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The Colonial Farmer

Farmers' Granges.

Some short times since attention was called to this subject by correspondents, and a desire expressed that an institution having similar objects should be established in this Province.

political or religious questions, nor call political conventions or nominate candidates. It is however the duty of every member to legitimately influence for good the action of any political party to which he may belong.

Kingsclear Agricultural Show.

The Show of the Kingsclear Society was held on Tuesday the 27th October, on the Society's grounds, being the first time that the premises were used for that purpose.

The Society has one acre of ground with a building in the centre. The ground is all that could be desired, and the building can be made suitable at a small expense, at present it is occupied as a dwelling.

The show was the best ever held in the Parish, and the attendance larger than at any previous Show.

The weather was delightful—clear and warm, and all seemed to feel that they had enjoyed a most pleasant day. A number of visitors were present, principally from this City, but we were rather surprised that not one of the County representatives thought of attending.

United States Corn Crop.

The returns made to the Department of Agriculture for the month of October show an average condition of the corn crop of eighty six per cent. against eighty three in September.

All the New England States show an improved condition except Maine and Connecticut. The Middle States show a decline. The South Atlantic Coast States and Gulf States as a whole hold their own, except Louisiana, where the average sinks from 76 to 69 per cent.

STANLEY SHOW.

The following is the official list of Prizes awarded at the late show at Stanley:

- Wm. Douglas, -2nd Entire Horse, 3rd Prize, 1st Bed Quilt, 1st Bed Blanket, 1st Bed Cushion, 1st Bed Pillow, 1st Bed Coverlet, 1st Bed Sheet, 1st Bed Towel, 1st Bed Napkin, 1st Bed Tablecloth, 1st Bed Tablecloth, 1st Bed Tablecloth, 1st Bed Tablecloth, 1st Bed Tablecloth.

Communications.

(For the Farmer.)

Sir,—In my communication of last week, upon the Stock shown at the late Exhibition at Halifax as compared with the Stock of this Province, I did not by any means desire to show or to assume that the Stock of this Province was equal to what it should be; though perhaps not far, if at all, behind the sister Province. I fully agree with you as to the necessity, immediate and pressing, of another importation larger and better than all former ones. I do not over-act as to the mode or medium by which it is to be accomplished, but we need a fresh introduction of the various breeds, suited to our Province, of every variety of Stock—animals carefully selected, of the choicest description. Not simply "Show Animals," bloated by extraordinary feeding, but animals of the best breeding, and exhibiting in the greatest perfection all the valuable distinctive points appertaining to their respective breeds.

- J. Reed, -1st 2 year old Colt, 3rd yearling Colt, 3rd Shearling Ram, 1st Early Potatoes, 3rd Beans, 1st Early Potatoes, 3rd Beans, Mrs. Taylor, -2nd yearling Colt, 1st Ewe over 2 years, 1st Shearling Ewe, 1st Barley, 3rd Black Oats, 2nd Young Buckwheat, 2nd Beans, B. Elliot, -3rd yearling Colt, 3rd aged Ram, 2nd Beets, W. Currie, -1st Working Horse, 2nd Ewe over 2 years, 3rd Ewe over 2 years, 2nd Crook Buttery, 1st Mixed Honespun, 2nd Mixed Honespun, 2nd Potatoes, 1st White Turnips, J. Brown, -2nd Working Horse, 1st Bull Calves, 3rd Late Table Potatoes, 3rd Beans, N. Campbell, -1st Boar over 1 year, 1st Sow under one year, 2nd yearling Steers, 1st Shearling Ram, 1st White Potatoes, 1st Potatoes, 1st Red Carrots, 1st Beets, 1st Wheat, W. Best, -3rd Bull Calves, W. Logan, -1st Sow over 1 year, 3rd do, 2nd aged Bull, J. Douglas, -1st aged Bull, 2nd yearling Bull, 1st Boar, 3rd Doer, 2nd Doer, 3rd Early Potatoes, 3rd White Turnips, 1st Hybrid Turnips, 1st White Oats, J. Thornton, -1st 2 year old Heifer, 2nd Crook Buttery, 2nd Cheese, 3rd all Wool Honespun, 1st Mangold Wortzell, 3rd Beets, M. G. Pringle, -1st yearling Bull, 2nd Shearling Ram, 3rd Ram, 3rd Mixed Honespun, 3rd Red Carrots, 3rd White Carrots, 2nd Apples, 2nd Barley, 2nd White Oats, 2nd Beans, 2nd Blackhead, 2nd Beans, 2nd Grass Seed, 2nd Squash, T. Rodgers, -3rd Oxen, 1st yearling Heifer, M. Buchanan, -1st 3 year old Steers, W. Best, -1st 2 year old Steers, T. Boulter, -2nd Milk Cow, 2nd Heifer Calves, 2nd Shearling Ewe, 1st Print Butter, 3rd Soles, 1st Cabbages, A. Turnbull, -3rd Milk Cow, 1st Heifer Calves, 3rd Wheat, 2nd Grass Seed, J. Thornton, -1st 2 year old Heifer, 3rd yearling Heifer, 3rd Hybrid Turnips, 3rd Red Carrots, 3rd White Carrots, L. Pen, -2nd year old Heifer, 2nd yearling Heifer, 3rd 2 year old Heifer, J. McMillan, -Best Fat Cow, F. Sands, -Best Fat Cow, R. Currie, -2nd Ewe Lamb, 1st Cheese, W. Best, -1st Boar, 2nd Doer, 1st Beans, 1st Beans, 1st Beans, 1st Beans, 1st Beans, G. L. Halloway, -1st Honey, 2nd Full Cream, 2nd all Wool Honespun, 1st Squash, 1st Pumpkin, E. Jarvis, -1st Crook Buttery, 2nd Wheat, 2nd White Oats, 1st Black Oats, 1st Rough Buckwheat, G. T. Gunter, -1st Honespun, 1st Full Cream, 1st Corn, J. Sanson, -1st Clapboards, 2nd Cattle Pointers, J. Currie, -1st Cattle Potatoes, 3rd Mangold Wortzell, 3rd Cabbage, G. Pringle, -1st White Carrots, Wm. Craig, -3rd Oxen.

A New Plan of Draining Flower Pots.

Mr. Peter Henderson, who grows hundreds of thousands of pot plants without drainage, writes to this effect in a "Contemporary"—The question of drainage is not whether the plants require it or not; we all agree on that. But the question is in what way the water passes from the pot; whether from the bottom or whether from the sides. We who advocate that the practice of crocking pots is useless, claim that nine-tenths of the escape of moisture is from the sides; they who practice "bottom drainage" would signify by so doing, that in their opinion the escape of water is mainly from the bottom. If any one wishes to decide this matter for himself, let him take a half-dozen glazed pots, such as will not percolate through, let him knock the whole bottom out if he will, and "drain" in the usual way with pot-sherds, charcoal, or anything else he thinks fit. Let him also take half a dozen of the ordinary style of flower-pot. Fill these up with the same soil as used for the glazed pots, but without drainage. Let the same sort of plant be grown in each lot, and under the same conditions of temperature and moisture.

THE FARM.

The Grand Trunk Crop Report.

The annual crop report of the Grand Trunk railway, which is generally supposed to be the most reliable of any in the absence of a regularly organized system, has been published and we reproduce part of it. In the district along the Buffalo and Goderich branch of the road from Goderich to Brantford, the fall wheat has been injured by winter-killing, but it is estimated will average from 15 to 25 bushels per acre. Spring Wheat has been more irregular, being variously estimated at from 19 and 12, up to 25 bushels per acre, as many stations giving the highest figure as any other, and only one the lowest. Coarse Grains were generally a good crop, peas being estimated at from 25 to 30, and in one or two cases 40 bushels per acre; and from 40 to 60 bushels, and barley, where sown, from 45 to 60 bushels. Several heavy yields of flax are reported, and hay and roots are generally good. Further down the line, until Hymerville is reached, fall wheat is a failure, but Spring crops are generally good. From Sarnia eastward, for some distance, all crops are very favorably reported of. Further on accounts are given of the winter-killing of fall wheat and injuring to spring wheat by drought and in one or two cases by the midges and grasshoppers. From some distance west of Toronto the only thing complained of is injury to the fall wheat, which is stated to be only half a crop. All along the line in this division of the road good accounts are given of coarse grains, except in one or two instances. Fruit and root crops are not always mentioned, and the variation in the report of them is greater. Hay is generally light. From Toronto to Kingston fall wheat where sown is more or less injured except at three points, one just east of Toronto, and the others Belleville and the next station east. Spring crops, with the exception of wheat in one or two instances, have been very good. Hay in the neighborhood of Toronto, and at one or two points east, has been poor, but in the other parts the crop has been abundant. Root crops are in some cases said to be good, at other points the potatoes have been injured by the bug, and turnips, etc., have suffered from drought. In the neighborhood of

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SHEEP.

It is thought that deterioration of the flock is not only occasioned by in-and-in breeding, or neglect to change the rams from time to time, but that much of the falling off is due to a want of proper care and attention, particularly at certain seasons of the year. During the fall months sheep are improperly exposed to cold and wet, and permitted to run at large, and in a great measure to depend upon their own exertions for whatever sort of living they can pick up. So long as the snow does not positively cover the ground these animals are often seen roaming about, or should it be wet and stormy, huddled together under the eaves side of some barn or fence, patiently waiting until the storm subsides or their negligent owners think proper to afford them shelter. It is such treatment that injures sheep. The falling off in feed, and the exposure, is certain to have a serious effect, and feeding through the cold and drizzly winter is rarely sufficient to place them in the same condition as when they came off the fresh green pastures. They can, it is true, be brought up again, but the expense is such that few farmers are willing to incur it, except if they adopt. Sheep should be in good flesh before winter, and to secure this a little grain should be fed to them while yet on good fair grass. In fine fall weather they are much better off than in a barn or shed, but all this time they should be supplied with hay, roots or other feed to make up for the deficiencies of the field, and to keep them in good heart. The cost of this sort of treatment will be more than met by the quality as well as quantity of wool which they will yield the following spring, while the lambs dropped will be in all respects healthier and better.

POULTRY.

Ventilation for Poultry.

The person who supposes that chickens are in the habit of clustering under the mother on extremely warm nights, with their heads buried in her feathers and their little bills pressed close against her warm body, where it would seem an impossibility for them to get any air at all, could not have formed their conclusions from very close observation. Being obliged to keep small chickens closely confined at night, I had abundant opportunities for watching their habits in this particular, while visiting them late in the evening, for the purpose of shutting up their coops. And in such extremely warm weather I have invariably found them lying flat on the ground in a circle round the mother, and while their bodies were mostly covered by her feathers, their heads would be stretched out away from her as far as their little necks could reach, while the mother hen would be standing with her wings half spread, apparently suffering from the heat of even so close a contact. A few years ago the wensels began to make fearful depredations among my small chickens. As I had nearly 300, and had no accommodation for confining them, I was obliged to use old boxes, or anything which could be procured for the purpose, so that my experience was as varied and conclusive as if I had instituted a series of experiments for the express purpose of determining the effect of ventilation on chickens; and I feel assured that any person who attempts to raise poultry without providing them with a sufficient amount of fresh air will come to grief.

CHARCOAL FOR POULTRY.—The eating charcoal is, I believe, acknowledged. The method of putting it before them is, however, not well understood. Pounded charcoal is not in the shape in which fowls usually find their food and consequently is not very enticing to them. I have found that corn burnt on the cob, and the refuse, which consists almost entirely of the grains reduced to charcoal, and still retaining their perfect shape—placed before them, is greedily eaten by them, with a marked improvement in their health, as is shown by the brighter color of their combs, and their sooner producing a greater average of eggs to the flock than before.—S. Rufus Mason, in the Poultry World.

Roast Turkey.

Select a fine, plump, yellow skinned turkey weighing from ten to twelve pounds. Examine it thoroughly to see that all the pin feathers are taken out; hold it over a blaze to singe any fine hairs that may remain; wash it thoroughly inside and out, and rub it over with salt. Take the gizzard, heart, and liver, put them in cold water, and let them boil until tender. When done, chop them very fine. Take stale bread, or the large Boston crackers, and grate or chop them. Add salt, pepper, and some sweet herb if liked, to the bread crumbs; after which beat two eggs with which to moisten the crumbs; add and mix thoroughly with this the chopped "inward," not forgetting to chop in the turkey with the dressing, taking care that the neck or crop is made to look plump, and sew the openings, drawing the sides tightly together. Then rub a little butter over your turkey, and lay it upon the grate of your pan. Cover the bottom of the pan with boiling water. After a half hour baste the turkey by pouring over it the gravy that has begun to form in the pan. Repeat the basting once in about fifteen minutes. In an oven of average temperature a twelve-pound turkey will require at least three hours; but every oven has its own way of baking, and the cook must be governed by it. Roast geese is to be prepared in the same manner, as the turkey. The dressing should be made of smashed potatoes, seasoned with salt, pepper and sage, or onions, if according to the taste of the family. Make giblet sauce by boiling the "inwards" until very tender, chopping them fine, and adding them to a gravy made by using the liquor in which they were boiled thickened with flour, and to which has been added one ounce of butter, and pepper and salt to suit the taste.

The Household.

A REMEDY FOR CROUP.

We have been interested in reading the following statement made by an intelligent mother. We give our readers the benefit of it, or at least give them the opportunity to test whether it has any benefit. A remedy for croup was given me by a sister who heard it from Prof. Bronson, a physiological lecturer since deceased. "Let a healthy person fill his lungs with pure air, then slowly breathe upon the patient's throat and chest, commencing at the point of the chin, and moving slowly down to the bottom of the wind-pipe. Repeat for a few minutes and it will give relief in cases when all other means fail." My boy was always subject to croup; came near dying with the rattling noisy kind, at about eleven months old. I saved him with water and after prevented a serious attack by waterfulness and water. But when three years old, I let him play in the brook one warm rainy day, and he took a severe cold and had a still kind of croup, the first and last time he ever had it. In spite of all I could do he grew constantly worse until he could only gasp and breathe with his head thrown back. We thought his last moments had come, when I thought of, and tried Bronson's remedy for a minute. When I stopped he looked up and said: "Do so again, mother, do," though he could not speak when I began. You may be assured that I did so again, and I believe it saved his life.—Lectures by Bronson.

BREAD FRITTERS.

BREAD FRITTERS are made by soaking bread-crumbs in milk overnight. In the morning add an egg and salt and very little flour, as the thicker the batter is made by the crumbs the softer and more delicious they are.