

MONTHLY BULLETIN

OF

The United States Agricultural Society.

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THE SIXTH NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION, which is to be held in the city of Richmond, Virginia, on the 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th days of October, will equal, if it does not surpass, any of the Farmers' Festivals held with such decided success by the United States Agricultural Society in different sections of the Union. Gen. Caleb Cushing, of Massachusetts, has accepted the appointment of Orator, and a large proportion of the distinguished statesmen and agriculturalists especially invited, have already signified their intention to be present. Exhibitors of stock, products, fruit, flowers, machinery, implements, &c., &c., are making preparation to attend, and it is certain that "a thousand hills and valleys" will be represented at this Industrial Congress—a visible type of the agricultural interest of our country, on which some thirty millions of beings are dependent for their "daily bread." The co-operation of every American having it in his or her power to contribute in any way to the success of this National display, is respectfully and earnestly solicited.

The following address "To the *Agriculturists and Mechanics of Virginia*," shows that the Sons of the Old Dominion anticipate a "generous rivalry" with competitors from other states, and are prepared to receive them with that "noble hospitality" which they proudly claim as their birth-right. Let each state take care to be well represented.

ADDRESS OF THE VIRGINIA CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, TO THE AGRICULTURISTS AND MECHANICS OF VIRGINIA. "The undersigned have been deputed to address you in relation to the Virginia Central Agricultural Society—its aims and objects, and especially the Cattle Show and Fair which will be held at the Fair Grounds, near this city, on the 25th day of October, and the ensuing five days, and most respectfully we invite your attention while we do so, promising you in return, the utmost brevity which may be consistent with intelligent explanation.

"As you know, the State Agricultural Society has held its Cattle Show and Fair annually for years past at the Fair Grounds which were provided for it by the City of Richmond; as you also know, the Executive Committee of that Society determined not very long since, to hold the next Show and Fair at the grounds of the Union Society, near Petersburg, under the auspices of that Society. That determination left the extensive and beautiful Fair Grounds of Richmond unoccupied, and cut off the Metropolis, the commercial and political centre of the State, from its annual intercourse with the farmers, graziers and artisans of the State.

"The people living at and near the centre were not content that this estrangement should exist, and they determined that the enjoyment so often experienced and so much delighted in by them, of meeting the great body and elite of the farming gentry and mechanics of our State in their annual and primary assembly, with the noble and beautiful specimens which they brought of their skill and industry in producing, rearing and manufacturing whatever can be necessary or useful for the comfort of our people, should continue. The hearty welcome, the cordial intercourse, and even the painful parting, which excited the deep impression which the intercourse of a week even, with all its exciting incidents and generous rivalry, could not be given up, and as we have said, our people at and near the centre determined they should not be given up, and they met and organized the Virginia Central Agricultural Society, of which we are the representatives. We have endeavored to perform, with a single eye to the end in view, the duty assigned us, and we have now the great satisfaction to announce to you that the United States Agricultural Society will hold its next annual Cattle Show and Fair in connection with us, at our Fair Grounds, on the 25th day of October next, and the five following days.

"We have great pleasure in this event, and we congratulate you upon it, and earnestly and respectfully invite you to attend the Fair and bring with you your finest specimens of your skill and industry in all the departments of agriculture and manufactures, and especially of your live stock of every kind. The United States Agricultural Society, with which we co-operate this year, was organized in June, 1852, under the auspices of some of the most distinguished men of the nation, who have ever since controlled and directed it, with the aid

of constant accessions of men of equal respectability and rank; and at its last annual meeting the Agricultural Societies of twenty-eight States were present by their deputies, while the President of the United States, several members of his Cabinet, and many members of the Senate and House of Representatives, testified their interest in it, and lent additional grace and dignity to its sessions by their presence. The late President of it, Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, is known throughout the country for his zeal in the cause of Agriculture, his intelligence and high character; and its present President, General Tench Tilghman, is familiar to us all as one of the most distinguished sons of our sister State of Maryland. Its great Cattle Show and Fair has been held in five of the States, which eagerly sought its presence among them. You have before you its rich premium list, and you will have no difficulty in believing us when we tell you that its Cattle Show and Fair has always been the grandest and most magnificent ever held in the Union, and we cannot but congratulate you upon the fact that its next Show and Fair will be held in your midst and we cannot doubt that you will meet it with all the cordiality and hospitality which distinguishes our people, and vindicate the claims of Virginia to high consideration in Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, by the specimens of your skill in each, which you will bring to compete with those of our friends and brothers from the other States, who will bring their best and noblest to bear the palm, and the premiums with it, from the sons of the Old Dominion. Meet them in generous rivalry, with the noble hospitality which is your birth-right, but meet them, we pray you, with the best you have, and if they beat you, confess their prowess, but shrink not from the encounter.

"We have heard that it is said that our Society is inimical, or will be injurious to the State Society, and ought not, therefore, to be encouraged. This opinion is so simple and palpable an error that it is difficult to suppose that those who urge it are altogether candid, if intelligent. Nevertheless, we shall treat it as a candid objection, and briefly answer it. And first let us enquire who were the most prompt, energetic and liberal supporters of the State Society? Every one must reply that Richmond and her citizens of all classes, but especially her merchants and millers, than whom there is not to be found in this State, (or out of it,) in proportion to their numbers, a more liberal, intelligent and patriotic body of men. When did they ever suggest anything which was inimical to the great cause of agriculture, or the welfare of the State? Why should they desire to break down or injure the State institution which they were mainly instrumental in erecting?

"Secondly, let us inquire how the Central Society can injure the State Society? It cannot be by the mere fact of existence, because both Societies would be indeed mythical in effect if they confined themselves to their chambers and debating rooms, and held no Cattle Show and Fair. The injury, if any, therefore, must result from the Show and Fair. The question, then, simply is, how can a Cattle Show and Fair at Richmond injure a similar Show and Fair at Petersburg or elsewhere? To this we answer without hesitation, that it cannot have that effect unless that at Richmond be held so as to conflict with that at Petersburg—and we have as little hesitation in adding, that so far from injuring the Fair at Petersburg, the Fair at Richmond must prove beneficial to that at Petersburg, being held as it will be, one week in advance of it. That the existence of our Society cannot of itself injure the State Society, we suppose to be so palpable a truth that it is only necessary to state it to command universal assent. But if any man doubts, let him remember the fact that when that Society held its Fairs at Richmond, there were, and still are, at least one dozen other Agricultural Societies in the State, and then ask the question, were they the enemies of the State Society or was it their enemy? That they were not its enemies we feel satisfied that every member of each one of them will answer, and accordingly most of their members are also members of the State Society, as each one of us is, and some of us life members.

"Is, then, the State Society the enemy of the provincial Societies? As members of the State Society, as men who would deal justly with it, we answer that question in the negative—we say *no*; for, however, it may be that some of its members, partly because they dislike Richmond, partly because they are vexed with it, and what is worse, vexed with themselves, are enemies to our Society, the State Society cannot be the enemy of the provincial Societies without proclaiming itself to be the most absurd and suicidal monopoly in the world, which, by the avowal of its hostility, would render itself odious throughout Virginia; and if not the enemy of the provincial Societies generally, why should it be our enemy—why select us as the special and exclusive object of its hostility? No man can give a reason for imputing such feelings to it, and in its behalf we protest that they do not exist. The State Society, on the contrary, holds, as it should, the relation of the parent Society to us its scattered children, who come once a year to pay a filial visit to it, and of this it has just given the most touching evidence, by throwing itself into the arms of the Petersburg Society, when it thought the Council of Richmond was cold to it. Would it have done this if it regarded the Petersburg Society as its enemy? By its act it has justified our opinion; and we may inquire if it was not proper in Petersburg to have a Society, and hold a Fair, when the State Society met and its Fair was held at Richmond, how can it be improper in Richmond to have a Society hold a Fair, when the State Society meets and holds its Fair at Petersburg? The idea of our Society and Fair injuring the State Society and Fair is simply ludicrous.

But we do not stop with that exposure; we affirm that our Fairs must be beneficial to

that at Petersburg, and so aid, not injure, the State Society, because the greater number of opportunities which are afforded to the farmer, grazier and mechanic to exhibit his stock within a reasonable compass, the better for him, as he may thereby get several premiums; or, if he fails at one place he may succeed at another—and therefore, the occurrence of two Fairs in two successive weeks, within one hour's travel of each other, will bring out more exhibitors than one Fair would.

“Again; many of the exhibitors at Petersburg must pass through Richmond, or the Petersburg Fair must be small, comparatively. Now, every exhibitor who would come from any point North or Northwest or Northeast of Richmond, to a Fair at Petersburg, will come more certainly if he can find a Fair at Richmond on his way to Petersburg; and it may be safely predicted of every exhibitor who comes to Richmond, that he will go over to the Petersburg Fair simply before he returns home. This will be true of our own Fair; but can any man doubt, that, bringing as the United States Society will do, exhibitors and visitors from every other State, and probably from every part of the Union, who would not come otherwise, many, if not all of them, will go to Petersburg who would not otherwise see them.

“In conclusion, we cordially and earnestly invite you, and all other lovers of our great mother Agriculture, to come up to our meeting in October, and bring with you the fatted calf and the choicest fruits of the earth, and the most beautiful specimens from the loom and the spindle and the machine shop, with the noblest specimen of that blood in your horses, which has made the Virginia horse renowned everywhere.

“Richmond and her neighbors throw wide their hospitable doors, and bid you come. We say come—the cause cries come—and when weary of us, we will escort you to the Halls and Fair Grounds of our yet more hospitable, charming and patriotic sister, Petersburg, and there too, aid the cause of Agriculture.”

JAMES LYONS, Pres't.

H. C. Cabell, J. L. Davis, C. Bruce, R. Archer, J. W. Ware, J. A. Selden, Hill Carter, W. B. Stanard, W. C. Wickham, H. B. Tomlin, Wm. Allen, Geo. M. Savage, Jacob A. Baylor, N. B. Hill, *Executive Committee.*

CHARLES DIMMOCK, *Secretary.*

ARIZONA. Lieut. Sylvester Mowry, in reply to a letter from Rev. Samuel M. French, asking “what are the agricultural advantages of Arizona, and what are its most fertile regions, has published an interesting document, from which the following paragraphs are extracted:

“The principal valleys on the East are the Rio Grande, from lat. 34° South to El Paso—about two degrees of latitude—including the well known Mesilla. A population of some ten thousand souls—mostly Mexican, occupy portions of this section, congregated in the towns of Mesilla, La Mesa and Santa Barbara. There is ample room here for thousands more. The soil is productive. Land lies well for irrigation and water is abundant. The climate, although warm during the summer months, is healthy throughout the year. All the cereals grow well here, together with some of the semi-tropical fruits. The Grape grows luxuriantly, and the El Paso wine will take no humble place among those of native growth—whether of Ohio or California. The Mesilla and Rio Grande valleys are gradually acquiring population, and offer every inducement to emigrants in search of good soil, fine climate and pleasant homesteads. The market for produce is mostly confined to the supply of the army and to home consumption at present, but the development of the undoubted mineral wealth in silver of the Organ mountains—across the Rio Grande and in the vicinity of the valley, will, at no distant day, give a much more extensive and lucrative trade to the agriculturist. The country west of the Rio Grande, for two hundred and fifty miles (250) to the San Pedro River, is the finest grazing country in the world. This opinion is sustained by Gen. Joseph Lane, the distinguished delegate from Oregon, and by Col. Jack Hays, of Texas, in letters addressed to me. Both of these gentlemen travelled through Arizona before it became a portion of U. S. Territory, and there are few men in the world, whose judgment upon questions of soil and agricultural value, is so thoroughly reliable.

“West of the Santa Cruz, except on the Gila River, until you reach the Colorado, the country is not inviting to the farmer, although rich in minerals. Throughout the whole length of the Gila—five hundred miles—there are many extensive and rich tracts of arable land, lying well for irrigation, with plenty of water. Wheat, corn, cotton, melons, pumpkins, beans and millet, grow abundantly, with little labor, and the soil seems inexhaustible. The Pimos Indians have raised all these crops for a long series of years on the same soil, without manure and with no apparent diminution in the yield. North of the Gila, completely in the possession of the Indians, are several large valleys, watered by bold streams—alive with fish—and magnificently timbered with oak, pine and cotton wood.”

PEDIGREES. Persons intending to exhibit *thorough-bred* Horses or Cattle, at Richmond, will be required to furnish pedigrees of the animals to be exhibited, in writing, at the time of making their entries. The standard authority in all cases of pedigree of Horses, will be the English Stud Book and the American Turf Register; for Cattle, the English and American Herd Books. Entries must specify the exhibitor's name and Post Office address, and the age of the animal offered. No animal to be entered in the name of any other than the *bona-fide* owner, either by himself or his agent.

DELEGATES TO EXHIBITIONS. The Executive Committee of the United States Agricultural Society have appointed the following delegates to State and other prominent Agricultural Exhibitions. It is hoped that they will find it convenient to attend, and that they will not only present reports of what they see and hear, at the next annual meeting of the United States Agricultural Society, but that they will urge upon the exhibitors of superior stock, implements, products, &c., the importance of again exhibiting at the National Fair, at Richmond.

Alabama.—C. H. McCormick, Chicago, Illinois; P. St. George Cocke, Jefferson, Virginia; Alva Gage, Charleston, South Carolina.

California.—Henry F. French, Exeter, New Hampshire; A. P. Bradford, California; N. B. Lawrence, Newport, Rhode Island.

Connecticut.—Anthony Kimmel, New London, Maryland; P. M. Nightingale, Albany, Georgia; A. H. Brand, Lexington, Kentucky.

Georgia.—David Landreth, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; W. H. Harris, Nashville, Tennessee; W. D. Stewart, Syracuse, New York.

Illinois.—L. G. Morris, Mount Fordham, New York; Harry Dodge, Sutton, Massachusetts; Townzend Glover, Washington, D. C.

Indiana.—R. P. Underhill, Mount Pleasant, New York; Wm. Gill, Columbus, Ohio; Edward D. Hobbs, Louisville, Kentucky.

Iowa.—D. J. Browne, Washington, D. C.; John Pope, Memphis, Tennessee; William Kelly, Rhinebeck, New York.

Kentucky.—Josiah W. Ware, Berryville, Virginia; Ramsey McHenry, Baltimore, Maryland; David Leavitt, Great Barrington, Massachusetts.

Maine.—Charles W. Harriman, Andalusia, Pennsylvania; Eben Wight, Dedham, Massachusetts; Pells Manny, Freeport, Illinois.

Maryland.—Thomas Amory, Boston, Massachusetts; J. Stanton Gould, Hudson, New York; James T. Worthington, Chillicothe, Ohio.

Massachusetts.—*Springfield Horse Exhibition.*—Frederic Symth, Manchester, N. H.; Wm. S. King, Roxbury, Massachusetts; Benjamin Alston, Georgetown, S. C.

Michigan.—J. P. Barret, St. Louis, Missouri; Ivers Phillips, Fitchburg, Massachusetts; Walter A. Wood, Hoosic Falls, New York.

Missouri.—*St Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association.*—Wm. Duane Wilson, Mount Pleasant, Iowa; N. Longworth, Cincinnati, Ohio; Edward D. Hobbs, Louisville, Kentucky.

New Hampshire.—Marshall P. Wilder, Boston, Massachusetts; James N. Thompson, Wilmington, Delaware; Lawrence Young, Louisville, Kentucky.

New Jersey.—Charles B. Calvert, Bladensburg, Maryland; Arthur Watts, Chillicothe, Ohio; S. Cooper, Boston, Massachusetts.

New York.—John M'Gowan, Bridesburg, Pennsylvania; John Brooks, Princeton, Massachusetts; H. K. Burgwyn, Halifax, North Carolina.

New York.—*American Pomological Convention.*—L. E. Berckman, Plainfield, New Jersey; B. V. French, Boston, Massachusetts; J. L. Darlington, West Chester, Pennsylvania.

North Carolina.—B. P. Johnson, Albany, New York; Charles L. Flint, Boston, Massachusetts; Oden Bowie, Prince George, Maryland.

Ohio.—J. S. Beckman, Kinderhook, New York; B. B. French, Washington, D. C.; J. T. Brown, Providence, Rhode Island.

Pennsylvania.—Edmund Ruffin, Old Church, Virginia; Robert Mallory, Louisville, Kentucky; B. S. Heming, Oskosh, Wisconsin.

Rhode Island.—John Jones, Middleton, Delaware; Moses G. Cobb, Dorchester, Massachusetts; A. P. Hatch, Newberne, Alabama.

South Carolina.—Aaron Clement, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; William W. Corcoran, Washington, D. C.; Charles Ridgeley, Hampton, Maryland.

Vermont.—J. H. McHenry, Fikesville, Maryland; Elisha Dyer, Providence, Rhode Island; DeLorma Brooks, Beloit, Wisconsin.

Virginia.—Henry Wager, Rome, New York; Samuel Medary, Columbus, Ohio; J. N. Goldsborough, Easton, Maryland.

Wisconsin.—Henry Wilson, Columbus, Ohio; Robert C. Winthrop, Boston, Massachusetts; G. D. Hastings, Toland, Connecticut.

Tennessee.—Richard Peters, Atlanta, Georgia; Linus B. Comins, Roxbury, Massachusetts; W. L. Underwood, Kentucky.

DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL EXHIBITION AT RICHMOND. The New York State Agricultural Society has appointed the following delegation to attend the National Exhibition at Richmond: His Excellency Governor King; Hon. W. T. McCoun, President; Hon. William Kelly, Henry Wager, and Secretary B. P. Johnson, Ex-Presidents; George Clark, W. Akenhead, C. S. Wainwright, Samuel Horne and Francis M. Ketch, Esquires.

The Massachusetts Board of Agriculture has appointed as delegates to attend the National Exhibition, His Excellency Gov. Banks, (Chairman of the Board,) and Messrs. Marston, Wilder, Atwater, Sutton, Flint, Brooks and French.

PREMIUMS FOR ESSAYS. The United States Agricultural Society offer their Grand Silver Medal and Diploma for the best essay on each of the following subjects, for publication in the next annual volume of their Transactions.

1. Agricultural Education, including the details of a system for an Agricultural College and Experimental Farm.

2. The best proportions between the value of land and other capital, and between the amount invested in the different departments of a farm, viz; land, labor, stock, implements and manures.

3. Meteorology, in reference to its connection with droughts and floods, with suggestions for anticipating them and guarding against their effects.

4. Concentrated manures, in reference to economy, improvement of land, injurious tendencies, preparation, application, &c.

5. Depth of culture for different soils.

6. On the development of latent properties in soils.

7. New Crops, with their relative profit and the extent to which they should be cultivated.

8. The cultivation of Forest Trees.

9. The construction of Ice-houses for domestic use.

10. Farm Gardens and Orchards.

11. On Agricultural Exhibitions.

12. Agricultural subjects other than the above. The best essay offered.

No essay will be entitled to a premium, unless it shall be considered by the Committee to be of sufficient advantage to agriculture to entitle it to a place in the Transactions of the Society. It is expected that the essays will be founded mainly, (and on scientific subjects, at least partly) on the writer's practical experience and personal observation or investigation—and when other authorities are quoted, distinct reference must be made. The award of superiority to any one essay over others on the same subject, will be made in reference to its probable greater utility to agricultural improvement, as well as to the ability with which the subject is treated. In matters designed to instruct or to guide practical laborers, clearness and fulness of details will be deemed a high claim to merit, and next consequence. Nothing necessary for instruction should be omitted without injury to the value of the instruction.

Essays must be sent in to the Secretary, at Washington, D. C. before the first of December, 1858, and the name of the author must accompany his Essay, sealed up in an envelope, and not to be opened unless a premium is awarded to the writer. It is desirable that in writing the Essays only one side of the paper be used.

THE WHEAT MIDGE. The Executive Committee of the New York State Agricultural Society are collecting facts on the whole history of this insect and its ravages. These facts will be compiled by Dr. Fitch, the able entomologist of the Society, and a report will be prepared which will give a clear view of the remarkable career of the "wheat midge" (weevil as frequently called) its habits and economy, and will form an authentic record of these important facts for reference in all coming time.

AGRICULTURAL ORATORS. Joseph R. Williams, Esq., President of the Agricultural College of Michigan, will deliver the Address at the Fair of the New York State Society, at Syracuse. Ex-Governor Boutwell, of Massachusetts, will deliver the address at the Fair of the New Hampshire State Society, at Dover.

BELGIUM. The "Societe Central d'Agriculture," through its Secretary, Monsieur G've Le Docte, has proposed an exchange of publications with the United States Agricultural Society.

NAPOLEON III. in a recent address to his Council of State, says:—"The progress of agriculture ought to be one of the objects of your constant care; for upon its improvement or decline depends the prosperity or decline of empires."

THE ST. LOUIS FAIR, on the 6th of September, will probably be even superior to its predecessors. Messrs. Edward Haven & Co., of St. Louis, are well recommended as agents for such exhibitors as may not be able to attend in person. They state that they will be able to have every article as well exhibited and attended to as if the owner were present.

THE PEACH CROP. A correspondent from Philadelphia says that the New Jersey and Delaware peach crop is very short. New Jersey is barren of peaches to what she was a few years ago. Even Delaware, which at one time inherited her profit and fame as a peach grower, is falling into the sear and yellow leaf.

THE ARMY WORM IN LOUISIANA. The army worm has made its appearance in the vicinity of Manchac, where they are spreading rapidly, and at some places eating up everything green, at the rate of ten acres per day. This is the only locality from whence we have had such disastrous news.

A SECOND EDITION OF THE PREMIUM LIST of the Sixth National Exhibition will be issued on the first of October, and will contain some additional premiums to those offered in the edition published on the first of July. Among these will be: Cashmere Goats, pair, 1st premium, \$10.00; 2nd premium, \$5.00. Shepherd's Dog, 1st premium, \$10.00; 2nd premium, \$5.00. Deer, Elk and other rare animals, discretionary premium. Pea Fowls, best pair, \$5.00. Cochin China Fowls, best pair, \$5.00. Mongrel Fowls, best pair, \$5.00. Capons, best two, \$5.00. Mongrel Ducks, best pair, \$5.00. Pigeons, best collection, \$5.00. Tea, best pound, (raised in the United States,) \$5.00. Silk, best display, (made in the United States) \$5.00. Best bag Upland Cotton, (exhibited by grower or his agent,) \$10.00. Best bag Sea Island Cotton, (exhibited by grower or his agent,) \$10.00. Horse Shoes, best dozen, different varieties, \$5.00. Best Heavy Four Wheel Carriage, \$10.00. Best Light Four Wheel Carriage, \$5.00. Best Light Four Wheel Carriage, without top, \$5.00. Best Two Wheel Chaise, \$5.00. Best Trotting Sulky, \$5.00. Best Express Wagon, \$5.00. Best Heavy Double Carriage Harness, \$5.00. Best Light Double Carriage Harness, \$5.00. Best Heavy Single Harness, \$5.00. Best Light Single Harness, \$5.00. Best collection of whips \$5.00. Best Portable Saw-mill, silver medal. Best new implement, never exhibited at a National Fair, (in addition to any other premium it may receive in a class,) silver medal and diploma. Best apparatus for heating country houses, silver medal. Best apparatus for lighting country houses, silver medal. Best candles, bronze medal. Best oil or burning fluid, bronze medal. Best bushel of oysters, \$5.00.

Farm Crops. It has also been decided to give the following premiums for Farm Crops, raised during the present year in the State of Virginia, each on not less than two acres of land. Best crop of Indian Corn, \$10.00; 2nd best, \$5.00. Best crop of Wheat, \$10.00; 2nd best, \$5.00. Best crop of Irish Potatoes, \$10.00; 2nd best \$5.00. Best crop of Sweet Potatoes, \$10.00; 2nd best, \$5.00. Best crop of Tobacco, \$10.00; 2nd best, \$5.00. Best crop of Turnips, \$10.00; 2nd best, \$5.00. Best crop of Sorgho, \$5.00. The land from which the crop for premiums is claimed, must be in one contiguous piece, and must be measured by a competent surveyor, whose affidavit must accompany the statement. The applicant must state, in writing, the location of the land, and the kind and condition of the soil? What was the previous crop, if any, and how that was manured? The quantity and kind of seed? The time and manner of sowing, harvesting and preparing the crop for market? The actual yield, (the statute bushel in grain crops to be used)? This statement must be sworn to before a magistrate, and a fair average sample of the crop must be exhibited.

Fruit Trees. For the best collection of Fruit Trees, under ten years of age, in the State of Virginia, \$20.00; 2nd best, \$10.00; 3d best, \$5.00. Applicants for these premiums must state in writing, the location of their orchards and the kind and condition of the soil; the age, number and varieties of their trees; the amount of fruit produced last year, (estimated) and this year, by measurement. This statement must be sworn to before a magistrate, and a fair average sample of the fruit, when practicable, must be exhibited.

Nurseries. For the best Nursery of Fruit and Ornamental Trees in the State of Virginia, a silver medal. Applicants to state in writing the location and size of their nurseries; the kind and condition of the soil; the manner of cultivation; the age and number of trees exhibited and the retail prices asked for them. This statement must be sworn to before a magistrate.

WOOL. Harrison County, (Ohio) is one of the greatest wool-growing counties in the Union. The Cadiz Sentinel estimates the crop of the county at four hundred thousand pounds, which will sell for one hundred and seventy two thousand dollars! This is pretty extensive for a county of but four hundred square miles.

STANDARD AGRICULTURAL WORKS. Among the works published or re-published by A. O. Moore, the Agricultural Bookseller, in New York City, are: *Stephens' Book of the Farm*, in two large octavo volumes, forming a complete cyclopaedia of English Agriculture, valuable as a book of reference to agriculturalists everywhere—price, \$4.00. *Thaer's Principles of Practical Agriculture*, translated from the German—price, \$2.00. *Randall's Sheep Husbandry*, especially adapted to the Southern States—price, \$1.25. *Stewart's Stable Book*, edited and adapted to this country, by A. B. Allen—price, \$1.00.

THE ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL REGISTER for 1859, will soon be published by Messrs. Luther Tucker & Son, Albany, N. Y. It will contain "Thomas' Essay on Farm Management," re-written, enlarged and illustrated; an illustrated chapter on "Country Dwellings;" a few pages on "Furniture and Rural Structures of iron;" a paper on "Under-draining," accompanied by twenty-nine diagrams; articles on the culture of the Pear, the Peach, the Plum and the Strawberry, with much other useful and interesting information.

AYRSHIRE STOCK. Sanford Howard, Esq., Editor of the Boston Cultivator, has purchased in Scotland, and shipped to this country, six bulls, four cows and fourteen heifers, of the purest Ayrshire breed.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND. The annual exhibition for 1858, which closed at Chester, on Friday, the 25th ult., is said to have been "unprecedented as to the number of exhibitors, the value of the stock and the implements entered, and the number of visitors who entered the show-yard." The *North British Agriculturalist* gives the following summary of the animal Departments:—

"As to the exhibition of stock, the Short Horns, Herefords and Devons have never been excelled as to quality. The sheep were on the whole respectable, but in some of the classes there was an absence of superior animals. The Cotswold sheep was perhaps the best represented of any class as to quality. The horses were very unequal. Several excellent animals were shown; still the collection did not give a favorable impression of the English agricultural and dray breeds; nor did the thorough-bred horse appear to advantage. The pigs as a class could not be surpassed—this applies alike to large and small breeds. The show of poultry was very good as to quality. A greater number would have increased the interest of this department."

The Implement Department was well filled, and it is said that never before have the trials in the field been so thoroughly conducted, nor "the prizes so fairly won." The Steam Plough trial was a feature of the Society's operations, and there were no less than one hundred and five steam-engines for farm-work on exhibition at the Show, leading the *Mark Lane Express* to suggest that the engine be taken as the emblem of Agriculture, and "Get up the steam" be substituted for the old motto "Speed the plough." The premium of £500 or \$2,500 for the best Steam Plough, was awarded to Mr. Fowler's machine, the judges saying:—"From the result of the trials intrusted to our decision, and conducted throughout under our immediate supervision, it is beyond question that Mr. Fowler's machine is able to turn over the soil in an efficient manner, at a saving, as compared with horse labor, of, on light land 20 to 25 per cent.; on heavy land, 25 to 30 per cent.; and in trenching, 80 to 85 per cent.; while the soil in all cases is left in a far more desirable condition, and better adapted for all the purposes of husbandry."

Sanford Howard, Esq., of the *Boston Cultivator*, witnessed this trial, and describes Fowler's Plough as worked with a stationary engine, with anchors and pulleys. It carried six ploughs, three of which worked at a time, a man walking along by the side of the ploughs to keep them at their work properly. The ground was level, the soil a sandy loam, pretty well swarded, and free from stones, but the work was inferior to what a good farmer would require. Mr. Sanford says, at the close of his letter:—

"But on the whole, though the trials at this exhibition demonstrated the practicability of using steam in cultivating the earth, they afforded nothing satisfactory in regard to the expediency of using it. In the first place, there is but little land, except in our prairie region, where so few obstructions to steam cultivation or to the progress of the plough exist. The ploughing done here, even the best of it, would be barely passable under any circumstances, and yet it was nothing, comparatively, to plough such ground. Almost anything in the shape of a plough, dragged by a team and guided by a man, could have done as well. But suppose the ground had been all rough, stony, or of a clayey nature, and compacted by the heat and drouth of an American summer—could the steam ploughs have done any good at all? From all that I saw, the answer would be, *no!* Besides, their appearance to be a great expenditure of power, and the usual force required (or used) was proportionately large. One of Howard's Norfolk Ploughs was at work with horses near where the steam machines were tried, and the contrast in work in favor of the "old way" was the subject of universal comment among the farmers. Still, it should not be said that steam ploughing will never be adopted; it is not improbable that it will be, but "the time is not yet." It is, perhaps, the duty of associations to afford full encouragement in regard to the experiments required to effect such modifications as practice only can suggest, and by the aid of which, steam cultivation may be successfully introduced."

The *North British Agriculturalist* is of the same opinion as Mr. Howard, and says in a leading editorial article on the award of the judges on Steam Ploughs:—"While pleased to learn that Mr. Fowler receives some pecuniary recompense for the expense and trouble to which he has subjected himself, we are of the opinion that the apparatus is not in that state in which it can be recommended for purchase, and consequently the unqualified award of the Society may mislead it if it is regarded as otherwise than a tribute to the ingenuity, energy and perseverance displayed by Mr. Fowler."

THE NATIONAL EXHIBITION. There is every reason to believe that the Exhibition at Richmond will equal, if not surpass the preceding National Exhibitions, especially in the Horse, the General Utility and the Implement Departments. The premium list is in reality the most liberal ever offered at a National Exhibition, as the entry fees will be greatly reduced, and entirely dispensed with in the Horticultural, Domestic, Product, General Utility and Art Departments. Many articles exhibited in these Departments will necessarily be consumed, and the Grains and Seeds are to be retained for distribution to foreign Agricultural Societies. The revised edition of the premium list, with the names of the judges, the regulations, &c., will be ready on the first of October.

OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL EXHIBITION.

Chief Marshal and General Superintendent. Col. Charles Dimmock.

Committee of Invitation. Henry A. Wise, William H. Macfarland, John Rutherford, R. Barton Haxall, Abram Warwick, Joseph R. Anderson, H. L. Kent, Thomas R. Price, Tench Tilghman, President of U. S. A. S., and James Lyons, Prest. Virginia C. A. S.

Secretary. Ben: Perley Poore, whose address will be "Office of the U. S. Agricultural Society, Washington," until October 1st, after which time, "Richmond, Va."

OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, FOR 1858.

President. GEN. TENCH TILGHMAN, of Oxford, Maryland.

Vice Presidents. J. D. Lang, of Maine; H. F. French, of New Hampshire; Frederic Holbrook, of Vermont; John Brooks, of Massachusetts; B. B. Thurston, of Rhode Island; S. H. Huntington, of Connecticut; B. P. Johnston, of New York; W. P. Robeson, of New Jersey; David Landreth, of Pennsylvania; John Jones, of Delaware; Odin Bowie, of Maryland; Philip St. George Cocks, of Virginia; H. K. Bargwyn, of North Carolina; C. W. Alston, of South Carolina; Richard Peters, of Georgia; C. C. Clay, jr., of Alabama; M. W. Phillips, of Mississippi; J. D. B. DeBow, of Louisiana; Lucien Battles, of Ohio; W. L. Underwood, of Kentucky; T. Fanning, of Tennessee; D. P. Holloway, of Indiana; B. F. Edgerton, of Wisconsin; H. C. Johns, of Illinois; J. R. Barrett, of Missouri; Michael Shoemaker, of Michigan; D. L. Yulee, of Florida; Guy Bryant, of Texas; LeGrand Byington, of Iowa; A. P. Bradford, of California; W. W. Corcoran, of the District of Columbia; Manuel H. Ottero, of New Mexico; H. M. Rice, of Minnesota; J. H. Lane, of Oregon; D. Anderson, of Washington Territory; John M. Bernhisel, of Utah; B. B. Chapman, of Nebraska; F. M. Arney, of Kansas.

Executive Committee. Henry Wager, of New York; J. McGowan, of Pennsylvania; Josiah Ware, of Virginia; Frederic Smyth, of New Hampshire; Henry Wilson, of Ohio; John Merryman, of Maryland; James W. Brown, of Illinois.

Treasurer. B. B. French, of the District of Columbia. } Offices at Washington, D. C.
Secretary. Ben: Perley Poore, of Massachusetts. }

OFFICERS OF THE VIRGINIA CENTRAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY FOR 1858.

President. JAMES LYONS, of Richmond, Virginia.

Vice Presidents. William C. Rives, of Albemarle; William B. Preston, of Montgomery; William H. Macfarland, of Richmond; Philip St George Cocks, of Powhattan, Joseph Mayo, of Richmond; James A. Sedden, of Goochland; G. W. Mumford, of Richmond; Collin Clark, of Gloucester; John Rutherford, of Richmond; Abm. Warwick, of Richmond; Allen T. Caperton, of Monroe; Wm. P. Taylor, of Caroline; Wm. Wist, of Westmoreland; Wm. P. Harrison, of Prince George; James Scott, of Huranua; R. A. Claybrook, of Richmond; H. R. Neal, of Accomae; Oden G. Clay, of Campbell; George T. Yerby, of Northampton.

Executive Committee. James Lyons, of Richmond; H. C. Cabell, of Richmond; J. L. Davis, of Henrico; George M. Savage, of Henrico; Wm. B. Stanard, of Goochland; Wm. C. Wickham, of Hanover; Hill Carter, of Charles City; Jacob A. Baylor, of Augusta; John A. Selden, of Westover; H. B. Tomlin, of King William; R. Baylor, of Essex; Wm. Allen, of Surry; C. Bruce, of Halifax; Robert Archer, of Richmond; J. W. Ware, of Clark; N. B. Hill, of Richmond.

Corresponding and Recording Secretary and Treasurer. Charles Dimmock, of Richmond.

AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY. The Seventh Session of this National Institution will commence at Mozart Hall, 693 Broadway, in the City of New York, on Tuesday, the 14th day of September next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., and will be continued for several successive days. Among the objects of this meeting are the following:—To bring together the most distinguished Pomologists of our land, and, by a free interchange of experience, to collect and diffuse such researches and discoveries as have been recently made in the science of Pomology; to hear reports of the various State Committees and other district associations; to revise and enlarge the Society's catalogue of Fruits; to assist in determining the synonyms by which the same fruit is known in America or Europe; to ascertain the relative value of varieties in different parts of our country; what are suitable for particular localities; what new sorts give promise of being worthy of dissemination; what are adapted to general cultivation; and especially, to concert measures for the further advancement of the art and science of Pomology.

SALT. The Syracuse (N. Y.) Courier says the product of the Onondago salt springs will this year amount to at least seven millions of bushels, being an excess of nearly a million over any previous year. The highest product heretofore was in 1855, when there were 6,082,885 bushels manufactured. The product this year will fill 1,400,000 barrels, which at \$1.25, will foot up to \$1,750,000.