a cemented cellar for roots, under a building which adjoins the barn, in which will also be set kettles for boiling food for the swine. My pens are made of spruce plank, five feet

high, let into grooves, so as to take out easy. The troughs, set half in and out with swing doors, so that they cannot trample while feeding, nor waste food—besides, the troughs are always kept clean, being raised upon a platform two and a half feet.

Out of a building upon the farm I constructed an ice-house, which holds 50 tons, which is taken from my pond at very small cost, giving a supply for all purposes, of that now almost indispensable luxury. An open shed, 40 feet long, will soon be finished facing the barn yard; also, upon the other side of the yard, a pen for poultry in connection with a house for the same, of which I have of different species, young and old, about 200.

I have added to my stock this year a pair of carriage horses, one cow, four sheep, (cossets,) and hope to raise my own lamb for the table next year. My swine number upwards of forty, young and old. Have sold some shoats and pigs this summer, and expect to slaughter ten fatted hogs this fall and winter.

Soon as time will permit I shall continue enclosing my farm with stone wall, a part of which has already been done during the year. I took out a buttonwood stump, which was in the centre of the wall, at a cost of \$25.00. The *modus operandi* by which it was accomplished was equal to an old fashioned hauling, and created quite as much excitement among our neighbors.

The expenditures this year upon barn and out-buildings, not far from \$3500.00. The cost of the ram \$26.00; pipe laying and plumbing \$175.00. My farm is bounded upon three roads; therefore am not much troubled with division fence.

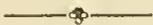
My farm is now stocked and furnished with five cows, one yoke of oxen, five calves, (to be raised,) four horses, four sheep, forty head of swine, one chaise, one two-horse buggy, one wagon, one ox cart, one horse cart, one hay cart, one roller, and most all other approved implements used upon thrifty farms. My poultry consists of turkeys, hens and chickens, of the old barn yard stamp, which I think is the best breed for eating.

Thus, my friend, I have given you, in as brief a manner as the subject would admit, the information you desired. If it will be of service to you individually as a committee man or agricultural board of Norfolk county, you are at liberty to use it; and although I feel that it is of little worth, still if I have or can do any thing that will inspire new vigor and cause to be rejuvenated the old

neglected farms in Massachusetts, then I shall have been amply rewarded for what little I have done or may hereafter do in the service of the cause of agriculture.

Yours truly,

JAMES S. WIGGIN.



## REPORT ON FOREST TREES.

We are surprised that, notwithstanding the liberal premiums offered by this Society, and the strong inducements otherwise presented to farmers, the growth of forest trees has received so little attention in Norfolk county. The cost and consumption of fuel and timber is already creating serious apprehension for the future, and would justify any reasonable measures to remove it. True, it is said that the amount of wood land in the county is greater now than it was twenty-five years ago, although the quantity of merchantable wood and timber is smaller. But we believe that this statement rests mainly on the fact that the value of wood land has increased so much, within the given period, that many acres are now suffered to remain in their natural state, which otherwise would have been cleared up and devoted to tillage or pasturage, and that many pastures are now covered with scattered pines, birches or other trees, where otherwise the brushwood would have been extirpated. On the slightest survey of the county, one is struck with the great number of acres to be seen where the soil is light, capable of affording only the scantiest herbage,—often covered with moss,—or yielding occasionally a meagre crop of rye or corn,—scantily repaying its cost, which might be covered with beautiful and productive forests, and thus add, every way, to the attractiveness and value of the homestead.

But while few systematic attempts have been made, within our knowledge, to cultivate forest trees on any extensive scale, we are happy to notice the instances of successful endeavor, in this direction, to which our attention has been called ; and we cannot

but hope that others may be incited by them to give to the subject all the consideration it deserves.

Mr. Whiting Metcalf of Franklin, presented for our inspection a plantation of pines and birches, covering three and a half acres. This plantation was begun about twenty years ago,—when its proprietor was nearly three score years old,—and he now lives to reap the mental satisfaction, as well as the pecuniary returns, of an entirely successful experiment. Upon the western border of his large and valuable farm, a swell of land, with a soil of light, sandy loam, and a subsoil of pure sand had been sown, for many alternate years, with rye and grass seed, without any fair equivalent for the labor and expense of it. This land was now sown,—one half of it with seeds of the pitch pine tree, which grew rapidly, and encouraged the attempt to sow the other half, some years afterwards, with seeds of the white pine tree. For some reason these did not germinate as uniformly as the others had done, and seeds of the birch tree were then sown in every vacant spot. The result is that Mr. Metcalf now has, on the half of this land first sown, one acre and three-quarters of pitch pine trees, from among which he has thinned out, last spring, ten cords of small wood, leaving, on a careful estimate, not less than fifteen cords per acre of good merchantable wood. Probably these trees have grown more rapidly than usual, in consequence of the previous cultivation of the soil. But, judging from their past growth and present vigorous appearance, we think they will increase at the rate of a cord per acre, at least, for every year until they are of sufficient age and size to be felled. Allowing this to be not less than forty years from the time of sowing, there will then be thirty cords per acre on the ground. The increased value of the wood, at that time, will probably bear due proportion to the increased quantity of it. If the price of such wood in the market to-day is four dollars per cord, it may then be seven dollars, and the whole lot would be worth two hundred and ten dollars per acre.

This may appear, at first sight, to be no very large return for so long an investment of money. We have heard it said that it were far better to abandon such acres, and seek a more profitable investment of capital in the fertile prairies of the West. And we confess that, for an immediately gainful return, the prospect at the West may be far more inviting ; but, in addition thereto, must

be taken all the discomforts and disadvantages of the change of residence, in comparison with the familiar comforts and advantages of a New England home. But it is idle to start the question of comparative remuneration in the case. Here are three acres of light and almost barren soil, and the question is, whether they cannot be made productive and converted to some profitable use. We cannot abandon them. The farms and homesteads of New England cannot be deserted. We must adopt better methods of cultivation, and make better use of light and unimproved lands. We must renew and enlarge our forests, by a judicious planting of different sorts of trees for fuel, building and the arts. We must adorn and beautify spots now barren, with the growth they are best capable of sustaining, and thus increase their capacity of use to the generations that may succeed us here. In this way, we may do much to lessen the inducements which are now carrying so many of the young and active yeomanry away from their homes.

Besides, if we look closely at the mere profit of the investment, in the case before us, we may be led to regard it in a very different light. Here are three and a half acres of very light land, worth perhaps, in their present condition, fifteen dollars per acre, the interest and taxes of which would be, say (for we do not intend an exact calculation,) one dollar. They are sown with rye one year, and planted or pastured the next. But this cultivation, it is stated, yields no greater return than would cover the cost. They would remain, therefore, unprofitable acres unless converted to some better use. They are now sown with seeds of the pine tree. These germinate well and their growth is rapid; and at the period of twenty years we find these acres covered with a burden of fifteen cords per acre of good merchantable wood, worth in the market say one one hundred and twenty-five dollars; and it has cost nothing more than the planting and protecting of the trees. But it will yield its owner an interest of more than THIRTY PER CENT. per annum on his original investment. No doubt we have estimated the original value of the land above what its actual or its market is worth. If so, there is of course an equally large addition to be made to the annual interest which the investment will yield. May we not ask if,—all things considered,—the prairie lands of the West are more to be desired in a pecuniary point of

view? But this pecuniary profit from the investment is not all. There is a mental satisfaction derived from the cultivation and improvement of one's paternal acres,—from beautifying the spot where it has been our happiness to own our nativity,—where are the civil and religious institutions and the social advantages we most value, and where we trust our children will make their pleasant homes,—which no money can purchase.

Of the remaining half of Mr. Metcalf's lands, we shall only say that it was sown some years later, with the seeds of the white pine and birch trees, as may be seen by his statement annexed, and that it now bears an equally flourishing growth of valuable wood.

Another plantation of forest trees was examined by your Committee, belonging to Mr. Alfred H. Metcalf of Franklin.

This plantation is upon land of similar light soil, and adjoining that of which we have before spoken. On the 12th of June, 1850, Mr. Metcalf transplanted to this spot, from scattered points in the open field near by, four hundred young white pine trees. These all lived and grew thriftily. In May of the following year, 1851, he transplanted four hundred more, making the whole plantation cover about two-thirds of an acre. For the precise manner in which this was done, we shall refer to Mr. Metcalf's statement, annexed. But one tree has failed to take root and flourish; and there stands a fine, thrifty grove of trees, presenting to the eye a beautiful prospect, exciting in the breast of its owner emotions of satisfaction and honest pride, and promising a liberal return in money for his investment and his labor.

We commend both these instances to the consideration of the members of this Society, with the assurance that, if any one is disposed to examine these plantations, his visit will be received with pleasure by Messrs. Metcalf, and rewarded with ample gratification.

We unanimously award to Mr. Whiting Metcalf the Society's first premium of \$20,00.

To Mr. Alfred H. Metcalf, the Society's second premium of \$10.00.

Having spoken of the growth of forest trees in the county as a subject of great importance, and of this in only one of its bearings, it may be expected that we should proceed to a fuller and

more elaborate discussion of the whole matter. But we have neither the time to devote to it, before this Report must go to the press, nor the means at hand for pursuing those investigations, without which this object could not be accomplished. Happily, no discussion of ours is necessary, as none could approach that already before the public, in the admirable Report on the Trees and Shrubs of Massachusetts, by the Hon. Commissioner of the Commonwealth, George B. Emerson, Esq., of Boston. We earnestly invite attention to this Report, which offers at once the most extensive and reliable information, and the most gratifying occupation to every reader. It is greatly to be desired that a new edition of this work should be published, at a cost which will enable every farmer and every citizen in the Commonwealth to possess and examine it.

For the Committee,

CHARLES C. SEWALL, *Chairman.*

NOTE. Since completing this Report, we have learned from a perfectly reliable source, facts which lend much support to the encouragement there is for greater attention to the growth of forest trees in our county.

A member of the Society, who has devoted a long life to the labors of the farm, and whose good judgment and industry are proved by the result of his labors, has informed us that, just forty years ago, he planted a field of two acres upon his father's farm with corn and potatoes; that since that time there have been cut from the same field two separate growths of excellent birch wood, of at least twenty cords per acre, and that there is now standing upon it a third growth of the same kind of wood, for part of which he has just been offered six dollars per cord for mechanical uses. The field had received little care and attention after the cultivation mentioned above. Around the walls of it white birches were suffered to remain at that time, from the seeds of which, scattered by the winds and the birds, the whole grove, it is supposed, has sprung.

The same gentleman also states that he once had in possession another field, of like soil and dimensions, which was overgrown with small brushwood of birches, which he wished to destroy. He attempted to accomplish his purpose by cutting down the young trees, in the month of June,—a process which, he had been assured, would certainly kill the roots. The attempt was given over, after cutting down the growth on one half the field. But, in the month of September following, he found there, to his astonishment, a new growth of young birch trees, nearly or quite as large as that which had remained untouched on the other half of the field. He is now done with cutting young birch trees, in the month of June, in order to kill their roots.

## MR. WHITING METCALF'S STATEMENT.

My plantation of forest trees contains three and a half acres. The soil is a light sandy loam, and the subsoil sand. About one half of it is of pitch pine ; the other half of white pine and birch trees. I raised rye upon the land about every other year for several years, but found that it would not pay the expense. I then procured some pitch pine seeds and sowed them on the rye stubble, and harrowed them into the ground, which was the only expense of the whole. This was done about twenty years ago. The seeds came up too thickly, in some places, but I suffered them to take their course until last spring, when I thinned out of the lot about ten cords. This left the remainder good room to grow, and it is the opinion of competent judges that there are now fifteen cords to the acre upon the ground.

The other half of the lot was sown three or four years afterwards with white pine seeds ; but the seed did not come up well, and the next year I sowed birch seed to fill all the vacancies. I now have a handsome lot of white pine and birch trees.

WHITING METCALF.

*Franklin, September, 1856.*

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 MR. A. H. METCALF'S STATEMENT.

The land on which my plantation of forest trees stands, consists of a poor sandy loam, and was considered nearly worthless. In the year 1850, on the 12th of June, I set out upon it four hundred white pine trees. In the following spring, about the last of May, I set out nearly the same number. The plantation now contains about eight hundred trees, and occupies two thirds of an acre of ground.

I transplanted these trees from an old pasture near by, when they averaged about two feet in height, and with a sod around them six or eight inches square. I ploughed furrows in the land eight feet apart, and placed the trees four feet distant from each other, in each furrow. Then with a hoe I drew the earth over them, as far as was necessary to cover and protect the roots, and the work was done.

The whole expense did not exceed four dollars, and for this I now have a beautiful and thrifty grove of pine trees, averaging from eight to ten feet in height.

ALFRED H. METCALF.

*Franklin, September, 1856.*

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In connection with the foregoing Report on Forest Trees, the Trustees have thought it would subserve the purposes of the Society to reprint a portion of the admirable Report therein referred to, "On the Trees and Shrubs growing naturally in the Forests of Massachusetts."

"The object of this Report," says its author, George B. Emerson, Esq., "is to describe the trees and forests of Massachusetts, to set forth their importance, their general and particular relations, uses and properties, and the modes by which they may be preserved, propagated and improved."

It would be fitting to our purpose to reprint the whole of Mr. Emerson's Introductory Essay on the uses and improvements of the forest. But the space it would require forbids. We have, therefore, taken the liberty to select such parts of it as best comport with our design; while we again urge upon every one who can obtain it, the careful study of the whole.

It will readily be seen that the value and usefulness of this Report are in no degree diminished by the natural and social changes which have taken place since its publication in 1846. The only material difference between its applicability to that period and the present, is in the statistics by which the author measures the worth and the uses of the forests. The increase which has accumulated in the quantity of wood consumed for fuel and in manufactures and the arts, is truly astonishing; and the fact should serve to impress most strongly upon the mind of every farmer the importance of attending to his forest trees.

We shall present a table of statistics, showing the present use and value of wood, drawn from a source similar to that of the one made use of by Mr. Emerson, in the preparation of his Report, exhibiting the facts, in part at least, as they existed at the close of the year ending June 1, 1855.

Mr. Emerson describes the uses of forests as follows :—

1. Forests create, or gradually but constantly improve a soil. The roots penetrate deeply into the ground, and thus let in the air, to produce its slow but sure effects. The radicals decompose the grains of sand, and extract from them some of the elements essential to a soil; they drink in moisture and the carbonic acid gas, which has been formed beneath or brought down from the atmosphere above the surface; and from these several elements, acted on by heat, light and air, in the leaves and by that unknown influence, vegetable life, are formed the various substances which compose the plant. The annual deposit of leaves and the final decay of the branches and trunk, go to constitute the mould upon which other plants grow. And the soil thus formed is kept by the thick matting of the roots from washing away.

2. Another use of forests is to serve as conductors of electricity between the clouds and its great reservoir, the earth, thus giving activity to the vital powers of plants, and leading the clouds to discharge their contents upon the earth. . . . . The forests also coat the earth and keep it warm in winter, shutting in the central heat, which would otherwise more rapidly radiate into space and be lost. . . . . Forests act not less favorably as a protection against the excessive heat of the summer's sun, which rapidly evaporates the moisture and parches up the surface. . . .

3. Forests protect a country from the violence of winds. . . . . The laws of the motion of the atmosphere are similar to those of water. A bare hill gives no protection. The wind pours over it as water pours over a dam. But if the hill be capped with trees, the windy cascade will be broken as into spray. Its violence will be sensibly diminished. . . . . A garden, surrounded by tall trees, admits the cultivation, even in our severe climate, of plants almost tropical.

Forests not only protect from winds; they must prevent their formation. The air, resting over a broken surface, cannot be rapidly heated to a uniformly high temperature, so as to rise upwards in great masses and create a violent wind.\*

\* A writer in the sixth volume of the *New England Farmer* says :—“ It is indeed astonishing how much better cattle thrive in fields even but moderately sheltered, than they do in an open, exposed country. In the breeding of cattle, a sheltered farm, or a sheltered corner in a farm, is a thing much

4. As adding to the beauty of a country, the forests are of the utmost importance. A country destitute of them cannot be in the highest degree beautiful.

5. In a country so much exposed as ours is, in consequence of the remarkable clearness of the atmosphere, to the burning heat of the sun, the use of trees for shade is not one of the least important. . . . . A tree which furnishes a cool shade to the inhabitants of a house is, at the same time and on that account, its best ornament. . . . . Trees should be planted not only by dwelling-houses and along roads; they should be in every pasture and by watering places, and near every barn—wherever cattle, horses or sheep are to be provided for. All these animals suffer from the burning sun; and to say nothing of their enjoyment, the cost of shade trees will be many times paid back in the saving of the milk, fat, fleece, and strength which will be the consequence of their being protected from the heat of the sun.

6. The importance of the forests as furnishing materials for shipbuilding, housebuilding, and numerous other arts, is so obvious that it must occur to every one; and yet there is danger that, in many places, from false views of immediate economy, no provision will be made for the wants of future generations. It is not easy to estimate the pecuniary value of the wood used in housebuilding. A vast deal of this is continually going on; the aspect of the State is annually improving by the erection of large, better finished and more commodious houses, barns and out-houses. And almost all the materials have been, hitherto, except for the seaport towns, furnished by our own woods. But no returns of these improvements are published. The thousands of tons of timber, boards, clapboards and shingles, are not put on record. It is manifest, however, that the difference against us would be great, if we had to look elsewhere for our materials . . . . . The effects of the wasteful destruction of the forest trees are already visible.

prized; and in instances where fields are taken by the season, for the purpose of fattening cattle, those most sheltered never fail to bring the highest rents. . . . . Dr. Deane has observed, he continues, pasture lands should be well fenced in small lots, . . . . . and these lots should be bordered, at least, with rows of trees. It is best that trees of some kind or other should be growing, scattered in every point of the pasture, so that cattle may never have far to go, in a hot hour, to obtain a comfortable shade.”

A very large proportion of the materials for shipbuilding, housebuilding and manufactures, in the towns along the coast, are now brought from other States. . . . . Every mechanic who works in wood, looks every year more and more out of the State for his materials. Every year we are more dependent on Maine and New York and some of the Southern States, not only for ship-timber and lumber for housebuilding, but for materials for tanning and dyeing, for carriagemaking, basketmaking, planemaking, last-making, and for furniture and the implements of husbandry.

Even these foreign resources are fast failing us. Within the last quarter of a century the forests of Maine and New York, from which we draw our largest supplies, have disappeared more rapidly than those of Massachusetts ever did. In a quarter of a century more, at this rate, the supply, in many places, will be entirely cut off. . . . .

7. Another special use of the forests of the State is in the production of maple sugar. Great quantities are already made, and the manufacture might be much more generally introduced. . . . . In many favorable situations the cultivation of the maple tree would cost only forethought. The labor of planting the trees might be performed late in the year, when the fall work was over, and the making of sugar be attended to early, before the spring work had begun.

Of minor importance, but of much more than is usually given to it, is the production of nuts of various kinds, the fruits of forest trees. The produce of the shellbark, chestnut, beech, hazel and acorn, already valuable, might be increased in value almost indefinitely, by selecting the best native varieties, and improving them by processes similar to those to which we owe the fine varieties of apple and pear, and the cultivated varieties of European nuts, and by introducing similar trees, such as the pecan nut, the English walnut, and the European hazel.

8. The most extensive and important use of the forest is in the fuel it furnishes. Most of the fires through the State are still chiefly fed from this source. . . . .

[Thus far we have quoted the language of Mr. Emerson, the author of the Report. We now offer data, by which it may be seen how large a quantity of fuel is consumed, every where, by the families in the State, and in the locomotives on the several railroads.]

The population of the State, according to the last census, is about 1,100,000. Suppose each family to consist, on an average, of five persons, and we then have 220,000 families in the State. Suppose the quantity of fuel required for the use of each family to be, on an average, six cords every year, and the average price of all kinds of wood to be \$5.00 per cord. Then the annual cost of wood consumed for fuel in our houses is \$6,600,000.

By the last Annual Reports of the several railroad corporations, we learn that the expense of wood for fuel consumed in the locomotives, during the year, was . . . \$1,288,838  
which, added to the amount above, . . . 6,600,000

makes an aggregate of . . . 7,888,838  
as the annual expense of wood for fuel in the State. Much wood is, undoubtedly, supplied from foreign sources. But, regarding our estimate of the home consumption as within moderate bounds, and connecting it with the statements in the railroad reports, we are compelled to believe that a much greater quantity of wood is annually prepared for market than what appears in the returns of the assessors; that instead of being estimated, as it is, at \$2,960,915, its value should be at least \$4,000,000.

From a valuable work on the Industry of Massachusetts, recently prepared by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, from returns by the assessors of the several cities and towns, we learn that the annual value of wood consumed for fuel, and of manufactured articles of which wood is a material, was, in the year ending June 1, 1855, as follows:—

Firewood, <i>prepared for market</i> , . . . . .	\$2,960,915
Charcoal, " " " . . . . .	237,460
Lumber, including shingles, clapboards, &c., . . . . .	3,664,462
Chair and cabinet ware, . . . . .	3,969,982
Sashes, doors and window blinds, . . . . .	936,959
Musical instruments, (cases, legs and other wood,) . . . . .	361,150
Boxes of all sorts, . . . . .	997,783
Casks, . . . . .	802,374
Wooden ware, . . . . .	745,711
Lasts and shoe pegs, . . . . .	192,350
Making an aggregate of . . . . .	<u>14,869,146</u>

The materials of these articles are drawn almost entirely from the forests. There are other articles, of which wood forms one of the materials, estimated as follows:—

Vessels, . . . . .	\$4,643,450
Boats, . . . . .	130,166
Masts and spars, . . . . .	247,638
Blocks and pumps, . . . . .	314,510
Railroad cars, coaches and other vehicles, . . . . .	2,352,955
Ploughs and other agricultural implements, . . . . .	707,175
Shovels, spades, forks and hoes, . . . . .	894,515
Saddles, harness and trunks, . . . . .	1,220,049
Mechanics' tools, . . . . .	1,142,614
Friction matches, . . . . .	95,750
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Making an aggregate of . . . . .	11,748,822

We omit several articles, such as brooms, brushes, clocks, fire engines, and the bark used in tanneries and fencing materials, all of which would add not a little to the quantity and value of wood consumed in the State. And it should be observed, too, that the returns of the assessors, from which these facts are derived, are pronounced, in the Report, very imperfect, and that if full and exact, might swell the aggregates we have stated above.

We have, then, one aggregate of \$14,869,146, from which, only, the expense of labor is to be deducted; and another of \$11,748,822, from which the expense of labor and of the different materials used, is to be deducted. How large these several deductions should be, we are not able to state with any precision. Allowing them to equal seven-tenths of the whole amount, and this we regard a large allowance, the *net value* of wood prepared for market, and of wooden materials used in different manufactures, in the year ending June 1, 1855, would be \$7,985,396. And this labor and manufacturing has given employment to at least 125,000 persons, and support, doubtless, to five times as many.

We proceed, now, to make further extracts from Mr. Emerson's Report, and present his remarks on the Continuation and Improvement of the Forests. . . . . Planting trees on a large scale, has been seldom attempted in New England. The inhabitants of each town have been content with the kinds of

wood growing in their neighborhood ; or, where particular kinds not to be found there, were necessary for the manufactures already established, they have been satisfied to import them from a distance. In very few instances, have systematic efforts been made to provide a future supply of the best materials, in their own immediate vicinity. This is to be done. The individuals interested in a particular branch of manufacture may say, that when materials fail them in one place, they will go to another. The owners of the land ought not to rest satisfied with this view of the case. True patriotism and enlightened views of economy, ought to prevent any one from consenting to it.

Massachusetts must necessarily continue to be a manufacturing State, and the manufactures in wood are among the most important branches of industry, and must be not only continued but enlarged. They cannot even continue, unless pains are taken to plant forests which shall furnish the necessary materials. . . . . One by one, the workers in wood will have left the State, when the old forests shall have been all cut down. A prudent foresight may prevent this, by planting in season, the kinds of trees necessary for these various demands,—for fuel, and for all branches of manufacture. For this end, we have extraordinary resources. Among the native trees, we have great choice, from the number, variety, and excellence of the species. In the narrow breadth of Massachusetts, the species of native timber trees are more numerous than are found in any kingdom of Europe. We have nine large oak trees, four hickories, five birches, three large maples, three ashes, three pines, two walnuts, two elms, two spruces, two cedars, besides the beech, the chestnut, the horn beam, the lever wood, the tupelo, the hoop ash or nettle tree, the tulip tree, the plane, the bass, the locust, the hemlock, the fir, the hackmatack, the cherry, the holly, several poplars, many willows, and a large number of smaller trees. Besides these, it is found that all the valuable trees of middle and northern Europe flourish here as if they were native.

It thus appears that our soil and climate are perfectly well adapted to all kinds of trees which are found in temperate countries. It is only necessary to understand the character and habits of each, and to choose suitable soil and situation.

It will not be considered foreign to our purpose, to enumerate

some of the more important of the objects which should be kept in view in the cultivation and extension of our forests, and the native and foreign trees best suited for those purposes.

The first want, as has been shown, is fuel. The trees best suited to the purpose, are the hickories, the oaks, the beech, the birches, the maples, and the pines, particularly the pitch pine; and the chestnut and hemlock for close furnaces. If fuel is to be used in the form of charcoal, the hard woods only are of great value, particularly chestnut, the birches, alders, oaks and maples. As materials for house building, the pines, the spruce and the hemlock, are generally employed. . . . . Chestnut resists decay and is more in use. Floors are sometimes made of beech, of birch, and of ash. The best materials, probably, are oak, white pine, chestnut and spruce.

For shipbuilding, oak is considered absolutely necessary, as being preferable to any other wood. The best kinds are white oak, and black or yellow bark oak. . . . . In the construction of most of the ships of Europe, great quantities of larch are used. This tree might be profitably planted on thousands of acres which are now unproductive. Small vessels, remarkably light and durable, have been wholly made of pitch pine. This tree grows well on sands so barren as to furnish nourishment for no other tree. Pitch pine is also used, in preference to other timber, for the upper works of large vessels, and for top-masts. White pine is also used, especially for decks, as it retains the oakum in its seams; and for the knees, hackmatack and spruce; and rock maple for keels. . . . . Spruce and pine are also used for the upper spars. For boats, cedar and oak are necessary.

For fencing materials, chestnut and cedar are found most durable. The former is remarkable for its rapid growth. White cedars grow most luxuriantly in wet swamps, where nothing else will flourish. The various native and foreign thorns, the hemlock and cedar, and numerous small trees, furnish fit materials for hedges, which, in many parts of the State, must ultimately take the place of other fences.

Furniture, of the most ornamental kinds, is now made of our beautiful maples, birches, cherries and beech. Tables of extreme beauty are sometimes made of the root of oak, or maple, or birch.

These four trees, with the oaks and pine, must continue to be indispensably necessary for the manufacture of chairs, tables, bedsteads, and other kinds of furniture.

For implements of husbandry, the ashes and hickories, the lever wood, the hornbeam and the oaks, must always be wanting. The carriagemaker and wagonbuilder will want ash for springs and frames, oak for spokes and shafts, elm for hubs, and white wood or bass for pannels. The basketmaker will want young white oaks, ash and willow; the planemaker, beech; the lastmaker, maple; the pumpmaker, oak and pitchpine; the bucketmaker, white and red cedar.

The tanner will continue to want the bark of the black, the white, and the chestnut oak, the hemlock and the birch; in regard to all which there has hitherto been great wastefulness. And the dyer will want quercitron, sumach, bayberry root, in addition to foreign stuffs, for some of which he might substitute the bark of alder, birch, and some other native trees.

. . . . . Many acres now under cultivation, and poorly repaying the labor spent on them, might be advantageously sown or planted with pines. . . . . Several oaks, birches and pines are often found growing among rocks, where no soil can be seen. The rock chestnut oak, the black birch, the red cedar, and the hackmatack, rejoice in such situations. . . . . Of sedgy marsh and swamp, too wet and cold to be cultivated, without extensive and costly draining, many acres, in the eastern part of the State, have been sown, by a natural process, with the seeds of the white cedar. The seeds, when shed, float upon the water, and are carried by spring tides and freshets, and left upon the surface of the ground. In the summer, they spring up in countless multitudes. . . . . What has been done, in these instances, by nature, indicate the process by which similar grounds may be reduced or restored to the condition of forest.

Much is to be done for the improvement of the woodlands now existing. In some cases, they are managed with great care. The best means of thinning, pruning and felling are studied and practised. But, in many cases, indeed in most instances, they are left in utter neglect. . . . . The *principle* on which thinning and pruning should be conducted, is a very plain and intelligible one. It is that every tree and branch should be allowed to have

an ample supply of air and light. When, therefore, two trees are so near that their branches extensively intermingle, one should be removed; and, generally, it should be that one which is much taller or shorter than the neighboring trees. In pruning, that branch should be shortened which encroaches on other branches of its own, or another tree. . . . .

In many hard wood trees, shoots spring vigorously from the stool or stump, after the tree is cut down; and this mode of reproduction is chiefly relied upon in most of the woodlands of this State. It becomes, then, of great importance to ascertain what are the best modes of felling, whether by thinning it out the forest or cutting it entirely down; in what period a wood, so cut down, will renew itself, so as to be profitably cut again; at what age of the tree the stump will shoot most vigorously; at what age, if any, trees cease to shoot from the stool; what trees will not thus shoot; what season of the year is found best for felling a forest, when the object is to have it renew itself speedily; and what season, when the object is to destroy the forest. . . . .

. . . . . In felling for timber, the practice is to select suitable trees, from any part of the forest. . . . . In felling for fuel . . . . it has now become nearly a universal practice to cut clean and close. Experience has uniformly shown this to be the most economical.

. . . . . The white or grey birch is of most rapid growth, and springs at once from the stump. This may be profitably cut in from ten to twenty years; a growth of maple, ash and birch, black, yellow and white, in twenty to twenty-five; oaks, in from twenty to thirty-three. Where the trees are principally oak . . . . the forest may be cut clean three times in a century. Cedar swamps, which grow from seed, cannot be profitably cut in less than forty years. Pitch pines . . . . . require from forty to sixty years to be in a condition to be felled. In many places, the experiment has been tried of burning over the surface, ploughing and sowing with rye. When the trees have been of hard wood, this practice has been strongly condemned. In the case of pitch pines it is recommended. The seedling pines make most rapid progress when the surface has been softened by cultivation. . . . . The trees best for fuel shoot again most readily and grow most vigorously when cut under twenty-five years. The wood is form-

ed within that time as rapidly, taking a forest together, as at any other age ; and, for fuel, it is then of most value. . . . Stumps of young, healthy, growing trees shoot most vigorously. They should not be under fifteen years, nor much over twenty. . . . Shoots will not come from very old trees. . . . Evergreens never give permanent shoots from the stump. Several persons, who have attended to the growth of the sugar maple, say that the stump of this tree makes no shoots ; and the same is said of the beech.

. . . . The convenience of the woodcutter will generally lead him to fell the forest in the early part of the winter ; and, probably, taking into consideration both the quality of the wood cut and the welfare of the future forest, this may be best.

When the object is to destroy the growth, summer is universally declared to be the best season to fell the forest.

. . . . It is . . . among the things most unfavorable to the growth of trees, to gather the leaves together, as is frequently done, either to burn them, or to add to the compost heap. This is bad economy. . . . The other circumstances particularly unfavorable to the growth of trees, are browsing, pruning, a thin soil, exposure to sea breezes, to high winds and to frosts. The first of these, completely within the control of the forester, is the browsing of cattle. . . . All should be entirely excluded from woodlands intended to be valuable and to renew themselves.

I have already spoken of pruning. Where the object is wood, it may be doubted whether any pruning is advisable, except in the case that the branch of one tree materially interferes with the growth of another. Plants receive food by their roots, and digest and convert it to their various products, by and in their leaves. Both roots and leaves should, therefore, be left to extend and expand themselves as freely as possible. . . . Whatever checks this expansion has a tendency to lessen the product of wood.

On thin soil, the roots cannot penetrate far, and a tree, surrounded by others, will soon exhaust the proper nutriment within its circle, and must then begin to fail. As soon as this happens it must be removed, and trees of other families must be sown or planted in its stead.

Most forest trees are injuriously affected by the sea breeze, and

we generally find them stunted and dwarfed by its influence. The remedy is to plant, numerously, the hardiest trees along the seaward border. . . . .

Wherever trees are planted for use in the arts, it is important to give them the most rapid growth possible. Of wood growing on the same soil, that which grows most rapidly is strongest. That of which the circles of growth are narrowest is also weakest.

The strength of trees is proportioned to its weight. And as young trees grow more rapidly than old ones, they are more valuable as fuel.

. . . . . It has long been known that summer or early autumn is the season most favorable for the felling of timber, where the object is strength and durability. . . . . Nearly a quarter of a century ago, Timothy Pickering showed by experiments which he adduced, and by sound reasoning, that summer is better than winter for this purpose. A writer in the *New England Farmer*, who "has wrought more timber than most men, and for more uses than he knows of," . . . . . is satisfied that September is the best time for felling trees; and that if the tree be disbarked in June, and allowed to stand till September, the timber will be stronger and more durable; . . . . . that timber felled in September will not suffer from red rot or from powder post.

. . . . . The naturalist, Buffon, after numerous experiments carefully made on a large scale, and continued through many years, arrived at the conclusion that nothing contributes so much to the solidity, strength and durability of timber as completely stripping the trees of their bark some years, at least three, before they are to be felled. This should be done in the spring, when the bark is most easily separable. . . . . Timber, managed in this way, was found to be sometimes a fourth part stronger than that from trees in the same forest, and in all other respects precisely similar, treated in the usual way; that is, felled with the bark on, and dried under the open sky, or under sheds.

In regard to the planting of forests, Mr. Emerson remarks:—All the birch trees, especially the black and the white, are so valuable for timber and for fuel, that their cultivation should be earnestly recommended. They flourish on all kinds of soil, even the poorest, spring most readily from seed, and grow very rapidly. . . . . "Birch seed ripens in September and October, and may

be either gathered and sown immediately, or preserved in a dry loft and sown in spring." "It is scarcely possible," observes Savy, "to cover birch seeds too little, if they be covered at all." The plants, if sown in autumn, will come up in March or April following. If sown in spring, they will come up in May or June, which, in very cold climates, is the preferable season.

. . . . . "Young birch plants, taken out of coppice woods when about two years old, are found to root much better than seedlings of the same age and size, taken out of a regular seed bed; doubtless because, in the latter case, a greater portion of the tap root requires to be cut off."

. . . . . "In France and Germany, plantations of birch are frequently made by sowing the seed where the trees are intended finally to remain. For this purpose, the poorest soils are harrowed in humid weather, in the month of October or of November, and fifteen pounds of seed, as it is taken from the catkins along with the scales, is sown on an acre, and afterwards covered with a bush harrow. . . . . It is observed by Michaux, that burnt soil is peculiarly favorable to the growth of the birch, which, in America, re-appears as by enchantment, in forests that have been burnt down."

The pines are most readily propagated by seed. . . . . If the trees are to be propagated artificially, the seed must be deposited on or near the surface; it should not be buried beneath, or in case this is absolutely necessary, as when they are sown in open fields, the covering should not exceed an eighth of an inch, and should be light and loose. A soil and surface formed by the decay of the leaves of deciduous trees is best, as it is precisely that in which the seed naturally vegetates. . . . . All pines require to be cultivated in large masses. They naturally grow thus, and although, when so growing, they seem to be extremely hardy, they do not thrive when solitary, but are parched by the sun, and stunted by the cold and wind.

The cones, which are mature after one, two, or three seasons, may be gathered in the winter, as the scales do not usually open to allow the seeds to escape till the spring. . . . . The best time for sowing the seeds is early in the spring, as soon as the frost is out of the ground. . . . . When poor, thin, rocky or sandy soil is to be clothed with wood, and it is important to save

the time and expense of the several transplantations, the seeds may be sown where the trees are intended to remain. They must be sown abundantly, as they are obnoxious to destruction by various enemies. On a rocky surface, they may be cast into the crevices of the rocks, or beneath the thin soil which covers them. On an open plain, they require protection, which may be found in various low bushes, such as sweet fern; or, if sown on a waste, sterile land, they must be sown with the seeds of some quick growing shrub or tall grass, which shall protect them for two or three years. For the first two or three years these plants are of slow growth; but after the fifth they grow very rapidly, and continue, in favorable situations, to make one or two feet annually, until they have reached twenty or thirty feet; and, in case of the taller species, a much greater height. The root, in most species, penetrates at once, in the first or second year, to the depths of one or two feet, but never to a much greater depth.

The evergreens are transplanted with less facility and success than most deciduous trees. . . . All the pines are, however, successfully transplanted, if sufficient care be taken not to injure the roots nor heads, and to have a pit sufficiently large for all the roots to be fully spread, and *not to set them too deep*. The most difficult are the white and pitch pines. To ensure success, these should be transplanted in winter, the pits having been formed and the plant to be moved having been surrounded by a circular trench in the previous autumn. In this way, the whole of the roots, with the frozen earth adhering, may be removed in a single fall, and set at once in the pit, and surrounded by loose earth kept for the purpose.\*

On account of the very valuable qualities of the wood, the hackmatack (American larch) would deserve to be extensively cultivated, and there are thousands of acres of cold and swampy land where it was found naturally, which are now unproductive, and which might be clothed with it. It has, however, been found to be far inferior, in rapidity of growth, to the European larch, which very nearly resembles it in appearance and in the excellent quali-

\* White pines, ten or fifteen feet in height, have been transplanted, in the autumn, *and with entire success*, in the grounds of H. H. Hunnewell, Esq., of West Needham.

ties of its wood. This, therefore, should be preferred, as likely to produce, in the same time, a larger quantity of timber from the same surface, and at the same expense.

On favorable soils, the European larch is fit for every useful purpose in forty years growth. Its annual rate of increase, in Scotland, has been found to be from one to one and a half inches in circumference, at six feet from the ground, on trunks from ten to fifty years of age. It has, moreover, the property of flourishing on surfaces almost entirely without soil, thickly strown with fragments of rocks, on the high and bleak sides and tops of hills, where vegetation scarcely exists. . . . . The most desirable situation is where the roots will neither be drowned by stagnant water in winter, nor parched by drought in summer.\*

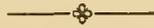
The value of oak timber is already so great, and it is so constantly and surely increasing, from the diminution of the home supply, and the increased difficulty of getting it from abroad; all the kinds of oak are, moreover, of so slow growth, and the number of years necessary to create a forest so very great, and dependence on a foreign supply is so unsafe, that it is obviously important that means should be immediately taken to convert into future forests some of the many thousands of acres susceptible of this, which are now lying waste. . . . . In consequence of the great cost of labor in this country, it would be desirable to sow the acorns where the trees are to stand, if any way could be contrived to defend them from mice and squirrels; and this might probably be done by sowing a sufficient quantity to allow for the destruction which would be caused by these animals.

As to the management of the acorn, the following extract from Loudon will give the most approved mode. "The acorns need not be gathered from the tree, but may be collected from the ground immediately after they have dropped; and, as in the case of other tree seeds, they may either be sown then or kept till spring. If they are to be kept, they should be made perfectly dry in the sun, or in an airy shed, mixed with dry sand, in the proportion of three bushels of sand to one bushel of acorns, or

\* A very valuable account of every thing relating to the whole cultivation, management and uses of the larch, is found in Loudon's *Arboretum*, pp. 2353-2399.

with dry moss, and then excluded from the air and vermin." . . . . The French nurserymen make the acorn, or other seed, germinate in moist earth, or saw dust, and, before planting it, pinch off the end of the root. This causes the plant immediately to throw out side fibres. For the same purpose it is the practice, in England, either to transplant the oak after one or two years growth, removing at the time a part of the top root, or to cut it off, without removing, by inserting a spade, obliquely, six or eight inches beneath the surface. In either case, the plant had several roots to depend upon, in place of its single, original top root. In some cases, after it has grown in the place where it is to remain for two or three years, it is cut down to the ground ; it will then throw up vigorous shoots, and send down perpendicular roots. All but the most promising of the shoots may be carefully removed. This has been tried with marked success by Rev. Morrill Allen of Pembroke, who has paid much attention to the cultivation of the oak.

. . . . . The oaks are better fitted than almost any other trees, to stand along the borders of cultivated fields ; as, where the soil is deep enough to allow it, they send their roots to a considerable depth, and thus disturb but slightly the growth of grass and other herbaceous plants and low shrubs.



## REPORT ON FRUIT AND FRUIT CULTURE.

The great importance of this branch of our agricultural industry has been frequently urged upon the consideration of the people of New England ; and it would seem to have had little effect, if we judge by the condition of a majority of our orchards. But very few of our cultivators realize a profit from this branch,—and why ? Because it is not pursued with the same degree of intelligence that is bestowed on other branches. Still there is no mystery about it. It requires no more sagacity to manage a tree than to cultivate a patch of potatoes or corn properly ; and the same care and cultivation will make the orchard a source of profit and pleasure. Many say that their land is not suitable for fruit, and offer this as a reason for their failure in this matter. We believe this

not to be true in most cases; any land that will produce good vegetables and English grass will, with proper cultivation, produce good fruit. It is folly to set fruit trees on land saturated with water three-quarters of the year, thus making them, if they live, amphibious. The tree is obliged to subsist on substances entirely injurious to their natures. The roots become diseased, consequently the whole tree is diseased. Still, this land may be made, by proper draining and cultivation, the very best for fruit; those poisonous substances are thrown off and the properties necessary are generated. Deep tillage and proper drainage will fit nine-tenths of our land for fruit. Soil and location have their effect, but generally it is the management that makes the profits. When we learn to treat our fruit trees with the same degree of care that we do our cattle, and other matters, in order to be successful, then, and not till then, will the cultivation of fruit become a profitable business.

To those who have noticed the fine display of apples and pears that have graced our tables the last three years, from the grounds of William and Thaddeus Clapp of Dorchester, I would say,—Go and examine their orchards, and you will no longer wonder how they raise such fine fruit. If you go in the right spirit, I will guarantee a cordial reception. You will not find the pattern of our *modern* gentleman, but the true blue. You will find them at the head of their work, their motto,

“ He that by the plough would thrive,  
Himself must either hold or drive.”

By constant study and practice they have arrived at the true method of fruit cultivation. Their orchard and garden take up about five acres, and contain 200 apple trees of stately growth, set out originally for cider making. Some of these trees were of goodly size when Dorchester Heights were occupied by Washington, and they are as hale and hearty as a man forty years old. The oldest inhabitant can hardly claim the honor of their nursery acquaintance. Most of the trees have been grafted, within the last thirty years, to our standard market kinds; when a variety is found not to succeed, they are re-grafted to kinds that do. The trees are kept properly pruned and clean, and are scraped and washed at proper times. The borer, that worst enemy of the

orchard, finds no convenient abiding place. The canker worm, which claims the young foliage of most of the orchards in this vicinity, are nearly deprived of their claims by a very simple contrivance,—the female, which is wingless, is prevented from climbing up the tree to deposit her eggs. This is done by making an open box or curb with boards, about a foot wide, which encloses the body of the tree, the lower edge resting on the ground. The curb or box is made larger than the body of the tree, and the inside is filled with soil, or a composition of ashes, or any other substance ; and a trough is made around and near the upper edge of the box, which is filled with tar and oil in proportions to make it impassable for all insects, bound up or down. This method also prevents the borer from working near the roots, which is an important consideration. The cost of the article for a large sized tree, is about twenty-five cents, and, with a little care, will last from twelve to twenty years. The boxes now used by Messrs. Clapp have been in use about eighteen years. They also use the necessary precaution to gather all fruit that falls prematurely, and the ground is kept in constant cultivation. Where the trees cover the whole ground, they are permitted to remain ; but where there is room, beets, turnips, &c. are raised. Between the rows, in a part of the orchard, currant bushes are cultivated, and succeed very well. The yield, the present season, was 300 bushels, which were sold to one establishment at two dollars per bushel, being quite a clever little sum for an under crop. The apple orchard will yield from 350 to 400 barrels, the present season, which, at present prices, will pay handsomely. Their peach crop they consider almost a failure, as they had only about sixty bushels, which they sold at three dollars per bushel. They sometimes gather from 300 to 400 bushels. Their peach orchard is the best we have ever seen. They practise the cutting-back system, and every tree is in perfect form. Nothing but good land could give so fine a collection of trees. They cannot boast of so great a collection of pears as some of their neighbors ; but their beauty and quality no one will question who took notice of their specimens on our tables.

We have brought these facts to your notice, to prove that this branch of agriculture may be so managed as to give as good returns as any other.

The Committee would like to give a few more facts and hints on these important subjects, but time will not permit.

We regret that in this department so small an amount of money should have been appropriated. Forty-five dollars for premiums is a mere pittance. Our fruit table has ever been worthy a place in any Exhibition in the country. But under the present restrictions, the premiums must inevitably be carried off by a few and the same competitors, leaving a large number of worthy contributors without any thing but the satisfaction of doing something for the credit of the Society. May we not hope that some of the profits arising from the attractions of our *outside circles* may be applied to the encouragement of the more legitimate objects of our gatherings,—the improvement of agriculture and the mechanic arts.

All which is respectfully submitted,

ELIPHALET STONE, *Chairman.*

*Dedham, November 1, 1856.*



## REPORT ON FRUIT TREES.

The Committee on Fruit Trees ask leave to make the following report:—

They have awarded to John W. Shaw of Needham, the second premium on his apple orchard of \$10.00.

To Thaddeus Clapp of Dorchester, the first premium on his peach orchard of \$10.00.

No other orchards have been offered for premium.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

EDWARD M. RICHARDS, *Chairman.*



## MR. THADDEUS CLAPP'S STATEMENT.

GENTLEMEN:—The peach orchard offered for your inspection contains 146 trees, set out, a part, in 1854, the remainder in 1855. They are from stocks raised on the place, and budded

with the large early Crawford variety. The trees, when set, were two years from the bud, and stand in rows, fourteen feet apart, and at intervals of twelve feet in the row. The trees of one row are placed, not at right angles with those of another, but obliquely, so as to receive to the best advantage the sun's light. Perhaps a greater interval between the trees would have been better; but it was expected that, by an annual shortening in of the branches, they might be kept within due compass.

The trees have borne fruit the past season, but only in small quantities, having suffered, in common with others throughout the country, the effects of cold the previous winter.

In pruning, the *shortening in* method has been followed, the object being to give a round apple-tree shape to the tree, and to prevent overbearing. The time selected for this purpose has usually been the last of March or beginning of April.

For the prevention of the borer, various remedies have been tried, but none with so much success as *whitewashing*. This has been done two or three times during the season, commencing about the 1st of July, and repeated at intervals of three or four weeks. The wash was applied to that portion of the trunk extending from the surface of the ground, twelve to eighteen inches above and two to three inches below, the earth being removed to this depth, and a careful examination made for the borer at the same time. After whitewashing, the earth was replaced and hilled up about the trunk three or four inches. This method has usually been found sufficient to protect the root; but if prevented from depositing its eggs there, the parent insect will not unfrequently resort to other parts, as to the *forks* of the branches, or any wounded or diseased spots, unless similarly protected; so that to ensure complete exemption from its attacks, a careful inspection of these parts also becomes necessary.

Another insect noticed in the peach tree is a small beetle, not larger than a grain of mustard seed, of a black color, which makes for itself a lodgment in the bark, causing the gum to exude, and so giving an unhealthy appearance to the tree. It is found in considerable numbers, the latter part of summer, imbedded in the bark, particularly of old trees, and its perforations then may be easily mistaken for those of the young peach borer.

The injury, however, which it does is much less, and may be prevented by the application of a coat of whitewash to the whole trunk.

Respectfully,

THADDEUS CLAPP.

*Dorchester, December 6, 1856.*

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#### MR. JOHN W. SHAW'S STATEMENT.

The apple orchard which I offer for premium was planted on high, dry and strong land, in April and November, 1852. It consists of 105 trees, 80 Baldwins, 15 Rhode Island greenings, and 10 russets.

The holes were made four feet in diameter and two feet deep, and a one horse cart load of compost of meadow mud and loam was put into each hole before setting the trees. In 1853, I raised a crop of oats, and laid down the land to grass; but the grass not taking well, in November, 1854, I ploughed in, and 1855 raised a crop of potatoes, and the present year corn.

Yours, very respectfully,

JOHN W. SHAW.

*Grantville, November 14, 1856.*

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#### REPORT ON FLOWERS.

From Laretta Guild, Dedham, a collection of cut flowers.

Mira Smith, Needham, 1 moss basket of flowers, tastefully arranged; 1 pyramid of dahlias.

H. Howard, Dedham, 2 plants—perilla nankinensis; tropaeolum peregrinum.

John Fussell, West Roxbury, a collection of cut flowers.

E. S. Rand, jr. Dedham, 3 pots cryptomeria japonica, a beautiful tender evergreen; 1 cissus discolor, very beautiful; 1 Eugenie myrtifolia; 1 cyclamen Europæum, fine; cut flowers, comprising asters in great variety; dahlias, aycratum, verbe-

nas, heliotropes, stocks, salvias tropæolum, fuchsias, geraniums, balsams, datura, and many others; by far the largest display.

Mary A. Sewall, Medfield, 4 baskets and 3 bouquets.

B. V. French, Braintree, asters, verbenas, dahlias, coreopsis, salvias, roses. A good display.

H. H. Hunnewell, Needham, 1 cone of flowers, very fine; 1 most beautiful basket of roses and other rare flowers; 2 bouquets; 2 boxes of arranged flowers.

Thomas G. Whytal, West Roxbury, a fine display of cut flowers.

E. F. Calder, Dedham, 3 bouquets; cut flowers.

Mrs. Whiting, Dedham, dahlias.

E. Stone, Dedham, cut flowers in great variety, including fine roses, asters, balsams, stocks, tropæolums, and many others.

Lyman Kinsley, Canton, 1 fine floral decoration.

Macey Randall, jr., Sharon, 6 large bouquets.

Miss H. W. Carroll, Dedham, 1 moss flower basket. Very pretty.

Mrs. Hodges, Dedham, 1 salvia splenders; 1 arbutilon striata; 1 heliotrope; 2 geraniums. Very fine specimens.

Mrs. Hannah P. McIntosh, East Needham, dahlias, asters, verbenas, amaranths; 1 large bouquet; 2 bouquets dried grasses, well arranged.

Miss White, West Dedham, 1 mantel bouquet.

John Lathrop, Dedham, 4 baskets of flowers, tastefully arranged.

Lewis Davenport, Milton, a splendid display of roses, dahlias, salvias, geraniums, ageratum, carnations, asters, balsams, centradenia verbenas, heliotropes, maurandias. A fine display.

Emma J. Baker, Dedham, tropæolum peregrinum.

Robert Watt, West Roxbury, seedling verbenas; Rob Roy.

Nathaniel Smith, Dedham, dahlias.

Parker Barnes, Dorchester, pansies, salvias, delphincums, heliotropes, pyrethrum, centaureas, phloxes, gladiolas, verbenas, coxcombs, marygolds, carnations, phlox, colored Dundas, new and fine, roses in variety, and a most magnificent display of named dahlias.

The committee would award the following premiums and gratuities :

For the best display of cut flowers—

First premium to Parker Barnes, . . . . .	\$4.00
Second premium to Lewis Davenport, . . . . .	2.00
Third premium to B. V. French, . . . . .	1.00

For the best bouquets or baskets not less than four—

First premium to H. H. Hunnewell, for baskets, . . . . .	4.00
Second premium to Macey Randall, for bouquets, . . . . .	2.00
Third premium to Mary A. Sewall, for baskets, . . . . .	1.00

Dahlias, for the best twenty named flowers—

First premium to Parker Barnes, for Lady Cathcart, Beauty of the Grove, Brilliant, Annie, King of Yellows, Cheltenham Queen, Napoleon, Claude Lorraine, Delight, Comet, Topsey, Bartonian, J. Longstreth, Mrs. Rawlings, Miss Matthews, Pigeon, Mad. Panignon, Bagatelle, Miss Frampton and Gen. Fauschier, . . . . .	3.00
Second premium to Lewis Davenport, for Emperor of Morocco, Jenny Lind, Beeswing, Tyson d'Or, Princess Radsville, Prince of Wales, Mrs. Handsard, Grandissima, Duchess of St. Albans, Lady Cooper, Magnificent, Cleopatra, Beauty of the Grove, Com't de Merode, Admiral, Isis, Privateer, Gen. Fauschier, Marchioness of Cornwallis, and Picotee, . . . . .	2.00

Specimen bloom.

To Lewis Davenport, for standard of perfection, . . . . .	1.00
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Pot plants. Specimen plant.

To Mrs. Hodges, for arbuilon striata, . . . . .	1.00
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Seedling verbenas.

To Lewis Davenport, for best collection, . . . . .	2.00
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Best seedling.

To Robert Watt, for Rob Roy, . . . . .	1.00
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*Gratuities.*

To Thomas G. Whytal, for display, . . . . .	1.00
To J. W. Clark, " " . . . . .	1.00
To Mary A. Sewall, for bouquets, . . . . .	1.00
To M. P. Wilder, " " . . . . .	2.00

To H. H. Hunnewell, for pyramids, . . . . .	\$5.00
To Lyman Kinsley, for floral decoration, . . . . .	2.00
To Hannah McIntosh, for display, . . . . .	2.00
To John Fussell, " " . . . . .	1.00
To Mira Smith, for basket and pyramid, . . . . .	2.00
To Hattie W. Carroll, for moss basket, . . . . .	1.00
To Mrs. Hodges, for pot plants, . . . . .	2.00
To John Lathrop, for four baskets of flowers, entered too late to compete for premium, . . . . .	2.00

The Committee feel they have cause to congratulate the Society on the complete success of the Floral Exhibition. When it was first proposed to arrange a table for the display of flowers and bouquets, the project met with comparatively little approbation, and the entire failure, on previous years, to produce even a fair collection, gave great cause for discouragement.

At length, however, suitable stands were arranged, and, much to the surprise of many, on the day of exhibition, were well filled with a good collection of flowers.

The success of this display in 1855 only prompted to greater efforts the present year, and so entirely have the exertions of the Committee been crowned with success, that the exhibition not only far exceeded in beauty, variety of flowers, and tasteful adaptations, any ever before held in Norfolk county, but almost rivalled the splendid displays of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

It is a great and prevalent error to suppose that flowers are only for ornament, and, therefore, of no practical use; one of the first principles of refinement is found in the love of the beautiful in Nature, and most certainly in no department can beauty be studied in more pleasing and more varied forms than in the floral kingdoms.

It is not necessary that, in the pursuit of the useful, the beautiful should be wholly neglected and overlooked; beauty gives the charm to utility, and robs the stern practical of much of its harshness.

Norfolk county has reason to be proud that she has been the first to introduce such a pleasing element into the annual county fairs, for it is the belief of the Committee that in no county of the State is the "Cattle Show" graced by such a pleasant feature.

It is but in justice to the contributors, that the Committee notice some of the principal features in the Floral Exhibition more at large.

The display of Mr. Hunnewell was most excellent, and the Committee must accord the highest praise for the beautiful and tasteful arrangement of his contributions. The beauty of one basket of flowers could hardly be surpassed.

Mr. Barnes presented a most magnificent show of dahlias, which, in themselves, were a feature in the Exhibition. These, and the choice display of roses from Mr. Davenport's, attracted universal attention.

The displays of Messrs. Stone and Rand were very large and varied, but were not entered for premium.

A new seedling verbena, "Rob Roy," presented by Robert Watt, and for which the first premium was awarded, bids fair, in the opinion of the Committee, to rival many long established favorites. The color is a most dazzling scarlet, which contrasts beautifully with the pale white eye; the petal is firm and very large; habit, strong and vigorous; foliage, large and of a dark glossy green.

In conclusion, the Committee would signify their entire satisfaction with the Exhibition, and can only express the wish that the displays of coming years may more than justify the bright hopes they form for the future.

For the Committee,

EDWARD S. RAND, JR., *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON DAIRY.

The Committee on Dairy beg leave to report:—That of "the best produce of butter, on any farm within the county, for four months, from the 20th of May to the 20th of September," no sample was presented; and no premium was this year, as in former years, offered by the Trustees of the Society for the best specimen of a lot of forty pounds.

Six parcels were presented for premium in boxes "of not less

quantity than twelve pounds." Among these, the Committee award

To James R. Fisher of West Dedham, for a box containing twelve pounds, the first premium of . . . . .	\$10.00
To Lucy Morse of Medfield, for a box containing fifteen pounds, the second premium of . . . . .	5.00
To John Mansfield of West Needham, for a box of twelve pounds, the third premium of . . . . .	3.00

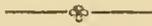
The Committee were very happy to inspect a box containing twelve pounds of very excellent butter offered for exhibition, not for premium, by Simon Plympton of Holliston, without the limits of the county, for which they recommend a diploma of the Society.

The Committee regret to add that no specimen of cheese was presented.

For the Committee,

A. LAMSON, *Chairman.*

*Dedham, October 1, 1856.*



## REPORT ON GRAIN CROPS.

The Committee on Grain Crops report that there have been five applications made for premium on corn, four for rye, and one for barley. Subsequently, however, three of the entries on corn and one on rye were withdrawn. The crop of barley and one crop of rye entered, having been raised on less than one acre of land each, their claims for premium could not be considered. The season has been considered as favorable for grain generally. Many pieces of corn, however, failed to come up well, and considerable damage was done to the crop generally by the winds in August. But notwithstanding these drawbacks, we believe the corn crop to have been above the average of preceding years. The large quantity of snow, and its long continuance the past winter, left the rye crop in fine condition for an early start in the spring, and the weather continuing favorable through the spring and summer, we have had many fine fields of that grain.

All the crops offered for premium were visited by one or more members of the Committee during the season.

A field of corn, entered by Mr. Brown, in Milton, looked remarkably promising until it was prostrated by a high wind, which injured it so badly that it was withdrawn. The yield, however, was very creditable, he having obtained at the rate of about seventy-six bushels per acre, as was ascertained by measurement. Two pieces of corn, planted on reclaimed meadow, one in Milton and one in Quincy, appeared uncommonly well. The Committee were in hopes of receiving some account of them, but were disappointed.

Mr. P. Ruggles of Milton, who has been heretofore very successful in raising large crops of corn, would have been a competitor this year, had he not been unfortunate in not having his corn come up well. His corn, although very thin, yielded at the rate of eighty-four bushels per acre, which, under any circumstances, would be considered a very large crop.

A field of rye was offered by Mr. C. L. Cunningham of Milton, but a part of the field lodging badly, it was withdrawn. It ought, perhaps, to be stated that this field was sown with the intention of cutting green, for soiling cattle in the summer, and having been manured highly, it lodged so much as to injure the grain. This field, we were informed, yielded at the rate of thirty-nine and a quarter bushels of grain and 5136 pounds of straw per acre.

The statement of Mr. Fenno is annexed. We regret that the quantity of land in his field was less than was required by the rules of the Society, as otherwise a premium might have been awarded to him.

From the facts presented in the following statements, we learn that the raising of grain may not only be made to pay, but, in some cases at least, can be made profitable. From these statements, as well as from those of previous years, we have the facts presented that from 80 to 100 bushels of corn, and, in some cases, even more, have been raised to the acre, and that, too, in seasons and on soils which seemed quite unfavorable. In view of these facts, the question very naturally arises, why may not these products be obtained by any or all of our farmers. We certainly can see no reason why, with similar treatment, similar results may not be obtained.

The Messrs. Sias, whose statement is annexed, have demonstrated, by their own experience in several successive seasons, that more than 100 bushels of corn can be obtained from the acre. This product is not the result of accident, but of carefully conducted experiments in testing the capacity of their soil; and they assure us that they shall not remain satisfied with their experiments until they have raised a greater crop than any they have yet obtained. If all our farmers who cultivate grain, would do so with the same carefully conducted experiments, and with the same determination to test to the utmost the capacity of their soils, we should soon have a practical solution of the problem as to whether grain can be profitably raised in this county.

The many failures which have attended the cultivation of wheat, have led to the supposition that this grain cannot be profitably raised in this part of the State; yet we have good evidence of the fact, from many who have tried the experiment in different parts of the county, that from twenty to thirty-five bushels have been raised to the acre. These results (equal to, if not exceeding the average crop in the best wheat growing States,) are certainly sufficient to induce our farmers to continue their experiments on this most important grain; and may we not yet hope that some definite results will be obtained, by which we may calculate with as much certainty upon a crop of wheat as of any other grain.

The statements of the applicants for premium on rye show what may be expected from this grain, when liberally treated. The usual method of cultivating rye (sowing our poorest soils without manure,) would not certainly lead us to expect any very great returns; but, with liberal treatment, we think as good returns may be expected as from any other crop. We believe it to be true economy for every farmer to raise all the grain necessary for consumption upon his own farm. If this course does not bring money into the pocket, it certainly prevents a good deal from going out; and the farmer will have the satisfaction, at least, of having his bread made from the products of his own farm.

Many people are becoming convinced that, with proper management, corn and rye can be raised at a profit in Norfolk county, even if all the manure is to be bought and all the labor hired. A gentleman of good judgment and great experience in farming, but who has hitherto been rather skeptical about raising 100 bushels

to the acre, tells us he thinks corn has been a slandered crop ; that he was becoming more and more convinced every year of its value ; that although he had been sadly disappointed this year in his corn not coming up, he should continue to plant largely of it, satisfied as he was that it could be raised at a profit.

The Committee award

To E. and J. Sias, the first premium on corn of . . .	\$8.00
To Abner L. Smith, the second premium of . . .	5.00
To Samuel D. Bradford, the first premium on rye of . . .	4.00
To Josiah F. Twombly, the second premium of . . .	2.00

For the Committee,

L. CLAPP, *Chairman.*

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#### E. AND J. SIAS' STATEMENT.

The field of corn entered by us for a premium was measured by Mr. Charles Breck, and contained one acre ; but as you and Mr. Hawes measured and weighed the produce of one square rod, you can tell your own story from actual observation, and we will give ours from the whole field. The land, which had been in grass for several years, was ploughed May 5th, with two horses and a common plough, about seven inches deep. May 13th we spread on four cords of horse manure, and three and a half cords of compost horse manure. May 14th, harrowed lightly and cultivated both ways. From May 15th to 19th, planted with Plymouth county or smutty white corn. After putting about two cords of compost manure in a hill, which was made from the hen-coop and out-houses, mixed with loam, we furrowed out each both ways, intending to have the hills three feet apart each way ; but afterwards, by actual measurement, we found that the whole field averaged three and a half feet. It was planted the same as last year, four making a square, with two near the centre ; but from some unexplainable cause it came up very poorly, having upon an average only four to the hill. We cultivated the field three times and hoed twice. In many hills there were but one or two stalks, and, consequently, as the ground was slightly manured, there was a large quantity of suckers, which were all cut, with the stalks,

between September 8th and 17th. They were cut one day and got in the next, and set up on a neighbor's barn floor, where we had plenty of room to cure them. The corn was harvested (excepting the rod which was left for you to harvest,) from October 7th to the 18th; and there was on the whole field  $162\frac{1}{2}$  baskets of sound corn and six of refuse, equal, as we thought, to  $165\frac{1}{2}$  of good sound corn on the acre, one basket of which was laid by itself, to dry until November 10th, when it was shelled and weighed in the presence of one of the Committee, and there was found to be  $37\frac{1}{2}$  pounds of corn, making, as we have calculated, 110,82 bushels per acre, being a fraction more than the rod which you harvested.

In order to arrive at the just weight of the fodder, as we informed you, we cut the stocks and suckers from two rows through the centre of the field, and after carefully drying, we kept them by themselves until weighed by you, which weight you have on your minutes, also the weight of the butts and husks, on two rows, weighed by you.

We observe that it is usual with applicants for premiums on corn crops, to deduct one-third of the value or cost of manure as not taken up by the crop, which was done by ourselves last year. We, however, are inclined to the opinion that when there are 110 bushels of corn and five tons of fodder taken from an acre of land, there should be but little, if any, deduction made for the manure left in the ground. We have, accordingly, in our estimate of expense, added the whole cost of manure. But of this as well as the value of the fodder, you can judge as well as any one, and can make your own calculations. We make our estimate as follows:—

CR. One acre of land, 110,82 bushels of corn at \$1.00	
per bushel, . . . . .	\$110.82
One acre of land, 5310 pounds of stalks, at \$12.00	
per ton, . . . . .	31.86
One acre of land, 4792 pounds of butts and husks,	
at \$6.00 per ton, . . . . .	14.37
	<hr/>
	157.05

DR.	Interest on land, at \$200.00 per acre,	\$12.00
	Taxes on land about	1.35
	Nine and a half cords of manure, at \$6.00 per cord,	57.00
	Ploughing,	4.00
	Spreading manure, cultivating and harrowing,	5.00
	Crossing out, manuring in hill, and planting,	7.00
	One peck of seed,	.50
	Cultivating and hoeing twice,	9.00
	Cutting and getting in stocks,	5.00
	Harvesting,	7.00

Net profit, (after paying for the manure, \$49.20,) \$157.05 per acre; or if, as is usual, we deduct one-third of the manure, there will be a net profit of \$68.20 per acre.

You will observe that we have made quite a deduction in weight from the butts and husks since you weighed them. Then they were somewhat moist, but have since been drying on rails over the barn floor and now appear to be perfectly dry, and instead of 68 pounds to the row, they now weigh only  $53\frac{1}{4}$ , making, as we stated, 4792 pounds per acre.

The way we have managed our corn fodder, drying the top stalks under cover and salting down the butts and husks, we are confident, from past experience, that they are actually worth more to us than we have put them at.

E. & J. SIAS.

*Milton, November 14, 1856.*

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#### A. L. SMITH'S STATEMENT.

The acre of ground on which the corn was raised which I offer for premium, has been in grass for the last fourteen years. The soil is a gravelly loam, and was ploughed in November of last year, with a Michigan double plough, ten inches deep. The second week of May I spread on and ploughed in, four inches deep, four cords of compost manure, made of ditch mud, bottoms of coal pits, loam, and the droppings of cattle. The field was furrowed only one

way, in rows three feet apart, and manured in the hill with three cords of the compost manure. It was planted the 21st and 22d of May, in hills two and a half feet apart, with a kind of corn which I obtained from Rhode Island, called the Andrews corn. This variety of corn Mr. Andrews has been improving for the last six years; the original was a large cap yellow, the small Canada yellow, and a red cap corn;—his object in planting the large yellow was to increase the size of the ears, the Canada to make it ripen earlier, and the red to increase the number of ears on a stalk, all of which he has accomplished to his entire satisfaction. The corn was ploughed and hoed twice; cut the stalks the 12th of September.

The 24th of the present month Charles Breck, Esq. of Milton, measured a rod which he considered a fair average of the piece; the result was as follows:—

The corn on the cob weighed	. . . . .	35 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds.
Shelled corn, 30 $\frac{1}{4}$ pounds, }		
Cobs, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ “ }	. . . . .	35 $\frac{3}{4}$ “

Husks and butts 25 pounds, after allowing 2 pounds on each rod for drying. Stalks 9 pounds per rod. Making 8,642 bushels of corn per acre; butts and husks 4,000 pounds per acre; stalks 1,440 pounds per acre.

The expense of the crop was as follows:—

Ploughing,	. . . . .	\$4.00
Spreading manure,	. . . . .	2.00
Ploughing in manure,	. . . . .	1.75
Furrowing, manuring in the hill, and planting,	. . . . .	5.00
Ploughing among corn and hoeing,	. . . . .	5.00
Cutting stalks and harvesting,	. . . . .	8.00
One-half manure at \$4.00 per cord,	. . . . .	14.00
Seed corn,	. . . . .	.50
Interest on land and taxes,	. . . . .	5.00
		<hr/>
		45.25

The value of the crop is as follows:—

86,42 bushels of corn, at \$1.00, . . . . .	\$86.42
2 tons of husks, at \$8.00 per ton, . . . . .	16.00
Stalks, . . . . .	8.50
	<hr/>
	110.92
Deducting cost of crop, . . . . .	45.25
	<hr/>
Leaves a net profit of . . . . .	65.67

Yours respectfully,

ABNER L. SMITH.

*Dover, October 25, 1856.*

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#### S. D. BRADFORD'S STATEMENT.

The piece of land on which my rye was sown is a gravelly loam, and had been in grass eight years in 1854, at which time, in October of that year, it was ploughed. It had not been manured for eight years, nor cared for in any way. In the spring of 1855, it was again ploughed deep, manured in drills with a compost of muck and stable manure, say about five cords, and planted with potatoes. The crop looked promising up to the beginning of August, when, on being dug, it was found the rot had commenced and destroyed three-quarters of them.

Early in September it was laid down with winter rye, herds grass and red top, in the usual proportions, having been dressed with about four cords of the same compost as has been already described. The rye soon made its appearance in the autumn, and grew very strong and thick before winter. It made rapid progress after the snow disappeared in the spring, which, however, was unusually late. It was reaped on the 24th and 25th of July. On being threshed in August, it produced 46½ bushels of winnowed rye, weighing 59 pounds each, and 3 tons and 793 pounds of straw of a very superior quality. The land on which it was produced has been measured, and contains one acre and thirty-nine rods. Before sowing the rye and grass seeds, about the 8th of September, the ground was ploughed and left to get thoroughly dry, after which it was harrowed to break up the lumps. After

this the ground was again ploughed, the manure having been spread before ploughing at all. Having then put in the seed, it was harrowed three times more, so that the manure became well mixed with the soil, and the latter well pulverized.

*Expenses of the crop.*

Manure, . . . . .	\$24.00
Spreading the same, ploughing, harrowing and sowing,	10.00
Cost of seed, . . . . .	1.50
Reaping, . . . . .	12.00
Threshing, . . . . .	6.00
Interest on land, . . . . .	12.00
Taxes, . . . . .	1.50
	<hr/>
	67.00

*Value of the crop.*

46½ bushels of rye, weighing 59 pounds, equal to 49 bushels of 56 pounds, at \$1.00 per bushel, . . . . .	\$49.00
3 793-2000 tons of straw, at \$18.00 per ton, . . . . .	61.13
Deduct half the manure, . . . . .	12.00
	<hr/>
	122.13
Deduct cost, . . . . .	67.00
	<hr/>
Net profit, . . . . .	55.13

S. D. BRADFORD.

*West Roxbury, November, 1856.*

STATEMENT OF R. P. FENNO.

The land on which the crop was raised contains 142 rods. It was planted last year with potatoes, and manured last fall with about two cords of piggery manure, mixed with the same quantity of loam. The rye was sown the middle of October, at the rate of one bushel and three pecks per acre. The soil is light and loamy, and was ploughed shallow with one horse, when the seed was sown and harrowed. The piece produced forty bushels.

*Expenses of the crop.*

Expenses, seed, &c., . . . . .	\$1.75
Ploughing, harrowing and sowing, . . . . .	2.00
Manuring and spreading, . . . . .	14.00
Harvesting and threshing, . . . . .	10.00
Interest on land, . . . . .	6.00
	<hr/>
	33.75

*Value of the crop.*

40 bushels of rye, at \$1.00 per bushel, . . . . .	\$40.00
2 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons straw, at \$16.00 per ton, . . . . .	36.00
	<hr/>
	76.00
Deduct cost, . . . . .	33.75
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Net profit, . . . . .	42.25

R. P. FENNO.

*Milton, November, 1856.*

## JOSIAH F. TWOMBLY'S STATEMENT.

The field of rye offered by me for a premium contains one acre and thirty-four rods, and is the same which I planted with corn last year, (less seventeen rods,) a report of which is made to the Society. In October of 1855, after the corn was harvested, the land was ploughed with a horse, and without any additional manure, sown with rye. Several rods of the field, which received the wash from the barn, was very rank, and lodged so much that it produced but very little, if any, grain. The field was harvested about the middle of August, and produced 52 bushels of rye and 6050 pounds of straw.

DR. Interest, . . . . .	\$14.50
Taxes, . . . . .	2.00
1 $\frac{3}{4}$ bushels of seed, . . . . .	2.18
Ploughing, sowing and harrowing, . . . . .	3.50
Harvesting, threshing, &c., . . . . .	15.80
	<hr/>
	37.98

CR.	52 bushels of rye, at 1.00 per bushel,	. . . . .	\$52.00
	5050 pounds of straw, at .75 per hundred,	. . . . .	37.89
			<hr/>
			89.89
	Deduct cost,	. . . . .	37.98
			<hr/>
	Net profit,	. . . . .	51.91

Or at the rate of \$42.78 per acre. Rye, per acre, 43 bushels ; straw, per acre, 4160 pounds.

JOSIAH F. TWOMBLY.

*Milton, October 25, 1856.*

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#### CHARLES BRECK'S STATEMENT.

In order to test the value of Plymouth county or Webster corn, in other localities than this, last winter I sent some of it to a friend of mine, Judge Marcy of Royalton, Vt., who had seen some of it growing in this vicinity, and on Saturday last I received from him an account of it. He says: "I planted all you sent me but two or three ears (which I reserved to compare with the product on my own land,) on the 1st day of May, in hills three feet apart each way, the land being sufficiently dry, and manured with common barn-yard manure, ploughed in. This is from ten to twenty days earlier than corn is usually planted here. I planted a part of it on White River meadow lands, and the rest on land about a mile back. The corn came up well and grew very rapidly till September came in, when there was a greater burden of it than I ever saw of any other kind of corn raised here ; but it was not so forward as other kinds, and I thought from appearance it would not get ripe, and, consequently, we picked and used a good deal of it as 'green corn' for the table. But as the frost held off later than usual, (about the 20th of October,) that part which was planted on the river lands ripened perfectly, every ear of it becoming sound, and most of them well filled out, and it is as fine corn as I ever saw or could wish for, and makes excellent meal. The ears are longer and larger round, and the kernels much longer and larger than those you sent me. This is unaccountable to me. Can you conceive of a reason for it? I have saved a

quantity of ears to show you when I have opportunity. You will see from the circumstances I have named, that I cannot now ascertain, by weight or otherwise, the quantity produced per acre. I think, from the best means of judging I have had, that on the meadow lands the yield would have been 100 bushels per acre. I picked from some hills which had remained entire till ripe, eight large and well filled sound ears. There was an equally large growth of that raised on the hill land, though I doubt the expediency of planting this kind of corn on hill land in this State. Yet I think that, even in common seasons, it might be profitably raised on the White River meadows and other favorable locations for producing corn ; for though it might not all get quite ripe, yet I think enough would to more than equal the average crop of corn usually raised in this State.”

You are aware that most of the corn which was planted in this vicinity came up very poorly, many losing their entire crops, and many having to re-plant. The corn which I sent to Vermont I obtained of our neighbor, Mr. Ruggles, who has become famous for raising large crops of corn ; and while that planted by him came up so badly that he gave up all thought of a premium crop this year. That sent to Judge Marcy came up well, and he states that he believed every kernel which he planted came up, although planted there nearly two weeks earlier than here. Will this give any clue to the reason or cause of corn not coming up well here ? I can think of none except this :—The corn I sent to Vermont was the basket of ears which Mr. Ruggles selected as the earliest and best in his field, and which were intended for the Exhibition at Dedham ; while that planted by himself was taken from his bin, without any knowledge as to its early or late ripening, or whether it was injured by the frost, which affected its vitality without being perceptible to the sight. Now whether this be the cause of failure or not, our farmers will lose nothing from following its suggestions, and may gain much.

Respectfully yours,

CHARES BRECK.

*Milton, November 24th, 1856.*

## REMARKS ON THE CULTIVATION OF CRANBERRIES.

BY REV. C. C. SEWALL.

The Cranberry is universally regarded as one of the most valuable and delicious fruits. Its general use and ready sale have made it an important article of commerce. Its cultivation requires no large outlay of expense, and is attended with no more difficulties or disappointments than are common to all fruit culture, while its harvest is, ordinarily, one of the most remunerative of all the products of the farm.

There are many acres in this county already devoted to the growth of this fruit. The estimated value of the crop for the last year, 1855, was greater than that of either of the small grains,—oats, rye, barley and wheat,—or than that of any vegetable production except potatoes. But it is believed that the quantity and value of this fruit may be increased very largely, without impoverishing our farms, or endangering the profitable sale of the article in the market.

We are reluctantly compelled to defer any particular description of several extensive cranberry meadows, which were visited by us during the past summer. Of one in particular, situated in Franklin, which has been planted and nurtured with great care, and now affords the best promise of large returns, we shall hope to be able to give a full account when the result of the experiment is completely established. Of another, owned by Captain Tucker of Canton, and familiarly known as the “Punkapoag Meadow,” we shall here only state that it exceeds in extent and value any within our knowledge, and is yet capable of being greatly enlarged, by the removal of the coarse grass and low bushes which obstruct the growth of the vines. This process the owner is gradually effecting, and will have, when it is completed, a bed of cranberry vines covering forty acres or more. It is not many years since any systematic endeavors to increase and preserve the crop were commenced. Indeed, it is a well authenticated tradition, that a large portion of the meadow had been the *fishing* ground of men not long since deceased. The soil is exceedingly moist, and by a slight pressure of the foot a large area

of surface is easily shaken. There are many patches where the vines have completely covered the surface, and these were full of berries. We saw fifteen able bodied men employed in gathering the berries, and understood that they would be occupied, in this work, for six weeks. They were using the rake, but were required to pick by hand any fruit which it did not gather, and thus the whole was thoroughly gleaned.

It is worthy of remark how attentive is the owner of the meadow to provide for the comfort of these laborers, who are exposed to stand in the water many hours each day. Probably much of his success may be attributed to his kind treatment of those who thus wrought faithfully and with more than ordinary care for his benefit.

It may not be improper to state that, for the berries gathered upon this meadow last year, the owner received, in a single payment, \$3250.00; and that the crop was enlarged, the present year, to at least *fifteen hundred bushels*, which was all contracted for by one firm, at eight dollars per barrel.

Many of the natural cranberry meadows in this county are liable to much injury from late and early frosts, which destroy,—the one the blossoms, and the other the ripening fruit; nor can this evil be guarded against, except the advantage be had of easily flowing the land. The danger of such injury, however, is less upon the seaboard than in the interior, and in the upland culture than in low meadows. Near the sea the finest and most hardy fruit is grown, on beds of pure moist sand, often washed by the waves; and in other localities, by upland culture, on a good soil, with the use of peat, or other absorbent, as a covering. On the borders of large rivers, where freshets occur, the growing crops are often destroyed, by being overflowed too long. This has been the case, to a great extent, in our own county this year, along the banks of the Charles and Neponset rivers. There is, too, another evil, and which results from the artificial flowing of extensive tracts of meadow, for the growth or preservation of cranberries. Where the water is allowed, as is commonly the case, to remain upon the meadow till after vegetation has commenced, and is then only gradually removed, or is renewed on the first apprehension of early frost, a malaria is often created, by evaporation, injurious to the health of all nearly exposed to it.

Instances of such evil are not unknown to medical men, and the fact is worthy of consideration, in connection with the increased cultivation of cranberry meadows.

For these and other reasons, we are disposed to recommend more attention to the *upland culture* of the cranberry. We believe it to be attended with less risk, and productive of a fruit equal, if not always superior, to that grown in meadows, whether naturally or by cultivation. An instance of most successful cultivation of this sort, in Essex county, has been brought to our notice by a friend, whose account of it we here introduce.

“ Mr. Needham’s cranberry patch is situated on the lower side of his garden, in front of his house. . . . . The land is high, though the position of the bed is in a valley of somewhat moist land, but good for the products of a garden, or for Indian corn. It cannot be called meadow, in any sense of that term. It has been used for field garden and culture, for many years, by the present proprietor and his ancestors. . . . . The probability is, that, being in a hollow, it has been fertilized by the wash from the adjacent hills, as well as by applications made to it of manure.

“ Mr. N. obtained the plants from the neighboring meadows, and has watched them with unremitting attention,—never suffering the growth of *chickweed*, *grass*, or *any weed* whatever, among the vines, and always doing his work so early that the removal of weeds does not disturb the delicate fibres of the growing cranberries. In fact, his son told me this was the grand secret of his father’s success in growing the cranberry; and that the end could not be accomplished without patience and persevering industry, such as his father had applied. . . . . His products have always given him a fair compensation for all his labor. He has realized from the sale of his berries, the present season, nearly *four hundred dollars*, and could have readily sold as many more at his price,—*four dollars per bushel*. Whoever has used them would prefer these cranberries to any others grown on wet meadows, at half price. . . . . He gathers his fruit by hand, carefully avoiding any disturbance of the roots of the plants. He applies no fertilizer whatever, except mud from the meadow, after it has been pulverized by frost, and this for the double purpose of checking the growth of grass and weeds, and of retaining a moisture

for the benefit of the plants. The cranberry is a dear lover of *water*, and wants nothing stronger, and, in this particular, is well entitled to our confidence.”\*

C. L. Flint, Esq., the Secretary of the Mass. Board of Agriculture, says, in his admirable Report for 1853: “The experiments which have already been made clearly show the practicability of raising cranberries on upland. I have seen flourishing plantations of them on all varieties of soils, from a high and light gravelly loam to a very deep, rich, garden soil. Indeed, the universal opinion seems to be that such cranberries are better than those growing naturally in wet meadows. In the instances which I have myself seen, the land had been carefully ploughed and prepared, as it usually is for strawberries, or plants of that description. The plants were taken from their original situation in the manner described, in the sod, and freed from grasses and roots; they were then put into shallow trenches or drills, dug for the purpose, about two and a half or three feet apart. In consequence of the large space left between the drills, constant and careful attention was necessary for two or three years, so that far more labor was spent on them than the same area of strawberries would have required.”

The chief obstacles to the upland culture of the cranberry appear to be the difficulty of preventing the growth of grass and weeds, and the necessity of preserving moisture in the soil. These are, neither of them, it is proved, insuperable; and we apprehend that, on soils similar to that alluded to in both the foregoing extracts, some other substance than meadow mud might be used with advantage for both purposes. Perhaps spent tan, pure beach sand, or where these cannot be had, any fine sand, put between the vines, would retard the growth of grass and weeds.

\* We copy the following from a late issue of the Salem Register.

“CRANBERRIES.—Elias Needham, Esq., of West Danvers, has a lot of upland, bordering upon the Danvers Railroad, containing five-eighths of an acre. Upon this, some five or six years since, he set out cranberry plants, and has cultivated them with great care. This year he picked ninety-seven bushels of excellent cranberries, which he sold for four dollars per bushel; and besides these there were some ten bushels of damaged berries. From trees on the same land he picked fourteen barrels of apples, which he sold for four dollars per barrel,—making the gross income from five-eighths of an acre, *four hundred and forty-four dollars!*”

Salt and plaster would absorb and retain moisture ; and the former we think to be most serviceable, if not necessary, to the perfection of the fruit, from the fact that the best cranberries are grown nearest the sea. The experience of cultivators, too, as we shall presently show, confirms the supposition.

Several instances of comparative success, in this mode of culture, are described in the Report of the Plymouth County Society for 1852, contained in the volume from which our last extract was taken.

Mr. Austin J. Roberts says, in his statement: " In the fall of 1847, I noticed that the cranberries on a certain low, swampy soil, were much benefited by the sand washed from an adjoining hill. In size, the berries were larger and the yield there was more abundant, compared with the product of the vines further in the swamp, where the sand had not reached. This led to the determination to ascertain how far the cultivation of the cranberry on a sandy loam might be profitably carried. Accordingly, in November, 1848, I commenced setting out about an acre of land to cranberry vines.

" The piece of land in question had a gentle slope to the west ; the upper portion was very light and porous, and so poor that it had, in previous years, been considered hardly worthy of cultivation. The middle part, comprising one-third of the piece, was good, light, loamy soil, not liable to bake or suffer from drought. The third portion of the lower part was strong loam, inclined to moisture, and may be termed good grass land. . . . .

" The way of planting was as follows : the land was ploughed eight inches deep and harrowed ; light furrows, three and a half feet apart, were then run lengthwise ; cranberry sods, of the Bell variety, were cut eight to ten inches square, with a sharp spade, wheeled out of the swamp, carted on the upland, and deposited in the furrows three feet apart, although two feet would have been better ; so that the sods, as placed in the furrows, were three and a half by three feet apart. Clean cultivation was, for the next two years, carried on by the cultivator and the hoe. The third year the vines had commenced extending themselves in all directions, and at the end of the season, had, in many places, nearly covered the ground. Runners, from three to four feet in length, were thrown out with great luxuriance, rendering the cultivator

and hoe of no further use in keeping down the grass and weeds. Fingering (cleaning by hand,) an acre of cranberries was now out of the question, so that weeds, grass, and cranberries were left to conflict for the mastery. During the drought of 1852, the cranberry vines, on the upper or dryest part of the land, began to fail, evidently suffering from the severity of the drought. *On the middle portion, the soil being deep and mellow, they grew finely, overpowering the weeds and grass, and, in places, bearing at the rate of half a bushel to the square rod, and apparently not at all affected by the dry weather.* In the lowest part, which was the moistest, the grass appeared to gain the ascendancy, and although the vines spread as well as the grass, the yield of cranberries was not more than one-third as great as on the middle portion, owing, doubtless, to the natural tendency of the soil to grass.

“This year (1852) the vines in the central part overrun the ground to the exclusion of every thing else, and the yield appears (October 13) greater than that of any preceding year, and the fruit far superior in size and color to that raised in swamps. Whether the grass in the lower part will eventually yield to the cranberry is a matter which time will prove, but which I think is likely.

“Salt, at the rate of four bushels to the acre, I would recommend as a preventive for worms, which are so troublesome on light soils. One-tenth of my upland berries were destroyed by the worms or the plum curculio last year; but their ravages, I believe, have ceased, as I have not observed a berry stung this year.

“Salt I believe to be a benefit to the upland cranberry, inasmuch as it attracts the moisture, keeps down the weeds in a measure, and aids the growth of the vines, to say nothing of the vermin. On a small scale, I have applied at the rate of fifteen bushels of salt per acre over the vines, in the spring, with impunity.

“The conclusions to which I arrive, after experimenting with the cranberry five years, are as follows:—

“1st. That the cranberry will flourish and yield best on moist sand; that they will grow and produce well on loamy soils, but moderately dry, is an established fact in my own mind, though as a matter of choice, poor moist sand would be preferable.

“2d. That porous, sandy loams for the cultivation of the cranberry, are unsuitable and contrary to the nature and require-

ments of the plant. In a wet season, the vines may grow well and throw out vigorous runners, thus deceiving the cultivator, but let a severe drought come, and they will suffer and die. In a moist climate, like that of England, the case might be different ; but throughout our country, the profitable cultivation of the cranberry, without moisture, is impracticable."

We have italicised a portion of this extract, to draw attention to the particular nature of the soil, which was found to be entirely suited to profitable upland cultivation of the cranberry. And the whole statement is suggestive of serviceable reflections for the cultivator.

We recommend further trial of the upland culture of the cranberry, then, because we believe it to be perfectly practicable, and that multiplied experiments may bring to light advantages in it sufficient to give it claims to more general regard, if not to precedence over any other. Among the products of the garden, few would be more desirable, or more easily cultivated and protected from frost, or supplied with moisture. And the value of it, in this regard, should commend it to more general attention.

Considering the uncertainty of the crop, in consequence of the frosts and freshets, we think that meadows may be more profitably devoted to the growing of grass, unless cranberries are already growing naturally there, and the right and the means of controlling a neighboring stream of water belong to the cultivator.

From the volume recently prepared and published by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, on the Industry of Massachusetts, we have gathered the following facts in relation to the cultivation of cranberries, which are highly suggestive and worthy of consideration.

### A B S T R A C T

*Of the quantities of land on which cranberries were grown in the several Counties of the State in 1854; the value of the whole crop; the average value of it per acre; and the value of the land per acre.*

Counties.	Acres.	Value of Crop.	Value of Crop per Acre.	Value of Land per Acre.
Barnstable, . . . . .	197	\$16,916.00	\$85.86	\$50.00 to \$170.00
Berkshire. No returns, . . . . .				
Bristol, . . . . .	380	12,282.00	32.32	15.00 to 90.00
Dukes, . . . . .	14	1,296.00	92.54	27.00 to 142.00
Essex, . . . . .	370	8,488.00	22.94	2.00 to 125.00
Franklin, . . . . .	9 $\frac{1}{8}$	505.00	55.34	40.00 to 60.00
Hampden, . . . . .	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	439.00	32.51	20.00 to 100.00
Hampshire, . . . . .	5	40.00	8.00	16.00
Middlesex, . . . . .	2,554 $\frac{3}{8}$	29,274.00	11.46	2.00 to 253.00
Nantucket, . . . . .	19 $\frac{3}{4}$	1,140.00	57.72	18.00
Norfolk, . . . . .	807	30,000.00	37.17	20.00 to 60.00
Plymouth, . . . . .	361 $\frac{1}{2}$	12,098.00	33.46	10.00 to 250.00
Suffolk. No returns, . . . . .				
Worcester, . . . . .	641 $\frac{1}{4}$	22,720.00	35.43	5.00 to 60.00
Total and aggregate,	5,372 $\frac{1}{2}$	\$135,198.00	\$25.17	2.00 to 470.00

## LETTER ON CARROTS.

*Boston, December 8, 1856.*

DEAR SIR:—You ask for *facts* in relation to the cultivation of carrots, and the product per acre.

I have had five successive crops, (1855–1856,) the yield varying from 850 to 950 bushels per acre, and from one to two acres under cultivation.

The soil naturally good, having a thick loam surface, and clay and gravel subsoil; rather too wet, and never having been drained and subsoiled. I hope for increased product. It has been ploughed once in autumn and twice in the spring. Southern slope of a hill and well cleared of stones.

The first year I put on seven to eight cords of manure, the land having previously been badly used; subsequently, about six cords of cow and horse manure. The rows twenty-four inches distance for four seasons; at the last, eighteen inches. Three weedings by hand. I think I should have been a gainer by giving seven or eight cords of manure.

At forty bushels a ton of two thousand pounds, the crops have averaged twenty-four tons. Sold, deliverable on the ground, at \$11.00 per ton, and if delivered, \$12.00 per ton. In the spring prices are two to four dollars higher. At \$10.00 to \$12.00 per ton, carrots, I apprehend, are cheaper food than hay at \$25.00 to \$30.00 per ton, or oats at sixty cents per bushel,—equal to two cents per pound against carrots at half a cent per pound.

My experience is too limited to give much weight to my returns, but I am satisfied that carrots, at 600 to 700 bushels per acre, are more profitable than hay, potatoes or maize, at such an extent as would be required for the consumption of Massachusetts. But farmers whom I have consulted say they are unprofitable, and one may see the reason by reference to the returns, which give 220 to 428 bushels to an acre, costing probably nearly as much per bushel as my 900 bushels.

I apprehend that fifty per cent. more potatoes and hay can be obtained from our lands, if their cultivators would devote more labor and capital to them, and emigrate less West, where capital is wanting. The average of hay, (English hay,) in this State, is

under one ton to an acre. I get two tons on the average of seasons, and with moderate top dressing every year or two. The expense of cultivating will not much more than meet the expenses; but it would be otherwise in the hands of farmers.

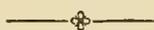
Massachusetts, poor as she is in soil and limited as it is in quantity,—with three or four months less time in the field than in the Southern and Southwestern States,—produces a larger amount of commodities than South or North Carolina; and much may be added to the existing quantities, if more knowledge, skill and enterprise are applied to agriculture.

If I am right in these views, you must, when addressing the farmers, say what you think on the subject.

Yours truly,

HENRY LEE.

Hon. MARSHALL P. WILDER.



## REPORT ON MEADOW AND SWAMP LANDS.

The Committee on Improving Meadow and Swamp Lands, submit the following report:—

That Mr. Asa Pickering of Bellingham, has called their attention to a lot of meadow land, containing eight acres, which he has reclaimed, and which he presents for premium.

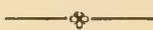
There are many points in the statement of Mr. Pickering of more than ordinary interest. When we consider that these results have been brought about by the almost entirely unaided efforts of one man, without the help of ploughing or manuring, it is an encouraging instance of what man can do, single handed, in overcoming the sterility of our northern soil.

Your Committee do not recommend the award of a premium to Mr. Pickering on account of the gross amount produced by his meadow, for in that respect it would not bear comparison with many others. But when we take into consideration the fact that this work has been undertaken by a man already past the meridian of life; that he has with a common mattock hoe turned over eight acres of soil; gravelled the entire surface; dug and stoned the

drains, and built over these drains substantial stone walls, and as a result shows a net gain of \$448.00, we think him as fairly entitled to the Society's first premium of fifteen dollars, as he would have been if, by the means of greater expense, he had somewhat increased the gross amount produced by his land.

For the Committee,

B. F. DUDLEY, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON BULLS.

The Committee on Bulls would respectfully offer the following as the result of their examination :—

By the rules, the awards were confined to pure blood animals, and they have not awarded any premium where a doubt existed, as by so doing they would be vouching for the purity of the animal.

The first on the list was the Alderney and Jersey breed. There were eight entries, and all of fine promise. Except in awarding the first premium, the Committee were much embarrassed in their decision, but finally decided unanimously as follows, on those over one year old.

### *Alderneys.*

To Jonathan French of Roxbury, the first premium of	. \$5.00
To J. S. Eldridge of Canton, the second premium of	. 3.00

### *Alderneys under one year old.*

To H. H. Hunnewell of Needham, the first premium of	. 3.00
To William Bacon of Roxbury, the second premium of	. 2.00

There was but one entry made of Ayrshire Bulls. The Committee award

To Nathan Phillips of Dedham, the first premium of	. \$5.00
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The Committee were not satisfied that there was a pure breed Durham on exhibition.

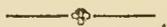
Of North Devons there were two entries. The Committee award

To B. V. French of Braintree, for his Bull May Boy, sixteen months old, the first premium of . . . . \$5.00  
 To Henry Goulding of Dover, for his Devon Bull, the second premium of . . . . . 3.00

The show of Grade and Native Bulls was highly respectable, and the Committee regret that the means of the Society do not allow of more liberal awards.

For the Committee,

B. V. FRENCH, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON MILCH COWS.

The Committee on Cows regret that the ill health of their Chairman, Mr. Daniel C. Bacon of West Roxbury, deprived them of his services. They were, however, unanimous in awarding the following premiums:—

### *Jerseys.*

To Aaron D. Weld of West Roxbury, the first premium of \$5.00  
 To William Bacon of Roxbury, the second premium of 3.00

### *Durhams.*

To Mary D. Gibbons of Quincy, the first premium of . 5.00  
 To William Bacon of Roxbury, the second premium of . 3.00

### *Grades.*

No one, in the opinion of the judges, being entitled to the first premium, they award

To Stephen Welch of Dedham, the second premium of . 3.00

They also recommend gratuities of two dollars each to A. D. Weld of West Roxbury, and Henry Goulding of Dover.

### *Natives.*

To Calvin Richards of Dover, the second premium of . 3.00  
 To George Fuller of Dedham, a gratuity of . . . . 2.00

The Committee likewise recommend a gratuity of three dollars to J. C. Bachi of Dorchester, for a very promising young cow, which he had not owned long enough to entitle him to a premium.

For milch cows only one person, in the opinion of the Committee, complied with the requisitions of the Society in making his statement, namely, Mr. Charles H. Harmon of West Needham, to whom they award a premium of \$10.00.

In the book containing the premiums and the rules for awarding them, there are two sections relating to cows. The first offers a premium for the different breeds, without requiring any written statement. The second, headed *Milch Cows*, requires a particular description, in writing, of the expense of feeding, and the quantity and quality of the milk at different times. At the late Exhibition, nearly all the cows entered for premium might, with propriety, have been called milch cows, many of them having calves with them. The Committee considered the cow entered by Mrs. Gibbons of Quincy, the best one on the ground; but they felt obliged either to violate the rules of the Society, or to exclude her from receiving a premium as a milch cow. They would, therefore, respectfully recommend that all competitors, for the future, be more explicit in making their statements.

The increasing demand for milk, the rise in the value of land, and the present high price of labor and produce, in the vicinity of our cities and villages, it would seem, ought to be a sufficient inducement for farmers to pay more attention to the breed, expense of keeping and manner of milking their cows.

They should be fed and milked regularly, and if practicable, by the same person; and when the number of cows requires more than one milker, each person should invariably milk the same, as a cow will yield her milk more readily and freely to one with whom she is acquainted, if kindly treated, than to a stranger.

Yankee ingenuity has invented almost every thing to save labor, but whether a machine better than the hands will ever be invented to draw milk from the udder of a cow, remains to be seen.

Probably, as a general rule, the most profitable age of a cow is from six to twelve; some, however, arrive at maturity and decline at an earlier age than others. The writer of this Report once owned a small Native that gave sixteen beer quarts per day for several months, after having her second calf, and although

kept till twelve years old, she never exceeded that quantity. It may not be improper, in this connection, to state that there is now in the west part of Milton, a cow in milk that was raised and has always been owned by the same person, that was *twenty-three* years old last March.

For the Committee,

ELIJAH TUCKER, *Chairman.*



### REPORT ON HEIFERS.

The Committee on Heifers award the following premiums :—

To Horatio H. Hunnewell of Needham, on Jersey heifer and calf, two years old, the first premium of . . . . .	\$3.00
To J. S. Eldridge of Canton, on Jersey heifer, one year old, the second premium of . . . . .	2.00
To Nicholas T. Whittaker of Needham, on Ayrshire heifer, sixteen months old, the first premium of . . . . .	3.00
To S. J. Capen of Dorchester, on Ayrshire heifer, one year old, the second premium of . . . . .	2.00
To W. G. Wood of Dedham, on two Durham heifers, twins and calves, two years old, the first premium of . . . . .	3.00
To William Bacon of Roxbury, on Durham heifer, two years old, the second premium of . . . . .	2.00
To B. V. French of Braintree, on Devon heifer, two years old, the first premium of . . . . .	3.00
To B. V. French of Braintree, on Devon heifer, one year old, the second premium of . . . . .	2.00
To William Bacon of Roxbury, on Grade heifer and calf, two years old, first premium of . . . . .	3.00
To Marshall P. Wilder of Dorchester, on Grade heifer, two years old, the second premium of . . . . .	2.00

And the Judges recommend gratuities of \$2.00 each to the following persons :—To Merrick P. Sumner of Dedham, A. D. Weld of Roxbury, on heifers, two years old. Also to Stephen Welch of

Dedham, on heifer, two years old, and Solomon Flagg of Needham, on his heifer, one year old.

To Humplrey Smith of West Roxbury, on Native heifer, sixteen months old, the first premium of . . . . .	\$3.00
To Mary D. Gibbons of Quincy, on Durham calf, four months old, second premium of . . . . .	2.00
To Eliphalet Stone of Dedham, on Native calf, eight months old, the first premium of . . . . .	3.00
To J. D. Dunbar of Canton, on his heifer, the third premium of . . . . .	1.00

ASAHEL S. DRAKE,	} <i>Judges.</i>
JAMES CAPEN,	
JAMES BARTLETT,	
JAMES P. CLARK,	



## REPORT ON WORKING OXEN.

The Committee report that ten entries were made for trial, and they have awarded premiums as follows :—

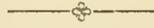
To E. G. Edson of Dedham, the first premium of . . . . .	\$8.00
To Horace and Moses Whitney of Dedham, the second premium of . . . . .	6.00
To B. V. French of Braintree, the third premium of . . . . .	5.00
To Luther Eaton of Dedham, the fourth premium of . . . . .	3.00

The exhibition this year was much larger than usual, and the work was very creditably performed by the competitors. The pair of oxen belonging to E. G. Edson was particularly well trained, and backed with much ease to themselves and their driver. Mr. B. V. French had a very good pair for drawing worthy of notice. With the exception of that pair, and those for which premiums have been awarded, none were of superior merit. As the ox is in a measure necessary to the farmer, and as much time and labor may be saved by the use of well trained animals, your Committee would suggest that more care should be taken in their management, particularly in learning them to perform their labor with less use of the whip and voice. Could this be done, the trial of

working oxen would be rendered much more agreeable both to the Committee and spectators.

For the Committee,

ELLIS TUCKER, *Chairman.*

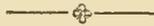


### REPORT ON STEERS.

The Committee report that there were but one pair of steers and two pair of steers (calves) entered. As the Society have offered no premium for the latter, the Committee could award none. They therefore award to Whitney Grant of Wrentham, for his three year old steers, the first premium of \$5.00.

For the Committee,

ELLIS TUCKER, *Chairman.*



### REPORT ON FAT CATTLE.

The Committee on Fat Cattle have attended to their duty. The number entered for premium was six, and we make the awards as follows:—

To William Palmer of West Roxbury, the first premium of \$8.00

To Asa Pickering of Bellingham, the second premium of 5.00

To Cheever Newhall of Dorchester, the third premium of 3.00

For the Committee,

ABIATHAR RICHARDS, *Chairman.*



### REPORT ON SWINE.

The Committee on Swine award the following premiums:—

*For the best Boar, not less than six months old.*

To Joseph T. Ludden of Braintree, the first premium of \$6.00

*For the best Breeding Sow.*

To B. V. French of Braintree, the first premium of	. \$6.00
To G. F. Darling of Needham, the second premium of	5.00
To W. T. G. Morton of Needham, the third premium of	4.00

*For the best litter of Weaned Pigs, from two to six months old.*

To C. C. Sewall of Medfield, the first premium of	. \$6.00
To W. T. G. Morton of Needham, the second premium of	5.00
To G. F. Darling of Needham, the third premium of	4.00

*For the best Fat Hog.*

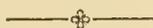
To J. W. Clark of Dedham, the second premium of	. \$5.00
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*Gratuities.*

To Henry Wood of Needham,	. . . . . 2.00
Joseph T. Ludden of Braintree,	. . . . . 2.00
Tohn Fussell of West Roxbury, for four black Essex Pigs,	2.00

For the Committee,

JOHN H. ROBINSON, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON POULTRY.

The Committee on Poultry find thirteen competitors of the different kinds of fowls, and award the following premiums:—

To C. F. Blanchard of Dorchester, for the best conducted, &c. of expense with statement, the first premium of	. \$6.00
To Henry Newcomb of Randolph, for the best lot of Geese,	. . . . . 3.00
Samuel Kingsbury of Needham, for the best lot of Tur- keys,	. . . . . 3.00
Edward M. Sewall, of Medfield, for the best lot of Ban- tams,	. . . . . 2.00
Edward M. Sewall of Medfield, for the best lot of Ducks, &c.,	. . . . . 4.00
Zebina Smith of Dedham, for the best lot of Fowls,	. 4.00

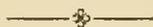
George G. French of Braintree, for the second best lot of Fowls, . . . . .	3.00
To James Calder of Dedham, for the third best lot of Fowls, . . . . .	2.00
To C. B. Ward of Dedham, for the best pair of Black Spanish, . . . . .	2.00
To John Fussell of Jamaica Plain, for the best pair of White Shanghai, . . . . .	2.00
To Thomas Smith of Dedham, for the best pair of Fowls, . . . . .	2.00

The Committee would award the following gratuities :—

To A. W. Austin of West Roxbury, on a lot of Geese, . . . . .	\$2.00
To Charles Sloan of Milton, " " " . . . . .	1.00
To C. H. Small of Dedham, on a lot of Golden Seabrights, . . . . .	1.00

For the Committee, . . . . .

WILLIAM R. MANN, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON HORSES.

### *Thorough Bred and Part Thorough Bred.*

To J. Merrill & Co. of Roxbury, for Stallion "Trustee, jr." by Imported Trustee, . . . . .	Diploma.
An accident to this horse prevented his inspection by the Committee, and he was withdrawn by his owners; otherwise he would have received the first premium.	
To A. R. Mathes, Roxbury, for five year old Stallion Young Trustee, by Imported Trustee, second premium of . . . . .	10.00
John Dunn of Roxbury, for Stallion, the third premium of . . . . .	8.00
To Thomas Parsons of Brookline, for three year old Filly, by Tri Color, the first premium of . . . . .	6.00
To G. Howland Shaw of Brookline, for two year old Colt Trustee, by Imported Trustee, the first premium of . . . . .	5.00

To Joseph H. Billings of West Roxbury, for two year old Cold St. Patrick, by Imported Trustee, the second premium of . . . . .	\$3.00
To Arthur W. Austin of West Roxbury, for two year old Colt Rainbow, by Tri Color, the third premium of . . . . .	2.00
To G. Howland Shaw of Brookline, for one year old Colt Young Sutton, by Ethan Allen, first premium of . . . . .	5.00
To Arthur W. Austin of West Roxbury, for one year old Colt "Sunbeam," by Tri Color, the second premium of . . . . .	3.00
To Arthur W. Austin of West Roxbury, for one year old Colt Starlight, by Tri Color, the third premium of . . . . .	2.00
To Lyman Kinsley of Canton, for Brood Mare and Colt, colt by Ethan Allen, the first premium of . . . . .	10.00

*Horses of all Work.*

To John Fussell of Roxbury, for four year old Stallion, Black Hawk breed, the first premium of . . . . .	15.00
To Arthur W. Austin of West Roxbury, for Brood Mare and Foal, by Ethan Allen, the first premium of . . . . .	10.00
To E. G. Cobb of Foxboro', Brood Mare and Colt, pedigree unknown, the second premium of . . . . .	8.00
To Lowell Mann of Walpole, Brood Mare and Colt, by Morgan Horse Boston, the third premium of . . . . .	6.00
To William Blake of Jamaica Plain, Brood Mare and Colt, the fourth premium of . . . . .	4.00
To David Ellis of Cambridgeport, for his beautiful Black Hawk Mare, a gratuity of \$10.00 and the Society's diploma.	
To J. C. Bachi of Dorchester, for Black Hawk Colt, three years old, the first premium of . . . . .	6.00
To W. W. Upham of Dover, for Black Hawk Colt Zach Taylor, three years old, the second premium of . . . . .	4.00
To John Fussell of Roxbury, for Filly, three years old, the third premium of . . . . .	3.00
To Daniel C. Bacon of West Roxbury, for Black Hawk and Hamiltonian Colt, two years old, the first premium of . . . . .	5.00
To Samuel Eldridge of Canton, for Black Hawk Colt, two years old, the second premium of . . . . .	3.00

To S. J. Capen of Dorchester, for Empire State Colt, two years old, the third premium of . . . . .	2.00
To E. Boyden of Walpole, for two year old Colt, a gratuity of . . . . .	2.00
To John D. Bradley of Milton, for one year old Filly, the first premium of . . . . .	5.00
To John Fussell of Roxbury, for one year old Filly, the second premium of . . . . .	3.00
To George E. Holbrook of Wrentham, for one year old Colt, the third premium of . . . . .	2.00
To Albert Howe of Brighton, for one year old Colt, the Society's diploma.	
To Thomas Adams of Roxbury, one pair of Carriage Horses, the first premium of . . . . .	20.00
To S. W. & E. Nash of Weymouth, for chaise and buggy Horse, first premium of . . . . .	10.00
To William Churchill of Brookline, for chaise and buggy Mare, the third premium of . . . . .	6.00
To C. G. & H. M. Plympton of Walpole, for chaise and buggy Horse, the fourth premium of . . . . .	4.00
To Joseph L. Brigham of Roxbury, for chaise and buggy Horse, the Society's diploma.	
To James McLamer of Dedham, for Farm Horse, seven years old, the first premium of . . . . .	10.00
To G. & H. M. Plympton of Walpole, for Farm Horse, nine years old, the second premium of . . . . .	8.00
To Cheever Newhall of Dorchester, for one pair of Farm Horses, the first premium of . . . . .	10.00
To Amory Fisher of Dedham, for one pair of Team Horses, the third premium of . . . . .	6.00

*Trotting Horses.*

To Lemuel Dickerman of Foxboro', for the best Trotting Horse, five years old, the Society's diploma.	
To John D. Bradley of Milton, for Trotting Mare, seven years old, the Society's diploma.	
To Alden Bartlett of Dedham, for Trotting Mare, four years old, the Society's diploma.	

## REPORT ON PLOUGHING.

The Committee on Horse Teams make the following report:—

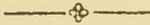
The whole number of entries were five, and the premiums are awarded as follows:

To Joel Morse of Medfield, the first premium,	. . . \$8.00
To Hiram W. Jones of Dover, the second premium of	. . . 6.00
To Cheever Newhall of Dorchester, the third premium of	. . . 4.00
To Luther Eaton of Dedham, the fourth premium of	. . . 2.00

The Committee recommend the Society's diploma to William G. Lewis of Framingham, for the exhibition and superior performance of his Michigan plough.

For the Committee,

SOLOMON FLAGG, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON DOUBLE TEAMS.

The Committee on Ploughing with Double Teams report that there were five entered for the match, and the premiums are awarded as follows:

To B. N. Sawin of Dover, with Michigan double plough, the first premium of . . . . .	\$10.00
To Henry Goulding of Dover, with Prouty & Mears' plough, No. 155, the second premium of . . . . .	8.00
To B. V. French of Braintree, with Prouty & Mears' plough, No. 155, the third premium of . . . . .	6.00
To H. & M. Whiting of Dedham, with Ruggles & Nourse's Michigan double plough, the fourth premium of . . . . .	4.00

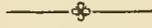
The Committee were unanimous in the opinion that the ploughing was well done, and doubt if it can be beaten any where in the State. The teamsters, as well as the ploughmen, deserve praise for the ease and quiet manner in which they performed their work.

The Committee were also well pleased with the work done with

the Michigan double plough, manufactured by Prouty & Mears, and would cheerfully recommend it to the notice of the farmers of Norfolk county.

For the Committee,

E. W. ROBINSON, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON SINGLE TEAMS.

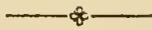
The Committee on Single Teams report that the whole number of entries were four. Mr. Hammond of Needham, in consequence of injury to his cattle, did not appear on the field. The Committee were somewhat in doubt in regard to who should receive the first premium, but decided to give

To B. V. French of Braintree, the first premium of	. \$8.00
To E. G. Edson of Dedham, the second premium of	. 7.00
To Abner T. Smith of Dover, the third premium of	. 6.00

The Committee regret that so many of the members, appointed by the proper authority, were absent, as to make necessary the filling up of the Committee upon the ground.

For the Committee,

BENJAMIN G. KIMBALL, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON SPADING.

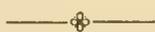
The Committee on Spading have awarded the following premiums :

To Thomas Flinn, on lot No. 2, the first premium of \$8.00 and diploma.	
To Peter Ford, on lot No. 7, the second premium of	. \$7.00
To Dennis Doody, on lot No. 4, the third premium of	. 6.00
To Dan McAnliff, on lot No. 9, the fourth premium of	. 5.00
To William Hickey, on lot No. 8, the fifth premium of	. 4.00

To Timothy Hickey, on lot No. 6, the sixth premium of	\$3.00
To Peter McAnliff, on lot No. 5, the seventh premium of	2.00
To Joseph Barber, on lot No. 1, the eighth premium of	1.00

For the Committee,

AARON D. WELD, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON LADIES' WORK.

The Committee on Ladies' Work are much gratified to notice the marked improvement in the articles pertaining to this department in comparison with former years.

The specimens of embroidery are very beautiful, and the Committee recommend a premium of \$2.00 to Miss Lucretia Townsend, of Medfield, for four collars, handkerchief and skirt.

For an elegantly wrought collar, the Committee recommend a premium of \$1.00 to Miss Ann E. Davenport, of Milton.

To Miss Delia White, of West Dedham, for an embroidered collar and sleeves, a diploma.

To Miss Mary L. C. Smith, Readville, Dedham, a gratuity of \$1.00, for collars and handkerchief.

To Mrs. J. Champion, of Dedham, for one worked skirt, a gratuity of 50 cents.

Mrs. John White, of West Dedham, and Miss Nancy Noyes, of Dedham, contributed very handsome specimens of embroidery, for which the Committee recommend a gratuity of 50 cents each.

To Miss Z. Shepard, of Canton, for beautiful specimens of Grecian, Pastile and Oriental painting on glass, and an elegant ornamental frame, the Committee recommend a premium of \$2.00 and a diploma.

To Miss M. A. Mansfield, of West Needham, for a beautiful specimen of hair work, a premium of \$1.00.

To Mrs. William H. Mann, of Dedham, for a child's embroidered dress, a diploma.

The Committee notice with pleasure the display of counterpanes, nine in number, which exhibits an advance in this branch of industry. The Committee recommend

To Mrs. Nancy White, of Weymouth, eighty years of age, who contributed a very substantially made knit quilt, the first premium of \$3.00.

To Mary B. Corey, of Milton, for patchwork quilt, the second premium of \$2.00.

To Mrs. Elizabeth Arnold, of West Roxbury, for knit quilt, a gratuity of \$1.00.

To Mrs. Hannah Pettee, of West Needham, for two quilts and two rugs, a gratuity of \$1.00.

Other counterpanes contributed by Mrs. Whiting Metcalf, of Franklin, Mrs. Emma Baker, of Roxbury, Mrs. Sarah M. Marsh, of Stoughton, and Eliza H. Carter, of Weymouth, are worthy of special notice and commendation, and the Committee recommend a diploma to each.

The articles of crotchet work are generally of superior execution. The Committee recommend

To Miss Bridget Crow, for a chair tidy, a gratuity of 50 cents.

To Miss Rosa Harkins, of Dedham, for crotchet specimens, a gratuity of 50 cents.

To Miss Sarah Turner, of Dedham, twelve years old, for highly creditable specimens, and also for an ornamented picture frame, a gratuity of 75 cents.

The Committee recommend

To Mrs. W. Willey, of Dedham, for hearth rug woven in a hand loom, the Society's diploma.

To Hannah Plimpton, of Walpole, for a specimen of hair work, a gratuity of 50 cents.

To Mary A. Plimpton, for lamp mat, a diploma.

To Miss Amanda Thompson, for embroidered cape, a gratuity of 50 cents.

To Miss C. A. Howard, of Dedham, for specimens of pencil drawing, a diploma.

To Emily S. Shepard, of Wrentham, for pair of net mittens, 50 cents.

To Miss R. Newall, of Brookline, for knitting, a gratuity of 50 cents.

To Miss Martha B. Evans, of Needham, for a shell work table, a diploma.

To Mrs. George Alden, of Dedham, for specimens of knitting, a gratuity of \$1.00.

To Miss Mary J. Wilson, twelve years of age, for specimens of painting, a gratuity of 25 cents.

To Mrs. J. W. Dennis, of Stoughton, for specimens of embroidered flannel, a gratuity of 50 cents.

To Mrs. J. Hill, of Stoughton, for very beautiful tape trimming skirt, a diploma.

To Miss Sarah B. Everett, twelve years of age, for a collar and tidy, a gratuity of 25 cents.

To Mrs. J. P. Clark, of East Medway, for one pair of cotton hose, a premium of 50 cents; for woollen hose, a premium of \$1.00; woollen half hose, a premium of 50 cents;—being the best specimens.

To Miss Julia Kingsbury, of Dedham, for two worsted tidys, a diploma.

To Miss Mary E. Foster, of Dedham, for worsted knitting, a premium of \$1.00.

To Mrs. T. L. Brown, of East Needham, for specimen of hair work, a premium of \$1.00.

To Mrs. J. M. Merrill, of Mill Village, Dedham, for wax flowers, a gratuity of 50 cents.

To Miss Ann Maria Gilbert, of Dorchester, for pencil drawing, a diploma.

To Miss Frances C. Pafh, of Canton, for painting, a diploma.

To Miss A. L. Metcalf, of Dedham, a wrought Ottoman cover, a diploma.

To Mrs. M. Metcalf, of Wrentham, a wrought Ottoman cover, a diploma.

To Miss Mary F. Fairbanks, of Medfield, for specimens of bead work, a gratuity of 25 cents.

There are many other articles worthy of notice.

For the Committee,

MRS. NATHANIEL CLAPP.

## REPORT ON DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

The Committee on Domestic Manufactures, award as follows :—

To L. W. Puffer, of Stoughton, for case of dentistry, a diploma.

To Timothy Phelps, of Dedham, for hats, a premium of \$1.00.

To Samuel W. Hodges, of Stoughton, for yarn, socks, hose and fancy knit woollen goods, a premium of \$2.00 and a diploma.

To Cushman & Baker, of Medfield, for carryall and wagon, a premium of \$4.00.

To James Daniels, of East Medway, for hickory whip stocks, a gratuity of \$1.00.

To Evans & Mayo, of Needham, for samples of glues, a diploma.

To Messinger & Brother, of Canton, for specimens of sewing silks, a premium of \$2.00.

To E. R. Clarke, of Sharon, for corn starch, a diploma.

To C. Brigham, of West Dedham, for bird cages, a gratuity of \$1.00.

To J. Bostwick, of Dedham, for woollen hose socks, a premium of \$1.00.

To William Palmer, of Needham, for one tin house cage, a gratuity of 50 cents.

To William Baker, of Dedham, (a blind man,) for whips and whip lashes, a gratuity of \$1.00.

To Robert Campbell, of Dedham, for one dress coat, a gratuity of \$1.00.

To R. Williams, of Stoughton, for liquid stove polish, a gratuity of \$1.00.

For the Committee,

OTIS CARY, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON STRAW MANUFACTURES.

The Committee on Straw Manufactures regret that the number of the contributors to this important branch of industry has not increased the present year, though the few specimens presented were superior, in some respects, to those of former exhibitions.

They award to Sanford Leonard, of Foxboro', the first premium of \$8.00 and a diploma, for the best straw bonnets; and to Mrs. Samuel Whiting, of East Medway, for the second best straw bonnet, a gratuity of \$3.00.

For the best specimen of straw braid, not less than 100 yards, the first premium of \$3.00 to Sanford Leonard, of Foxboro'. The second premium of \$2.00 to Mrs. J. R. Cushman, of Medfield, and Miss C. Hayford, of Medway, \$1.00 to each, both specimens being equally meritorious.

For the Committee,

CHARLES HAMANT, *of Medfield.*



## REPORT ON BREAD.

The Committee on Bread report as follows:—

Of wheat bread thirteen specimens were offered, all of excellent quality. The Committee were unanimous in their decision awarding the first premium of \$3.00 to Mrs. Olive Guild, of Dedham, and the second premium of \$2.00 to Mrs. R. D. Page of West Roxbury.

Of unbolted wheat bread five specimens were offered, differing much in quality. The first premium of \$3.00 is awarded to Mrs. Horatio Mason, of East Medway, and the second premium of \$2.00 to Mrs. Eliza B. Adams.

Of wheat and Indian bread only two specimens were offered, and the Committee award the second premium of \$2.00 to Mrs. Horatio Mason, of East Medway.

Of rye and Indian bread there were five specimens; but as the Committee had been brought up on such, their tastes were found to be very critical. In spite of themselves, the old taste of mother's nice brown bread would come up, and they could find nothing like it. However, they at last agreed upon loaf No. 5 as coming nearest to their standard. They find that this was offered by Mrs. Hannah P. McIntosh, of East Needham, and they accordingly award to her the second premium of \$2.00.

For the Committee,

JAMES RITCHIE, *Chairman.*

## REPORT ON HEDGES.

The Committee on Hedges beg leave to report:—

That but one application has been made for an examination, in reference to a premium, the present year. By invitation of Mr. Francis Marsh, of Dedham, the Committee visited his grounds and inspected his hedges on the 7th of July last. The visit afforded them much pleasure, from the extent of the hedges, the order in which they are kept, and their vigorous and healthful appearance. The length of Mr. Marsh's hedges, which are of buckthorn, is in all nineteen hundred and twenty-four feet. They are of different ages, and the plants in all nine inches apart. That about his garden and house lot is the longest in a continuous line, being eleven hundred and seventy-four feet. A part of this has been set eleven years; other parts not so long. The whole of it is in a fine condition, presenting, when in leaf, an exceedingly pleasant object to the eye. Near this, and in full view, on the road side, is a hedge one hundred and fifty feet in length, enclosing a triangular space, in which stand several beautiful maples. This hedge has been set eleven years, and is doing well, forming, together with the maples, an object very agreeable to the sight.

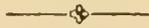
But the best of Mr. Marsh's hedges, and one which the Committee viewed with great admiration, remains to be noticed. It bounds his lot on Court Street, and is in all six hundred feet in length in a straight line. A part of this has been set but three years, and is three and a half feet high, wedge-shaped, the plants being in a single row, as in all Mr. Marsh's hedges. The other part of this hedge has been set thirteen years. From this, in summer, when in leaf, it is difficult to take off the eye, so beautiful and symmetrical is it. The sides are perfectly smooth, presenting one dense, unbroken mass of foliage. It is three hundred and fifty feet in length. The sides are sloping off, the hedge measuring at the surface of the ground seven feet, and three feet across the top, being four and a half feet in height. This hedge appears to the Committee to be as perfect as any thing of the kind can be. It is impervious to the eye, smooth, regular, and in every way beautiful. The Committee cannot close their report without expressing the very high satisfaction which the visit to

Mr. Marsh's grounds afforded them. Mr. Marsh is a genuine lover of trees and foliage, and by his liberality and efforts in different ways, has done much for the ornament of his native village.

The Committee take great pleasure in awarding to him the first premium on Hedges, \$10.00.

For the Committee,

EBEN WIGHT, *Chairman.*



## REPORT ON ESSAYS.

The design of this Society in offering premiums for Essays, is to induce the careful preparation of instructive and useful papers, worthy of publication in the volume of Transactions annually distributed to its members. Extracts from this volume are always made part of that most valuable work,—“The Agriculture of Massachusetts,”—which is prepared and published every year by the Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture. The circulation of this work is very extensive. No better channel could be afforded, therefore, for the wide dissemination of theoretical or practical treatises on any subject relating to the labors and interests of the farmer.

We believe there are many persons familiar with such subjects, both theoretically and practically, who seldom make themselves known beyond the circle of their immediate neighborhood, by whom brief treatises might be furnished, that would do honor to themselves and confer great benefit on the community. The importance of communicating, in this way, the knowledge of opinions confined to men of science, and of practices successfully pursued by a limited number of laboring men, cannot, we think, be over-estimated. Treatises, prepared for an Association like this, would command attention where their authors would most desire to have it,—relating to the daily labors and vital interests of farmers, they would, at once, be made the subject of reflection and conversation,—or be put into use by those, whose experience would help to establish the truth and value of them. Working farmers are, generally, thinking men. Often their minds are as active as their

muscles. They detect fallacies of opinion, and discover advantages of action more readily than is usually supposed.

Hence the importance of obtaining suitable Essays, to be made part of our annual publication. Several such Essays are already embraced in our former volumes. We had hoped that the premiums still offered would have secured a continued supply of them. But, we regret to say, that only one Essay has been submitted to our examination the present year. This is upon the subject of Bees; —their history, their habits and their wants, &c. The writer signs himself “*A Member,*” and he is evidently one who feels much interest in the subject. But your Committee have found in this Essay no opinions and no mode of practice, in relation to Bee culture, not already known, of sufficient value or utility to justify the allowance of so much space in the Transactions of the Society, as its publication would require. They, therefore, feel obliged, after deliberate consideration, to withhold it.

For the Committee,

MARSHALL P. WILDER, *Chairman.*

## RECAPITULATION OF PREMIUMS

AWARDED BY THE

## NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR 1856.

PLOUGHING.		MILCH COWS.	
Benjamin N. Sawin,	\$10	Charles H. Harmon,	\$10
Horace & Moses Whiting,	8	Aaron D. Weld,	7
Benjamin V. French,	14	William Bacon,	6
Henry Goulding,	4	Mrs. Mary D. Gibbons,	5
Mrs. E. G. Edson,	7	Stephen Welch,	3
Abner L. Smith,	6	Henry Goulding,	2
Joel Morse,	8	Calvin Richards,	3
Hiram W. Jones,	6	George Fuller,	2
Cheever Newhall,	4	Ignatius C. Bachi,	3
Luther Eaton,	2		
		HEIFERS.	
		Horatio H. Hunnewell,	\$3
		John S. Eldridge,	2
		N. T. Whitaker,	3
		Samuel J. Capen,	2
		William G. Woods,	3
		William Bacon,	5
		Benjamin V. French,	5
		Marshall P. Wilder,	2
		Mirick P. Sumner,	2
		Aaron D. Weld,	2
		Stephen Welch,	2
		Solomon Flagg,	2
		Humphrey Smith,	3
		Mrs. Mary D. Gibbons,	2
		Eliphalet Stone,	3
		I. D. Dunbar,	1
		FAT CATTLE.	
		William Palmer,	\$8
		Asa Pickering,	5
		Cheever Newhall,	3
		HORSES.	
		Albert R. Mathes,	\$10
		Thomas Parsons,	6
		G. Howland Shaw,	10
		Joseph H. Billings,	3
		Arthur W. Austin,	17
		Lyman Kinsley,	10
		John Fussell,	21
		E. G. Cobb,	8
		Lowell Mann,	6
		William Blake,	4
		Ignatius C. Bachi,	6
		Walter W. Upham,	4
		Daniel C. Bacon,	5
		Samuel Eldridge,	3
		Samuel J. Capen,	2
		E. Boyden,	2
		John D. Bradlee,	5
		George E. Holbrook,	2
SPADING.			
Thomas Flynn,	\$8		
Peter Ford,	7		
Dennis Doody,	6		
Daniel McAuliff,	5		
William Hickey,	4		
Timothy Hickey,	3		
Peter McAuliff,	2		
Joseph Barber,	1		
IMPROVING MEADOW LANDS.			
Asa Pickering,	\$15		
FARMS.			
Samuel D. Bradford,	\$25		
James S. Wiggin,	15		
ORNAMENTAL TREES.			
Whiting Metcalf,	\$20		
Alfred H. Metcalf,	10		
ORCHARDS.			
Thaddeus Clapp,	\$10		
John W. Shaw,	10		
BULLS.			
Jonathan French,	\$5		
John S. Eldridge,	3		
Horatio H. Hunnewell,	3		
William Bacon,	2		
Nathan Phillips,	5		
Benjamin V. French,	5		
Henry Goulding,	3		
WORKING OXEN.			
Mrs. E. G. Edson,	\$8		
Horace & Moses Whiting,	6		
Benjamin V. French,	7.50		
Luther Eaton,	3		
Whiting Grant,	5		



## TREASURER'S REPORT.

HENRY W. RICHARDS, *Treasurer, in account with the Norfolk Agricultural Society.*

DR.

Balance in Treasury, Nov. 30, 1855, . . . . .	\$3 92
Cash received for admission fees of 35 new members, . . . . .	170 00
“ “ from J. L. Brigham, Esq., amount of subscriptions for premiums on horses for 1855, . . . . .	250 00
“ “ from the Commonwealth, . . . . .	600 00
“ “ at Cattle Show of 1855, balance, . . . . .	1,463 58
“ “ at Cattle Show of 1856, . . . . .	1,842 25
Cash borrowed, . . . . .	3,900 00
	<hr/>
	\$8,229 75

CR.

Cash paid for printing and incidental expenses, . . . . .	\$761 60
“ “ premiums, . . . . .	832 50
“ “ expenses Cattle Show of 1855, . . . . .	1,112 29
“ “ “ “ of 1856, . . . . .	814 01
“ “ for land and improvements on same, . . . . .	2,929 11
“ “ Secretary's salary, . . . . .	50 00
“ “ for interest, . . . . .	70 25
Borrowed money returned, . . . . .	500 00
Balance in Treasury, Nov. 29, 1856, . . . . .	1,159 99
	<hr/>
	\$8,229 75

The Society have purchased several acres more of land during the past year, making the whole value of their property \$10,414. The last purchase, amounting to \$1,355, is not yet settled for, which will increase the debt due from the Society to \$5,755.

HENRY W. RICHARDS, *Treasurer.*

*Dedham, Nov. 29, 1856.*



ORDER OF EXERCISES AT CHURCH,  
ON THE DAY OF THE  
EIGHTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION  
OF THE  
NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,  
At Dedham, October 1, 1856.

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At twelve o'clock, M., a procession was formed on the grounds of the Society, by Major Moses G. Cobb of Dorchester, the Chief Marshal, who was assisted during the day by the following gentlemen as Aids:—Messrs. Thomas Adams of Roxbury; F. A. Heath of Brookline; Francis Williams of Quincy; J. W. Wolcott of Roxbury; H. O. Hildreth of Dedham, and Alexander Boyd of Roxbury. Preceded by the Weymouth Brass Band, the procession moved to Rev. Dr. Lamson's Church, the galleries of which were already filled with ladies. The preliminary exercises consisted of a voluntary, performed in excellent style by the choir attached to Dr. Lamson's Society. Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, the President of the Society, then made the usual Introductory Address, giving a brief account of the progress and present condition of the Society. Prayer was then offered by Rev. J. H. Morrison of Milton, after which the following hymn was sung:—

HARVEST HYMN.

BY B. P. SHILLABER, ESQ.

God of the harvest! unto thee  
With grateful sense we bend the knee,  
While to thy throne our thanks arise,  
The full heart's earnest sacrifice.

God of the Seasons! God our trust!  
 Thy loving kindness from the dust  
 Has quickened with a living birth  
 The flower and fruitage of the earth.

Thy care has sent the sun and rain  
 To ope the bud and swell the grain;  
 Thy lavish hand has filled our store  
 Till with thy gifts it runneth o'er.

Oh may our hearts, dear Father, be  
 A field devoted more to thee,  
 Wherein may never dare intrude,  
 That poisonous weed—ingratitude.

The seasons as they come and go,  
 Thy constant love and goodness show;  
 Oh may they, like the sun and showers,  
 Call forth our souls' divinest powers.

The President of the Society then offered a few remarks of a congratulatory character, and introduced to the audience Hon. Josiah Quincy, jr., who was received with applause.

Mr. Quincy announced as his theme, "Agriculture, and its Position in Europe," and drew from the subject an interesting and eloquent address upon the present position of Agriculture in Europe. He commenced with a brilliant description of the agricultural portion of the great exhibition in Paris, and took the occasion to show how greatly the English and French differed in their ideas of what constituted the most desirable features of horned cattle, sheep, &c. The American portion of that exhibition he showed was small, but for what there was, we were indebted to the enthusiastic friendship of M. Vattermare. Americans were warned against following too closely the European schools, as in Europe land was dear and labor cheap, while here it was the contrary. The position and circumstances of the American and European farmer were compared, to show what an enviable position our farmers occupied, not bound down by taxes, or regulations, or want of territory; and the consequent higher social and intellectual position of the American farmer was illustrated. Then followed a comparison of the farmer, in his true independence, with the portion of those who left the plough to seek fortune in large cities, nine out of ten of whom never advance one step, and those who do, do so at the expense of health, and

life, and perhaps of morals. An eloquent tribute to the farmer's vocation closed the address, which was listened to with interest and attention, and was enlightened by frequent sallies of wit.

The following ode was then sung.

O D E .

BY REV. E. PORTER DYER.

Old Norfolk County, thee we hail !  
 Thy proudest day is come,  
 We meet thy rural praise to sing,  
 And shout thy harvest home ;  
 And shout thy glorious harvest home,  
 And shout thy harvest home ;  
 With grateful hearts we meet to-day  
 To shout thy harvest home !

The increase of the rolling year  
 A bounteous God has given ;  
 He bless'd thy fields with fruitful showers,  
 And gentle dews from Heaven.  
 Thy fields were tilled with care and skill,—  
 With fat thy cattle shine ;  
 Thy groaning granaries are filled  
 From Ceres' golden mine.

Since God on Agriculture smiles,  
 And crowns the yeoman's toil,—  
 Who would not be a husbandman,  
 And till his native soil ?  
 And till the good old Norfolk fields,  
 And dwell mid fruits and flowers,  
 As fragrant, rich, and fair as these  
 Which grace this show of ours ?

In ancient Eden's primal days,  
 When labor first began,  
 'T was Agriculture made its wilds  
 A Paradise to man :  
 A Paradise to man below,  
 A Paradise to man ;  
 'T was Agriculture made its wilds  
 A Paradise to man.

There lovely Eve with taste adorned  
 His bowers of sweet repose,  
 With pansies, pinks and tulips fair—  
 The lily and the rose.

And ever since hath woman lent,  
 A charm to rural life,  
 While happiness hath yearly crowned  
 The farmer and his wife.

We prize the manufacturer's trade—  
 The good mechanic's skill ;  
 They give us raiment for our need,  
 And tools our soil to till.  
 But while with right good will we praise  
 The anvil and the loom,  
 We love the good old rural art  
 Which makes the desert bloom.

### EXERCISES AT THE DINNER.

After the benediction, the procession was re-formed and proceeded to the Hall of the Society, where an excellent dinner had been provided by Howard & Gregory of Boston. The tables were finely decorated with fruit and flowers, and the feast was graced by the presence of a large number of ladies.

At the conclusion of the dinner, Mr. Wilder made a short and appropriate speech, after which he announced the following toast :

THE ORATOR OF THE DAY—The representative of an honored ancestry. His valuable services this day furnish a fresh claim to our grateful remembrance. Honor to the son as well as the sire !

Hon. Josiah Quincy, jr. responded pleasantly and appropriately, closing with the sentiment—

The True Aristocracy of the United States, of Massachusetts, and of this county, the Norfolk Farmer,—He who is entitled to the dignity of that appellation need seek for no higher.

The President then gave—

The health of the delegate from the Board of Agriculture, Mr. Lewis.

William G. Lewis, Esq. of Framingham, responded in an appropriate and practical speech, and closed with

THE NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—Its brilliant success equalled only by the untiring exertions in the cause of agriculture of its worthy President.

The following Song, written by S. D. Hayward of Braintree, for the prize of \$10.00, was then sung in beautiful style by a

Glee Club, consisting of Messrs. Thomas Tucker, Bridge Wheat, J. E. Clark, and J. H. D. Blake, to the tune of "The Pirate's Glee."

THE FARMER'S SONG.

Come on, come on, ye sturdy Farmer,  
Who hold the plough and hold the mold ;  
At close of year we've well stored garner,  
The worth of which cannot be told.

We plough, we sow, we end with reaping,  
Reward is sure for those who toil ;  
The morn we never spend in sleeping,—  
The evening—never in turmoil.

Plough on, plough on, we take the prizes  
By honest, toil and not by stealth ;  
Our business mind—shun the assizes—  
At home—"sweet home," content and health.

We plough, we sow, we end with reaping, &c.

Sow on, sow on, soon comes the mowing,—  
The ground well burdened needs relief ;  
No seeds of petty strife we're sowing—  
No fertile lands we hold in fief.

We plough we sow, we end with reaping, &c.

Rake on, rake on, though brow is sweating,  
'T is better far than sweat of strife ;  
The prize we win is not by betting,  
No jealousies embitter life.

We plough, we sow, we end with reaping, &c.

Reap on, reap on, the fruits now swelling,  
Are more than we can name or count ;  
Than Arab's spice their fragrant smelling  
The *Wilder* ones—themselves a fount.

We plough, we sow, we end with reaping, &c.

Go on, go on, good brother Farmer,  
The years pass by—they're quickly flown ;  
Make each successive year a charmer,  
For by our *fruits* we shall be known.

We'll plow, we'll sow, we'll end with reaping.  
Reward is sure for those who toil,  
The morn we'll never spend in sleeping,  
The evening never in turmoil.

The next regular toast was—

THE CLERGY—Patient and persevering agriculturists, who plant their seeds in time, but look for the full fruits of the harvest only in eternity.

Rev. John H. Morrison of Milton responded in a most beautiful and instructive speech, of which we hoped to have had a report.

Letters were then read from W. P. Dickinson, Esq., President of the Hampshire Agricultural Society, and other gentlemen.

Rev. Mr. Sanger of Dover responded to a toast in a few facetious remarks, closing by offering a sentiment with reference to the forlorn condition of bachelors.

The President then gave “The Ladies”—

They are our heartfelt pride and boast,  
Their praise we ’ll always utter ;  
Woman we ’ll make our constant toast,  
And do n’t want any but her (butter).

This was hailed with applause. The President called on the Chief Marshal of the day, as the special guardian of the ladies, to respond in their behalf. Major Cobb responded in a felicitous strain of remark, which was loudly applauded. He closed by offering the following sentiment:—

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and her Children, Agriculture, Manufactures and Commerce—Though she cannot grant her first-born the rights of primogeniture, yet she can and will make her the residuary legatee of her estate, and executrix of her last will and testament.

The next sentiment was to “Agriculture,” which called forth a complimentary allusion to the President from Mr. Quincy, which was applauded. Mr. Wilder briefly returned thanks, and called on Mr. James S. Wiggin of Wrentham, (formerly of Boston,) to respond to the toast on agriculture, which he did at considerable length and in a happy manner, as a farmer of Norfolk.

Hon. E. L. Keyes, Secretary of the Society, then read the list of premiums awarded by the various committees.

The company then joined in singing, as usual, the parting song of “Auld Lang Syne,” and thus closed the Eighth Annual Exhibition of the Norfolk Agricultural Society, alike successful with its predecessors.

# Officers of the Society.

1856.

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MARSHALL P. WILDER, of *Dorchester*.

---

Vice Presidents,

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DANIEL C. BACON, of *West Roxbury*,

CHEEVER NEWHALL, of *Dorchester*,

JOHN GARDNER, of *Dedham*,

RALPH SANGER, of *Dover*,

CHARLES C. SEWALL, of *Medfield*.

---

Corresponding & Recording Secretary,

EDWARD L. KEYES, of *Dedham*.

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Treasurer,

HENRY W. RICHARDS, of *Dedham*.

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OTIS CARY, of *Roxbury*,

AARON D. WELD, of *West Roxbury*,

JOSEPH H. BILLINGS, of *West Roxbury*,

TRUMAN CLARKE, of *Walpole*.

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 MARTIN B. INCHES, *of Dedham,*  
 HENRY O. HILDRETH, *of Dedham.*

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SIMEON BURR,	SAMUEL B. LEONARD.

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GEORGE DAVIS,	ELIJAH THAYER.

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JOHN P. JONES,	RICHARD RICHARDSON.

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ROBERT PORTER,  
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BENJAMIN HAWES,

HARVEY E. CLAP,  
EDMUND T. EVERETT.

## Names of Members.

---

### BELLINGHAM.

Chilson, Paul  
Pickering, Asa

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### BRAINTREE.

Arnold, John B.  
Arnold, Joseph A.  
Blake, Joseph H. D.  
Bowditch, Ebenezer C.  
Chace, George  
Dyer, Isaac  
Dyer, Joseph  
Fogg, Charles M.\* 1854  
French, Benjamin V.  
French, Mrs. B. V.  
French, George F.  
French, Jonathan  
Hollis, Caleb  
Hollis, David N.  
Hollis, John A.  
Hollis, Josiah  
Ludden, Joseph T.  
Mansfield, John  
Mansfield, Warren  
Morrison, Alva  
Niles, Daniel H.  
Penniman, Ezra  
Perkins, Oliver  
Potter, Edward  
Rand, William T.  
Randall, Apollos,  
Stetson, Amos W.  
Stetson, Caleb  
Thayer, Ebenezer C.  
Thayer, Hezekiah\* 1854  
Vinton, Thomas B.  
Wales, George  
Willis, George W.\* 1852 33.

### BROOKLINE.

Amory, James S.  
Babcock, George  
Bartlett, James  
Bird, Jesse  
Blake, George Baty  
Bramhall, William  
Churchill, William  
Craft, Charles  
Craft, George  
Craft, Samuel\* 1856  
Corey, Elijah  
Corey, Timothy  
Dane, John\* 1854  
Dane, John H.  
Ferris, Mortimer C.  
Fisher, Francis  
Frazar, Amherst A.  
Griggs, Thomas  
Henshaw, Samuel  
Howe, Frank E.  
Howe, James Murray  
Howe, John  
Jameson, William H.  
Kellogg, Charles D.  
Lawrence, Amos A.  
Parker, Montgomery D.  
Parsons, Thomas  
Sampson, George R.  
Shaw, G. Howland  
Stearns, Charles, Jr.  
Stearns, Marshall  
Thayer, John E.  
Trowbridge, John H.  
Turner, John N.  
White, Henry K. 35.

\* Deceased.

## CANTON.

Abbott, Ezra  
 Billings, Uriah  
 Billings, William  
 Bowditch, J. Ingersoll  
 Bray, Edgar W.  
 Capen, Samuel  
 Deane, Francis W.  
 Deane, Oliver  
 Downes, George  
 Draper, Thomas  
 Dunbar, James  
 Dunbar, Nathaniel  
 Eldridge, John S.  
 Endicott, John\* 1855  
 Everett, Leonard\* 1852  
 Fenno, Jesse, Jr.  
 French, Charles H.  
 French, Thomas  
 Fuller, Daniel  
 Guild, Horace  
 Howard, Lucius  
 Huntoon, Benjamin  
 Kinsley, Lyman  
 Kollock, Jeremiah  
 Lincoln, Frederic W.  
 Mansfield, William  
 McIntosh, Adam  
 McIntosh, Roger S.  
 McKendry, William  
 Messinger, Vernon A.  
 Messinger, Virgil J.  
 Morse, William  
 Shepard, James S.  
 Spare, Elijah  
 Spaulding, Corodon  
 Stetson, Joseph  
 Sumner, James T.  
 Tilt, Benjamin B.  
 Tucker, Edmund  
 Tucker, Ellis  
 Tucker, Jedediah  
 Tucker, Nathaniel, Jr.  
 Tucker, Phineas  
 Tucker, William  
 Wentworth, Edwin  
 Wentworth, Nathaniel

White, Elisha  
 White, Nathaniel S. 48.

## COHASSET.

Beal, Solomon J.  
 Beal, Mrs. S. J.  
 Doane, James C.  
 Johnson, William B.  
 Sohler, William D.  
 Souther, Laban  
 Tower, Abraham H. 7.

## DEDHAM.

Adams, Benjamin H.  
 Alden, Abner  
 Alden, Francis  
 Alden, George  
 Alden, Leonard  
 Alden, Samuel F.  
 Ames, William  
 Babcock, Samuel B.  
 Bacon, Silas D.  
 Baker, David A.  
 Baker, Joel M.  
 Baker, Obed  
 Baker, Timothy  
 Baleh, Benjamin W.  
 Barrows, Thomas  
 Bartlett, Alden  
 Bates, Martin  
 Bean, Albion  
 Bickner, Samuel R.  
 Blaney, Henry  
 Bosworth, Isaac C.  
 Boyden, Addison  
 Boyden, Benjamin  
 Brooks, Edward C.  
 Bryant, Austin\* 1851  
 Bullard, Elijah  
 Bullard, John\* 1852  
 Bullard, Lewis  
 Burgess, Ebenezer  
 Burgess, Edward P.  
 Capen, Charles J.  
 Capen, Oliver  
 Carroll, Sanford

Chase, James M.  
 Chickering, Horatio  
 Clapp, Edward  
 Clapp, Nathaniel  
 Clark, Joseph W.  
 Clarke, Horatio  
 Cleveland, Ira  
 Cobb, Jonathan H.  
 Colburn, Allen  
 Colburn, Nathaniel\* 1853  
 Colburn, Waldo  
 Coolidge, George  
 Cormerais, Henry  
 Cox, John, Jr.  
 Crane, Ebenezer P.  
 Crocker, Amos H.  
 Crossman, Charles B.  
 Cushing, Henry W.  
 Damrell, William S.  
 Daniell, Ellery C.  
 Day, Joseph  
 Deane, John  
 Dixon, Rufus E.  
 Doggett, John  
 Donahoe, Patrick  
 Downing, James  
 Drayton, John\* 1856  
 Duff, John  
 Dunbar, Thomas, Jr.  
 Eaton, John  
 Eaton, John Ellis\* 1854  
 Eaton, Luther  
 Ellis, Calvin F.  
 Ellis, Charles  
 Ellis, Colburn  
 Ellis, George\* 1855  
 Ellis, Merrill D.  
 Ellis, Oliver  
 Endicott, Augustus B.  
 Fairbanks, William  
 Farrington, Charles  
 Farrington, James  
 Farrington, Jesse  
 Farrington, John B.  
 Field, William  
 Fisher, Alvan  
 Fisher, Alvan J.

Fisher, Amory  
 Fisher, Ebenezer S.  
 Fisher, Freeman  
 Fisher, James R.  
 Fisher, Joseph  
 Fisher, Thomas  
 Fleming, Douglas  
 Fogg, David S.  
 Foord, Enos  
 French, Abram  
 Fuller, George  
 Gardner, John  
 Gay, Ebenezer F.  
 Gay, Jeremiah W.  
 Gay, Luhser\* 1855  
 Gay, William King  
 Gleason, Daniel  
 Gould, George  
 Green, Elisha  
 Guild, Calvin, Jr.  
 Guild, Francis  
 Guild, Henry  
 Harnden, Harvey  
 Hartshorn, Richard D.  
 Henck, John B.  
 Hildreth, Henry O.  
 Holmes, Edward B.  
 Houghton, William A.  
 Howe, Francis  
 Howe, Josiah D.  
 Hoyle, Mark C.  
 Inches, Martin B.  
 Jackson, Marcus B.  
 Johnson, Edwin\* 1856  
 Keyes, Ebenezer W.  
 Keyes, Edward L.  
 Kingsbury, Lewis H.  
 Kingsbury, Moses  
 Lamson, Alvan  
 McLoren, James  
 Mann, Henry A.  
 Mann, Herman\* 1851  
 Mann, Samuel C.  
 Mann, William H.  
 Marsh, Francis  
 Marsh, Martin  
 Marsh, Mrs. Martin

Mason, William  
 Mason, William H.  
 Mitchell, Francis N.  
 Morgan, John  
 Morse, Curtis G.  
 Morse, Otis  
 Morse, John  
 Morse, John L.  
 Motley, Thomas  
 Noyes, Nathaniel  
 Onion, Henry  
 Onion, Joseph W.  
 Otis, Benjamin H.  
 Patterson, Albert C.  
 Phelps, Timothy  
 Phillips, Nathan  
 Quincy, Edmund  
 Rand, Edward S.  
 Rand, Edward S., Jr.  
 Rice, John P.  
 Richards, Abiathar  
 Richards, Edward M.  
 Richards, Henry White  
 Richards, Jeremiah F.\* 1852  
 Richards, Mason  
 Richards, Reuben\* 1855  
 Richards, William B.  
 Rodman, Alfred\* 1853  
 Russell, Charles  
 Russell, Ira  
 Sampson, Ezra W.  
 Scanlan, David  
 Scott, Joel  
 Shaw, Charles B.  
 Sherman, Charles B.  
 Sherwin, Thomas  
 Sigourney, Henry H. W.  
 Slafter, Carlos  
 Smith, Edwin  
 Smith, Henry  
 Smith, Lyman  
 Smith, Nathaniel  
 Smith, Nathaniel, Jr.  
 Smith, Thomas  
 Spear, Henry F.  
 Stimson, Jeremy  
 Stone, Eliphalet

Sumner, William R.  
 Sutton, Enoch\* 1853  
 Taft, Ezra W.  
 Thompson, Joshua P.  
 Thompson, Robert\* 1854  
 Tower, William B.  
 Tubbs, Benjamin H.\* 1854  
 Van Brunt, Gershom J.  
 Vose, George H.  
 Wakefield, Thomas L.  
 Wales, Samuel, Jr.  
 Washburn, Alexander C.  
 Waters, Joseph W.  
 Weatherbee, Comfort  
 Weatherbee, Jesse  
 Weatherbee, John E.  
 Webb, Moses E.  
 Webb, Seth, Jr.  
 Welch, Stephen  
 Weld, Joseph R.  
 Wellcome, Jacob H.  
 White, John\* 1852  
 Whiting, Hezekiah  
 Whiting, Horace  
 Whiting, Moses  
 Whiting, William  
 Whitney, Samuel S\* 1855  
 Wight, Ebenezer  
 Wilson, John F.\* 1853  
 Winslow, George  
 Wood, Mrs. Amos  
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## DORCHESTER.

Abbott, William E.  
 Adams, Benjamin W.  
 Austin, William R.  
 Bachi, Ignatius C.  
 Bacon, Charles H.  
 Baker Edmund J.  
 Baker, Walter\* 1852  
 Baldwin, Enoch  
 Barnes, Parker  
 Barry, Michael O.  
 Bass, Seth B.  
 Billings, Lemuel

- Bispham, Eleazer J.  
 Blanchard, Charles F.  
 Bradlee, James B.  
 Bradstreet, Samuel  
 Bramhall, Cornelius  
 Breck, Henry, Jr.  
 Brewer, Darius\* 1854  
 Briggs, Franklin  
 Brooks, Noah\* 1852  
 Brooks, Williams B.  
 Brown, Augustus  
 Browne, George M.  
 Capen, Aaron D.  
 Capen, Samuel J.  
 Capen, Thomas W.  
 Carruth, Charles  
 Carruth, Nathan  
 Childs, Nathaniel R.  
 Clapp, Frederick  
 Clapp, Lemuel, 2d  
 Clapp, John P.  
 Clapp, Richard  
 Clapp, Thaddeus  
 Clapp, William  
 Cleveland, Stephen H.  
 Cobb, Moses G.  
 Codman, John  
 Codman, Robert  
 Copenhagen, Arnold Wm.  
 Crane, Nathaniel  
 Curtis, Ebenezer  
 Cushing, Abel  
 Cushing, Benjamin  
 Davis, Barnabas  
 Dearborn, Axel  
 Denny, Daniel  
 Doody, Dennis  
 Dorr, James  
 Downer, Samuel  
 Flynn, Thomas  
 Follansbee, Isaac W.  
 Foster, William H.  
 Fowler, M. Field  
 Gardner, Henry J.  
 Gilbert, Samuel, Jr.  
 Gleason, Moses\* 1856  
 Gleason, Roswell  
 Gleason, Sewall\* 1854  
 Grew, Henry  
 Groom, Thomas  
 Hall, Oliver  
 Hall, Samuel  
 Hammond, Horatio  
 Hardy, Alpheus  
 Haven, John A.  
 Haynes, Edward, Jr.  
 Hewins, John C.  
 Hickey, Timothy  
 Hickey, William  
 Holbrook, Nathan  
 Holmes, Ebenezer  
 Hooper, Franklin Henry  
 Hooper, Robert C.  
 Hooper, Robert C., Jr.  
 Houghton, George A.  
 Howe, Charles  
 Humphrey, Henry  
 Hunt, Charles  
 Igoe, Patrick  
 Jacobs, Benjamin  
 Jones, Nahum  
 King, Edward  
 King, Franklin  
 Lee, James, Jr.  
 Leonard, Joseph  
 Liversidge, Stephen\* 1852.  
 McAuliffe, Daniel  
 Marshall, William  
 May, John J.  
 Means, James, H.  
 Mears, John  
 Mears, John, Jr.  
 Miller, Erasmus D.  
 Minot, John  
 Moseley, Flavel  
 Nazro, John G.  
 Newhall, Cheever  
 Newhall, John M.  
 Payson, Thomas  
 Perrin, Augustus W.  
 Peters, Henry H.  
 Pierce, Charles Bates  
 Pierce, Edward L.  
 Pierce, Henry L.

Pierce, Jesse\* 1856  
 Pierce, Lewis  
 Pierce, Robert  
 Pierce William  
 Pierce, William B.  
 Pierce, William P.  
 Pope, Alexander  
 Pope, William, Jr.  
 Preston, Edward  
 Preston, John\* 1856  
 Preston, John  
 Prince, William G.  
 Prouty, Lorenzo  
 Rice, George Woods  
 Richardson, George  
 Richardson, William H.  
 Rideout, Asa  
 Robie, John  
 Robinson, Mrs. Diantha A.  
 Robinson, Eli W.  
 Robinson, John H.  
 Robinson, Stephen A.  
 Ruggles, Edward H. R.  
 Safford, Nathaniel F.  
 Scudder, Horace\* 1851  
 Spear, Luther  
 Spooner, John P.  
 Sumner, Clement  
 Swan, James  
 Temple Hannaniah  
 Temple, William F.  
 Thayer, Benjamin W.  
 Tileston, Edmund P.  
 Tileston, Samuel  
 Tolman, Ebenezer  
 Tolman, William  
 Train, Enoch  
 Tremlett, Thomas  
 Trull, John H.  
 Trull, Mrs. J. H.  
 Trull, John W.  
 Tuttle, Joseph  
 Vose, Robert  
 Vose, Robert, Jr.  
 Welch, John H.  
 Welch, Mrs. J. H.  
 Whipple, John L.

Wilder, Marshall P.  
 Wilder, Mrs. M. P.\* 1854  
 Williams, Sidney B.\* 1854  
 Woodman, James  
 Worthington, William  
 Worthington, William F.  
 Wright, Edmund  
 Wright, Mrs. Edmund  
 Wright, Otis 162.

## DOVER.

Allen, Jared  
 Allen, Timothy  
 Bacon, Aaron  
 Baker, Jabez  
 Battelle, John  
 Battelle, Ralph  
 Beatie, Thomas  
 Bigelow, Calvin  
 Bigelow, William A.  
 Chickering, Daniel  
 Chickering, Otis  
 Cleveland, William  
 Fearing, Perez L.  
 Gannett, William W.  
 Gay, Francis G.  
 Goulding, Henry  
 Jones, Hiram W.  
 Mann, Daniel  
 Mann, Daniel F.  
 Mann, Hollis  
 Newell, Benjamin  
 Newell, Jesse  
 Perry, Elijah  
 Perry, Mrs. Mehitable  
 Richards, Calvin  
 Richards, Luther  
 Sanger, Ralph  
 Sawin, Benjamin N.  
 Shumway, Amos W.  
 Shumway, John W.  
 Smith, Abner L.  
 Tisdale, William  
 Upham, Walter W.  
 Wall, Patrick  
 Wilson, Ephraim 35.

## FOXBORO'.

Aldrich, Henry D.\* 1854  
 Belcher, Lewis W.  
 Burr, Simcon  
 Capen, James  
 Carpenter, Daniels  
 Carpenter, Erastus P.  
 Cary, Otis  
 Cobb, E. G.  
 Dickerman, Lemuel  
 Fisher, Albert  
 Foster, James W.  
 Guild, Freedom  
 Hersey, David  
 Hodges, Alfred  
 Kingsbury, Joseph  
 Leonard, Samuel B.  
 Leonard, Sanford  
 Pettee, David  
 Pettee, Joseph G.  
 Pettee, Simon E.  
 Shepard, Jeremiah M.  
 Sherman, Job  
 Smith, Silas  
 Sumner, Charles C.  
 Torrey, Martin  
 Wyman, David 26.

## FRANKLIN.

Adams, Peter  
 Adams, Ward  
 Atwood, Shadrach  
 Baker, David P.  
 Bullard, Piam  
 Daniels, Albert E.  
 Daniels, Charles F.  
 DeWitt, Archibald  
 DeWitt, Mrs. Mary Ann  
 Fisher, Herman C.  
 Fisher, Maxey  
 Fisher, Walter H.  
 Green, Martin  
 Harding, Lewis  
 Hills, Theron C.  
 Knapp, Alfred  
 Metcalf, Alfred G.  
 Metcalf, Erasmus B.

Metcalf, Whiting  
 Metcalf, William  
 Miller, John W.  
 Miller, Philip W.  
 Morse, George W.  
 Morse, Joseph  
 Nason, George W.  
 Ray, James P.  
 Ray, John P.  
 Rockwood, Erastus  
 Thayer, Davis, Jr.  
 Wadsworth, Joseph H.  
 Wales, Otis, Jr.  
 Whiting, Joseph  
 Whiting, Joseph M.  
 Whiting, William E. 34.

## MEDFIELD.

Adams, George F.  
 Allen, Noah  
 Allen, William C.  
 Baker, Joseph H.  
 Balch, Albert  
 Barney, Thomas L.  
 Bullard, John E.  
 Carson, Joseph  
 Chenery, William  
 Cheney, Nathaniel H.  
 Cheney, Seth  
 Cushman, Jacob R.  
 Davis, George  
 Ellis, Caleb  
 Ellis, John  
 Ellis, Samuel  
 Fisher, Hinsdale  
 Fisher, Wm. Quincy  
 Fiske, George  
 Fiske, Isaac  
 Hamant, Caleb S.  
 Hamant, Charles  
 Hamant, Daniels, Jr.  
 Harding, Nathan  
 Hartshorn, Joseph  
 Hartshorn, Warren  
 Hewins, William P.  
 Jones, John P.  
 Morse, Joel

Partridge, Mrs. E. A.  
 Partridge, Henry, Jr.  
 Richardson, Simeon  
 Roberts, Mrs. Helen M.  
 Roberts, Robert  
 Salisbury, William  
 Sewall, Charles C.  
 Sewall, Edward U.  
 Shumway, Benjamin F.  
 Smith, George M.  
 Stedman, Cyrus  
 Thayer, Elijah  
 Turner, John A.

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## MEDWAY.

Adams, Edward  
 Adams, Elisha  
 Adams, Lyman  
 Adams, Wyman  
 Barber, George\* 1851  
 Barber, Thomas  
 Carey, William H.  
 Clark, James P.  
 Clark, Willard P.  
 Crosby, George  
 Daniels, Adams  
 Daniels, James Willard  
 Daniels, Paul  
 Daniels, Mrs. Paul  
 Daniels, William  
 Ellis, James H.  
 Fisher, Milton M.  
 Harding, Theodore  
 Henderson, William  
 Hurd, Julius C.  
 Kingsbury, Gilbert  
 Lovell, Asahel P.  
 Lovell, Zachariah  
 Lovering, Warren  
 Mann, James  
 Mason, Horatio  
 Metcalf, Luther  
 Morse, Asa D.  
 Partridge, Clark  
 Partridge, George  
 Richardson, Elisha F.  
 Richardson, Jeremiah D.

Richardson, Joseph L.  
 Richardson, Moses  
 Richardson, Richard  
 Slocumb, Christopher  
 Walker, John S.  
 Walker, Timothy  
 Wheeler, Abijah R. 39.

## MILTON.

Adams, Samuel  
 Amory, Francis  
 Arnold, John, Jr.\*  
 Babcock, Josiah  
 Babcock, Lemuel Whiting  
 Babcock, Samuel  
 Baldwin, Edward  
 Beal, Jonathan  
 Bradlee, John D.  
 Breck, Charles  
 Bunton, Jesse  
 Cook, Samuel  
 Copeland, Charles L.  
 Copeland, Lewis  
 Cornell, Walter  
 Cunningham, C. Loring  
 Cunningham, Francis  
 Curtis, Daniel T.  
 Davenport, Lewis  
 Davenport, Nathaniel T.  
 Davis, William H.  
 Dow, John R.  
 Dudley, Benjamin F.  
 Emerson, Joshua  
 Fenno, Rufus P.  
 Forbes, John M.  
 Forbes, Robert Bennett  
 Hall, George W.  
 Hinckley, Thomas H.  
 Hobson, Miss Martha J.  
 Houghton, Jason W.  
 Hunt, Charles K.  
 Hunt, George  
 Kent, George W.  
 Pope, Ebenezer\* 1853  
 Raymond, George  
 Richards, Reuben A.  
 Robbins, James M.

Rodgers, Octavius T.  
 Rogers, Henry, Jr.\* 1855  
 Rowe, Joseph\* 1856  
 Ruggles, Philemon  
 Sias, Eliphalet  
 Sias, John  
 Stone, Charles  
 Thayer, Jason  
 Thompson, George  
 Todd, Robert M.  
 Tucker, Elijah  
 Tucker, Timothy  
 Twombly, Josiah F.  
 West, Henry 52.

## NEEDHAM.

Alden, Otis  
 Ayling, Isaac  
 Buck, Charles  
 Buck, Miss Frona P. H.\* 1855  
 Buck, Miss Mary M.  
 Bullen, Ichabod  
 Carter, Josiah H.  
 Daniell, George K.  
 Darling, G. F.  
 Dewing, Warren  
 Eaton, George E.  
 Eayrs, William C.  
 Emmons, Charles P.  
 Flagg, Solomon  
 Flagg, William  
 Gardner, Elbridge  
 Goss, Daniel J.  
 Harmon, Charles H.  
 Harmon, Cyrus  
 Harris, John  
 Harris, John M.  
 Harvey, Stephen F.  
 Holland, John  
 Hollis, Elisha P.  
 Howland, George  
 Hubbard, Gardner G.\* 1856  
 Hunnewell, Horatio H.  
 Hunting, Israel  
 Kimball, Benjamin G.  
 Kimball, Mrs. Betsey G.  
 Kimball, Daniel

Kingsbury, Lauren  
 Kingsbury, Lemuel  
 Kingsbury, Thomas  
 Kingsbury, William A.  
 Longfellow, Nathan  
 Lovewell, Charles B.  
 Lyon, William  
 Mansfield, John  
 Mansfield, Robert  
 Mansfield, Mrs. Robert  
 Mansfield, William  
 McCrackin, John  
 McIntosh, Mrs. Hannah P.  
 Mills, John  
 Mills, Matthias  
 Morton, Otis, Jr.  
 Morton, William T. G.  
 Newell, Artemas  
 Newell, Mrs. Martha S.  
 Noyes, Josiah  
 Peabody, Ezekiel  
 Phillips, Freeman  
 Pierce, William  
 Revere, George  
 Robinson, Henry  
 Sawyer, Otis\* 1855  
 Scudder, Marshall S.  
 Seagrave, Saul S.  
 Shaw, George W.\* 1852  
 Shaw, John W.  
 Snelling, Nathaniel G.  
 Stedman, Francis  
 Stedman, William M.  
 Stone, David  
 Stone, Henry L.  
 Sumner, Lewis  
 Sumner, Samuel B.  
 Ware, Dexter\* 1851  
 Ware, Reuben  
 Webber, Aaron D.  
 Wells, John  
 Whitaker, Edgar K.  
 Wood, Henry 74.

## QUINCY.

Adams, Charles Francis  
 Adams, Ebenezer

Bartlett, Ibrahim\* 1853  
 Bass, Josiah  
 Bass, Lewis  
 Baxter, Daniel  
 Baxter, Elijah  
 Baxter, George L.  
 Beale, George W.\* 1851  
 Beals, Nathaniel H.  
 Billings, Lemuel  
 Brackett, Lemuel  
 Brigham, Josiah  
 Carr, John J.  
 Curtis, Noah\* 1856  
 Eaton, Jacob F.  
 Emmons, Nathaniel H.  
 Fellows, Ensign S.  
 Frederick, Eleazer  
 Glover, Horatio N.  
 Green, John A.  
 Greenleaf, Daniel  
 Greenleaf, Thomas\* 1854  
 Horton, Lloyd G.  
 Miller, Charles E.  
 Morton, William S.  
 Munroe, Israel W.  
 Newcomb, James  
 Newcomb, John B.  
 Quincy, Josiah  
 Richards, Lysander\* 1852  
 Robertson, Joseph W.  
 Rodgers, Clift  
 Savil, John  
 Spear, Charles A.  
 Stetson, James A.  
 Thayer, Gideon F.  
 Torrey, William  
 Walker, William  
 White, Nathaniel  
 Willard, Solomon  
 Williams, Francis

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## RANDOLPH.

Alden, Ebenezer  
 Alden, Horatio B.  
 Belcher, Allen A.  
 Belcher, J. White  
 Buck, Nathan\* 1853

Burrill, David  
 Cushing, Abner L.  
 Holbrook, Caleb S.  
 Holbrook, Elisha  
 Leeds, Joseph  
 Maguire, James  
 Maguire, James F.  
 Mann, Ephraim  
 Niles, Jacob  
 Snow, Zenas  
 Stevens, Richard  
 Tower, Isaac  
 Turner, Royal W.  
 Turner, Seth  
 Wales, Apollos  
 Wales, Ephraim\* 1855  
 Wales, John, 2d  
 Wales, Jonathan  
 Whitcomb, Alfred W.  
 White, Adoniram  
 White, Jairus  
 White, Jonathan

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## ROXBURY.

Adams, Thomas  
 Andrews, Alfred A.  
 Appleton, Charles T.  
 Bacon, William, Jr.  
 Bartlett, Henry  
 Blake, S. Parkman  
 Bowditch, Azell  
 Bowditch, Azell C.  
 Bray, Charles F.  
 Brigham, Joseph L.  
 Bryant, Charles W.  
 Bufford, John H.  
 Chadwick, Joseph H.  
 Chandler, John G.  
 Clarke, John J.  
 Codman, Henry\* 1853  
 Comins, Linus B.  
 Copeland, Benjamin F.  
 Copeland, Charles\* 1853  
 Copeland, Franklin  
 Cotting, Benjamin E.  
 Crawshaw, Joseph  
 Crosby, Benjamin H.

Davenport, George  
 Davis, Gilman  
 Dearborn, Henry A. S.\* 1851  
 Ellis, Charles  
 Ellis, Charles M.  
 Eustis, William  
 Fisher, Warren  
 Fiske, George A.  
 Francis, Ebenezer  
 French, Jonathan  
 French, Mrs. J.  
 Fuller, H. Weld  
 Fussell, John  
 Gardner, Francis  
 Gray, Henry D.  
 Guild, Frederick  
 Guild, Henry  
 Guild, James  
 Hendee, Charles J.  
 Hewes, John M.  
 Hewins, Whiting\* 1855  
 Hickling, Charles  
 Huckins, James  
 Huckins, James W.  
 Huston, William R.  
 Keene, James  
 Kidder, Frederic  
 King, William S.  
 Kingsbury, William B.  
 Kittredge, Alvah  
 Lee, William Raymond  
 Lemist, Edwin  
 Lewis, Daniel  
 Lewis, Franklin H.  
 Lewis, Samuel S.  
 Lowell, John A.  
 Mann, Benjamin  
 Mathes, Albert R.  
 McBurney, Charles  
 McIntosh, William H.  
 Parker, Augustus  
 Parker, George J.  
 Pickering, Henry W.  
 Pike, Charles S.  
 Putnam, Allen  
 Rich, Naphtali D.  
 Ritchie, James

Robinson, Jonathan P.  
 Ropes, Joseph S.  
 Sargent, Epes  
 Shed, Henry P.  
 Simmons, David A.  
 Skinner, Elias  
 Sleeper, John S.  
 Stevens, Amos  
 Stone, Ebenezer W.  
 Sturgis, James  
 Thacher, Thomas, Jr.  
 Thwing, Supply C.  
 Tolman, James  
 Trescott, Elijah, Jr.  
 Vinson, Cornelius M.  
 Walker, Samuel  
 Ware, Leonard  
 Way, Samuel A.  
 Weston, Lycurgus B.  
 Whiting, Wm. (Montr. Av.)  
 Williams, Aaron D.  
 Williams, Aaron D., Jr.  
 Williams, David W.  
 Williams, Mrs. D. W.  
 Williams, Dudley  
 Williams, G. Foster  
 Williams, George H.  
 Williams, Stedman\* 1852  
 Williams, Thomas B.  
 Wilson, Granville W.  
 Winslow, Edward  
 Wiswall, Samuel  
 Wolcott, John W. 103.

## SHARON.

Bullard, Benjamin  
 Clark, Edwin R.  
 Drake, Asahel S.  
 Gay, George W.  
 Hewins, Elijah  
 Johnson, Lucas  
 Johnson, Otis  
 Lothrop, Howard A.  
 Mann, George R.  
 Mann, William R.  
 Morse, Harvey  
 Sanger, John M.

Smith, Lewis  
Turner, Calvin 14.

## STOUGHTON.

Atherton, James  
Atherton, William  
Belcher, Orin  
Belcher, William S.  
Capen, Samuel  
Clapp, Lucius  
Curtis, Samuel W.  
Gay, Lemuel  
Goldthwait, Daniel A.  
Hodges, Leonard  
Hodges, Samuel W.  
Hodges, Mrs. S. W.  
Littlefield, Charles  
Page, Frederick A.  
Porter, Luther  
Porter, Robert  
Southworth, Amasa  
Southworth, Asahel  
Southworth, Consider A.  
Sumner, Francis C.  
Swan, Elisha  
Talbot, Newton  
Tolman, Ebenezer W.  
Tucker, Wales 24.

## WALPOLE.

Allen, Jeremiah  
Allen, Lewis  
Bacon, William  
Bird, Charles  
Bird, Francis W.  
Boyden, Horatio  
Clap, Edmund W.  
Clap, Samuel G.  
Clap, Warren  
Clarke, Mrs. Betsey M.  
Clarke, Truman  
Conant, George  
Ellis, James  
Ellis, Joseph\* 1851  
Gould, John A.  
Gray, Smith  
Guild, Charles

Hawes, Joseph\* 1849  
Hyde, George B.  
Lewis, Willard  
Mann, Lowell  
Merrick, John M.  
Neal, Benjamin  
Page, William A.  
Pierce, Shadrach S.  
Plimpton, Calvin G.  
Plimpton, H. M.  
Shepard, E.  
Smith, Metcalf  
Stone, Ebenezer  
Thompson, Edwin  
Wilson, Edwin 32.

## WEST ROXBURY.

Allen, Stephen M.  
Arnold, Joseph\* 1855  
Austin, Arthur W.  
Austin, Miss Florence  
Austin, William Percy  
Bacon, Daniel C.\* 1856  
Bacon, William B.  
Bailey, Luther C.  
Balch, Joseph\* 1849  
Balch, Joseph W.  
Billings, Joseph H.  
Billings, Mrs. Joseph H.  
Billings, Miss Mary  
Blake, William  
Bond, George William  
Bradford, Samuel D.  
Bradish, Levi J.  
Brewer, Charles  
Brewer, Otis  
Brown, Benjamin  
Browne, Horace E.  
Butters, John A. C.\* 1856  
Cabot, Stephen  
Cass, Aaron  
Cass, Francis W.  
Cass, Henry W.  
Curtis, Joseph H.  
Dabney, Charles W., Jr.  
Davis, Francis  
Dixwell, John J.

Dudley, Ephraim M.  
 Dum, Theodore  
 Enslin, William  
 Farrington, Ebenezer T.  
 Gilbert, Luther  
 Gooding, George  
 Gould, Joseph D.  
 Greenough, David S.  
 Hall, David P.  
 Head, Francis C.  
 Henchman, Nathaniel H.  
 Hewins, Charles A.  
 Keith, William  
 Lamb, Reuben A.  
 Lawrie, Andrew B.  
 Low, John J.  
 Mackintosh, Charles G.  
 March, Andrew S.\* 1854  
 McIntosh, William  
 Meserve, Andrew T.  
 Meserve, Isaac H.  
 Minot, George R.  
 Morse, Charles  
 Morse, Robert M.  
 Motley, Thomas, Jr.  
 North, George G.  
 Orange, Thomas  
 Page, Kilby  
 Palmer, William  
 Parkinson, John  
 Pratt, John C.  
 Prichard, Jeremiah  
 Richards, Edward  
 Richmond, Thomas T.  
 Russell, George R.  
 Sampson, Charles  
 Seaverns, Thomas W.  
 Shaw, Francis G.  
 Smith, Humphrey  
 Smith, Joseph M.  
 Smith, Melancthon  
 Spaulding, Solomon R.  
 Sturgis, Russell  
 Swett, Samuel W.  
 Taft, Reed  
 Taylor, Horace B.  
 Ticknor, William D.

Townsend, David  
 Tufts, James  
 Watt, Robert  
 Weld, Aaron D.  
 Weld, Mrs. A. D.  
 Weld, Aaron D., Jr.  
 Weld, Miss A. K.  
 Weld, Stephen M.  
 Westcott, Stephen  
 Whytal, Thomas G.  
 Williams, Benjamin P.\* 1856  
 Williams, Henry H.  
 Williams, Moses  
 Williams, Nehemiah D.\* 1852  
 91.

## WEYMOUTH.

Burrill, Ansel  
 Fifield, Noah  
 Howe, Appleton  
 Humphrey, Ebenezer  
 Humphrey, Lemuel  
 Hunt, Atherton N.  
 Hunt, Elias  
 Jones, James  
 Kingsbury, Fisher A.  
 Loud, Joseph, Jr.  
 Nash, Abner P.  
 Nash, Erastus  
 Nash, Stephen W.  
 Richards, Elias  
 Shaw, Nathaniel  
 Shaw, Theron V.  
 Tirrell, Albert  
 Tirrell, James  
 Tirrell, Wilson  
 White, James  
 White, Thomas  
 21.

## WRENTHAM.

Aldrich, Artemas  
 Cheever, Otis G.  
 Clap, Harvey E.  
 Clay, Nehemiah  
 Cowell, William W.  
 Dupee, Erastus

Everett, Edmund T.	Hawes, Benjamin	
Everett, Melatiah	Ide, Edwin S.	
Faxon, Francis G.	Larkin, Lyman B.	
Fisher, Calvin, Jr.	Mann, Howard	
Fisher, Hiram B.	Parker, Ebenezer B.	
Fisher, Silas P.	Pond, Jabez E.	
Ford, Peter	Pond, Lucas	
Fuller, Chauncy G.	Starkey, Gardner H.	
Gassett, Henry, Jr.	Stone, Curtis	
Grant, George	Ware, Asa	
Grant, Robert P.	White, James A.	
Grant, Whiting	Wiggin, James S.	30.

MEMBERS RESIDING OUT OF THE COUNTY.

Balch, Wesley P., Boston	Minot, George W., Boston	
Copeland, R. McCleary, Boston	Slade, Robert, Boston	
De Reynoso, Bernard	Smith, George W., Boston	
Edmands, J. Wiley, Newton	Tappan, Lewis W., Boston	
Ellis, David, Cambridge	Wainwright, Peter, Boston	
Goddard, Thomas, Boston	Wheeler, Lewis, Cambridge	13.
Gould, George, Newton		

Members admitted,	.	.	.	1,192
Members deceased,	.	.	.	68

# Norfolk Agricultural Society.

[SUCCESSFUL COMPETITORS MAY RECEIVE THEIR PREMIUMS IN PLATE  
OR MONEY, AT THEIR OPTION.]

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## LIST OF PREMIUMS FOR THE YEAR 1857.

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### PROGRESSIVE HUSBANDRY.

For the best conducted and most improved Farm during five consecutive years, commencing in the year 1856,—of which the occupant shall present annually to the Trustees a satisfactory account of the whole management of the Farm,—of the crops produced, of the improvement made, and of the stock kept,—a premium of *One Hundred Dollars*, to be paid in 1860.

NOTE. Whenever any Farm shall be entered for this premium, the Secretary of the Society shall give notice thereof to the Committee on Progressive Husbandry annually in September, who will be required to examine the Farm, and to certify the general management of it.

### MANAGEMENT OF FARMS.

For the most valuable and economical improvements in the cultivation and management of Farms *entire*, during the year, including lands, crop, stock, and all other appendages,

First premium,	\$25.00	Third premium,	\$12.00
Second “	15.00	Fourth “	8.00

Competitors for these premiums must give notice of their intention to the Secretary, on or before June 15. Farms offered for inspection will be viewed by the Committee from the 20th June to 10th July, and also in September. Any extraordinary field crop will, on notice, be visited by the Committee, and a report of the same be made to the Society.

### IMPROVING MEADOW AND SWAMP LANDS.

For the best conducted experiment in reclaiming wet meadow or swamp lands, by drainage or otherwise, on not less than one acre, with a statement, in detail, of the course of management, and the produce, &c.,

First premium,       \$15.00 | Second premium,     \$10.00

### OLD PASTURE LANDS.

For the best conducted experiment in restoring and improving old pasture lands, with an account of the means employed and the expense of the same,

First premium,       \$8.00 | Second premium,     \$6.00

For the best written report given by any member of the Society, and worthy of publication, of any improvement observed in any meadow, or swamp, or old pasture lands in the County—other than those lands for which the above-mentioned premiums may be claimed,

A premium of \$10.00.

### CLEARING AND ENCLOSING UNIMPROVED LANDS.

For the best conducted experiment of clearing unimproved lands, on not less than one acre; conditions and specifications the same as in meadow and swamp lands,

First premium,       \$15.00 | Second premium,     \$10.00

### PLOUGHING.

**DOUBLE TEAMS.** For the best performance in ploughing, at least one-eighth of an acre—within an hour—not less than eight inches in depth. The Michigan double plough may be used.

First premium,       \$8.00 | Third premium,       \$4.00  
Second “               6.00 |

**SINGLE TEAMS.** For the best performance in ploughing, at least one-eighth of an acre, not less than six inches deep,

First premium,       \$8.00 | Fourth premium,     \$5.00  
Second “               6.00 | Fifth “               3.00  
Third “                4.00 | Sixth “               2.00

**HORSE TEAMS.** For the best performance in ploughing with horses,

First premium,	\$8.00		Third premium,	\$4.00
Second “	6.00		Fourth “	2.00

**NOTE.** A *Double Team* will consist of two yokes of oxen, with or without a driver; or a team of one yoke of oxen and a horse also, with or without a driver. *Single Team*, one yoke of oxen without a driver. Competitors must own their teams and ploughs, and enter the same in their own names. Notice to compete must be given to the Secretary on or before the Saturday previous to the Exhibition. In awarding premiums, one hour will be allowed for the performance of the work, regard being had to the width and depth of the furrow-slice, and the evenness, ease and quiet with which the work is performed.

### EXPERIMENTS IN SUBSOIL PLOUGHING.

For the most satisfactory experiment, on not less than one acre of land, of the effect of subsoil ploughing, to be determined by the difference in the value of the crops, raised on equal portions of equally manured land, of equal quality, one half of which having been subsoil ploughed, the other half ploughed in the usual manner,—statements of the depth of ploughing, in each instance, together with all the particulars of culture required,

First premium,	\$10.00		Second premium,	\$7.00
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### SPADING.

For the best performance in spading, not less than ten inches in depth, on a piece of not less than one hundred square feet of sward land; due regard being had to time, the thoroughness of the pulverization of the soil, and the state in which it is left for the reception of seed,—

First premium \$8, and diploma; second do., \$6; third do. \$4; fourth \$2.

### EXPERIMENTS ON MANURES.

For an exact and satisfactory experiment in the preparation and application of manures, either animal, vegetable or mineral, due regard being had to economy, a premium of \$15.00.

For an exact and satisfactory experiment in the application *alone* of manures, in the best manner, and with the greatest economy,

First premium,	\$10.00		Second premium,	\$5.00
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## TURNING IN CROPS AS A MANURE.

For the most satisfactory experiment of turning in crops as a manure, either *green* or *dry*, on not less than *one-half acre of land*, a detailed account of the whole process to be given in writing,

First premium,       \$8.00 | Second premium,       \$6.00

## COMPARATIVE VALUE OF CROPS AS FOOD FOR CATTLE.

For the most satisfactory experiment upon a stock of cattle, not less than four in number, in ascertaining the relative value of the different kinds of fodder used, with a statement in detail of the quantity and value of the same, as compared with English hay, the experiment to be made in the three winter months,

First premium,       \$15.00 | Second premium,       \$10.00

## FATTENING CATTLE.

For the most satisfactory experiment in *feeding* cattle, with a statement in detail of the process and the result,

First premium,       \$10.00 | Second premium,       \$5.00

## FATTENING SWINE.

For the most satisfactory experiments in *feeding* swine, with a statement in detail of the process and the result,

First premium,       \$8.00 | Second premium,       \$5.00

## SOILING OF CATTLE.

For the most satisfactory experiment of the *soiling* of cattle, with a detailed statement of the process and the result,—regard being had to the *saving of manure*, and to the comparative *expense of pasturing*,

First premium,       \$15.00 | Second premium,       \$10.00

## GREEN FODDER.

For the best conducted experiment in raising corn fodder or other succulent feed to be used green,—on not less than *one-half acre* of land,—with a statement, in detail, of the mode and cost of cultivation, a premium of

\$7.00

## HAY.

For the largest quantity and best quality of English Hay per acre, produced on any farm in the county, regard being had to the mode and cost of cultivation, a premium of \$6.00

## CULTIVATION OF GRAIN CROPS.

1. For the best conducted experiment in *Wheat*, first premium, \$6; second do., \$4.

2. For the best conducted experiment in *Rye*, first premium, 4; second do., \$2.

3. For the best conducted experiment in *Oats*, first premium \$4; second do., \$2.

4. For the best conducted experiment in *Barley*, first premium, \$4; second do., \$2.

5. For the best conducted experiment in *Indian Corn*, first premium, \$8; second do., \$5; third do., \$3.

6. For the best conducted experiment in raising *White Beans*, a premium of \$6.

Claimants for premiums on Grain Crops are required to notify the Chairman of the Committee on Grain Crops on or before the 15th of November, by a written statement, containing the following particulars:—a description of the soil; the value of the land; the interest on that value; the amount of taxes; the value of manure, or ashes, or plaster used; the cost of seed; the expense of preparing the ground, of sowing or planting; of cultivating and harvesting the crop, and the total value of the crop raised; that by a single glance the net profit of the production may be seen; regard being had to the quantity of crop and extent of ground.

NOTE. Applications for premiums on small Grains to be made on or before the first of July, and on Indian Corn on or before the fifteenth of August; not less than a half bushel of each kind to be shown at the annual exhibition. The quantity to be ascertained by weight, as follows:—Corn, 56 lbs. to the bushel; Rye, 56; Barley, 46; Buckwheat, 46; Oats, 30; Wheat, 60.

## MIXED CROPS.

For the best conducted experiment in the cultivation of mixed crops of grains and vegetables, in alternate rows—first premium, \$6; second premium, \$4. This must be made on not less than one acre of land, and a statement in detail of the expense and product will be required,

## ROOT CULTURE.

1. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Potatoes*, a premium of \$6.00
2. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Sugar Beets*, a premium of \$5.00
3. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Carrots*, a premium of \$5.00
4. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Parsnips*, a premium of \$5.00
5. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Ruta Baga*, a premium of \$5.00
6. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Mangel Wurtzel*, a premium of \$5.00
7. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Flat Turnips*, a premium of \$5.00
8. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Onions*, first premium, \$5; second do., \$4.

Samples of one bushel to be presented at the annual exhibition, which may be on *one-quarter* of an acre, the quantity of crops ascertained by weight, as follows:—Carrots, 55 lbs.; Sugar Beets, 60; Mangel Wurtzel, 60; Ruta Baga, 60; Parsnips, 45; Round Turnips, 50.

NOTE. Application for premiums on Root Crops to be made on or before the 10th of September. It shall be the duty of the several Committees on these experiments, to take into consideration the character of the soil on which the crops have been raised, the capital employed, the whole management and cost of the experiment, and to award the premiums with particular regard to the general merits of the applicant, who shall be required to make a detailed statement on or before the 20th of November.

## VEGETABLES.

AUTUMN AND WINTER SQUASHES. For the best conducted experiment on raising the *Autumnal Marrow* and *Winter Crook-necked Squash*, at least one dozen, to be exhibited at the exhibition, a premium of \$5.00

CABBAGES. For the best conducted experiment in raising *Cabbages*, a premium of \$5.00

FOR THE BEST COLLECTION AND VARIETY OF GARDEN VEGETABLES, regard being had to the quantity as well as quality exhibited—first premium, a Silver Cup of the value of \$10; second do., \$5; third do., \$4; fourth do., \$3; fifth do., \$2; sixth

do., \$1. \$10 may be awarded at the discretion of the Committee.

POTATOES. For the best new variety of *Seedling* Potatoes, superior to any kind now in cultivation, a premium of \$20.00

For the best collection of Potatoes, not less than a *peck* of each variety, a premium of \$5.00

### KITCHEN GARDEN.

For the best kitchen garden, regard being had to the quantity, variety and excellence of the vegetables therein, and the mode and expense of cultivation—first premium, \$10; second do., \$5.00.

### ANIMALS.

*To be entered in the names of those persons who have had them in their possession in the County six months before Exhibition.*

NOTE. In all cases where it is found that animals entitled to the first premium, have before received the same at any former exhibition of the Society, a Diploma, certifying that said animal is the best, shall be awarded instead of the premium. The Diploma of the Society shall be awarded, at the discretion of the several Committees, for animals exhibited from without the limits of the County.

FAT CATTLE. For the best *beef animal*, fattened within the county, regard being had to the manner of feeding, and the expense thereof—first premium, \$8; second do., \$5; third do., \$3.

BULLS. For the best *Bull*, not less than *one year old*, on satisfactory evidence being given that he shall be kept for use in the county for nine months from the day of exhibition—Jersey, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Ayrshire, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Durham, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Devon, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3.

For the best Bull Calf of any of the above classes, under one year old—first premium, \$3; second do., \$2; third do., \$1.

Bulls and Heifers raised in the county, two years old and under, fifty per cent. more than the regular premium.

Cows. For Cows not less than three years old—Jersey, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Ayrshire, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Durham, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Devon, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Grade, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3. Native, first premium, \$5; second do., \$3.

**HEIFERS.** For Heifers from one to three years old—Jersey, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Ayrshire, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Durham, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Devon, first premium, \$3; second do., 2. Grade, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2. Native, first premium, \$3; second do., \$2.

Best Heifer under one year old—first premium, \$3; second do., \$2; third do., \$1.

**MILCH COWS.** For the best Milch Cow, not less than three years old, with satisfactory evidence of the quantity and quality of her milk, and the manner in which she has been fed, certificates of which must be filed in writing, of the product of her milk and butter made from the cow during two periods of ten days each. Three months, neither more nor less, shall elapse between the two periods of trial aforesaid, and the last trial shall be completed before the date of the Annual Exhibition. In cases where the milk is not made into butter, the quantity and weight of the milk must be stated, time of the cow's calving, and quality of the calf. Verbal statements cannot be depended upon or received. First premium, \$10; second do., \$8; third do., 6; fourth do. \$4.

**PRODUCE OF MILK FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR.** For the best conducted experiment with a stock of Milch Cows, not less than ten in number, and yielding, each Cow, not less, on an average, than eight quarts per day, for a period of one year—with a statement, in detail, of the character, age and breed of the cows, and of the method and expense of feeding them, a premium of \$25.

For a similar experiment, with a stock of not less than six cows, and with the same conditions, a premium of \$15.

For a similar experiment, with a stock of not less than four cows, and with the same conditions, a premium of \$10.

**HEIFERS IN MILK.** Not more than three years old,—first premium, \$6; second do., \$5; third do., \$4.

### WORKING OXEN.

For the best pair of Working Oxen, not less than four years old, regard being had to their size, strength, docility, training and appearance. In testing their power, the load is not to be less than 3,000 pounds,—first premium, \$8; second do., \$6; third

do., \$4; fourth do., \$3. In case the oxen are raised and owned by the exhibitor, 50 per cent. shall be added to the premium.

STEERS. For the best pair of three years old Steers, and under four, broken to yoke,—first premium, \$5; second do., \$4; third do., \$3. Same as in the case of oxen.

TWO YEARS OLD AND UNDER THREE,—first premium, \$5; second do., \$4.

ONE YEAR OLD AND UNDER TWO,—first premium, \$3; second do., \$2.

TOWN TEAMS. For the largest and best team of Oxen from any town or city in the county,—first premium \$20; second do., 15; third do., \$10.

### THOROUGH BRED AND PART THOROUGH BRED STOCK.

#### STALLIONS, WITH SAME GUARANTEE AS PRECEDING.

For the best Stallion of 4 years old and upwards, a premium of						\$15.00
do. 2d best	do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	10.00
do. 3d best	do.	do.	do.	do.	do.	8.00

#### THREE YEARS OLD COLTS OR FILLIES.

For the best 3 years old Colt, a premium of						\$6.00
“ 2d best “	“	“	“	“	“	4.00
“ 3d best “	“	“	“	“	“	3.00

#### TWO YEARS OLD COLTS OR FILLIES.

For the best 2 years old Colt, a premium of						\$5.00
“ 2d best “	“	“	“	“	“	3.00
“ 3d best “	“	“	“	“	“	2.00

#### ONE YEAR OLD COLTS OR FILLIES.

For the best 1 year old Colt, a premium of						\$5.00
“ 2d best “	“	“	“	“	“	3.00
“ 3d best “	“	“	“	“	“	2.00
“ 4th best “	“	“	“	“	“	1.00

## BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

For best Brood Mare and Colt by her side, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “ “	4.00

## CARRIAGE HORSES 15 TO 16 HANDS HIGH, OPEN TO ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

For the best pair of Carriage Horses, a premium of	\$20.00
“ 2d best “ “ “ “	15.00
“ 3d best “ “ “ “	10.00

## SINGLE HORSES, OPEN TO ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

For the best Buggy or Chaise Horse, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “ “	4.00

## SADDLE HORSES, OPEN TO ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

For the best Saddle Horse, a premium of	\$8.00
“ 2d best “ “ “ “	6.00
“ 3d best “ “ “ “	4.00

## HORSES OF ALL WORK.

For best Stallion of 4 years old and upward, a premium of	\$15.00
“ 2d best “ “ “ “	10.00
“ 3d best “ “ “ “	8.00

No Stallion to be entitled to a premium without a guarantee of his remaining in the county six months.

## BROOD MARES OF ALL WORK, WITH FOALS AT SIDE.

For the best Brood Mare and Colt, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “ “	4.00

## THREE YEARS OLD COLTS OR FILLIES OF ALL WORK.

For the best 3 years old Colt, a premium of	\$6.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	4.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	3.00

## TWO YEARS OLD COLTS OR FILLIES OF ALL WORK.

For the best 2 years old Colt, a premium of	\$5.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	3.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	2.00

## ONE YEAR OLD COLTS OR FILLIES OF ALL WORK.

For the best 1 year old Colt, a premium of	\$5.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	3.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	2.00
“ 4th best “ “ “	1.00

## SINGLE FARM OR DRAUGHT HORSES OF ALL WORK.

For the best Farm or Draught Horse, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	6.00
“ 4th best “ “ “	4.00

## PAIRS OF FARM OR TEAM HORSES.

For the best pair of Farm or Team Horses, a premium of	\$10.00
“ 2d best “ “ “	8.00
“ 3d best “ “ “	6.00

The premiums proposed to be offered by this list amount to the sum of \$333.

Assurances are given from several gentlemen, members of the Society, that *if necessary* to carry out this recommendation, the sum of \$200 shall be furnished the Treasurer for that purpose.

Every entry for premium must be made before 12 o'clock of the first day of the exhibition, and the Stock must be present the second day.

It must be distinctly understood that premiums will not be awarded to any animal that does not, in the opinion of the Committee, possess decided merit.

## SWINE.

For the best Suffolk Boar, not less than 6 months old, first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$4.

For the best Suffolk, first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$4.

For the best Essex Boar, not less than 6 months old, first premium, \$6 ; second do., 4.

For the best Essex Sow, first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$4.

For the best Boar of any other breed, first premium, \$6 ; second do. \$4.

For the best litter of Weaned Pigs, not less than four in number, and from two to six months old, regard being had to their breed and age—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3 ; third do., \$2.

## SHEEP.

For the best flock, not less than six in number—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$4 ; third do., \$3.

## LIVE FOWLS.

For the best pair of Black Spanish, \$2 ; do. do. Black Shanghaes, \$2 ; do. do. White Shanghaes, \$2 ; do. do. Marsh or Forbes Shanghaes, \$2 ; do. do. Dorkings, \$2 ; do. do. Poland, \$2 ; do. do. Bolton Grays, \$2 ; do. do. Barn-yard Fowls, \$2 ; do. do. Fowls, \$2 ; do. do. Guinea Fowls, \$2 ; do. do. Bantams, \$2.

For the best conducted experiment in raising, keeping and fattening any of the various breeds of fowls, with a statement, in detail, of the method, expense and profit of the same, particularly of the amount of eggs produced from a given number of hens, in order to determine their laying properties, and also their condition in flesh and market value—*no premium to be awarded without such statement*—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$4.

For the best lot of Geese, \$5 ; do. Turkeys, \$5 ; do. Ducks, \$5.

For the best lot of Live Fowls, not less than twelve, \$4 ; second best lot, not less than six, \$3.

No Fowls entered after nine o'clock, on the second day, shall be entitled to a premium.

## DAIRY.

For the best produce of BUTTER, on any farm within the County, for four months, from the 20th of May to the 20th of September, a sample of not less than twenty pounds to be exhibited—*quantity* as well as *quality* to be taken into view, with a full account of the manner of *feeding* the Cows, and the general management of the milk and butter—first premium, \$10; second do., 8; third do., \$5; fourth do., \$3.

NOTE. It will be seen that these premiums are offered for the best produce on the *Farms*, and not simply for the best specimens exhibited. Competitors will therefore be particular in keeping an account, and preparing a statement of the entire produce within the time mentioned. Each lot presented for premium must be numbered, but not marked; any public, or known mark, must be completely concealed, nor must the competitors be present at the examination.

For the best box of Butter, of not less quantity than 12 lbs.—first premium, \$10; second do., \$5; third do., \$3.

NOTE. Butter to be presented on the morning of the second day.

CHEESE. For the best specimen of Cheese, of not less than 50 lbs.—first premium, \$5; second do., \$3; third do., \$2.

BUTTER. For the best and most satisfactory statement at the Annual Exhibition in 1857, of the quantity produced from the milk of any number of Cows, not less than four nor more than seven, from January 1st, 1857, to the day of exhibition, in the Fall, including a description of the character, age and breed of the Cows, and a particular account of the feeding and general management—first premium, \$8; second do., \$6.

For any number of Cows more than seven—first premium, \$10; second do., \$8.

## BREAD.

For the best loaf of Wheat and Indian, of two to four lbs. weight—first premium, \$3; second do., \$2.

For the best loaf made of Unbolted Wheat, which shall be grown in the county, of two to four pounds weight—first premium, \$3; second do., \$2.

For the best loaf of Rye and Indian, of four to six lbs. weight—first premium, \$3; second do., \$2.

For the best loaf of Wheat Bread, of two to four lbs. weight—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

The bread presented for premium must be made on the day previous to the Exhibition, by some female member of a family, exclusive of hired persons, in whose name the entries shall be made, and to whom the premiums shall be awarded. The bread shall be baked in the oven commonly used by the family in which it shall be made. A written statement of the process of making the bread shall accompany each loaf.

There shall be Committees appointed to judge of the several descriptions of bread, to whom the names of the contributors shall not be known, and no person shall serve on said Committees if any member of his family shall be a competitor.

### FOREST TREES.

For the best plantation of Forest Trees, of either of the following varieties, viz.:—White Oak, Yellow Oak, Locust, Birch, White Ash, or Walnut, Scotch Larch, Norway Spruce, Pitch Pine and White Pine, or other varieties, not less than three years old, and not less than one thousand trees, a premium, to be awarded in 1857, of \$20.

For the best Plantation, to contain not less than five hundred trees, a premium of \$10.

ORNAMENTAL PLANTING. To any city or town of Norfolk County, for the largest number and best growth of ornamental trees, which shall be planted in a public square or on the roadside—first premium, \$30 ; second do., \$20.

To any individual or society, regard being had to the number of persons associated, for the largest number and best growth of ornamental trees, which shall be planted in a public square or on the roadside—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

These premiums to be awarded in the autumn of 1857, and if awarded to a city or town, to be graduated by the population according to the census of 1850.

### FRUIT TREES.

APPLE ORCHARD. For the best Apple Orchard, of not less than *seventy-five trees*, which shall have been set out since 1851,

and which shall be in the best and most thriving condition in 1857—first premium, \$15 ; second do., \$10 ; third do., \$7.

PEAR TREES. For the best engrafted or budded Pear Trees, set out since 1851, and which shall be in the most thriving condition in the autumn of 1857, not less than *twenty-five trees*—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

RENOVATION OF OLD APPLE ORCHARDS.—For the most satisfactory experiment in the renovation of *old Apple Orchards*, not less than *ten trees*, on any one farm, which, being reclaimed, shall in 1857 be in fine productive fruit—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$6.

PEACH ORCHARDS. For the best Peach Orchard, of not less than *fifty trees*, set out since 1851, and which shall be in the most thrifty bearing condition in the autumn of 1857—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

For the Peach Orchard, of not less than *fifty trees*, grown from pits planted since 1852, on the spot where the trees stand, which shall be in the best condition in 1857—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

SEEDLING APPLES OR PEARS. For the best variety of *new Seedling Apples* or *Pears*, of decidedly superior quality, *one dozen specimens* to be exhibited, together with a history of its origin, a description of its growth, and the bearing character of the tree—first premium, \$10 ; second do., \$5.

#### SEEDLING GRAPES.

For a new variety of *Native* or *Seedling Grape*, equal or superior to the *Isabella*, ripening, in this county, in the open air, by the *middle of September*, prolific and suitable for the table—first premium, \$20 ; second do., \$10.

#### CRANBERRY VINES.

For the most successful experiment in transplanting Cranberry Vines, or raising them from the seed, which shall be in the most flourishing and productive state on the first of September, 1857.

Competitors will be required to give a particular account of their several operations.

First premium, \$15.00 | Second premium, \$10.00

### CHINESE SUGAR CANE.

For the best experiment in cultivating the new Chinese Sugar Cane, not less than half an acre, regard being had to its manufacture into sugar or molasses, with a detailed account of the soil, process, result and cost,

First premium, \$20.00 | Second premium, \$10.00

### HEDGES.

For the best *live Hedge Fence*, of not less than one thousand feet in length,

First premium, \$10.00 | Second premium, \$5.00

### DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES.

FANCY ARTICLES—including Needlework, Crotchetwork, Shellwork, Millinery, Drawings, Paintings, &c.

For such articles in this department as may be deemed worthy, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

NOTE. It should be understood that, in this department of Ladies' work—while other things will receive due consideration—the premiums are intended *solely for newly made* articles which are really useful, or particularly beautiful. For well made garments of any kind; for stocking knitting of wool, cotton or silk; for bonnet and cap making; for all articles of children's wear, well made or tastefully embroidered; for neat and thorough mending, patching, and darning; for drawing, designing, or painting in oil or water colors; for models in plaster, wood, or marble, &c.

Children under 12 years of age, attending the public schools, are not invited to offer any thing for premium, except such articles as will show their docility, diligence and good behaviour at school, and shall be accompanied with a certificate of approbation from their school teacher. To such articles particular attention will be given, and premiums at the discretion of the Committee.

MANUFACTURES OF STRAW. For the best Straw Bonnet—first premium, \$8; second do., \$6.

For the best specimen of Straw Braid, not less than 100 yards—first premium, \$3; second, do., \$2.

MANUFACTURES OF CLOTH, FLANNELS, HOSIERY, &c. *Cotton Cloth.* For the best specimen of Cotton Cloth, of any descrip-

tion, not less than twenty-eight yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Woollen Cloth.* For the best specimen of Woollen Cloth, of any description, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Cotton and Woollen mixed.* For the best specimen of Cotton and Woollen Cloth of any description, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Flannels.* For the best specimen of Flannel, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best specimen of Cotton Flannel, not less than twenty yards in quantity, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best pair of Woollen Blankets, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

*Hosiery, &c.* For the best specimen of Silk Hose, a premium of \$1.50.

For the best specimen of Silk Half Hose, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Woollen Hose, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Woollen Half Hose, a premium of 50 cents.

For the best specimen of Cotton Hose, a premium of 50 cents.

For the best specimen of Cotton Half Hose, a premium of 25 cents.

For the best specimen of Worsted Hose, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Worsted Half Hose, a premium of 50 cents.

For the best specimen of Sewing Silk, not less than one pound, a premium of \$2.

For the best specimen of Knitting Yarn, not less than one pound, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Spool Thread, not less than one pound, a premium of \$1.

For the best Fleece of Wool, a premium of \$1.

For the best dozen Grain Bags, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of neat and thorough mending, patching, or darning of garments, hose, &c., a premium of \$1.

## CARPETING, RUGS AND FLOOR CLOTH.

For the best "Common" Ingrain 2-ply Carpeting ;

do. do. "Fine" do. do. do.

do. do. "Superfine" do. do. do.

do. do. "Common," "Fine," or "Superfine" Ingrain  
3-ply Carpeting ;

do. do. Brussels Floor Carpeting ;

do. do. Tapestry do. do.

do. do. Velvet Carpeting.

For each of these descriptions of Carpeting, a premium or the Society's Diploma, at the discretion of the Committee.

NOTE. Ingrain 2-ply Carpetings will be judged by the comparative merits of pieces of similar weight ; or, disregarding weight, by the quality of colors, the taste of shading, and the evenness in spinning and weaving.

For the best piece of Stair Carpeting, the Society's Diploma.

For the best Hearth Rug, the Society's Diploma.

For the best specimen of Painted Floor Cloth, a premium or the Society's Diploma, at the discretion of the Committee.

COUNTERPANES. For the best Counterpane—regard being had to quality and expense of materials—first premium, \$3 ; second do., \$2.

NOTE. Any article, in either of the foregoing departments, which shall have been manufactured in *the family* of the person presenting it, will receive the particular consideration of the Committee, and, if worthy, a suitable premium.

GLASS, EARTHEN, STONE AND WOODEN WARE. For the finest collections and best specimens of articles in each of these departments, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

BRASS, COPPER, TIN, IRON AND BRITANNIA WARE. For the finest collections and best specimens of articles in each of these departments, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

CABINET WORK. For the best specimen of Cabinet Work, a premium, or the Society's Diploma.

IRON FENCING, GATES AND POSTS. For the best specimens of each—regard being had to cost and utility, as well as ornament—a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

STOVES. For the best Farmer's Cauldron Stove ;

do. do. Cooking do.

do. do. Parlor do.

—a premium of \$2.

**HORSE AND OX SHOES.** For the best specimens of Horse and Ox Shoes, a premium of \$1.

For the best specimen of Horse Shoes *for meadow land*, a premium of \$1.

**INDIA RUBBER GOODS.** For the finest collection and best specimens of India Rubber goods, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

**BRUSHES, COMBS, HATS, CAPS and GLOVES.** For the finest collection and best specimens of each of these articles, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

**LEATHER, AND ARTICLES MANUFACTURED THEREFROM.**

For the best specimen of Thick Boots, a premium of				\$2.00
do. do. Calfskin,	do.			3.00
do. do. Thin Boots other				
		than Calfskin,	do.	2.00
do. do. Kipskin,	do.			2.00
do. do. Thick Brogans,	do.			1.00
do. do. Fine Brogans,	do.			1.00
do. do. Ladies' Boots,	do.			1.00

For the best specimen of Upper or Sole Leather, or Morocco, a premium or gratuity, each, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best single Carriage Harness ;

do. do. double do.

do. do. Cart Harness—a premium or gratuity, each, at the discretion of the Committee.

For the best Riding Bridle, a premium of \$1.00

do. do. do. Saddle, do. 2.00

do. do. Carriage or Cart Whip, a premium of 1.00

**CARRIAGES, WAGONS, CARTS, &c.**

For the best specimen of Family Carriages, for one horse or for two horses ;

For the best Covered Wagon ;

do. do. Open do.

do. do. Farm do.

do. do. do. Cart ;

do. do. Farm Wheelbarrow—a premium or gratuity, each, at the discretion of the Committee.

**JELLIES, PRESERVES, PICKLES AND KETCHUPS.** For the finest collection and best specimens of each, made of articles of domestic growth, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

**NEW INVENTIONS.** For any new invention of decided superiority and usefulness to the farmer, a premium or gratuity, at the discretion of the Committee.

**NOTE.** It is to be understood that all articles presented for premium, in each of the foregoing departments, shall have been manufactured or produced within the County during the last year, and by the person presenting them. Also, that in every case, the Examining Committee shall have the right to substitute the Society's Diploma for a premium or gratuity, or to give it where no premium or gratuity has been awarded, at their discretion.

Articles in either of the above departments, contributed to the exhibition by persons not resident in the County, shall receive suitable attention from the Committee, and, if worthy, be awarded the Society's Diploma.

## FRUITS AND FLOWERS.

Accommodations will be provided for the exhibition of Fruits and Flowers, and Committees will be appointed to examine and report on such as may be presented. Whoever may present, is requested to furnish a minute, in writing, of the name of the owner, and a list of his contributions.

The following premiums will be awarded:—

For the best collection of cut flowers, \$4; second best, \$2; third best, \$1. For the best bouquets, or tastefully arranged baskets of flowers, not less than four, \$4; second best, \$2; third best, \$1. For the best collection of twenty named dahlias, regard being had to *colors* and symmetry of flower, \$3; second best, \$2. For the best single bloom, \$1. For the best collection of twelve pot plants, regard being had to new and rare varieties and well grown specimens, \$3; second best, \$2. For the best single specimen, \$1. For the best collection of new seedling verbenas, \$2. For the best new seedling, \$1. To be awarded in gratuities, at the discretion of the Committee, \$12.

## FRUITS.

For the best collection of *Apples*—first premium, \$5; second do., \$3; third do., \$2.

For the best collection of *Pears*—first premium, \$5; second do., \$3; third do., \$2.

For the best collection of *Peaches*—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3 ; third do., 2.

For the best *dish* of Pears, not less than one dozen specimens, a premium of \$2.

For the best *dish* of Apples, not less than a dozen specimens, a premium of \$2.

GRAPES. For the best collection of *Foreign Grapes*—first premium, \$5 ; second do., \$3.

For the best collection of *Native Grapes*, a premium of \$3.

### AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

For the most extensive and finest collection of Agricultural Implements—first premium, \$15 ; second do., \$10 ; third do. \$5.

For the best Agricultural Implements manufactured within the county, and exhibited by the manufacturer—first premium, \$6 ; second do., \$4.

For the best report, by any member of the Society, of any new or improved Agricultural Implement—describing its construction and operation, its cost and its benefit, and, in particular, its applicability to the soil of Norfolk County—a premium, if worthy of record, in proportion to the value of such report, at the discretion of the Committee.

### AGRICULTURAL LABORERS.

For a certificate—signed by his employer, and countersigned by any two Trustees of the Society residing in the same town—of the superior character and qualifications of any man or boy, in the employment of a member of the Society for a period, next preceding, of not less than two years, attesting the industry, integrity, respectful demeanor, and general good habits, during that time, of the bearer of such certificate,

A premium of Membership of the Society and a Diploma.

### PRIZE ESSAYS.

For the best Essay on either of the following subjects, which may be considered by the Trustees worthy of publication :—

FOREST TREES. For the best Essay on the raising and cultivation of Forest Trees, a premium of \$10.

INSECTS. For the best Essay for the destruction of Insects injurious to vegetation, such as *Curculio*, *Borer*, *Canker-Worm*, *Caterpillar*, *Cut-Worm*, *Squash-Bug*, *Striped-Bug*, *Rose-Bug*, &c., &c., a premium of \$20.

POTATO DISEASE. For the best Essay on the prevention of the Potato Disease, a premium of \$10.

PRESERVATION OF WINTER FRUIT. For the best Essay on the preservation of Apples and other Winter Fruits, \$10.

PRESERVATION OF VEGETABLES. For the best Essay on the preservation of Vegetables, a premium of \$10.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION. For the best Essay on Agricultural Education, a premium of \$10.

FARM ACCOUNTS. For the best Essay on a system of Farm Accounts, \$10.

For the most valuable Essay upon the comparative value and adaptation to the climate and soil of Norfolk county of the several foreign and native breeds of Cows and Oxen, \$10.

For the best Prize Essay on Domestic Poultry, \$10.

For the best Essay on *Fences for Farms*, uniting economy, strength, and appearance, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the extermination of *Weeds and Plants*, destructive to crops, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the preservation and application of Liquid Manure, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the Introduction of new Fruits and new articles of Field Culture, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the best manner of subdividing farm cultivation with reference to Economy and Profit, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on the value and application of Phosphate of Lime, as a fertilizer of the soil, a premium of \$10.

For the best Essay on Bees, and Structure of Hives, with particular reference to feeding Bees, and guarding against the spoliations of the Bee Moth, a premium of \$10.

For an Essay on any subject connected with Agriculture, Hor-

ticulture, Manufactures, or Mechanics, which the Trustees may consider worthy, a premium of \$10.

For the best plan for a Barn and Barn Yard, with regard to the keeping of the Hay, the comfort of the Cattle, the ease and convenience of tending them, and the making and preserving the Manure, a premium of \$10.

These premiums will not be awarded unless the Essays offered shall, in the judgment of the Committee appointed to decide upon them, be deemed in themselves worthy of an Award without reference to their comparative merit.

## RULES AND GENERAL REMARKS.

It is understood that all premiums will be restricted to articles of the growth and manufacture of the County, unless otherwise specified in connection with it. Essays and Agricultural Implements being excepted from this rule, are open to general competition.

Any gentleman, not a member of the Society, entitled to a premium of five dollars or upwards, shall receive the amount exceeding the sum of five dollars, and shall thereafter become a member.

The stock and articles intended for exhibition and premium, butter excepted, must be on the ground at or before 12 o'clock on Tuesday, the first day of the Exhibition. Animals will not be allowed to be removed from the pens before 3 o'clock on Wednesday, the second day, and all other articles not until 5 o'clock, without the permission of the Committee.

The animals, while on the ground, will be fed at the expense of the Society.

No person serving on any of the Committees shall have a vote in any case, when he shall be personally interested as a competitor.

All other Entries for premiums must be made in writing, and shall be placed in the hands of the Recording Secretary, on or before the 15th of November.

Premiums awarded, and not called for within *six months*, will be considered as given to the Society, in aid of its funds.

After the objects for Exhibition are arranged, they will be under the care of the Committees, and cannot be removed without their consent.

No object or article will be entitled to a premium, unless it possesses points of superiority; and the Committees have the discretionary power of withholding premiums, if, in their opinion, the articles or objects are not deemed worthy to receive the same.

The Trustees have carefully revised and approved of the foregoing proposals for *Premiums*. The respective Committees, appointed to award the same, are required to enforce a strict conformity to all the rules in relation to Entries and Certificates.

In the appointment of *Committees*, the Trustees will seek for the most judicious and skilful individuals in the various towns in the County, *to award the Premiums*; but should they fail to secure the aid of the ablest and most experienced men in the above capacity, they will rely upon the forbearance which, they believe, will be generously extended towards sincere and unwearyed efforts.

As it will become the duty of the Society to make to the Legislature an exact report of its doings, the Trustees deem it of the highest importance, that earnest and persevering efforts should be made by the citizens of every town in the county, to bring out the results of their skill and industry.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, *President*.

EDWARD L. KEYES, *Secretary*.



