UMASS/AMHERST
3120660058063 54

HOUSATONIC AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
TRANSACTIONS
1868-70

S
74
B4H6

DATE DUE			

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
LIBRARY

S
74
B4H6
1868-70

1868

TRANSACTIONS

—OF THE—

Housatonic Agricultural Society,

FOR THE YEAR 1868,

—INCLUDING THE—

Address of Hon. GEORGE B. LORING, of Salem,

AT THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CATTLE SHOW AND FAIR,

—HELD AT—

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.,

September 30th, and Oct. 1st and 2d, 1868.

—ALSO, THE—

LIST OF PREMIUMS,

Committees and Officers of the Society,

FOR 1869.

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.:
MARCUS H. ROGERS, STEAM JOB PRINTER,
1869.

STATE LIBRARY OF MASSACHUSETTS APR 5 1971 CANCEL By

Housatonic Agricultural Society.

OFFICERS FOR 1868.

PRESIDENT,

MARSHALL S. BIDWELL of Monterey.

VICE-PRESIDENTS,

PARLEY A. RUSSELL of Great Barrington,
RALPH LITTLE of Sheffield.

TREASURER,

JUSTIN DEWEY, Jr. of Great Barrington.

SECRETARY,

HENRY T. ROBBINS of Great Barrington.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

NARSHALL S. BIDWELL of Monterey,
PARLEY A. RUSSELL of Great Barrington,
RALPH LITTLE of Sheffield,
JUSTIN DEWEY, Jr. of Great Barrington,
H. T. ROBBINS of Great Barrington,
ALEXANDER HYDE of Lee,
SHELDON W. WRIGHT of New Marlboro',
JOSEPH A. BENJAMIN of Egremont,
THOMAS M. JUDD of Sandisfield,
JOHN B. HULL of Stockbridge.

COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS,

ISAAC SEELEY of Great Barrington,
JOHN L. DODGE of Great Barrington,
HERBERT C. JOYNER of Great Barrington.

SUPERINTENDENT OF FAIR GROUNDS,

EDWARD A. HULBERT of Great Barrington.

DELEGATE TO THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE,

T. D. THATCHER of Lee.

.06
H81
1868-1876

ADDRESS.

THE FUTURE PROSPECTS OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE.

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Society :—

It gives me pleasure to separate myself for a time from the exciting topics of the great campaign in which we are engaged, and to dwell upon the peaceful and fascinating subject to which your association is devoted. I propose to speak to-day upon "The future prospects of American Agriculture"—a subject full of suggestions, full of interest, full of importance, full of speculations, running back over the past history of agriculture in this Country, and looking forward to the great work which lies before our people, as tillers of the soil in all its varieties from the lakes to the Gulf, and from sea to sea.

In taking a survey of the agriculture of the world, it will be found, that no large section of the earth's surface has ever been subjected to such enterprise as is applied to that territory which constitutes the United States of America. I do not mean to say that equally good and even better agriculture has not been found elsewhere. The farming of China, of Lombardy, of Holland, of England, would refute such a statement at once. Considering the latitudes which it covers, it is possible that the agricultural products of Russia may exceed our own. The wealth which France has drawn from her soil, is marvellous. And Japan and Hindostan have astonished the world, with the diligence and activity and skill with

which the soil of those countries has been cultivated, and has been forced to pour forth all its resources by the application of fertilizers of every description. But it is an extraordinary fact that the agriculture of all these countries is conducted by classes of people who are forced into a subservient order in society. The land itself, in many of them, is held in large estates, and is tenanted by a class whose chief business it is to direct those operations on the land, which are to yield them an ample return for the capital invested. It is so in Russia, where labor is wholly subservient to capital, and where the division of the empire into small estates is impossible. It is so in England, where the laborer is merely a tenant, and makes his arrangements under the eye of a landlord. It is so in France, even, where, notwithstanding the division of the territory into small estates, the whole business of farming is conducted by *sabots*, that rural population of France, who even within a half-league of all the wealth and refinement of Paris, retain all their ignorant rusticity, and cover the kingdom with the inanimate atmosphere of the most primitive and least ambitious modes of agriculture. It is the kings and princes, the families of distinction, who draw their income from the land, and who vie with each other in the agricultural exhibitions. The small farmers follow their lead. Whenever great agricultural improvements are made, it is under their patronage. It has been said of the cultivation of the turnip in England, "On the value and importance of the turnip crop to England, it is unnecessary to expatiate. Not only does it enable the farmer to supply the consumer with fresh meat during the winter, instead of the salted food upon which our ancestors had almost exclusively to depend, but also partially supplies the place of a fallow ; it imparts to the land a degree of fertillty which, under proper management, secures a succession of crops for the following years of the rotation. It is indeed the sheet-anchor of light soil cultivation, and the basis of the alternate system of English husbandry, to which every class of the community is so much indebted." And yet so slow was the English farmer to adopt this root as an article of field culture, that the zeal with which Lord Townshend urged its cultivation and set forth its importance, won for him the name of Turnip Townshend in derision ; and nothing but his position and wealth enabled him to carry his point. It was the Duke of Bedford who first introduced ploughing with two horses abreast into the region about Woburn. The introduction of the fine breeds of cattle and sheep which Mr. Bakewell, Culley, and Charles Colling brought to perfection has been encouraged and fostered most carefully by those who hold in their hands the wealth and titles of England, the Duke of Bedford, Lord Somer-

ville, and others. The valuable system of drainage laid down by Smith of Deanston, found its earliest and most enthusiastic advocates in the Duke of Portland and the Marquis of Tweeddale. And the work performed by these men has not been easy. The agricultural community has, in the end, followed their lead ; but they have been obliged to overcome all those prejudices which always prevail where a portion of the people are deprived of the benefits of education. "In the dark ages of superstition, a man who by any improved method contrived to grow larger crops than his fellow, was supposed to use supernatural means ; and if he escaped persecution as a wizard, was at least shrewdly suspected of dealings with a power whom his more pious neighbors carefully avoided. On the introduction of hops into England, the city of London petitioned against their use, lest they should injure the beer ; and with equal wisdom the Kentish farmers, whose lands are overrun with coppice, and who are now so largely benefitted by their cultivation, objected to their growth because it would occasion a spoil of wood for poles." New implements have been opposed there upon much the same principle as the objection made a century ago in Scotland, and so humorously described by Walter Scott, to the use of the winnowing machine, which was considered an implement for thwarting the will of Divine Providence, by raising wind on its own account, and which was publicly denounced in the pulpit as impious ; and at this hour in one county in England, the farmers assign as a reason for making the hinder wheels of their wagons preposterously larger than the fore-wheels, that it places the body on a level in going up hill. While therefore large intelligence and capital are employed in improving the agriculture of England, the great mass of the agricultural population, owing to the ignorance which attends their social position, are slow to accept the advantages which intelligence siezes with avidity.

To a certain degree the same is true on the Continent of Europe. Agriculture improves there very slowly. The ploughs of Lombardy do not differ much from the ploughs used there in the days of Virgil. The land is managed, the seed placed in the earth, and the crops are gathered now much as they were centuries ago in France. Where intelligence is low, and labor cheap, and the husbandman expects but a small reward, and individual ambition is chilled by the surrounding indifference, the importance of improvements of any kind is scarcely felt. And the real ingenuity of agriculture is but little exercised.

Now over this condition of labor and society, we as farmers enjoy an immense advantage. Whatever improvements are made, redound to the

benefit of the whole, and grow out of the stern and insatiable demand of the whole, for every means by which they can be aided in their work. On this account we have already outstripped the best countries of Europe in some of our agricultural operations, and in the most important inventions.

For instance, American reaping and mowing machines have been brought to a high state of perfection within the last ten years. They have already a world-wide reputation. Their superiority is generally acknowledged, and the credit of having for the first time made the principles applicable to such machinery practically useful, undoubtedly belongs to our own ingenious mechanics. Some years ago the American machines were brought to trial at the exhibition at Paris, in competition with the world. This trial took place in a field of oats about forty miles from the city, each machine having about an acre to cut. Three machines were ordered for the first trial, one American, one English, and a third from Algeria, all at the same time raking as well as cutting. The American machine did its work in twenty-two minutes, the English in sixty-six, and the Algerian in seventy-two. At a subsequent trial on the same piece, when three other machines were entered, of American, English and French manufacture, the American machine cut its acre in twenty-two minutes, while the two others failed. The successful competitor on this occasion, "did its work in the most exquisite manner," says a French journal, "not leaving a single stalk ungathered, and it discharged the grain in the most perfect shape, as if placed by hand for the binders. It finished its piece most gloriously."

The contest was finally narrowed down to three machines, all American. Two machines were afterward converted from reapers into mowers, one making the change in one minute, the other in twenty. Both performed their task to the astonishment and satisfaction of a large concourse of spectators, and the judges themselves could not restrain their enthusiasm, but cried out, "Good, good, well done," while the people hurrahed for the American reaper, crying out, "That's the machine, That's the machine!" "All the laurels," says the report of a French agricultural journal, "we are free to confess, have been gloriously won by Americans, and this achievement cannot be looked upon with indifference, as it *plainly foreshadows the ultimate destiny of the new world!*" If French statesmen had discovered what that destiny is, as acutely as did French farmers, their government might have escaped the temptations of attempting to gain a foothold on this continent during the trials of civil war, and might have stood to-day side by side with our people in their struggle for free institutions, as their fathers did in the days of the Revolution.

I can give you another illustration of the superiority of that intellectual equality which is found in America, applied to agriculture. The introduction of Merino sheep took place in France and America about the same time. In France the famous Rambouillet flock was reared with all the care possible and regardless of expense. It offered to the farmers of the empire the strongest inducements to improve their flocks, and the offer was rejected. In America the first importations sunk into neglect and disrepute. They languished in the hands of those whose wealth was greater than their agricultural skill, and not until the strife for their improvement commenced among farmers themselves here, were they brought to perfection. And so rapidly was the work done, that when the French Merino and the American Merino were brought into competition at the world's Fair, last year, the latter took the lead in every valuable point,—shape of carcass, weight of fleece, and general constitution. While the wealth of France has labored in vain to bring about any really valuable improvement, and the farmers of France had looked idly on, the intelligent yeomanry of Vermont had taken the matter up, and with a skill and foresight seldom equalled, had created the best fine wooled sheep in the world. No more striking sight was ever witnessed than the triumph of George Campbell, an unobtrusive Vermont farmer, modestly presenting the sheep of his own State, and representing the sense and perception of the New England mind,—over the pretentious and unsuccessful exhibitors of animals reared without accurate knowledge of their wants, and shown in the ornamented pens of the Emperor of France.

In considering the future prospects of American agriculture we cannot overlook the fact that wherever the American farmer goes, he carries with him the right of freehold, the responsibilities of a citizen, and the sole direction of his own fortunes. In this respect he is distinguished from all other people. And on account of this, his labor as a farmer differs, and his opportunity differs, from the labor and opportunity of others. This may seem to be a mere idle speculation—but if you will imagine the difference between a hundred thousand square miles of Russian territory, inhabited and cultivated by serfs, and a hundred thousand square miles of American territory inhabited and cultivated by American freemen, you can understand precisely what I mean. On the one hand ignorance, hovels, rude implements of husbandry, tribute to a master, want of ambition, an ill-cultivated skill, and ordinary crops—on the other intelligence, neat cottages, school-houses and meeting-houses, greater and less degrees of thought, a desire to be a good citizen, an opportunity for good farming, good crops, and a share in all the

effort and progress of the day commensurate with each person's ability and desire. On the one hand the scythe and mattock—and on the other the mowing-machine, the horse-hoe, and the reaper and cleaner. On the one hand brute force, and on the other the most ingenious machinery.

It is not difficult to understand therefore that the agriculture which the American citizen carries with him, must differ essentially from that which is developed by an order of society less free and less intelligent. Not that his productions will be greater, but that his system will be greater, and his farming conducted with more regard to a strict economy of forces, and less waste of labor.

It is difficult moreover, for an American farmer to locate himself anywhere, without carrying with him the peculiar American thirst for knowledge, and the feeling which we all have that new light is in store for us, whatever may be the subject of our investigation. This feeling may amount to a conviction, or it may simply rise to the force of an impulse or a dream. But its existence shows that the American mind may find room for a careful study of all practical details, and at the same time reach forward toward the most profound education. We really aim at intelligent farming —farming in which the natural faculties are guided by a careful education —farming which is something more than mere routine—farming which is based upon an understanding of the laws of nature, and which, when the exact amount of any crop is balanced, and the profit or loss accurately estimated, does not leave the cultivator there, but opens new questions for his investigation, and rouses his mind to the contemplation of all the wonderful processes of nature which are going on around him. If an agricultural college can be of service to any people, it can be to those only, who are ambitious to carry the highest intelligence into their business, not solely because it is most profitable, but because its exercise is attended with higher virtues, and with more social and civil and domestic peace and happiness.

I agree with a late Governor of this Commonwealth, when he says :— "My own idea of a college likely to be useful in the largest way to the people, most vigorous in its growth, promotion of the progress of thrifty and intelligent farming, production of scientific and exact knowledge, (which is the true basis of prosperity,) worthy of Massachusetts, and able to command the respect, while it challenges the pride of her agricultural community,—is one perhaps not yet to be realized. * * I should deeply regret to see an institution which bears the name of Massachusetts, and will be held to be representation of the Commonwealth, especially of the highest aspirations of her yeomanry, allowed, for want of generous support, to de-

generate into a mere industrial school. There are a hundred farmers who can better teach technical farming, the manipulations of the industry and economy of the field, orchard, dairy, or stable, than they can ever be taught elsewhere than on the homestead of the intelligent practical farmer. So too, for the repetition of familiar knowledge, for the study of ordinary text-books, the cultivation of science in the way of imitation and of elementary teaching, we might safely rely on the academies and schools already provided. There is, however, a vision of an ideal excellence, in the way of prosecuting the studies needed for the illumination of the dark places of our agricultural life, which must some day be realized. Nature spreads out before mankind, a world of almost infinite possibilities. The competitions of the machanic arts, have put in requisition all the aids of known science, are constantly stimulating into life new discoveries, or crowding the adventurous thinker or inventor, to invade some new domain of knowledge or ingenuity ; while civilized agriculture has, during the greater part of its history, contented itself only with the devastation of its fields, and with seking for virgin soils, to be cropped in their turn to sterility. There is in our Commonwealth, a very large and increasing body of intelligent farmers, who believe in a future for their favorite pursuit, worthy of that art which is the fountain of all others, and is the final source of wealth. But there is needed as well for them as for those less impressed by the value of science the inspiring lead of constantly advancing ideas. * * * I remember the photograph, the magnetic telegraph, the discovery of vaccination, the painless operations of surgery—the triumphs and miracles of genius. I seem to see for the earth herself and her cultivators, the coming time, when husbandry, attended by all the ministries of science and art, shall illume, and regenerate her countenance and recreate our life below."

You will pardon me if I occupy a few moments in considering this matter of agricultural education, as one of the modern means of improving our art. I desire expecially to urge attention to the practical education of all classes of young men in the business of farming, as the main object of our agricultural schools. Without this all our endowments will be in vain, and will be lost sight of as an instrument for improving the cultivation of the earth. And I am by no manner of means sure that the failure of forty years' effort to established schools of agriculture in this country, is not attributed to the fact that the importance of practical education has been lost sight of, before the more powerful temptations of scientific exploration, and of captivating theories. Practical schools have been useful—none others have. And so strongly am I impressed by this fact, that I venture to

quote the following extract from a report of a committee of the New York Legislature as early as 1822, upon this matter. In alluding to the advantages which are likely to grow out of the establishment of an agricultural school, they refer to the benefit which agriculture itself is to derive, and say :—

"This school will collect the best systems, and most recent improvements in husbandry, from Europe and America,—adapt them to our climate, our soils, our productions, our wants ;—demonstrate their utility in practice, and disseminate a knowledge of them in every part of the state. The Hofroyl farm (at that time the celebrated school of M. de Fellenberg, in Switzerland) will serve to illustrate the extent of these advantages. Mr. Brougham visited this in 1816, and enquired minutely into its details. Two years afterwards, he spoke in high commendation of it in a report which he made to the British parliament on the subject of education. The whole establishment," he says, "comprises but 214 acres ; and the average annual profit of the pattern farm alone, for a period of four years, he found to be 836 pounds sterling, or about $4000, exclusive of the cattle concern which was kept separate. We have numerous statements demonstrating the superiority of the new over the old system of husbandry ; two or three of which shall be noticed in the abstract. The first comparison is made on a mixed, or grazing, breeding, and tillage farm of 314 acres in York. Under the old system the net profits amounted to £318.10s, and under the new system the same yielded a net profit of £595, making a difference of £278 ; or 100 per cent in favor of the new system of husbandry. The second one is that of a tillage farm of 139 acres in Lincolnshire. Under the old system, the profits were £130—under the new £452—difference in favor of the latter £322, or 250 per cent. A third statement exhibits the profits of an acre of land, being a medium of several hundred acres in Yorkshire, for six years. Under the old system the profit was £1.9s 3d. Under the new £17.6s 9d, an increased gain of more than 1100 per cent in favor of the latter. The medium profit of an acre in tillage, in England, is stated at from $27 to $35 per annum.

We need not resort to Europe for evidence of the disparity which exists between the old and the new systems of husbandry. Ever day's observation affords proofs in our own practice. Why does the county of Dutchess outstrip her neighbors in fertility and wealth ? Not because nature has been more bountiful to her soil ; but because her farmers are better instructed. Why, in passing through our country in every direction, do we see one farm twice or thrice as productive as another, with equal natural advan-

tages? This contrast cannot wholly be owing to indiligence or to indolence, in the unsuccessful cultivator. It proceeds rather from a want of method —of knowledge. Knowledge is science—and science is only precepts and principles grounded on demonstration.

It has been said that agriculture is a *trade*, an *art*, or a *science*. That as a trade it requires only the exercise of bodily powers. That as an art, it employs the understanding and the judgment; and that as a science, it comprehends a knowledge of natural history, of chemistry, &c., so far as these are subservient to the improvement of husbandry. We have many who follow the trade, less who practice the art, and but few who understand much of the science.

For the inculcation of all these an agricultural college requires a patern farm, an experimental farm, and a system of education especially adapted to the business of agriculture. And I trust they who would convert our schools of agriculture into belles letters colleges will bear this in mind, when they commence that service to which they have devoted themselves, and which farmers demand of them.

Now, my friends, not serfdom, not bondage in any form, not tenantry, not the subjects of arbitary power can thus develop the art of arts and elevate society and beautify the earth, but the citizenship of an independent republic, in which the way is open through virtue and knowledge, for every man to reach the highest distinction, and where prosperity shall attend upon industry and cultivation. This form of citizenship we possess,—may we not now say as the special prerogative of our republic? That the form of intelligent labor of which I have spoken, with the social elevation which goes with it, is to overspread this continent, wherever the Federal authority extends, I cannot doubt. Thus far a large portion of our territory has been subjected to an exceedingly exhausting mode of tillage. Large tracts of our most fertile lands have become almost useless under that cultivation which is intended to draw the largest annual return from the soil, without restoring its fertility. In spite of this, however, our agricultural productions have been very large; and the increase has been very rapid.

The summary of the agriculture of the United States in 1840, shows that we produced at that time—84,823,272 bushels of wheat; 123,071,341 bushels of oats; 377,531,875 bushels of corn; 35,802,114 pounds of wool; and that the total value of the principal crops of that year was $336,000,000—considered at that time an enormous sum. In 1862, however, only twenty-two years later—the yield of twenty-one loyal states alone, far exceeded this estimate. The wool clip had increased to nearly 80,000,000—

and the value of the crops of that year are estimated to be worth $736,586,326—all this exclusive of the vast amounts of cotton, rice, sugar and tobacco which were raised in the Southern states, and which entered into the calculation of 1840. And if we examine the cotton crop of the same periods we shall find that it had increased from 790,479,275 in 1849, to 2,000,000,000 or thereabouts in 1860, just previous to the breaking out of the war. Guided by these figures, what have we a right to estimate for twenty years to come? In the twenty-one States upon whose crops the computation of the crops of 1862 has been made, we may estimate the grain crops of 1880 to be worth $1,500,000,000, exclusive of the hay crop and the root, fruit, and garden crops constantly increasing. Of the cotton crop we will make no calulation—but we may say that if the loose and careless husbandry of slave labor produced 2,000,000,000 in 1860, it will be hard to compute the amount which free labor may produce on those same lands twenty years hence.

In addition to this actual increase in the products of our soil as shown by figures, we must take into consideration the immense changes which have taken place in our country within the last twenty years. I have already spoken of the improvements which have been made in our machinery, all within that period. But, more than all, the means of transportation have been vastly improved. Twenty-two years ago, the great channels of trade in agricultural products were coastwise, or along our navigable streams. Of the vessels that were then daily taking their cargoes in the harbors of Charleston, New Orleans, Mobile and Savannah, it is safe to say that the principal portion of these freights was derived from the cotton, sugar, rice and tobacco, as well as other agricultural staples of the surrounding territory. The same was the case with the commerce of the Mississippi ; and we find the numerous steamships and flatboats which plied upon that river in those days, were laden with the agricultural products of the States that border its banks, or that are sent down through the interior by the Ohio. The commerce of the lakes was maintained, moreover, in a great measure by the transportation of the agricultural produce of the great States of Ohio, Illinois and Michigan, lying on their borders, to the eastern markets. From the interior the transportation to these great channels of water communication was slow, tedious and expensive. The grain crops of central Illinois and many parts of Ohio and Michigan were of necessity converted into beef and pork, and driven as it were to market, in order to avoid the cost of transportation by carriage, which almost destroyed their original value.

Now how changed! Every State, every county, every town, al most every farm has its railroad communication. We have, as has been said, "rendered the railway a domestic institution, so that the steam car visits nearly every hamlet and every considerable town. The music of its whistle no longer frightens the farmer's horse, nor does the proximity of the thundering locomotive, raging and sighing under its weighty burden, and with the pressure of its fiery spirit, disturb the equanimity of the axious matron, careful for the safety of her child." Every hill pasture, the crops of every valley are brought within a few hours of market. The cattle which to-day grazed upon the rich pastures of the West, before the set of to-morrow's sun are far on their way to feed the teeming population of New York and the eastern cities. The transit of a thousand miles to-day is attended with less labor and annoyance, than the farmer of half a century ago underwent in carrying his grain to market over fifty miles of rough and muddy road.

While these great changes have been going on in the improvement of agriculture, the development of its resources, and the establishment of all means for internal trade, the relations of the agriculture of the different sections of our country, one to another, have also changed. In 1840, more than two-thirds of the crop of Indian corn was raised in the slave-holding States; and but a very small portion of it was exported The cotton-growing States at that time depended very much upon their own resources for feeding their people, supplying themselves with manufactured goods and luxuries from the North and from foreign countries. In the lapse of twenty years all this had changed. When the war broke out the cotton-growing States supplied themselves with meats, and breadstuffs, hay, apples, potatoes, horses and mules from the West. From the eastern States they purchased most of their manufactured goods, their bales, rope and bagging, their engines, sugar mills, and cotton-gins, much of their material for house-building, and mechanics to erect them, their paper, their books, their teachers, their shipping, their capital. In return the west and east consumed their cotton, sugar, and rice. An immense domestic trade had sprung up, of such a character as to furnish a market for the special products of each section, whether drawn from the soil or created by the ingenuity of the people. Since the breaking out of the war, this relation has changed, but not to such an extent that the return of peace will not re-establish the old order of things. I anticipate an increase of agricultural enterprise now that the Federal government has secured its legitimate control on this continent, such as has seldom been witnessed—even

greater than that which grew out of the war itself. There is no reason why our vast agricultural productions should not again enter into the commerce of the world, whenever the necessity for the present large supply at home shall cease, and labor shall return to its accustomed channels. The application of energetic labor to the cotton plantations of the South, and the restoration of that great staple to the list of our productions, for home consumption and export, will constitute a branch of industry which will open immense wealth to our people. The West will once more feel the effect of that opening market upon her grain crops. The stimulus given to eastern manufactures will furnish the New England farmer with local markets for all the products of his field, and orchard and garden, and dairy. And when that time shall arrive, my friends, you will find that the highest Northern civilization will have penetrated this whole land, that the light of New England schools will have been shed into its darkest places, that through the trials of war conflicting social institutions will have been harmonized, that the labor of this country will have been brought to the standard of free institutions, that the way will have been opened for the individual exercise of the best and highest human faculties, and that that American agriculture which has heretofore flourished in spite of sectional rivalries and jealousies, will receive new strength from the energies of one people united in the common object of enriching and cultivating and civilizing this whole land, as a home for themselves and their children, and a refuge for the oppressed of all nations.

We of New England have a right to contemplate this opening prospect of American agriculture with peculiar gratification. We live in a section of the country where the most careful cultivation is especially necessary and important. The wholesale farming of the West and South does not apply to our hard climate and narrow valleys. There is no section in which the highest skill is so necessary ; and none in which the farmer is so much stimulated to exercise all his best faculties. We have already done much, and we may do still more. And when we look around us and see that the minds of our people are directed once more to the land, we may anticipate a new era in which intelligence and capital will be devoted to the work of restoring the rural homes of our ancestors. In travelling through the New England States, I am always struck with the increasing air of thrift manifested in the farm houses and fields of our people ; and I am always gratified by the drafts which the merchant and manufacturer are ready to make upon their incomes for the improvement of their farms. In what points then may we progress ?

In horticulture and pomology we have laid the foundations well, for great advancements. When we have learned what lands we can profitably devote to the growing of fruit, we shall find that the quality of that crop grown in New England, cannot be surpassed in the United States, and I heard with pride not long since a statement from one of our most intelligent pomologists that, in a recent journey in Europe he found no pear-orchards equal to our own. While we avoid the wholesale fruit-growing of our ancestors, let us advance to a horticultural and profitable culture of the choicest fruits.

In the cultivation of field crops I have no doubt we shall make great progress. It seems hardly necessary that I should suggest to you any possibility of improvement in this respect. But we should remember that the carrot and onion and turnip and cabbage crops of but a few towns have become famous in the record of agriculture, and that the care and skill displayed in producing them are confined to a very small section of our little, busy, enterprising Commonwealth. The cultivation of the turnip is yet in its infancy among us—the easiest crop which the farmer can raise—the most useful, considering the amount of nourishment it affords to the acre. I have no doubt that the business of feeding cattle and sheep could be doubled in profit by devotion to this crop—and that the great mortality which often prevails among the latter would be entirely avoided. In the cultivation of corn and the small grains also, there will undoubtedly be great improvement, and there should be. While Illinois raises 138,000,000 bushels of corn, and Indiana 92,000,000, and Iowa 49,000,000, and Michigan 15,000,000, and Maryland 14,000,000, and New Jersey 10,000,000, Massachusetts, with markets at every farmer's door, raises but 2,400,000 bushels. Considering the number of cattle which she feeds, and the amount of corn purchased for food by her people, this amount seems small, and should arrest the attention of the farmer.

In the construction of farm-buildings we are already making great progress. I think the day is gone by, when we must listen to arguments against barn-cellars; and when it will be deemed sufficient that a farmer should simply erect a two-story house for his family, without regard to its location, or to the care with which the grounds about it should be ornamented with trees and shrubs.

With regard to our animals, we are undoubtedly on the road to improvement. The charm which has been woven about the old red stock of New England is gradually being broken. Farmers have learned that a good animal is the cheapest, and have turned their attention to the selection of

cattle adapted to their various localities. We have learned that the most profitable cattle are those which make the largest return for the amount of food consumed. The old system of importing short-horns regardless of the locality on which they are to be fed has gone by. The attempt to introduce a breed of cattle among us which only constitute an expensive luxury for the rich, and an attraction chiefly because they are expensive, has failed among those who turn their attention to profitable agriculture. Since the easy transportation of cattle from the West has been secured, there has been less attention among us to the feeding of beef than formerly. And while a quarter of a century since, a farmer was judged by the size of his cattle, the largest oxen being considered an index of the wisest owner, form and thrift and quality and fitness are now deemed of greater value, even when attended by reduction of size. The average weight of our cows has undoubtedly diminished ; and I have no doubt that the profit derived from them has increased in corresponding ratio.

Every attempt to force an animal on land unfitted for it, every attempt to compel a large heavy-carcassed cow to get a living on pastures adapted only to a smaller one, must end in failure. Our cattle should find abundant nourishment on our hills and in our stalls, and should be selected with reference to this, rather than to that magnitude of proportion which gratifies only the ambition or the taste, regardless of the purse. It is well enough for the inexperienced, those who have no knowledge of agriculture, to linger at our exhibitions by the pens of cattle remarkable for size alone, but for the farmer of New England who depends on the income from his pastures for a part of the summer profit of his farm, this will not do. It is well enough for the exquisite and artistic lovers of beauty to recommend a breed of cattle, for the deer-like beauty of their heads and for that alone; but the farmer who judges of cattle well, knows that delicacy and timidity of expression are not the characteristics most desirable—neither is he willing to excuse a whole carcass of defects and weaknesses for a pretty face. There are abundant indications of a growing disposition to select animals, here in this dairy region, especially adapted to its wants. And I cannot doubt that the time will come when New England will be as famous for its valuable dairy herds, bred with reference to her soil, as is an analogous section of the Island of Great Britain. And when we have secured such a breed and have recommenced our dairy system, I trust our farmers' wives and daughters will find that they are strong enough to return to that old system of domestic dairying which added so much to the nicest cares of the household, brought large profits to the farm, benefitted the health of

our women, and gave us that priceless blessing in these degenerate days, —good sweet butter. A clean, sweet, well-ordered dairy room, is fully as pleasant and useful an appendage to a farm house, as a piano, a sewing machine, or a melodeon.

The remarks which I have made with regard to our cattle are also true with regard to our horses. It is conceded by the best judges that we have a New England horse, the growth of our hill pastures and our sharp clear climate, which is unsurpassed for his vigor, endurance and strength—and whose value is estimated not by his size and weight, but by his docility and power, and by the economy with which he can keep himself in condition for work. It is found that New York and Pennsylvania can furnish the heavy draught horse for drags and teams, and the slow, stylish carriage horse for the adornment of the luxurious equipage. But it is also found that the compact, strong, medium-sized horse of New England has a peculiar fitness for the farmer and for that rapid driving on the road of which we are all so fond. We are looking back over the history of the New England horse, and we find that the introduction of the Justin Morgan, is counted as the great step in the improvement of horses here, and that that little horse gave more profit to the farmer, and more reputation to New England than has ever been derived from thorough-bred, or Cleveland Bay or Percheron, or from the heavy, clumsy animals of Pennsylvania and the West. The best horses at the agricultural exhibition are small or medium sized horses, bred in New England. I think the future prospects of horse-breeding in New England are flattering, it we may judge from the signs of the times.

The sheep-husbandry of New England has reached a degree of excellence, of which we have reason to be proud ; and by which it is destined to become one of the most important and profitable branches of farming. For many years the West has been drawing its most valuable animals from the flocks of Vermont. It has been discovered that the kind of sheep bred there, combines more good qualities, for the general business of producing wool and mutton, than any other sheep known. The profit of Western flocks has been largely increased by the infusion of Merino blood from that state. And we may be sure that the animal now called the "Improved American Merino," the special product of New England, will ultimately enhance the profits of sheep-husbandry in this country, as largely as did the diffusion of Spanish Merino blood develop the same industry in Europe —producing the Saxony, Siberian, French, and other fine-wooled breeds, now so well known there. The American Merino has been brought to

such a degree of development that we undoubtedly stand in the front rank, as a combination of the most desirable points in a sheep. We cannot claim to be foremost in each one—but in all combined, unequalled. The best of them have :—

1st. A square, low solid form, with great depth, and breadth, indicative of strong, constitution and vigor :

2d. Admirable capacity to take on fat at maturity :

3d. A carcase of mutton rivalling the South-down and the Mountain breed of Scotland and Wales in delicacy and flavor.

4th. An even uniform coating of strong wool, of the best quality, covering the whole surface of the body; and so protected from the effects of snow and rain, as to waste but little in the process of combing or carding.

We have a soil and climate peculiarily adapted to producing this sheep in the greatest perfection. And while we may not hope to raise wool as cheaply as it can be done in Texas, or mutton as profitably as it can be done in Ohio, we may still render our sheep-husbandry more remunerative than theirs by devotion to the business of improving the Merino for those markets where the soil and climate are less favorable than our own, to the growth of a compact, hardy animal, with a thick-set, uniform, lively fleece of wool, valuable to the American farmer, and indispensable to the American manufacturer.

I have hastily reviewed some of the points on which American Agriculture may base its prospects for future improvement It must have occurred to you that the subject is almost inexhaustible—and its importance so far as the prosperity of the country is concerned is great. For the three great sections, the East, West and South, there cannot be the same future. For the East, the effort to improve her agriculture must be great. For the South, the Providence of God alone can forsee the results of the tremendous social revolution now going on there. For the West we may perhaps speak with more confidence. There can be no doubt that it is on the whole our most valuable agricultural region. The development of its agricultural resources has hardly yet begun. Mr. Calhoun, glowing with enthusiasm in contemplation of the immense and almost boundless resources of that great section, still remaining to be developed, used the following language:—"Looking beyond to a not very distant future, when this immense valley containing within its limits one million two hundred thousand square miles, lying in its whole extent in the temperate zones, and occupying a position midway between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, unqualled in fertility and the diversity of its productions, intersected in ever

direction by the mighty stream, including its tributaries, by which it is drained, and which supply a continuous navigation of upward of ten thousand miles, with a coast, including both banks, of twice that length, shall be crowded with population, and its resources fully developed, imagination itself is taxed in the attempt to realize the magnitude of its commerce." A commerce he might have added, owing its existence to agriculture alone. It is difficult to conceive of the extend to which the resources of this great section may be developed by the thronging population which will one day gather there. Then will be realized and appreciated the truth of that statement of Webster, than "agriculture feeds; to a great extent it clothes us; without it we should not have manufactures, we should not have commerce. They all stand together, like pillars in a cluster, the largest in the centre, and that largest is agriculture."

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

SUMMER CROPS.

Your committee on summer crops having attended to the duties assigned them, submit the following report:—

The whole number of entries, one hundred and twenty-three, classed as follows: Winter wheat 7; spring wheat 15; rye 39; oats 36; barley 11; gardens 7; grass 4; meslings 2; peas 1; farm 1. The last four crops were viewed but no premiums were offered.

The crops examined, with few exceptions, we found to be remarkable good. The rich rewards which our farmers have received for their labors the past season, we hope will stimulate them to make greater efforts in the future.

WINTER WHEAT.

Your committee regret in not finding more of the article sown, for we believe that good wheat can be grown in Southern Berkshire. We hope in the future that more of this grain will be sown, and that this society will ever encourage the growing of this crop. We award:

For the best acre winter wheat, Ralph Little of Sheffield,	$5 00
2d do., Theodore I. Williams of Stockbridge,	4 00

SPRING WHEAT.

Of this crop your committee examined fifteen fields, all of which were very good. We also saw many others that were not entered for premium. Your committee were highly pleased to find the farmers in Southern and Central Berkshire, paying so much attention to the raising of this crop, which is one of the staple crops of the country.

For the best acre of spring wheat, A. G. Freeman of Monterey,	$7 00
2d do., Seneca T. Race of Egremont,	6 00
3d do., H. D. Palmer of Stockbridge,	5 00
4th do., Walter Richards of Lenox,	4 00
5th do., George C. Peck of Lenox,	3 00

FOUR ACRES RYE.

For the best 4 acres winter rye, M. I. Wheeler of Gt. Barrington,	$8 00
2d do., Ashley Beach of Lee,	7 00
3d do., Miron W. Andrus of Sheffield,	6 00
4th do., George M. Hollenbeck of Great Barrington,	5 00
5th do., Mark Hollenbeck of Great Barrington,	4 00

ONE ACRE RYE.

For the best acre winter rye, Noah Gibson of New Marlborough,	$7 00
2d do., Dominick Garihan of New Marlborough,	6 00
3d do., Merrick G. Hall of Great Barrington,	5 00
4th do., Zacheus Candee of Sheffield,	4 00
5th do., James Holmes, Jr., of Great Barrington,	3 00
6th George Gilbert of Gt. Barrington,	2 00

FOUR ACRES OATS.

For the best four acres of Oats, Joseph A. Kline of Egremont,	$7 00
2d do., David Haley of Great Barrington,	6 00
3d do., Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	5 00
4th do., Elijah N. Hubbard of Great Barrington,	4 00
5th do., Frank K. Hinckley of Lee,	3 00

ONE ACRE OATS.

For the best acre oats, John B. Hull of Stockbridge,	$7 00
2d do., James H. Rowley of Egremont,	6 00
3d do., William H. Palmer of Stockbridge,	5 00
4th do., Elisha Collins of Great Barrington,	4 00
5th do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge,	3 00
6th to Levi Boardman, Jr. of Sheffield,	2 00

BARLEY.

For the best acre of barley, Dyer Wait of Egremont,	$6 00
2d do., Abial H. Pease of Lee,	5 00
3d do., S. L. Lincoln of Adams,	4 00
4th do., Benton C. Stoddard of Alford,	3 00

GARDENS.

For the best vegetable garden, William O. Curtiss of Lenox,	$6 00
2d do., David Leavitt of Great Barrington,	5 00
3d do,, Stephen R. Miller of Sheffield,	4 00
4th do.. Bela N. Burtch of Sheffield,	3 00

If it was in accordance with the rules and regulations of the society, William O. Curtis of Lenox, would be entitled to three premiums, gardens, winter and spring wheat, but as it is he must be satisfied with one.

JOHN N. ROBBINS,
ISAAC M. TAYLOR, } Committee.
B. N. CLARK,

FALL CROPS.

The committee on fall crops desire to give a few suggestions in regard to them.

As to the corn crop in Southern Berkshire this season, it stands fully equal to any previous year, as to its sound qualities, and its full average yield. Of the seventy-six enteries of corn, with a very few exceptions, all were good. We find a portion of the farmers get too many hills to the rod,—they vary from twenty-five to forty-five hills. We found upon careful examination that from thirty to thirty-two hills to the rod was preferable to a larger or smaller number. We are of the opinion that Dutton corn is preferable to most localities, from the fact that the yield is greater and the quality fully equal. Dr. Miller of Sheffield had a fine ripe field of corn of some five or six acres, and as he had but twenty-five hills to the rod, he fell short in weight. The Doctor has promised to give a statement of the manner of selecting the seed, cultivation, &c., which we hope he will present to the society.

The potato crop is a litte improvement on last year, but not a heavy crop; the early freezinghas reduced it somewhat.

Mr. Goodale of Mt. Washington, has raised this present season some fifteen acres of fine potatoes. A portion of them yielded very heavy; for instance, the Early Rose potato, from fourteen pounds of seed produced two thousand six hundred and seventy-six pounds, weighing two hundred and sixteen pounds to the rod. Your committee dug six hills which weighed six pounds to the hill. He informed us that the portion where we dug was planted simply with one sprout to the hill. If the Early Rose proves to be a good table potato, it will stand at the head of the class. We have endeavored to ascertain the better kinds of potatoes for raising,. For early potatoes we would recommend the Rose and Goodrich. For late potatoes we would suggest the Harrison, the Gleason and the Buckley Seedling.

Buckwheat for some cause is not more than half a crop. We found the later sowed was the better filled.

Carrots have been a fair average yield, but Beets, Turnips and Cabbages, are nearly a failure from the fact that worms, blast and the like was a serious injury to them.

The crops of Beans, light, and many of them nearly spoiled by the fall rains. And here we would remark that there is great want of more thorough cultivation of crops. It actually occurred that in viewing some potatoes, beans and other small crops, we had to push the grass and weeds aside in order to satisfy ourselves what crop was growing beneath them. It is very important that there should be thorough cultivation of crops in order that the farmer may realize any profits from his labor. There are exceptions to the above.

Dr. Dunning of Lenox had some six or seven acres of roots and potatoes which were cultivated in a more thorough manner. In the whole field, one could hardly find a handful of weeds, and his crops were fine. Many other farmers are equally thorough and successful, and that we consider the true way of farming.

Hops were very good and though heavier than last year, were not as good as some former years.

Tobacco was a heavy crop, and paid the competitors well for their labor.

Sowed Corn was a very good crop, and a very desirable one for a farmer to raise.

A few suggestions in regard to matters about home. A person passing from town to town, as your committee had occasion to, could not but notice the great difference between the well arranged buildings, fences, and the well kept yards and roadsides, and a general neatness displayed, when compared with other places, with their fences propped up, yards and roadsides grown to weeds and filled with rubbish, showing a lack of energy and taste.

Now we would recommend to those who have not already taken steps in that direction, that they build a neat road fence and be sure to have it on the line, instead of slicing off from five feet to a rod from the highway, which they have no more right to do that to take it from a neighbor's field adjoining. Also, to clear the street and yard of stones, rubbish, and the like, which have been deposited there for convenience, and after mowing the street twice a year for two or three years, will have a beautiful lawn instead of the former ugly and untidy appearance. Another suggestion we would make; that the $150 offered for trotting horses outside the county be used for other purposes and we propose that a portion of it be offered for the best managed farms. Your committee express their thanks for the kindness and hospitality received.

There were 196 entries for examination. Four acres corn, 26 entries; one acre 49 entries; buckwheat 26 entries; potatoes 30 entries; beans 20 entries; beets 6 entries; carrots 10 entries; turnips 7 entries; cabbages 4 entries; cranberries 1.

For the best four acres corn, Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	$10 00
2d do., Jonathan P. Tobey of Great Barrington,	8 00
3d do., Guy Day of Great Barrington,	7 00
4th do., T. S. Baldwin of Egremont,	6 00
5th do., Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	5 00
6th do., James W. Parks of Sheffield,	4 00

As we have some $18 in our hands given for broom corn and cranberries, there being but one entry, we award an extra premium to Joseph Kline of Egremont, for four acres corn, $3 60

For the best one acre corn, George M. Gibson of New Marlboro',	$9 00
2d do, James Bullard of Lee,	8 00
3d do., Frank Curtiss of Sheffield,	7 00
4th do., Zacheus Candee of Sheffield,	6 00
5th do., Samuel Goodrich of Stockbridge,	5 00
6th do., Frederick Abbey of Great Barrington,	4 00
7th do., A. C. Butler of Lenox,	3 00
8th an extra premium to Cyrus Crosby of Stockbridge,	3 00
9th do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	3 00
10th do., E. M. Winchell of Great Barrington,	3 00

BUCKWHEAT.

For the best acre, Leonard Post of Alford,	$5 00
2d do., Henry Peck of Alford,	4 00
3d do., Gilbert Ford of Great Barrington,	3 00
4th do., William Wilcox of Sheffield,	2 00
5th do., Egbert Couch of Great Barrington,	1 00

ONE HALF ACRE POTATOES.

For the best one half acre of Potatoes, Henry S. Goodale of Mount Washington, 7 00

Oats and barley in 1866; five loads sheep manure; grass in 1867; no manure; soil gravelly loam; plowed once, seven inches deep, April 20th; harrowed and furrowed; cost $3; eighteen loads manure applied in winter and early spring, plowed under; worth about $18; sowed April 29, two and one-half bushels Gleason, quartered, dropped one foot apart, in furrows three feet apart, and covered with one-horse plow; cost $3.50; harrowed when just coming up—27th of May—put shovel plow through 17th of June, hoed once; cost $2.50; dug Oct. 5th, Hexamer's prong hoe; cost about five cents per bushel.

2d do., E. M. Langdon of Lee,	6 00
3d do., A. Gaines of Stockbridge,	5 00
4th do., Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	4 00
5th do., M. I. Wheeler of Great Barrington,	3 00
6th do., Wm. O. Curtis of Lenox,	2 00
Extra, Merrick G. Hall of Great Barrington,	2 00
E. Church of Alford,	2 00

ONE QUARTER ACRE WHITE BEANS.

For the best one quarter acre of White Beans, Uriah Brett of Monterey,	3 00
2d do., H. D. Palmer of Stockbridge,	2 00
3d do., Nathaniel Burtis of Hillsdale,	1 00
Extra, D. B. Fenn of Stockbridge,	2 00

ONE QUARTER ACRE SUGAR BEETS.

For the best one quarter acre of Sugar Beets, Warren Crissey of Great Barrington,	5 00
2d do., Charles Dunning of Lenox,	4 00
3d do., Albert M. Howk of Lee,	3 00

ONE QUARTER ACRE CARROTS.

For the best one quarter acre of Carrots, Daniel Warner of Great Barrington, 5 00

Corn in 1866; carrots in 1867; six loads rotton barn yard manure; soil loamy; plowed once eight or nine inches; no other preparation; cost $1.50; seven loads barn yard manure spread before plowing in 1868; value $7; sowed with machine, June 5, Orange County Seed, one-half bushel; cost $1.50; hoed and weeded three times by hand; cost $5; harvested last week in October, by hand; cost $5; three tons carrots on one-fourth acre.

2d do., Nelson Joyner of Egremont,	4 00
3d do., Newton Brewer of Monterey,	3 00
4th do., T. D. Thatcher of Lee,	2 00

ONE QUARTER ACRE SWEEDISH TURNIPS.

For the best quarter acre of Sweedish Turnips, A. W. Merrill of Sandisfield,	4 00
2d do., Milton Adams of New Marlboro',	3 00
3d do., George Cropper of Sheffield,	2 00

ONE QUARTER ACRE CABBAGES.

For the best quarter acre of Cabbages, F. K. Hinckley of Lee,	4 00
2d do., A. Bradley of Lee,	3 00
3d do., F. Brocher of Monterey,	2 00

CRANBERRIES.

There was but one entry of Cranberries and that not the required amount of land, and as John M. Cook's patch of Lenox, did not produce but about half the usual yield, we award him	3 00

ONE ACRE HOPS.

For the best one acre of Hops, George W. Hollenbeck, Egremont,	5 00
2d do., H. D. Hollenbeck of Egremont,	4 00
3d do., Elisha Collins of Great Barrington,	3 00

ONE QUARTER ACRE TOBACCO.

For the best one quarter acre of Tobacco, Hamlin F. Clark of Tyringham,	4 00
2d do., A. H. Pease of Lee,	3 00
3d do., Nehemiah Palmer of New Marlboro',	2 00

ONE QUARTER ACRE SOWED CORN.

For the best one quarter acre of Sowed Corn, C. O. Perkins of Becket,	5 00
2d do., William A. Bunce of Alford,	4 00
3d do., Henry M. Bassett of Lee,	3 00
4th do., Stephen Powell of New Marlboro',	2 00

There was not any Broom Corn entered.

HENRY DRESSER,
WILLIAM STODDARD,
JOHN N. ROBBINS,
} Committee.

SEEDS AND VEGETABLES.

Seldom if ever has there been a larger or better collection of seeds and vegetables presented for examination than the present year ; and from so many specimens worthy of premiums, the committee found it no easy task to decide who the successful competitors should be ; while they deeply regretted that the limited means placed in their hands for distribution, would prevent many from receiving awards that justly deserved them.

The scattered and mixed-up condition of seeds and vegetables with agricultural implements and mechanical productions, greatly increased our labors

and rendered us liable to overlook valuable and worthy specimens. The importance of properly arranging all entries can hardly be over-estimated, and should receive proper attention in the future.

Seed-time must precede harvest ; and, "Whatsoever a man soweth that must he also reap," is applicable to all who would raise either grain or vegetables. We do not gather "Grapes of thorns or Figs of thistles ;" neither can we reasonably expect to reap a harvest of choice grain or vegetables from poor seeds, or inferior varieties. It is better and cheaper in our opinion to purchase the *best*, even at extravagant prices, than to receive the *poor* and worthless as a gratuity.

We have awarded premiums as follows :

TIMOTHY SEED.

For the best bushel of Timothy Seed, S. M. Cooper of Stockbridge,	$4 00
2d do., E. N. Hubbard of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., Horatio N. Tuttle of Sheffield,	2 00

SEED CORN.

For the best bushel ears Seed Corn, Jared Lewis of Gt. Barrington,	3 00
2d do., William O. Curtis of Lenox,	2 00
3d do., Samuel Goodrich of Stockbridge,	1 00
Fine specimen of white corn, M. I. Wheeler of Great Barrington, (reserved premium),	1 00

SEED OATS.

For the best bushel seed oats, Merrick G. Hall of Gt. Barrington,	2 00
2d do., A. McArthur of Sheffield,	1 00

SEED RYE.

For the best bushel seed rye, Dwight Andrews of Sheffield,	2 00
2d do., Geo. Kellogg of Sheffield,	1 00

WINTER WHEAT.

For the best bushel winter wheat, R. D. Curtis of Lenox,	2 00
2d do., J. C. Vosburgh of Sheffield,	1 00

SPRING WHEAT.

For the best bushel of spring wheat, Geo. C. Curtis of Lenox,	3 00
2d do., Walter Richards of Lenox,	2 00
3d do., J. M. Cook of Lenox,	1 00

POTATOES.

Large variety of seed potatoes, B. F. Pixley, Great Barrington,	2 00
" " " Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	2 00
" " " E. M. Langdon of Lee,	2 00
" " " H. S. Goodale of Mt. Washington,	2 00

BEANS.

One bushel extra nice beans, D. B. Fenn of Stockbridge,	1 00

BEETS.

Nice specimen of beets, O. J. Clark of Sheffield, 1 00

TURNIPS.

For specimen of turnips, Geo. F. Woodin of Sandisfield, 50

SQUASHES.

Fine specimen of squashes, J. M. Mackie of Great Barrington, 50
" " " R. D. Curtis of Lenox, 50

PUMPKINS.

Nice specimen of pumpkins, E. H. Millard of Egremont, 50

CABBAGE.

Best specimen of cabbage, Joseph G. Canfield of Sheffield, 1 00

MISCELLANEOUS.

Best variety of peppers, E. M. Winchell of Great Barrington, 1 00
Tomatoes and other vegetables, Richard Vosburgh, Gt. Barrington, 2 00
A large collection and numerous varieties of garden vegetables, David Leavitt of Great Barrington, 2 50
Fine collection of garden vegetables, D. S. Draper, Great Barrington, 2 00
do., Milton Adams of New Marlboro', 1 50
Specimen broom corn, J. W. Barber of Sheffield, 50
do., H. M. Bassett of Lee, 50
Nice string of pop corn, Henry Ticknor of Alford, 50
Fine specimen of onions, Dwight Boardman of Sheffield, 1 50
There waere no entries of Seed Barley.

C. C. French,
Geo. E. Beckwith,
H. H. B. Turner,
} Committee.

HOUSEHOLD MANUFACTURES.

FIRST DIVISION.

For the best ten yards White Flannel, Mrs. A. M. Lowry of Egremont, $5 00
2d do., Mrs. A. McArthur of Sheffield, 4 00
3d do., Mrs. Levi Butler of Lenox, 3 00
4th do., Mrs. C. W. Brett of Monterey, 2 00
Best 20 yds. woolen and cotton sheetings, Mrs. F. B. Holabird, Sheffield, 4 00
2d do., Mrs. Fred Abbey of Great Barrington, 3 00
For Best ten yards linen diaper, Mrs. E. E. Cook of Pittsfield, 3 00
2d do., Mrs. E. Munson of Sheffield, 2 00
Extra premium to Mrs. Jerusha Bryant of Sheffield, 2 00
For the best piece of rag carpeting, Mrs. Joseph Kline of Egremont, 5 00
2d do., Mrs. E. M. Langdon of Lee, 4 00
3d do., Mrs. E. Calkins of New Marlboro', 3 00

4th do., Mrs Stephen Baldwin of Egremont, 2 00
5th do., Mrs. Jane Lockwood of West Stockbridge, 1 00
A special premium for an excellent piece of striped carpeting to Mrs. P. G. Comstock of West Stockbaidge, 3 00
For best hearth rug, Mrs. Mary H. Picket of West Stockbridge, 3 00
2d do., Mrs. Mary E. Langdon of Monterey, 2 00
3d do., Mrs. J. H. Langdon of Monterey, 1 00
Extra premium, Mrs. N. Palmer of New Marlboro', 1 00
For best afghan or lap robe, Mrs. H. D. Cone of Stockbride, $5 00
2d do., Miss Anna T. Belden of Lenox, 4 00
3d do., Mrs. Mary J. Beach of Lee, 3 00
4th do., Mrs. T. D. Perkins of Lee, 2 00
Extra, Miss Nellie Kellogg of Sheffield, 1 00
An extra premium for a piece of checked flannell to Mrs. Walter Crine of New Marlboro', 2 00

M. I. Wheeler, Chairman Committee.

SECOND DIVISION.

The committee award premiums as follows:—

For the best bed spread, Mrs. S. M. Cooper of Stockbridge, $4 00
2d do., Miss A. A. Tryon of Monterey, 3 00
3d do., Mrs. H. B Holabird of Sheffield, 2 00
4th do., Mrs. T. S. Baldwin of Egremont, 1 00
5th do., Mrs. G. W. Sisson of New Marlboro', 1 00
Tufted bed spread, Mrs. E. Sprague of Alford, 1 00
Best patch-work quilt, Mrs. E. C. Ticknor, Alford, 6 00
2d do., Mrs. E. Clark of Great Barrington, 5 00
3d do., Mrs. James W. Barry, 4 00
4th do., Mrs Lucy Thatcher of Lee, 3 00
5th do., Mrs. C. S. Joyner of Egremont, 2 00
6th do., Mrs. S. E. Buck of Stockbridge, 1 00
7th do., Mrs. Harry Winchell of Egremont, 1 00
8th do., Mrs. F. F. Clark of Great Barrington, 1 00
9th do., Mrs. E. C. Woodruff of West Stockbridge, 1 00
For the best three pounds woolen yarn, Mrs. G. H. Babcock of Lenox, 3 00
2d do., Mrs. B. N. Clark of Sheffield, 2 00
3d do., Mrs. L. J. Wright of Egremont, 1 00
For the best three pairs linen hose, Mrs. S. W. Carter of Becket, 2 00
2d do., Miss Sarah Haller of Lee, 1 00
Best four pairs Woolen Hose, Mrs. B. M. Walker, Gt. Barrington, 3 00
2d do., Mrs. Jared Mansir of Monterey, 2 00
3d do., Mrs. Jason Langdon of Monterey, 1 00
4th do., Mrs. Hannah Carter of Becket, 1 00
For the best three pairs woolen mittens, Mrs. E. C. Brewer, Monterey, 2 00
2d do., Mrs. L. N. Millard of Becket, 1 00
3d do., Mrs. E. M. Winchell of Great Barrington, 50

For the best lady's hat, Miss Emma Fryer, Great Barrington, 2 00
3d do., Miss M. French of Sheffield, 1 00

A case of hats exhibited by Miss P. E. Walker of Great Barrington, would have been entitled to the first premium, but they were entered for exhibition only.

H. W. Smith,
H. L. Plumb,
J. M. Burghardt, } Committee.
Electa Tuttle,
Mary Fryer,

PAINTINGS AND FANCY WORK.

The committee to whom was referred the delicate task of deciding on the relative merits of the objects of taste and beauty included in the division of paintings and fancy work, has attended to its duties, and submits the following report :—

Any committee formed, as this one was, of four ladies and one gentleman would find itself in an embarrassing position when brought to the consideration of its duties. Shakspeare tells us that

> "Beauty itself doth of itself persuade
> The eyes of men without an orator"

But when the powers of oratory are united with the charms of beauty, the single gentleman cannot hope to be a match for the four ladies, and, making a virtue of necessity he must give up his judgment to that of the sex that combines grace with taste. The gentleman of your committee suggests, therefore, that in future there be two ladies and one gentleman on this division. The different opinions can then be more readily reconciled, and the examination more expeditiously performed.

The arrangement of the articles demands a word. Those of the same class ought to be placed as near together as possible, in order to allow of their comparison by the committee. When the wax-flowers are hung among the bed-quilts, and the drawings are alternated with the paintings in oil and sketches in water, and some articles are with the specimens of needle-work, as was the case at this fair, the labors of the examiners are increased, the rights of the exhibitors are imperilled, and exact comparisons are out of the question.

We suggest therefore, secondly, that an officer of the society be responsible for the arrangement of all the articles,—that he put them in the best places for the convenience of the committees,—and that no exhibitor be permitted to place his own articles without such supervision.

We suggest thirdly, that a set of premiums be offered for paintings in oil colors, and another for paintings in water-colors, for it is manifestly wrong to put such dissimilar elements as oil and water in competition in the same class. We would also have a set of premiums for crayon sketches, and another set for pencil drawings. Further we would suggest that if more adequate premiums were to be offered for photographs, the many excellent artists in Berkshire might be led to enter the lists in competition.

Let premiums be offered for the best portraits,—for the best scenes photographed from nature, and from the best specimens of colored photographs. By this means, it appears to your committee, the cause of art would be advanced, and the walls of the society's hall adorned at each exhibition.

We deem the premiums now offered for work in wax, hair, feathers, cones, and the like, generous and fully equal to any merit that the manufacture of such articles can possibly imply. Our reasons for these opinions will appear below.

In offering premiums for paintings and works of art, this society is doing a good thing and advancing the great cause of the elevation of society, and the education of public taste. These premiums must, however, be offered and awarded with good judgment in order to accomplish the most in this direction.

Taste is that power of the mind by which we discern and judge of the beautiful in nature and art. Its nature is two-fold, for, while it discriminates between beauty and deformity, it also is a source of pleasure and of pain. It is the result both of natural sensibilities and of culture. While it may be improved by culture, there is no arbitrary set of rules by which it may be measured. In some degree it must always differ in different persons, and yet there is a great variety of questions in æsthetics upon which mankind generally are agreed, and from this variety certain general principles may be deduced by which we may judge of our own decisions. That this is so, we can see by the light of history. Thus, the Venus that the Greek artist Praxitiles evoked from the marble five hundred years before Christ was born, pleased the cultivated taste of the great Pericles no more than it would to-day please the most critical taste of the nineteenth century. The Venus of the Roman capitol has been a model for two thousand years, and is no less a model now than it was when first the artist's skilled hand made it the embodiment of the idea in his brain. The mosaic doves which charmed the elder Pliny, nineteen centuries ago, are still the delight of visitors to the Capitoline museum at Rome.

In like manner the frescoes of Michael Angelo, and the paintings of Raphael Sanzio agree with the taste of cultivated artists now, as well as they did when they were fresh, four hundred years ago.

The highest style of painting is found in the representation of the "human form divine," generally as the exponent of a great idea. Then follow historical painting, landscape painting, portrait painting, and the painting of animals. Last of all is *genre* painting, or the representation of familiar scenes, interiors, etc., which affords little scope for either the imagination or the inventive faculties.

Paintings must exhibit shape, size, light and shadow, color and texture, and are to be examined in all these respects. Shakespeare tells us that "Truth needs no color, beauty no pencil," but if he had examined some of the mountains your committee examined, he would confess himself mistaken. Those mountains needed a good deal more color to make them exhibit a picture anything like truth.

It will be acknowledged that the artist's labor demands faculties which

all do not possess, and while we should, and do, encourage the cultivation of these talents, it should not surprise us that good artists are rare. There is but one Church, one Powers, one Hosmer.

While the labor of the artist calls for great talents, he who would criticise the product of his genius, should be the possessor of a somewhat similar taste. Your committee, therefore, presents this report with diffidence, asking charity from the artists and from the society.

Is it not deducible from what has been said, that works in feathers, wax, beads, seeds, cones and such like things, do not properly belong to the domain of art, but fall into the more ephemeral and less noble list of curiosities? A collection of flowers made of squash seeds, or of wax, is a curiosity, not a work of high art. Such a creation may cultivate a certain kind of taste, but it is not the taste that Mr. Bierstadt or Miss Hosmer would delight in. It is questionable how far this Society does well to encourage the manufacture of curiosities and works of abnormal art.

We advise our artists, and we have some very promising ones, to study nature and the works of the great masters. To invent or to copy from a natural scene, is worth more than much copying of the works of other men. In the first case, the *master* creates; in the second, the slave servilly copies.

A view of the mill at Curtisville, was from this fact valuable, and much to be commended.

The committee award the following premiums:

For the best specimen of painting, Miss E. L. Fairchild of Stockbridge,	$5 00
2d do., Mrs. Mary L. Mercein of Sheffield,	4 00
3d do., Miss M. E. Townsend of Great Barrington,	3 00
4th do., M. S. Bidwell, Jr., of Sheffield,	2 00
5th do., Miss J. C. Burghardt of Stockbridge,	2 00
Extra premium, Miss S. T. Merritt of Egremont,	1 00
do., J. F. Moulton of Great Barrington,	1 00
For the best crayon picture, Miss Lizzie H. Brewer of Stockbridge,	3 00
2d do., A. J. Gardner of Lee,	2 00
3d do., Miss A. L. Pixley of Great Barrington,	1 00

Miss M. E. Townsend of Great Barrington deserves mention. The committee would have awarded her a premium if she had already not taken one for a painting in this class.

For best specimen of Wax Flowers, Miss M. S. Joyner of Egremont,	3 00
2d do., Miss Stella Newman of Egremont,	2 00
For best specimen of hair work, Mrs. J. N. Hayes of Gt. Barrington,	3 00
2d do., Miss Clara A. Cooper of Stockbridge,	2 00
For best skeleton leaves and flowers, Mrs. E. C. Walker of Stockbridge,	3 00
For best feather work, Miss M. J. Snyder of Great Barrington,	2 00
2d do., Miss Nellie Andrus of Sheffield,	1 00
For best cone work, Mrs. B. C. Foote of Sheffield,	2 00
2d do., Miss Ann Coon of Stockbridge,	1 00
3d do., Miss Nellie A. Clark of Great Barrington,	1 00
4th do., Mrs. A. Darrow of Sheffield,	50

For the best photographs, Mary B. Spencer of West Stockbridge, 5 00
2d do., J. Hall of Lenox, 4 30
For the best shell work, Mrs. N. T. Jennings of Sheffield, 1 00
2d do., Miss Nellie Kirby of Sheffield, 50
For best moss work, Mrs. Dwight Andrews of Sheffield, 2 00
2d do., Mary A. Townsend of Sheffield, 1 00
For best fancy cross, Mrs. E. C. Forbes of Sheffield, 1 00
2d do., Miss Clara J. Hurlburt of Great Barrington, 50
For fine specimens of graining, B. Almonte of Great Barrington, 1 00
For a wonderful specimen of seed work, Mrs A. Cornell of Hillsdale, 2 00
For superior bead work, Mrs George B. Cook of Sheffield, 1 00
For crystal work, Mrs. W. Clark of Sheffield, 50

ARTHUR GILMAN,
WM. B. SAXTON,
MISS MARY B. SPENCER, } Committee.
MRS. SUSAN E. SMITH,
MISS MARY TOWNSEND,

EMBROIDERY, NEEDLEWORK, &c.

The committee on Embroidery, Needlework, &c., have awarded premiums as follows:—

NEEDLEWORK.

For the best specimen, Mrs. W. W. Langdon of Monterey, $5 00
2d do., Miss Ella Goodrich of Stockbridge, 4 00
3d do., Mrs. F. O. Andrus of Sheffield, 3 00
3th do., Miss M. Dutcher of Sheffield, 2 00

WORSTED EMBROIDERY.

For the best specimen, Miss Anna Turner of Great Barrington, $4 00
2d do., Mrs. S. B. Goodale of South Egremont, 3 00
3d do., Mrs. Geo. Church of Great Barrington, 2 00
4th do., Mrs. Fanny Benedict of Pittsfield, 1 00

SILK EMBROIDERY.

For the best specimen, Miss A. L. Pixley of Great Barrington, $4 00
2d do., Miss T. Pulver of Sheffield, 3 00
3d do., Mrs. D. W. Crippen of Egremont, 2 00
4th do., Mrs. Wm. S. Langdon of Monterey, 1 00

CROCHET WORK.

For the best specimen, Mrs. Geo. Gorham of Sheffield, $4 00
2d do., Mrs. J. N. Warner of Sheffield, 3 00
3d do., Mrs. M. K. Werden of Richmond, 2 00
4th do., Miss Lizzie Sage of Sheffield, 1 00

KNIT WORK.

For the best specimen, Miss Mary J. Beach of Lee, $4 00
2d do., Miss Lottie Dresser of Great Barrington, 3 00

TATTING.

For the best specimen, Miss Louisa Fellows of Pittsfield,	$3 00
2d do., Miss M. Fryer of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. Langdon Hulett of Egremont,	1 00

BEAD WORK.

For the best specimen, Miss Ella J. Langdon of Gt. Barrington,	$3 00
2d do., Miss Mary L'Hommedieu of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Miss Susan Cook of Lenox,	1 00

NET WORK.

For the best specimen, Mrs. Mary G. Stevenson of Sheffield,	$3 00
2d do., Mrs. James Van Deusen of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Miss Martha French, of Sheffield,	1 00

DISCRETIONARY PREMIUMS.

Best Crocket Work, Mrs. Luke Shead of Egremont,	$2 00
2d do., Miss Hattie E. Palmer of Stockbridge,	50
Best Needle Work, Miss Ella Spurr of Sheffield,	50
Best Bead Work, Mrs. Jane Gaston of West Stockbridge,	50
Crochet Work, Mrs. Wm. Clark of Sheffield,	50
Needlework, Miss Mary Duane of West Stockbridge,	50
Crochet Work, Mrs. Fanny M. Kellogg of Great Barrington,	50
Beadwork, Mrs. H. L. Granger of Great Barrington,	50
Crochet Work, Mrs G. H. Kirby of Sheffield,	50
Needlework, Mrs. Orren Benedict of Pittsfield,	1 00
Beadwork, Mrs. Geo. B. Cook of Sheffield,	50
Worsted Flowers, Miss Leila J. Rowley of Egremont,	50
Worsted Flowers, Miss Mary E. Lowry of Egremont,	50

W. H. Parks,
David Dazell, Jr.,
Mrs. Geo. E Russell,
Mrs. Joshua R. Lawton, Jr.,
Mrs. Nathan Taylor,
} Committee.

BUTTER.

The committee on butter, report fifty entries, which was by far the greatest number ever before offered for Premiums, and it was very difficult to determine the merits where all was so good. Your committee award as follows:—

For the best 20 pounds of butter, Mrs. E. N. Joyner of Egremont,	$8 00
2d do., Mrs. Cyrus Hudson of Sheffield,	7 00
3d do., Thomas W. Barnes of West Stockbridge,	6 00
4th do., Mrs. E. N. Hubbard of Great Barrington,	5 00
5th do., Mrs. A. J. Palmer of Alford,	4 00

6th do., Mrs. E. M. Winchell of Great Barrington,	3 00
7th do., Mrs. M. Brown of Egremont,	2 00
8th do., W. C. Langdon of Monterey,	1 00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM SELKIRK,
EDWIN ADAMS,
H. M. HUGGINS,
} Committee.

CHEESE.

The committee on cheese respectfully submit the following report:—Only eight entries of cheese exhibited, one of which was decidedly a number one cheese, but being an old one, according to the rules of the society, your committee could not give it a premium. Your committee make the awards as follows:

For the best sixty pounds cheese, Mrs. O. E. Clark of Sheffield,	$8 00
2d do., Lyman Huggins of Sheffield,	7 00
3d do., Mrs. C. D. Langdon of Monterey,	6 00
4th do., Mrs. D. Baldwin of Egremont,	5 00
5th do., A. W. Merrill of Sandisfield,	4 00
6th do., Mrs. Uri Bradford of Egremont,	3 00
7th do., Guy Day of Great Barrington,	2 00

ZACHEUS CANDE,
LORRIN KEYES,
MILTON ABBEY,
} Committee.

BREAD, MAPLE SUGAR AND SYRUP.

The members of this Committee were all present, and having carefully examined all the articles in their department, were unanimous in their decisions and respectfully submit the same:—

Best white bread, Mrs. M. Kane of Alford,	$3 00
2d do., Mrs. William Pixley of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. Orrin Curtiss of Sheffield,	1 00
Best rye bread, Miss Katie R. Bassett of Lee,	3 00
2d do., Sarah Haller of Lee,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. H. L. Rowe of Great Barrington,	1 00
Best brown bread, Mrs. Elihu Church of Alford,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. L. J. Wright of Egremont;	2 00
3d do., Mrs C. M. Winchell of Great Barrington,	1 00
Best biscuit, Mrs. H. T. Candee of Sheffield,	2 00
2d do., Mrs. E. Couch of Great Barrington,	1 00
Best maple sugar, Geo. B. Cook of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Orrin Millard of Becket,	2 00
3d do., Miss H. C. Garfield of Monterey,	1 00

Best maple syrup, A. W. Merrill of Sandisfield, 3 00
2d do., Mrs. T. H. Spencer of West Stockbridge, 2 00
3d do., Isaac Spurr of Sheffield, 1 00

The committee would also recommend that the following prizes be awarded for superior honey:—

Lewis Emmons of New Marlboro', $3 00
Charles Spurr of Sheffield, 2 00

Prizes were offered for best Sorghm Syrup, but as only one specimen was entered and that one in much smaller quantity that was prescribed, no premium was awarded.

In order that the judgment of the committee may be approved, a few words of explanation may be necessary. The specimens presented for examination were of a high order of merit, and the task of deciding as to their respective worth, was a difficult one. There were sixty-eight entries made in this department, and the difference in their qualities, by which the superior excellence of one above another was to be determined, was often very slight. In one or two instances, the white bread, which appeared the best outwardly, was found to be slightly sour, probably from having risen too long before baking. Occasionally too much yeast was used in its preparation, and its presence was too strongly marked in the taste of the bread.

In one loaf, at least, the potato element was sufficiently prominent to cause decision against it. Had the committee judged by their eyes of some specimens offered, their decisions might have been different; for many loaves were perfect in form and color; but as the prime end of bread is to please the taste and nourish the body, that is the best which preserves in the best manner the native sweetness of the grain from which it is made. Judged by this standard, one of the poorest *looking* loaves of rye bread, received the first premium.

In regard to honey, we wish to say, that no more of it was used by the ladies of the committee, than enough to fairly test its quality; and we ask that those to whom the honey belonged will not hold us resposible for all that was taken from the boxes. Quite a number of gentlemen enjoyed its sweets, who were self-appointed tasters.

Mrs. B. F. Parsons,
Mrs. Albert Moore,
Mrs. E. C. Ticknor, } Committee.
Mrs. W. C. Langdon,
Mrs. E. C. Woodruff,

FLOWERS.

The committee on flowers report as follows:—

Mrs E. C. Ticknor of Alford, $5 00
Henry T. Robbins of Great Barrington, 5 00
D. S. Draper of Great Barrington, 5 00
David Leavitt of Great Barrington, 3 00
Mrs. Dwight Andrews of Sheffield, 3 00

Miss E. N. Winchell of Great Barrington,	3 00
Mrs. L. J. Wright of Egremont,	3 00
Bouquet of everlastings, E. H. Tuttle of Sheffield,	2 00
Bouquet of everlastings, Miss Mattie Huntington of New Marlboro',	1 00
Pyramid of Dahlias, Miss Lela Burtis of Egremont,	2 00
Bouquet of flowers, Mrs. N. C. Chapin of Great Barrington,	1 00
Wild flowers, Miss Nellie Andrews of Sheffield,	1 00
do., Miss Lillie Wickwire of Sheffield,	1 00

The exhibition of a stand of flowers from D. S. Draper, Esq., was thought by the committee, to have never been equalled at any previous exhibition of this Society.

H. D. Train,
Elihu Church,
Mrs. Z. Cande,
Mrs. A. L. Hubbell,
Mrs. Mercein,
} Committee.

FRUITS.

APPLES AND PEARS—1st DIVISION.

For the best specimen of winter apples, Leonard Tuttle of Sheffield,	$6 00
2d do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	5 00
3d do., Isaac Spurr of Sheffield,	4 00
4th do., Dwight Andrews of Sheffield,	3 00
5th do., T. H. Spencer of West Stockbridge,	2 00
6th do., F. K. Hinckley of Lee,	1 00
For the best specimen of fall apples, D. F. Goodrich of Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., Harvey Royce of Sheffield,	3 00
3d do., L. G. Ramsey of Great Barrington,	2 00
4th do., Henry J. Leonard of Great Barrington,	1 00
For the best variety of all kinds of fruits, Z. Cande of Sheffield,	7 00
2d do., Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	6
For the best specimen of pears, Samuel Goodrich of Stockbridge,	6
2d do., Warren Candee of Sheffield,	5
3d do., Ralph Little of Sheffield	4
For the best single variety of pears, Henry Werden of Richmond,	3
2d do., Mrs. Guy Day of Great Barrington,	3
3d do., J. W. Candee of Sheffield,	1

Dwight Boardman,
James Dewell,
T. L. Foote.
} Committee.

PEACHES, PLUMS, QUINCES, GRAPES, ETC.

Peaches, 3 entries; Quinces, 4 entries; Grapes, 4 entries; Grapes raised under glass, 2 entries; Grape Wine, 3 entries; Native Wine, 10 entries; Dried Fruit 5 entries; Canned Fruits, 7 entries; Cultivated Cranberries, 3.

The committee on the 2d division of Fruit, peaches, plums, quinces, grapes etc, award as follows :

Best specimen of peaches, Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	$3 00
2d do., Walter Richards of Lenox,	2 00
3d do., William E. Peck of Lenox.	1 00
Best specimen of quinces, Levi Boardman of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. G. I. Kipp of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., L. M. Burghardt of Great Barrington,	1 00
Best specimen of Grapes, Henry Werden of Richmond,	5 00
2d do., Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	4 00
3d do., Mrs. Z. Cande of Sheffield,	3 00
4th do., Samuel Goodrich of Stockbridge,	1 00
Best specimen grapes raised under glass, David Leavitt, Gt. Barrington,	4 00
2d do., J. M. Mackie of Great Barrington,	3 00
Best specimen grape wine, Ira Curtiss of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., S. H. Bushnell of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. Joseph Kline of Egremont,	1 00
Best specimen native wine, F. Hubbard of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. E. M. Wood of Monterey,	1 00
Best specimen dried fruit, Mrs. L. J. Wright of Egremont.	3 00
2d do., Mrs. A. McArthur of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Miss Martha Snyder, of Great Barrington,	1 00
Best specimen canned fruits, Mrs. J. N. Warner of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. Wm. Makely of Egremont,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. H. W. Burget of Egremont,	1 00
Best specimen cultivated cranberries, John Cook of Lenox,	1 00

M. Warner,
Chas. E. Heath, } Committee.
Guy Day,

MECHANICAL PRODUCTIONS.

The committee on mechanical productions, in attending to the duty assigned them in the useful arts, connected as those arts are with the comforts and conviences of life, are of the opinion that they deserve at all times the fostering care of this society. In a community where labor is high, and in constant demand, and where the genius of the people is prolific in inventions of vast value, and where every new discovery that diminishes manual labor becomes of vast consequence, it seems wise to hold forth such rewards as may stimulate ingenuity and indemnify expense. When the national government has granted by letters patent, would it not be sound policy to reward with liberality the authors of such inventions as produce saving of labor in agricultural mechanical pursuits? Many articles of exquisit workmanship have been presented in the various departments at our fairs and exhibitions, greatly creditable to those who furnish them, and your committee recommend that the rules of the society regulating premiums be liberally extended. Your committee acting under the present rules award as follows:—

Double harness, Fellows Gale of West Stockbridge,	$4 00
Stamp for marking clothing, S. A. Bowen of North Adams,	1 00
Mechanical clock, B. Almonte of Gt. Barrington,	4 00
Sewing machine, M. M. Barnes of North Adams,	2 00
Ivory swifts, Mrs. N. T. Jennings of Sheffield,	1 00
Horse shoes, Henry Moore of Sheffield,	2 00
Set wagon wheels, Whitmore & Pixley of Great Barrington,	4 00
Two fox skins, C. W. Brett of Monterey,	50
Ox bows, E. C. Hall of Egremont,	50
Button hole and sewing machine, Joseph Gregory of Pittsfield,	4 00
Whips, Wm. R. Baldwin of New Marlboro',	1 00
Buckskin leather, Baldwin, Hartwell & Co., New Marlboro',	1 00
Wagon jack, E. R. Baldwin of New Marlboro',	2 00
Butter tub, H. C Warner of Great Barrington,	1 00
Pounding tub, D. Warner of Great Barrington,	50
Stencil plates, C. H. Little of Sheffield,	50
Bracket book shelf, C. H. Owles of Stockbridge,	50
Twelve ax helves, Austin Lindsey of Sheffield,	1 00
Twelve ax helves, Benjamin Powell of Great Barrington,	1 00
Patent drive well, Comstock & Adams of Great Barrington,	4 00
Two feed cutters, A. H. Pease of Lee,	3 00
Four ax helves, Joel E. Deland of Sandisfield,	1 00
Clothes frame and fruit dryer, George W. Bennett of Gt. Barrington,	2 00

T. H. Spencer,
Almon I. Loring, } Committee.
John G. Mansir,

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The committee on agricultural implements of the Housatonic agricultural society, at an exhibition of mowing machines, horse rakes, and hay tedders, held upon the grounds of said society, June 23d, 1868, offer the following report:—

Man has two natures: one which ranks him with animals, and which may be called his physical or animal nature; and another which ranks him far above animals, and may be called his intellectual or spiritual nature. One of these natures is bounded by time and earth, and the other is boundless as eternity. These two natures are necessarily most intimately connected in this life, and upon the harmony and perfect blending of the two depends man's happiness and success. The more perfect man's physical nature, and the more enlarged and cultivated his intellectual nature, the better ability it gives him to attend to his physical wants. A certain amount of physical exercise is necessary to develop the physical and intellectual nature; but constant and severe physical labor does not tend to increase man's thinking powers.

Man intellectually is a progressive being, and that progress is only limited by his ability to grasp the elements, the animal, the vegetable and mineral

world, and make them subserve his interest. As man becomes educated he becomes inventive, he finds shorter ways to effect given results; and every improvement, whereby man's power is made more effective, so that greater results are obtained from a given force, lessens the necessity for constant and severe toil and raises man from the animal towards the intellectual.

The rapid strides man has taken during this nineteenth century in his increased ability to gratify his physical and intellectual wants, no one can measure; but that his wants increase with his ability to gratify them, is apparent, and we think legitimate.

In the application of steam to manufacturing and locomotive purposes, and of electricity to the transmission of information from one point to another, time and space are annihilated; and as man adapts these and other improvements to subserve his interest and pleasure, he is not bounded by narrow limits, but lives with a rapidity before unknown.

The improvements and inventions of the past century have been such that in many cases man's power to accomplish has been increased from five to one thousand fold. The various improvements of machinery, and the application of steam, water, horse, and other powers, to accomplish what was formerly performed by man's muscle alone, giving man an opportunity to see, hear and reflect, and to bestow care and attention upon his wants, which adds greatly to his happiness and pecuniary condition. Perhaps in no trade, occupation or profession is there so much toil for the pay received, as with the farmer, and he waits long and with great patience for the returns of his labor,—but those returns are measurably sure, and as he reaches his hand down into the earth for an honest living, he feels that he has prejudiced no man's just rights. And the farmer, having toiled long and hard for what he gets, knows the value of what he has.

Perhaps there is no class so slow to make themselves familiar with and adopt those improvements which will lessen their labors, as farmers; but it is only by inventing and adopting every means which will add to the efficiency of man's labor, that the farmer can keep pace with the progressive age, and maintain that position in community that his industry and integrity should merit.

The improvements of agriculture, the success of agriculture, and above all the dignity of agriculture, must depend upon the education, and the intelligence of those who pursue it. The success of the farmer of the present day does not depend mainly upon the amount of hard work he performs, but whether his returns are brought in with the least necessary expense. Whether he secures the aid of such machinery and power as will enable him to accomplish the most with the least outlay. By the aid of the agricultural machinery of the present day, the farmer's life need not be one of constant toil. He can plant and hoe with machinery; he can mow, spread, rake and pitch with machinery; and it is for the purpose of showing to the farmer that it is for his interest to let the horses mow and rake, that we are gathered here this day, and also to test which of the several kinds of mowing machines and horse rakes are the best for use, and in making a selec-

tion, simplicity and durability, as well as ability to do, should be considered.

We should advise every farmer in Berkshire county to do what he can to make his meadows fit for the mowing machine and horse rake; remembering that there will be horses when he is dead, and that horse labor is cheaper than hiring and boarding men; that by being able to do more in a given length of time he may secure his hay at the best season and in the best condition; and we will advise him that one ton of June cut hay is worth two tons of August cut; that large rocks may many times be disposed of in the cheapest way by sinking below the surface; and we further suggest that if this day's exhibition has not decided which is the best mowing machine, it has decided that to use either of the eight kinds exhibited is far better than to do the work by hand.

We find eight different kinds of two-horse machines on exhibition, which have made a trial of their skill, and all have performed their work well, cutting one-eighth of an acre each.

To the "Granite State," entered by D. S. Farnum of South Adams, and manufactured by D. J. Farnum of Pittsfield, first premium, $10 00

To the "Wood Machine" of Hoosick Falls, N. Y., entered by the maker, second premium, $5 00

To the "Eureka," by Wilbur, Stevens & Co., of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., with five feet cutting bar, cutting in front of wheels, a gratuity of $3 00

To the "Clipper," entered by Clipper Mowing Machine Co, of New York, a gratuity of $2 00

The "Clipper" machine works easily and still, and we are of the opinion that for smooth ground this machine is not excelled.

The "Perry" machine was entered by T. D. Thatcher, agent, Lee, and is a good machine.

The "American" machine was entered by Liveras Dunning, agent, Brookfield, Conn., a machine simple in construction and accounted self-oiling.

The "Kniffin" machine was entered by N. L. Dexter, agent, Salisbury, Conn. It adapts itself readily to uneven ground.

The "Monitor" was entered by Wm. Boardman of Sheffield, and worked well.

There were also, four one-horse machines on exhibition which performed their work well.

We saw no "Buckeye," "Hubbard," or "Ketchum" machines.

There were three horse rakes that made an effort to rake the green and trampled grass, and all failed.

H. B. Stevens of Richmond, entered the "Bullard" hay tedder, which kicked up the grass wonderfully, and to which we award the first premium of $3 00

T. D. Thatcher of Lee, exhibited the "American Tedder" which worked well, and to which we award the second premium of $2 00

Most of the mowing machines were exhibited under the direct care of the manufacturers, who manifested a deep interest in their success, and

with the little time and opportunity your committee had to test the various machines, we do not feel that our decisions should be made the test to govern others in their selections.

But of this we are sure, that no man who makes hay for profit, can afford to do without a mowing machine and horse rake. The man who puts his labor in competition with the labor of his neighbor's horse, must toil early and late, work hard and be content with small profits, as will be seen by the estimate which we append herewith. In this estimate we count man's labor at 25 cents per hour, and span of horses the same; and with present improved mowers, machine mowing is not hard work for man or horses. Very different work from swinging the scythe by hand.

A man with a machine and span of horses, will cut five acres in five hours; with rake and one horse will rake five acres in two hours. Five men will mow five acres in five hours, and three men will rake by hand, five acres in five hours, and allowing eight tons of hay to the five acres, the account will stand thus:

Mowing eight tons hay with machine,		$2 50
Raking " " " " horse rake,		1 00
		$3 50
Mowing eight tons hay by hand,	$6 25	
Raking " " " "	3 75	—$10 00

Showing the cost in one case to be $3 50 per eight tons, or 43 3-4 cents per ton, and in the other $10 per eight tons, or $1 25 per ton, and in addition to this may be added the independence from hired help, and the ability to secure the hay at the best time.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. O. Perkins,
Leonard Potter,
Albert Ticknor,
} Committee.

Great Barrington, June 23, 1868.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS EXHIBITED AT FAIR.

There were but fourteen entries in this division. A number of these were made by the patentees of the articles exhibited. To encourage the inventors of agricultural implements to exhibit their inventions at the meetings of our society, we have recommended certain extra premiums to the makers of those that were this year presented.

On the other articles exhibited we have awarded premiums as follows:

Best churn, S. K. Norton of Great Barrington,	$2 00
2d do., H. D. Hollenbeck of Egremont,	1 00
There was but one entry of Cultivators to which we award the second premium to Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	3 00
Best corn sheller, W. S. Treat of Agawam,	2 00
2d do., C. C. French of West Stockbridge,	1 00

Best horse fork, C. G. Hollenbeck of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., horse fork, A. Shears of Sheffield,	3 00

We recommend the following extra premiums:—

Two corn baskets, Samuel Goodrich of Stockbridge,	1 00
Corn planter, Harper & Partridge of New York,	1 00
Fruit picker, Turner & Co., Wollcottville, Ct.,	1 00
Potato hooks, A. Hecamer of New Castle, N. Y.,	1 00
Ox yoke, Rollin Thompson of Sandisfield,	1 00
Gate, E. A. Hulbert of Great Barrington,	1 00
Garden force pump, H. T. Robbins of Great Barrington,	1 00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

N. Race,
Leonard Potter, } Committee.
Albert Ticknor,

ANIMALS.

FIRST DIVISION.

The committee on Fat, Working and Fancy Oxen, have awarded premiums as follows:—

Best yoke of fat oxen, Luther S. Butler of Lenox,	$10 00
2d do., Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	8 00
Best yoke of working oxen, F. G. Abbey of Great Barrington,	10 00
2d do., W. Crissey of Great Barrington,	8 00
3d do., H. H. B. Turner of Great Barrington,	6 00
4th do., E. N. Hubbard of Great Barrington,	5 00
5th do., George O. Peck of Lenox,	4 00
Best pair of fancy matched oxen, Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	10 00
2d do., M. W. Butler of Lenox,	8 00

Leonard Tuttle,
Frederick Fitch, } Committee.
Henry Tobey,

SECOND DIVISION.

Entries—four-years-old, 6; three-years-old, 8.

The committee in the second division, embracing four-years-old oxen, and three-years-old steers have attended to their duties and submit the following report:

For the best four-years-old oxen, Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	$8 00
2d do., Elisha Collins of Great Barrington,	7 00
3d do., E. R. Joyner of Sheffield,	6 00
4th do., J. P. Tobey of Great Barrington,	5 00
5th do., Rufus C. Fargo of Monterey,	4 00
6th do., John E. Harris of Egremont,	3 00

For the best three-years-old steers, Geo. O. Peck of Lenox,	7 00
2d do., John M. Cook of Lenox,	6 00
3d do., F. B. Wilcox of Sheffield,	5 00
4th do., Wm. E. Peck of Lenox,	4 00
5th do., John R. Hopkins of Sheffield,	3 00

NOAH GIBSON, Chairman.

THIRD DIVISION.

Entries—two-years-old, 7; Yearling Steers, 8; Yearling Heifers, 15.

Best two-years-old steers, Wm. O. Curtis of Lenox,	$5 00
2d do., L. S. Butler of Lenox,	4 00
3d do., Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	3 00
4th do., John M. Cooper of Stockbridge,	2 00
Best yearling steers, M. W. Butler of Lenox,	4 00
2d do., Wm. H. Hubbard of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., W. P. Palmer of Stockbridge,	2 00
Best yearling heifers, John H. Coon of Sheffield,	4 00
2d do., George C. Curtis of Lenox,	3 00

HENRY BURTCH,
ELISHA L. TOBEY, } Committee.
JOHN HALL,

FOURTH DIVISION.

Entries—Milch Cows, 20; Fat Cows, 3.

The committee who were appointed to the difficult task of deciding between the large number of good cows presented for the premiums offered by the society, have attended to their duties, and make the following report. There were nineteen cows entered for premium. All of them were good. Consequently, the committee were very much embarrassed, and more particularly by finding that the cows upon which they were called to judge were scattered so far apart, and at the same time mixed with cows of another division, that it was necessary to pass along the line several times, before they could make any decision; and if we have erred in our award, it was owing in a great measure, if not entirely, to the above named difficulties. We sincerely hope for the good of future committees that better accommodations will be provided by the society, so that stock of different divisions may be by themselves. Another source of trouble to the committee, was the impatience of the competitors, some of whom were in such a hurry, that their cows were taken off the ground before we had finished our duties. We award as follows, to wit:—

For the best milch cow, Zacheus Candee of Sheffield,	$9 00
2d do., Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	8 00
3d do., J. M. Mackie of Great Barrington,	7 00
4th do., W. H. Parks of Great Barrington,	6 00
5th do., M. R. Brown of Egremont,	5 00
6th do., John F. Sanford of Great Barrington,	4 00
7th do., Horatio Tuttle of Sheffield,	3 00

8th do., Luther S. Butler of Lenox, 2 00
9th do., J. P. Tobey of Great Barrington, 1 00

There were three entries for the premiums offered for fat cows, on which which we have awarded:

Wm. H. Day of Great Barrington, $4 00
Jared Lewis of Great Barrington, 3 00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. WELLS, Chairman.

FIFTH DIVISION.

Entries—Two-years-old Heifers, 19; Fat Heifers, 3; Bull Calves, 8; Heifer Calves, 10.

The committee for the fifth division having performed the duties assigned them in that capacity, submit the following report, to wit:

Best two-years-old heifer having had calf, George C. Curtis of Lenox, $6 00
2d do., Levi Boardman, Jr., of Great Barrington, 5 00
3d do., Miles Avery of Great Barrington, 4 00
4th do., J. P. Tobey of Great Barrington, 3 00
5th do., Fred. A. Burghardt of Great Barrington, 2 00
Best fat heifer, W. S. Wilcox of Sheffield, 3 00
2d do., W. P. Palmer of Stockbridge, 2 50
Best Bull Calf, F. K. Hinckley of Lee, 4 00
2d do., Orren Curtiss of Sheffield, 3 00
3d do., O. H. Munson of Monterey, 2 00

Mr. T. D. Thatcher of Lee, exhibited a fine Jersey Bull, "Sir Henry," which, had your committee better understood the qualities of blooded stock, might have obtained a better premium, but for which your committee recommend an extra premium of $2 00
Best heifer calf, E. B. Garfield of Monterey, 3 00
2d do., Robert P. Kilborn of Great Barrington, 2 00
3d do., George Kellogg of Sheffield, 1 00
Best goat, Master Henry D. Miles of Great Barrington, 1 00

W. C. LANGDON, Chairman.

SIXTH DIVISION.

Entries of three Stock Cows, 6; Single Cows, 12.

Best three stock and dairy cows, Geo. Higginson of Stockbridge, $8 00
2d do., Orren Curtiss of Sheffield, 6 00
3d do., E. M. Winchell of Great Barrington, 4 00
Best stock cow and progeny, F. K. Hinckley of Lee, 6 00
2d do., John H. Coon of Sheffield, 5 00
3d do., John M. Cooper of Stockbridge, 4 00
4th do., W. S. Wilcox of Sheffield, 3 00
5th do., F. A. Burghardt of Great Barrington, 2 00

The above premiums were awarded by the committee.

D. B. FENN,
WM. DEWEY, } Committee.
JARED LEWIS,

SEVENTH DIVISION.

Entries—Heifers, 7: Native Bulls, 4; Durham, 2; Ayrshire, 3; Jersey, 2.

Best two-year-old heifer, not having had a calf, Wm. S. Wilcox of Sheffield, $4 00
2d do., A. C. Butler of Lenox, 3 00
3d do., Wm. Burghardt of Great Barrington, 2 00
4th do, Edwin Laird of Great Barrington, 1 00
Best native or grade bull, Elisha Collins of Great Barrington, 7 00
2d do., J. W. Parks of Sheffield, 6 00
3d do., Harvey Shears of Sheffield, 5 00
4th do., H. D Hollenbeck of Egremont, 4 00
Best thorough-bred Durham bull, Thos H. Curtis of Great Barrington, 6 00
2d do., Charles Dunning of Lenox, 5 00
Best thorough-bred Ayrshire bull, Theron L. Foote of Lee, 6 00
2d do., L. W. Hyde of Egremont, 5 00
Best thorough-bred, Alderney or Jersey bull, J. Milton Mackie, of Great Barrington, 6 00
2d do., D. S. Draper of Great Barrington, 5 00

J. R. Lawton, Jr., E. C. Wolcott, Austin A. Barnes, } Committee.

EIGHTH DIVISION.

Entries—Herds, 5; Durham, 1; Ayrshire, 0; Jersey, 2.

The committee on awards in this division have endeavored to perform the duties assigned them, and report as follows:—There were 7 entries in this division; 5 of mixed-blood cattle of not less than six in number; and 2 entries of Jersey blooded stock of not less than four in number, and all worthy of premiums, and your committee after disadvantageously viewing stock running over the grounds, award as follows:

Best display of neat stock of not less that six in number, grown by the competitor, S. M. Cooper of Stockbridge, $8 00
2d do., Joseph Willcox of Sheffield, 6 00
3d do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge, 4 00
And for a handsome display of fine young stock by J. W. Parks of Sheffield, an extra premium, 4 00
Best display of Jersey blood neat stock of not less than four in number, J. Milton Mackie of Great Barrington, 8 00
2d do., D. S. Draper of Great Barrington, 6 00

James Hyde, Fredrick Abbey, Adna W. Merrill, } Committee.

NINTH DIVISION.

Entries—Boars, 9; Sows, 7.

The committee on swine report as follows:—
For best boar, C. H. Dewey of Sheffield, $5 00

2d do.. Elijah Hubbard of Great Barrington,	4 00
3d do., E C. Hall of Egremont,	3 00
4th do., W. H. Palmer of Stockbridge,	2 00
For best sows and pigs, Edgar Kilbourn of Great Barrington,	6 00
2d do., Horatio Tuttle of Sheffield,	5 00
3d do., Ozias Olds of Stockbridge,	4 00
4th do., Stephen Baldwin of Egremont,	3 00

WILLIAM STODDARD, Chairman.

TENTH DIVISION.

Coarse wool bucks, 2 entries; fine wool bucks, 6 entries; fat wethers, 3 entries.

Best coarse wool buck, George E. Russell of Great Barrington,	$4 00
2d do., L. S. Butler of Lenox,	3 00
Best fine wool buck, Elihu Church of Alford,	5 00
2d do., J. Milton Machie of Great Barrington,	4 00
3d do., Edward A. Hurlbert of Great Barrington,	2 00

The best fine wool buck was presented by C. B. Benedict of West Stockbridge, but not coming within the rules of the society, not having been owned by competitor three months preceding fair, your committee could not award premium.

M. M. Blake of Salisbury, Ct., exhibited 2d best fine wool buck, but not residing within limits of society, was prohibited from premium.

Best five fat wethers, Wm. H. Day of Great Barrington,	$5 00
2d do., James H. Rowley of Egremont,	4 00
3d do., Harvey H. B. Turner of Great Barrington,	2 00

HARRY RHOADES,
WARREN WALKER,
JOHN L. MILLIGAN, } Committee.

ELEVENTH DIVISION.

Entries—Fine Wool Ewes, 5; Coarse Wool, 5; Fine Lambs, 4; Coarse 2.

Best fine wool ewes, C. B. Benedict of West Stockbridge,	$5 00
2d do., Leonard Tuttle of Sheffield,	4 00
Best coarse wool ewes, G. E. Russell of Great Barrington,	5 00
2d do., Marshal Brace of Lee,	4 00
3d do., U. E. Curtis of Great Barrington,	2 00
Best fine wool lambs, Guy Day of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., J. A. Kline Egremont,	3 00
Best coarse wool lambs, H. D. Cone of Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., James H. Rowley, Egremont,	3 00

JAMES SHEAD,
I. J. LOWERY,
C. E. SLATER, } Committee.

TWELFTH DIVISION.

Entries—Bucks, 8; Ewes, 3; Lambs, 4.

Your committee on south down sheep beg leave to report, without remarks, that they have attended to their duties and have awarded the premiums as follows:—

Best south down buck, Wm. S. Willcox of Sheffield,	$4 00
2d do., H. L. Rowe of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., J. L. Milligan of Alford,	2 00
Best south down ewes, Thos. H. Curtis of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., Jas. Willcox of Sheffield,	3 00
3d do., Cyrus Brusie of Egremont,	2 00
Best south down lambs, F. B. Wilcox of Sheffield,	4 00
2d do., Leonard Post of Alford,	3 00
3d do., Charles Sage of Sheffield,	2 00

JAMES W. PARKS,
JOSEPH A. KLINE, } Committee.
S. C. SCOVILLE,

THIRTEENTH DIVISION.

Entries—Bucks, 0; Ewes, 6; Lambs, 2,

Best three grade wool ewes, G. M. Hollenbeck of Great Barrington,	$4 00
2 do., M. S. Heath of Stockbridge,	3 00
Best five grade wool lambs, Guy Day of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., Benton E. Stoddard of Alford,	3 00

NATHAN WILLIS.
JOHN LEWIS, } Committee.
RUFUS BRANCH,

FOURTEENTH DIVISION.

Entries—Work Horses, 9; Pair Carriage, 4; Single, 11.

Best work or farm horses, Warren Crissey of Great Barrington,	$8 00
2d do., T. D. Thatcher of Lee,	7 00
3d do., Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	6 00
4th do., Frank Curtis of Sheffield,	5 00
Best single carriage horse, Warren H. Dalrymple of North Adams,	5 00
2d do., Legrand Ramsey of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., Elizur Smith of Lee,	2 00
Best pair carriage horses, Merrick G. Hall of Great Barrington,	7 00
2d do,. Henry C. Hulbert of Lee,	6 00
3d do., Henry Baker of Sheffield,	5 00

The committee regret that a fine gelding exhibited by Merrick Rice of Great Barrington, with single horses, could not receive a premium, not having been owned by the exhibitor three months according to regulations.

JOSEPH A. BENJAMIN,
ANDREW CLARK, } Committee.
GEO. H. HUNTINGTON,

FIFTEENTH DIVISION.

Your committee scarcely deemed themselves competent to pass an opinion in regard to this branch of stock-growing. Considerable attention has been paid to secure the most valuable qualities in breeding mares, and yet there is room for still greater improvement. We would recommend that more premiums be given in view of the fact that there were more worthy of premiums than we were authorized to award; consequently, your committee found it extremely difficult to determine of their respective merits satisfactorily to themselves and the competitors. There were twenty-two entries. After a careful examination we have awarded as follows:—

For the best breeding mare and colt, (colt sired by a full-blood "Hamiltonian" owned by W. Shaver, Hillsdale, N. Y.,) Mrs. R. W. Oles of Egremont,	$8 00
2d do., John Conner of Sheffield,	7 00
3d do., H. L. Rowe of Egremont,	6 00
4th do., James H. Rowley of Egremont,	5 00
5th do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge,	4 00
6th do., Charles L. Wright of Egremont,	3 00
7th do., Levi K. Kline of Egremont,	2 00

JOHN R. PRINDLE, Chairman.

SIXTEENTH DIVISION.

Entries—Stallions, 3; three-years-old Colts, 8; two-years-old Colts, 11; Yearling Colts, 7; Stud Colts 1.

Your committee have attended to the duties assigned them, and would speak of the interest manifested in the breeding and raising of that noblest of animals, the HORSE, with great pleasure. So were the specimens shown in some of the classes that it was difficult to decide upon the merits and award so as to satisfy ourselves or the competitors themselves. If we have failed in our judgment, we hope all will remember that we are expected to be perfect or above censure. Your committee would make particular mention of a three-years-old stud colt owned by John Winthrop of Stockbridge, sired by "Americus," owned and kept by Wm. J. Mallory of Lee. We are of the opinion that it was the finest three-years-old stallion ever exhibited upon the society's grounds.

Best stallion, John Winthrop of Stockbridge,	$10 00
2d do., G. H. Babcock of Lenox,	8 00
3d do., John Hale of Tyringham,	6 00
Best three-years-old colt, Elizur Smith of Lee,	5 00
2d do., Oliver Stafford of Great Barrington,	4 00
3d do., H. G. Ford of New Marlboro,	3 00
4th do., S. H. Bushnell of Sheffield,	2 00
Extra premium, Charles Sage of Sheffield,	1 00
do., Charles Brown of Sheffield,	1 00
do., Byron M. Hall of New Marlboro,	1 00
do., H. S. Manley of Sandisfield	1 00

Best two-years-old colt, Martin Brown of Egremont,	$4 00
2d do., J. P. Sheldon of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d to F. E. Giddings of Great Barrington,	2 00
4th do., Wm. A. Bunce of Alford,	2 00
Best yearling colt, Thomas French, Jr., of West Stockbridge,	3 00
2d do., E. M. Winchell of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., M. D. Burghardt of Egremont,	1 00
Best stud colt, not over three years old, Michael McManus, N. Marlboro,	5 00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. D. Thatcher,
Edwin Hulbert, } Committee.
Ralph Little,

SEVENTEENTH DIVISION.

Entries—Single trotting horses, 5; matched trotting horses, 4; walking horses, 5.

The single horses made good time, and were mostly fine animals. Wm. Mallory of Lee, was ruled out after winning one heat, as it was proved that his horse had trotted for money. Mr. Mallory claimed that it was for a premium paid in cash, but on consulting the executive committee, we were told that a similar case was acted upon last year when it was decided that a horse, having previously trotted for money, either as a purse or premium, could not take a premium in this division. We would advise the executive committee to give more definite instructions, in future, to the committee in this division.

The double teams did not merit much praise. Here we would recommend, that no entry be allowed after the advertised time for making them.

The walking horses performed their part quite creditably. The first horse home was given the fourth premium, as he was urged beyond a walk.

We award the following premiums :

Best single trotting horses, C. C. Cutting of Lee,	10 00
2d do., P. A. Russell of Great Barrington,	7 00
Best matched trotting horses, L. E. Rogers of West Stockbridge,	12 00
2d do., H. Calkins of Great Barrington,	8 00
Best walking horse, D. M. Crippen of Egremont,	5 00
2d do., G. H. Babcock of Lenox,	4 00
3d do., Silas S. Dewey of Alford,	3 00
4th do., A. G. Sweet of Tyringham,	2 00

Wm. O. Curtis,
John Stallman, } Committee.
Andrew Reasoner,

Great Barrington, Oct. 1st, 1868.

EIGHTEENTH DIVISION.

On Thursday, the trial of speed, matched trotting horses, open to all, took place, closed with three entries.

A. H. Tracy, of Pittsfield, 1. 1. 1.	$50 00
A. F. McCurdy of Great Barrington, 3. 2. 3.	20 00
P. A. Russell of Great Barrington, 2. 3. 3.	

Time—3:06½; 3:04½; 3.01.

The trotting for the third day was unusually interesting, the heats were closely contested, and the time very good, considering the state of the track, which was somewhat heavy, in consequence of rain.

For the trial of speed, single county horses, never having trotted for a purse, there were five entries; four started in the race, "Flocks" having been drawn.

A. H. Tracy of Pittsfield, b. g. "No Name," 3. 1. 1. 3. 1.	$30 00
W. J. Mallory of Lee, ch. g. "Hard Tack," 2. 2. 2. 1. 2.	20 00
C. H. Cutting of Lee, br. g. "Vermont Boy," 1. 3. 3. 2. 3.	15 00
D. W. Crippen of Egremont, s. m. "Daisey," 4. 4. 4. 4. 4.	10 00
P. A. Russell of Great Barrington, br. g. "Flocks." Drawn.	

Time—2:57; 2:53; 2:55; 2:56; 2;58.

The entries in the trial of speed, single horses, which was open to all horses were

Homer Briggs of Copake, "Burger," 1. 1. 1.	$100 00
George Taber, of Dover Plains, "Bones," 2. 4. 2.	50 00
C. G. Sharpklein of W. Hollow, "Mystery," 3. 2. 3.	
J. C. Hoag, of W. Hollow, "Capt. Tallman," 4. 3. 4.	

DAVID S DRAPER,
JOHN H. COFFING,
WILLIAM DARBE, } Committee.
H. D. TRAIN,
P. C. LANGDON,

POULTRY.

Best Trio of Turkeys, F. K. Hinckley of Lee,	$3 00
2d do., H. D. Hollenbeck of Egremont,	2 00
3d do., H. G. Leonard, of Egremont,	1 00
Best Trio of Geese, Elihu Church, Alford,	3 00
2d do., A. B. Stafford of Stockbridge,	2 00
3d do., H. M. Bassett of Lee,	1 00
Best Coop Ducks, Hiram Dings of Egremont,	2 00
2d do., G. H. Race of Egremont,	1 00
3d do., W. H. Palmer of Stockbridge,	1 00
4th do., S. Hopkins Bushnell of Sheffield,	1 00
5th do., Henry Ticknor of Alford,	50
6th do.. H. A. Carpenter of Stockbridge,	50

Best Coop Fowls, Geo. Bartholomew of Sheffield,	2 00
2d do., Rufus C. Fargo, of Monterey,	1 50
3d do., Wm. Stevens of Sheffield,	1 00
Bolton Greys, H. D. Hollenbeck of Egremont,	1 00
Bramahs, Geo. W. Smith of Alford,	1 00
Do., G. H. Codding of Egremont,	1 00
Do., Crossed, Erastus Warner of Great Barrington,	1 00
Silver Hamburgh, Orrin E. Clark of Sheffield,	1 00
White Hamburg, Wm. Wilson, Sheffield,	1 00
Golden Pheasant, J. H. Baldwin of Becket,	2 00
do.. E. G. Langdon of Lee,	1 00
Peacocks, C. G. Hollenbeck of Great Barrington,	1 00
Seebright Fowls, Orren H. Munson of Monterey,	1 00
Fowls, C. L. Wright of Egremont,	1 00
Do., Ozias Olds of Great Barrington,	1 00
Do., Samuel B. Cone of Lee,	1 00
Do., John R. Prindle of Alford,	1 00
Do., M. S. Heath of Stockbridge,	1 00
Do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge,	1 00
Do., George Kellogg of Sheffield,	1 00

HENRY WINCHELL,
ISAAC PERRY, } Committee.
ABEL FRENCH,

PLOWING—HORSE TEAMS.

The committee on horse teams, beg leave to report that notwithstanding the ridged, rough lands selected for the competitors to try their skill and power of endurance, yet they took the monster by the horns with resolution and skill, such as your committee has not seen, and to a man, did their work well, well worthy of the society's favor. Your committee would make a suggestion in regard to the depth of plowing and do recommend that seven inches should be instituted for the six inches, the order of last year, and that the last furrow but one should be plowed only five inches deep and the last furrow six inches deep; that will leave one inch for the land side sufficient to hold it to turn the last furrow with ease.

Plowing horse teams, 7 entries.

Best plowing team, Patrick Burns of Stockbridge,	$8 00
2d do., Wm. S. Wilcox of Sheffield,	7 00
3d do., Benton E. Stoddard of Alford,	6 00
4th do., John Winthrop of Stockbridge,	5 00
5th do., Warren Crissey of Great Barrington,	4 00

JOSHUA R. LAWTON,
FRANKLIN G. ABBEY, } Committee.
HENRY DRESSER,

PLOWING—OX TEAMS.

The committee upon plowing with ox teams have attended to the duty assinged them, and report as follows: There were but three competitors presented themselves, and the plowing by all was excellent, and the committee award as follows:

Best plowing, Horatio Tuttle of Sheffield,	$8 00
2d do., E. M. Joyner of Sheffield,	7 00
3d do, H. Luddington of Great Barrington,	6 00

Respectfully submitted.

L. M. Pixley,
O. Wolcott,
T. D. Thatcher,
Committee.

ORCHARDS.

The committee on orchards received invitations to examine the apple orchards of Mr. Harvey Roys of Sheffield; Mr. Alfred H. Alexander of New Marlboro', and Mr. William Royce of Lanesboro', all of which they visited in 1866, and in 1868. Mr. Roys' orchard was set the spring of '66, consisting of fifty trees, thirty feet apart one way, and twenty the other. Should we change the distance, we would say thirty feet, at least, both ways, would be better; yes, even forty feet is better on good soil. Mr. Roys has made a good selection of trees, very good varieties, and for care is worthy of much credit. Mr. Alexander's trees numbering over one hundred well selected trees, well set, good soil, but no care after setting, and as we compare Mr. Roys' with Mr. Alexander's it shows that it is not enough merely to set a tree but it must be cared for. For "just as the twig is bent the tree is inclined."

We think Mr. Royce of Lanesboro' made a mistake in the selection of his ground, and as he has a beautiful location for the number of trees that he has set—being a little over fifty—the committee would recommend the re-setting of his orchard, and refer him to the associated editor of the *Gleaner* for council, for we think him to be a model man, especially in the cultivation of fruit trees. Mr. Roys' orchard was set on the modern quincunx plan, just thirty feet from tree to tree, forming rows in every direction. Thinking so much of the plan on which these trees were set, we almost lost sight of the growth of the tree.

In consideration of which we award:

First premium, Harvey Roys of Sheffield,	$8 00
3d do., William Royce of Lanesboro',	4 00

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Zacheus Cande,
S. M. Cooper,
Harry Rhoades,
Committee.

RECLAIMED LANDS.

The committee appointed to examine orchards set in spring of 1865, and unproductive lands, both to be reported on and awards made in 1868, have attended to and performed said duty, and submit the following report:—

There were six pieces of land containing not less than one acre each, all of which could be greatly improved by a reasonable application of labor. The piece owned by Orren Curtiss of Sheffield, was on the west side of Harmon pond, and nearly on a level with the same, mostly muck covered, with bogs, hard hack, &c., the highest part covered with alders and other small wood, with a clay subsoil, a most forbidding looking piece of land, if it might be called such land by such a name.

Theodore H. Fenn entered one acre on the west side of Negro pond swamp, a piece entirely unproductive, where cattle could not walk on a considerable part of it, covered with bogs, hard hack, alders, and large pine stumps, whortleberry bushes, &c., soil, muck, clay and gravel subsoil.

John Hale of Tyringham, had in process of reclaiming, some three four acres, can be thoroughly drained, soil decomposed vegetable matter, washed from the hill east of it, by a brook running through the same.

Lebbeus M. Pixley of Great Barrington, showed to your committee a beautiful piece of land near his barn which showed what a master hand could do in reclaiming land, and did not, in the opinion of the committee, at the time of examination, come within the term unproductive and unreclaimed land.

Joel P. Kilbourn of Great Barrington, had from three to four acres of swamp land, covered with hard hack, willows, bushes, &c., but little muck, some peat and clay. Not enough had been done on it to entitle the owner to a premium.

David F. Goodrich of Stockbridge, entered one acre which many years since, had been mowed, producing coarse hay, but was entirely grown up to bogs, coarse grass and bushes. He did only enough on a small part of it to show your committee that more labor bestowed on that land would not be lost.

All the above lands have been examined three times by a majority, or or at least some one or more of the committee, viz: in September 1865, '67 and '68, they having witnessed the progress and success of the competitors. Your committee avail themselves of the statement of the competitors, and append the same as a part of their report.

The first premium was awarded to Orrin Curtis of Sheffield, $10 00

STATEMENT OF ORRIN CURTIS.

		Dr.
1865—To labor on main ditch,		$10 00
Underdrains, with plank bottoms and filled with stone,		15 00
Taking out brush, trees, hard hack, &c., by the roots,		35 00
Spreading muck from the main ditch, and harrowing in grass seed, &c.,		5 00
Grass seed, timothy, and red top,		5 00
Three loads manure,		3 00
Expenses in 1865,	$73 00	

1866—To cutting brush and weeds, and ploughing on the part joining the upland which was not finished last fall,	15 00
One under-drain commencing near the lines and running east six rods, and south four rods to main ditch,	12 00
One ditch near the centre of lot running from the upland, south to main ditch, with boards and poles in the bottom and filled wi h small stones,	6 00
Harrowing, pulling roots, and carting them,	3 00
Grass seed, red top and timothy,	4 00
Three loads manure,	3 00
Making and carting about four tons hay to barn,	12 00
	$128 00

	Cr.
1865—By five loads wood,	$10 00
1866—By fifteen loads of brush, weeds, muck, &c., drawn to the upland 20 cents per load,	3 00
Picking small stones from the upland to fill ditches, twenty-five loads, 20 c nts per load,	5 00
About one ton of hay or grass standing,	8 00
1867—About four tons hay put in barn,	48 00
1868—About four and one-half tons of hay standing on the lot, at $8 per ton,	36 00
	$110 00

2d do., Theodore H. Fenn of Stockbridge, .8 00

STATEMENT OF T. H. FENN.

In the fall of '65, immediately after the examination of your committee, I commenced taking out the bushes, alders, willows, hard hack, stumps and bogs, most of which were removed by hand labor, as it was impossible to use a team on parts of it. A large quantity of wood, the roots of stumps and bogs, buried in muck, were discovered on removing brushes and bogs, which had not been seen by me before. Ditches were made to nearly surround the piece, and which by taking off the water greatly aided me in drying and reducing to ashes the debris on the same. The account will stand nearly as follows :—

	Dr.	
To one-half expense of ditches,	$7 50	
Bogging and removing brush, stumps and logs on the acre, twenty days, at $1.50 per day,	30 00	
Burning debris, six days,	9 00	
Drawing off stumps with team,	5 00	
Grass Seed,	4 00	
Eight loads manure on part of it,	8 00	$63 50

	Cr.	
By ten cords of wood,	$20 00	
Sixty bushels ashes at 10 cents,	6 00	
Ten bushels turnips at 25 cents,	2 50	
Six bushels buckwheat at 95 cents,	5 70	
Four bushels peas in pod,	4 00	
One and one-half tons hay standing,	9 00	$47 20
By balance charged lands,		$16 3[illegible]
		$63 [illegible]

P. S.—The ditches were made at 25 cents per rod.

3d do John Hale of Tyringham, 5 00

STATEMENT OF JOHN HALE.

The piece of land that I entered for improvement was, in 1865, a swamp covered with stumps and brush. I commenced by cutting a ditch through one side of it, and in '65 removed most of the stumps and brush, and hoed into the muck potatoes on a part of it, from which I have harvested a good crop.

In the fall of '66, I worked a few days in getting out stumps, &c., but the season was so wet that I did not do as much as I wished to. In '67, I ploughed it with a heavy plough and two yoke of cattle, and this season I dragged it thoroughly and sowed buckwheat, and got a fair crop, and my land is now ready for the grass seed. Then I think my land will be worth $100 per acre, which was of little consequence before I commenced improving it. I have expended about $50 per acre, for which my crops would credit some $12.

D. B. Fenn,
W. W. Hollenbeck, } Chairman.

ORCHARDS SET IN 1865, AND REPORTED ON IN 1868.

Five entries were made. One the committee ascertained was set in 1864; another contained a few scattering trees, apples, pears and plums springing up all over a large field. A third with fifty trees, mostly in good condition when first examined, were found on final examination, short in number with a stinted growth, and not in the opinion of your committee entitled to a premium. The only orchards shown your committee worthy of premium, were those of Patrick Burns of Stockbridge, and J. P. Kilbourne of Great Barrington. Burns has one hundred and fifty trees, not a tree missing set in a gravelly loam soil (a hop yard), situated on the southern slope of a hill, a most beautiful and promising place for one in the decline of years to seek shelter in their shade, and pluck and eat as good, if not better apples than Eden e'er produced. The trees were set in the soil without any manure or compost, and one man dug the holes as fast as two could set the trees. Beautiful specimens of apples were exhibited to the committee and

also at the fair, taken from these same trees of only three years growth. We award P. Burns of Stockbridge, for the best apple orchard set in 1865, $8 00

R. P. Kilbourne of Great Barrington has a beautiful orchard of more than one hundred trees, set in 1865, in a gravel and loam soil with a compost of animal and vegetable manure. The trees exhibited a most healthy appearance, a vigorous growth and early promise. The selection is of the choicest standard varieties, and exhibits the judgment and good *taste* of the owner.

We award R. P. Kilbourn of Great Barrington, second premium, $6 00

D. F. Fenn,
W. W. Hollenbeck, } Committee.

181
1869

TRANSACTIONS

—OF THE—

HOUSATONIC AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

FOR 1869,

AT THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CATTLE SHOW AND FAIR

—HELD AT—

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

—ALSO, THE—

LIST OF PREMIUMS,

COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

For 1870.

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.:
MARCUS H. ROGERS, STEAM JOB PRINTER.
1870.

TRANSACTIONS

—OF THE—

HOUSATONIC AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

FOR THE YEAR 1869,

—INCLUDING THE—

Address of RICHARD GOODMAN, Esq., of Lenox,

AT THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CATTLE SHOW AND FAIR,

—HELD AT—

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.,

Sept. 29th and 30th and Oct. 1st, 1869.

—ALSO, THE—

LIST OF PREMIUMS,

COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

For 1870.

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.:
MARCUS H. ROGERS, STEAM JOB PRINTER,
1870.

STATE LIBRARY OF MASSACHUSETTS APR 5 1923 CAMBRIDGE

OFFICERS FOR 1869.

MARSHALL S. BIDWELL of Monterey, President.
PARLEY A. RUSSELL of Great Barrington, 1st Vice-Pres.
RALPH LITTLE of Sheffield, 2d Vice-Pres.
JUSTIN DEWEY, Jr., of Great Barrington, Treasurer.
HENRY T. ROBBINS of Great Barrington, Secretary.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

MARSHALL S. BIDWELL, Of Monterey.
PARLEY A. RUSSELL, Of Great Barrington.
RALPH LITTLE, Of Sheffield.
JUSTIN DEWEY, Jr., Of Great Barrington.
HENRY T. ROBBINS, Of Great Barrington,
JAMES H. ROWLEY, Of Egremont.
THOMAS WELLS, Of Stockbridge.
JAMES HYDE, Of New Marlboro'.
ALONZO BRADLEY, Of Lee.
EZRA C. TICKNOR, Of Alford.

COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS,

ISAAC SEELEY of Great Barrington,
JOHN L. DODGE of Great Barrington,
HERBERT C. JOYNER of Great Barrington.

SUPERINTENDENT OF FAIR GROUNDS,

EDWIN HURLBUBT of Great Barrington.

DELEGATE TO THE STATE BOARD,

T. D. THATCHER, of Lee.

ADDRESS.

THE OPPORTUNITIES OF THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

Friends and Fellow Members of the Housatonic Agricultural Society: —I congratulate you upon an reassembling on this twenty-eighth anniversary of this flourishing association, under such auspicious aspects. The heavens smile upon us as they generally do upon the efforts of the farmers of Southern Berkshire and we need not anticipate their frowns so long as we continue the proud work of striving to elevate our calling by the best means within our reach. I rejoice with you upon the fine weather, the great display of cattle, of horticultural specimens from your gardens and fields, of the handiwork of our female associates exhibited in this hall, and last, but not least, on the brave show of men, women and youths here assembled to grace the occasion.

All nations, ancient and modern, have in some form attested their veneration for agriculture, either by ceremonies at the beginning of the year, or by festivals at its close; but it has been reserved for the Yankee mind to invent and perpetuate a system by which the advantages of common fairs, town meetings on agricultural subjects, and agricultural sermons are combined.

In August, 1810, Elkanah H. Watson, then an amateur farmer in Pittsfield, with twenty-six others, prepared and presented an appeal for an exhibition in the square in the village of Pittsfield, on the first of October ensuing, from nine to three o'clock, at which time the first Berkshire cattle show was exhibited with considerable eclat, though the farmers in the vicinity held back many of their animals for fear of being laughed at, "which," says Mr. Watson, "compelled me to lead the way with several prime animals," and as he had previously purchased some blooded pigs from Dutchess county, and Durham, or, as they were then called, *English* Bulls

from Cherry Valley, in the State of New York, he was probably enabled to make the Pittsfield farmers rejoice that they had not put in competition their long legged, tall, lank sided swine, and their diminutive, peak backed mongrel bulls. But this show prepared the way for the "real exhibition" of 1811, and the incorporation of the Berkshire Agricultural Society,—with ample powers but no funds. The clergy were at first shy of officiating on these occasions, considering them bubbles of the moment, but these bubbles have increased into tidal waves, washing not only the shores of New England, but the whole American continent. The list of agricultural fairs in the United States amounts to, at least, one thousand, and wherever the Yankee farmer goes, he carries with him, in addition to his pulpit, his school-house and his town meeting, his annual cattle show, and neither ministers nor lawyers are any longer shy of officiating on these occasions, either as exhibitors, preachers or spectators.

But Elkanah's troubles were not over even after the successful establishment of the Berkshire Agricultural Society, and the filling its coffers with the aid of funds from Boston. His next endeavor was to get the female part of the community to identify itself with the society. "It was a great object" says the enthusiastic old man, when in his old age relating these occurrences, "to excite the females to a spirit of emulation; we were satisfied no measures would lead to that result with so much certainty as premiums on domestic manufactures and closing the second 'Farmers' holiday' in innocent festivity by an agricultural ball; also, to unite them in singing pastoral odes at the church." All of which was effected in 1813, as well as the organization of a viewing committee of agriculture, and the old gentlemen relates with marvellous interest, how he managed to induce the weaker sex to assemble together in a private room "where some valuable premiums of silver plate were exclusively devoted to them," to be awarded on domestic manufactures and how they wouldn't go in until he procured his wife to precede them, *such was their timidity!* And what a glorious sight, said he, "to see a group of the most respectable farmers, (as if under the solemnity of an oath,) critically inspecting in the midst of fields of grain, grass, vegetables, &c. Also, the state of the orchards, buildings, fences and farming utensils, and to witness the anxious candidate for premiums attentively seizing every lisp favorable to his husbandry, or probable success," a sight, said he, "more exhilarating to the friends of patriotism than to view the gorgeous pageantry of palaces and their pampered tenants decorated in gold!"

This was a little more than fifty years since, and the "Berkshire system" of cattle shows, with some modifications, has prevailed over the country. The novelty of crop viewing has vanished with the timidity of the fair sex, who are no longer afraid of being laughed at, but rather dare to do whatever man essays, and we are to-day assembled as members of one of the most flourishing of these exhibitions, at the close of a bountiful harvest, to bring together our best if not first fruits, to exhibit our best animals, including our wives, our children and our noble selves, and to listen to the lesson of the day, and wind up our festivities by relieving our treasurer of his load of silver. Now, if we had time, the true way of arriving at the best results from our gathering together, would be to resolve ourselves into a model town-meeting, with a president and presidentress, and give the substance of our doings during the year, and then compare notes and strike the balance in favor of those who have served the Lord as faithfully when planting, manuring and hoeing, as when singing hallelujahs, and whose handiwork bespeaks His and their praise. But for the same reason that the ancient Wittenagemottes or assemblies of the whole people have to give way to the modern contrivances of Parliaments and Legislatures, in which the few represent the many, on this occasion we are forced to put up with a substitute, or representative, whose endeavor will be to hold up your hands in the good work, and set before you some of the privileges and responsibilities, as well as opportunities of farming in New England, and we will defer to the holidays those "innocent festivities" of Mr. Watson, at which the younger members may "trip the light fantastic toes," and the elder the as light and flowing tongues, and all together partake of that combined feast and flow, for which the "Farmers' Festivals" of Berkshire have become famous.

"What a poor cuss the man must be who owns this farm," said a traveler, as he rode past an immensely neglected one. "Not so poor as you think," exclaimed a voice from a head which peeped out over the wall, "I only own one-half of it!" This anecdote might have been plastered on to good many farms, even in Berkshire county, in Watson's time, but since then wherever it has paid to farm well, cultivation has advanced, and a man is not ashamed to own a whole farm in any settled part of New England, and the brains must be wanting where some use cannot be made of all the arable and woodland, and a profit realized in the multiplication of animals, the sale of butter, cheese or milk, the distribution of vegetables and small fruits in our manufacturing towns, the supplying of beef and

lambs to the butchers, hay and grain to the villages, cream to the hotels, and in other ways converting not only potatoes, but all the produce of the soil into human nature, *for a consideration.* We have ceased to have a bee for the purpose of removing into the neighboring stream the manure incumbering our farm yards, and our system of enriching the land is no longer comparable to the farmer's cider which was so weak that the drinker asked him how many barrels he made last year, and on being told fifteen, replied: "If you had had another apple you could have made another barrel!"

The old prejudices and superstitions, which like rats in a trap, get into men's minds easily, but find a great difficulty in getting out, against "high farming," including in that phrase the best modes of culture, draining, use of most improved implements, blooded and high grade stock, and getting information from the experience of others as related in agricultural papers and books, have been eradicated, and we are now prepared to go on developing ourselves and our farms as rapidly as possible, and we are not prepared to say that we can discern the beginning of the end when improvements in agricultural processes or results will cease

Having arrived at this point in our progress, it is time for us to consider what we have to accomplish, not merely as farmers, but as men and philanthropists. Every man's pursuit is enobled, not only by the character of the work he is engaged in, but by the object for which he works, and the one pursuit is as respectable as another, provided it is directed towards noble ends. The man who lives but to *continue* without any definite object in existence might as well be in one business as another; he enobles none and none shed lustre on him, because his purpose is not defined. *We* have a mission, and it is of the highest importance that we discern what it is, and in what manner we can best promote its interests.

As a nation we are an agricultural people, more so than any other people in the world, and we are destined, not only to feed untold multitudes on our own hemisphere, but to export food to the wanting myriads across the oceans, who even now depend upon our breadstuffs to eke out the measure which falls to them from the large producing, but continually narrowed fields of the old world. With a population now of forty millions, that will probably be expanded to a round hundred millions before the year 1900, with possessions enlarged from the original narrow strip along the Atlantic coast, into a mighty empire, stretching three thousand miles across the continent to the Pacific Ocean, and upward from the Mexican gulf to the

northern lakes and the Arctic regions of Alaska, with nearly fifty thousand miles of railroad that bring all sections of the Union into quicker communion than existed between Boston and Washington when the first agricultural society in Berkshire was established, with one hundred and fifty thousand miles of telegraph enabling widely separated states and people to interchange intelligence more rapidly than could have been done thirty years ago between the towns of a single county, what vistas of national greatness burst upon the mind when contemplating the future, and how immense the responsibility resting upon us, to shape that future aright. And step by step, with the expansion of territory and the increase of population, is the diffusion of all knowledges. Sciences are within the reach of the school boy, no longer locked up in libraries, but disseminated through schools, colleges, periodicals and papers; literature is peddled as industrously, from house to house, as tin ware. Art has its multiplication table, in photographs and chromos; the ballot box turns every man into a governor, and even fools rush in and appear to do very well where *formerly angels feared* to tread.

Let us glance for a moment, by way of illustration, at the lessons and condition of a kingdom whose past greatness and present extremities are the themes of every journalist, and the topic of familiar converse, and see the disastrous results of a want of consideration for the most important industrial resources of a country, of a preference for the glitter and show of barbaric idleness, to the comforts and solid worth arising from that industry and hard labor, which, thank God, is our heritage, and on which alone as the surest foundations can be safely erected the edifices of modern states.

Less than four hundred years ago this continent was discovered. Pile four men, each a century old, on top of each other, and the farthest removed could shake hands with Columbus as that perserving mariner waged ceaseless importunities for ships to find the Indias, or was realizing his dreams on the Island of Cuba, or was carried in chains back to Spain, accused of manifold misdemeanors, or was winding up his eventful life in servile repose.

Three hundred years ago, and that same Spain had reached a point of greatness, owing to her vast possessions in the old and new world, that made her emperor and king aspire to universal dominion—a dream shattered by the growth of protestant christianity, and the wooden walls of Old England. In another century her population fell from ten to six millions ;

cities were decimated, thousands of villages depopulated; in every year myriads emigrated to Mexico and Peru—the emigration to America depriving Spain of thirty millions of inhabitants and reducing a populous and admirably cultivated country to a desert. How came all this about? By a process diametrically opposite to that of this country and century. First by the expulsion of the Moors, the famed cultivators of the middle ages, and the state oppression of the only true sources of national wealth, agriculture, industry and commerce. Sully, the greater minister of the great French king, Henry IV, said of agriculture, as affecting Spain, that it was the true mines and treasures of Peru, yet the Spaniards directed a series of laws against it, and the blood thirsty Philip II had the incredible folly to pass a law to punish with fourteen years exile the agriculturist who made bread of his own corn, or sold it in the public market, and farmers were prohibited from enclosing their lands, as otherwise the million sheep of the nobles might not have sufficient ground to graze upon. Industry and commerce shared the same fate as agriculture. Taxes were laid on some classes of artizans so great that it was cheaper for them to be idle than to work. All honest labor fell under the ban of prejudice, and the only service considered worthy of a Spaniard, was to become one of the starved ragged nobles, or to enter into the domestic service of a noble house. The natural result was, that all lucrative occupations fell into the hands of Jews and foreigners. All the wealth of Mexico and Peru—millions upon millions—passed through the country as water through a tub of the Danaids. It swallowed every thing and deposited nothing after the fashion of all idlers and spendthrifts. People took to the monastic life, not only from superstition and to obtain a subsistence in a hunger stricken country, but for the same reason that they took to emigration and avoided marriage—in absolute despair of the future. There were nine thousand monasteries, and nine hundred and twenty eight convents in the kingdom, eighty six thousand priests, sixty thousand monks, and thirty-three thousand nuns, or out of a population of less than six millions, nearly two hundred thousand persons were devoted to consecrated idleness and celibacy. By entails and intermarriages, the accumulation of landed property in single hands was enormous, some land owners having as many as eighty thousand people on their estates, who could never acquire any property on the lands they cultivated, and in addition to this a fifth part of the soil was in the hands of priests and monks. Can you wonder that such a country has come to grief—that she has been for years the derided one among civilized

nations, and that now, waking from her long sleep, she is childish, bankrupt, and that no king of any character is *willing to accept* her throne?

What Spain was three hundred years ago as to grandeur, wealth of possessions and money, we are to-day, or soon will be, and what she is to-day we may be in another century, if we wander from our true course and pursue the ignis fatuus that led her estray. Even now the same causes which led her to destruction, crop out in nations of much higher civilization than Spain ever claimed, and when we look to engrossment of all lands in a few families in England, to the absorption of all labor in cultivation among classes having no interest in the soil, to the extinction of all independent yoemen, or middle men, to the strong lines of demarcation between rich and poor, to the vast emigration of her industrious population, we tremble lest another hand writing on the wall shall announce *her* debasement, and only receive encouragement by the reaction which has taken place among the working and commercial classes, occasioned by the successful issue of our republic from the flames of civil war. And even from the side of our huge body appear, occasionally, signs of weakness, such as the desire of one part of the nation to expatriate our "Moors" (black-a-moors,) the freedmen of the South, and thus weaken us by the despoilment of four millions of agricultural laborers; the opposition in another latitude to the emigration to our shores of the myriads of skilled artizans from the teeming East, the agglomeration of lands in the ownership of an ecclesiastical hierarchy, the accumulation of irresponsible power in railroad corporations, and of great wealth in a few individuals, and the concentration of population in our large cities, and last, but not least, the disfavor in which the pursuit of agriculture is held by the fastidious citizens, the college graduate, and worse than either, by our own sons and daughters. For instance, in Massachusetts there are twenty-six cities, and large towns, which contain a little less than half the population, and in which were born in 1867, more than half of the children born that year. That tells strongly against us; for in the first place, the mortality of infants is much greater in the cities than in the country, and the population is thus annually reduced, needlessly, nearly a seventh of those born; and in the second place, there is not much hope of many of those demoralized by first seeing the light of day in those crowded walks, ever having virtue enough to become instruments in cultivating the soil, and adding to the real productiveness of the nation. A few, very few, when success has crowned their efforts, realize their youthful aspirations by retiring into the country; but the mass has become *macad-*

amised, hardened out of all rural virtues, and agree with Charles Lamb who said he would have sinned to get out of the Garden of Paradise; or are like Mr. Snagsby in Dickens' "Bleak House," who got such a flavor of the country out of telling his two apprentices how he had heard say that a brook "as clear as chrys-t-tal" once ran right down the middle of Holborn leading slap away into the meadows—*that he never wanted to go there!* Another serious mischief to the cause of agriculture, and true national prosperity, is the hasty mode of culture practiced in the great West. Our emigrants are the same souls in new bodies, that, when landed by Columbus, Pizarro, and other great discoverers on our shores, neglected the fertile lands, the fruits, the employment within reach by moderately skilled laborers, and clamored for gold. The present pioneers are but skimming the surface, and the Yankee farmer is discouraged occasionally, and says: "I cannot compete with those men who plow up a black prairie that costs them a dollar and a quarter an acre, and harvest a splendid crop with such tools that one man can do the work of six." But remember that "when the Western surface is first invaded, the settler finds a store of the most delicate and precious plant food—potash left there by annual burning; phosphoric acid from ages of antecedent animal life, and the delicate but evanvescent humus and ammonia from the decay of organic forms." The generous soil is taxed year after year, yielding her fatness without any return being made, and what follows is seen in the rapid decline of production in all the wheat growing states from New York to the Pacific.

This temporary farming, if not redeemed by more skillful culture, will soon turn the fertile plains of the great valley into arid deserts, and be as destructful to the great interests of humanity, as was the conversion of the fruitful soil of Spain into grazing lands for sheep; and desolate tracts, like those which still present in that country a terrible testimony to the world against the suicidal policy of Phillip, 2d, and his successors, will betray to future generations a monstrous mismanagement and habitual contempt for all sound principles of agriculture on the part of a people who will not be excused on the ground of ignorance, nor pardoned because our present greed swallows up all righteous considerations for the future.

Another evil arising from this rapid exhaustion of the sources of production in the East and the Middle States, is the extension of the line of cultivation so far westward of the great depots of produce, that the expense attending the transit of grain for foreign markets inland will absorb the profits, it being one of the indispensible conditions of commerce, of

whatever kind, that it shall be conducted with a profit over and above the expense of production and of transit to the place of consumption. And if we persist in our system of exhausting the soil as we proceed, and of driving production farther and farther into the West, and thus place ourselves at an increasing distance from the European market, the time will come when that market will be closed against us by price, however cheaply we may grow our grain.

It is only ingorance of the true principles of agricultural science, and the best modes of agricultural practice that leads men to the adoption of a wandering manner of life, and a scarifying of the soil, instead of thorough cultivation. The two systems of farming—high and low—or thorough and superficial, are like the two systems of civilization—the Asiatic and the Egyptian—which preceded the Hebrew culture. The former induced a wandering migratory sort of life—the latter was directed to things of practical utility. The study of the seasons, the labors demanded by the cultivation of the earth, the necessity of providing against the overflowings of the Nile, the forethought and contrivance thus imposed upon men, and the early discovered convenience of an interchange of superfluous commodities, opened a career to industry, commerce, and the arts, which essentially modified the Egyptian civilization, and through that, surrounding nations, and eventually through the Hebrews and the code of Moses, future ages and its influence, through our pilgrim fathers, extended to this continent.

Agriculture, the industries and commerce are the tripod on which stands the great nation over-ruling this Western world, and if one leg of the tripod is weakened the whole fabric is shaken and may totter to the fall. Our concern is with agriculture directly, and the mission of New England farmers is like that of the ancient priestess to keep the sacred flames always burning before the altar, that the torches elsewhere which go out may be re-kindled, and to send forth a refined and improved civilization and culture which shall restore the waste places, and not only prevent barbarism from obtaining the ascendancy, but by scientific cultivation cause the earth to yield tenfold beyond her pristine efforts, and as the marts of industry narrow the quantity of land, the quality shall so increase as to more than compensate for such withdrawal. New England churches, ministers, schools, teachers, doctors, and lawyers have exerted their due influence over the whole continent, and it is so far from being exhausted that the cry is still for more, and our pulpits, professional and scientific chairs are being continually emptied at the cry of give, give, send, send

from the exhaustless maw of the West. The next cry will be for scientific agriculturists who shall repair the broken ways of the hasty forerunners, and enable the populations who have stripped the surface of its richness, as their ancestors the rings from the ears and noses of the aborigines, to restore the land by the improvements in agricultural practice, which alone can enable them to compete with foreign prices, or even produce enough for the adequate support of the millions so soon to dot the whole regions on which now range the Indian, the bison, and the caravan of the emigrant.

But whilst we are ready to admit that agriculture is a fundamental source of our national prosperity, that the wearing out of land in the older and Western states is a matter of serious concern; that a remedy is needed, many are disposed to question the propriety of considering agriculture as a science that can act with precision and be moulded into shape, form and continued progress, but rather like a pile of bricks of different sorts and sizes, from which all can take and shape such fabric as each individual mind conceives, and then instead of one uniform structure we have thousands of incomplete, incongruous ones. But look further and see some master builder whose sagacity and skill are equal to the task of selection, and constructing a symmetrical edifice, and you will realize that the fault is our own, not that of the material, if the structure is not as it should be.

But you say, agriculture is uncertain in its results, depending upon the nature of the soil, the character of the climate, the atmosphere, and seasons, as well as instruments of culture, to produce its best effects, or any improved effect at all. How can it be a science adapted to man's capabilities, and upon which he can rely to restore the neglected soils and make the barren desert blossom like the rose? Agricultural science *is* empirical, experimental, and so are the acknowledged sciences of medicine, law and divinity—all tentative, and therefore progressive and adapting themselves to the needs of every climate, soil and disposition. It depends upon the character of those who use these sciences, whether they are mere trades for quacks, for there are quacks in religion, and quacks in medicine, and law, and politics, and agriculture. "Man is a dupable animal," and there is scarcely any one who may not, like a trout, be taken by tickling. So uncertain is the science of medicine, that, according to an old physician, seven-tenths of the patients do not die of their diseases but of the improper or excessive quantities of medicines given to them. A lady once said to the celebrated Petit, "so skillful an anatomist as you are, ought certainly to cure all diseases." He frankly replied, "you mistake, madam; it is

with physicians as with hackney coachmen who know all the streets, without knowing anything of what is going on within the houses." Churchill the poet, insinuates that

> "Most of the evils we poor mortals know,
> From doctors and the imagination flow."

Byron adds, also, a stanza :

> "This is the way physicians mend—or end us,
> *Secundum artem*—but although we sneer
> In health—we call them to attend us
> Without the least propensity to jeer."

"Medicine," says one of the most distinguished doctors of the old school, "destroys more persons than it saves." Yet notwithstanding this uncertainly—the want of knowledge of the composition and effects of the *materia medica*, the diverse action of the same compound upon different constitutions, the necessity of accommodating to the various climates, medicine is an acknowledged science, and its progress in promoting the welfare of humanity is constantly increasing in the ratio of the intelligence and learning of its professors, and was never so great as now.

Jurisprudence, in its practice, cannot be called a certain science. A man takes law as he does medicine, or a wife, for better or worse—generally the latter. It is like an eel trap—very easy to get into, but very difficult to get out of. The results of a law suit are uncertain, not because the law has not fixed principles, but by reason of the sometimes ignorance of its professors, the perversity of those who appeal to it, and the difficulty of arriving at certain facts by human testimony. Yet without its wholesome influence, society would not hold together; disorder would usurp the place of order, and chaos come again.

Religion exerts its beneficent functions under similar uncertainties as to results, as the kindred sciences. Negotiating between God and man, it has to be subject to the influences of the latter's disposition, and the harvest is according to the character of the soil on which the seed is sown. Some fall by the way side, and the fowls devour them; some upon stony places, and because there is not sufficient earth, they wither away; some fall among thorns and are choked; whilst others fall into good ground and bring forth fruit. Yet religion is a science for the reducing of man to the obedience of God, and works by laws and systems, and its defects and uncertainties are owing to the incompetency of the instruments employed, and the stubborness and inequality of the soil on which it works.

Agriculture is no less a science because the means used are not always adapted to the end in view. The only wonder is that with the little knowl-

edge we have of the mysteries of the soil and its creative agencies, we arrive at so certain results as we do, and our great aim and endeavor should be to understand more thoroughly the constituents of the land we cultivate, the means of developing their greatest capabilities for production, the true method of maintaining and restoring our lands to fertility, at the least possible expense in labor and money, the multiplication of domestic animals (which George Washington used to say was one of the greatest blessings to be bestowed on mankind,) the improvement of our vegetable productions, as well as our breeds of animals, and the art of adapting our skill to special crops or animals most suitable and profitable for the particular locality in which we are situated.

Oh ! but say some, we don't want to go West and redeem the faults of those, who, in their hasty progress have done so little for the true interests of agriculture. That's just the point, my friend ; it is needless for you, or me, or any of the well settled farmers of New England to leave their homes. Enough will want to go from our own households to make it necessary rather to restrain the inclination than foster it, and our duty is to see that those that set out have their lamps burning, their armor well on, their weapons properly adjusted that they may officer the armies of the uncultivated and do credit to our training and adaptation of their skill to their special calling. The famous seventh regiment of New York city, as a body, did nothing more illustrious in the late war, than go to Washington and Baltimore, and by garrisoning these points when danger threatened, allow other regiments to go to the field, and defeat the enemy. But over six hundred of the privates of that well organized body, took rank as officers of other newly summoned regiments, and by their skill did more good in drilling and bringing into preparation for active work these new levies, than if they had remained in the old seventh, and in that shape near the enemy. We had men enough for soldiers. What we wanted were skillful officers, and our West Points and military schools and military organizations supplied them. Now we propose by an early education in common schools, and behind the plough, continued when possible in academies and agricultural colleges, to educate, at least, leaders enough to make the advance of agriculture a certain thing, and fill up all the gaps which may be occasioned by heedlessness or disaster.

But, say some others, we know all that can be learnt of the processes of agriculture already. We can raise good stock, cut and store our hay and grain successfully, manure and hoe our crops, and generally maintain

our farms and ourselves profitably and comfortably. Of course, those that know everything are incapable of learning anything more. They remind me of an incident on a recent trip of one of the Illinois river packets—a light draught one, as there were only two feet of water in the channel. The passengers were suddenly startled by the cry of "man overboard." The steamer was stoped, and preparations were made to save him, when he was heard exclaiming: "Go ahead with your darned old steamboat, I'll walk behind you." Now, if there are any here so smart that our steamboat is too slow for them, we would respectfully recommend them to go ahead and let us follow more slowly, and as Pat said of the harrow, after the teeth fell out, we shall "*go a bit smoother* without them."

There is another class of objectors who are continually exclaiming that farming don't pay; that other kinds of work is more agreeable and point to the wealthy merchant, the millionaire, banker, and the railroad crœsus, as more worthy of imitation. It would be a sufficient answer to these croakers to say, that the necessity for farmers exists and will always exist, and that the work must be done by somebody, and must be made to pay—must become agreeable by habit. I don't suppose it is agreeable to the blacksmith, the machinist, the factory operative, the effeminate clerk, the toilers in cities, on the vasty deep, in mines, the myriads of workers above and below ground, who follow their trades from dawn to twilight, to pursue their various occupations so continuously, and get but the pittance of their day's wages, and have in too many cases no house nor permanent home, and when they die leave their families to the cold charities of the world It certainly can't be agreeable to the hard working ministers all over the country "to be, to do, and to suffer" for the small salaries they receive, and in comparison to the numbers engaged, there are as many lawyers, doctors and a great many more merchants and petty tradesmen, who receive less in the way of comfortable living, and a certainty for the future, than farmers. All these hard working orders occasionally look up to the few comets who rush madly across our spheres with their golden tails, and wish vainly that they too had the talent of turning everything into precious metals, but the wish is just as preposterous and fertile, as the wish of every soldier in the ranks to be an officer, of every child to be at once a grown man or woman, of every operative to be the wealthy manufacturer, of every boy to be a Grant, a Lincoln, or Washington. Leaving out the lucky few, let us look around among the great multitudes, and see if we can better our condition by exchanging places with them. In the city of New York,

with a population of over a million, scarce twenty thousand live in houses by themselves. At least, one-half of the whole population live in tenement houses and cellars. There were at the last census, sixteen thousand tenant houses, containing each an average of over seven families; in many cases an entire family occupying but a single room, and there is a story of an inspector who found four living in one room, chalk lines being drawn across in such a manner as to mark out a quarter of the floor for each family. "How do you get along here?" inquired the inspector. "Very well, sir," was the reply, "only the man in the farther corner keeps boarders!" and I regret to say that I have found many of the occupants of single rooms in tenement houses in that city, farmers by profession, who, in the hope of making money faster, have sold their farms, deprived themselves and family of a home for their old age, and so far from bettering their condition, have dropped from bad to worse, until death has released them; and relatives, or the public, have removed their families back to the country, or to the poor house. Do you find the condition of the laboring classes in the smaller cities and towns advanced in comfort beyond yours? Do they work any less? Do they have any better houses—or any at all? Do they have more or better to eat or drink? As much leisure to ride about, for social converse, for self-improvement, for education of children? And have they the same certainty that farmers have of a final provision for them left behind, when the portals of the grave open to receive the head of the household? As, according to the ancient philosopher, no man can be justly called happy whilst living, so no man's happiness can be measured by temporary wealth. Experience shows that those who have a regular business, and moderate competency, are the most fortunate, and if in addition they enjoy the full use of their limbs, are free from disease and misfortune, are blessed with wife and children, and *shall end their life well*, they may be pronounced happy.

This, then, is our position to-day. We are as comfortably situated as the more favored of the majority of mankind. We have an occupation rendered less toilsome every year by the introduction of machine in lieu of human labor—more profitable by the constantly increasing avenues of consumption—healthful from its very nature—keeping us amid heaven's breezes and pure air, instead of confining us in the fetid atmosphere of towns or cities; an occupation so scientific that its capabilities are boundless and only need the attention and intelligent conductors, to extend its benefits far beyond its present limits, and not only conduce to our own personal welfare,

but promote that of myriads present, and to come. Now, let us realize that the opportunity of the New England farmer has arrived. The whole world is clamorous for scientific labor. We are living, and shall continue to live, closer lives. Competition is to be sharper in all departments of industry; the lessons of the past are more searching and more exact. The line of demarkation between the cultivated and the uncultivated farmer, will become broader, and as men get rich by the skillful direction of the labor of others, rather than by that of their own hands, the uneducated farmers will have to do the drudgery, the poor pay work, and be employed by those who have learned to think, and can make their head-work direct the hand-work of the less favored. If, as I firmly believe, it is to be the mission of the New England farmers to go forth as scientific teachers and restore, not only the once fertile lands of the West, but rejuvenate the soils of the East, it is time to unfold our arms and prepare for the responsibilities thrust upon us.

The whole country, and our state especially, is aroused to the necessity of having institutions, especially adapted to the higher branches of instruction for farmers' sons, and we must not only avail ourselves of these advantages, but be clamorous for more. There is no reason why in our common schools, sciences which are the foundations of agricultural knowledge and practice should not be taught, why our girls as well as our boys should not learn the elements of a science by which, perhaps, they may yet rise to fame and fortune. Some one has said that God never made a man who was safe to be trusted out of sight of a woman, and certainly we are all the happier for keeping *them* in view and there is no reason why the coming woman, who is described as bright-eyed, full-chested, broad-shouldered, large-souled, intellectual being, able to walk, able to eat, and of course able to talk, will not assist in the management of the farms, and eventually usurp the business of raising small fruits for market, also vegetables, and flowers, and occasionally give such attention to raising stock as is not deemed unseemly by ladies of the best breeding abroad. And if these high considerations that I have set before you do not win your sympathies, let me assure you that education in your calling is the true road to riches. It is only by the ignorant that active capital acquired by their industry is unemployed in their business, and among the great advantages of scientific agriculture will be that of investing in it the monied capital which will be as productive as in other pursuits, and much more safely employed than if embarked in hazardous enterprises or doubtful invest-

ments. What Mr. Motley says of the Dutch Republic in its palmiest days is applicable to ours.

"In proportion to their numbers they were more productive of wealth than any other nation then existing. An excellent reason why the people were so well governed, so productive, and so enterprising, was the simple fact that they were an *educated* people." Now we claim to be an educated nation, but we cannot really become so until all professions and trades, not merely one or two or three, are represented by youth educated in all the special learning applicable thereunto, and each have a share and share alike in the sciences which underlie all business and callings.

The view that I present of the opportunity of the New England farmer is no wise chimerical. Scientific agriculture is hardly of half a century's growth, and in that time it has renovated nearly the whole of Europe. Agricultural schools have existed in the Old country more that fifty years, and under the new systems of husbandry propagated by their influences, profits have increased from 500 to 1000 per cent. Great enterprises like the cultivation of beets for sugar in France, and its extension to Russia, through the means of educated agriculturists, imported for that purpose from the former country, have been fostered by the appropriate scientific knowledge, and the value of arable lands has increased two and three fold. In the little kingdom of Hesse, which, during our revolution, was so poor that its mercenary ruler sold his subjects to England as instruments of our attempted subjugation, land under the treatment of improved husbandry has risen in value three hundred per cent. But we need only to look around among ourselves to see what education in farming has done and is doing. We have been educated by these agricultural societies, by the farmers' clubs, by the newspapers, and every one of you who is taking up a speciality, such as breeding stock, raising fruit, or sending milk to the cities, is in a process of education, because it rouses you to study all the departments connected with your labors, and to apply all your energies to make the resources of your farm meet the demands for the article you raise or sell. But we all regret that in our youth, when we were pursuing our avocations on the farm, we had not the opportunity of studying the sciences so intimately connected with our pursuits, that we might now have the knowledge through whose application we could make our farms produce two-fold more than they do, the pleasure which the prosecution of any undertaking whose *rationale* we understand always bestows, and the perseverance and method which are only given by precepts and principles grounded

on demonstration. This is what our children want—not mere theoretrical study, not a college education in the old sense, but an acquaintance with the physical sciences carried along *pari passu* with their work on the farms, thus combining the knowledge of principles with their constant application. In addition they want more from us than mere bed and board and a chance to work hard. They need our sympathetic encouragement, our instillment of the belief that agriculture can be the noblest employment of mankind, an application of all the knowledge we possess or can acquire, and at the proper season an appreciation of their efforts by a partnership or interest in the profits of the farm. By this course we shall be co-workers in raising up a class of scientific practical agriculturists, who will be prepared first to be successful in a moderately bad climate and a comparatively sterile soil like that of New England, and eventually to stem back the tide of slovenly cultivation threatening to overwhelm us in the West, and raise our country to its normal position of the leading agricultural country in the world.

The mottoes of our country are emphatically, Peace and Labor. We desire to be at peace with all, and to provide the means of support by honest labor to all. We claim that labor, whether of the head or hands, is alike honorable, and that more true glory is won by increasing the fertility of the earth, by the invention of implements which lessen the toil of the hand workers, than by creating new engines of war, or even using them successfully against our fellow men. Sir William Jones in an eloquent panegyric, nearly a century ago, said "he who makes two spears of grass grow where but one grew before, is a public benefactor far in advance of the noblest chieftains, who aided by armies and the enginery of war, sack cities carry conquest onward only to conquer, subjugate and desolate kingdoms." If that sentiment was true of the art of agriculture in its infancy, how much greater will be the glory of those, who, aided by the experience of the past, educated by the schools of the present and future, shall not only make two but dozens of spears of grass grow where but one grew before, shall restore by scientific effort the fertility of the ravished soil of the virgin West, and double and treble the products of the exhaustless farms of the older sections of the country. Of these efforts it may well be said:

> "The plough and the sickle shall shine bright in glory,
> When the sword and the sceptre shall crumble to rust,
> And the farmer shall live both in song and in story,
> When warriors and kings are forgotten in dust."

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

SUMMER CROPS.

The examination of the summer crops, occurring necessarily at a busy season of the year, and always performed with inconvenience to a committee of practical farmers, was attended with special embarrassment to your present committee ; but, having accepted the position, they commenced their labors on the thirteenth of July, "meaning business," and within two weeks examined the one hundred and forty-five crops entered, devoting such time as they deemed necessary to a fair comparison of the various crops, although a longer time for enjoying the hospitalities pressed upon them, and for a more extended interchange of opinions and experiences with the farming competitors, would have been both pleasant and profitable to themselves.

There were six entries of winter wheat—a crop entering more largely into the supply of daily food than any other, but one which is almost entirely neglected by the farmers of Southern Berkshire. Of the profitableness of growing winter wheat, as compared with some other crops, there may be a doubt, but of the possibility of growing it—none, as three of the crops entered abundantly attest, while the other three were not such as it would pay to cultivate. We know that the soil of Berkshire *has* given bounteous crops of wheat to a past generation of farmers, and we believe that the earth refuses to yield its increase only when some inexorable law of vegetable economy has been violated.

In a populous territory like ours, where more food is annually consumed than is grown, it ought to be an easy matter to maintain the original capacity of the soil by returning to it all of the elements of fertility taken up by the growing crops. Some of the older countries not only attain such a result, but show a constant improvement in their cultivated lands.

It is a common saying among farmers, that winter wheat is a good crop to "seed after." The tender nature of the wheat plant may be favorable for the grass, but the grass is undoubtedly bad for the wheat. Of the sixteen entries of spring wheat, a much better average was found. Some of the crops examined, we believe would compare favorably with the crops of the wheat growing regions of the West.

The rye crop, as grown in this vicinity, exhibits some peculiar features. While more acres are sown to rye than with any other grain, and while there is substantially but one variety, and that universally subject to the same influences, we believe there is no crop which gives such variable returns, and none in which the *average* yield is so much below the maximum. That while no other crop is so shabbily treated, there is none that responds more readily to *liberal* cultivation.

There were thirteen entries of barley, and nearly every one of them worthy of a premium.

Your committee having no experience themselves with this crop, were surprised to find it so extensively grown, and with such general success. If the yield of this season is not an exceptional one, the cultivation of this crop might be extended with profit.

The fifty three entries of oats indicate the prominent place which this crop holds in the list of farm products. The yield this year is uncommonly good, and your committee were much embarrassed in awarding the premiums on this crop. There were two pieces of Norway oats entered, each of one acre, and both fine crops, but, in our opinion, not equal to some fields of the more common varieties—estimating their value by the same standard. There is much yet to be learned in the simple matter of growing an oat crop, and one of the most important is to know how much seed to use. While all concede that early sowing is essential to success, there is great diversity of opinion and practice in regard to the quantity of seed necessary to be used. Our opinion is that generally too much seed is used, and that not sufficient care is taken in its selection. In selecting corn for seed we take only the best ears, and then reject any imperfect kernels, while the too common practice in sowing oats is to take them as they come from the threshing machine, or may be found in the feed bin, and think to make up in quantity whatever they may lack in quality. Now there is no doubt but if those farmers who sow from three to five bushels to the acre, could reject from one-third to one-half of that quantity, retaining and sowing only the *best*, their crops would be greatly improved, especially in the quality of the grain.

We frequently see a single grain of rye giving an increase of eighty to one hundred fold or more, while it is not at all uncommon for a single oat to mature from two hundred to three hundred perfect grains, and yet *the average increase of either is not more than fifteen fold.*

We think it safe to say that as a general rule—in all crops grown for their seeds—too much seed is sown, while in all crops grown for the stalk and leaf *too little* is used.

That farmers recognize the importance of improving their grain crops is evident from the eagerness with which they seize upon new varieties advertised in the markets, as also from the many experiments seen in growing the small parcels sent from the Agricultural Department. While these and all efforts to this end are to be commended, it strikes us that a more

promising field and one directly at hand is overlooked—we refer to the improvement of such varieties as we already have.

To note the many suggestions occurring to us on this subject would occupy too much space for this report. We may say briefly, that we believe the next great advancement in agriculture will be in improving the breed, so to speak, of our cereals. We believe that the same care and skill in selection and crossing which established the Durhams and Cotswolds, that the same intelligent efforts which have been so successful in improving the Grape and the Strawberry, would be even more amply rewarded in developing the small grains.

Let the Housatonic Agricultural Society be the first to inaugurate such an effort.

WINTER WHEAT.

For the best acre of winter wheat, Milton Adams, New Marlboro,	$7 00
2d do., William M. Chapin of Sheffield,	6 00
3d do., Ralph Little of Sheffield,	5 00

SPRING WHEAT.

For the best acre of spring wheat, William O. Curtiss of Lonox,	$7 00
2d do., A. J. Freeman of Monterey,	6 00
3d do., Jay Shears of Sheffield,	5 00
4th do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	4 00
5th do., Cyrus Crosby of Stockbridge,	3 00

FOUR ACRES RYE.

For the best 4 acres winter rye, Solomon Knickerbocker, Sheffield,	$8 00
2d do., Frederic Abbey Great Barrington,	7 00
3d do., Joseph P. Sheldon of Great Barrington,	6 00
4th do., George W. Stickles of Sheffield,	5 00
5th do., Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	4 00

ONE ACRE RYE.

For the best acre winter rye, James Bullard of Lee.	$7 00
2d do., Dwight Boardman of Sheffield,	6 00
3d do., Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	5 00
4th do., Levi Kilbourn of Great Barrington,	4 00
5th do., Merrick G. Hall of Great Barrington,	3 00
6th do , C. K. Lamphier of Lee,	2 00

FOUR ACRES OATS.

For the best 4 acres of oats, T. S. Baldwin of Egremont.	$7 00
2d do Joseph Wilcox of Sheffield,	6 00
3d do., J. P. Tobey of Great Barrington,	5 00
4th do , Henry L. Smith of Lee,	4 00

ONE ACRE OATS.

For the best acre of oats Samuel M. Cooper of Stockbridge,	$7 00
2d do , Elisha Collins of Great Barrington,	6 00
3d do., Sidney P. Lincoln of Stockbridge,	5 00
4th do., H. D. Hollenbeck of Egremont,	4 00
5th do., Elijah N. Hubbard of Great Barrington,	3 00
6th do., F. K. Hinckley of Lee,	2 00

BARLEY.

For the best acre of barley, Franklin Merrill of Lee,	$6 00
2d do., P. M. Shaylor of Lee,	5 00
3d do., S. L. Lincoln of Adams,	4 00
4th do., Dyer Waite of Egremont,	2 00

GRASS.

For best acre of grass John Cook of Lenox,	$6 00
2d do., A. C. Butler of Lenox,	5 00
3d do., Benton E. Stodard of Alford,	4 00
4th do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge,	3 00

GARDENS.

For the best vegetable garden, David Leavitt, Great Barrington,	$6 00
2d do , Dr. H. D. Train of Sheffield,	5 00
3d do., Stephen R. Miller of Sheffield,	4 00
4th do., Marshall Brace of Lee,	3 00

M. I. Wheeler,
Robert A. Potts, } Committee.
Isaac M. Taylor,

FALL CROPS.

The committee on fall crops respectfully submit the following report :

Many of the crops examined were very prolific, the usual result of good farming. There is a fine yield of potatoes, of excellent quality. Considering the unfavorable season, the corn crop exceeded our expectations, and most of the crops inspected gave evidence of superior culture. Those men, who by the aid of science and practical skill, cause the earth to bring forth abundantly of those products committed to her bosom, evince a spirit of enterprise truly commendable. It is a pleasure to come in contact with such men, to learn the course of procedure which crown them with success, to witness the regularity, order and neatness which prevails, and the methodical manner in which every thing is conducted. Their fences stand erect and entire, and are not hedged in with weeds, bushes and briars, their meadows are clothed with a deep green verdure, and their crops luxuriate on the fatness of the soil. They have an eye to the most approved and available fertilizers, their fruit trees are carefully pruned and nursed with proper

care. They use the most approved and efficient implements of husbandry, their houses, barns and out-buildings are neat and in trim, there is a place for every thing and everything in its place, and in some instances, the highway even in their immediate precinct, is in keeping with the rest, which is what we like to see, and by *all means* would encourage and recommend. The effect is pleasing to the eye, and makes a favorable impression upon the traveller, who, as he passes along and takes a glance at the surroundings and sees those *sure* evidences of thrift and enterprise forms at once, a favorable opinion of the character and reputation of the owner, as a farmer. We would say to those haphazard, blind-chance farmers, who usually complain of hard times and short crops, who seldom read, experiment, take council or learn from the experience of others, and condemn book farming in unqualified terms, "go thou and do likewise." *It is the kind of farming that pays.* The man who plants and sows upon slovenly prepared and improverished soil, subsequently half tilled, and then relies on Providence and the moon to give him a crop, must expect, and deserves to fail. Providence helps those that help themselves. He furnishes the elements, but man is the agent through whose instrumentality they are converted into material, which serves him for food, comfort and convenience. Plants must have food adapted to their nature, and in sufficient quantities, or like a half starved ox or cow, they mete us little profit. How is a man expected to know the different properties of various soils, the organic elements that enter into and build up the vegetable world, their nature and adaptation, if he will not *try* to inform himself by study, observation, practice and experience? It is to the scientific and *practical* men that we are indebted for the many improvements made, and theories developed in the art of farming, such as introducing artificial fertilizers adapted to soils deficient in certain properties, underdraining where required, irrigating where practicable, subsoiling where expedient, &c, &c. To properly prepare and till the ground; to know in what properties it is deficient and what fertilizers to apply, what time, and in what quantity to produce a certain crop, lies the great secret of success in farming. How much is allowed to run to waste or neglected, about the premises of almost every farmer, which, if properly husbanded and treated, would be of great value as fertilezers! Such as soap-suds, sink-drippings, accumulations of the cess-pool, old bones, scrapings of the gutters, even soot, hair and feathers, &c., are saved in some countries, all of which are *rich* in those elements which constitute plant food. The most disgusting and loathsome substances, which naturally accumulate about our dwellings and out-houses, might be made a source of profit, which, if left exposed to rot and decay, with nothing to absorb those deleterious gasses they emit, such a sulphuretted hydrogen and ammonia, contaminate the air, breeding disease and causing in some instances, no doubt, premature death. But let them be husbanded and judiciously applied to the soil, and nature, in her great laboratory, will silently distill those noxious elements, mingle and combine them into the most palatable food or tempting fruits that come to our tables. The various nitrates and phosphates must be incorporated

with and furnish d to the soil in some form, or our lands will deteriorate, and crops fail to e remunerative. There should be a constant endeavor to improve the qua y of our fruits and vegetables, by selecting the earliest and plumpest s ls and introducing new varieties. Skill, cultivation and perseverance ha wrought wonders in this respect. Compare our Greenings, Spitzenber s, Baldwins, &c., with the inferior crab apple from which they took their rigin, the Vergaliens and Bartletts, with the hard choky and unwholesom pear, the melting, downy peach with the bitter acrid fruit from which it sp ng; or compare that almost indispensable article of food the potato, with he unpalatable tubers found growing wild on this continent, from whic they were introduced, or that most important of all the cereals for household purposes, wheat, with the bitter worthless species of grass seed from which it was developed, and so we might enumerate. We fling out these few suggestions, hoping *some* will be prompted to enquire ; How can I better my condition as a farmer ? and by study, practice and experience, as has been suggested, find a solution to the question. Farming is a noble occupation, and the farmers themselves the back-bone and sinew of our nation. Well may the successful farmer be proud of his fine estates, nimble steeds, sleek herds, fleecy flocks and luxuriant crops. His is a life of independence which no other occupation equals, and is in a measure, devoid of that excitement and care which harass the king and luxurious millionaire. In the great battle of life, let them come forward into the front ranks, bearing upon their conspicuous standard the significant motto, "*Excelsior*."

We would not forget to mention that the gentlemanly proprietors of those estates we visited, extended to us their hospitality, with a warmth and generosity which entitles them to our sincere thanks We award the following premiums.

Whole number of entries 161, classed as follows : Corn, four acres, 19 entries; buckwheat, 17 entries; potatoes, 32 entries; beans, 5; beets, 5 entries; carrots, 9 entries; turnips, 9 entries; cabbages, 9 entries; cranberries, 1 entry; hops, 3 entries; sowed corn, 4 entries; farms, 9 entries.

For best four acres of corn, Orrin Curtiss of Sheffield,	$10 00
2d do., Frederick Abbey of Great Barrington,	8 00
3d do., David S. Draper of Great Barrington,	7 00
4th do., P. M. Shaylor of Lee,	6 00
5th do., Henry L. Smith of Lee,	5 00
6th do., Warren Crissey of Great Barrington,	4 00

Having $14 in our hands to award for sugar beets and cranberries, there being but one entry, we award an extra premium to L. S. Butler of Lenox, on four acres of corn, $2 00

do., Frank K. Hinckley of Lee,	2 00
do., Guy Day of Great Barrington,	2 00
For the best one acre corn, Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	9 00
2d do., Amaziah Gaines of Stockbridge,	8 00
3d do., John Hickey of Great Barrington,	7 00

For the 4th best acre Corn, George O. Peck of Lenox,	6 00
5th do., Franklin V. Palmer of Stockbridge,	5 00
6th do., George Stiner of Sheffield,	4 00
7th do., William H. Palmer of Stockbridge,	3 00
8th, extra premium, H. Callender of Sheffield,	2 00
9th " " James Bullard of Lee,	2 00

BUCKWHEAT.

For the best acre of buckwheat, Leonard Post of Alford,	$5 00
2d do., Henry Peck of Alford,	4 00
3d do., Reuben W. Oles of Great Barrington,	3 00
4th do., Joseph A. Kline of Egremont,	2 00
5th do, N. Burtch of Sheffield,	1 00
Extra, Cyrus Strong of Egremont,	1 00

ONE HALF ACRE POTATOES.

For best one half acre of potatoes, H. S. Goodale, Mt. Washington, $7 00

Grass in 1867; no manure; potatoes in 1868; ten loads charcoal dust; soil, loam; plowed once seven inches deep; harrowed; about one hundred and fifty pounds home-made superphosphate, sown in furrows, in 1869; seed Gleason, quartered in cellar early in April—furrows made with one-horse plow; cost, $3.50; superphosphate sown, and seed distributed about ten inches apart in drill—covered with plow; harrowed and cross-harrowed when just appearing above ground; cultivator through one month later; rapidly followed with hand hoe; cost about $2.00; dug Oct. 15th, with Allen's potato digger; cost about four cents per bushel.

2d do., Hugh Comstock of Great Barrington,	6 00
3d do., William P. Kilbourn of Great Barrington,	5 00
4th do., Avery E. Harris of West Stockbridge,	4 00
5th do., T. S. Heath of Stockbridge,	3 00
6th do., John R. Roberts of Stockbridge,	2 00
Extra, C. D. Langdon of Monterey,	2 00

H. S. Goodale is a most successful cultivator of potatoes, which he makes a speciality, and is conferring a great favor upon the public, in his experiments upon different varieties, and in publishing his results to the world in tabular form. His zeal and success in experimenting and raising this esculent entitles him to the appellation of *Potato King* of Southern Berkshire.

ONE QUARTER ACRE WHITE BEANS.

For best one quarter acre white beans, E. Collins, Gt. Barrington,	$3 00
2d do., Albert C. Butler of Lenox,	2 00
3d do., J. D. Elliot of Egremont,	1 00

We think it would be well, and it is surprising that farmers who "know beans," that is, their nutritious value as an article of food, don't raise more of them, they being easily cultivated, and will grow on inferior soil.

ONE QUARTER ACRE SUGAR BEETS.

For the best one quarter acre sugar beets Alonzo Bradley, Lee,	$5 00
2d do., Milton Adams of New Marlboro,	3 00

ONE QUARTER ACRE CARROTS.

For the best one quarter acre carrots, Marshal Brace of Lee,	$5 00
2d do., Ebenezer Chadwick of Great Barrington,	4 00
3d do., Ira J. Lowery of Egremont,	3 00
4th do., Henry C. Warner of Great Barrington,	2 00

ONE QUARTER ACRE SWEEDISH TURNIPS.

For the best quarter acre sweedish turnips, C. Dunning, Lenox,	$4 00
2d do., George G. Cropper of Sheffield,	3 00
3d do., Harvey H. B. Turner of Great Barrington,	2 00
Extra, Benjamin Wheeler of New Marlboro,	1 00

ONE QUARTER ACRE CABBAGES.

For the best quarter acre of cabbages, Alexander Hyde of Lee,	$4 00
2d do., Marshal Warner of Stockbridge,	3 00
3d do., W. C. French of West Stockbridge,	2 00

CRANBERRIES.

Cranberries one entry, small patch, slightly cultivated, owned by John Cook of Lenox. He has taken a premium for several years and we award one this year of $2 00

ONE ACRE HOPS.

For the best one acre of hops, H. D. Hollenbeck of Egremont,	$5 00
2d do., C. G. Hollenbeck of Great Barrington,	4 00
3d do., G. M. Burtiss of Egremont,	3 00

ONE QUARTER ACRE SOWED CORN.

For the best quarter acre of sowed corn, S. L. Lincoln of Adams,	$5 00
2d do., Thomas H. Curtiss of Great Barrington,	4 00
3d do., Samuel M. Cooper of Stockbridge,	3 00
4th do., Robert Kilmer of Great Barrington,	2 00

FARMS.

For the best managed farm of not less than 40 acres, W. O. Curtiss of Lenox,	$12 00
2d do., Zacheus Candee of Sheffield,	8 00
3d do., Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	6 00
4th do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge,	4 00

The reclaimed land of William O. Curtiss furnished a splendid example of what may be accomplished by a thorough going wide awake farmer.

FRANKLIN G. ABBEY,
THEODORE J. WILLIAMS, } Committee.
J. LELAND MILLER,

SEEDS AND VEGETABLES.

The committee on seeds and vegetables report that they find themselves much embarassed in the discharge of their duties, by the great number of articles presented for examination.

The entries were as follows: Timothy seed, 10 entries; seed corn, 11 entries; oats, 14 entries; rye, 6 entries; barley, 3 entries; winter wheat, 5 entries; spring wheat, 9 entries; miscellaneous vegetables, 64 entries; total, 122.

Of these seeds and vegetables a large portion possess rare excellence, and to do justice to all with the limited amount at the disposal of your committee, is not less difficult than to feed a regiment of hungry soldiers with a single loaf.

We award the following premiums:

TIMOTHY SEED.

For the best bushel of timothy seed, W. H. Palmer, Stockbridge,	$4 00
2d do., Warren Candee of Sheffield,	3 00
3d do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	2 00

SEED CORN.

For the best bushel ears seed corn, Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	$3 00
2d do., Luke Shead of South Egremont,	2 00
3d do., Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	1 00

SEED OATS.

For the best bushel seed oats, M. I. Wheeler, Great Barrington,	$2 00
2d do., Henry Werden of Richmond,	1 00

SEED RYE.

For the best bushel seed rye, D. Andrews of Sheffield,	$2 00
2d do., George Kellogg of Sheffield,	1 00

SEED BARLEY.

For the best bushel of seed barley, J. G. Cropper of Sheffield,	$2 00
2d do., F. K. Hinckley of Lee,	1 00

WINTER WHEAT.

For the best bushel of winter wheat, C. M. Vosburg of Sheffield,	$2 00
2d do., A. F. Hubbard of Sheffield,	1 00

SPRING WHEAT.

For the best bushel spring wheat, M. D. Burghardt of Egremont,	$3 00
2d do., Jay Shears of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., George C. Curtis of Lenox,	1 00

GARDEN VEGETABLES.

For large variety of choice garden vegetables, David Leavitt, Sen., Great Barrington,	$2 00
2d do., D. S. Draper of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., W. O. Curtis of Lenox,	2 00
For choice specimens of garden vegetables, D. F. Goodrich of Stockbridge,	1 00
2d do., Milton Adams of New Marlboro,	1 00
3d do., W. C. French of West Stockbridge,	1 00
4th do., John Cooper of Stockbridge,	1 00
5th do., Mrs. E. M. Winchell of Great Barrington	1 00
For largest variety of potatoes, H. S. Goodale, Mount Washington,	$4 00
For a choice variety of potatoes, Orren Millard of Becket	1 00
For specimen of sweet potatoes, C. H. Fuary, West Stockbridge,	1 00
Fine specimen of onions, George B. Powell of Lanesboro,	1 00
2d do., David Stillman of Sheffield,	1 00
3d do., E. E. Callender of Sheffield,	50
Choice garden vegetables, M. L. Whitlock, Great Barrington,	1 00
Best white beans, B. N. Clark of Sheffield,	1 00
Fine garden vegetables, B. F. Pixley, of Great Barrington,	1 00
Choice specimen of sweet corn, W. S. Callender of Sheffield,	1 00
Choice specimen of pop corn, Roland Boardman of Sheffield,	1 00
For three large pumpkins, B. N. Burtch of Sheffield,	50

C. S. Platt,
F. G. Abbey,
Henry Burtch,
} Committee.

HOUSEHOLD MANUFACTURES.

FIRST DIVISON.

In the absence of the committee duly appointed by the society, we the, acting committee upon household manufactures, have attended upon the duties resting on a committee of award, and beg leave to report.

Although your committee were called together entire strangers to each other, and also to the competitors, yet we have had a very pleasant interview with each other, and we trust have endeavored to distribute to the several competitors, unbiased, the amount in our hands for their benefit. Your committee were extremely pleased to notice that the spinning wheel and the hand loom were still in use, and that nice flannel sheetings, heavy durable carpeting, extra nice blankets and robes, as well the more beautiful products of the needle in its various uses and forms are still offered for our inspection and encouragement. There were 16 entries of flannel sheeting, all good, some better and others *best*, as we are disposed to signify in our awards. We would make particular mention of a lap robe by Mrs. H. D.

Cone of Stockbridge which must have delighted the eye of every beholder. But without any further comments your committee award as follows :

For the best piece white flannel, Mrs. E. C. Bentley of Monterey,	$5 00
2d do., Mrs. J. Buck of Stockbridge,	4 00
3d do., Mrs. E. Shears of Sheffield,	3 00
4th do , Mrs H. H. B. Turner of Great Barrington,	2 00
Best cotten and Wool sheeting, Mrs. B. F. Rounds, Egremont,	4 00
2d do., Mrs. M. Brown of Egremont,	3 00
3d do., Mrs. N. B. Pickett of Great Barrington,	2 00
Best checked flannel, Mrs. G. L. Turner of Great Barrington.	4 00
2d do., Mrs. B. Baldwin of Egremont,	3 00
3d do., Mrs. F. Merrill of Lee,	2 00
Best rag carpet. Mrs. H. Sardam of New Marlboro,	5 00
2d do., Mrs. T. H. Spencer of West Stockbridge,	4 00
3d do., Mrs. E. C. Woodruff of West Stockbridge,	3 00
4th do., Mrs. F. F. Cooper of Sheffield,	2 00
5th do., Mrs. J. E. Turner of New Marlboro,	1 00
Extra premium to Mrs. A. Dresser of Great Barrington,	1 00
" " to Mrs. William B. Gibson of New Marlboro,	1 00
" " to Mrs. S. A. Barnes of West Stockbridge,	1 00
For fine all wool carpet, Mrs. P. G. Comstock, West Stockbridge,	5 00
For best hearth rug, Mrs. C. Stanley of Great Barrington,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. B. M. Walker of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. L. P. Snyder of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best horse blanket, Mrs. H. L. Rowe of Egremont,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. E. Merrill of Lee,	2 00
For best Afghan or lap robe, Mrs. H. D. Cone of Stockbridge,	5 00
2d do., Mrs. M. Freedley of West Stockbridge,	4 00
3d do., Mrs. M. E. Tobey of Great Barrington,	2 00
For nice fur robe made by Mrs. D. Warner of Great Barrington	5 00

T. D. Thatcher,
Mrs. Boardman. } Committee.
Mrs. Cook.

SECOND DIVISION.

The committee award premiums as follows :

For the best bed spread, Mrs. E. L. Tobey of Alford,	$4 00
2d do., Mrs. J. L. Millard of Egremont,	3 00
3d do., Mrs B. Benedict of West Stockbridge,	2 00
4th do., Mrs. N. J. Potts of Egremont,	1 00
5th do., Mrs. H. W. Burgett of Egremont,	1 00
Tufted bed spread, Mrs. G. H. Babcock of Lenox,	1 00
Pair blankets, Miss M. Lowrey Egremont,	1 00

For best patch-work quilt, Mrs. J. Barry of Great Barrington,	6 00
2d do., Mrs J. M. Fuary of West Stockbridge,	5 00
3d do., Mrs. U. M. Pixley of Great Barrington,	4 00
4th do., Mrs. W. H. Belcher of Sheffield,	3 00
5th do., Miss A. Hubbard of Sheffield,	2 00
6th do., Miss F. Brocher of Monterey,	1 00
7th do., Mrs. L. B. Kline of Egremont,	1 00
8th do., Mrs. H. Winchell of Egremont,	1 00
9th do., Mrs. G. W. Stickles of Sheffield,	1 00
For a cradle quilt, Mrs. C. Stanley of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best silk patchwork quilt, Mrs. John P. Walker of Stockbridge,	3 00
2d do., Miss E. C. Leonard of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Miss U. Collins of Alford,	1 00
For the best three pounds woolen yarn, Mrs. J. Mansir, Monterey	3 00
2d do., Mrs. M. C. Langdon of Monterey,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. J. Markham of Stockbridge,	1 00
Extra, Miss Betsey Hall of Monterey,	1 00
" Mrs. R. Oles of Great Barrington,	50
For best three pairs linen hose, Miss E. Merrill of Lee,	2 00
2d do., Miss L. U. Millard of Becket,	1 00
For best pair of woolen hose, Mrs. Orren Millard of Becket,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. I. Harmon of Monterey,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. E. Codding of Egremont,	1 00
4th, do., Mrs. William Stevens of Sheffield,	1 00
Best three pairs woolen mittens, Miss M. Sardam, New Marlboro,	2 00
2d do., Mrs. E. E. Brewer of Monterey,	1 00
3d do., Mrs. L. J. Wright of Egremont,	1 00
Best three pairs woolen gloves, Miss M. R. Codding of Egremont	2 00
Best lady's hat and case of millinery goods, M & J. B. Fryer of Great Barrington,	4 00

A case of ladies hats, very fine, was exhibited by Miss P. E. Walker of Great Barrington, but were not entered for premium.

S. B. Dewey,
Mrs. D. Andrews.
Mrs. T. C. Wickwire,
Miss F. L. Mansir,
} Committee.

PAINTING AND FANCY WORK.

The committee appointed to the rather difficult task of deciding between the merits of the great variety of fancy goods and paintings, have carefully examined each article and awarded the premiums according to their merits, and do now respectfully submit the following report for your inspection.

The specimens of paintings were few, but well deserve the premiums awarded them. One specimen in water colors, executed by M. S. Bidwell,

Jr., of Sheffield, deserves notice, being a faithful representation of the residence of Sheriff Graham A. Root, in Sheffield.

Dr. J. A. Penniman exhibited two fine crayon pictures, executed by his daughter. One represents a fine likeness of the Doctor's lady, the other his child taken after death. These pictures deserve all praise.

Miss A. L. Pixley's scholars, six in number, exhibited specimens of pencil drawing, which speak well for their tutor and also show great skill for children ranging from 10 to 14 years. The exhibition was smaller than previous years, but gave general satisfaction.

I would respectfully state that I have made this report as intelligible as the confused state of the entry book would allow.

For best specimen oil painting, M. L. Dewey of Egremont,	$5 00
2d do., Mrs. M. L. Mercein of Sheffield,	4 00
3d do., Miss D. V. Stoddard of Alford,	3 00
4th do., Miss E. Tappan of Stockbridge,	2 00
5th do., Edward Chapin of Sheffield,	1 00
6th do., J. F. Moulton of Great Barrington, discretionary,	1 00
For best crayon work, Miss Kate Penniman of Great Barrington	3 00
2d do., Mrs. George B. Powell of Lanesboro,	2 00
For best pencil drawing, Miss E. Winchell of Great Barrington,	1 00
2d do., Miss G. E. Ramsey of Great Barrington,	1 00
3d do., Miss C. E. Pixley, " "	1 00
4th do., Master G. Ramsey, " "	1 00
5th do., Miss B. G. Pixley. " "	1 00
6th do,, Miss L. L. Pixley, " "	1 00
Draft of Hope Engine, Luther Stevens of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best water color painting, M. S. Bidwell, Jr., of Sheffield,	2 00
2d do., Mrs N. Taylor of New Marlboro,	1 00
For best wax work, Mrs. D. Andrews of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Miss F. M. Crippen of Egremont,	2 00
3d do., Miss Clara Forbes of Sheffield,	50
4th do., Miss Carrie Bennett of New Marlboro,	50
5th do., Miss Mary A. Baldwin of Egremont,	1 00
For best hair work Wreath, Mrs. J. M. Fuary of West Stockbridge,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. J. L. Burgett of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. H. W. Burgett of Egremont,	1 00
For best photographs, J. L. Pease of Lee,	5 00
2d do., Julius S. Hall of Stockbridge,	3 00
3d do., Miss M. B. Spencer of West Stockbridge,	2 00
For best everlasting flowers, Mrs. T. W. Crippen of Egremont,	2 00
2d do., Miss A. J. Winchell of Sheffield,	50
Agricultural Wreath, Mrs. E. A. Jackson of Lee,	4 00
Automaton Clock, B. Almonte of Great Barrington,	3 00
Looking Glass, Charles Olds of Housatonic,	50
Cone Paper Holder, Mrs. N. Fitch of Alford,	1 00
Brackets, E. M. Holmes of Sheffield,	50

Fancy Basket, Miss A. Akens of Great Barrington,	50
Worsted Bouquet, Mrs. E. L. Tobey of Alford,	50
Crystalized Grasses, Mrs. E. E. Barrows, of Pittsfield,	1 00
Worsted Flowers, Miss E. Williams of South Egremont,	1 00
For best feather work, Miss M. J. Snyder of Great Barrington,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. S. M. Cooper of Stockbridge,	2 00

BERNARD ALMONTE,
MRS. ALEXANDER HYDE,
MRS. COOK,
} Committee.

EMBROIDERY.

The Committee on the embroidery department beg leave to report that the art of working silk, woolen, cotton or linen threads with a needle into woolen, muslin or other fabric, is most successfully practiced by the ladies of Berkshire.

Over one hundred articles that were submitted to the excellent judgment of your committee clearly show that, although this delicate art has been practiced ever since the "cunning workman" Aholiab "embroidered in blue and purple and scarlet and fine linen" for the tabernacle of Israel; although the Babylonians were celebrated for their embroidered draperies; and the women of Sidon were handy with the needle long before the Trojan war; and the needle women of Greece equalled the finest paintings; and although in the great "Cattle Show" of 1851 in London, Turkey bore off the prize, it has remained for the female sewing machines of Berkshire to excel them all.

Your committee find it difficult to do justice to the variety, skill and taste shewn in their department. Time would fail them to tell of pincushions with beads and pincushions without beads; "pillows" so naturally ornamented with flowers that one's sofa would seem a very "bed of roses;" shawls transporting the imagination immediately to Cashmere and Paisley; slippers so inviting to weary feet; mats not for feet but for the table, fine and useful; collars so lovely and scarfs so graceful; ladies' jackets, and sacks for infants; underclothing too numerous to mention and not too beautiful to wear outside; then the tatting! O *such* tatting (not *tattling* mind you!) afghans whose gorgeous colors almost rival the robes that Autumn wears; bead work showing Indian blood; silk paintings elaborate enough to make the king of Persia envious; difficult crochet work, done by fingers older than four score years, and tatting equally wonderful by one of only twelve years; the tidies too, tidies for everything, tidies for cake and tidies for chairs, sofa tidies and table tidies; for a time the committee saw nothing but tidies—tidies to right of them, tidies to the left of them, tidies in front of them; thread tidies, worsted tidies and cotton tidies; crochet tidies and tatting tidies, netted tidies and embroidered tidies; a flood tide of tidies, convincing an observer that Berkshire is a most *tidy* place.

Your committee found themselves in this tangled wilderness of needlework How should they extricate themselves with honor? They could not *taste* of the specimens as the neighboring committee on fruits did with evident reluctance. They could not wear them. At least the whole of your committee could not. So they felt of them and looked at them with spectacles and without spectacles, and, after careful investigation, without one dissenting vote, and with commendable impartiality they assigned the following premiums.

For the best needlework, Mrs. W. W. Langdon of Monterey,	$5 00
2d do., Mrs. M. H. Pickett of West Stockbridge,	4 00
3d do., Mrs. H. Chapel of Great Barrington,	3 00
4th do, Mrs. J. M. Lowrey of Egremont,	2 00
For Worsted embroidery, Miss J. Ramsey of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., Mrs. C. Stanley of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., Mrs. Silas S. Dewey of Alford,	2 00
4th do., Miss A. B. Sage of Sheffield,	1 00
For best silk embroidery, Mrs. E. Vosburgh of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., Mrs. S. F. Gorham of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., Mrs. M. A. Bristol of Great Barrington,	2 00
4th do., Miss G. Burtiss of Egremont,	1 00
For best crochet work, Miss Sarah E. Buck of Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., Mrs. C. D. Miles of Pittsfield,	3 00
3d do., Miss H. M. Palmer of Stockbridge	2 00
4th do., Mrs. H. D. Shannon of Stockbridge,	1 00
For best knit work, Mrs. Mary J. Beech of Lee,	4 00
2d do., Miss Mattie E. Selkirk of West Stockbridge,	3 00
3d do., Miss Martha Kelsey of Alford,	2 00
For best tatting, Miss M. E. Holmes of West Stockbridge,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. W. H. Parks of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Miss E. C. Stevens of Lee,	1 00
For the best bead work, Mrs. A. L. Field of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Miss S. M. Dutcher of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. G. H. Babcock of Lenox,	1 00
For the best net work Mrs. M. G. Stevenson of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. J. M. Fuary of West Stockbridge,	2 00

Your committee finding so many proofs of skill and taste, assigned the following additional premiums:

Needlework, Mrs. T. C. Wickwire of Sheffield,	1 00
Worsted embroidery, Miss A. R. Turner of Great Barrington,	1 00
Tatting, Miss C. A. Potts of Egremont,	1 00
Needlework, Mrs. Phila Gorham of Great Barrington,	1 00
Worsted Embroidery, Mrs. M. Shook of Great Barrington,	2 00
Tatting, Miss Emily Leffingwell of New Marlboro,	1 00
Tatting, Miss J. M. Hunter of Stockbridge,	1 00
Worsted Embroidery, Mrs. H. S. Goodale of Mount Washington,	1 00
Crochet Work, Mrs. J. A. Shead of Egremont,	1 00

Worsted Embroidery, Miss Clara Forbes of Sheffield,	1 00
Worsted Crochet, Miss Augusta Griffith of Sheffield,	1 00

EVARTS SCUDDER,
MRS. S. M. SMITH,
MISS MARY TOWNSEND,
MRS. SILAS DEWEY,
} Committee.

BUTTER.

Your committee have examined with much care the 41 samples of butter presented, most of which were of very good quality, while but few perhaps could be pronounced *strictly prime.* We find two prominent faults—overworking, which injures the grain of the butter, and oversalting which impairs its flavor. We award as follows :

For best butter, H W. Canfield of Sheffield,	$8 00
2d do., E. R. Joyner of Egremont,	7 00
3d do., E. M. Winchell of Great Barrington,	6 00
4th do., Myron Allen of New Marlboro.	5 00
5th do., W. W. Langdon of Monterey,	4 00
6th do., J. M. Mackie of Great Barrington,	3 00
7th do., Mrs. Laura Langdon of Lee,	2 00
8th do., Daniel E. Giddings of Great Barrington,	1 00

From the nature of our soil and climate, dairying must from necessity continue to be a prominent branch of our farming, and it is doubtless one of the most remunerative. Within the past few years a great improvement has been made in the quality of our butter, still a large class of producers make far from a really prime quality. Your committee advance this opinion with great diffidence knowing full well that our good housekeepers are sensitive on this point and seldom countenance a disparaging criticism on their butter, for *their* opinion is that they always make about the best article anywhere to be found. But the facts are, in any given number of dairies we shall find too great disparity in the qualities, and when marketed we frequently find from five to ten cents a pound difference from the highest to the lowest price obtained.

The difference to be found in the quality of our various dairies is owing in part perhaps to conditions over which the butter maker has not entire control. Such as an inferior dairy, poor water, indifferent pastures, unfavorable conveniences for manufacture &c. These should be remedied as far as possible.

It is believed that a friendly competition and criticism, a frequent comparing of sales and an honest endeavor to correct mistakes, will bring up the products of our dairies to a standard that may not be easily excelled.

GEORGE W. LESTER,
ELI SMITH,
DYER STANARD,
} Committee.

CHEESE.

For the best cheese, Mrs. William Stevens of Sheffield,	$8 00
2d do., Mrs. J. A. Kline of Egremont,	7 00
3d do., Mrs. Orrin E Clark of Sheffield,	6 00
4th do., Mrs. Ralph Little of Sheffield,	5 00
5th do., Mrs. H. W. Canfield of Sheffield,	4 00
6th do., Mrs. John G. Mansir of Monterey,	3 00
7th do., Mrs. C. D. Langdon of Monterey,	2 00
8th do., Mrs. C. Curtiss of Mew Marlboro,	1 00

HARRISON GARFIELD,
FREDERICK FITCH, } Committee.
S. W. WRIGHT,

BREAD, MAPLE SUGAR AND SYRUP.

The tasting powers of a committee were never more severely tried than in the examination of fifty-four specimens of bread and biscuit, which your committee have this day been called upon to make in deciding which was the best. We have not the presumption to suppose that our decision is an infallible one, but we have looked at each loaf and each pan of biscuit carefully, and tasted of each, and retasted of several that were classed as letter A, and after taxing our gustatory powers to their utmost limit, were still undecided which was letter A and No 1. We are much obliged to those ladies who have shown so much skill in that most important department of housewifery, bread-making, and brought specimens of their handywork to grace our exhibition, and we felt some compunctions of conscience in mutilating so many fine looking loaves and not awarding the manufacturers with any premium as compensation.

The art of making good bread is rarer than some suppose, and requires both talent and tact. The chemical professor may talk very learnedly of the proportions of starch and gluten requisite in good flour, and of that wonderful plant, yeast, "whose seed is in itself" and is propagated with such astonishing rapidity when in contact with warm, moist dough, so that a "little leaven, leavens the whole lump," and of the change which this yeast effects upon the starch, converting it first into sugar and afterwards into alcohol and carbonic acid, which being retained by the gluten, causes numerous little cells that make the dough swell, and still not be able to make as good bread as Bridget, who never heard that there was such a thing as the yeast plant. Still this does not prove that Bridget would not become a better bread maker if she understood the science of her art, or that the professor would not excel her if he had her experience in manipulation. We cannot expect all our bread to be spongy and sweet, until a little more knowledge is combined with the practice. When women generally assert their right to education, with the same zeal with which some of them now claim the right of suffrage, the advent of "the good time coming" will

be hastened, when if the son asks bread of his father it will not be necessary even to give him an article as heavy as a stone. There is science in bread-making, and the perfection of the art can only be obtained, when theory and practice are combined.

Regretting that we have no more premiums to distribute to the makers of the many excellent loaves of bread and pans of biscuit that have passed under our examination, we make the following awards :

For best wheat bread, Mrs. D. Warner of Great Barrington,	$3 00
2d do., Mrs. Frank Curtiss of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Miss Almira Decker of Alford,	1 00
For best rye bread, Miss E. A. Kilbourn of Great Barrington,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. Harvey Roys of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Miss Jane Buck of Stockbridge,	1 00
For best brown bread, Mrs. E. M. Winchell of Great Barrington,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. Orrin Millard of Becket,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. J. H. Field of Sheffield,	1 00
For best biscuit, Mrs. A. J. Palmer of Alford,	2 00
2d do., Mrs. H. T. Candee of Sheffield,	1 00
For best honey, Alonzo Bradley of Lee,	3 00
2d do., Nehemiah Palmer of New Marlboro,	2 00
3d do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	1 00
For best maple sugar, Orrin Millard of Becket,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. J. E. Turner of New Marlboro,	2 00
3d do,, Miss H. C. Garfield of Monterey,	1 00
For best maple syrup, Mrs. J. E. Shears of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. E. B. Garfield of Monterey,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. Langdon Hulett of Sheffield,	1 00

ALEXANDER HYDE,
MRS. HORACE BUSHNELL, } Committee.
MRS. W. W. LANGDON.

FLOWERS.

The committee on flowers respectfully report as follows :

The display this year was uncommonly fine, and it was difficult in some cases to decide upon a suitable award. In coming to a decision, the committee considered not only the variety and beauty of the flowers, but also the taste displayed in their arrangement, upon which the general effect very largely depends. The committee have awarded premiums as follows :

David S. Draper of Great Barrington,	$5 00
Mrs. D. Andrus of Sheffield,	5 00
David Leavitt of Great Barrington,	3 00
Mrs. T. W. Dewey of Alford,	3 00
Mrs. E. C. Ticknor of Alford,	3 00
Mrs. Alexander Hyde of Lee,	2 00

Mrs. L. Candee of Sheffield,	2 00
Miss A. Winchell of Great Barrington,	2 00

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS.

Fountain bouquet, H. T. Robbins of Great Barrington,	$3 00
Everlastings, Miss E. H. Tuttle of Sheffield,	3 00
Dahlias, L. Burtis of North Egremont,	2 00
Pansies, Mrs. W. Bartholemew of Sheffield,	1 00
Wild flowers, Miss N. Andrews of Sheffield,	1 00

MARSHALL S. BIDWELL, JR.,
MRS. J. K. PELTON,
MISS SARAH M. DUTCHER,
Committee.

FRUITS.

Winter Apples, 13 entries ; Fall Apples, 5 entries ; Pears, 10 entries ; Variety of Fruits, 2 entries ; Single variety of Pears, 12 entries.

The committee on first division of fruits were gratified to find so large a representation of apples submitted to their inspection, as the present year has been an untoward one with regard to this fruit. Of pears they expected to see excellence both in quality and variety ; nor were they disappointed. Rarely, if ever, has a finer show of this fruit honored Old Berkshire or gladdened the heart of a committee-man.

In pursuance of their duties, your committee spent their first half hour in endeavoring to designate the property of the respective exhibitors. It was very much scattered through the show-cases ; but was all at length recognized as tallying with the entries, except in three instances, where no cards could be found to mark ownership. This was the more unfortunate as in one case, certainly, if not in two, a premium would have been awarded to the undesignated articles. Your committee regret this ; but have only to say, that the consequences of such carelessness are unavoidable, as we have no option in ignoring articles that have no ostensible owners.

As the result of a prolonged examination and their best judgment, your committee make the following awards :

APPLES AND PEARS—1ST DIVISION.

For best specimen winter apples, G. H. Kirby of Sheffield, 10 v.,	$6 00
2d do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield, 10 varieties,	5 00
3d do., Leonard Potter of New Marlboro, 9 varieties,	4 00
4th do., Isaac Spurr of Sheffield, 10 varieties,	3 00
5th do , Dwight Andrews of Sheffield, 10 varieties,	2 00
6th do., Guy Day of Great Barrington. 8 varieties,	1 00
For best specimen of fall apples, L. G. Ramsey, Gt. Barrington, 6 v.	4 00
2d do., H. G. Leonard of Great Barrington, 8 v.,	3 00
3d do., Phineas Pettis of New Marlboro, 6 v.,	2 00
4th do., G. H. Babcock of Lenox, 7 v.	1 00

For best specimens of pears, Samuel Goodrich of Stockbridge, 29 v.	6 00
2d do., Ralph Little of Sheffield, 10 v.	5 00
3d do., Walter W. Hollenbeck of Great Barrington, 20 v,	4 00
4th do., Mrs. F. Curtis of Sheffield, 12 v,	3 00
5th do., Warren Candee of Sheffield, 11 v,	2 00
For the best variety of all kinds of fruit, Z. Cande of Sheffield,	10 00
2d do., Orrin Curtiss of Sheffield,	8 00
For best single variety of pears, D. F. Goodrich of Stockbridge,	3 00
2d do., Joseph Wilcox of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Joseph Candee of Sheffield,	1 00

It is but justice to remark that Mr. Charles Spurr of Sheffield would have been entitled to another premium for variety of pears, did not a rule of the society exclude him from a second award in the same division.

Your committee also noticed that two or three varieties of apples were entered by some exhibitors as fall, and by others as winter fruit. Such are the "Hollow Crown" and the "Cheseboro Russet"—inferior kinds—good only for swelling the number of specimens. They would suggest that, hereafter, all apples that do not retain their soundness and flavor until Christmas, be designated as *Fall* apples.

A regulation of the society claims it of the committee on fruits to report the names of the varieties for which the awards are given. Your committee regret their inability to comply with this reasonable injunction the present year, for the reasons—that two of them were utterly unable to attend longer than the first day ; and that before they had finished their awards, the impatient spectators were let within their precincts, rendering it impossible to make a correct catalogue as required. It is thought that this may be obviated hereafter by permitting one or more of the committee, at an earlier hour than their duties commence, to enter and make the requisite inspection and record.

E. W. B. Canning, Chairman

PEACHES, PLUMS, QUINCES, GRAPES, ETC.,—2d DIVISION.

Peaches, 6 entries ; Plums, 1 entry ; Quinces, 9 entries ; Grapes, 6 entries ; Grapes raised under glass, 2 entries ; Dried Fruit 3 entries ; Canned Fruit, 9 entries ; Cranberries, 3 entries ; Grape Wine, 5 entries ; Native Wine, 20 entries.

Of the many pleasures of rural life, there is none that appeals more strongly to every man's imagination, than the culture of fruit. The picture of the patriarch resting "under his own vine and fig tree," is one of those sweet old Bible images that never lose their hold upon the fancy. The man who has planted and cared for some trees of choice fruit, and, at their maturity, plucks and eats the luscious produce, and shares it with a friend, tastes one of the sweetest minor pleasures of life. The good show of fruit at our agricultural fairs, proves that our climate, severe as it is, does not deny us this pleasure. West Sheffield, indeed, has become quite famous

as the home of good culturists and good fruit. It is well to notice, that, in her soil and situation she fulfills two important conditions, much urged, just now, by pomologists. These are shelter from our severe winds, and a supply of mineral properties in the soil.

It is generally admitted that the soil best adapted to fruit is one rich in mineral elements. All nitrogenous and stimulating manures induce a great growth of wood, but do not furnish the necessary elements for the development of perfect fruit. The famous vineyards of Europe, which grow such wines as Johannisberg, and Lafitte, are planted in a soil where a decaying shale furnishes the requisite mineral elements, and such a soil combines the greatest possibilities in productiveness, with great durability ; growing excellent fruit for a long series of years, with little manure. The great Alleghany slope, so admirably suited to fruit, is an instance in point.

We see with regret that our Berkshire apple orchards are less productive than formerly, but we cannot afford to abandon them for that reason. We have many insect enemies to conquer, but science moves, in entomology at least, and we are slowly learning their history and habits, and the means of preventing their ravages. It is strongly recommended for this climate, to plant orchards much more closely than was formerly practiced, as experience has shown that the trees are as great natural protection from storms and wind. Soil and climate influence the varieties of all fruit so greatly that much care is requisite in selecting those suited to any particular locality. Experience is the only test in this matter. Having chosen from the lists of really good fruit those varieties which succeed upon our soil, planted them upon thoroughly well prepared ground, given them protection—if no natural wind-bread of forest can be secured, by a hedge of quick-growing evergreens—and after all this, watched over them with constant carefulness, we may reasonably count upon a generous return.

Your committee had the pleasure of deciding upon the merits of some fine peaches grown in Sheffield. It is now stated that the destructive disease known as the yellows, which made a progress from Deleware to New England, a quarter of a century ago, is disappearing, peach orchards being in as good condition as before at the South, and it is hoped Massachusetts may yet grow her own peaches as profusely as in the good old times.

Fruit growers may well give more attention to the culture of the quince. It is a valuable fruit for preserving, of superior flavor, and considered especially healthful ; and as the demand exceeds the supply, prices are high, and likely to continue so.

Good pears, and grapes of the more hardy sorts, are fruits of such universal popularity as to need no recommendation to your attention. The Bartlett, Seckle, and other well known pears are raised in perfection in this vicinity, and the more delicate Iona and Israella, Rebecca and Delaware grapes, were exhibited, as well as the hardy Concord and Isabella. The superb clusters of hot-house grapes shown by Mr. Maekie and Mr. Leavitt, ought certainly to incite some proprietor to the erection of a grapery. A fruit so delightful may be grown with comparative certainty in a cold

grapery, without a great outlay of time or money, and the grower cannot but be pleased with the result. It will be remembered that Mr. Charles Goodrich, of Stockbridge, gave, in the printed transactions of this Society for 1866, explicit instructions for the building and management of a cheap cold grapery, which are worthy the study of all those desiring a genuine luxury at a moderate cost.

As our report shows, a considerable number of specimens of domestic wines were shown. It would be embarrassing to state, under oath, how many samples were better than good cider, but we would cheerfully swear that none were worse than bad whiskey. A common mistake of our domestic vintners is the use of too much sugar; they make syrups and cordials rather than wines. The true test of a good wine grape is a palatable wine without any sugar added.

If we may be permitted to sum up with a few words of horticultural advice, it will be such as we have gathered from the lips of men eminent in their calling, and from the latest written authorities.

Plant fruit, wisely, and judiciously if possible, but at all risks, plant.

Give good culture; a neglected orchard will probably do as well as a neglected piece of corn.

Don't attempt too much: either too many varieties—the best sorts are few; or too much fruit on a tree—thin remorselessly; or too many trees, —you won't take care of them.

Try a few seedlings; this is your chance for putting a great contribution to the public good, and, as a secondary object, getting fame and fortune for yourself

Your committee award as follows:

For best specimen of peaches, Dwight Andrews of Sheffield,	$3 00
2d do., Langdon Hulet of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., James Piper of Sheffield,	1 00
For best specimen of plums, H. T. Potts of Egremont,	2 00
For best specimen of Quinces L. N. Burghardt of Great Barrington,	3 00
2d do, Levi Boardman of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., E E. Callender of Sheffield,	1 00
For best specimen of grapes Phineas Pettis of New Marlboro,	5 00
2d do., Orrin Curtiss of Sheffield,	4 00
3d do., Zacheus Candee of Sheffield,	3 00
4th do., Henry Werden of Richmond,	1 00
Best specimen grapes raised under glass, H. O'Brien, Gt. Barrington	4 00
2d do., J. M. Mackie of Great Barrington,	3 00
Best specimen of dried fruit, Jane A. McArthur of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Martha J. Snyder of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. Harry Winchell of Egremont,	1 00
Best specimen canned fruit, Mrs. J. N. Warner of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. Frank Curtis of Sheffield,	2 00
Discretionary premium, Mrs. W. W. Langdon of Monterey,	1 00
For best specimen of cranberries, John Cook of Lenox,	1 00

For best specimen of grape wines, Hopkins Bushnell of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Ralph Little of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Ira Curtiss of Sheffield,	1 00
For best specimen of native wine, Mrs. H. B. Candee of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., George Kellogg of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. Harry Winchell of Egremont,	1 50
4th do., Ralph Little of Sheffield,	1 00

H. S. Goodale, Chairman.

MECHANICAL PRODUCTIONS.

Milk can, George B. Strong, of Sheffield,	$2 00
Six ax helves, Chester Spaulding of Sheffield,	1 50
Twelve ax helves, D. F. Goodrich of Stockbridge,	1 00
Twelve ax helves, Austin Lindsey of Sheffield,	1 00
Deer skin and buck lashes, William R. Baldwin of New Marlboro,	1 00
Wagon jack, E. R. Baldwin of New Marlboro,	1 00
Farm gate, E. Manville of Great Barrington,	1 00
Horse shoes, Gilbert Van Deusen of Great Barrington,	1 00
Meat barrel, Daniel Warner of Great Barrington,	1 00
Wash boiler, G. W. Sisson of New Marlboro,	1 00
Washing machine, D. P. Slye of Great Barrington,	1 50

Your committee desire in addition to the above premiums to make favorable mention of the following articles to which we cannot give premiums, the articles not having been manufactured in this county, according to regulations of this department.

One lot of whips presented by Graham Roys of Westfield, which are complete specimens in their line.

One force pump, presented by James H. Adams of Great Barrington, an article which we consider the best thing of the kind which has come under our notice.

One adjustable ox yoke presented by H. W. Wright of Great Barrington, which is a good article and well worthy the attention of owners of cattle. But not being presented by the manufacturer is not entitled to a premium.

D. Dalzell, Jr.,
Russell Allen,
A. Crittenden,
} Committee.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

The committee on agricultural implements of the Housatonic Agricultural Society make the following report: There were but 13 entries in this division and we have awarded premiums as follows:

There were but three mowing machines entered for premium.

Clipper machine, J. L. Milligan of Alford,	$10 00
Granite State machine, William Clark of Pittsfield,	5 00

For best Cultivator H. L. Rowe of Egremont,	4 00
Seed sower, Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	2 00
For best hay fork, C. G. Hollenbeck of Great Barrington,	2 00
2d do., Albert Shears of Sheffield,	1 00
Churn, H. D. Hollenbeck of Great Barrington,	1 00
Plow, J. A. Kline of Egremont,	3 00

DISCRETIONARY.

For best three horse whiffletree, Silas S. Dewey of Alford,	$3 00
2d do., I. J. Lowrey of Egremont,	2 00
For best two horse whiffletree, B. Haskill of New York,	1 00

ISAAC M. TAYLOR,
HENRY W. SMITH,
DANIEL CLARK,
} Committee.

ANIMALS.

FIRST DIVISION.

Best yoke of fat oxen, Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	$10 00
2d do., A. C. Butler of Lenox,	8 00
Best yoke working oxen, Fred Abbey of Great Barrington,	10 00
2d do., H. H. B. Turner of Great Barrington,	8 00
3d do, Elijah N. Hubbard of Great Barrington,	6 00
4th do., Town of Great Barrington,	5 00
5th do., W. P. Palmer of Stockbridge,	4 00
Best yoke fancy matched oxen, Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	10 00
2d do., L. S. Butler of Lenox,	8 00

Fat four-years-old, none entered.

HENRY S. SMITH,
N. C. WILLIS,
HENRY A. TOBEY,
} Committee.

SECOND DIVISION.

Entries—four-years-old, 4 ; three-years-old, 6.

The committee on animals award premiums as follows :

Best four-years-old oxen, Joseph Willcox of Sheffield,	$8 00
2d do., C S. Joyner of Egremont,	7 00
3d do., L M. Pixley of Great Barrington,	6 00
4th do., J. Task of Stockbridge,	5 00
Best three-years-old steers, Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	7 00
2d do., J. M. Cook of Lenox,	6 00
3d do., Z. Candee of Sheffield,	5 00
4th do., J. W. Butler of Lenox,	4 00
5th do., L. S. Butler of Lenox,	3 00

JOSHUA M. SEARS, Chairman.

THIRD DIVISION.

Entries—Yearling Heifers, 8; Yearling Steers, 5; two years-old steers, 3.

The committee in the third division embracing two-year-old Steers, yearling Steers and yearling Heifers, have attended to their duties and submit the following report.

Best two-year-old steers, W. H. Hubbard of Great Barrington,	$5 00
2d do., Gilbert H. Hall of Great Barrington,	4 00
3d do., William P. Palmer of Stockbridge,	3 60
Best yearling steers, John Cooper of Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., F. K. Hinckley of Lee,	3 00
3d do., Dwight R. Andrews of Sheffield,	2 00
Best yearling heifer, Joseph Willcox of Sheffield,	4 00
2d do., Warren Crissey of Great Barrington,	3 00

EMMONS ARNOLD,
CHARLES ROYS, } Committee.
ROBERT POTTS,

FOURTH DIVISION.

Entries—Milch Cows, 22 ; Fat Cows, 5.

Your committee of the fourth division beg leave to report that they found twenty-two milch and five fat cows scattered through every division that had cow attached to it, which added much to their labor. We found a mixture of most every breed, the large, medium, and small. The milk marks on most were prominent. The questiona rose what should govern your committee, these marks as milchers without regard to age, breed or size, or all combined, but without coming to any agreement we proceeded to award as we could agree. It was seen by all, after the awards were made that the young graded cows got most of the premiums, and we do believe that it is the interest of the farmer to look to the crossing of different breeds, and get a breed of cows that have beauty, size, and yet retain all the milk quality. We do not believe that all of these qualities are combined in either of the thorough or full blood animal; we believe that it is the duty of this society to offer large inducements to those that are willing to fetch to us the different thorough bred, and also to the cross that combine all the qualities that go to make a first class cow or ox.

We award as follows:

For the best milch cow, E. M. Winchell of Great Barrington,	$9 00
2d do , Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	8 00
3d do., Frederick Abbey of Great Barrington,	7 00
4th do., M. I. Wheeler of Great Barrington,	6 00
5th do., M. W. Butler of Lenox,	5 00
6th do., J. F. Sanford of Great Barrington,	4 00
7th do., S. M. Cooper of Stockbridge,	3 00
8th do., E. M. Tyrrel of Great Barrington,	2 00
9th do., George Kellogg of Sheffield,	1 00

It is the opinion of your committee that there has never been five as fat cows shown on our grounds as those to-day and all ought to have a higher premium than those offered by the society.

We award as follows :

For the best fat cow, F. K. Hinckley of Lee,	$4 00
2d do., George Higginson, Jr., of Stockbridge,	3 00

J. W. Parks,
James Shead,
John Hale,
} Committee.

FIFTH DIVISION.

The committee on the fifth division of Domestic Animals make the following awards :

Best two-year-old heifer having had calf, J. Lewis, Gt. Barrington,	$6 00
2d do., Garret Burns of Great Barrington,	5 00
3d do., J. H. Coon of Sheffield,	4 00
4th do., Thomas H. Curtiss of Great Barrington,	3 00
5th do., M. D. Burghardt of Egremont,	2 00
Best fat heifer, A. C. Butler of Lenox,	3 00
2d do., W. P. Palmer of Stockbridge,	2 00
Best bull calf, George Higginson, Jr., of Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., F. K. Hinckley of Lee,	3 00
3d do., D. S. Draper of Great Barrington,	2 00
Best heifer calves, John Q. A. Race of Great Barrington,	3 00
2d do., J. W. Butler of Lenox,	2 00
3d do., E. B. Garfield of Monterey,	1 00

A. Bradley,
Seth L. Shelden,
A. J. Palmer,
} Committee.

SIXTH DIVISION.

Best three stock and dairy cows, Orrin Curtis of Sheffield,	$8 00
2d do., S M. Cooper of Stockbridge,	6 00
Best stock cow and progeny, George Higginson, Jr., Stockbridge,	6 00
2d do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge,	5 00
3d do., W. S. Wilcox of Sheffield,	4 00
4th do., John Chadwick Great Barrington,	3 00
5th do., F. K Hinckley of Lee,	2 00

As there were but two entries of stock and dairy cows the committee award the premium to stock cows,

Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	$2 00
A. C. Butler of Lenox,	2 00

Van Buren Malloy,
Edwin Wolcott,
R. C. Fargo.
} Committee.

SEVENTH DIVISION.

Entries—Heifers, 8 ; Durham Bulls, 4 ; Ayrshire, 1 ; Alderney or Jersey, 5.

The committee for the seventh division have attended to the duties assigned them and submit the following report :

Best two-year-old heifer, not having had a calf, Henry Dresser of Stockbridge,	$4 00
2d do., L. S. Butler of Lenox,	3 00
3d do., John Miller of Egremont,	2 00
4th do., Merrit I. Wheeler of Great Barrington,	1 00

The heifers in this division were all fine and difficult for your committee to satisfy themselves in their award.

Best thoroughbred Durham bull, Zacheus Candee of Sheffield,	$10 00
2d do., Elijah N. Hubbard of Great Barrington,	7 00
3d do., Alonzo Bradley of Lee,	5 00
Best thoroughbred Alderney or Jersey bull, T. D. Thatcher, Lee,	10 00
2d do., D. S. Draper of Great Barrington,	7 00
3d do., John Winthrop of Stockbridge,	5 00

There was but one thoroughbred Ayrshire bull entered. There not being but one entered the owner withdrew it. A fine Alderney bull was entered by H. D. Cone of Stockbridge, he having neglected to give us the pedigree, the committee, by the rules of the society were obliged to leave it out. All of which is respectfully submitted.

NOAH GIBSON,
LEVI BOARDMAN, JR., } Committee.
ALEXANDER HYDE,

EIGHTH DIVISION—NEAT STOCK.

There were 10 entries—Neat Stock, 7 ; Jersey, 2 ; Durham, 1.

All of which were very good and your committee were sorry they could not have given more premiums for Neat Stock, while in the display of blooded stock there were only three entries when there should have been more. Your committee award premiums as follows :

Best display of Neat Stock, Thos. H. Curtiss of Gt. Barrington,	$8 00
2d do., J. W. Parks of Sheffield,	6 00
3d do., Geo. Kellogg of Sheffield,	4 00
We recommend an extra premium to Joseph Wilcox, Sheffield,	4 00
Best specimen Durham, Geo. Higginson, Jr., of Stockbridge,	8 00
Best Alderney or Jersey, J. Milton Mackie, Great Barrington,	8 00
2d do., D. S. Draper of Great Barrington,	6 00

All of which we respectfully submit.

W. C. LANGDON, Chairman.

NINTH DIVISION.

Entries—Boars, 7 ; Sows, 4.

Your committee beg leave to make the following report. There were seven entries of boars and four of sows and pigs, and all worthy of premiums had it been at the hands of the committee to have given them one. John R. Prindle of Alford entered three Berkshire pigs that were very fine and good specimens of that breed, and well worthy the attention of farmers. David Haley of Great Barrington, had a very fine sow and pigs, and your committee regretted very much that they were not upon the grounds in time. After a careful examination we make the following awards :

For best boar, M. D. Burghardt of Egremont.	$5 00
2d do., W. S. Wilcox of Sheffield,	4 00
3d do., T. H. Curtis of Great Barrington,	3 00
4th do., Elisha Collins of Great Barrington,	2 00
For best sow and pigs, Correl Cowles of Sheffield,	6 00
2d do., Plynny Karner of Egremont,	5 00
3d do., Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	4 00
4th do., F. K. Hinckley of Lee,	3 00

GEORGE KELLOGG,
WARREN CRISSEY, } Committee.
SILAS S. DEWEY,

TENTH DIVISION.

Entries—coarse wool, 4 ; medium, 5 ; fine, 4.

The committee on the tenth division of animals award as follows :

For best coarse wool buck, Henry A. Tobey, Great Barrington,	$4 00
2d do., D. Fairchild of Stockbridge,	3 00
3d do., L. S. Butler of Lenox,	2 00
For best medium wool buck, Dyer Wait of Egremont,	4 00
2d do., Leonard Tuttle of Sheffield,	3 00
3d do., H. W. Burgett of Egremont,	2 00
For best fine wool buck, C. B. Benedict of West Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., J. Milton Mackie of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., Z. Candee of Sheffield,	2 00

J. H. ROWLEY,
THERON L. FOOTE, } Committee.
THOMAS H. CURTIS,

ELEVENTH DIVISION.

Entries—coarse wool, none ; medium, 8 ; fine, 2.

The committee on the eleventh division of animals—Ewes—have attended to their duties and submit the following report.

For best three medium wool ewes, Joseph Wilcox of Sheffield,	$4 00
2d do., F. M. Olmsted of Egremont,	3 00
3d do., H. D. Hollenbeck of Egremont,	2 00

For best three fine wool ewes, C. B Benedict of West Stockbridge, 4 00

There was one other entry of fine wool ewes but with the instructions given, we think should be classed with medium, and deeming it entirely unfair for the quality of the wool to come in competition with the quality of the mutton, and out of our power to do justice to all, would recommend different classing or extra premiums as follows:

For best three coarse wool ewes, M. Brace of Lee, 3 00
2d do., A. J. Palmer of Alford, 2 00
For best three fine wool ewes, Guy Day of Great Barrington, 4 00
2d do., C. S. Joyner of Egremont, 3 00
3d do., C. Spurr of Sheffield, 2 00

LEVI W. HYDE,
W. W. LANGDON, } Committee.
J. A. RHOADES,

TWELFTH DIVISION.

Entries—Coarse, 3; Medium, 5; Fine, 2.

For best five coarse wool lambs, H. D. Cone of Stockbridge, $4 00
2d do., George E. Russell of Great Barrington, 3 00
3d do., M. Brace of Lee, 2 00
For best five medium wool lambs, F. L. Olmsted of Egremont, 4 00
2d do., Joseph Wilcox of Sheffield, 3 00
3d do., H. L. Rowe of Egremont, 2 00
Extra, Guy Day of Great Barrington, 1 00
2d do., A. J. Palmer of Alford, 1 00
For best five fine wool lambs, J. Milton Mackie, Great Barrington, 4 00
2d do., C. B Benedict of West Stockbridge, 3 00

FREDERICK ABBEY,
NEHEMIAH PALMER, } Committee.
H. H. B. TURNER,

THIRTEENTH DIVISION.

Entries—Fat Wethers, 3; Coarse wool Lambs, 1; Middling, 0; Fine, 1.

For best five fat wethers, Henry A. Tobey of Great Barrington, $5 00
2d do., F. M. Olmsted of Egremont, 4 00
3d do., Harvey H. B. Turner of Great Barrington, 3 00
For best coarse wool buck lamb, G. E. Russell, Great Barrington, 1 00
For best fine wool buck lamb, C. B. Benedict of West Stockbridge, 1 00

LEONARD TUTTLE,
HARRY RHOADES, } Committee.
STEPHEN BALDWIN,

FOURTEENTH DIVISION.

Entries—Work Horses, 12; Pair Carriage Horses, 8; Single Horses, 11.

The committee of the fourteenth division report as follows :

For best work horses, Plynna Karner of Egremont,	$8 00
2d do,, Mark Laird of Great Barrington,	7 00
3d do., Frank Curtiss of Sheffield,	6 00
4th do., M. G. Hall of Great Barrington,	5 00
For best single horse, G. D. Tillotson of Great Barrington,	5 00
2d do., James H. Beckwith of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., Joel Baldwin of Great Barrington,	2 00
For best carriage horses, John A. Doncaster of New Marlboro,	7 00
2d do , N. Joyner & Son of Egremont,	6 00
3d do., J. F. Sanford of Great Barrington,	5 00

T. D. Thatcher,
J. H. Coon, } Committee.
Charles Crippen,

FIFTEENTH DIVISION.—SUCKING COLTS.

In this division there were 28 entries, and your committees award premiums as follows :

First premium, H. D. Hollenbeck of Egremont,	$8 00
2d do., T. H. Curtiss of Great Barrington,	7 00
3d do., Thomas Phelan of Becket,	6 00
4th do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge,	5 00
5th do., M. S. Bidwell of Monterey,	4 00
6th do., R. A. Potts of Egremont,	3 00
7th do., Miss S. F. Goodspeed of Lee,	2 00

Eugene Vosburgh,
Theodore S. Baldwin, } Committee.
A. G. Freeman,

SIXTEENTH DIVISION.—STALLIONS AND COLTS.

This division embraces five classes—viz—Stallions, 5 ; Stud Colts, 2 ; Three-year-old Colts, 18 ; Two year-old Colts, 14 ; Yearling Colts, 8 ; having in all 47 entries.

Your committee had but one hour in which to make the entire examination, and consequently, could give only a hasty glance at the numerous competitors, and in many instances a re-view would likely have given the awards to others. But few stood prominent above their competitors, like the Stallion of E. Williams of Great Barrington, the three-year-old colt of Frank Curtiss of Sheffield and the yearling colts of Ridley Watts of Stockbridge and of George E. Russell of Great Barrington, showing evident marks of their particular breeding.

In the catalogue of Domestic Animals there is no department, in the es-

timation of your committee, that so much requires the attention of this Society at the present time as the Horse. Although the most noble of all animals, and one only requiring of the producer attention to the laws of reproduction and consanguinity to insure success ; his high rank and great worth is but poorly appreciated, and the familiar lesson taught by these laws that "like begets like" is to a great extent disregarded by the breeder. Evidence of this fact exists in almost every section of Southern Berkshire. Such for example as breeding from a heavy or wind-broken Stallion, or a foundered Stallion, or one of little size, or from the Stoga Canadian, whose only qualification is that of the cart horse. And what is still more absurd, from the horse of unsightly color, transmitting to his stock spotted rumps and hairless tails, and all without speed.

There is no animal of which the market value varies so much as that of the horse. The difference cannot be estimated at less than one hundred or one hundred and fifty dollars between a good or poor one, and it holds true without including great speed, and this large amount is often sacrificed by the breeder for the small difference in the price of service. Statistics are not at hand to show the number of horses raised within the limits of this society, but it is safe to say that the numbers are such that were they all from first class sires, to make in the difference an aggregate in favor of the breeder of immense amount, besides adding largely to the material wealth of Berkshire, and these facts so easily demonstrated, would, we think justify this society in adopting radical rules, if necessary to produce a reformation in this class of animals, and we would suggest awarding premiums to such stock only as can, not only show good qualifications in itself, but also good antecedents.

The colt Commodor Knox, owned by Mr. E. Williams of Great Barrington and to whom we award the first premium, we regard as a Stallion of rare merit, and as such commend him to the breeder. He is large in size, symmetrical in form, muscular in limb and possesses a remarkable combination of good qualities, and his good breeding is manifest in the fact of his being a perfect type of his Sire, "Gen. Knox," owned by Hon. T. S. Lang of Vassalboro, Me. One of your committee having seen Mr. Lang's horse trot his famous race at Springfield a few years ago, and having also seen Mr. Williams' colt driven, we venture the assertion that the great speed of this colt is only a question of time, he not yet having been handled.

STALLIONS.

For best stallion, E. Williams of Great Barrington,	$10 00
2d do., G. H. Babcock of Lenox,	8 00
3d do., Harrison Calkins of Alford,	6 00

STUD COLTS.

For best stud colt, William J. Mallory of Lee,	$5 00
2d do., Thomas French, Jr., of West Stockbridge,	4 00

YEARLING COLTS.

For best yearling colt, Ridley Watts of Stockbridge,	$3 00
2d do., H. S. Babcock of Lenox,	2 00
3d do., George E. Russell of Great Barrington,	1 00

TWO-YEAR-OLD COLTS.

For best two-year-old colt, Mark Hollenbeck of Great Barrington,	$4 00
2d do,, Mark Kelsey of Egremont,	3 00
3d do., E M. Winchell of Great Barrington,	2 00

THREE-YEAR-OLD COLTS.

For best three-year-old colt, Frank Curtiss of Sheffield,	$5 00
2d do., Thomas H. Curtiss of Great Barrington,	4 00
3d do., Warren Crissey of Great Barrington,	3 00
4th do , F. E. Giddings of Great Barrington,	2 00

EDWIN HURLBURT,
NEWTON KASSON,
WALTER W. HOLLENBECK, } Committee.

SEVENTEENTH DIVISION.

Four-year-old Trotting Horses, 3 entries.

For best trotting horse, R. F. McCurdy of Great Barrington,	$15 00
2d do., Oliver Staffard of Sheffield,	10 00

J. A. BENJAMEN, Chairman.

Walking Horses, 14 entries.

For best walking horse, James H. Adams of Great Barrington,	$5 00
2d do., H. C. Winegar of Egremont,	4 00
3d do., C. H. Mills of Egremont,	3 00
4th do., C. A. Markham of Lee,	2 00

A. M. LITTLE,
E. HURLBURT,
C. P. UPSON, } Committee.

EIGHTEENTH DIVISION.

Trial of speed, horses never having trotted for a purse, or in public inside minutes.

J. R. Stanton, enters g. m. "No Name," 5. 5. 5.	
P. A. Russell of Great Barrington, w. m. "White Fawn," 1.1.1.	$30 00
F. H. Cutting of Lee, bk. m. "Patience" 3. 3. 3.	15 00
Frank Curtiss of Sheffield, s. g. "Bullet" 2. 2. 2.	20 00
Harrison Calkins, s. g. "No Name" 4. 4. 4.	10 00

Time—2:46 ; 2:47 ; 2:51.

Matched Trotting Horses, no entries.

Single Trotting Horses, time not to exceed 2:55. Mile heats best 3 in 5 in harness for premiums of $75, 40 and 25. Catch weight, distance barred.

E. Hurlburt of Great Barrington, ch. m. "Glencoe Maid,"	1.	1.	1.	$75 00
O. J. Brusie of Great Barrington, s. g. "Captain Jinks,"	2.	2.	2.	40 00
G. E. Russell of Great Barrington, ch. m. "Dolly Dutton"	3.	3	.3.	25 00

Time—2:44 ; 2:43 ; 2:45.

D. S. Draper,
Ralph Little,
S. W. Wright,
John Winthrop,
W. J. Mallory,
} Committee.

POULTRY.

Entries—Turkeys, 2 ; Geese, 4 ; Ducks, 4 ; other Fowls, 17.

For best trio of turkeys, F. K. Hinckley of Lee,	$3 00
2d do., D. F. Goodrich of Stockbridge,	2 00
For best geese, H. D. Hollenbeck of Egremont,	3 00
2d do., M. I. Wheeler of Great Barrington,	2 00
For best pair of geese, A. B. Stafford of Stockbridge,	1 00
For best cage of ducks, E. Church of Alford,	2 00
2d do., H. A. Carpenter of Stockbridge,	1 00
3d do., H. D. Cone of Stockbridge,	1 00
4th do., Ozias Olds of Stockbridge,	1 00
5th do., W. H. Palmer of Stockbridge,	1 00
For best cage of chickens, C. S. Joyner of Egremont,	2 00
2d do., G. F. Bartholomew of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do,, Henry Tickner of Alford,	2 00
4th do., E. M. Langdon of Lee,	2 00
5th do., Isaac Perry of Great Barrington,	1 00
6th do., Elisha Collins of Great Barrington,	1 00
7th do , E. Warner of Great Barrington,	1 00
8th do., W. Wilson of Great Barrington,	1 00
9th do., D. Wait of Egremont,	1 00
10th do., Norman Hollenbeck of Egremont,	1 00
11th do., O. E. Clark of Sheffield,	1 00
12th do., William Stevens of Sheffield,	1 00
13th do., M. S. Heath of Stockbridge,	1 00
14th do., T. S. Heath of Stockbridge,	1 00
15th do., John Cooper of Stockbridge,	1 00
16th do., O. H. Monson of Monterey,	1 00
For best cage of Guinea Hens, H. C. Joyner of Egremont,	1 00
2d do., William A. Bunce of Alford,	1 00
For best Peacocks, C. G. Hollenbeck of Great Barrington,	1 00

C. L. Wright, Chairman.

PLOWING—HORSE TEAMS—8 ENTRIES.

For best plowing team, Patrick Burns of Stockbridge,	$8 00
2d do., Warren Crissey of Great Barrington,	7 00
3d do., E. E. Callender of Sheffield,	6 00
4th do., H. W. Burgett of Egremont,	5 00

IRA CURTISS,
CHAUNCY D. LANGDON, } Committee.
DARIUS S. POWELL,

PLOWING—OX TEAMS—3 ENTRIES.

The committee on plowing ox teams report as follows:

The printed regulations require "each team to plow one eight of an acre, the time allowed being forty minutes. The plowing must be lapped and the furrows not less than six inches deep, nor more than eleven inches wide." Four ox teams were entered, and three plowed. The lands No. 2 and 3 were well plowed. No. 3 twenty-eight furrows, time forty-four minutes—No. 2 thirty-four furrows, time forty-eight minutes. No. 1 the work was not such as your committee think the society ought to encourage. The other two the committee would have awarded premiums, had the regulations been complied with. That the reasons which influenced and governed your committee in their action may be properly understood, and that no injustice be done to the plowman, we recommend that the matter be referred to the society for their action at their next annual meeting.

J. H. ROWLEY,
B. C. STODDARD, } Committee.
L. B. ANDREWS,

VELOCIPEDES.

[As there were no contestants for the prizes on Velocipede riding the second day of the Fair, and none on the third day until after the reports of committees were read, the chairman of the committee in that division presented a report on "nothing." In reply to a request from the secretary for a copy of the report for publication, he says: "Yours received asking for my report on "nothing," to print with the others. It is emphatically *nothing*, and I fear will add nothing to the "transactions" save the space it may occupy, but if it is desired to publish it, I don't know as I ought to refuse. I enclose it herewith." SECRETARY.]

The Committee to whom was the task to decide,
On the *skill* of a real velocipede ride,
Have heeded their duty and beg leave to say,
That "nary a one," was *seen* yesterday.
We know some good people, who came miles to see
This latest French notion from over the sea,
And as your Committee have nought to decide,
In regard to the *skill*, with which we can ride
This wondrous bicycle, which six months agone,
In town and in city had such a great run,

It may be worth while to such to describe
An *animal*, which, belongs to no tribe.
We hope that some may be seen here to-day,
(Tho' we shouldn't much wonder, if all kept away,)
Then those who would see them, can judge for themselves
To what class they belong—whether fairies, or elves.
They are surely strange creatures, as some of us know,
Without legs or feet, and yet they can *go ;*
Provided you furnish, a "smart boy" to *ride* them ;
But they won't "stir an inch," if you venture to *drive* them ;
They'll tumble right down, and lie still as a mouse,
And you *can't make 'em budge*, any more than a house.
They've *backbone* enough ; but then they won't use it ;
And you can't even *ride* them unless they shall choose it,—
They have a strange fancy, f r lying around,
And won't travel at all, except on *hard ground*,—
'Tis easy to keep them, in proper condition,
But they always prefer, the "*recumbent position.*"
'Tis useless to *feed* them, by day or by night,
For do what you will, they *won't stand upright*,
The soul they possess, seems dead to all pride,
And you must control *that*, or else you don't ride.
Such an animal then, in these practical days.
We wouldn't advise these farmers to raise.
The Durhams or Ayrshires, we much should prefer,
To this "nondescript" *thing*, that has made such a stir.
So don't sell your horses, and buy one of these,
Thinking, the faster you'll travel, and with the more ease.
For although the "animal" has *bottom* and speed,
The bottom will *drop*, when it most you shall need.
If you wish "*active exercise,*" buy one of these ;
'Twill furnish *enough*, for your arms and your knees.
The boys too may use them for work or for pleasure ;
To them they may prove quite a valuable treasure.
But if you would ride with ease o'er the course,
We advise you by *all means, stick to the horse.*

And now as your committe
On *nothing* have reported,
And by "velocipedists"
Have not at all been courted,
Of course they have no *premiums*,
At this time to award,
Yet they've a slight *suggestion*,
To make in that regard.

You may not think it modest,
For us to venture so ;
But modesty's a quality
That *was—some time ago.*

'Tis this :—as no one has appeared,
From village, town or city,
To claim the promised premiums,
Give them to your committee.

First premium Cornelius O'Niel of Egremont,	$15 00
2d do , William Woodworth of Great Barrington,	10 00

Time—2:45 ; 3:22. Half mile heats.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Warner, Chairman.

FOOT RACE.

First premium, Theophilus Spencer,	$5 00
2d do., Patrick Campion,	4 00
3d do., Patrick Barry,	3 00
4th do., Francisco B. Webster,	2 00

MARSHALL WARNER,
P. A. RUSSELL,
GEORGE I. KIPP,
Committee.

ORCHARDS.

The committee on reclaimed lands and orchards for 1867-9, having attended to their duties, respectfully submit the following report:

We regret to say that no reclaimed land was entered for our inspection. There is an apathy on the subject of draining and cultivating the waste lands of Berkshire which is not creditable to the farmers of the county. The most careless observer, as he passes around the county, must see that "much land remains to be possessed." The swamps that are now exhaling miasm and death should be producing sustenance for man and beast. Health and thrift alike demand this. In many instances our highways pass through these swamps, and even in a warm summer's evening, the dampness is so great that we involuntarily shudder at the chilly exposure and close our mouths that we may not inhale the seeds of consumption and typhoid fever. Whoever has any of this cold, wet land on his farm, and does not drain it, is exposing the health of himself, his family, and the community. If more drain tile were used, there would be less demand for pills and powders. Dry and pure air gives vitality, not only to man, but to the flocks and herds. Some of the first efforts at drainage in England were made by a farmer who became convinced that his sheep were suffering from disease that originated from his pastures being too wet. Both cattle and sheep, if free to select their grazing and sleeping grounds, choose the sweet herbage and pure air of the hills. Man, less mindful of the dictates of reason than the dumb beasts of their instincts, often locates his house in the neighborhood of low, damp, foggy land which he neglects to drain, and thus make the air more healthy and the soil more productive We are so thoroughly convinced of the importance of drainage that we put this down as the first step in successful agriculture, and hope future committees will not have to lament that no reclaimed lands were offered for their inspection.

The apathy on the subject of fruit is not much less than in the matter of wet, unproductive lands, if we may judge from the number of orchards entered for a premium in 1867, as only two apple orchards and one of pears were offered for our inspection. "Good fruit and plenty of it," should be the maxim of every farmer. Fruit seems to have been the staple diet of man while in the Garden of Eden, and is what all crave, especially

those living in the temperate and torrid zones. The eagerness with which children seize even immature fruit, proves the inherent longing in our natures for the cooling antiseptic and refreshing influences which fruit furnishes. With more apples, pears, peaches, and grapes, and less meat, our systems would not be strained so constantly to their utmost tension, and we should have less dyspepsia and neuralgia. We can have, and should have, an apple to eat each day in the year, and the modern mode of excluding air by canning, enables us to be furnished with all manner of fruits in fresh condition at all seasons. We call no farm perfect without its apple and pear orchards. The apple of late years has been a little coquettish in its habits, and some may have been discouraged from cultivating this most productive and most useful of the fruits. Let such remember that even in our most unproductive seasons, more and better apples are raised in the northern and western sections of our country than in any other part of the world. Our soil and climate as a whole are exceedingly well adapted to this fruit, and nowhere does it find a more congenial home. Others have feared that, by the great increase of nurseries, and multiplication of orchards, the market for apples would be overstocked. We need only to remind these fearful ones that the price of apples has steadily risen in our country. The increase in demand has more than kept pace with the increase of orchards, so that the price of refuse apples, fit only to be made into cider, is now more than our fathers could obtain for choice winter fruits. They thought themselves fortunate if they could obtain one dollar per barrel for picked, grafted apples. We are not content unless we realize four or five times this amount. Cider, that most healthy of all the vinous beverages, was formerly sold by the barrel for about the same that it now brings by the gallon. The foreign demand for apples has also greatly increased. England, with her foggy atmosphere, intercepting the solar rays, cannot produce the high colored and high flavored fruit peculiar to our country, and will most gladly purchase all our surplus production. But so far, we have had little surplus, for comparatively few, even in our favored land can say, they have all the fruit they desire. Let no one then be discouraged by an occasional unfruitful season, or by fear of an overstocked market, from planting apple orchards. We hope soon to see some remedy devised against the attacks of the curculio and other insects, which now are the pests of our orchards, and if no other more profitable disposition can be made of our apples, our cattle and swine will consume all we can raise.

While apples of late years have become a rather uncertain crop, the vigor of pear trees has increased, and their variety and quality must now satisfy the most fastidious. The old maxim was,

> "He that plants pears,
> Plants for his heirs,"

but, thanks to Van-Mons, and other pear culturists, we can plant pear trees one year and gather fruit from them the next. While the pear is not so lasting a fruit as the apple, it is more luscious, and both for the dessert and

for cooking is more universally liked, and commands a much higher price. We hope therefore to see more pear orchards started in the county.

The roots of the pear tree run more perpendicularly into the ground than the apple. Pears, therefore, require a deep, dry soil, and are less injured by the extreme droughts to which our climate is exposed. As their limbs also run up more perpendicularly they will bear to be planted more closely than the apple, so that on a given plot we can plant twice as many pear as apple trees.

A mistake of many young orchardists is to put out too great a variety. —There is only *one* best variety. Amateurs differ as to which is the best, but all agree that the varieties of both apples and pears which are letter A, are few in number.

Another mistake is to plant too closely. While the young trees are mere whip-stalks, they seem far enough apart, but ere we are aware, their branches are interlaced and the sun's rays are excluded.

We award as follows.

First premium on Apple Orchards, Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	$10 00
2d do., William Sprague of Alford,	8 00
For the best Pear Orchard, Frank Curtiss of Sheffield,	10 00

Respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER HYDE,
GUY DAY, } Committee.
CHARLES SPURR.

RECLAIMED LANDS.

The committee on reclaimed lands offer the following report.

There were entered for premium seven pieces of one acre each and one of three acres.

First premium, Merrick G. Hall of Great Barrington,	$15 00
2d do., Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	12 00
3d do., Walter Richards of Lenox,	8 00

The three acre piece entered by Joshua A. Barton of Stockbridge, was abandoned without an effort.

R. N. COUCH, Chairman.

SEEDS AND VEGETABLES—FINAL REPORT.

AWARDED AT ANNUAL MEETING, JAN. 13, 1870.

For best bushel of coarse clover seed, Harvey Roys of Sheffield,	$3 00
For best bushel of medium clover seed, Abner Roys, Sheffield,	$3 00
2d do., Graham Roys of Sheffield,	2 00

JARED LEWIS,
HENRY DRESSER, } Committee.
J. H. ROWLEY.

REPORT ON COMMITTEES.

It is much to be regretted that Mr. E. W. B. Canaing, chairman of the committee on reports, a gentleman known to be so well qualified to judge of the point and literary merit of the different reports, was obliged to withdraw from serving. The other members respectfully submit the following : Although there are excellent opportunities for the different committees to make valuable practical suggestions in reference to the various subjects which come before them, only a few have to any extent availed themselves of these opportunities ; so few that the labor of deciding which reports are worthy of a premium has not been very arduous.

To make a good report requires effort. In the first place materials must be gathered in the way of principles and facts in the different departments ; and in the second place practical information, suggestions and conclusions must follow, plainly expressed, and to the point. These reports are so widely distributed among the intelligent farmers of Berkshire County that great good would be likely to result, were they more carefully studied, more full and complete. The reports on Orchards and Summer Crops are examples worthy of imitation. These are clear and instructive on the subjects of which they treat. The writers do not run off into a discussion of the importance of neatness and thrift, the waste of fertilizers, the high calling of farmers, how they can better their condition, &c., &c., but give the results of their study and experience *on the subjects before them.* No fault can be found with most of the reports on account of a want of unity. The authors carry the virtue of brevity to such an extent, as to render it impossible for their reports to be otherwise than good examples of unity.

In conclusion we would urge upon the committees that may be hereafter appointed, to give to this society the results of a careful study of the subjects that may come before them, in the form of clear, full and well digested reports.

We award the first premium of $8, to the report on Orchards, Alexander Hyde, Chairman. The second premium of $6, we award to the report on Summer Crops. M. I. Wheeler, Chairman. The third premium of $4, is awarded to the report on Velocipedes, M. Warner, Chairman.

B. F. Parsons, }
J. Dewey, Jr., } Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Housatonic Agricultural Society, in Account with J. DEWEY, Jr., Treasurer. *CR.*

By balance of last year,	$221 96	
Interest received from members during the year	22 00	
Cash of H. J. Dunham for certificate of Stock,	16 67	
Bounty from State,	600 00	
By cash received of R. Goodman, Life Member	10 00	
" " " of M. I. Wheeler, certificate of stock,	16 67	
" " " on exchange of premiums,	5 00	
" " " for exhibition tickets,	2 00	
" " " from members at the Fair,	1420 70	
" " " at Gates and Deck,	1666 54	
" " " from Secretary for Advertisements,	52 00	
" " " for entries of Trotting Horses,	37 50	
" " " E. Hurlburt Sup't for Grounds,	850 60	
		$4,921 64

THE SAME. *DR.*

To paid for Revenue Stamps,		25
Alexander Hyde, service 5 days, as Committee,	$10 00	
D. B. Fenn, services 6 days, as Committee,	12 00	
J. N. Hayes, Sash and Glass,	3 50	
H. Holmes, for selling Grass	5 13	
J. L. Dodge, services assisting Treasurer,	9 00	
E. Hollister, for paper,	2 82	
J. M. Taylor, 13 days, as Com., and R. R. Fare,	28 60	
M. I. Wheeler, 10 days, as Com , and R. R. Fare,	21 85	
J. H. Adams, for Pump,	35 00	
R. A. Potts, 10 days, as Com., and R. R. Fare,	20 90	
I. R. Prindle, for himself and Assistants in Hall,	61 83	
Pitkin Brothers & Fuller, Silver Ware,	1,536 24	
Harvey Holmes, 3 days' service,	9 00	
J. N. Miller, 13 days as com., and R. R. Fare,	31 05	
S. Norton & Co., bill,	47 15	
Paid for Stone Boat, (new one)	6 90	
J. N. Robbins, services 2 days, at Gates,	7 00	

To paid Assistant to Robbins at Gates,	6	00
Prindle & Tobey for Silver for premiums last year,	35	97
James Wilson, 92 meals to Marshals, &c.,	69	00
F. G. Abbey, 14 days as Committee,	28	00
Kilbourn & Ward, for Lumber,	428	53
Paid Levi Warner for getting Stone Boat,	2	00
Paid for Bell, &c.,	52	05
B. F. Durant, for Chairs and Stand,	5	25
T. Siggins, 3 days' service,	9	00
Weeeler & Wilson's Band,	250	00
Alexander Hyde 2 days as Committee,	4	00
M. H. Rogers, Bill for Printing,	316	00
O. F. Fellows, for Painting,	22	20
J. Sisson, on account for work.	150	00
Daniel C. Clark, 9 days as Committee,	18	00
S. M. Cooper, 7 days as Committee,	14	00
Charles Spurr, 2 days as Committee,	4	00
Help at Gates,	105	65
E. N. Hubbard for marking Plow Land,	4	00
M. H. Rogers, for Printing,	44	75
Secretary's bill for Wrappers, Postage, &c.,	38	74
Premiums for Trotting Horses.	215	00
Premiums Foot Race,	14	00
Premiums on Velocipedes,	25	00
George Seeley, Assistant of Secretary,	7	00
Secretary's Salary	75	00
Treasurer's Salary,	75	00
Expressage, basket, twine, &c.,	3	01
Guy Day, 3 days as Committee,	6	00
Thomas Wells, 4 days on Executive Committee,	8	00
E C. Tickner, 4 days on Executive Committee,	8	00
R. N. Couch, 3 days as Committee,	6	00

BILLS PAID BY SUPRENTENDENT OF GROUNDS.

Paid for labor on fence,	$80	25
Building and Fence,	112	00
Twenty-six thousand Shingles,	130	00
Moving Stand,	10	00
Fence Watchers,	20	00
Night Watchers,	18	00
E. Manville's bill for work,	23	00
For 33 loads of Manure.	49	50
Grass seed and Rye,	11	87
Labor on Grounds,	26	00
J. Sisson, on account for work,	44	50
William Wilson for work,	75	50

Paid for J. H. Adams, putting in Pump and fixing same,	10 00	
Salary of Superintendent of Grounds,	50 00	
		$4,557 99
Balance to the credit of the society January 11th, 1870,		$363 65

There has been awarded and nearly all paid, the sum of $2,229,00 in premiums, mostly for the following subjects, viz :

For management of Farms,	$30 00	
Plowing at Exhibition,	26 00	
Reclaiming swamp lands,	35 00	
Orchards of all kinds,	28 00	
Vegetable Gardens,	18 00	
Cranberries,	3 00	$140 00
FARM STOCK.		
For Bulls,	44 00	
Milch Cows,	83 00	
Heifers,	37 00	
Calves,	15 00	
Working Oxen,	77 00	
Steers,	46 00	
Fat cattle,	30 00	
Horses,	191 00	
Sheep,	94 00	
Swine,	32 00	
Poultry,	40 00	
Other stock,	44 00	
		$733 00
FARM PRODUCTS.		
For Indian corn,	$108 00	
Wheat,	52 00	
Rye,	60 00	
Barley,	21 00	
Oats,	52 00	
Beans,	7 00	
Buckwheat,	16 00	
Grass crops,	18 00	
Grass seeds,	9 00	
Potatoes,	35 00	
For Carrots,	14 00	
Beets,	8 00	
Cabbage,	9 00	
Sweedish Turnips,	10 00	
Hops,	12 00	
Onions,	2 50	

Other root crops,	31 50	
Total for grain and root crops,		$465 00
For Fruits,	121 00	
Flowers,	35 00	
Butter,	36 00	
Cheese,	36 00	
Honey,	6 00	
Maple sugar and syrup,	12 00	
Wheat bread,	9 00	
Rye and Indian bread,	12 00	$732 00
Agricultural impliments,		33 00
Mechanical inventions, domestic manufactures, &c.,		337 00
Trotting Horses,		215 00
Foot race,		14 00
Velocipedes,		25 00
Total,		$2,229 00

Number of persons receiving premiums, 369.

Names of towns to which premiums were disbursed and the amount of each as follows :

Adams,	1 person received	$4 00
Alford,	20 persons "	71 50
Becket,	4 " "	18 00
Egremont,	50 " "	201 50
Great Barrington,	98 " "	591 00
Lanesboro,	2 " "	3 00
Lee,	22 " "	129 00
Lenox,	13 " "	120 00
Monterey,	16 " "	42 00
Mount Washington,	2 " "	12 00
New Marlboro,	15 " "	51 00
Pittsfield,	2 " "	8 00
Richmond,	1 " "	2 00
Sheffield,	73 " "	427 00
Stockbridge,	34 " "	186 00
West Stockbridge,	16 " "	65 00
Sundries,		44 00
		$1,975 00
Foot Race,		14 00
Velocipede,		25 00
Trotting Horses,		215 00
		$2,229 00

We have one hundred and ninety seven new members.

Respectfully submitted, J. Dewey, Jr., Treasurer.

LIST OF MEMBERS

—OF THE—

Housatonic Agricultural Society, 1869.

[An ordinary member gives his note to the Society for $16 67, paying the interest, $1, annually. Permanent members pay $16 67 and receive certificates of membership which are transferable. The payment of $10 constitutes a life membership.]

[Those designated with a * are permanent members, and a † life members.]

ALFORD.

Bassett, Orrin A.
Barnes, Timothy
Bassett, Edwin W.
Bunce, William A.
Brown, F. A.
Calkins, Harrison
Calkins, J. H.
Campbell, Wm. G.
Church, Elihu
Collins, Heman
Crandall, Harvey
Curtis, George R.
Curtis, Robert M.
Dewey, Silas S.
Dikeman, Philo
Fenn, John
Fitch, Frederick
Fitch, Horace S.
Fitch, William H.
Goodsell, Chester
Hawver, Eli
Hawver, Gilbert
Hinman, W. C.
Holmes, Richard A.
Hulett, Giles S.
Kane, Amos
Landon, Asa L.
Meach, Andrew
Milligan, J. L.
Osborne, Lester
Parish, Geo. W.
Palmer, Allen J.
*Pease, Henry
Peck, Henry
Post, Leonard
Prindle, Russell
Prindle, John R.
Rider, Lewis
Smith, H. W.
Smith, Geo. W.
Smith, Norman
Sperry, Wm. A.
Sprague, William
Stoddard, A. R.
Stoddard, Benton C.
*Stoddard, William
Stoddard, Charles F.
Stoddard, Geo. B.
*Ticknor, Albert
*Ticknor, Ezra C.
Ticknor, Henry
Tobey, Elisha L.
Wagoner, J. H.
Williams, E. K.
Williams, Samuel K.

BECKET.

Huntington, Geo. H.
Westover, William
Millard, Orrin
Perkins, C. O.
Sparks, Charles

CHESHIRE.

*Lincoln, S. L.

DALTON.

Barton, H. A.

EGREMONT.

Allen, James H.
Bacon, Samuel
Baldwin, Albert H.
Baldwin, David
Baldwin, Edwin R.
Baldwin, Edwin A.
Baldwin, I. D. W.
Baldwin, Sidney I.
Baldwin, Stephen
Baldwin, Theodore S.
Benjamin, F. K.
*Benjamin, Joseph A.
Benjamin, Calvin W.
Brusie, Cyrus
Benjamin, Geo. C.
Benjamin, J. M.
Beebe, Newton M.
Beebe, Richard
Blunt, Rutson
Bignall, C.
Brown, Myron R.
Brown, Milan
*Brown, R. B.
Brown, Martin
Bunce, George
Bunce, Ira
Bunce, C. L.
Burghardt, Mark D.
Burgett, Henry W.
Burgett, Rachel H.
Burtis, Geo. M.
Burtis, Nathaniel F.
Callender, Elmore E.
Church, Ephriam B.
Colby, Chas.
Codding, Henry E.
Cronin, Michael
Crippen, Edmund
Crippen, Daniel
Crippen, Daniel W.
Crippen, Horace
Crippen, Wm. F.
Dalzell, David
Dalzell, David Jr.
Dakin, A. L.
Decker, Albert
Decker, Allen
Decker, Jacob B.
Decker, Peter
Derrick, Arthur B.
Dewey, Hugo
Dusenbury, Edward
Dewey, Seymour B.
Dings, Hiram
Drum, Henry
Dunlap, B. K.
Elliot, J. D.
Emigh, Alvin
Emigh, Cornelius
Foote, J. H.
Fuller, Myron R.
Gardner, James A.
Gardner, John J.
Greattrax, Luther P.
Goodale, Chester
Goodale, Samuel B.
Harris, John E.
Hall, E. C.
Hall, David
Hollenbeck, Artemas
Hollenbeck, G. M.
Hollenbeck, H. D.
Hollenbeck, George
Hollenbeck, Geo. W,
Hollenbeck, Jacob E.
Hollenbeck, John H.
Hollenbeck, John T.
Hollenbeck, Norman
Hollenbeck, Silas
Holley, John
*Hyde, Levi W.
Jones, Wm.
Joyner, Henry C.
Joyner, John M.
*Joyner, Nelson
Joyner, F. C.
*Joyner, Abel H.
*Joyner, Charles S.
Joyner, Seymour
Karner, E. R.
Karner, S. N.
Karner, Plynna
Karner, W. G.
Karner, Andrew P.
Kelsey, Mark
Kline, George H.
Kline, Joseph
*Kline, Joseph A.
Kline, Levi K.
*Lawton, Joshua R. Jr.
Loomis, Franklin
*Lowrey, Ira J.
Lowrey, J. W.
Lowrey, J. C.
Mansir, Henry
Makely, Wm.
McDonald, John
Meach, William H.
Merwin, Henry E.
Millard, David C.
*Millard, Joshua L.
Millard, Joseph L.
Millard, E. H.
Millard, Loomis
Miller, Eugene
Miller, George
Miller, John
Newman, Ira
Newman, Joyner
*Newman, Herrick
Olmsted, F. L.
O'Connell, William
Palmer, Geo. H.
Parsons, A. K.
Parsons, E. T.
Pelton, Homer L.
Perry, Henry
Phelps, Winthrop H.
Ploss, Charles
Potts. Herman T.
Potts, Robert A.
Race, Rocius
Race, Seneca T.
*Rice, Lorenzo H.
Rounds, Benjamin F.
Rowe, H. L.
*Rowley, James H.
Sanford, S. H.
*Shead, Luke
Shook, Edward H.
Stillman, Frederick
Strong, Cyrus
Strong, Erastus
Tobey, Chester
Swartz, Robert
Thompson, Henry W.
Tyrrel, Ernest M.
Upson, Curtis P.
Van Bramer, J. E.
Van Deusen, Leman C.
Wait, Dyer
Warren, James H.
Winegar, Hervey
Williams, G. W.
Winchell, Henry
Winchell, E. M.
Winchell. Elias
Winchell, Dennison
Worthy, T. G.
Wright, Charles L.

FALLS VILLAGE, CT.

Brinton. Joseph
Cady, George T.

GREAT BARRINGTON.

Abbey, Franklin G.
Abbey, Frederick
Adams, James H.
Almonte, Bernard
Anderson, Huse N.
Atwood, Phineas T.
Avery, Francis
Avery, Miles
Avery, Theodore
Baldwin, Andrew J.
Baldwin, Joel
Baldwin Jonathan
*Barry, James W.
Barnes, Edward E.
Barnum, W. S.
Bassett, W. W.
Beebe, Levi
Beckwith, Daniel W.
Beckwith, Albert F.
Beckwith, Geo. E.
Beckwith, James H.
Benedict, Benjamin
Bennett, George W.
Bills, Eli
Bills, Charles W.
Bissell, Washington
Botsford, Charles E.
Bonaparte, Jerome
Brewer, J. A.
Brewer, John H.
Brewer, Reuben R.
Brigham, Henry G.
Briggs, Alonzo F.
Briggs, George W.
Briggs, Luther A.
Bristol, Henry A.
Brown, Ransom A.
Brusie, Orville J.
Buck, Henry F.
Burget, John
Burget, John L.
Burghardt, Frederick A.
Burghardt, William H.
Burghardt, L. N.
Burghardt, William
Burghardt, John M.
Burns, Geret
Burr, Moses C.
Bump, William E.
Calkins, Charles E.
Camp, Samuel
Chadwick, Ebenezer
Chapin, Norman C.
Church, Charles G.
*Church, George
Church, Mark
Clark, Benjamin F.
Clark, E. H.
Clark, William H.
Clark, Andrew
Clark, Otis
Coffing, John H.
Coggswell, George B.
*Collins, Clarkson T.
Collins, Elisha
Comstock, Hiram
Comstock, 2d, Hiram.
Comstock, Hugh
Comstock, Morton
Comstock, 2d, Perry G.
Comstock, Prentice
Cone, A. M.
Coon, 2d, William
Couch, Egbert
*Couch. Renssalaer N.
Criag, Charles A.
Crissey, Warren
Curtis, Uriah E.
Curtis, Thomas H.
Day, George S.
Day, Guy
Day, W. H.
Dearing, Samuel L.
Decker, Albert
Decker, John
Decker, Milo
Deland, William N.
Delert, Frederick
Dewey, Jr., Justin
Dewey, S. O.
*Dewey, William
Dimon, John
Dodge, George R.
*Dodge, John L.
Dorman, Isaac
Dorr, Gilbert

Draper, David S.
Dresser, Julius
Drum, William H.
*Durant, Benjamin F.
Fargo, Albert F.
Fellows, F. M.
Ferguson John
Ferry, George W.
Field, Richard
Flynn, Mrs. Ann
Foote, Carleton
Foote, Enos
Ford, Gilbert
Forest, Sheldon
Gately, Patrick
Gardner, Benjamin
Gardner, James
Gibbons, 2d, John
Gibbons, Martin
Gibbs, Elijah F.
Giddings, Frank E.
Gilbert, Edward L.
Gilbert, George E.
Gilmore, Benjamin F.
Gilmore, B. F. Jr.
Goodsell, Henry
Gorham, Edward L.
Gorham, William
Granger, Harvey
Grover, George W.
Hagerman, John
Hall, Herbert H.
Hall, John L.
Hall, Merrick G.
Hammiel, W. C.
Hasson, James
Hatch, B. H.
Hatch, John A.
Hayes, Coridon
Hayes, Jared N.
Hayes, Wilson
Healey, David
Hebron, William
Hermance. Robert
Herrick, John
Hine, Henry M.
Hickey, James
Hickey, John
Hill, Rodney
Holcomb, Phelps
Hollenbeck, John V.
Hollenbeck, Mark
Hollenbeck, Charles G.
*Hollenbeck, Walter W.
*Hollister, Taylor & Co.
Holmes, Charles F.
Holmes, Harvey
Holmes, Horace
Holmes, Newton F.
Holmes, Jr., James
Holmes, Orville
Houghtaling, Mrs. L. A.
Hubbard, Edwin N.
*Hubbard, Elijah N.
Hubbard, William H.
Hubbell, A. L.
Hulbert, Alden
Hulbert, Henry S.
*Hulbert, Sylvester
Hulet, L.
Humphrey, E. L.
Humphrey, Edwin D.
Humphrey, Mark
Hurlburt, Edwin
Hurlburt, Edwin C.
Hyde, John H.
Ives, George R.
Jaqua, Frank
Joyner, Herbert C.
Kellogg, Charles T.
Kellogg, S. & N.
Kelley, Michael
Kelley, Peter
Kilbourn, Edgar A.
Kilbourn, Levi
*Kilbourn, Mark
Kilbourn, Russell
Kilbourn, Robert P.
Kilbourn, William P.
Kilmer, David
Kilmer, Robert
Kinne, P. M.
Knickerbocker, Philo
Laird, Mark
Laird Samuel
Langsdorff, Frederick
Langsdorff, Frank W.
Langdon, G. B.
Lathrop, Monroe
Lawton, Benjamin
LeMassany, Lawrence,
*Leavitt, David
*Leavitt, Jr. David
Leavitt, Harry Y.
*Leavitt, Sheldon,
*Leavitt, Edward
Lee, Joseph
Leonard, H. G.
Lester, George W.
*Lewis, John
Lewis, Jared
Lewis, Ward
Lester, John
Loitus Edward
Loring, Almon R.
Loring, Almon I.
Luddington, Charles B.
Luka, Henry
Lyons, William H.
Mackie, J. Milton
Maley, P. A.
Maley. Patrick
*Mansir, Henry W.
Manvel, Edward
Martin, Jr., Eli
Maston, John
Maxwell, Charles A.
McCarty, James
McCurdy, R. F.
McCurdy, Robert
McCurdy, Thomas
McGowan, Andrew
McLean, Edwin W.
McNeil Hiram
Mellen, George W.
Mellen, Washington
Meach, Charles
Miller, Anthony
Miller, Christopher
Miller, Luke B.
Moore, David A.
Morgan, John W.
Morgan, R. E.
Morgan, Thomas R.
Moree, Aurora
Morse, H. P.
Moulton, Beman B.
Moulton, J. Frank
Morrison, William H.
Munson, John C.
*Monson, Gilbert
Myslinski, Frank I.
Nettleton, Lucius J.
New, John C.
Nodine, Seneca
North, Harvey
Norton, Salmon K.
Noxon, John D.
Noxon, Joseph J.
Olds, William L.
*Oles, Reuben W.
Osborne, John L
Palmer, Allen B.
*Palmer, Billings
Palmer, Justus
Palmer, William R.
Parker, James K.
Parks, William H.
*Pattison, Bazy W.
*Pattison, Amos L.
Patterson, Jerome
Peck, Alfred
Peck, Elias S.
Peck, Munson
Pelton, Asa C.
Pelton, Joseph K.
Perry, Isaac
Perry, Isaac G.
Phillips, James
Phillips, Michael
Pickett, N. B.
Pierce, George G.
Piper, James
Piper, William
Pixley, Almon B.
Pixley, Alonzo
Pixley, Benjamin F.
Pixley, Charles
Pixley, Edward
Pixley, Hawley
*Pixley, Lebbeus M.
Pixley, Jarvis
Powell, Benjamin
Potter, Timothy Z.
Prindle, Isaac R.
Putman, William K.
Race, John
Race, John Q. A.
*Race, Nicholas
Ramsey, Lewis G.
Ramsey, Legrand
Ray, George E.
Reifstanger, Jacob
Remington, B. F.
Rewey, Albert
Reynold, Hannah S.
Rhoades, Harry
Rice, Merrick M.
Rice, Willard W.
Rice, Isaac
Robbins, Loring G.
*Robbins, Henry T.
Robbins, John N.
Rogers, Marcus H.
Rogers, Benjamin
Rogers, Patrick
Rood, Calvin
Root, Allen,
Russell, John C.
Russell, Parley A.
Russell, George E.
Sabin, John F.
Sabin, George W,
*Sanford, J. F. & F. T.
Sanford, S. A.
Sage, Simeon
Savage, George G.
Seeley, Albert A.
Seeley, Isaac
Seeley, Thompson,
Selkirk, William
Sheldon, J. P.
Sheltus, Benjamin
Sheltus, James B.
Siggins, Thomas
Sisson, Jedediah
Slye, Daniel P,
Smith, David
Smith, James
Smith, Mark
Smith, Stephen E.
Snyder, Alexander
Snyder, Benjamin
Snyder, Matthias
Southworth, Constant
Stafford, Oliver
Stillman, Myon P.
Stone, John S.
Strong, Edward
Strong, Reuben
Suma, George W.
*Sumner, Increase
Surriner, Uriah
Taylor, George
Taylor, Ralph
Taylor. John C.
Thornton, Michael
Tillotson, Charles
Tillotson, G. D.
Tobey, Henry A.
Tobey, Marcus E.
*Tobey, Jonathan P.
Tracey, Jeremiah
Treat, F. M.
Tuller, Egbert L.
Turner, George L.
Turner, James M.
Turner, Miller
*Turner, Harvey H. B.
*Turner. David P.
Turner, William P.
Tuttle, Isaac S.
Tymerson, Jacob
Tymerson, Martin
Tymerson, Phillip
Ulrich, Magnus
Van Alstyne, W. L.
Van Deusen, Harlow A.
Van Deusen, F. J.
Van Deusen Isaac
Van Deusen, Joel
Van Deusen, John S.
Van Deusen, J. H.
Van Deusen, William
Van Deusen, Gilbert
*Van Deusen, Henry
Van Slyke, Baltus
Vosburgh, Eugene
Vosburgh, Richard
Vosburgh, Jerdon
Vosburgh, Lomis
Wagner Peter

Ward, Zadoc A.
Warner, E. F.
Warner, Daniel
Warner, Erastus
Warner, Henry C.
Warner, S. J.
Warner, Levi
Walker, Stephen
*Walker, William I.
Watson, Charles
Whalen, Michael
*Wheeler, Merrit I.
Whitlock, M. Ludlow
Whiting, Gideon M.
*Whiting, Frederick T.
Whitmore, Albert D.
Whitmore, George E.
Williams, Charles
Williams, Elihu
Williams, John F.
Wright, Henry W.
Wilcox, Charles W.
Wilcox, Clark A.
Wilcox, Henry L.
Wilcox, H. F.
Wilson, James
Wilson, William
Winchell, John
Wolfe, James C.
Wood, Charles, Jr.,
*Woodworth, E. P.

HILLSDALE, N. Y.

Bartlett, John A.
Becker, Peter C.
Burtis, Thomas F.
Cameron, Isaac
Crandall, Norman A.
Dibble, G. A.
Griswold, M. R.
Garner, E. N.
Gaines, E. A.
Goodsell, Daniel W.
Hollenbeck, Martin A.
Hollenbeck, Nicholas
Jusibia, H. A.
Loring, Chester O.
Makeley, Jacob W.
May, W. H.
Nichols, David A.
*Parish, Elmore
Pocher, Peter
Remington, Leverett C.
Scott, G.
Scott, Harvey
Tyler, C. F.
Van Deusen, David
Williams, Sanford
Winchell, Henry
Winchell, Seymour

HINSDALE.

O'Loring, Chester

LANESBORO.

Angell, Nathan

LEE.

Baker, George H.
Ball, Luther
Barnum, Henry L.
Bassett, H. M.
Beach, Ashley
Bowen, Joel F.
Bradley, Alonzo
Brace, Marshall
Bullard, James
Couch, F. R.
Couch, HenryS.
Cutting, C. P.
Fenn, T. H.
Foote, Theron L.
*Garfield, Harrison
*Gilman, Arthur
Hablin, Grove A.
Hall, Julius S.
Hinckley, Charles E.
Hinckley, Frank K.
Howk. A. M.
Hulbert, Stephen
Hyde, Alexander
Lamphire, Chester K.
Langdon, Egbert M.
Langdon, E. A.
Leroy, Jacob
Livingston, William D.
Mallory, William J.
Markham Lewis T.
Maynard Scott
Merrill, Franklin
Merrill, John S.
Merrill, William M.
Murphy, Edgar M.
Pease, Abial H.
Pinney, John W.
*Pixley, Isaac W.
Phelps, George H.
Purcell, John
Shaylor, P. M.
*Smith, Henry
Smith, Elizur
Smith, H. L.
Stallman, Jr., John
Stevens, John C.
Thatcher, T. D.
Tillotson, Frank
Tillotson, S. W.
Tullar. George B.
Turner, J. H.
Wood, Daniel
Wagner, George

LENOX.

Bangs, Gilbert C.
*Bishop, H. W.
Butler, Albert C.
Butler, Luther S.
Butler, John W.
Cook, John M.
Cook, George R.
Cook, John
Curtis, William O.
Dewey, C. A.
Dewey, Samuel M.
Dunning, Charles
Ford, Darius
†Goodman, Richard
Hall, Salmon
Hunt, Frederick
Jenne, S. S.
Kendall, Daniel D.
Peck, George O.
Peck, William E.
Richards, Walter
Root, Henry J.
Stevens, Samuel
Wellington, H. B.
Webster, A. D.
Winchell, G. W.

MOUNT WASHINGTON.

Goodale, Henry S.
Hughes, John
Layhe, John
Rood, John W.
Schutt, Frank B.
Spurr, Isaac
Whitbeck, O. C.
Wright, Jr., William

MONTEREY.

Abbott, V. S.
Benedict, John
Bentley, Elisha W.
*Bidwell, Marshal S.
Brett, Charles W.
Brett, Uriah
Brewer, Carmi A.
Brewer, Dennis
Brewer, John G.
Brewer, Newton
Broche, Francis
Busby, David S.
Clarke, Thomas
Curtis, Miles H.
Cutting, George D.
Dowd, Albert M.
Dowd, Artemus
Freeman, A. G.
Freeman, James
Fargo, Rufus C.
Fargo, Robert B.
Garfield, Egbert B.
Gleason, Zachariah
Hadsell, J. K.
Harmon, Isaac
Harmon, Jr., Isaac
Heath, C. E.
Hitchcock, Cornish
Hyde, James K.
Langdon, Chauncey D.
Langdon, John H.
Langdon, M. C.
Langdon, Wallace W.
Langdon, Wilber C.
Langdon, William S,
Mansir, Jared
Mansir, John G.
*Mansir, Merrick
McCarty, Eugene
Minor, Thomas
Minor, George T.
Minor, William
Munson, Orrin H.
Scudder, C. B.
Tryon, Albert M.
Upham, H. N.
Williams, Benjamin F.
*Wood, Thomas

NEW MARLBOROUGH.

Abbott, Willam L.
Adams, Charles T.
Adams, Junius P.
Adams, Barney
Adams, Edwin
Adams, Milton
Allen, Henry
Allen, Myron
Alexander, Alfred H.
Alexander, George
Alexander, John
Baldwin, Henry M.
Baldwin, William H.
Baldwin William R.
Barber, H. L.
Benedict, George
Bentley, W. S.
Blow, Peter
Brett, Austin
Brett, Alonzo W.
*Brewer, John
Branning James C.
Calkins, Ebenezer
Calkins, John C.
Callender, George
Canfield, Marcus R.
Chapin, Albert
Collar, J. N.
Cook, Edward
Cook, Charles N.
Couch, Charles
Crosby, T. B.
Crine, Walter
Curtin, Michael
Curtis, Jerome
Chapin, A. W.
Chapin, George B.
Chapin, N. A.
Church, Lester
Davis, Peter
Doncaster, John
Doncaster, John A.
Doyle, Keyran
Doyle, Michael
Doyle, Patrick
Dowd, Orson L.
Emmons, Lewis
Fitzpatrick, Michael
Ford, Harry G.
Forest, David G.
Freeman, Andrew J.
Garrihan, Dominick
Gibson, Noah
Gibson, George M.
Gibson, William B.
Gibson, O. A.
Gilmore, P. P.
Giddings, E. W.
Hadsell, Luman
Hadsell, Nelson
Hadsell, Oren
Hall, Byron M.
Hall, Chancey
Hall, Milo
Hall, Luther B.
Hall, Wesley
Hayes, Dennis
Hayes, Roger
Hollister, George B.
Hollister, Gilbert
Huntley, J. W.
Huntley, William
Hyde, Henry D.
Hyde, James
Hyde, John A.
Kasson, Henry N.
Kasson, Newton
Kasson, William C.
Keyes, Dennison N.
Keyes, Dorrence B.
Keyes, James W.
Keyes, John S.
Keyes, Lorrin
Keyes, Mary J.
Kinge, Peter
Kline, Norman
Leffingwell, D.
Leffingwell, William S.
Marin, James
Martin, Alpheus W.
McAlpen, James
McManus, Michael
Murray, James
Morse, Roswell
Moran, John A.
Norton, E. D.
Norton, G. H.
Norton, John H.
Norton, Sheldon
Osborne, Noah H.
Palmer, Henry
Palmer, H. W.
Palmer, Nehemiah
Parmelee, R. J.
Parks, Egbert N.
Pettis, Phineas
Pettis, Isaac T.
Pierce, Henry
Powell, Stephen
*Powell, Darius, S.
Potter, John E.
Potter, Leonard
Rhoades, Edward
Rhoades, James A.
Rhoades, Zenas W.
Richardson, M. C.
Rogers, Charles F.
Rogers, Harbron
Rogers, William H.
Sardam, Henry
Seeger, Weston
Sheldon, Harvey
Sheldon, Seth L.
Sheldon, Gilbert L.
Sheldon, George S.
Sheldon, Henry W.
Sisson, H. D.
Sisson, Henry
Sisson, George W.
Smith, Auren
Smith, Jonathan
Stannard, Ambrose
Stannard, Dyer
Stannard, D. J.
Stanard Perry H.
Turner, Samuel A.
Tuttle, I. N.
Underwood, H. S.
Ward, Edward
Waugh, C. H.
Wheeler, Benjamin
Wheeler, George H.
Wheeler, Newman
Wolfe, John S.
Wright, S. W.

OTIS.

Bosworth, Lyman
Brewer, Darwin E.
Champlin, H. C.
Peasley, Calvin
Phillips, Henry D.
Strickland, Norman
Webb, Edward S.

PITTSFIELD.

Chapel, Samuel T.
Crosby, Jr., John
Emerson, Charles N.
Hulet, Chester S.
Harmon, Oliver W.
Jones, Sidney
Kellogg, A. W.
*Lawton, Joshua R.
*Lawton, Moses P.
Luddington, John D.
Lyons, James H.
Miles, C. Denny.
Reed, Stephen
Smith, F. H.
Warren, Henry R.

RICHMOND.

Andrews, T. B.
Butler, Marshall
Branch, Rufus
Dewey, Mark
Gaston, Franklin H.
Rowley, Edward S.
Tripp, Hiram
Uhle, Jacob H.
Werden, Jr., Henry

SALISBURY, CT.,

Abbey, Milton
Barnum, Horace P.
Evarts, Fred
Harris, Martin
Joyce, John D.
Knickerbocker, Milo
McNeil, J. P.
Spurr, Norman
Winters, W. F.

SANDISFIELD.

Barker, J. O.
Bartholomew, Martin
Burt, Orlo
Cone, O. W.
Deland, Edward
Deland, Joel E.
Garfield, Elisha
Hawley, Austin
Hawley, William H.
Ingham, Thomas
Ives, Truman
Judd, Oliver W.
Judd, Thomas M.
Manley, Henry S.
Merrill, Orville
Merrill, Adna W.
Merrill, S. B.
Northrop, S. C.
Olds, Lyman
Parsons, Samuel C.
Parsons, E. T.
Persons, B. J.
Phelps, N.
Putman, John B.
Rugg, William R.
Sackett, Smith
Sage, Lewis G.
Sears, Joshua M.
Sears, Peter H.
Sage, John H.
Snow, A. G.
Snow, Charles A.
Spring, A. C.
Stratton, Edward
Stratton, Theodore A.
Stedman, Henry A.

Thompson, Francis H.
Thompson, Rollin
Twing, Alvin
Twing, Joel
Twining, Joseph
Wolcott, E. C.
Wolcott, Orlo
Webster, Henry
Wooding, George F.

SHEFFIELD.

Allyn, Dwight
Andrus, Dwight
Andrus, Edward D.
Andrews, Nelson L.
Andrus, F. O.
Andrus, Miron W.
Arnold, Emmons
Baker, Henry
Bartholomew, Andrew
Bartholomew, Henry A.
Bartholomew, Hiram
Bartholomew, O. J.
Bartholomew, Willis
Bartholomew, G. F.
*Bartholomew, J. M.
Bassett, Elisha
Belcher, Alexander
Belcher, John A.
Bidwell, Jr., M. S.
Bible, Frank
Bishop, Virgil V.
Blodgett, George
Boardman, Dwight
Boardman, Edmund
Boardman, Henry
*Boardman, Levi
*Boardman, Jr., Levi
Bowen, Charles E.
Brewer, Amos
Briggs, David H.
Brown, Aug. F.
Brown, C. A.
Brown, Leonard
Brown, C. K.
Bronson, H. R.
Buck, Henry F.
Burns, George C.
Burtch, John D.
Burtch, Berdsley N.
Burtch, Henry
*Bushnell, S. Hopkins
Bunnell, H. R.
Butts, Frank
Callender, Abner
Callender, Joseph
Callender, H.
Canfield, James
Canfield, Henry W.
Canfield, Joseph H.
Cande, Mrs. Ann M.
Cande, Zaccheus
Cande, Horace Z.
Cande, Hopkins T.
Candee, J. W.
Candee, Warren
Carey, William J.
Chapin, H. B.
Chapin, Edward
Chapin, H. S.
Chapin, Joseph H.
Chapin, William M.
Chase, Allen B.
Clark, Amos E.
Clark, Bela N.
Clark, Henry J.
Clark, Orrin E.
Clark, Jr., William
Clark, Jerry J.
Clark, Wiber L.
Conday, Patrick
Conner, John
Conway, J. E.
Cooper, John L.
Cooper, Frank L.
Cooper, Frederick F.
Coon, John H.
Cowles, A. N.
Cowles, Correll
Crippen, George
Crippen, Wright
Cropper, George
Curtiss, Elias
*Curtiss, Frank
*Curtiss, Ira
*Curtiss, Orren
Curtis, Uriah E.
Decker, Adolphus
Decker, Charles J.
Decker, Chancey
Decker, Jacob
De Forest, J. C.
Dewey, Charles O.
Dewey, Charles H.
Dexter, J. C.
Dexter, N. C.
Doten, George
Drew, Daniel
Dutcher, David M.
Dutcher, Henry
Dunham, Asahel
Dusenbury, M. I.
Dusenbury, George
Edgar, Theodore
Ferry, Christopher
Ferry, James
Field, J. H.
Fitzgerald, Austin
Ford, William
French, Cyrus
Fretts, Charles
Funk, Peter
Gale, Martin
Gorham, John
Gardner, Albert
Gardner, Jacob E.
Garrighan, John
Gilligan, John
Gilbert, David
Gorham, George W.
Gordon, Alexander
Gordon, Edward S.
Gordon, Harvey S.
Gordon, N. E.
Gordon, Philander
Gordon, S. T.
Gore, George B.
Graham, Jonathan B.
Graham, Robert B.
Grany, Martin
Griffith, Grove D,
Hadsell, Moses
Hadsell, James
Hadsell, Theron
Haley, Michael
Harris, E. W.
Harris, Joseph
Hawes, Loomis
Hayes, Harlow
Hayes, Michael
Hayes, Nelson
Heaton, Thomas
Hedger, Lebbeus
Hedden, Robert
Hewins, Arthur M.
Hinton, John E.
Holabird, Hiram B.
Hopkins, John R.
Hubbard, Albert F.
Hubbard, Samuel
Hubbell, Goodrich
Hurlbert, A. R.
Hudson, Cyrus
Huggins, Abraham
Huggins, Dexter A.
Huggins, H. M.
Huggins, John R.
Huggins, Lyman L.
Huggins, Samuel J.
Jennings, N. T.
Johnson, Edgar M.
Johnson, Jared
Johnson, John
Joyner, E. R.
Kellogg, George
King, Michael
Kirby, Hiram
Knickerbocker, S.
Lawrence, W. H.
Lee, George B.
Lee, Seth
Lee, Dennis
Leffingwell, A. W.
Leonard, George W.
Leonard, J. M.
Lindsey, Austin
Lindsey, Luther
Lindsey, William
Little, A. M.
Little, Ralph
Little, Lucius
Loomis, John B.
Loop, John C.
Loring, Almon H.
Loring, B. H.
Manvel, G. W.
Manvel, Wright D.
Manvel, J. M.
McArthur, Arthur A.
McCarty, Martin
Meach, Henry
Merrifield, Milton
Miller, J. Leland
Miller, Stephen
Miner, Walter M.
Moore, Harvey
Mullen, William
Munn, Edward
Munson, John M,
Munson, Well B.
Notewire, Norman W.
O'Brien, Dennis
Palmatier, George H.
*Parks, William J.
*Peck, Eliada
Peck, Henry H.
Parrish, George T.
Parmelee, George W.
Parsons, George L.
Pratt, David L.
Pulver, John H.
Pulver, Martin
Pulver, Tallmadge
Rider, A. J.
Rider, Samuel S.
Root, Graham A.
Rote, Leonard
Roys, Abner
Roys, Charles
Roys, Everett A.
Roys, Frank
Roys, Graham
Roys, Harvey
Roys, John M.
*Roys, Levi
Roys, William H.
Roraback, James
Roraback, J. C.
Sage, Charles
Sage, Rodney
Sardam, S. B.
Saxton, Asher
Saxton, William B.
Scott, J. B.
Shears, Albert W.
Shears, George M.
Shears, Harvey
Shears, Jay
Smith, Charles
Smith, Henry J.
Smith, Jr., G.
Smith, Eli
Smith, J. G.
Smith, M. J.
Smith, Miles M.
Snyder, Benjamin
Snyder, Henry
Snyder, Peter
Sparks, Irving
Sparks, T. A.
Sparks, Lyman B.
Spaulding, Chester
*Spurr, Charles
Spurr, Charles E.
Spurr, Henry R.
Spurr, Isaac
Spurr, Franklin
Squire, Francisco A.
Stafford. Jesse L.
Stannard, Harris A.
Stannard, Delancey
Stanton, Edward D.
Stanton, Jesse
Stanton, J. R.
Stark, William
Stevens, Aretus
Stevens, William
Stickles, George W.

Stillman, David
Strong, George P.
Strong, T. B,
Sykes, Henry W.
Taft, Archibald
Taft, Orrin
Taft. R. L,
Taft, Roscoe C.
Taft, William
Tarpy, Daniel
Thomas, Sylvester J.
Tobey, M. P.
Train, H. D.
Tryon, William
Tuttle, Horatio
Tuttle, John H.
*Tuttle, Leonard
Van Deusen, Peter
Vesfinder, Harris
Vosburgh, John
Vosburgh, J. C.
Warner, J. N.
Webster, Henry
Webster, Frederick B.
Westover, Charles
Wickwire, M. H.
Wickwire, T. C.
*Willcox. Joseph
Willcox, William S.
Willcox, F. B.
Willcox, William O.
Winch, Luther
Winters, Phillip
Wolfe, Henry
Wright, C. S.
Wright, George B.
Wright, Gordon H.
Wright, John

STOCKBRIDGE.

*Barton, Joshua A.
Barnes, Austin A.
Barry, Roger
Booth, William H.
Buck, Anson
Buck, John M.
Burns, Patrick
Burghardt, Erastus
Burghardt, John H.
Byington, Spencer
*Canning, E. W. B.
Carpenter, Henry A.
Cannon, George W.
Clarke, William B.
Comstock, Sanford W.
Cooper, John M.
Cooper, G. W.
Cooper, Samuel M.
Crippen, Andrew B.
Crosby, Cyrus
Crosby, Sidney
Curtis, S. C.
Curtis, Chauncey
Curtis, Nathan B.
Darbe, William
*Dresser, Henry
*Dunham, Henry J.
Evans, Richard
Fairchild, Daniel
*Fenn, Daniel B.
Fenn. Henry C.
French, Joseph R.
Fuller, William R.
Gaines, Amaziah
*Goodrich. Charles
Goodrich, D. F.
Goodrich. Samuel
*Heath, Marshall S.
Higginson, Jr., G.
Hull, John B.
Hulck, Anthony
Jones. Henry C.
Kilduff, James L.
Knight, John
Lincoln, S. P.
Nettleton, A. C.
Niles, John O.
Olds, Ozias
Olds, James R.
Palmer, Franklin A.
*Palmer, H. D.
Palmer, W. H.
Perry, Daniel
Pilley, Benjamin
Pinneo, George J.
Roberts, John R.
Seymour, Egbert
Seymour, Seth
Smith, Norman J.
Stafford, A. B.
Taylor. Isaac M.
Tracey, James
Trask, Josiah
Warner, T. J.
*Warner. Marshall
Watts, Ridley
Wells, Thomas
Whitehead, James
Wilcox, C. E.
Wilcox, Monroe
Wilcox, Morris H.
Williams, Grosvenor
Williams. Theodore
Willis, Charles H.
Willis, Nathan C.
Winthrop, John
†Wolfinger, John J.
Woodbeck, James
Yale, Allen S.

TYRINGHAM.

Canon, Jr., John
Canon, Nathan
Clark, Daniel
Clark, Hamlin F.
Garfield, John M.
Garfield, W. W.
Hale, John
Heath, T. J.
Heath, D. C.
Howland, Harrison
Slater, Charles E.
Stedman, Martin V. B.
Sweet, Martin J.
Sweet, Albert G.
Videtto, C. H.

WEST STOCKBRIDGE.

Arnold, James B.
Barnes, Elnathan
Barnes, Erwin F.
Barnes, Sidney D.
Barnes, Seth A.
Barnes, Garret
Barnes, Thomas W.
Benedict, Barzillai
Benedict, C. B.
Brown, A. G.
Bristol, Remiro
Burghardt, Cyrus H.
Buckley, Mathew
Carpenter, John W.
Caswell, William
Church, S. L.
Cone, F. B.
Comstock, P. G.
Cobb, George
*Dewell, James
Easland, Hendrick
Frost, Edward
French, C. C.
French, Abel P.
French, Jr., Thomas
French, W. C.
Fuarey, Charles H.
Fuarey, J. M.
Gaston, Alanson
Gale, Fellows
Goodrich, R.
Hare, J. C.
Hare, Jr,, J. C.
Harding, B. C.
Harris, Avery E,
Kilmer, William
Kimberly, Henry
Kniffin, C. W.
Leet, Chauncey
Lumbert, Edwin
McCann, William
Pickett, Buel
Pixley, Levi
Potter, George W.
Platt, C. S.
Reed, Timothy B.
*Shead, James
Smith, Edwin S.
Spencer, Jr., Sylvester
Spencer, Thomas H.
Spencer, James H.
Stickles, Albert N.
Stickles, Theodore G.
Wilcox, George
Wilson, John G.

NEW YORK CITY.

Cone, John A.
*Newman, Samuel
Dewey, Theodore
*Hyde, Levi W.
Karner, W. J.
Putnam, W. K.
Rising, J. C.
Stanley, William
Langdon, P. C.

CANAAN, CT.

Dean, G. A.
Thompson, James
Knickerbocker, F.
Lawrence, William A.

WINSTED, CT.

Matthews, Ransom
Welch, William C.
Stevens, Charles J.
Huntley, Ezra B,
Lemont, Isaac

Canaan Valley, Ct.,	Hougtailing, Henry A.	New Haven, Ct.,	Hart, Edson S.
Elizabeth, N. J.,	Pope, Ebenezer	Tolland,	Ives, E. W.
Chatham, N. Y.,	Beach, Ransom W.	Austerlitz, N Y.,	Taylor, Elnathan
Canaan Corners, N. Y.,	Crofut, C. B.	Green River,	Tremain, R.
Avon, Ct., Rhoads,	Mason N. Rood, H. D.	Chicago, Ill.,	*Hulbert, E. A.
Bridgeport, Ct.,	Sumner, Samuel B.	Johnstown, N. Y.,	Bates, J. C.
Hartford, Ct.,	Langdon, W. W.	Westfield,	Brewer, John
Norfolk, Ct.,	Burr, Erastus	Boston Corner, N. Y.,	Hubbard, George
Norristown, Pa.,	*Whiting, Francis		

RECAPITULATION.

Alford,	55	Hillsdale, N. Y.,	27	New Marlboro,	145	Sheffield,	305
Becket,	5	Hinsdale,	1	Richmond,	9	Stockbridge,	79
Cheshire,	1	Lanesboro,	1	Otis,	7	Tyringham,	15
Dalton,	1	Lee,	53	Pittsfield,	15	West Stockbridge,	55
Egremont,	160	Lenox,	26	Salisbury, Ct.,	9	Scattering,	34
Falls Village, Ct.,	2	Monterey,	48	Sandisfield,	45		
Great Barrington,	419	Mt. Washington,	8			Total,	1,521

COMMITTEES AND PREMIUMS

—FOR THE—

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF THE

HOUSATONIC AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,

—TO BE HOLDEN AT—

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.,

—ON—

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, SEPT. 28th, 29th AND 30th,

1870.

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.:
MARCUS H. ROGERS, STEAM JOB PRINTER,
1870.

OFFICERS FOR 1870.

PARLEY A. RUSSELL of Great Barrington, *President.*
THOS. H. CURTIS of Great Barrington, 1*st Vice-President.*
ZACHEUS CANDE of Sheffield, 2*d Vice-President.*
JUSTIN DEWEY, Jr, of Great Barrington, *Treasurer.*
HENRY T. ROBBINS of Great Barrington, *Secretary.*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PARLEY A. RUSSELL, of Great Barrington.
THOS. H. CURTIS, of Great Barrington.
ZACHEUS CANDE, of Sheffield.
JUSTIN DEWEY, Jr, of Great Barrington.
HENRY T. ROBBINS, of Great Barrington,
ALEXANDER HYDE, of Lee.
EGBERT B. GARFIELD, of Monterey.
HENRY W. SMITH, of Alford.
HUGO DEWEY, of Egremont.
HENRY DRESSER, of Stockbridge.

COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS,

ISAAC SEELEY of Great Barrington,
JOHN L DODGE of Great Barrington,
HERBERT C. JOYNER of Great Barrington.

SUPERINTENDENT OF FAIR GROUNDS,

EDWIN HURLBURT of Great Barrington.

DELEGATE TO STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE, 1870-73,

RICHARD GOODMAN of Lenox.

Committees and Premiums.

The following premiums are offered by the Housatonic Agricultural Society, to be awarded at the Twenty-Ninth Annual Cattle Show and Fair to be held at GREAT BARRINGTON, on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, September 28th, 29th and 30th, 1870.

SUMMER CROPS.

Committee.—Henry S. Goodale, Mt. Washington ; John N. Robbins, Great Barrington ; S. L. Lincoln, Cheshire.

For the best acre of Winter Wheat, three premiums, $7, 6, 5.
For the best acre of Spring Wheat, five premiums, $7, 6, 5, 4, 3.
For the best four acres of Winter Rye, in piece, five premiums $8, 7, 6, 5, 4.
For the best acre Winter Rye, six premiums, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2.
For the best four acres of Oats, in piece, four premiums, $7, 6, 5, 4.
For the best acre of Oats, six premiums, $7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2.
For the best acre of Barley, four premiums, $6, 5, 4, 2.
For the best three acres Cultivated Grass, four premiums $6, 5, 4, 3.
For the best Vegetable Garden, four premiums, $6, 5, 4, 3.

Regulations.—All entries of Summer Crops and Gardens must be made in time to be received at the Secretary's desk by the 4th day of July.

This regulation will be strictly adhered to.

Competitors will not be required to make return of the weight of crops, except at the request of the Examining Committee, but they will use a printed form furnished for the purpose, giving such information as may be valuable for publication, which must be returned to the Secretary by the 15th of November.

FALL CROPS.

Committee.—Henry Burtch, Sheffield ; Hosea Codding, Lee ; Noah Gibson, New Marlboro.

For the best four acres of Corn, in piece, six premiums, $10, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4.
For the best acre of Corn, seven premiums, $9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3.
For the best acre of Buckwheat, five premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2, 1.
For the best one-half acre of Potatoes, (quality as well as yield considered) six premiums, $7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2.

For the best one-fourth acre of White Beans, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best one-fourth acre of Sugar Beets, three premiums, $5, 4, 3.
For the best one-fourth acre of Mangel Wurtzel, three premiums, $5, 4, 3.
For the best one-fourth acre of Carrots, four premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2.
For the best one fourth acre of Sweedish Turnips, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.
For the best one-fourth acre of Cabbages, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.
For the best one-fourth acre of Sowed Corn, four premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2.
For the best Managed Farm of not less than forty acres, four premiums, $12, 8, 6, 4.

Regulations.—All entries of Sowed Corn must be made in time to be received at the Secretary's desk by the 15th day of August, and all other Fall Crops and Farms by the 1st day of September. *This regulation will be strictly adhered to.*

Competitors will not be required to make return of the weight of crops, except at the request of the Examining Committee, but they will use a printed form furnished for the purpose, giving such information as may be valuable for publication, which must be returned to the Secretary by the 15th of November.

SEEDS AND VEGETABLES.

Committee.—Ward Lewis, Great Barrington; John B. Hull, Stockbridge; Charles W. Kniffin, West Stockbridge.

For the best bushel Clover Seed, two premiums, $3, 2.
For the best bushel Timothy Seed, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.
For the best bushel Ears of Seed Corn, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best bushel Seed Oats, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best bushel Seed Rye, two premiums, $2, 1.
For the best bushel Seed Barley, two premiums, $2, 1.
For the best bushel Seed Winter Wheat, two premiums, $2, 1.
For the best bushel Spring Wheat, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.

The sum of $25 is placed in the hands of the Committee to be awarded in small premiums for the best specimens each of Potatoes, Beets, Turnips, Squashes, Pumpkins, Cabbages, Tomatoes, and other Garden Vegetables.

Clover Seed will be exhibited and decided upon at the Annual Meeting in January.

Regulations.—All Seeds and Vegetables must have been raised by the competitors within the year.

HOUSEHOLD MANUFACTURES.

FIRST DIVISION.

Committee.—J. H. Rowley, Egremont; Mrs. Elmore E. Callender, Sheffield; Mrs. Samuel M. Cooper, Stockbridge.

For the best ten yards White Flannel, 4-4 wide, four premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2.
For the best twenty yards Woolen and Cotton Sheeting, 4-4 wide, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.

For the best piece of Rag Carpeting, not less than twenty yards, five premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2, 1.
For the best Hearth Rug, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best pair Horse Blankets, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best Afghan or Lap Robe, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.

REGULATIONS.—All articles, including cloths, must be manufactured by the competitors during the year.

The sum of $12 is also placed in the hands of the committee for discretionary premiums.

HOUSEHOLD MANUFACTURES.

SECOND DIVISION.

COMMITTEE.—Ralph Little, Sheffield; Mrs. Hiram Dings, Egremont; Mrs. Isaac Harmon, Monterey.

For the best Bed Spread, four premiums, $4, 3, 2, 1.
For the best Quilt, six premiums, $6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.
For the best three pounds of White or Colored Woolen Yarn, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best three pairs Linen Hose, two premiums, $2, 1.
For the best four pairs Woolen Hose, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best three pairs Woolen Mittens, two premiums, $2, 1.
For the best three pairs Woolen Gloves, two premiums, $2, 1.
For the best five yards Fringe, two premiums, $2, 1.
For the best Lady's Hat, of whatever material, two premiums, $4, 2.
For the best one pound Linen Thread, two premiums, $2, 1.

The sum of $20 is also placed in the hands of the Committee for discretionary premiums.

REGULATIONS.—All articles must have been manufactured by the competitors during the year.

PAINTING AND FANCY WORK.

COMMITTEE.—M. S. Bidwell, Jr., Sheffield; Mrs. Henry M. Hine, Great Barrington; Miss Mary C. Langdon, Monterey.

For the best specimen of Painting, five premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2, 1.
For the best Crayon, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best Pencil Drawing, three premiums, $3, 2, 1
For the best Wax Fruit or Flowers, two premiums, $3, 2.
For the best Hair Work, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best Feather Work, two premiums, $3, 2.
For the best Cone Work, two premiums, $2, 1.
For the best Photographs or Sunlight Pictures, two premiums, $5, 3.

The sum of $15 is also placed in the hands of the Committee for discretionary premiums.

REGULATIONS.—All articles must have been manufactured by the competitor during the year.

EMBROIDERY.

Committee.—Richard Goodman, Lenox; Miss Jennie W. Hunter Stockbridge; Mrs. George E. Russell, Great Barrington.

For the best specimen of Needlework, four premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2.
For the best specimen of Worsted Embroidery, four premiums, $4, 3, 2, 1.
For the best specimen of Silk Embroidery, four premiums, $4, 3, 2, 1.
For the best specimen of Crochet Work, four premiums, $4, 3, 2, 1.
For the best specimen of Knit Work, four premiums, $4, 3, 2, 1.
For the best specimen of Tatting, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best specimen of Bead Work, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best specimen of Net Work, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.

The sum of $10 is also placed in the hands of the Committee for discretionary premiums.

Regulations.—All articles must have been manufactured by the competitors during the year.

BUTTER.

Committee.—Seymour B. Dewey, Egremont; S. W. Wright, New Marlboro; Daniel Clark, Tyringham.

For the best 20 pounds of Butter, 8 premiums, $8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

Regulations.—The butter must have been manufactured by the competitors.

CHEESE.

Committee.—Lucius Little, Sheffield; E. C. Ticknor, Alford; M. S. Bidwell, Monterey.

For the best 25 pounds of Cheese, eight premiums, $8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

Regulations.—Cheese must have been manufactured by the competitors during the year.

BREAD, HONEY, MAPLE SUGAR AND SYRUP.

Committee.—J. Dewey, Jr., Great Barrington; Mrs T. L. Foote, Lee; Mrs. Silas S. Dewey, Alford.

For the best specimen of White Bread, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best specimen of Rye bread, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best specimen of Brown Bread, three premiums $3, 2, 1.
For the best specimen of Biscuit, two premiums, $2, 1.
For the best 20 pounds Maple Sugar, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best gallon Maple Syrup, three premiums, $3, 2, 1
For the best 5 pounds Honey, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.

Regulations.—The articles must have been manufactured or produced by the competitor.

FLOWERS.

COMMITTEE.—Alexander Hyde, Lee ; Isaac H. Rice, Great Barrington ; Dr. Charles E. Heath, Monterey.

The sum of $35 is placed in the hands of the Committee in this department to be distributed in awards according to their discretion.

REGULATION.—All the flowers exhibited must be raised in this county by the competitor.

FRUITS.

FIRST DIVISION—APPLES AND PEARS.

COMMITTEE.—Dr. H. D. Train, Sheffield; Elisha Church, Alford; Calvin Rood, Great Barrington.

For the best specimen of Winter Apples, of not more than 10, nor less than 8 varieties, the products of the competitor's orchards, six premiums, $6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

For the best specimen of Fall Apples, of not more than 8 nor less than 6 varieties, four premium, $4, 3, 2, 1

For the best variety of all kinds of Fruits, not to exceed of Summer and Fall Apples 10, Winter Apples 15, Pears 12, Peaches 10, Plums 6, Quinces 2, Grapes 9 varieties, three premiums, $10, 8, 6.

For the best specimen of Pears, of not less than 5 varieties, five premiums, $6, 5, 4, 3, 2.

For the best single variety of Pears. three premiums, $3, 2, 1.

All Fruits must be labeled with their appropriate name and kind, also the time of ripening, and must be raised in this county by the competitors. Committees must report the names of the varieties for which the awards are given.

No premiums will be allowed for a greater number of fruits than the number prescribed.

FRUITS.

SECOND DIVISION—PEACHES, PLUMS, GRAPES, AND APPLES.

COMMITTEE.—Alonzo Bradley, Lee ; Thomas Wells, Stockbridge ; William O. Curtis, Lenox.

For the best specimen of Peaches, three premiums $3, 2, 1.

For the best specimen of Plums, two premiums, $2, 1.

For the best specimen of Quinces, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.

For the best specimen of Grapes, raised in the open air, not more than eight varieties, five premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

For the best specimen of Grapes raised under glass. three premiums, $4, 3, 2.

For the best specimen of Grape Wine, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.

For the best specimen of Native Wine, four premiums, $3, 2, 1.50, 1.

For the best specimen of Dried Fruit, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.

For the best specimen of Canned Fruit, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best specimen of Cranberries, one premium, $1.
Regulations the same as for First Division.

MECHANICAL PRODUCTIONS.

Committee.—R. N. Couch, Great Barrington; C. C. French, West Stockbridge; Marcellus Chapin, Sheffield.

For the best Pleasure Harness, two premiums, $4, 3.
For the best Farm Harness, two premiums, $4, 3.
For the best Pleasure Carriage, two premiums, $5, 4.
For the best Farm Wagon, two premiums, $5, 4.
For the best specimen of Leather, two premiums, $3, 2.
For the best pair of Boots, two premiums, $3, 2.
For the best pair of Shoes, two premiums, $2, 1.
For the best Coat or Overcoat, two premiums, $4, 2.

The sum of $20 is also placed at the disposal of the Committee, to be distributed in awards according to their discretion.

Regulations.—All the articles to be presented by the manufacturer, and manufactured in this county since the last exhibition.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS.

Committee.—T. D. Thatcher, Lee; Moses P. Lawton, Pittsfield; Merrit I. Wheeler, Great Barrington.

THIS DEPARTMENT IS OPEN TO COMPETITORS FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY

For the best Mowing Machine, two premiums, $10, 5.
For the best Hay Tedder, three premiums, $6, 4, 2.
For the best Horse Hay Fork, two premiums, $4, 3.
For the best Plow, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best Horse Rake, two premiums, $5, 3.
For the best Churn, two premiums, $2, 1.
For the best Cultivator, two premiums, $4, 3.
For the best ½ dozen Hand Rakes, two premiums, $2, 1.

The sum of $15 is also placed at the disposal of the Committee for discretionary premiums. The premiums in this department are taken from funds independent from the bounty received from the State. The various qualities of all articles offered for premium in this department must be tested by trial whenever practicable. Committees will specify in their reports the name of manufacturer and of the articles for which premiums are awarded.

DOMESTIC ANIMALS.

FIRST DIVISION—FAT AND WORKING OXEN.

Committee.—Wilber C. Langdon, Monterey; F. K. Hinckley, Lee; Frederick Fitch, Alford.

For the best yoke of Fat Oxen, three premiums, $10, 8, 5.

For the best yoke Working Oxen, five premiums, $10, 8, 6, 5, 4.

Regulations.—Working Oxen shall be tested by draft in estimating their comparative qualities.

SECOND DIVISION.—THREE AND FOUR YEARS OLD.

Committee.—P. M. Shaylor, Lee; Joshua R. Lawton, Jr., Egremont; Mark Hollenbeck, Great Barrington.

For the best yoke of four years old Oxen, broke to labor, six premiums, $8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3.

For the best yoke three years old Steers, five premiums, $7, 6, 5, 4, 3

THIRD DIVISION—TWO YEARS OLD AND YEARLINGS.

Committee.—Zacheus Cande, Sheffield; Mark Dewey, Richmond; E. L. Tobey, Alford.

For the best pair two years old Steers, four premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2.

For the best pair of yearling Steers, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.

For the best yearling Heifer, two premiums, $4, 3.

FOURTH DIVISION.—MILCH AND FAT COWS.

Committee.—Henry W. Smith, Alford; Nathan B. Curtis, Stockbridge; Egbert M. Langdon, Lee.

For the best Milch Cow, nine premiums, $9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

For the best Fat Cow, not less that two years old, two premiums, $4, 3.

FIFTH DIVISION.—HEIFERS AND CALVES.

Committee.—Edward Wolcott, Sandisfield; Daniel D. Kendall, Lenox; Guy Day, Great Barrington.

For the best two year old Heifer, having had a calf, five premiums, $6, 5, 4, 3, 2.

For the best Fat Heifer, two premiums, $3, 2.

For the best Bull Calf, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.

For the best Heifer Calf, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.

SIXTH DIVISION.—STOCK COWS.

Committee.—Levi W. Hyde, Egremont; Cyrus Hudson, Sheffield; T. L. Foote, Lee.

For the best three Stock and Dairy Cows, three premiums, $8, 6, 4.

For the best Stock Cow, with one specimen of her progeny by her side, five premiums, $6, 5, 4, 3, 2.

SEVENTH DIVISION—HEIFERS AND BULLS.

Committee.—Orren Curtiss, Sheffield; William Stoddard, Alford; George O. Peck, Lenox.

For the best two years old Heifer, not having had a calf, four premiums, $4, 3, 2, 1.

For the best Thorough-bred Durham Bull, three premiums, $10, 7, 5.

For the best Thorough-bred Ayrshire Bull, three premiums, $10, 7, 5,

For the best Thorough-bred Alderney or Jersey Bull, three premiums, $10, 7, 5.

For the best Devon Bull, three premiums, $10, 7, 5,

Regulations.—All exhibitors of thorough-bred stock are required to send in their list of entries with a written pedigree of each animal, to the Secretary, prior to the first day of the Fair.

EIGHTH DIVISION.—NEAT STOCK.

Committee.—Samuel M. Cooper, Stockbridge ; Stephen Powell, New Marlboro ; Frank Cone, West Stockbridge.

For the best display of Neat Stock not less than six in number, grown by the competitor, three premiums, $8, 6, 4.

For the best specimen Durham Stock, not less than four in number, two premiums $8, 6,

For best specimen Ayrshire Stock, not less than four, two premiums, $8, 6

For the best specimens Alderney or Jersey Stock, not less than four, two premiums, $8, 6.

Regulations the same as for Seventh Division.

NINTH DIVISION.—SWINE.

Committee.—William S. Willcox, Sheffield ; Mark Burghardt, Egremont ; James Bullard, Lee.

For the best Boar, four premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2.

For the best Breeding Sow, and not less than 8 pigs by her side not over three months old, four premiums, $6, 5, 4, 3.

TENTH DIVISION.—BUCKS.

Committee.—W. W. Hollenbeck, Great Barrington; Gershom M. Fitch, Sheffield ; James Dewell, West Stockbridge.

For the best Coarse Wool Buck, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.

For the best Middle* Wool Buck, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.

For the best Fine Wool Buck, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.

*Middle wool shall embrace South Downs and Grades, which is to consist of a cross from Coarse to Fine Wool.

ELEVENTH DIVISION.—EWES.

Committee.—Thomas H. Curtis, Great Barrington ; Samuel Goodrich, Stockbridge ; Jarvis N. Collar, New Marlboro.

For the best three Coarse Wool Ewes, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.

For the best three Middle* Wool Ewes, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.

For the best three Fine Wool Ewes, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.

Regulations.—Ewes offered for premium must have evidence of having been bearing Ewes.

*Middle wool shall embrace South Downs and Grades, which is to consist of a cross from Coarse to Fine Wool.

TWELFTH DIVISION—LAMBS.

COMMITTEE.—Leonard Tuttle, Sheffield ; Silas S. Dewey, Alford ; Robert A. Potts, Egremont.

For the best five Coarse Wool Lambs, three premiums, $4 3, 2.
For the best five Middle* Wool Lambs, three premiums, $4, 3. 2.
For the best five Fine Wool Lambs, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.

The Lambs must have been raised by the persons presenting them.

For the best five Fat Wethers, three premiums, $5, 4, 2.

*Middle wool shall embrace South Downs and Grade, which is to consist of a cross from Coarse to Fine Wool.

THIRTEENTH DIVISION —FARM AND CARRIAGE HORSES.

COMMITTEE.—John Winthrop, Stockbridge ; Henry Baker, Sheffield ; Joseph A. Benjamin, Egremont.

For the best pair of Farm Horses, four premiums, $8, 7, 6, 5.
For the best pair of Draft Horses, two premiums, $6, 4.
For the best pair of Carriage Horses, three premiums, $7, 6, 5.
For the best Single Horse, (mare or gelding,) three premiums, $5, 3, 2.

One of the tests for Farm Horses shall be by draft, on trucks.

FOUPTEENTH DIVISION.—SUCKING COLTS

COMMITTEE.—Abial H. Pease, Lee ; Albert Ticknor, Alford, ; E. R. Joyner, Egremont.

For the best Colt not over eight months old, with dam by its side, seven premiums, $8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2

FIFTEENTH DIVISION.—STALLIONS AND COLTS.

COMMITTEE.—J. A. Belcher, Sheffield ; Andrew L. Hubbell, Great Barrington ; William Darbe, Stockbridge.

For the best Stallion, three premiums, $10, 8, 6.
For best three years old colt, (mare or gelding) four premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2.
For best two years old Colt, (mare or gelding, three premiums, $4, 3, 2.
For best yearling Colt, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For best Stud Colt, not over three years old, three premiums, $5, 4, 3.

SIXTEENTH DIVISION.—COUNTY TROTTING HORSES.

COMMITTEE.—M. S. Bidwell, Monterey ; A. W. Kellogg, Pittsfield ; James H. Rowley, Egremont.

For the best four year old Trotting Horse, three premiums, $15, 10, 5.
For the best Single Trained Horse, two premiums, $4, 2.
For the best Single Walking Horse, four premiums, $5, 4, 3, 2.

REGULATIONS:—In this class of horses, the Judges shall take into consideration their other valuable qualities, as well as speed, in making their awards. No animal ever having trotted for a purse will be permitted to compete in trotting.

All horses in this division except trained horses must have been owned by the competitor within the limits of the county during the three months next preceding the Fair.

SEVENTEENTH DIVISION.—COUNTY TROTTING HORSES AND FOOT RACE.

COMMITTEE.—David S. Draper, Great Barrington ; Ralph Little, Sheffield ; William O. Curtiss, Lenox ; George H. Huntington, Becket ; Dr. Samuel C. Parsons, Sandisfield.

For the best Trotting Horse,	$75 00
2d " " "	40 00
3d " " "	25 00

The trials of speed for these three premiums will take place on Friday at 2 p m., barring "Comet" and "Sir William," unless both enter and start ; mile heats—best 3 in 5 in harness, time of each heat not to exceed 2:55.

For the best pair of Matched Trotting Horses,	$40 00
2d " " " " "	20 00
For the best Trotting Stallion,	20 00
2d " " "	10 00

Mile heats,—best 3 in 5, in harness.

For the best Trotting Horse never having trotted for a purse, or in public inside of three minutes,	$30 00
2d best do	20 00
3d " "	15 00
4th " "	10 00

Mile heats,—best 3 in 5,—in harness.

All horses in this division must have been owned by the competitor within the limits of the county during the three months next preceding the Fair.

The above premiums are offered by the Society from funds independent of the bounty of the state, and competitors in either of the above classes must pay an entry fee of 10 per cent., and will be governed by the regulations substantially the same as those adopted by the National Horse Fairs, so far as applicable hereto.

The rules of the Fashion Course in regard to weight and distancing will be adopted when deemed expedient.

Other qualities besides speed are also to be considered in making the awards. The Committee may withhold premiums where manifestly undeserved.

For Foot Race, five premiums, best time in two half mile heats, $5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

POULTRY

COMMITTEE.—Marshall Warner, Stockbridge ; Parley A. Russell, Great Barrington ; Egbert B. Garfield Monterey.

For the best Trio of Turkeys, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.
For the best Trio of Geese, three premiums, $3, 2, 1.

Thirty dollars are also placed in the hands of the Committee to be distributed in awards according to their discretion.

Regulations.—The fowls must be owned by the competitor and must be enclosed in neat and tasty cages, and none confined in rough and clumsy boxes will be admitted for exhibition.

PLOWING—HORSE TEAMS.

Committee.—Charles O. Perkins, Becket ; Dwight Andrews, Sheffield ; A. G. Freeman, Monterey.

For the best plowing, seven permiums, $8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2.

Regulations.—No entries for plowing can be made after 8 o'clock, a. m. the third day of the Fair ; and no person can enter but one team for plowing. The team must be the property of the competitor, and the name of the plowman given at the time of entry and when awards are declared. Each team will plow one eighth of an acre, the time allowed being forty minutes. The plowing be flat and the furrows not less than six inches deep, nor more than eleven inches wide. The lands for plowing will be staked out, and when all the entries have been received, they will be numbered, and drawn for by the competitors. Each plowman will mark out his own land.

PLOWING—OX TEAMS.

Committee.—James H. Rowley, Egremont ; Henry A. Tobey, Great Barrington ; Henry D. Palmer Stockbridge.

For the best plowing, five premiums, $8, 7, 6, 4, 3.

Regulations same as for Horse Teams.

ORCHARDS.

Committee.—Henry A. Stedman, Monterey ; David F. Goodrich, Stockbridge ; Archibald Taft, Sheffield.

For the best Apple Orchard of not less than 50 trees, set in fall of 1869 or spring of 1870, to be awarded in 1872, three premiums, $10, 8, 6.

For the best Pear Orchard, of not less than 25 standard trees, set in fall of 1869, or spring of 1870, to be awarded in 1872, three premiums, $10, 8, 6.

Competitors in Orchards must make entries before the first day of September next.

The following premiums on Orchards have been offered, and are yet to be awarded, but no further entries than those already received will be allowed.

Committee. 1868—70.—John B. Hull, Stockbridge ; Ira Curtiss, Sheffield ; James Dewell, West Stockbridge.

COMMITTEE. 1869—71.—Marshall Warner, Stockbridge; William O. Curtiss, Lenox; S. Hopkins Bushnell, Sheffield.

For the best Apple Orchard of not less than 50 trees, set in fall of 1867, or spring of 1868, to be awarded in 1870, three premiums, $10, 8, 6.

For the best Pear Orchard, of not less than 25 standard trees, set in fall of 1867, or spring of 1868, to be awarded in 1870, three premiums. $10, 8, 6.

For the best Apple Orchard of not less than 50 trees, set in fall of 1868, or spring of 1869, to be awarded in 1871, three premiums, $10, 8, 6.

For the best Pear Orchard, of not less than 25 standard trees, set in fall of 1868, or spring of 1869, to be awarded in 1871, three premiums, $10, 8, 6.

PEDIGREES.

COMMITTEE.—Richard Goodman, Lenox; J. Milton Mackie, Great Barrington; Alonzo Bradley, Lee.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

COMMITTEE.—E. W. B. Canning, Stockbridge; B. F. Parsons, New Marlboro; J. Dewey, Jr., Great Barrington.

For the best Report made by any member of the various committees in any of the several Departments, (to be awarded at the Annual Meeting,) five premiums, $8, 6, 4, and 2 copies of "Harris on Insects"

REGULATIONS.—The report must be the production of the competitor, and should be as brief and comprehensive as possible, giving many ideas in few words.

COMMITTEE TO FILL VACANCIES

Committee to appoint persons to fill vacancies which may occur in the various examining Committees,—E. P. Woodworth, Great Barrington; H. T. Robbins, Great Barrington.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

Competitors will not be limited to one premium in each division.

Regulations for Articles Exhibited in the Hall.—All articles must have been manufactured or grown by the competitors, citizens of the County, since the last exhibition, and must be delivered at the Hall of the exhibition on the Fair Grounds, before two o'clock, P. M., of the first day of the Fair, to persons to be hereafter designated. The name and residence of manufacturer or producer *must* appear on the articles in every department. After the Committees have concluded their examinations, those articles for which premiums have been awarded will be be appropriately designated.

Articles on exhibition MUST NOT be removed from the hall until the afternoon of the second day.

Regulations in Regard to Domestic Animals.—All animals presented for premiums must be owned by the competitor. The premiums for farm horses shall be confined to horses which have been owned and used by the persons offering them, for the ordinary business of teaming or farming, for the space of three months next preceding the time of their being offered for premium. Carriage and single horses must have been owned by the competitor for three months, and stallions and bulls for four months, next preceding the time of their entry for premium.

Not more than one first premium shall be given for any animal not mature, and one first premium after maturity—the cow being regarded mature at three, the horse at four, the ox at five years of age. But this regulation shall not exclude fat oxen, or two years old heifers having had calves.

No animal can compete for two premiums the same year.

Every Animal *must be labeled with a card bearing the name of the animal, and the name and residence of the competitor.* Cards for that purpose will be furnished and filled out at the South Entrance, as the animals are driven on the Fair Grounds.

Competitors should remember to make entries of their animals at the Secretary's office, at the south piazza of the Exhibition Hall It will however prove greatly to their own convenience and prevent mistakes to send in their lists of entries beforehand, by mail to the Secretary.

All Stock must remain for exhibition upon the grounds of the society until three o'clock in the afternoon of the first day of the Fair, and no animal will be allowed to be driven off the grounds before that time.

Provision for the night at the expense of the Society, will be made for the stock of competitors living ten or more miles from the grounds of exhibition.

No animal or article in any of the departments will receive any premium where in the opinion of the Committee it is palpably undeserving, even though no competitor should appear against any such animal or article so presented. The object of the Society is not to give away premiums, but to promote improvement in the various departments by inciting a proper emulation. Any unfair or disingenuous means resorted to by any competitor, is in contravention to the spirit of the institution, and subjects the offender to a penalty ; and the Committees in conducting their examinations and in determining the awards will be governed strictly by these considerations.

All persons appointed to serve as committees, who should desire to compete for premiums in their own division, and who do not notify the Secretary to that effect, at least one week before the time of the Fair, shall be excluded from competing for such premiums.

Competitors will bear in mind the following section of a Statute of the Commonwealth :—

An extract from the "General Statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts," Page 376, *Chapter* 66.

SEC. 6. "No society receiving the bounty, shall distribute any part thereof for any animal or article for which a premium is awarded, unless it was produced within the limits of the society, or the animal has been owned and kept within its limits, by the person to whom the premium is awarded, for three months next preceding the award. And no animal or article for which a premium has been awarded to the owners by any such society, shall be considered subject for any further premium of the society except for qualities different from those for which the former premium was awarded or for a higher premium, and no animal or article shall be offered for a premium, at more than one such society in the same year." * * * * *

SEC. 7. A Society which neglects in any year to comply with the laws relating thereto, or with the regulations of the Board of Agriculture, shall not be entitled to the bounty of the state the year next succeeding.

Where any premium appears to have been illegally awarded, the Treasurer may withhold it at the time of distributing the awards, and the Executive Committee will meet at Great Barrington, on the Monday next succeeding the Fair, for the purpose of examining the list of awards, and if it shall appear that any premium has been improperly withheld, they shall authorize the Treasurer to deliver the same to the claimant, or if they shall find that any premium has been awarded by mistake, or in violation of the By-Laws and Regulations of the Society, the Committee shall require that person so receiving the premium to return the same, and may recommend such proceedings in the case as they may deem proper.

All premiums remaining uncalled for in the Treasurer's hands on the first of January succeeding the award, will revert to the Society.

Merchants and others wishing to make a display of their goods and wares for exhibition only, will have good facilities afforded for their accommodation without charge.

Individuals having works of art or curiosity which they are willing to exhibit without competition, are respectfully solicted to do so, free of charge. Cards will be attached to the articles, and honorable mention made when deemed worthy.

PROGRAMME FOR EACH DAY.

WEDNESDAY, 28th.—Entries of ALL DOMESTIC ANIMALS EXCEPT HORSES, at the Secretary's office from 8 to 11 a. m. Examination of the same by the Committees to commence at 12 M., precisely. The animals will remain on the grounds for exhibition until 3 p. m., and the prize animals will be distinguished by appropriate badges.

Entries of Articles for Exhibition in the Hall, from 8 a. m., to 2 p. m. Examination of the same by the Committees to commence at 2 p. m.

THURSDAY, 29th.—Exhibition of Articles in the Hall during the entire day.

Entries of Horses may be made at the Secretary's office on Wednesday, and until 10 a. m., on Thursday.

At 9:30 a. m., a cavalcade of all Horses.

10 a. m.—Exhibition of Colts with Dams, 14th Division.

10:30 a. m.—Exhibition of Yearling Colts, 15th Division.

10:45 a. m.—Exhibition of two-years-old Colts, 15th Division.

11 a. m.—Trial of Speed, four-years-old, Trotting Horse, 16th Division, best 2 in 3 in harness. Premiums, $15, 10, 5.

11:15 a. m.—Exhibition of three years-old Colts, 15th Division.

11:30 a. m.—Exhibition of Stud Colts not over 3 years old, 15th Division.

11:45 a. m.—Exhibition of Stallions, 15th Division.

12 m.—Trial of Single Walking Horses, 16th Division.

12.15 p. m.—Exhibition of Farm Horses, 13th Division, tested by draft, and in other ways.

1:30 p. m.—Exhibition of Single Horses, 13th Division.

2 p. m.—Trial of Speed, Trotting Stallions, 17th Division, best 3 in 5 in harness. Premiums, $20, 10.

2:15 p. m.—Exhibition of Carriage Horses, 13th Division.

2:30 p. m.—Exhibition of Trained Horses, 16th Division.

2:45 p. m.—Trial of Speed—Single Trotting Horses, 17th Division, never having trotted in public inside of three minutes,—mile heats, best 3 in 5 in harness. Premiums, $30, 20, 15, 10.

FRIDAY, 30th.—9 a. m., PLOWING MATCH.

10 a. m.—ADDRESS.

AWARD OF PREMIUMS, and other exercises in the Hall.

2 p. m.—Grand Trial of Speed of Single Horses, 17th Division, for the premiums of **$75, 40, 25.**

3 p. m.—Trials of Speed, Matched Trotting Horses, 17th Division, mile heats, best three in five in harness. Premiums $40, 20.

3:15 p. m.—Foot Races, best in two half-mile heats.

Music will be furnished on Thursday and Friday, by

WHEELER & WILSON'S FULL BAND of Bridgeport, Conn.

ADMISSION.

Members, their wives and minor children, and teams will be admitted during the three days of the Fair. Admission for persons other than members, their wives and minor children, at the following rates :—

Single tickets of admission,	25 cents.
Single carriage,	20 "
Double carriage,	30 "
For man and horse,	35 "
Children under ten years,	10 "

BY-LAWS

—OF THE—

HOUSATONIC AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ARTICLE I.

The object of this Society shall be. Improvement in Agriculture, Domestic Manufactures and Rural Economy, within the limits of the County of Berkshire.

ARTICLE II.

The officers of this Society shall be, a President, two Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary.

ARTICLE III.

The Committees of the Society shall be :—

1. An Executive Committee, consisting of the President, Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, and five persons elected from the Society at large, annually.

2. Standing Committees, of at least three members each for each Department, or for each division of any department, the number of the divisions of the general departments being determined by the Society annually.

3. A Committee on Accounts, consisting of three members, to be chosen from the Society annually.

ARTICLE IV.

The annual meeting of the Society shall be held at Great Barrington, on the second Tuesday of January, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the election of Officers, appointment of Committees, and for the transaction of all other business properly before the Society.

ARTICLE V.

The President, Vice Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary shall be elected by ballot, and all the other officers, as the Society shall direct.

ARTICLE VI.

A quorum shall consist of not less than twelve members, including the presiding officer.

ARTICLE VII.

The Officers of the Society shall enter upon their respective duties, on the second Tuesday of January annually, and continue in office one year, and until superceded by another board, and in case of vacancy by death, resignation or otherwise, a new election may be had, to fill such vacancy, for which purpose the Society may be convened by the senior existing officer of the Society, by a notice from him to that effect inserted in two or more of the county papers, at least fourteen days previous to the time specified for such convention. Vacancies occurring in any of the Committees of the Society may be filled by the Executive Committee at any of its regular or special meetings.

ARTICLE VIII.

The members of the Society shall consist of Ordinary and Honorary Members.

The conditions of ordinary membership shall be, either an annual contribution of two dollars to the Treasurer of the Society, or, 2d, the giving of a note to the Society for $16 67-100, and paying the annual interest thereon of one dollar to the Treasurer, for the benefit of the Society, or ; 3d the paying into the Treasury of the Society $16 67-100, securing by such payment perpetual membership, exempt from all future taxation.

A gentleman paying $10, or a lady paying $5, into the treasury, shall be entitled to a certificate of Life Membership, which certificate shall secure to the holder thereof all the privileges of any other Membership, except that such certificate *is not transferable.*

ARTICLE IX.

Honorary members may be elected by vote of the Executive Committee at any of its regular meetings, and shall consist of agriculturists or eminent advocates of the agricultural interests, residing out of the County. Such members shall be privileged to meet with, and debate upon the interests of the Society, but not to vote.

ARTICLE X.

SEC. 1. Persons who have become members of the Society by giving their note, and who may wish to withdraw from the same, must by themselves, or their legal representatives give notice in writing of their intention to the Treasurer, one year previous to the time of their proposed withdrawal, accompanying such notice with the payment in full of all arrears then due the Society on such note, together with the interest for one year in advance, in which case their note may be canceled.

SEC. 2. Persons who are entitled to Perpetual Membership by the payment of 16 67-100 into the Treasury, may withdraw from the Society, by transferring their certificate of stock to some other person: but this transfer cannot be made without the approbation of one or more of the Executive Committee, who shall ascertain who is to be the recipient of such certificate, and his place of residence, and the transfer must be recorded in a book kept for that purpose, by the Treasurer of the Society.

ARTICLE XI.

DUTIES OF THE SEVERAL OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE SOCIETIY.—DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT.

SEC. 1. The President shall exercise the usual duties of that office. All motions shall be addressed to him, and on all questions he shall collect and declare the votes, and when they are equally divided, he shall be entitled to a casting vote. He is *ex-officio* Chairman of the Executive Committee, and he shall superintend the various departments—cause the laws of the Society and the measures of the Executive Committee to be carried into effect, and see that the several officers of the society discharge their respective duties with fidelity. He shall retain the seal of the Society and shall sign all diplomas to honorary members. He may call special meetings of the Society whenever he shall deem it necessary, by notification to that effect inserted in two or more of the county papers, at least fourteen days previous to such meetings, excepting meetings for filling vacancies in Committees on days of the Fair. And he may also convene, at his pleasure, the Executive Committee, by giving the members eight days previous notice, either in writing or through the medium of the county papers. In case of the death, resignation or absence of the President, his duties shall be performed by the Vice Presidents in the order in which they are named in the records. And in case of the death, resignation or absence of the President and Vice Presidents, a President *pro tempore* may be chosen at any meeting of the Society.

DUTIES OF THE TREASURER.

SEC. 2. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all the funds of the Society, and he may take such legal measures for the collection thereof as he thinks proper, at the expense of the Society, under the direction of the President or Executive Committee. He shall give bonds to the President in the sum of three thousand dollars, with one or more sureties, as the President may require, for the faithful discharge of the duties of his office. No payment can be made by the Treasurer but by the authority of the Committee on Accounts. He shall keep his accounts methodically, in a book kept for the purpose, and belonging to the Society, and whenever called upon by the President, or any member of the Executive Committee, he shall produce the same for inspection, one week previous to the last Wednesday in September of each year. And he shall exhibit to the Society at its annual meeting, a regular account current of the transactions of the year, as also a list of the members who may be in arrears for their contributions; and whenever his office expires, he shall give into the hands of the President a fair and regular account of all receipts and expenditures, together with the books and funds of the Society, to be by him delivered to the Treasurer elect. At the first meeting of the Executive Committee thereafter, these accounts shall be laid before them by the President, and if found correct, the President shall be authorized to give a discharge thereon, and to cancel the bond of the Treasurer.

DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.

SEC. 3d. The Secretary shall keep the records and archives of the Society, and have in charge all letters and papers relating to the correspondence of the same. He shall conduct all the correspondence of the Society, keep a register of all letters written, and keep on file all letters received, pertaining to the business of the Society. He shall be present at all meetings of the Society and of the Executive Committee, and record their proceedings. He shall countersign all diplomas and certificates relative to premiums, when given, and also keep an exact record of the Ordinary and Honorary Members. He shall notify the members of the Executive Committee verbally or in writing, of each of their stated meetings, not less than three, nor more than ten days previous to such meeting, designating the time and place of holding the same, and shall give at least fourteen days notice, by newspaper publication, of the annual meetings of the Society.

DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

SEC. 4.—The Executive Committee shall appropriate the funds of the Society, determine on all premiums to be awarded, admit honorary members, regulate the Annual Cattle Show and Fair, and adopt any and all such measures as they shall deem expedient for the well-being of the Society, not inconsistent with the act of incorporation and the laws of the Society. They shall meet statedly at Great Barrington, on the first Wednesday of December, March, June and September, at such place and hour of the day as the Secretary shall appoint, and all their transactions shall be recorded at the time in a book of record belonging specially to this Committee, by the Secretary, who shall keep on regular files, all plans and proposals adopted at these meetings. At each successive meeting, the minutes of the preceding one shall be read by the Secretary before proceeding to any new business. A quorum shall consist of not less than four members, and in the absence of the President, a chairman shall be appointed *protempore*. They shall meet at Great Barrington, on the Monday next succeeding the Fair, for the purpose of examining the list of awards, and if it shall appear that any premium has been improperly withheld, they shall authorize the Treasurer to deliver the same to the claimant, or if they shall find that any premium has been awarded by mistake, or in violation of the By-Laws and Regulations of the Society, the Committee shall require that person so receiving the premium to return the same, and may recommend such proceedings in the case as they may deem proper.

DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

SEC. 5. The special duties of the Standing Committees, shall be to take into consideration the wants of the community and the interests of the Society as connected with their respective departments, and through their Chairman to communicate to the Executive Committee at their stated meeting, on the first Wednesday of March, annually, such suggestions as they may deem proper in relation to the making out of the annual premium list.

DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS.

SEC. 6. The Committee on Accounts shall receive, examine and audit all claims on the Society, and if just, certify them, or so much as is allowed upon them, which certified accounts shall be vouchers for payments by the Treasurer. They shall also settle with the Treasurer annually, on or before the first day of January.

ARTICLE XII.*

The annual Cattle Show and Fair of the Society shall be held at Great Barrington, commencing on the last Wednesday of September, and continuing three days, unless otherwise ordered by the Society at its annual meeting, when an address shall be delivered before the Society, reports heard from the different Boards of Examiners, and the premiums awarded.

[*NOTE.—Since the adoption of these By-Laws, the Legislature have passed an act regulating times of holding Fairs throughout the Commonwealth. Sec. H. A. S.]

ARTICLE XIII.

The premiums of the Society shall be paid in plate, unless otherwise ordered by the Society at its annual meeting, and shall be awarded by the respective Committees appointed annually by the Society, and if any animal, or any article be exhibited which would receive a premium but for the rules of the Society making such animal or article ineligible, the exhibitor shall receive a diploma or certificate from the Committee certifying the facts.

ARTICLE XIV.

Any member of any Committee of the Society, who wishes to be a competitor for a premium on any article in his department, shall notify the Secretary of his wish, at least two weeks previous to the annual Cattle Show and Fair, whereupon he shall be discharged from serving on said Committee, and the Society at any subsequent meeting, or its Executive Committee may appoint another to serve in his place—provided, however, that any member of the Agricultural Committee, giving notice as aforesaid, be required to give the same two weeks before the tenth day of July next before said Cattle Show and Fair.

ARTICLE XV.

If any person shall attempt to obtain any premium by fraud, or by offering any article of household manufacture, which was in whole, or in part manufactured in a factory, (the dyeing and finishing of cloths excepted, as also the weaving of blankets and carpets, when so excepted by the proposals of the Society,) or shall offer any article clandestinely, not belonging to him or her, or any article that may have received a premium before (animals not having attained their growth excepted,) such persons if a member, shall pay for the profit and to the use of the poor of the County, the sum of five dollars, to be paid into the hands of the County Treasurer, with cost of suit, to be recovered by an action of tort, before a justice of the peace, and be forever after expelled from the Society; or, if a female, or a person not a member, he or she shall be forever thereafter precluded from receiving any premium from the Society, and shall have his or her name entered on the records of the Society, and of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XVI.

All property, real and personal, which may belong to the Society, shall be vested in the ordinary members thereof.

ARTICLE XVII.

No person shall enter more than one team for premium on plowing.

ARTICLE XVIII.

In the award of premiums on Crops, the Committee shall be governed by the circumstances under which the crops offered are produced, and the method of their production, whether skillful or otherwise.

ARTICLE XIX.

No animal shall be entitled to a premium unless it shall have been owned by the competitor three months next preceding the date of its being offered for premium.

ARTICLE XX.

All trotting or running of horses on the Society's grounds, for purses, is strictly prohibited.

ARTICLE XXI.

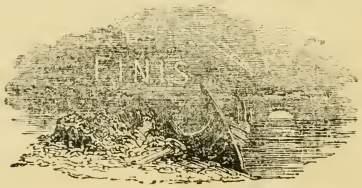
SEC. 1. No article shall ever be entitled to more than one first premium from this Society.

SEC. 2. All animals shall be eligible to a first premium in all classes, prior to maturity and to one first premium after maturity as a stock or work animal, and one as a fat animal.

SEC. 3. No article or animal, having taken the first premium, according to the above section, shall ever be entitled to another premium from the Society, in money or plate, but such animal or article if exhibited, may entitle the exhibitor to a certificate from the Society, stating that the animal or article has taken the first premium of the Society.

ARTICLE XXII.

These By-Laws may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present, at any annual meeting, or any special meeting, in the call for which due notice of the intention of the Society to make alteration in the By-Laws has been given.



GREAT BARRINGTON

STEAM FLOUR AND FEED MILLS.

—o—

H. S. HULBERT, Prop'r,

Would respectfully announce to the citizens of Great Barrington and adjoining towns, that he has his NEW MILL IN OPERATION, and prepared to do all work entrusted to him at short notice, and in a satisfactory manner.

Flour, Feed and Meal, Bran and Grain, of all kinds, and of the best quality, for sale by the Barrel, Bag or Load.

COAL! COAL!!

Having opened a Coal Yard at my Mill, I am prepared to furnish those who may give me their orders, with clean Coal, of all sizes, at reduced rates.

H. S. HULBERT.

Great Barrington, March, 1870.

H. S. FITCH,

(Successors to F. Fitch & Son,)

—WHOLESALE AND RETAIL—

MARBLE DEALER,

ALFORD, MASS.

Monuments and Grave-Stones of American and Italian Marble and Scotch Granite furnished to Order.

MARBLE POSTS AND CURBING FOR CEMETERY LOTS. ALSO, WINDOW LINTELS, SILLS AND STOOPS.

ALL KINDS OF MARBLE WORK DONE TO ORDER. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED IN ALL CASES.

REFERENCES:

L. G. Robbins, Esq., Great Barrington,
W. H. Parks, M. D., " "
Jared Lewis, Esq., " "
C. M. Owen, Esq., Stockbridge,
D. R. Williams, Esq., Stockbridge,
Hon. William Taylor, Lee,
T. D. Thatcher, Esq., Lee,
W. W. Leavitt, M. D., W. Stockbridge.

RICHARD FIELD,

—DEALER IN—

Meat, Fresh and Pickled Fish,

OF ALL KINDS,

PORK PACKER,

—AND—

Manufacturer of SAUSAGE, for Wholesale and Retail Trade.

HEAD OF RAILROAD STREET,

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

LESTER & COMPANY,

Main Street, : : : GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

—DEALERS IN—

GENERAL MERCHANDISE,

And all kinds of FARMERS' PRODUCE.

OUR STOCK COMPRISES A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF

BROADCLOTHS, CASSIMERES and CLOAKINGS, SILKS, SHAWLS,

DRESS GOODS,

IN GREAT VARIETY.

Domestics, Tickings, Carpet Warps, &c., &c.

Carpets, Oil Cloths, and Mattings.

Window Shades and Wall Papers, : : : from 6 cents to $2.00 per Roll.

BOOTS AND SHOES—for all ages and Sexes.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS,

Flour, Salt, Fish, Pork, Lard, &c., &c.

PAINTS, OILS AND VARNISHES in any quantity.

☞It is our aim to keep the greatest variety, and the cheapest stock of Goods to be found in Berkshire County. **LESTER & CO.**

Do you want a full Dinner or Tea Set of the latest style, a Chamber Set, or Plates, Cups, Bowls, or any articles of **Crockery,** whether many or few, choice or common ?
Go to H. T. ROBBINS' BAZAAR.

Do you want Goblets, Tumblers, Mugs, Egg Glasses, Casters, Caster Bottles, Lamps, Lanterns, Chimneys, Glass Dishes, **Fruit Jars, Looking Glasses,** Vases, Cologne Bottles, Presents for Crystal Weddings, or anything else of **Glass !** Go to H. T. ROBBINS' BAZAAR.

Do you want a French China Dinner, or Tea Set, plain or gilt, China Fruit Dishes, Gift Cups, Mugs, or anything in **French China!** Go to H. T. ROBBINS' BAZAAR.

Do you want in **Rockingham,** or **Yellow Ware,** any Spittoons, Pie Plates, Fire Proof Tea-Pots, Cake Bowls, Baking Dishes; or in **Stone Ware,** any **Butter Pots,** Fruit Pots, Pancake Pitchers, Bean Pots, Flower Pots, &c.? Go to H. T. ROBBINS' BAZAAR.

Do you want any **Black Walnut Brackets,** Hat Racks, Towel Racks, Reels, Nests of Boxes, Spoons, **Presents for Wooden or Tin Weddings,** Match Safes, Carved Work, Bowls, Tubs, Pails, Mops, Brooms, Wash Boards, Clothes Baskets, **Ladies' Work and Traveling Baskets,** Office and Market Baskets, **Door Mats** of rubber, cocoa, wool, manilla, rope or jute ? Go to H. T. ROBBINS' BAZAAR.

Do you want any Tin Toilet Sets, Tin Slop Pails, Measure Cups, Jelly Moulds, Pudding Boilers, Cake Cutters and Pans, Flour Sifters, Iron Spoons and Forks, **Table Cutlery,** Coffee Mills, Wire Work, Flat Irons, Table Trays and Waiters, Brushes, Feather and Wool Dusters, or in short almost anything needed in the kitchen, dining room, or parlor, and all "so handy to have in the house ?" Go to ROBBINS' BAZAAR.

WHY ?

Because he has much the largest and best assortment of goods in his line, to be found in Southern Berkshire; he selects the best quality of goods, and warrants to give satisfaction; strives to deal fairly by every patron, and having taken advantage of the great fall in prices, is enabled to offer his goods at the very lowest rates. Call and see.

Wrought Iron Pipe, for Water, Steam, or Gas.

Flowers and House Plants, a large lot, in their season.

Do you want the best **Family Sewing Machine,** one that will do either light or heavy work perfectly ? Go to H. T. ROBBINS' and get the **Weed Sewing Machine.**

Would you insure your life, and your buildings against loss by fire? Go to H. T. Robbins, Great Barrington, and insure your life in the **State Mutual** of Worcester, and your buildings in the **Hanover** of New York ; two perfectly reliable companies.

H. T ROBBINS, Great Barrington.

JAMES W. BARRY,

—MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN—

Boots, Shoes, Rubbers,

GAITERS OF ALL KINDS,

Children's Boots and Shoes.

SIGN OF THE BIG BOOT,.....RAILROAD STREET,

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

E. D. HUMPHREY,

—DEALER IN—

Confectionery, Fruit,

NUTS, CIGARS, ICE CREAM, SODA WATER,

—AND—

REFRESHMENTS

OYSTERS,

Bread, Crackers, Cakes, Pies, Milk, &c.

☞ Parties supplied with Ice Cream and Cakes at Short Notice. ☜

2d Door North of the Post Office,.....**GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.**

F. T. WHITING,

—DEALER IN—

DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS,

OF EVERY DESIRABLE KIND,

DYE STUFFS, &c.

IMPORTED PERFUMES,

Soap, Tooth, Nail, and Hair Brushes, Lubin's, Rimmel's, Coudray's Extracts, Hair Dyes and Hair Restorers.

A Large Assortment of GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS.

DOWNER'S KEROSENE OIL, AND LAMPS, CHIMNEYS, &c.

Prescriptions and Family Recipes Carefully Prepared.

Store Open on Sunday, between the hours of 9 and 10 o'clock, a. m., and 4 and 5 o'clock, p. m.

J. W. MORGAN,

—DEALER IN—

Books, Stationery, Newspapers,

PERIODICALS, TOYS, FANCY GOODS, &c., &c.,

RAILROAD ST., : GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

Subscriptions for Daily and Weekly Newspapers, Magazines and Periodicals of all kinds, received at Publishers' Prices, and Promptly attended to.

☞ Orders for BOOKS, or anything else in our line, which is not on hand, will be filled at the SHORTEST NOTICE.

J. W. MORGAN.

H. W. WRIGHT & CO.,

—DEALERS IN FINE AND STAPLE—

Groceries & Provisions

FLOUR, FEED AND MEAL.

Produce of all kinds Bought and Sold.

—o—

Sole Agents in Great Barrington, for the Celebrated

AVERILL PAINT,

Prepared for immediate application, and sold by the gallon only. Over 2000 gallons sold in this vicinity the past year. This Paint is unsurpassed for beauty, durability and elasticity; dries with a hard, rich, glossy surface; does not run from seams or nail holes; will not chalk, crack, or peal off; covers more surface with the same body, and is cheaper, more lasting, and better in every respect than any other Paint.

Under the Courier Office, Main street, Great Barrington, Mass.

H. W. WRIGHT & CO.

ISAAC B. COHEN,

—DEALER IN—

CUSTOM AND READY-MADE CLOTHING

OF MY OWN MANUFACTURE.

GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS OF EVERY VARIETY.

CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, DOESKINS AND SATINS,

In Great variety and style, which we will sell by the yard, or make up to order at the lowest rates.

MY CLOTHING DEPARTMENT IS FULL IN EVERY BRANCH.

☞ All kinds of Piece Goods by the Yard. All kinds of Ladies' and Gents' FURS. Also, HATS AND CAPS.

☞ Garments made to order in the latest styles, at short notice. Highest Cash price paid for all kinds of FURS.

First Door South of Post Office, GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.

New-York Tribune.

The Great Farmers' Paper.

Now is the Time to Subscribe for the GREAT FAMILY NEWSPAPER!

IT IS CHEAP BEBAUSE ITS CIRCULATION IS LARGER THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER NEWSPAPER.

THE NEW-YORK WEEKLY TRIBUNE

Contains all the important Editorials published in the DAILY TRIBUNE, except those of merely local interest; Literary and Scientific Intelligence; Reviews of New Books; letters from our Correspondents; latest news by telegraph; a summary of intelligence in this city and elsewhere; Proceedings of Congress and State Legislature; Foreign News by steamer; Exclusive Reports of the Farmers' Club of the American Institute; Talks about Fruit; Stock, Financial, Cattle, Dry Goods, and General Market Reports.

"WHAT I KNOW OF FARMING."

MR. GREELEY is writing a series of agricultural essays under the head of "WHAT I KNOW OF FARMING," which will appear in THE TRIBUNE every week during the year 1870. Ten are already printed on the following subjects:

No. 1.—Will Farming Pay?
No. 2.—Good and Bad Husbandry,
No. 3.—Where to Farm,
No. 4.—Preparing to Farm,
No. 5.—Buying a Farm,
No. 6.—Laying off a Farm-Pasturing,
No. 7.—Trees, Woodland, Forests,
No. 8.—Growing Timber, Tree Planting,
No. 9.—Planting and Growing Trees,
No. 10.—Draining, My Own.

From the above list of subjects, an idea may be gained of their wide scope and their great value to the agriculturist.

HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

To keep pace with the growing interest in practical Horticulture, and to comply with frequent appeals from all parts of the country for information of any practical character on the subject, we have engaged Mr. P. T. QUINN, who is experienced in rural affairs and a successful market gardener, to write a series of articles on the management of Small Farms, Fruit and Vegetable Culture, and how to make them pay, giving general and specific directions from planting to the ultimate disposal of the crops.

VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

To make THE TRIBUNE still more valuable to its agricultural readers, we have engaged Prof. JAMES LAW, Veterinary Surgeon in Cornell University, to answer questions concerning diseases of Cattle, Horses, Sheep, and other domestic animals, and to prescribe remedies. Answers and prescriptions will be given only through the columns of THE TRIBUNE. We are sure that this new feature in THE TRIBUNE will add largely to its value, as all owners of animals are liable to need the information proffered. In short, we intend that THE TRIBUNE shall keep in the advance in all that concerns the Agricultural, Manufacturing, Mining, and other interests of the country, and that for variety and completeness, it shall remain altogether the most valuable, interesting, and instructive NEWSPAPER published in the world.

In addition we shall continue to print the best things written on the subject of agriculture by American and foreign writers, and shall increase these features from year to year.

We have solved the problem of making the best and cheapest newspaper in America.

TERMS OF THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE—TO MAIL SUBSCRIBERS.

One copy, one year, 52 issues..... $2 00

5 copies, $9; 10 copies, *to one address*, $1 50 each (and one extra copy;) 10 copies, *to names of subscribers, at one Post-Office*, $1 60 each (and one extra copy;) 20 copies *to one address*, $1 25 each, (and one extra copy;) 20 copies, *to names of subscribers at one Post-Office*, $1 35 each (and one extra copy;) 50 copies *to one address*, $1 00 each (and one extra copy;) 50 copies, *to names of subscribers, at one Post-Office*. $1 10 each (and one extra copy.)

In making remittances always procure a draft on New York, or a *Post-Office Money Order*, if possible. Terms, cash in advance.

Address, THE TRIBUNE, New York.

81, 1870

TRANSACTIONS

—OF THE—

Housatonic Agricultural Society,

FOR THE YEAR 1870,

—INCLUDING THE—

Address of Prof. W. S. CLARK,

President of the Massachusetts Agricultural College,

AT THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL CATTLE SHOW AND FAIR,

—HELD AT—

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.,

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Sept. 28th, 29th & 30th, 1870.

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.:
MARCUS H. ROGERS, STEAM PRINTER.
1871.

TRANSACTIONS

—OF THE—

Housatonic Agricultural Society,

FOR THE YEAR 1870,

—INCLUDING THE—

Address of Prof. W. S. CLARK,

President of the Massachusetts Agricultural College,

AT THE TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL CATTLE SHOW AND FAIR,

—HELD AT—

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.,

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Oct. 28th, 29th & 30th, 1870.

—ALSO, THE—

LIST OF PREMIUMS,

COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

For 1871.

GREAT BARRINGTON, MASS.:
MARCUS H. ROGERS, STEAM PRINTER.
1871.

STATE LIBRARY
OF
MASSACHUSETTS
APR 5 1923
CANCELLED
By

OFFICERS FOR 1870.

PRESIDENT,.....PARLEY A. RUSSELL of Great Barrington.

VICE-PRESIDENTS, { THOS. H. CURTIS of Great Barrington, ZACHEUS CANDEE of Sheffield.

TREASURER,.....JUSTIN DEWEY, Jr., of Great Barrington.

SECRETARY,.....HENRY T. ROBBINS of Great Barrington.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

PARLEY A. RUSSELL, of Great Barrington.

THOS. H. CURTIS, of Great Barrington.

ZACHEUS CANDE, of Sheffield,

JUSTIN DEWEY, JR., of Great Barrington.

HENRY T ROBBINS, of Great Barrington.

ALEXANDER HYDE, of Lee.

EGBERT B. GARFIELD, of Monterey.

HENRY W. SMITH, of Alford.

HUGO DEWEY, of Egremont

HENRY DRESSER, of Stockbridge.

COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS:

ISAAC SEELEY of Great Barrington,
JOHN L. DODGE of Great Barrington,
HERBERT C. JOYNER of Great Barrington.

SUPERINTENDENT OF FAIR GROUNDS:

EDWIN HURLBURT of Great Barrington.

DELEGATE TO STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE—1870-73.

RICHARD GOODMAN of Lenox.

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

The Present Want of Agriculture.

Mr. President, and Members of the Housatonic Society:

From your various homes among the beautiful hills of Southern Berkshire you have assembled to recount the achievements of another season of toil; to witness with laudable pride the rich display of the products of your skill and industry; and, while enjoying the recreation of your annual festival, to secure if possible, some substantial good for your own personal, or professional advancement. To such an audience it were superfluous to rehearse the oft repeated praises of rural life, or to restate the manifold advantages of agriculture as a business for young persons of intelligence, sound judgment, and reasonable expectations. There are here many industrious, successful and contented men and women, who know from observation and their own happy experience, that all the essential comforts of life may be more easily and more certainly procured by farmers than by any other class of American citizens. Among the outward circumstances which contribute to human happiness doubtless all right minded individuals would enumerate, as of primary importance, pure air, bright sunshine, and pleasant scenery; wholesome food, delicious fruits, and charming flowers; instructive and entertaining books, and delightsome music; comely and comfortable clothing, tasteful and convenient buildings and furniture; loving and intelligent friends, and an abundance of healthful, agreeable, and remunerative employment; and these are the natural possessions of the properly educated and truly enterprising husbandman. The country homes of Massachusetts are indeed too often sadly deficient in these elements of comfortable living, but it is not the fault of agriculture as an occupation. These things are freely offered to every farmer who desires to have them, and neither wealth, nor political power, nor extraordinary talent, is necessary for their acquisition. The great majority of our race must be in the future, as they have been from the beginning, tillers of the soil, producers of food, and of the necessary material for commerce and manufactures; but they need not be ignorant and devoid of taste.

On the contrary, in the good time coming, the refining, elevating, and strengthening influences of high intellectual and æsthetic culture will be considered as desirable in the agricultural profession, as they are in medicine, law or theology.

It is, however, an indisputable fact that the farmers even of Massachusetts to-day, with a few exceptions, fail almost utterly to appreciate the importance of professional or scientific education for their sons, and feel far less respect than they ought for their business. Washington declared this to be "the most useful, the most healthy and the most noble occupation of man," and followed it, so far as his public duties would allow, with energy and ability. Yet there are multitudes on our farms, who will make far greater sacrifices to send their sons to a classical college, or establish them in some branch of trade or manufacture, than they will to prepare them in the best manner to become influential and prosperous in the profession of their fathers.

A celebrated painter having been asked with what he mixed his colors to render them so perfect, is said to have answered, "brains." The most difficult and most complicated of the arts, also requires brains in him who would master and improve it. Accordingly we find agriculture most wisely and properly conducted, where nature is not too lavish of her favors, but where the circumstances of soil and climate compel men to the exercise of forethought and diligence. In favorable situations within the tropics the support of a family requires an exceedingly small amount of labor and skill. Clothing is almost a superfluity, and food springs from the earth in constant and luxuriant profusion. Thus the plantain, which is the staff of life in some equatorial regions, yields one hundred and thirty-three times as much food to the acre as the wheat plant, and needs scarcely any cultivation or care. It is only necessary to renew the plantation once in twenty years, so that the principal labor consists in picking the fruit, which grows within thirty feet of the ground. The plantain is nutritious and healthful in a great variety of forms, and is eaten both ripe and unripe, cooked and uncooked, and in the dry as well as the fresh state. The cocoa-nut, date and sago palms furnish food, drink and clothing, almost as readily as the plantain does food.

How unlike this is the agriculture of Massachusetts with her rough and sterile soil and her severe climate, demanding a constant and vigorous struggle with both the burning heat of summer and the icy blasts of winter! With anxious care the farmer must provide during the few brief months, when there are no frosts, for the maintenance and shelter of his family and his domestic animals during half the year, when no food of any kind will

grow. To do this he must be industrious, intelligent and prudent, and to secure more than a bare subsistence he needs all the aid which the highest science can afford.

Notwithstanding the difficulties which beset the farmer in the cooler regions now inhabited by the most civilized nations of the world, the total amount and value of agricultural produce are constantly increasing, and in Great Britain, and doubtless in Massachusetts, this increased product is obtained with a continually diminishing expense, and in many cases with an absolute improvement of the soil. This is the goal toward which a true and perfect system of agriculture should ever be tending—to secure the most desirable and profitable crops with the least expenditure of labor and fertilizers, and, at the same time, to enrich the soil, and enhance the salubrity of the climate and the beauty of the landscape. The effect of modern improvements applied to estates in England during the present century has been to increase their annual value many fold. This result has been attained by thorough tillage, clean culture, under-draining, rotation of crops, cultivation of roots, improved methods of saving and applying manures, use of commercial fertilizers, and proper adaptations of crops to soils and markets, together with the application of horse and steam power to farm work and the invention of many new and useful hand implements; the irrigation of "water meadows;" the introduction of better breeds of animals for specific purposes and the diffusion of knowledge upon topics of interest to the farmer.

In our own Commonwealth the change for the better is almost as marvelous. How different the appearance of the country to-day from what it was an hundred years ago! What improvements in the variety and quality of farm and garden products; in the number and perfection of agricultural implements and machines; in the treatment of swamps and other wild or waste land; in roads and fences; in orchards and vineyards; in the location and construction of farm buildings; in the beauty, usefulness and value, and the care and breeding of domestic animals; in the saving and appreciating of fertilizers and in general farm management, and above all in the intelligence and eagerness for progress of the farmers themselves. This increased mental activity and desire for information is clearly indicated by the enormous sales of agricultural books of every description, and the almost incredible circulation of agricultural periodicals, which have come into existence within a comparatively few years.

Not only have the out-door labors of the farm been rendered much lighter, more agreeable, and more profitable by these modern betterments and inventions, but the household duties of the farmer's wife and daughters

have been greatly diminished both in number and severity. The quiet enjoyment of domestic life is now possible, even upon large farms, since the rude hired men of the olden time are mostly replaced by the sleek horses who perform their work. The milk train, the cheese factory, the machines for washing and wringing, churning, and sweeping, sewing and knitting, and a thousand other improvements lighten their responsibilities, lessen their labors, and shorten their hours of toil.

While it is thus encouraging to review the history of our agriculture, it is evident that much remains to be accomplished before our system of farming as actually practiced will derive the benefit it ought from the best knowledge of the present day, and the farmers as a class have that degree of intelligence and skill which is most desirable.

We are assured on good authority that the soil of the United States has been devastated and impoverished by our past agricultural operations to the extent of more than $1,000,000,000, and that the loss from poor cultivation of crops—from what Henry Ward Beecher styles the horizontal, in distinction from the vertical, method of farming—in the year 1869 was not less than $200,000,000. It is also undoubtedly true that the actual waste of fertilizers from want of proper shelter and care amounted in the aggregate to many millions of dollars. Even in Massachusetts there are probably 75,000 barns to-day without cellars or other suitable means for saving the more valuable portion of animal excrement.

It may be safely asserted that money wisely applied to the advancement of agriculture is most profitably invested. When Henry Colman was occupied, from 1836 to 1840, as commissioner in making an agricultural survey of this state, there were many even among the farmers who regarded his work as of little, if any, value, and it was finally suspended before its completion for want of an appropriation from the legislature. In his final report he says, that the total expense to the people had been about one cent for each inhabitant, and that one of the best informed men in the state had expressed the opinion that it had already been worth thirty times its cost in its beneficial effects upon the agriculture of the Commonwealth. If he had been instrumental in reclaiming an average of three acres of peat bog in each town, as he supposed he had, he shows that he had thus created property worth at least $150,000 and yielding an income of $20,000 per annum. If he had led to the making each year in every town an average of 200 loads of compost worth one dollar a load more than it cost, he demonstrates that he had thus developed an annual income of $60,000.

The money expended was therefore obviously returned many times over during the progress of the survey, and will be every year while agriculture

is practiced. It is an important fact that such agencies for good once put into operation, continue with constantly increasing power to benefit mankind to the remotest generation.

Near the beginning of the nineteenth century, when the science of chemistry was rapidly assuming its present form and revealing to the waiting world the wondrous truths relating to the composition of soils, water and air, the food of plants and animals, and the true relations of the three kingdoms of nature to each other, Sir Humphrey Davy published his great work on Agricultural Chemistry. The deepest interest in regard to possible improvements in agricultural operations by the direct application of science was excited in the minds of many most intelligent men, both in this country and in Europe. It had been for centuries previous to this time the belief that chemical science could devise some method for transmuting the baser metals into gold. Kings, nobles, and scholars had been alike interested to secure this result, but chemical analysis demonstrated that it was no longer to be hoped for.

The enthusiastic devotion of the alchemists to the mystic science was now in a measure replaced by the unwarranted expectations of those who sought the advancement of agriculture. Many imagined that chemical analysis was to reveal at once the causes of sterility in soils, and to discover forthwith some simple, but sufficient, remedy. This resulted in an immense amount of chemical investigation into the composition of soils, manures, plants and animals, which is still in progress, and though the precise object of search has not been discovered, a vast amount of valuable knowledge, both theoretical and practical, has been attained. The methods of enriching soils, preparing and applying manures, stimulating plants to produce the crops desired, and feeding animals for special purposes, which have been devised by intelligent men under the guidance of science, have been, and will to the end of time be, of inestimable value to the world.

The surpassing worth of any, even the smallest, improvement in agriculture, and the rapidity with which one invention followed another awakened the public mind to the necessity of some new means for the diffusion of knowledge, and for the excitement among farmers of a desire for better tools, seeds, stock, and methods. Hence the organization of agricultural, societies, which aimed to accomplish these results by the publication of useful information, by the discussion of various important subjects, by the exhibition of the best agricultural tools and products, and by the offering of premiums for the trial of experiments, the invention of improved processes or implements, and the production of the largest crops, the finest speci-

mens of the most desirable farm produce or domestic animals, and for the best essays upon specified topics.

The Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture was incorporated in 1792 and has always been composed largely of gentlemen of wealth and culture, residing in Boston or its vicinity.

In addition to the other more common modes of advancing the interests of the great art this society has repeatedly imported valuable animals of choice breeds from England and France, and distributed them for service in various parts of the Commonwealth. The farmers of Middlesex county organized a society in 1794 and those of Berkshire in 1811. The people of other counties soon followed their example, until now there are thirty incorporated societies enjoying the liberal patronage of the State. Most of these own from thirty to sixty acres of land, and suitable buildings for their fairs, which are attended by from 3,000 to 25,000 visitors. Their total, real and personal property amounts to $350,000 and their annual premiums exceed $25,000.

The New England Agricultural Society under the leadership of its talented founder, Dr. George B. Loring, in addition to its most successful annual exhibitions has instituted at the farm of the Massachusetts Agricultural College grand trials of the implements and machinery of husbandry. These have awakened much interest and competition among manufacturers throughout the United States, and have been exceedingly serviceable to the farmers of New England, affording them the opportunity of seeing in operation a great variety of the best machines.

After the first establishment of agricultural societies, the next step for the improvement of our farming was the employment already alluded to, of the learned commissioner, Henry Colman, to make an agricultural survey of the State and suggest measures for promoting this important interest. From his entire familiarity with the history and progress of English agriculture he was admirably qualified for the task. In his final report he urges the necessity of *special education for farmers* as follows: "In order to render the agricultural profession more attractive and respectable we must seek its intellectual elevation. Improvement of the mind confers a rank which wealth cannot purchase, and commands a respect which the proudest aristocracy may envy. It is too late in the day to decry the value of science in agriculture. Who can name an art, or trade, or business, in which knowledge is a disadvantage, or a prejudice to success; or in which indeed, it is not a substantial help? Why should agriculture, combining as it does so many reasons and opportunities for the application of skill and knowledge, be an exception to every other art and business?"

The first effort to carry these ideas into practical operation was not made till 1850, when Hon. Marshall P. Wilder, then president of the Norfolk Agricultural Society and also president of the Massachusetts Senate introduced a bill, which passed the Senate, but failed in the House of Representatives, authorizing the Governor to appoint a board of ten commissioners who should have power to establish an agricultural school or college, and who should consider the expediency of the formation of a board of agriculture as a department of the state government. The result was that a commissioner was authorized, and Dr. Edward Hitchcock was appointed to visit and report upon the agricultural institutions of Europe. This report was made to the Legislature of 1851, and contained a detailed account of more than 350 schools.

One recommendation of the commissioners, based upon this report, was that the Legislature establish a central agricultural college, with a model and experimental farm. Another recommendation was that a state board of agriculture be created with a permanent secretary and office at the State House for the collection of agricultural statistics and information, and the advancement of the farming interests of the Commonwealth.

The operations of the Board of Agriculture, as recorded in its annual reports, are too familiar to need rehearsal. It has most nobly done the work for which it was created, and, by its constant advocacy of agricultural education, prepared the way for the success of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, which was finally incorporated in 1863.

It has been customary in years past, for most of the societies to have an annual address, which has usually been printed. These addresses have generally been delivered by distinguished clergymen, lawyers, physicians, professors or editors, and the prominent theme has been education—brains —science for farmers. Wise and eloquent as these orations have been, it is to be hoped there will, at no distant day, be educated farmers who can speak for their own profession with even greater effect. It should then, however, be gratefully remembered that up to the present time almost every successful attempt at improvement in the agriculture of Massachusetts has been originated and prosecuted by educated men who did not belong to the class properly called farmers.

When, in 1862, the national government granted 360,000 acres of land to Massachusetts for the establishment of one or more colleges for the education of the industrial classes, the advocates of agricultural education perceived that the long-looked-for day had dawned—that their often deferred hopes were about to be realized. It was conceded at once by all, that provision should now be made for the special instruction of farmers.

His Excellency, Governor Andrew, the Legislature of 1863, the Board of Agriculture, and all who were for any reason interested in the subject, began an earnest and thorough discussion of the question, how the fund accruing from the sale of this land could be best applied to promote education in agriculture, and thus to elevate the profession and perfect the art.

Three distinct plans for the accomplishment of the desired object were brought forward and ably advocated by their friends. The first was eloquently presented by the governor in his annual message, in which he advised the establishment of an agricultural school in connection with Harvard College, and the bestowment of at least two millions of dollars, in addition to the fund derived from the sale of the land, upon that institution, so as to render it a grand university worthy the name and fame of Massachusetts. The prime object of an agricultural school of this kind, is not to educate farmers, so much as to advance scientific agriculture, by affording at the university the most favorable opportunities for experiments and original investigations in the various departments of science, which are specially applied to agriculture. Such an institution would undoubtedly, under good management, accomplish much for the advancement of useful knowledge—and is now organizing as a department of the university at Cambridge, which has a fund of $250,000 bequeathed to it for this very purpose by Benjamin Bussey of Roxbury.

A second plan for promoting agricultural education, which has been urged by some intelligent men, the most prominent of whom is the Hon. George S. Boutwell, is diametrically opposed to the first, and has for its main object the diffusion of knowledge upon agricultural topics among the farmers themselves. The means to be employed for this purpose are not colleges or professional schools, but agricultural societies, farmers clubs, and lecturers going from town to town, and imparting such practical knowledge as the farmers are competent or willing to receive. Some would also introduce an elementary text-book on agriculture into the common schools, with the same end in view. The attempt to teach agriculture in the public schools, even with an excellent text-book, has been tried and proved a failure from lack of knowledge and interest on the part of teachers. With competent instructors, it might be very profitably taught in the higher schools. The objections to this second plan are that it is hard to teach old men new ways, and hence education must begin in youth; that to secure the ready adoption of improvements there must be not only a knowledge of the improvements, themselves, but also of the scientific principles upon which they are founded; that, if practical farmers are to remain ignorant of all the higher branches of learning, and to have only the mental discipline

and culture of the country public schools, they can never occupy their proper position in society, nor retain upon the farm their more talented and ambitious sons and daughters; and finally, that the stream will not rise higher than its source. The supposition that the mass of farmers will ever educate themselves, or even appreciate the advantages of high culture, before means are provided for giving it, and the benefits of it demonstrated, is without foundation. Most of the leaders, in all the improvements that have been made, have been not ordinary, uneducated farmers, but men of other professions and liberal education. Our state system of public schools, maintained by voluntary taxation, has been referred to as a proof that the farmers would see their need of education and then spontaneously provide for it. But Harvard College was established before the system of public schools, and the high culture of her professional men has ever been the glory and the power of Massachusetts. The history of the schools throughout the State shows that they have been brought to their present state of efficiency by the persistent and laborious efforts of liberally educated men, and, in many towns, it has required years of warfare to bring the people up to the standard of the laws, which have been devised by learned, and not by ignorant legislators.

The third plan was proposed by the joint special committee of the Legislature of 1863, the chairman of which was the Rev. E. O. Haven, who has since gained the reputation, in connection with the University of Michigan, of being one of the most successful educators in the country. He is now president of the North-Western University near Chicago.

The fundamental idea of this plan was the establishment of a strictly professional school for farmers, as an independent institution. It was regarded as important that it should be in an agricultural region, away from city influences, and that it should equal, in its educational faculties, the other colleges of the State. Its object was to teach the theory and practice of agriculture, and to give its pupils a literary and scientific training of a high order. It was to be well equipped with apparatus and books, a farm with stock and tools, and the necessary professors, not only to systematize and teach all useful agricultural knowledge, but also to make original investigations and experiments for the advancement of the art.

The Board of Agriculture heartily approving this plan, it was adopted by the Legislature, and the Massachusetts Agricultural College was incorporated. It is somewhat remarkable that it is the only institution in the United States designed exclusively for the education of farmers. The members of the corporation were elected by the Legislature for life and were

chosen from among the prominent friends of agriculture. Subsequently the Board of Agriculture was made a Board of Overseers of the College.

It having thus been decided that the farmers were to enjoy the benefits of an independent, professional school, its precise character and location came under consideration. The law required that it should be called the Massachusetts Agricultural *College*, from which it must be inferred that the Legislature designed it to hold a prominent position among our educational institutions. The course of study and instruction was obviously intended to be superior, at least in some respects, to that of our existing public schools, and to secure the proper establishment of the College upon a basis satisfactory to the people, it was required that the location, plan of organization, and course of instruction, which might be adopted by the trustees, should be approved by the Governor and Council, before any decisive steps were taken for its erection.

President Henry F. French, having given the subject of agricultural education a great amount of attention, and having visited the principal schools and colleges of this country and of Great Britain, prepared a plan for the establishment of the College at Amherst which was unanimously adopted by the trustees and approved by the Governor and Council.

An excellent farm of nearly four hundred acres having been purchased in the valley of the Connecticut, and suitable buildings completed, the College received its first class on the second of October, 1867. On that day thirty-three young men, averaging nearly eighteen years of age, most of them sons of farmers, presented themselves for examination. The growth of the institution, so far as money and members are concerned, from that time to the present, has been constant and rapid to a degree which has satisfied its most hopeful friends. Its estate, buildings and equipment have cost more than $225,000, and it has a cash fund of $150,000. Its organization is now complete, and with a competent faculty of instruction, and four classes of students, numbering in all one hundred and twelve, it may, without any boasting, be affirmed that no institution in the country, among all those endowed by the national government, offers better facilities for agricultural education than the Farmers' College of Massachusetts.

Having thus considered some of the more important facts concerning the efforts made during the present century, by enterprising men of science and political wisdom, for the advancement of agriculture, we come to consider the obstacles to complete success in this last and noblest attempt to increase the intelligence, wealth, power and popularity of the profession so largely and so well represented here to-day.

In the report of the committee, which accompanied the act of incorporation, passed by the Legislature of 1863, occurs this somewhat remarkable sentence, which has proved to be almost prophetic : "There can be but one serious impediment in the way of making a true, professional, agricultural school in this State prosper, and that is a want of interest in it among the agricultural population."

To one who understands fully the greatness of the preparatory work which has been done at Amherst, and the advantages there offered for practical training, scientific instruction and original investigation, the utter indifference in regard to their college manifested by most of the 75,000 farmers of Massachusetts is truly astounding. It calls to mind the almost incredible fact in the history of the South Sea Islands, that, in 1797, thirty nine English missionaries, with every needed appliance for teaching Christianity, and the arts of civilized life, began their earnest and devoted labors for the elevation of the native population, but did not succeed in making a single convert during the first sixteen years.

It was the belief among the pioneers in the missionary work that, if men could but see the advantages to be derived from Christian civilization, they would be readily accept it ; but experience has demonstrated that efforts for the improvement of a people are most wisely directed to the mental and moral culture of the young.

It is, therefore, obvious that while much benefit may result from public meetings for the discussion of practical questions, and from the publication of agricultural documents, which in the form of books and periodicals are now spread broadcast over the country, yet the real want of the times is thoroughly educated farmers—men who combine exact science with profitable practice. We have workers enough, writers enough, and talkers in excess. Let us have the three in one. Let us have men prepared for this profession by years of study, during which they shall not only become familiar with all the most important knowledge pertaining to the subject, but shall acquire by thorough discipline, that ability for close observation and accurate experiment, which is indispensable to any considerable progress. This is the needed remedy for that crudeness and superficiality and frequent worthlessness of agricultural literature of which we are all the constant victims.

But just here we are met by the popular notion that much culture is incompatible with manual labor, and that the farmer who sends his son to college for education, will find that as he increases in intelligence, he will decrease in industry, professional zeal and capacity for successful farm management.

Now, to assert that a young man cannot be immensely strengthened and benefitted by special, scientific preparation to practice agriculture, is to admit that though so loudly praised as the first, last, and noblest occupation of the race, it is really degrading in its nature, and designed, in the organization of society, only for those poor, stupid, ignorant, or unfortunate persons who are unable to secure a livelihood in any other way—a doctrine which the Massachusetts farmers are hardly ready to accept.

But perhaps the inquiry may arise, why the graduates of our older colleges are not more commonly found engaged in agriculture, if it be so excellent a business and one so greatly advantaged by education. The explanation is obvious and most satisfactory.

In the first place, the course of study is not at all adapted to qualify a man for farming. Seven years of the best of life, are necessarily spent away from all practical pursuits, and almost exclusive attention given during most of this period to the dead languages, pure mathematics, and metaphysics. The natural sciences and mixed mathematics are studied comparatively little, and without reference to their application to agriculture, or any other art.

Again, nearly all students, when entering upon a classical course, have in view one of the three learned professions, and naturally come to regard themselves as rising above the level of the agricultural community, precisely in proportion to the extent of their literary attainments.

Finally, most college graduates are destitute of any other capital than their education, and are therefore compelled to begin life in a small way by teaching, or the practice of a profession which requires but a moderate investment of money. Without land, stock, tools, or ready cash, without a knowledge of business in general, or farming in particular, and without the respect or sympathy of the farmers themselves, the graduate of a classical college has few inducements to enter the profession.

Let no one, however, imagine that study tends to indolence, or that professional men are less laborious than farmers, or that an educated farmer will accomplish less than an ignorant one. It has been well said that "what is often called indolence, is, in fact, the unconscious consciousness of incapacity." On the other hand, knowledge is power and its conscious possession must render the farmer, as well as every other man, more ambitious, more energetic, and more efficient. Genius has been well defined as capacity for labor, and the most patient and enthusiastic workers of the world are the great scholars Thought is "brain-sweat;" and mental labor is vastly more exhausting than the exercise of the muscles; yet there

are multitudes of studious men who toil more hours every day than the most diligent of farmers.

Professor Agassiz while engaged in writing his great work upon the glaciers, after spending some months amid the everlasting snows of the Alps, remained for two whole years in gown and slippers, as it were in a chrysalis state, before astonishing the world by his appearance as the author of one of the most surprising and original scientific theories ever propounded. Who of us could be hired to perform one half the filthy, disgusting work in collecting and handling fish, which Agassiz has voluntarily done in acquiring that knowledge which has made him the greatest ichthyologist of all the ages? Who can realize while listening to his brilliant and instructive lectures or conversation that he has been the most laborious and zealous collector of specimens in zoology ever known; or that he, of all men, should have passed many of the best years of his life in studying the embryology and habits of the slowest and coldest blooded quadrupeds—the turtles? When importuned to leave this apparently unprofitable and disagreeable labor to engage in lecturing, which seems to most persons so much more useful and delightful, and by which he could readily amass a fortune, he answered with most unselfish devotion to the cause of science, "I cannot afford time to make money." Education certainly did not spoil him for work, and the people need have no fear that their sons would become unfit for labor, if sent to Amherst for instruction.

But from present indications, it would seem that scientific attainments and professional training for farmers are not very highly esteemed in this part of the Commonwealth. While the wisest statesmen and the most intelligent friends of progressve agriculture are profoundly impressed with the necessity of special education for this business, and while institutions for this purpose are being numerously established, and richly endowed in all civilized countries; while Prussia, whose power and resources now astonish the world, is justly celebrated for the number and surpassing excellence of her agricultural schools; and while the Massachusetts Agricultural College with its beautiful farm, its commodious buildings, its ample equipment, its competent instructors, and its crowd of students, invites their attention and patronage, what is the interest manifested in this momentous subject by the citizens of Berkshire?

Precisely this: With a population largely engaged in cultivating the soil; with three flourishing agricultural societies; with three members of the Board of Overseers and two of the trustees of the College residing among them, and with the standing offer of a free scholarship to any suitable appli-

cant not a solitary student has appeared for admission to the college this year.

Now in trying to account for this surprising fact, no man can truthfully affirm that the education there given is not suited to the wants of a practical farmer ; or that it is inferior to that offered at any other agricultural college in the country; or that, under all the circumstances, it could reasonably be expected to be better than it is. The College is by no means perfect, but its warmest friends are found among those who are most familiar with its history and operations. The thirty young men, who have been there three years, and are now engaged in the studies of the fourth year, are too intelligent and shrewd to be deceived in regard to the character and value of the education they are securing. The truth about the matter is simply this:—the farmers do not realize that the greater includes the less ; and the very men who would be most enthusiastic over a new churn, or a seedling potato, or a recipe for some patent fertilizer, fail to see that the direct road to all possible improvement lies in the development of mental power, and the acquirement of scientific knowledge. This manifest disregard of the agricultural community for their college, affords the most unanswerable argument to those who for any reason wish to defeat the legislative appropriations necessary for its development and support. Even those who admit the propriety of special governmental aid to promote the farming interest, and who believe great good might result from such an institution properly patronized, must soon become disheartened in the vain attempt to help those who will not help themselves. Time-serving politicians, and unprincipled newspapers, seeking only to float on the tide of public opinion, will, of course, readily unite in an opposition, which appears to be popular, and eagerly seize every opportunity to prejudice the people against the enterprise and its friends.

Massachusetts promptly accepted the generous grant of the national government and in good faith provided an independent school for the special education of young farmers. No other preparation is required for admission than can be obtained in every town at the public expense. The students all reside on the State farm, and are every day engaged in the study and practice of Agriculture. The course of instruction has been adopted after the most careful investigation into the organization of similar institutions in other countries, as well as in the United States, and after five years of discussion and trial by the trustees and faculty. Much effort has been made to secure the services of professors and lecturers distinguished not only for scientific attainments and general culture, but for practical skill in their several departments ; and particular pains have been

taken to reduce the necessary expenses of the students to the lowest practicable point. In short, every exertion has been made to establish a true professional school, fitted to educate in the best manner the leaders of our agricutural population. All this has been accomplished, but the principal work yet remains to be done. There can be no complete and satisfactory success until cordial co-operation of the farmers themselves has been assured.

The danger concerning the College is not that it will lack students, for it is full ; or, appreciative friends, for their number is large and constantly increasing ; or, necessary funds for its maintenance, for it is well endowed. But the difficulty is to preserve its peculiar agricultural character, upon its present, economical basis. Unless the farmers will feel more responsibility in the matter, and make more effort to educate for their profession young men of enterprise and ability, and send to the Legislature, representatives and senators who shall be willing to carry out with wise liberality the plans which have been adopted, it will be impossible to retain the tuition at its present low rate, (which is not one quarter of the usual charges at institutions affording similar advantages,) or to give to agriculture that special prominence in the course, which it now has. It should be remembered that there will always be many influential members of the Legislature, from various professions and localities, who will know little and care less about the College, and unless the class, for whom the State has established it rally around it and give it their hearty support, they will inevitably lose those valuable privileges which are now so freely offered them. Already the Secretaries of the Boards of Education and Agriculture are instructed to inquire and report to the next Legislature whether the College can be made self-supporting. The educated men interested in other schools and colleges are jealous of this new rival, and will not permit appropriations from the state treasury for its benefit, unless they are earnestly demanded and wisely improved by the people.

The farmers then ought to rejoice in the fact that they have a college for the education of their sons, and they ought to bestow its advantages, also, upon their daughters. They should not regard their most talented children as too good for the profession of their fathers, but should afford them every facility for the best possible preparation to honor and to elevate it. They should resist all attempts to reduce the standard of agricultural education and clearly understand that, if nine years are required to qualify a lawyer, minister or physician for his duties, no farmer can reasonably claim to be thoroughly instructed in his profession, and fit to enjoy full equality with other educated men, who has devoted less than four years to the acquisition of discipline and knowledge. They should take care to be well

and truly represented in the General Court by men who will see that their College suffers no detriment, and that its essential wants are promptly supplied.

Every farmer should secure a copy of each annual report of the trustees, that he may learn the facts respecting the real condition and working of the institution, and so be able justly to appreciate its merits, in spite of the unfair criticisms, which sooner or later assails every enterprise under State direction, however beneficent its object or judicious its management.

Mr. President, there can be no more appropriate, or eloquent, conclusion to these remarks than the peroration of an address on Agricultural Education, delivered before this Society in 1853 by the Hon. Henry L. Dawes, who has been so long your illustrious representative in Congress, and who, in 1862, efficiently aided in securing from the national government a munificent endowment for the very institution for which he then so ably plead. May his exhortations and warnings add ten-fold force to the words already spoken, and stimulate every farmer present to a faithful performance of his duty toward the Mass. Agricultural College and the cause it represents.

"Gentlemen, I have sought on this occasion, to draw your attention to your position and duties, and to the radical defects and short-comings in all our struggles to elevate the standard of agriculture in this Commonwealth. I have also attempted to point out the remedy to be a systematic, a thorough, and a liberal professional education for the farmer, furnished by the State, co-operating with private munificence. And on an institution thus founded and endowed, I have endeavored to ground your hopes for the regeneration of the soil of the Commonwealth, and for the proper elevation and true dignity of her sons."

"And permit me, finally, to add, that it lies with yourselves, under a gracious Providence, to say when this golden age shall be ushered in. For though you cannot build this great temple with your own hands, yet you may give tone to the policy of our common government, which can lay its foundations deep as perpetuity, and spread its ample arches broad as the land. You are, in the multitude, as well as in the indivdual, the architects of your own fortune."

"You may, by indifference, suffer the half finished walls of this temple to tumble down in neglect, or rise, if at all, disproportioned and incongruous, repulsive to the votaries at its shrine, inefficient in its influence, and abortive in its mission—or you can, if you will, adorn and beautify its rising columns, crowd its broad and lofty portals with devotees bringing their sheaves with them and fixing their trophies in its very dome, till it shall become the just pride and, under God, the ultimate preserver of the Commonwealth. Build ye, for yourselves and for posterity."

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

SUMMER CROPS.

The examination of summer crops, while conducted with as much expedition as possible,—since to the farmer at the important season when these duties call him, time is valuable—was thoroughly made, and included a careful survey of the 122 crops entered for premiums.

Our beautiful county, with its wealth of scenery and its many fine and well-kept farms, is a pleasant field for summer driving, and we cannot but feel that we have in it a noble heritage. With the aid they may now command, our young men surely cannot build themselves worthier, happier, or more useful lives and homes than by pursuing here a system of improved agriculture. High farming will bring even our hilltops to a condition of fertility which many of us will now scarcely believe possible, and the convenience of our markets ought to stimulate the production of many of those lesser crops which often prove the most remunerative on the farm.

One word touching the awards. It is often a delicate and almost ungracious task to distinguish between slightly varying fields, when it may be there is something superior in each—better tilth in one respect, and slightly worse in another. Of course the strictest impartiality is required of a committee of awards, and an almost judicial poise of the scale which decides the result. The generous hospitality so freely tendered and so fully accepted according to the present custom of entertainment during the examination, seems to add to the delicacy of the situation. While conscious of the kindest receptions at so many farm houses, we feel half disposed to suggest the renunciation by the Society, of this hospitality. To refuse "spoons" to the man who presents for your critical appreciation his "Old Rye" as well as growing grain, may sometimes demand a firmness above the ordinary stiffness of a good natured committee.

WINTER WHEAT—5 ENTRIES.

Wheat, as the grain of a high civilization, the foremost of cereals and typical staff of life, has an importance and standing aside from its pecuniary profit, which seems to give it a claim upon Massachusetts agriculture. The Old Commonwealth will not entirely abandon wheat culture, and every year some few fields show that a crop good may yet be produced in Berkshire.

Of the five pieces examined we found two which would cut about twenty-five bushels to the acre—a very satisfactory yield. The mischief of the weevil was not often observed, and less frequently in the bearded than in the bald varieties. The new hybrid or cross-bred Canadian wheat, now attracting much hopeful attention, might prove a valuable acquisition to us, and it is hoped that some of our farmers will test it the coming year.

We award as follows :

For the best acre Winter Wheat, Milton Adams of New Marlboro,	$7 00
2d do., William M. Chapin of Sheffield,	6 00
3d do., William H. Hill of Lenox,	5 00

SPRING WHEAT—9 ENTRIES.

For the best acre Spring Wheat, J. H. Wagner of Alford,	$7 00
2d do., William O. Curtis of Lenox,	6 00
3d do., P. M. Shaylor of Lee,	5 00
4th do., George O. Peck of Lenox,	4 00
5th do., Water W. Hollenbeck of Great Barrington,	3 00

FOUR ACRES RYE—17 ENTRIES.

The rye crop of the county, taken as a whole, was this season singularly poor, very many fields being hardly worth harvesting. It was a noticeable, but not explained fact, that in the interior of most fields the rye heads were much heaviest. We award :

For the best 4 acres Winter Rye, Michael King of Sheffield,	$8 00
2d do., Orren Curtis of Sheffield,	7 00
3d do., M. I. Wheeler of Great Barrington,	6 00
4th do., Henry L. Smith of Lee,	5 00
5th do., F. Abbey of Great Barrington,	4 00

ONE ACRE RYE—13 ENTRIES.

For the best one acre Winter Rye, Charles Westover of Sheffield,	$7 00
2d do., Orren Curtis of Sheffield,	6 00
3d do., J. H. Rowley of Egremont,	5 00
4th do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	4 00
5th do., M. I. Wheeler of Great Barrington,	3 00
6th do., Dr. J. L. Miller of Sheffield,	2 00

FOUR ACRES OATS—18 ENTRIES.

We find it is too often the practice of farmers to cultivate oats on low mucky soils, which, while they produce an abundance of straw, do not yield the heaviest grain. We saw many otherwise fine crops which were badly lodged, and "weak straw" was a common complaint, especially among grain-feeding farmers. Having frequently noticed stout crops of rye and oats upon old coal pit bottoms, the straw of which was perfectly erect, while all about it was badly lodged, we suggest that trials be made, where practicable, of top-dressing grain fields with ashes or charcoal dust to strengthen the stalk.

In regard to time of harvesting it would seem that to obtain the heaviest and best oats for market it is necessary to let them get nearly ripe, so ripe that a few of the lowest berries in the ear will shell in cutting Although this practice is opposed to the teaching of most agricultural writers, we present it with some confidence as recommended by farmers who are accounted successful. We award :

For the best 4 acres of Oats, Henry L. Smith of Lee,	$7 00
2d do., Theron L. Foote of Lee,	6 00
3d do., L. M. Winchel of Alford,	5 00
4th do., Henry W. Burget of Egremont,	4 00

ONE ACRE OATS—34 ENTRIES.

For the best one acre of Oats, Henry Werden of Richmond,	$7 00
2d do., J. H. Coon of Sheffield,	6 00
3d do,, H. T. Candee of Sheffield,	5 00
4th do., W. H. Sprague of Alford,	4 00
5th do., William O. Curtis of Lenox,	3 00
6th do., H. D. Palmer of Stockbridge,	2 00

BARLEY—8 ENTRIES.

All good pieces Some fine crops of this grain were so intermixed with oats as to properly come under the head of messlings. We award :

For best acre of Barley, P. M. Shaylor of Lee.	$6 00
2d do., Dyer Wait of Egremont,	5 00
3d do., J. H. Lowrey of Egremont,	4 00
4th do., William A. Bunce of Alford,	2 00

GRASS—11 ENTRIES.

Your Committee saw very few really first-rate grass crops, and we cannot be blind to the fact that our Berkshire meadows are every year growing more heavily stocked with "plants out of place." Buttercups and daisies may add to the picturesque effect of a landscape, but to the agricultural eye they are vile weeds. The fundamental error in the management of our meadows lies in imperfect drainage. Water is allowed to become stagnant, and stagnant water is as injurious to plants as carbonic acid is to animals. In most cases, then, to improve our meadows to any great extent, we must thoroughly underdrain. This done, if it be not advisable to plow and cultivate for two or three years to destroy weeds, irrigation—a neglected art here, will have a magical effect. In the poetical language of Phillip Pusey "a slight film of water trickling over the surface, rouses the sleeping grass, tinges it with living green, amidst the snows and frosts, and brings forth a luxuriant crop in early spring, just when most needed, while other meadows are still bare and brown." A water meadow is the triumph of agricultural art, almost changing as it does the very seasons·

For best 3 acres of Cultivated Grass, Luther S. Butler of Lenox,	$6 00
2d do., Benton L. Stoddard of Alford,	5 00
3d do., Robert A. Potts of Egremont,	4 00
4th do., William O. Curtis of Lenox,	3 00

GARDENS—7 ENTRIES.

There are three distinct classes of gardens brought to the notice of our Committees, each of which must be judged by the standard of its class, rather than by any fixed ideal to which all classes can be compared.

First the farmers' garden proper—the garden moderate in size, and modest in appliances, which is expected to furnish for the family use a sufficient supply of vegetables, not probably in very great variety at any one time, but of good quality, and judiciously selected of such sorts as shall give a pleasant variety, at least in succession, and shall produce moderately of *some* desirable esculent from as early as may be in the spring till the severe frosts of autumn. In such a garden the indispensable vegetables are only those generally considered standard and best, peas, sweet corn, beans, tomatoes, onions, cucumbers, &c., but at least a few of the rarer and more delicate vegetables ought to be grown, such as celery, egg-plants and cauliflowers. The success of a garden depends very largely upon its management all through the season, which makes it exceedingly difficult to judge of its merits by a single visit for besides the neatness of its keeping, and the comparative earliness and excellence of its growth, we must consider

the skill which secures a constant succession of seasonable products, and by refilling with late varieties the vacancies left as vegetables mature and are removed, virtually doubles the space at command.

The second class of gardens is that in which much more is attempted. Luxuries are demanded ; that is to say, vegetables and fruits of the very best quality, in and out of season. All the requisites are furnished regardless of cost ; abundant space, hot-houses, and hot-beds, choice seeds and plants, and lavish outlay for skilled labor ; these are justly expected to produce large results.

The third class of gardens is that in which size is a great feature—gardens cultivated for a village market, or the benefit of a large hotel or boarding house. The special characteristics of such gardens are an arrangement planned for economical cultivation, usually long lines tilled by the horse cultivator ; and with heavily manured land and careful culture, a result of large quantities of thrifty well-grown vegetables, handsome, very satisfactory and remunerative.

Success or excellence should be measured by the obstacles overcome, and the relative proportions of power and effect. The gardener who accomplishes most may not have displayed as much skill as his neighbor if his results have been obtained at a disproportionate cost of time, labor and appliances; but given unlimited aids he may show his art by the beautiful thrift of a row of peas in September, as free from mildew as those he grew in June ; by the massiveness of early and late heads of cauliflower; by celery, crisp, delicate, and piquant, from October till May—while the small garden does equally well in furnishing a few well-blanched bunches, which shall flavor the poultry from Thanksgiving till New Years, and as justly prides itself on good Lima beans for six weeks as the professional wind does upon his varied successions, or his April cucumbers.

Your Committee found a due regard for these different conditions and endeavors embarrasing with the present arrangement of the premium list. It was with some difficulty, therefore, that we adjudged the claims of the seven garden sentered for competition. But as to a large number of farmers' gardens which fell under our notice—gardens unentered, indeed either for competition, exhibition, or cultivation—there could be but one opinion. Sparingly spread with raw manure ; made late in spring with careless hand ; hopefully planted with uncertain seeds ; left to "the boys" or chance for subsequent care ; there comes long before the season's end, an amazingly thrifty crop of weeds, which bloom and wave, and shed innumerable seeds, and the smothered and unproducive plants that remain scarcely repay even the slight labor bestowed. It is a pity that an adjunct of the farm of so great sanitary and economic importance should be so generally neglected. We award :

For the best Vegetable Garden, David Leavitt of Great Barrington,	$6 00
2d do., William O. Curtis of Lenox,	5 00
3d do., Elisha Collins of Great Barrington,	4 00
4th do., Dr. H. D. Train of Sheffield,	3 00

HENRY S. GOODALE,
JOHN N. ROBBINS, } Committee.
E. D. HUMPHREY,

FALL CROPS.

Whole number of entries 171, classed as follows: Sowed corn, 12 entries; corn, four acres, 33 entries ; corn, one acre, 39 entries ; buckwheat, 22 entries ; potatoes, 29 entries ; beans, 4 entries ; beets, 5 entries ; carrots, 5 entries ; turnips, 5 entries ; cabbage, 3 entries ; best managed farm not less than forty acres, 10 entries.

The committee on Fall Crops have attended to their duties, (excepting one of the committee who most of the time was prevented by sickness from serving,) We the active members therefore submit the following report.

Notwithstanding the extreme drouth of the summer and fall, and the fearful forebodings of the people generally, of an alarming failure of the fall crops, there has been a fair production, verifying the truth of the old maxim, that a dry season scares people to death and a wet one starves them to death.

The corn crop was very good, there has been a larger production some seasons, but seldom if ever so universally sound and ripe as it is this season.

The fields of potatoes were quite uneven in their productions. Some very good crops the production of the majority of the fields of the potato crop was light. Your committee are of the opinion that we are not in the habit of making proper allowance for the quality of the potato, but are governed more by the quantity produced. Quantity and quality should each have their due weight in determining the premiums. The Peerless, the Harrison, the Prolific and the Early Goodrich, are very prolific, some of these kinds are not desirable for table use, others have not been sufficiently tested as to their quality. The Peach Blow, the Early Rose and many others are celebrated for their fine qualities for cooking. The amount of seed used in planting both corn and potatoes has generally been too large, the largest production of potatoes that we found was planted with but one piece in a hill, and but one eye in the piece. Your committee are of the opinion that two pieces of potato in the hill with but one eye in each piece is sufficient, four stalks in a hill of corn and thirty hills to the square rod is about the manner of planting that produces the most corn to the acre.

Buckwheat and beans were rather slight crops, on dry land the drouth injured them. Farmers we think would find it for their benefit to plant more white beans, they are a good paying crop and can be raised on any soil.

There was nearly three times the number of entries of sowed corn that there was last year, showing that the farmers notwithstanding Dr. Loring's views, are beginning to prize the value of sowed corn for feeding not only their cows, but other stock, after the fresh pastures of summer are beginning to fail them.

Farmers will find it to their profit to cultivate the root crops, (Sweedish turnips carrots and beets) for late fall and winter use. Your committee, some of whom have served frequently on the agricultural committee from the commencement of this society, while examining the ten farms entered for premiums, were forcibly reminded of the great improvements in the management and improved culture of our farms, improvement of buildings, fences, fruit gardens, &c. Since the Housatonic Agricultural Society was established old tumbled down stone walls have been relaid on sure founda-

tions and standing erect ; fields covered with rocks all taken out, large as well as small, not one left, those fields enclosed with durable fences; moist land underdrained and made productive ; young and thrifty fruit trees bearing delicious fruit in the room of the old moss covered unproductive trees ; an abundance of choicest grapes where formerly there was only now and then a farmer that raised any, and those of inferior quality ; the last, but not the least improvement that we shall mention, is the improvement in farmers barns. No good farmer at the present time would build a barn of the old model of barns. There has been more improvement in the building of barns than houses or any other buildings. The farmer in this respect have consulted convenience, comfort, economy and durability. Those recently built are most all, where the lay of the land will permit, two stories as it were. They have a basement underneath for stabling and shelter for wagons, sleighs, farming tools and sheltering manure, which adds greatly to the value of the manure, over that which has been suffered to remain out, and consequently well soaked before being put upon the land. Good and profitable farming depends very much upon the amount and quality of the manure produced and saved on the farm. The best crops we always found where there was the best manuring and cultivation. The great improvements so noticable in Southern Berkshire in farming have been produced very materially by the influence of the Housatonic Agricultural Society, it has produced a stimulus to excel, or at least emulate his neighbors in his improvements.

Your committee after careful examination award the following premiums:

FOUR ACRES CORN—33 ENTRIES.

For the best four acres Corn, Elizur Smith of Lee,	$10 00
2d do., Alexander Belcher of Sheffield,	8 00
3d do., Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	7 00
4th do., H. L. Smith of Lee,	6 00
5th do., B. N. Burtch of Sheffield,	5 00
6th do., J. P. Tobey of Great Barrington,	4 00

ONE ACRE CORN—39 ENTRIES.

Best one acre Corn, William O. Curtis of Lenox,	$9 00
2d do., George Kellogg of Sheffield,	8 00
3d do., Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	7 00
4th do.. Zacheus Cande of Sheffield,	6 00
5th do., James Bullard of Lee,	5 00
6th do., H. L. Smith of Lee,	4 00
7th do., H. D. Palmer of Stockbridge,	3 00
Having funds in our hands unprovided for we offer an extra premium on corn to D. S. Draper of Great Barrington,	3 00
Also, to Elihu Church of Alford,	3 00

BUCKWHEAT—22 ENTRIES.

For the best acre of Buckwheat, James H. Rowley of Egremont,	$5 00
2d do., Martin Brown of Egremont,	4 00
3d do., R. Dwight Andrews of Sheffield,	3 00
4th do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	2 00
5th do., Zacheus Candeof Sheffield,	1 00

POTATOES—29 ENTRIES.

For best one half acre of Potatoes, H. S. Goodale of Mount Washington,	$7 00
2d do., William O. Curtiss of Lenox,	6 00
3d do., Henry Werden of Richmond,	5 00
4th do., George M. Gibson of New Marlboro,	4 00
5th do., F. B. Hinckley of Lee,	3 00
6th do., Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	2 00

WHITE BEANS—4 ENTRIES.

For best one-fourth acre White Beans, G. W. Stickles of Sheffield, $3 00
No other beans offered worthy of premium,

SUGUR BEETS—5 ENTRIES.

For best acre of Sugar Beets, James Bullard of Lee, $5 00
2d do., W. O. Curtiss of Lenox, 4 00
No others offered worthy of premium.

MANGEL WURZEL.

For best acre Mangel Wurzel, J. Milton Mackie of Great Barrington, $5 00
2d do., A. W. Merrill of Sandisfield, 4 00
S. Spencer of West Stockbridge, entered a superior crop, but not enough to come within the rules of the Society.

CARROTS—5 ENTRIES.

For the best one-fourth acre Carrots, Michael Haley of Sheffield, $5 00
2d do., Daniel Warner of Great Barrington, 4 00
3d do., J. Milton Mackie of Great Barrington, 3 00
4th do., D. C. Millard of Egremont, 2 00

SWEEDISH TURNIPS—5 ENTRIES.

For best one quarter acre of Sweedish Turnips, J. Milton Mackie of Great Barrington, $4 00
2d do., H. H. B. Turner of Great Barrington, 3 00
3d do., T. H, Curtis of Great Barrington, 2 00

CABBAGE—3 ENTRIES.

For best quarter acre of Cabbage, W. C. French of West Stockbridge, $4 00
2d do., D. D. Kendall of Lenox, 3 00
3d do., Alexander Hyde of Lee, 2 00

SOWED CORN—12 ENTRIES.

For best one quarter acre Sowed Corn, H. T. Cande of Sheffield, $5 00
2d do., William H. Palmer of Stockbridge, 4 00
3d do., William Stevens of Sheffield, 3 00
4th do., Alexander Hyde of Lee, 2 00

FARMS—10 ENTRIES.

For best Managed Farm, Z. Candee of Sheffield, $12 0
2d do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield, 8 0
3d do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge, 6 0
4th do., F. K. Hinckley of Lee, 4 0

HENRY BURTCH, }
NOAH GIBSON, } Committee.

SEEDS AND VEGETABLES.

Your committee found it very difficult to decide who should receive the premiums in our hands to award, especially in the entries of timothy seed, oats and seed corn, were nearly all very worthy of the first premiums. M. I. Wheeler of Great Barrington exhibited six varieties of seed corn worthy the attention of farmers. H. S. Goodale of Mount Washington had a very fine collection of potatoes, some new varieties that he is confident will take the lead. The watermelon exhibited by Ralph Little of Sheffield was pronounced by competent judges to be of very fine quality and flavor.

TIMOTHY SEED—4 entries.

For best bushel Timothy Seed, Elijah N. Hubbard of Great Barrington, $4 00
2d do., W. H. Palmer of Stockbridge, 3 00
3d do., Warren Candee of Sheffield, 2 00

SEED CORN—28 entries.

For the best bushel Ears of Seed Corn, James Bullard of Lee,	$3 00
2d do., T. H. Curtiss of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	1 00

SEED OATS—9 entries.

For the best bushel Seed Oats, M. I. Wheeler of Great Barrington,	$3 00
2d do., Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., W. A. Bunce of Alford,	1 00

SEED RYE—7 entries.

For the best bushel Seed Rye, R. D. Andrews of Sheffield,	$2 00
2d do., J. H. Rowley of Egremont,	1 00

SEED BARLEY—2 entries.

For the best bushel of Seed Barley, James Bullard of Lee,	$2 00
2d do., Dyer Wait of Egremont,	1 00

WINTER WHEAT—2 entries.

For best bushel Winter Wheat, Elihu Church of Alford,	$2 00
2d do., Milton Adams of New Marlboro,	1 00

SPRING WHEAT—1 entry.

For best bushel Spring Wheat, D. U. Manville of Sheffield,	$3 00

GARDEN VEGETABLES—107 entries.

For large variety of Vegetables, David Leavitt, Sen., of Great Barrington,	$3 00
2d do., D. S. Draper of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., J. M. Fuary of West Stockbridge,	1 00
4th do., M. S. Whitlock of Great Barrington,	1 00
For largest variety of Potatoes, H. S. Goodale of Mount Washington,	2 00
2d do., J. Trask, Jr., of Stockbridge,	1 00
For best Sweet Potatoes, C. H. Fuary West Stockbridge,	1 00
For best Winter Squash, H. G. Leonard of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best Onions, E. M. Winchell of Alford,	1 00
2d do., H. C. Warner of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best Pumpkins, W. S. Wilcox of Sheffield,	1 00
For best Beets, S. Spencer of West Stockbridge,	1 00
For best variety of Peppers, M. S. Heath of Stockbridge,	1 00
For best Sweet Corn, T. S. Heath of Stockbridge,	1 00
For best Turnips, Orren Millard of Becket,	1 00
For best Tomatoes, Mrs. L. J. Wright of Egremont,	1 00
For best Citrons, J. E. Hollenbeck of North Egremont,	1 00
For best Watermelon, Ralph Little of Sheffield,	1 00
For best Pop Corn, Dwight Boardman of Sheffield,	1 00

WARD LEWIS,
J. B. HULL,
W. P. KILBORN, } Committee.

HOUSEHOLD MANUFACTURES.

FIRST DIVISION—29 entries.

The committee report that the exhibition in this department, though good and creditable to the competitors, was not as large as in some former years. This is to be regretted at this time, when the idea of woman's rights becoming more popularized in theory, and some *mean* souled *anti* may say: "Why here where the 'fair sex,' are duly licensed by the Housatonic Agricultural Society to exercise and to assert their prerogative in the use of the spinning wheel and hand loom, they have only brought forth for the gaze of the thousands, two pieces of white flannel, and one of sheeting." Twelve pieces of rag carpeting were displayed, fully equal, if not superior in quality to any shown in former exhibitions. The committee award as follows:

For best piece of White Flannel, Mrs. Guy Day of Great Barrington,	$5 00
2d do., Mrs. Dyer Wait of Egremont,	4 00
For best piece of Cotton and Wool Sheeting, Mrs. Ira T. Lowrey of Egremont,	4 00
For best piece of Checked Flannel, Mrs. G. L. Turner of Great Barrington,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. E. R. Smith of New Marlboro,	2 00
For best piece of Rag Carpeting, Mrs. Levi Baldwin of Great Barrington,	5 00
2d do., Mrs. L. Boardman of Sheffield,	4 00
3d do., Mrs. Jane Eno of Montrey,	3 00
4th do., Mrs. C. Dewey of Lenox,	2 00
5th do., Mrs. S. H. Baker of Lenox,	1 00

Discretionary premiums for Rag Carpeting, as follows :—

Mrs. Henry Sardam of New Marlboro,	$1 00
Mrs. O. Millard of Becket,	1 00
Mrs, A. M. Smith of Egremont,	1 00
Mrs. George Kellogg of Sheffield,	1 00
Mrs. Charles Watson of Great Barrington,	1 00
Mrs. L. M. Mastin of West Stockbridge,	1 00
Mrs. Jerry Clark of Sheffield,	1 00
For best Afghan, Miss Nellie Boardman of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Miss A. J. Russell of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. H. Callender of Sheffield,	1 00
4th do., Mrs. George Clark of Great Barrington,	1 00
For a nice Robe Peter Decker of Egremont,	1 00
For best pair of Horse Blankets, Mrs. H. W. Smith of Alford,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. H. W. Burget of Egremont,	2 00
For best Hearth Rug, Mrs. Egbert Couch of Great Barrington,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. Allen Palmer of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. William Pixley of Great Barrington,	1 00

J. H. Rowley,
Mrs. E. E. Callender,
Mrs. S. M. Cooper,
Mrs M. Cooper,
Mrs. — Cock,
} Committee.

SECOND DIVISION—49 ENTRIES.

The committee award premiums as follows :—

For the best Bed Spread, Mrs. S. M. Tobey of Alford,	$4 00
2d do., Mrs. Mary Benedict of West Stockbridge,	3 00
3d do., Mrs. L. M. Cooper of Stockbridge,	2 00
4th do., Mrs. Harry Rhoades of Great Barrington,	1 00
5th do., Miss Lottie Dresser of Great Barrington,	1 00
6th do., Miss G. N. Smith of Stockbridge,	1 00
7th do., Mrs. Lottie Burgett of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best Patch Work Quilt, Miss C. Newman of New Marlboro,	6 00
2d do., Mrs. Betsy Sperry of Alford,	5 00
3d do., Mrs. William Belcher of Sheffield,	4 00
4th do., Mrs. Harry Winchell of Egremont,	3 00
5th do., Mrs. J. W. Barry of Great Barrington,	2 00
6th do., Mrs. E. Buck of Stockbridge,	1 00
7th do., Mrs. Milton Adams of New Marlboro,	1 00
8th do., Mrs. F. W. Skiff of Sheffield,	1 00
9th do., Miss Katie Nichols of Richmond,	1 00
10th do., Miss Florence Bangs of Lenox,	1 00
11th do., Mrs. Guy Day of Great Barrington,	1 00
12th do., Mrs. Mary Dalzell of Egremont,	1 00
13th do., Mrs. George Taylor of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best silk Patchwork Quilt, Miss E. Catlin of Pittsfield,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. T. Edgar of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Miss L. M. Catlin of Pittsfield,	1 00
For best three pounds Woolen Yarn, Mrs. Jerry I. Clark of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. Guy Day of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. E. R. Joyner of Egremont,	1 00
4th do., Mrs. H. Codding of Lee,	1 00
5th do., Mrs. William Clark of Sheffield,	1 00
For best three pairs Linen Hose, Mrs. Guy Day of Great Barrington,	2 00
2d do., Mrs. L. A. Stillman of Egremont,	1 00
3d do., Mrs. E. L. Bentley of Monterey,	1 00

For best three pairs Woolen Hose, Miss L. N. Millard of Becket,	$3 00
2d do., Mrs. E. Codding of Egremont,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. Orrin Millard of Becket,	1 00
4th do., Mrs. William Stevens of Sheffield,	1 00
For best three pairs Woolen Mittens, Mary Sardam of New Marlboro,	2 00
2d do., Mrs. Abigail Andrews of Sheffield,	1 00
3d do., Mrs. G. L. Turner of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best three pounds Linen Thread, Hannah Valk of Egremont,	2 00
Patchwork, Miss Lizzie Nichols of Richmond,	1 00
2d do., Miss Lillie Wilcox of Lee,	1 00
Patch Quilt, Hattie Cone of Lee,	1 00

RALPH LITTLE, Chairman.

PAINTING AND FANCY WORK—85 ENTRIES.

The duties of your Committee in this department involved an unusual amount of labor—partly unadvoidable, from the gratifying number and variety of articles entered, and partly quite unnecessary, arising from the fact that many articles were entered in this department which properly came under the notice of other committees. Another inconvenience was found in the fact that the tickets bearing the number of the entry were in some cases, by an almost unavoidable error, attached to the wrong articles, leading to trouble and possibly to error. In order to avoid these disadvantages in future, your committee would strongly advise that greater care be taken in the classification of entries, so that bead cushions and feather hats (for example) shall not be placed in the same class with paintings and other works of art, and further that each ticket issued bear on its face the name or character of the article, so that exhibitors who enter several articles may know which ticket belongs to each.

Asking the indulgence of the society and of exhibitors, for these reasons, and also on account of the difficulty of judging with perfect fairness in matters of taste, like those submitted to their examination, the committee respectfully recommend that premiums be awarded as follows :—

For best specimen Oil Painting, Miss M. A. Loop of Great Barrington,	$5 00
2d do., Mrs. C. A. Willis of Stockbridge,	3 00
For best Water color Painting Mrs. C. A. Willis of Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., Miss Martha Roys of Sheffield,	3 00
3d do., Mrs. F. C. Richardson of New Marlboro,	3 00
4th do., Miss Ella Bacon of Great Barrington,	2 00
5th do., Mrs. L. M. Battershaw of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best Crayon Drawing, Miss Lizzie H. Brewer of Stockbridge,	3 00
2d do., Miss A. L. Pixley of Great Barrington,	2 00
For best Pencil Drawing, Miss Jennie Burr of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Carrie E. Pixley of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Miss Estella Winchell of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best Wax Flowers, Miss Georgie Race of Great Barrington,	3 00
For best Wax Leaves, Mrs. W. H. Brown of Pittsfield,	2 00
For best Hair Work, Mrs. J. M. Fuarey of West Stockbridge,	3 00
For best Feather Flowers, Mrs. J. Walker of Stockbridge,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. R. D. Andrews of Sheffield,	2 00
For best Cone Work, Mrs. J. Tymerson of Great Barrington,	2 00
For best Photographs, Julius S. Hall of Stockbridge,	5 00
For best Worsted Flowers, Mrs. J. Tymerson of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., Mrs. William Makeley of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., Mrs. S. Luchsinger of Great Barrington,	2 00
4th do., Mrs. O. S. Packard of Lee,	1 00
5th do., Mrs. E. C. Hulbert of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best Carved Work, Rev. E. Scudder of Great Barrington,	2 00
For best Mechanical Picture, B. Almonte of Great Barrington,	2 00
For best Crystal Work, Mrs. William Clark of Sheffield,	1 00
For Air Castle, Miss Lottie P. Callender of New Marlboro,	1 00

Mention should also be made of the curious engraving (copied from a drawing or writing of a Yankee prisoner during the war) consisting of the Emancipation Proclamation so written and arranged as to form a very distinct portrait of President Lincoln.

M. S. Bidwell, Jr.,
Mrs. Edwin L. Boardman,
Miss C. S. Gilbert,
} Committee.

EMBROIDERY—85 ENTRIES.

The department entitled Embroidery committed to us for the awarding of premiums, aside from embroidery comprise many classes of specimens such as Needlework, Crochet, Tatting, Bead, Net and Knit work, requiring for examination a duty somewhat onerous, justifying we think, two committees instead of one ; the whole number of specimens being eighty-five. We suggest also, that some improvement as to show-cases and method of exhibition might probably be made.

The art of Embroidery should be encouraged. If it be not one of the fine arts, it is closely kindred thereto. All above and around us, are the grand displays of Nature's embroidery exhibited in the spangled skies, and upon the surface of the globe in the various seasons of the year. Of all these displays, whatever is picturesque, beautiful, or grand, by the skill of the embroiderer may be imitated. Progress in the art tends to promote refinement, good taste and ennobling culture. By its more splended specimens we add to the grandeur of the palace, by its humbler efforts we contribute to the charm and the cheer of the cottage. It has a moral as well as a pleasing worth ; surely it should be encouraged.

The history of embroidery is interesting—it is of two kinds : one is done with the needle and fine threads upon some delicate fabric for ladies dresses; the other is upon firmer stuffs with threads of various colors, often with gold and precious stones interwoven, for hangings, curtains, tents and other purposes. Among the wandering tribes of the East their tents are often thus richly adorned. At a very early period the art was practiced, as sacred and profane writers show.

The instructions to the Hebrews as given in the 26th chapter of Exodus in regard to the curtains of the tabernacle, furnish beautiful evidence of the Hebrew knowledge of embroidery—"thou shalt make the tabernacle with ten curtains of fine twined linen, and blue and purple, and scarlet ; with Cherubims of cunning work shalt thou make them." And these instructions were given nearly fifteen centuries before the Christian Era. Certainly the embroiderer can boast of the antiquity of the art. A late king of Persia is said to have had a tent which cost $10,000,000. It was embroidered with burnished gold, studded with precious stones and diamonds, interpersed with rubies and emeralds, set with rows of pearls ; and there were shown thereon specimens of every created thing, birds and trees, and towns, cities, seas and continents, beasts and reptiles." Such is the glorious description we have furnished to us of a royal Persian embroidered tent ! Egypt and Babylon, in fact the Asiatic nations generally, were celebrated

long ago for their rich and beautiful embroidery. The Chinese always were distinguished for the neatness and beauty of their work in this art. The finest specimens of embroidery exhibited at the great exhibition of 1851, were from Turkey.

In France and Germany, in modern times, the art has been cultivated with great success. By the women of America as well as of Europe, embroidery upon canvas with brilliantly dyed wools of Germany is greatly practiced, and it is said that the "variety and delicate shadings of their colors furnish every tint which can be required for the most beautiful objects in nature."

With the specimens before the committee we were much gratified. They prove that our Berkshire ladies have taste and ingenuity in the "cunning work." May they proceed in their efforts. Such specimens with those of needle and other work submitted to us, constitute, as it were, the poetry of our Agricultural Fairs. They aid in great measure to form the pride and ornament of the occasion.

We respectfully submit the annexed list as awarded :

For best Needle Work, Mrs. W. W. Langdon of Monterey,	$5 00
2d do., Mrs. M. Winchell of Great Barrington,	4 00
3d do., Miss Rachel Field of Great Barrington,	3 00
4th do., Miss Mary Landon of Falls Village, Ct.	2 00
For best Embroidery, Miss A. J. Russell of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., Miss Nellie Boardman of Sheffield,	3 00
3d do., Mrs. M. E. Tobey of Great Barrington,	2 00
4th do., Mrs. Ella Wilcox of Lee,	4 00
5th do., Mrs. E. A. Burtch of Sheffield,	3 00
6th do., Mrs. Annie Turner of Sheffield,	1 00
For best Crochet Work, Mrs. Walter Miner of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., J. C. Lowrey of Egremont,	3 00
3d do., Mrs. Mary A. Benedict of West Stockbridge,	2 00
4th do., Miss Sarah T. Sheldon of Egremont,	1 00
For best Tatting, Miss M. H. Werden of Richmond,	3 00
2d do., Miss Emily Leffingwell of New Marlboro,	2 00
3d do., Sarah Wallace of Lee,	1 00
For best Knit Work, Miss E. W. Sheldon of Egremont,	4 00
For best Net Work, Miss Mary G. Stevenson of Sheffield.	3 00
2d do., Miss E. M. Pixley of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. J. M. Fuary of West Stockbridge,	1 00
For best Bead Work, Mrs. J. Warner of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Julia Ramsey of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., Miss O. S. Packard of Lee,	1 00

And the following discretionary premiums :

Mrs. C. Hitchcock of Monterey,	$1 00
Miss Jennie Hathaway of Pittsfield,	50
Miss Lillie Catlin of Pittsfield,	50
Miss Ella Benedict of Pittsfield,	1 00
Mrs. Phila Gorham (aged lady) of Great Barrington,	1 00
Miss Jennie H. Buck of Stockridge,	1 00
Miss Julia E. Reed of Great Barrington,	1 00
Mrs. H. Taylor of Great Barrington,	1 00
Mrs. James Dunn of Great Barrington,	1 00
Doctor N. B. Picket of Great Barrington,	1 00
Mrs. H. Callender of Sheffield,	1 00

I. Sumner, Chairman.

BUTTER—42 ENTRIES.

The Committee on Butter, have examined the forty-two samples presented, and award as follows :—

For best 20 pounds Butter, Mrs. D. C. Millard of Egremont,	$8 00
2d do., Mrs. Egbert Couch of Great Barrington,	7 00

3d do., J. M. Mackie of Great Barrington,	$6 00
4th do., Mrs. E. R. Joyner of Egremont,	5 00
5th do., Mrs. L. J. Wright of Egremont,	4 00
6th do., Mrs. E. D. Martin of New Marlborough,	3 00
7th do., Mrs. J. Curtis, of New Marlborough,	2 00
8th do., Mrs. Langdon Hulet of Sheffield,	1 00

S. B. Dewey,
S. W. Wright, } Committee.
E. E. Barnes,

CHEESE—17 ENTRIES.

In discharging the duties assigned us, your Committee have examined, with great care, the large number of specimens of Cheese entered for premiums, and were pleased with the general excellence of all presented, and think our farmers wives have full equalled, if not excelled the best factory-made. In awarding the premiums, your committee have come to the following decisions .—

Best 25 pounds Cheese, C. D. Langdon of Monterey,	$8 00
2d do., Mrs. L. B. Kline of Egremont,	7 00
3d do., Mrs. O. Millard of Becket,	6 00
4th do., William Stevens of Sheffield,	5 00
5th do., H. W. Canfield of Sheffield,	4 00
6th do., W. W. Langdon of Monterey,	3 00
7th do,, Mrs. H. W. Smith of Alford,	2 00
8th do., Salmon Hall of New Marlboro,	1 00

John F. Tobey, Chairman.

BRAED, HONEY AND MAPLE SYRUP.

WHITE BREAD—29 ENTRIES.

For best White Bread, Mrs. Egbert Couch of Great Barrington,	$3 00
2d do., Mrs. L. K. Kline of Egremont,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. Hopkins T. Cande of Sheffield,	1 00

RYE BREAD—6 ENTRIES.

For best Rye Bread, C. L. Collins of Great Barrington.	$3 00
2d do., Mrs C. S. Joyner of Egremont,	2 00
3d do., Miss E. A. Kilburn of Great Barrington,	1 00

BROWN BREAD—5 ENTRIES.

For best Brown Bread, Mrs. M. S. Heath of Stockbridge,	$3 00
2d do., Mrs. Orren Millard of Becket,	2 00
3d do., L. J. Wright of Egremont,	1 00

BISCUIT—19 ENTRIES.

For best Biscuit, Miss Mary R. Couch of Great Barrington,	$2 00
2d do., Miss Nellie Joyner of Egremont,	1 00

MAPLE SYRUP—5 ENTRIES.

For best Maple Syrup, E. B. Garfield of Monterey,	$3 00
2d do., do., W. W. Langdon of Monterey,	2 00
3d do., Langdon Hulet of Sheffield,	1 00

BOX-HONEY—5 ENTRIES.

For best Box Honey, Alonzo Bradley of Lee,	$3 00
2d do., Lewis Emmons of New Marlboro,'	2 00
3d Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	1 00

[Note.—One box of Honey exhibited by Edwin Humphrey, but not entered for premium, was well worthy of especial notice.]

The entries of Bread was unusually large, and your Committee had no little difficulty in making just and proper selections from the numerous and choice samples offered. Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD MANVILLE,
MRS. COL. GEORGE CHURCH,
MRS. F. T. WHITING,
} Committee.

FLOWERS—21 ENTRIES.

The Committee on Flowers having attended to their duty, respectfully submit the following report. The number of entries in this department this year, was twenty-one, besides one bouquet presented for exhibition only by Mrs. Alexander Hyde. The twenty bouquets of cut flowers entered for a premium were all good, and some of them were excellent. As a whole they were superior to anything ever exhibited at our fairs, and your committee regretted that they did not have $100, instead of $35, to reward the exhibitors for the great labor they must have expended in cultivating the flowers, and the taste displayed in their arrangement. We are aware that the amount of our premiums is no compensation for even the time and trouble spent in the arrangement of the flowers and bringing them for exhibition, but the competitors will please take the balance due them in honor, and in the satisfaction they must have themselves felt in their floral labors, and also in the consciousness that they have contributed to the happiness of the multitude who gazed upon their bouquets with so much pleasure. Your committee are aware that some of the competitors have conservatories and other facilities for raising flowers, which others have not, and the question was raised whether a classification should not be made of the bouquets presented, but most of them were composed of a mixture of green-house and hardy flowers, and it was finally decided not to consider anything but the quality and quantity of the flowers, and the taste manifest in their arrangement.

The questions have been asked, "What have flowers to do with agriculture, and what propriety is there in an agricultural society offering a premium for their exhibition? Before naming our award, we desire briefly to answer these questions. In the first place, flowers grow on all our farms whether we cultivate them specially or not. Every plant produces seed "after its kind," and flowers are the necessary precursors of the seed. Some few of the plants, as the ferns, mushroons, etc., are cryptogamous, that is the stamens and pistils of the flowers are not misille, but still have what answers the purpose of flowers. The trees and the shrubs, the grains and the grasses, the fruits and the vegetables are adorned with flowers with as much uniformity as those plants which we are wont to call flowering. So the farmer cultivates flowers whether he will or not, and the only question is whether he will notice them and take pleasure in them, or pass them by unheeded. Few are so senseless as not to notice the beauty of an apple tree when in full bloom, or the velvety carpet with which the surface of the earth is covered, having green for its foundation color, but variegated with all the hues which flowers are capable of furnishing. The great Creator, who is also the great Husbandman, might

have made the earth without any adornment. He might have made apples and chestnuts to grow without the beautiful flowers which herald their growth, but in His infinite wisdom and benevolence, He beautified the earth with flowers, and the man who questions the expediency of their culture, questions also the wisdom of the great fruit cause.

It has always seemed to us a sufficient answer to the cavilers against flowers, to say that God made them, and His works are all good. In imitating the Great Husbandman we shall not be far astray from the right path. But there are good reasons for God's creation of the flowers, and good reasons for man's cultivation of them. They serve purposes in the economy of nature which are as essential as the fruits, grains, and vegetables. The latter gratify the sense of taste, and entering the stomach sustain our physical system; the former gratify the sense of sight, and also purify the air upon which man lives more constantly than he does upon food. Flowers not only gratify the sense of sight, a higher sense, by the way, than that of taste, but also the sense of smell. The inferior animals may feed upon and tread upon the flowers, and derive no pleasure from their exquisite coloring and fragrance; but man was made capable of higher enjoyments, and he degrades his nature where he lives mainly for the gratification of his lower senses.

This leads us to say that flowers are emblems of moral beauty and purity, and it is chiefly because of their effect on the higher life that we recommend their cultivation. A wicked man may be an ardent admirer and cultivator of flowers, but they must exert some influence upon him, and there is no knowing how much more wicked he might have been, had it not been for his love of floral beauty. Flowers and wickedness are certainly incongruous. When Satan presented his temptation to Mother Eve, he did it in the form of fruit. He knew too much to tempt her with flowers. Whenever we see a home adorned with flowering shrubs, and a little patch here and there devoted to verbenas and pansies, we expect to find more or less intelligence, refinement, and purity in the household. The contemplation of the skill manifest in the arrangement of the stamens, pistils and petals, in the functions which the small parts perform, and in the coloring which so far transcends the aid of man, must lead the mind to thoughts of Him who made all things. If "an undevout astronomer is mad," much more is an undevout florist. The stars are far away, but the flowers come right home to the senses, and under the microscope reveal a perfection of beauty and arrangement unappreciable by the naked eye.

If a farmer wishes to expel his sons from the pursuits of agriculture, he only has to neglect all esthetic culture, pay no attention to the flowers which grow in spite of his neglect, depise all the embellishments which cost little, but add so much to the comfort of home, and we will warrant the sons will choose some other pursuit in which their tastes can be gratified. God made the world beautiful with flowers, why should we not make our homes beautful in the same manner. God made us capable of securing much pleasure from flowers, why should we not cultivate this capacity?

We rejoice, therefore, that our agricultural societies are encouraging increased attention to the flower garden. These gardens will make the homes

of the farmers more attractive, and whatever tends to make a pleasant home is worthy of encouragement. The ladies who have spent so much time to add to the attractiveness of our exhibition, deserve our thanks, and in behalf of the Housatonic Society, we desire to express our grateful acknowledgments.

For the encouragement of those who may think the cultivation of flowers requires much time and expense, we desire to say that beds of perpetual bloom can be made without any appreciable labor. It is not necessary that mounds should be erected, or elaborate beds be formed One of the most simple and tasteful modes of floriculture, is to insert the sods in the lawn, here and there, in little circles of three or four feet in diameter, and in one of these plant a few verbenas, in another some petunias, in another some coleus, and in another some portulaca, etc., planting only one kind in a place. A half-dozen such little flower beds will add much charm to a rural home, and furnish bouquets to adorn the centre table for the whole season. A few plants put in the window in the autumn, will cheat winter of its gloom., and form a nucleus for the out-door beds of the subsequent summer. Hoping another year to see a still better display, and to have more money at our disposal, we award as follows :—

For Bouquet, D. S. Draper of Great Barrington,	$4 00
do., Mrs. J. M. Mackie of Great Barrington,	3 00
do., Mrs. Zacheus Cande of Shefficld,	3 00
do., Mrs. Silas S. Dewey of Alford,	2 00
do., Mrs. E. M. Winchell of Alford,	2 00
do Mrs. L. J. Wright of Egremont,	2 00
do., David Leavitt of Great Barrington,	2 00
do., Mrs. R. Dwight Andrews of Sheffield,	2 00
do., Mrs. E. C. Ticknor of Alford,	2 00
do., Henry T. Robbins of Great Barrington,	2 00
For fine display of Roses, Miss M. J. Manning of Stockbridge,	1 00
For two Winter Bouquets, Miss M. J. Manning of Stockbridge,	1 00
For six small Bouquets, Miss M. J. Manning of Stockbridge,	1 00
For Bouquet, Miss A. L. Pixley of Great Barrington,	1 00
do., Miss Ella Thomas of Sheffield,	1 00
da., Miss Maria Thomas of Sheffield,	1 00
do., Mrs Henry S. Goodale of Mount Washington,	1 00
For Winter Bouquet, Miss E. H. Tuttle of Sheffield,	1 00
For a beautiful Geranium, Charles A. Craig of Great Barrington,	1 00
For Bouquet, Mrs Richard Clark of Great Barrington,	1 00
do., George W. Bennett of Great Barrington,	1 00

Respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER HYDE,
ISAAC H. RICE,
CHARLES E. HEATH,
} Committee.

FRUITS—1st DIVISION.

APPLES AND PEARS—56 entries.

This Committee had a peculiar and an unusually difficult task to perform. The varieties of specimens were distributed through a long range of show cases, some contributors conformed to the rules of the society, but the large majority not. Especially the time of ripening and names of varieties were both omitted, rendering it impossible to award premiums in accordance with the printed instructions, also in comprising the entries of the first and second divisions of Fruit upon the books provided, there was great discrepancy, but upon consultation, the committee upon the first division unani-

mously decided upon the following awards. There was certainly never a finer exhibition of this class of productions, and, although two more were added to the committee, by the request of those first appointed, they feel that the time allotted was altogether too short to do justice to each who took the pains and pride to add to the interest of this years exhibition.

For best specimen of Winter Apples, Ralph Little of Sheffield,	$6 00
2d do., Horace Cande of Sheffield,	5 00
3d do Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	4 00
4th do., Samuel Goodrich of Stockbridge,	3 00
5th do., H. T. Candee of Sheffield,	2 00
For best specimen of Fall Apples, Samuel Goodrich of Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., H. Z. Candee of Sheffield,	3 00
3d do., Phinias Pettis of New Marlboro',	2 00
4th do., L. G. Ramsey of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best variety of all kinds of Fruit, Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	10 00
2d do., Zacheus Cande of Sheffield,	8 00
For best varieties of Pears, not less than five, Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	6 00
2d do., Phinias Pettis of New Marlboro,	5 00
3d do., Ralph Little of Sheffield,	4 00
4th do., Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	2 00
For best single variety of Pears, Theodore Fenn of Stockbridge,	3 00
2d do., Henry Werden of Richmond,	2 00
3d do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	1 00
For three varieties of Pears, Samuel Goodrich of Stockbridge,	5 00

H. D. Train,
Calvin Rood.
H. D. Garfield,
B. W. Pattison,
} Committee.

FRUITS—2d DIVISION.

PEACHES, PLUMS, QUINCES, GRAPES, ETC.,—54 entries.

Owing to the very imperfect records made of the specimens that were entered, the Committee are unable to report the number of entries. The following premiums are awarded :

For best specimens of Peaches, Langdon Hulet of Sheffield,	$3 00
2d do., Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Samuel Sanford of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best specimens of Plums, R. A. Potts of Egremont,	2 00
2d do., H. T. Potts of Egremont,	1 00
For best specimen of Quinces, Levi Boardman of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Dr. J. L. Miller of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., James Roraback of Sheffield,	1 00
For best specimens of Grapes raised in open air, Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	5 00
2d do., Phineas Pettis of New Marlboro,	4 00
3d do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	3 00
4th do., Z. Cande of Sheffield,	2 00
5th do., H. Werden of Richmond,	1 00
For best specimens of Grapes raised under glass, David Leavitt of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., D. S. Hunter of Stockbridge,	3 00
3d do., J. M. Mackie of Great Barrington,	2 00
For best specimen of Grape Wine, Ralph Little of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. E. Shears of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. W. Burget of Egremont,	1 00
For best specimen of Native Wine, Mrs. Willis Bartholomew of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Miss Belle Plansit of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Miss H. L. Rowe of Egremont,	1 00
4th do., L. Emmons of New Marlboro,	1 00
For best specimen of Dried Fruit, J. N. Warner of Sheffield,	3 00
2d do., Mrs. L. J. Wright of Egremont,	2 00
3d do., Miss Martha J. Snyder of Great Barrington,	1 00

For best specimen Canned Fruit, Mrs. F. Curtis of Sheffield,	$3 00
2d do., Mrs. L. Hulet of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., Mrs. Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	1 00
For best specimen of Cranberries, John Cook of Lenox,	1 00

ALONZO BRADLEY,
WILLIAM O. CURTIS, } Committee.
EVARTS SCUDDER,

MECHANICAL PRODUCTIONS—20 ENTRIES.

The exhibition in this department was meager and unsatisfactory. There were but twenty entries where there should have been one hundred, and all but three of them for miscellaneous articles for which the Society offer no premiums. The yearly growing poverty in this department is remarkable and is especially recommended to the society's consideration. It is not believed by your committee that the inventive and executive ability of the Yankee mind and hand is less, but that your inducements for the exhibition should be more. We award the following premiums :

For best Pleasure Harness, W. F. Gale of West Stockbridge,	$4 00
For best specimen of Leather, S. A. Turner of New Marlboro,	$3 00
2d do., Berkshire Woolen Company of Great Barrington,	2 00
For Ax Helves, Chester Spaulding of Sheffield,	1 00
2d do., Joel E. Dealand of Sandisfield,	1 00
For Whips and Lashes, William R. Baldwin of New Marlboro',	2 00
For Ox Yoke, D. Boardman of Sheffield,	1 00
For Churn, Daniel Warner of Great Barrington,	1 00
For Patent Ash Droper, S. S. Dewey of Alford,	1 00
For Wagon Jack, E. R. Baldwin of New Marlboro,	1 00
Cross-cut Saw, I. J. Lowrey of Egremont,	1 00
For Compensation Balance, an arrangement for counteracting the effects of heat and cold in watches, something indispensable to all correct time keepers, T. S. Heath, Stockbridge,	2 00

R. N. COUCH,
C. C. FRENCH, } Committee.
MARCELLUS CHAPIN,

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS—20 ENTRIES.

The Committee upon Agricultural Implements would respectfully report that they have not found as large an exhibition of such Implements as agriculturists use, as upon many former occasions at our exhibitions, unless it be mowing machines, and with them, a committee of farmers, as they are usually made up, almost universally have used certain machines upon their own lands, and are very apt to favor those machines they are the best acquainted with. Your Chairman was sorry there was not among the mowers some that use the cutting bar upon a line with the axle, like the Granite State, American Mower, which as it seems to him, is a principle not to be lost sight of in our country where so many of our farms are uneven and rough. A mower adapting itself the best to uneven surfaces, and possessing also strength and durability of construction, must, under all ordinary circumstances, sooner or later receive the approval of most of our intelligent farmers. Your Chairman has always used a mower upon his farm with the cutting bar forward of the driving wheels, with the exception of one season, and is using such an one now, so that the competitors of this exhibition cannot reasonably judge him interested in any one of the mowers upon exhibition to-day, or upon the other principle I have mentioned,

only as we all of us are looking forward to perfection in these useful implements. We award upon Mowers :—

Clipper Machine, J. L. Milligan of Alford,	$10 00
Young Warrior, T. H. Curtiss of Great Barrington,	5 00
Excelsior Hay Tedder, (one entry,) Wheeler, Melick & Co.,	6 00
Hay Rake, Wheeler, Mulick & Co.,	5 00
Swivel Plow, D. Boardman of Sheffield,	4 00
Eagle Plow, H. N. Burghardt of Egremont,	4 00
Pulverizing Harrow, C. French of Sheffield,	4 00
Hand Power Threshers, D. D. Kendall of Lenox,	4 00
Corn Sheller, C. C. French of West Stockbridge,	8 00
Seed Sower, D. Boardman of Sheffield,	8 00
Patent Force Pump, J. H. Adams, of Great Barrington,	8 00
We would award a premium upon the Champion Mower, as showing some valuable improvements in mowers, to E. M. Creem & Co., of Chatham, N. Y.,	4 00

Respectfully submitted,

T. D. Thatcher,
D. Andrews,
H. S. Goodale. } Committee.

ANIMALS.

FIRST DIVISION—10 ENTRIES.

The Committee on fat and working Oxen have attended to the duties assigned to them and report as follows : There were only 3 entries of fat oxen, and 8 entries working oxen, all very good and worthy of premiums. Your Committee after a careful examination have awarded as follows :—

For best yoke of Fat Oxen, L. S. Butler of Lenox,	$10 00
2d do., Jared Lewis of Great Barrington.	8 00
For best yoke of Working Oxen, Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	10 00
2d do., Frederick Abbey of Great Barrington,	8 00
3d do., J. L. Miller of Sheffield,	6 00
4th do., F. B. Willcox of Sheffield,	5 00
5th do., Josiah Trask of Stockbridge,	4 00

Wilber C. Langdon,
F. K. Hinckley,
Frederick Fitch, } Committee.

SECOND DIVISION—7 ENTRIES

The Committee on second division of animals, three and four year old Steers, award premiums as follows :

For best pair four-year-old Oxen, Zacheus Cande of Sheffield,	$8 00
2d do., Charles A. Dewey of Lenox,	7 00
3d do., Cornelius Williams of Egremont.	6 00
For best three-year-old Steers, Miles Avery of Great Barrington.	7 00
2d do., W. P. Palmer of Stockbridge,	6 00
3d do., Elisha Collins of Great Barrington,	5 00
4th do., Josiah Trask of Stockbridge,	4 00

J. W. Parks,
J. R. Lawton, Jr., } Committee.
Mark Hollenbeck,

THIRD DIVISION—19 ENTRIES.

The Committee on the third division of animals, make the following awards.

For best two-year-old Steers, F. K. Hinckley of Lee.	$5 00
2d do., L. S. Butler of Lenox,	4 00
3d do., T. H. Curtiss of Great Barrington,	3 00
4th do., John Cooper of Stockbridge,	2 00

For best yearling Steers, Frederick Abbey of Great Barrington,	$4 00
2d do., Charles A. Dewey of Lenox,	3 00
3d do., Isaac Harmon of Monterey,	2 00
For best yearling Heifer, W. H. Parks of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., A. C. Butler of Lenox,	3 00

ZACHEUS CANDEE,
T. D. THATCHER,
E. L. TOBEY,
} Committee.

FOURTH DIVISION—18 ENTRIES.

Your Committee respectfully submit the following awards :

For best Milch Cow, J. M. Cooper of Stockbridge,	$9 00
2d do., George Kellogg of Sheffield,	8 00
3d do., Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	7 00
4th do., E. C. Ticknor of Alford,	6 00
5th do., J. F. Sanford of Great Barrington,	5 00
6th do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge,	4 00
7th do., S. O. Dewey of Great Barrington,	3 00
8th do., Erastus Warner of Great Barrington,	2 00
9th do., L. S. Butler of Lenox,	1 00
For best Fat Cow, Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., Miles Avery of Great Barrington,	3 00

We recommend a premium of $2 to W. H. Day, for a very fat cow, to which we could make no award as we were limited to two premiums.

HENRY W. SMITH,
NATHAN B. CURTISS,
JAMES A. KLINE.
} Committee.

FIFTH DIVISION—18 ENTRIES.

The Committee on the first division of domestic animals have attended to their duty and make the following awards :

For best two-year-old Heifer having had a Calf, David Haley of Great Barrington,	$6 00
2d do., John Cooper of Stockbridge,	5 00
3d do., W. H. Parks of Great Barrington,	4 00
4th do., George Kellogg of Sheffield,	3 00
5th do., M. G. Hall of Great Barrington,	2 00

Your Committee recommend the following extra premiums :

F. B. Wilcox of Sheffield,	1 00
Leonard Tuttle of Sheffield,	1 00
A. C. Butler of Lenox,	1 00
Dwight Andrews of Sheffield,	1 00
For best Bull Calf, F. Abbey of Great Barrington,	4 00
2d do., F. K. Hinkley of Lee,	3 00
3d do., Stephen Baldwin of Egremont,	2 00
For best Heifer Calf, John G. Miner of Monterey,	3 00
2d do., John H. Coffing of Great Barrington,	2 00
3d do., W. I. Walker of Great Barrington,	1 00

H. S. UNDERWOOD,
DANIEL D. KENDALL,
GUY DAY,
} Committee.

SIXTH DIVISION—15 ENTRIES.

For best three Stock and Dairy Cows, Frederick Abbey of Great Barrington,	$8 00
2d do., Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	6 00
For best Stock Cow and Progeny, Jared Lewis of Great Barrington,	6 00
2d do., Zacheus Cande of Sheffield,	5 00
3d do., F. K. Hinckley of Lee,	4 00
4th do., S. M. Cooper of Stockbridge,	3 00
5th do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge,	2 00
There being but two entries of Stock Cows the committee recommend an extra premium on Stock Cows to Orren Curtiss of Sheffield,	2 00
A. C. Butler of Lenox,	2 00

L. W. HYDE,
H. A. TOBEY,
T. L. FOOTE,
} Committee.

SEVENTH DIVISION—12 ENTRIES.

For best two-year-old Heifer, F. B. Willcox of Sheffield,	$4 00
2d do., S. M. Cooper of Stockbridge,	3 00
3d do., S. Nodine of Great Barrington,	2 00
For best Durham Bull, Zacheus Cande of Sheffield,	$10 00
2d do., E. N. Hubbard of Great Barrington,	7 00
3d do., Frederick Abbey of Great Barrington,	5 00
For best Ayrshire Bull, Theron L. Foote of Lee,	10 00
For best Alderney or Jersey Bull, J. Milton Mackie of Great Barrington,	10 00

MILES AVERY,
WILLIAM STODDARD, } Committee.
GEORGE O. PECK,

EIGHTH DIVISION—4 ENTRIES.

The Committee on the eighth division beg leave to report their were two entries of neat stock both herds high grade Durham. Their fine forms and good points denoted good breeding, both for the shambles and for milk and evinced much credit to breeders. Of blood stock but two herds were shown us, those of Jersey breed, and were with many the favorites, their delicate limbs, intelligent faces and decidedly excellent milking qualities bespeak for them a high place in the public favor, but are they the breed to be encouraged here in Berkshire, where grazing and rearing of stock is the grand staple, cannot our sweet pastures and fertile meadows mature the Durham whose carcass at four years will double in weight, surpass in quality, and by judicious breeding exceed in quantity of milk even almost if not quite enough to make up the lack in quality. Past experience leads us to believe it can, but at the present day every man has his hobby and we may prehaps have ours, and will leave the subject with these suggestions for the public to decide. We cheerfully award as follows:

For best display of Neat Stock, six in number, L. S. Butler of Lenox,	$8 00
2d do., W. S. Wilcox of Sheffield,	6 00
Best Alderny or Jersey, not less than four in number, J. Milton Mackie of Gt Barrington,	8 00
2d do., D. S. Draper of Great Barrington,	6 00

S. M. COOPER,
STEPHEN POWELL, } Committee.
BENJAMIN POWELL,

NINTH DIVISION.

Entries—Boars, 6 ; Sows and Pigs, 5.

For best Boar, Thomas H. Curtiss of Great Barrington,	$5 00
2d do., Dwight Andrews of Sheffield,	4 00
3d do., Charles Spurr of Sheffield,	3 00
4th do., Levi W. Hyde of Egremont,	2 00
For best Sow and Pigs, David Haley of Great Barrington,	6 00
2d do., Edwin N. Hubbard of Great Barrington,	5 00
3d do., Eugene Miller of Egremont,	4 00
4th do., C. H. Dewey of Sheffield,	3 00

WILLIAM S. WILLCOX,
MARK BURGHARDT, } Committee.
ANDREW J. SPURR,

TENTH DIVISION.

Your Committee on Bucks, tenth division, have attended to the duty asigned them and report as follows :

For best Coarse Wool Buck, J. A. Kline of Egremont,	$4 00
2d do., W. H. Palmer of Stockbridge,	3 00

For best Middle Wool Buck, Dyer Wait of Egremont,	4 00
2d do., J. H. Rowley of Egremont,	3 00
3d do., E. Church of Alford,	2 00
For best Fine Wool Buck, C. B. Benedict of West Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., Henry Worden of Richmond,	3 00
3d do., J. Milton Mackie of Great Barrington,	2 00

G. M. Fitch,
James Dewell, } Committee.

ELEVENTH DIVISION.

Entries—Coarse Wool, none ; Middle Wool, 7 ; Fine Wool, 4.

The Committee of the eleventh division of animals—Ewes—award as follows :

For best three Middle Wool Ewes, Guy Day of Great Barrington,	$4 00
2d do., Elisha Collins of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., Dyer Wait of Egremont,	2 00
For best three Fine Wool Ewes, C. B. Benedict of West Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., J. Milton Mackie of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., Guy Day of Great Barrington,	2 00

Thomas H. Curtis,
Samuel Goodrich,
Jarvis N. Collar, } Committee.

TWELFTH DIVISION—10 ENTRIES.

The Committee award as follows :

For the best five Fat Wethers, William S. Willcox of Sheffield,	$4 00
2d do., J. P. Tobey of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., J. H. Rowley of Egremont,	2 00
For best five Fine Wool Lambs, C. B. Benedict of West Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., J. Milton Mackie of Great Barrington,	3 00
3d do., Henry Werden of Richmond,	2 00
For best Middle Wool Lambs, C. L. Wright of Egremont,	4 00
2d do., F. B. Willcox of Sheffield,	3 00

Leonord Tuttle,
Silas S. Dewey,
Grove Gaylord, } Committee.

THIRTEENTH DIVISION.

Entries:—Farm horses, 8; carriage horses, 9; single horses, 12.

For the best pair of Farm Horses, E. Smith of Lee,	$8 00
2d do., Jas. Dewell of West Stockbridge,	7 00
3d do., J. D. Elliott of Egremont,	6 00
4th do., J. E. Field of Stockbridge,	5 00
5th Mark Laird of Great Barrington,	4 00
For the best pair of Carriage Horses, Samuel Camp of Great Barrington,	7 00
2d co., Elizur Smith of Lee,	6 00
3d do., Edmund Crippen of Egremont,	5 00
For the best Single Horse, B. F. Pixley of Great Barrington,	5 00
2d do., H. C. Joyner of Great Barrington,	4 00
3d do., W. J. Mallory of Lee,	3 00

John Winthrop,
Henry Baker,
Jos. A Benjamin, } Committee.

FOURTEENTH DIVISION.

The number of entries in this division was 23, a larger number is seldom seen at one exhibition, and the improvement in the blood and management, if continued for a few years, will show a marked improvement, on that most useful animal, the horse. Your committee have never witnessed as many fine animals, and were at a loss to decide among so many, and were sorry

that we had not premiums at our disposal for all, as they all deserved one. We would recommend a larger number of premiums in future, starting at $10 and running down to $1. The awards are as follows :

For best Colt, William Wright of Mount Washington,	$8 00
2d do., William Leffingwell of New Marlboro,	7 00
3d do., William M. Chapin of Sheffield,	6 00
4th do., Walter Minor of Great Barrington,	5 00
5th do., Myron Allen of New Marlboro,	4 00
6th do., C. L. Wright of Egremont,	3 00
7th do., Walter Crine of New Marlboro,	2 00

WILLIAM O. CURTISS,
ALBERT TICKNOR,
E. R. JOYNER, } Committee.

FIFTEENTH DIVISION—STALLIONS AND COLTS.

This division embraces five classes, viz : Stallions, 3; stud colts, 2; yearling colts, 9; two-year-old colts, 8; three-year-old colts, 11. Your committee had but one hour to examine thirty-three different animals, altogether too short a time for this important division, each one of which had to be examined as to soundness, age, blood, motion, size and build, many of which were fine animals, showing they were bred from good stock, and vigorous constitutions. If two colts are nearly alike, the best bred one will always take the premium. Your committee are selected to encourage merit by discriminating awards, and check folly and humbug by judicious censure A stallion before the public is either a curse or a great benefit to any locality where he happens to be in use, and it takes years to recover from the damaging effects of a *poor stock horse*, consequently we must know beyond question the breeding and blood, for at least, three generations of any stallion on both sides; and last of all his stock must, and will, prove whether he is worth the attention of breeders.

Your committee would urge all owners of *good, well-bred, sound* breeding mares, "as no other can breed a sound colt," the importance of a judicious selection. It would be better to send 25 miles to a well-bred and "proved by his stock," horse, than to lose your time and use of mares in bringing up a colt that is only fit for a fish wagon, if you have the luck to raise him at all. We also believe that a stallion can and should combine qualities so as to produce, not only well developed, good sized carriage and family horses, but have bone and muscle enough to draw the plow or the light road wagon. We trust the day is not far distant when our horses will be improved by a better strain of blood. We are near one of the best markets in the world, where there is a constant demand for good, large, well colored, full tailed horses. If one should show a little speed, we have yet to see the farmer that did not know it was worth something. But your committee would not recommend breeding for speed entirely; but a stallion ; weight not less than 1000 lbs., showing bloodlike courage, head and neck fine, and clean cut, fine skin, good disposition, strong, well muscled, clean limbs, large, strong barrel, powerful, strong back and quarters, good feet, a full long tail, good square trotting action, showing lasting qualities when driven at a high rate of speed ; your committee believe such a horse will produce good farm, carriage, and family horses,

and occasionally a trotter, taking our common breeding mares as a foundation.

Several fine young stallions are owned in this immediate vicinity, who have the blood of Hamiltonian, Long Island, Black Hawk, Jupiter, and Knox coursing their veins, and it remains for the public to decide BY THEIR STOCK whether they are worthy of the illustrious names they have inherited, or whether time and an honest public shall name them worthless.

For the best Stallion, W. J. Mallory of Lee,	$10 00
2d do., Harrison Calkins of Alford,	8 00
3d do., Julius Hall of Stockbrige,	6 00
For the best Stud Colt, G. H. Babcock of Lee.	$5 00
2d do., Samuel Camp of Great Barrington,	4 00
For the best Yearling Colt, E. L. Tobey of Alford,	$3 00
2d do., Geo. T. Miner of Monterey,	2 00
3d do., Henry Dresser of Stockbridge,	1 00
For the best two-years old Colt, Andrew Buck of Stockbridge,	$4 00
2d do., A. J. Palmer of Alford,	3 00
3d do., J. E. Turner of Great Barrington,	2 00
For the best three-years-old Colt, S. H. Bushnell of Sheffield,	$5 00
2d do., N. B. Curtiss of Stockbridge,	4 00
2d do., Miss Sarah Goodspeed of Lee,	3 00
4th do., Chas. O. Dewey of Sheffield,	2 00

A. L. HUBBELL,
J. A. BELCHER,
WILLIAM DARBE,
} Committee.

SIXTEENTH DIVISION—18 ENTRIES.

In this division there were five entries, only four of which were exhibited; and three out of the four were, in the opinion of the committee, disqualified by unsoundness and imperfections. There were no entries of single trained horses. Single Walking Horses, 13 entries. We award as follows :

For best four-year-old Trotting Horse, Leonard Post of Alford,	$10 00
For best Single Walking Horse, A. C. Butler of Lenox,	5 00
2d do., Noble B. Turner of Great Barrington,	4 00
3d do., Harrison Calkins of Alford,	3 00
4th do., J. A. Kline of Egremont,	2 00

M. S. BIDWELL,
A. W. KELLOGG,
JAMES H. ROWLEY,
} Committee.

SEVENTEENTH DIVISION.

For best Trotting Horse, owned in the county three months, best three in five to harness,

Terry Barden, ns. s. g. Comet, 1. 1. 1.	$75 00
E. Hurlburt, ns. c. m. Glencoe Maid, 2. 3. 2.	40 00
W. S. Barnum, ns. c. m. Auburn, 3. 2. 3.	25 00

Time—2:38 ; 3:02 ; 3:02.

D. S. DRAPER,
RALPH LITTLE,
W. O. CURTISS,
} Committee.

POULTRY.

Entries—Turkeys, 2 ; Geese, 5 ; Ducks, 4 ; other Fowls, 18.

TURKEYS.

For best trio of Turkeys, H. D. Hollenbeck of Egremont,	$3 00
2d do., George Kellogg of Sheffield,	2 00

GEESE.

For best Geese, E. Church of Alford,	$3 00
2d do., George Kellogg of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., A. B. Stafford of Stockbridge,	1 00
Extra premium, J. C. Hollenbeck of Egremont, for two fine Geese,	2 00

DUCKS.

For best Ducks, John R. Prindle of Alford,	$3 00
2d do., John C. Loop of Sheffield,	2 00
3d do., W. H. Palmer of Stockbridge,	1 00

CHICKENS.

For best Chickens, J. N. Chamberlain of Stockbridge,	$2 00
2d do., J. Sisson of Great Barrington,	1 50
3d do., Elisha Collins of Great Barrington,	1 50
4th do., C. S Wright of Egremont,	1 50
5th do., George T. Bartholomew of Sheffield,	1 50
6th do., J. Tracey of Great Barrington,	1 00
7th do., T. S. Heath of Stockbridge,	1 00
8th do., M. S. Heath of Stockbridge, (Brahmas)	1 00
9th do., M. S. Heath of Stockbridge, (White Dorkins,)	1 00
10th do., J. C. Loop of Sheffield,	1 00
11th do., N. Hollenbeck of Egremont,	1 00
12th do., C. S. Joyner of Egremont,	1 00
13th do., E. Warner of Great Barrington,	1 00
14th do., William Wilson of Great Barrington,	1 00
15th do., Dyer Wait of Egremont,	1 00
16th do., Erastus Warner of Great Barrington,	1 00
17th do., L. S. Heath of Great Barrington,	1 00

GUINEA PIGS.

Best Guinea Pigs, Harry Parks of Great Barrington,	$1 00

ABEL FRENCH,
EGBERT B. GARFIELD, } Committee.

PLOWING—OX TEAMS.

The Committee upon plowing horse teams have attended to the very pleasant duty assigned them in the rain, (although very acceptable to us as farmers, yet as committees not so agreeable,) and beg leave to make the following report :

There were eight entries, and we must say were all well done, and very creditable to the several competitors, and in our awards we do not claim that our decisions are infallible, or will meet the expectations of the competitors. We award as follows :

For best Plowing Team, J. C. Lowrey of Egremont,	$8 00
2d do., H. W. Burget of Egremont,	7 00
3d do., Patrick Burnes of Stockbridge,	6 00
4th do., J. A. Kline, of Egremont,	5 00
5th do., B. E. Stoddard of Alford,	4 00
6th do., David Healy of Great Barrington,	3 00
7th do., Elisha Collins of Great Barrington,	2 00

T. D. THATCHER,
E. N. HUBBARD, } Committee.
V. S. ABBOTT,

PEDIGREE.

The committee on Pedigrees of Thorough-bred Stock, respectfully report that they have examined the pedigree of twenty-one animals, offered for premium by eight competitors. Sixteen of these pedigrees were accepted as satisfactory, and five were rejected on the ground that there was not sufficient evidence offered to prove that the animals were thoroughbred.

The committee beg leave to suggest to the society that it would greatly facilitate the labor of a committee on pedigrees, and render their decisions less liable to error, if the rule should be established—that every member offering animals for premium, as thoroughbred, be required to show that such animals, or their sires and dams, have been recorded in a herd book of recognized authority.

We think it for the credit of the county that its thoroughbred animals should be enumerated in the official catalogues, which are widely distributed throughout the country—as well as for the interest of the owners and breeders of these animals. Such record is the most sure and convenient test of the purity or impurity of blood in all cases of doubtful pedigrees. Whenever there is not sufficient evidence of thorough-breeding to secure admission of an animal into a herd book, such animal ought not to be allowed to compete for the society's premiums as a thorough-bred. If it be left every year to a different committee to decide what animals offered for premium are of pure blood, conflicting decisions may arise, and the society may be left in a state of doubt whether its so-called thorough-breds be not merely grades. The expense of record is small— fifty cents or one dollar for each animal,—and no member who takes pride in owning blooded stock will be apt to object to paying this sum for a certificate of its purity.

It may be added for the information of all members interested that the standard herd books for the breeds of cattle for which premiums are offered by the society, are as follows :—

Short Horn Herd Book, edited by Lewis F. Allen of Buffalo, N. Y.
Ayrshire Herd Book, edited by J. N. Bagg of West Springfield, Mass.
Jersey Herd Register, edited by George E. Waring, Jr., of Newport, R. I.
Devon Herd Book, edited by H. M. Sessions, Wilbraham, Mass.

In the case of the Durham, or Short Horn Herd Book, it should be understood that a considerable number of the pedigrees contained in its first few volumes are imperfect, and the leading agricultural societies of this country have taken the ground that no Short Horn animal is thoroughbred unless his pedigree can be traced back, on both sides, to ancestors recorded in the English Herd Book. We think the same rule should be adopted by this society.

We also recommend that every member competing for premiums for thorough-bred animals be required to deliver to the Secretary the pedigrees of such animals in writing, made out in full, and signed by the competitor, before ten o'clock of the first day of the Fair.

In conclusion, the committee beg leave to call the attention of members to the importance of increasing the number of thorough-bred cattle in this part of the Commonwealth. It is true that we have already a good breed of native cattle ; but it is, also, true that it can be greatly improved by a larger infusion of the blood of thorough-breds. It is now generally believed by intelligent persons that wherever the full-blood Durham bull is used on native cows, he improves the beef ; wherever the Ayshire bull goes, he adds to the milk and cheese; wherever the Jersey goes, he increases the butter.

It is also generally admitted that thorough-breds have this great advan-

tage over natives, that they transmit good qualities to offspring with more certainty. For example, if a full blooded sire and dam are remarkable beef, or cheese, or butter producers, it may be relied upon as very nearly certain that their female offspring will possess the same characteristics. A good thorough-bred cow is sure to bring a good calf. Now, we all know that native bulls and cows are very uncertain breeders. Our good native cows often bring calves quite unlike themselves in quality. Their blood is so mixed, the good with the bad, that sometimes the good is inherited, and sometimes the bad. Hence the farmer is often disappointed in his breeding, and cannot rely with any certainty on making improvements.

This important truth may be well illustrated by the recent experience of a member of the society in raising corn. Having planted the large, white, Sandford corn by the side of the smaller Canada, he obtained some very handsome ears, containing kernels as yellow as the Canada, and as large as the Sandford. Thinking he might get an improved variety, he planted, in the year following, those kernels by themselves, and so far from other kinds of corn that there could be no mixing with them. The result was very inferior ears, with kernels not all yellow, as the seed had been, but some yellow and some white. Instead of continuing to improve, the corn deteriorated.

So it is with cattle. The first cross of two different breeds often results in producing a good animal ; but when these cross-bred animals are complete together, it is a well known fact, that the issues is almost always inferior, yet most of the grade bulls of our county are such cross-breeds. Their get is oftener bad than good. We therefore are of opinion that the wealth of this farming community can be very greatly increased in the next ten years by immediately disposing of all such stock-getters, and using thorough bred bulls in their stead.

THERON L. FOOTE,
A. BRADLEY,
J. MILTON MACKIE, } Committee.

REPORT ON COMMITTEES.

Any Committee upon the merits of the various reports of this society must needs entertain different views thereof, according to the stated point from which they are regarded. Some might look at skillful and eloquent phraseology chiefly, as involving merit ; others, ignoring these as merely ornamental, might consult only new ideas and suggestions, perhaps wit and humor, in their award of merit. Others again might see no real worth in anything save the bare *utilitarian* aspect of the document, put in the fewest and plainest words, regarding every thing else as out of place in a purely agricultural article.

Now, your committee desire to steer clear of any particular hobby in deciding upon the several reports before them. Length they consider no merit unless pregnant with valuable ideas which refuse a briefer utterance; while the bare statement of awards is that and no more. They do not think the place of a committeeman the proper one to be used merely for the pa-

rade of fine writing or extended knowledge ; but if these can be brought into service in the better development of ideas which may be really useful in promoting the great objects of our society, by all means let them be reasonably employed.

The best report your committee regard as that which, couples the inevitable finale of award, with useful and *available* suggestions, put forth in such a manner as to interest, instruct and prompt to thought and experiment. Let us have not only a terse sermon, but an *application*, set home in such a way as to insure profit, by enlisting our common sense in getting it

Your Committee are pleased to notice this tendency in several of the reports of the year 1870, and would, as their best judgemnt, award as follows :

1st.—Committee on Flowers, A. Hyde, Chairman.
2d—Committee on Summer Crops, H. S. Goodale, Chairman.
3d—Committee on Stallions and Colts, A. L. Hubbell, Chairman.
4th—Committee on Embroidery, I. Sumner, Chairman.
5th—Committee on Agricultural Implements, T. Thatcher, Chairman.
6th—Committee on Painting and Fancy Work, M. S. Bidwell, Chairman.

All which is respectfully submitted,

E. W. B. Canning, }
J. Dewey, Jr., } Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Housatonic Agricultural Society, in Account with J. DEWEY, J., Treasurer, *CR.*

By balance of last year,	$363 65
Interest received from members during the year,	14 00
Cash received in exchange of premiums.	17 00
Cash received on note to bank,	500 00
Cash received of E. D. Humphrey, for certificate of stock,	16 67
Cash received for entry of town oxen,	2 00
Cash received of members at the Fair,	1523 92
Received at gates,	1319 19
State bounty,	600 00
	$4356 43

SAME. *CR.*

To paid A. Bradley, 4 days as Committee,	$8 00
James Hyde, 4 days as Committee,	8 00
P. M. Shaylor,	1 00
Pattison & Barnum, bill,	33 68
T. J. Williams, 12 days as Committee,	24 00
J. H. Rowley, 3 days as ex Committee,	6 00
M. E. Tobey, for silver,	90 25
Ralph Little, 3 days as ex. Committee,	6 00
M. H. Rogers, bill,	300 00
C. Hayes, for work on the grounds,	50 00
Wm. Wilson, for work on the grounds,	50 00
Discount and stamp on note,	9 55
J. N. Robbins, 10 days as Committee,	20 00
Alexander Hyde, premiums,	8 00
Holmes, for selling grass,	5 20
C. Hayes, balance for work,	16 60
H S. Goodale, 10 days as Committee,	20 00
Wm. Wilson, balance for work,	40 00
Massachusetts Agricultural College, (scholar's bill,)	54 00
Thomas Hopkins, for work on grounds,	40 00

To paid E. D. Humphrey, 8½ days as committee,	$17 00
Pitkins, for silver,	1,405 00
Bank Note,	500 00
Harvey Holmes, 3 days at Fair,	9 00
J. N. Robbins, and assistant, at gate 3 days,	14 00
C. W. & S. K. Norton's bill,	70 00
C. B. Culver, services at the gates 3 days,	10 00
Mark Kilborn, services at the gates,	10 35
Norman Chapin, services at the gates,	11 25
John Hickey, services at the gates,	10 15
Allen B. Palmer, services at the gates,	19 50
Milton Winchell, services at the gates,	8 70
Seneca Nodine, services at the gates,	9 62
Frank Wilcox, services at the gates,	10 50
James L. Decker, services at the gates,	4 00
E. E. Barnes,	20 00
B. Almonte and help, and for painting, &c.,	62 60
L. J. Nettleton, bill for material and work,	123 90
Orville Holmes, for work on grounds,	34 20
Tillotson, for team at the fair,	6 00
M. Peck for stone,	122 50
P. A. Russell, for expenses of watering streets,	24 50
Premiums in cash,	65 00
Band,	$250 00
Freight on silver, &c.,	2 11
Noah Gibson, 16½ days as Committee,	33 00
James Wilson, for meals,	58 50
Wright & Co., for paint,	24 62
J. Brewer & Son, for iron,	27 20
John Brewer, for lumber,	379 80
Henry Burtch, 16½ days as Committee,	33 00
J. Sisson on account, for work on grounds,	287 50
E. N. Hubbard, for marking ground,	4 00
M. Warner, 3 days as Committee,	6 00
W. S. Clark, for address,	50 00
H. W. Smith, 4 days as Ex. Committee,	8 00
Treasurer's salary,	75 00
	$4587 78

Names of towns to which premiums were disbursed, and the amount of each, as follows:—

Alford,	18 persons receiving,	$96 00	Pittsfield,	5 persons receiving,	5 00
Becket,	1 person receiving,	10 00	Richmond,	4 persons receiving,	24 00
Egremont,	42 persons receiving,	187 00	Sandisfield,	2 persons receiving,	5 00
Gt. Barrington,	91 persons receiving,	471 00	Sheffield,	62 persons receiving,	398 00
Lee,	15 persons receiving,	137 00	Stockbridge,	27 persons receiving,	148 00
Lenox,	14 persons receiving,	115 00	West Stockbridge,	10 persons receiving,	40 00
Monterey,	9 persons receiving,	32 00			
Mt. Washington,	2 persons receiving,	17 00			$1753 60
New Marlboro,	21 persons receiving,	68 00			

We have 195 new members.

Respectfully submitted,

J. DEWEY, Jr., Treasurer.