

## NEWS ITEMS.

From her 35,000 sheep England realizes an annual product of the value of \$150,000,000. The city or town of Poughkeepsie, New York, rejoices in the possession of a Stingy Club.

The Nova Scotia Provincial Exhibition will be opened on the 30th of September. The amount of prizes offered is \$10,372.

There are four hundred and fifty lady dentists in the United States, and three times as many learning the business.

Weston, speaking at a meeting in London, stated that during the last twelve years he had walked and "wobbled" on foot 53,000 miles.

The daily consumption of milk New York city is said to be about 400,000 quarts, and at least \$25,000 are invested by farmers in this industry.

The Delaware yield of peaches this year is more promising than for a long time. A Delaware paper says the crop will amount to 3,897,000 bushels.

The second beet sugar factory in New England is being built at Northampton, Mass., and over 300 acres of beets are growing in the neighborhood for its use.

A man died in St. Louis recently, and in his will, after saying "I am now about a year, left \$1,000 to an individual who ten years ago ran away with a wife.

Frank Davidson, a Missouri condemned murderer, remarked: "Well, I'm not the first man ever hung, and it's only a matter of a minute or two, anyhow. I'm dead certain of going to heaven."

The disgraceful spectacle of a baseball match between sixteen variety actresses in trousers and blouses attracted 3,000 people to Philadelphia. When the game was called there were about a hundred men on the home base.

A statement has been issued by the War Department, giving the number of men furnished the Union army by each State and Territory from April 1861, to the close of the war of rebellion. It shows that the total number of volunteers was 2,678,967.

The last Missouri Legislature passed a law making it a felony for any officer of a bank to accept deposits in the institution if he knows it to be in a failing condition, and imposing the same punishment as for stealing money. Under this statute several St. Louis bankers are to be tried.

John Watts, a noted gambler, died a few days ago in Philadelphia. He was a man of great importance among the Mississippi steamers in the old times, and his exploits are still recounted. Although a heavy player and clever swindler, he saved money. His last words were, "I'll bet \$10 that I got well."

A man at Champanville, Va., had a chance to find out how long he could stand on his toes. Robbers took his money, hanged him to a tree, and left him. By pressing his toes on the ground he could relieve the choking of the nose around the neck, and in this way he stood for thirteen hours, but was on the point of giving up when help came.

The authorities of a Baltimore church have recently adopted a new means of compelling certain members of their congregation to pay their old church debts. These people, upon entering the church, found the doors of their pews nailed, so as to prevent their entrance, and they were informed that they would remain in that condition until the pews were paid.

The London *Lancet* is authority for saying that during the past year the terrible opium habit has increased among the working class of Great Britain, and attributes its increase to the fact that it is a cheap and accessible drug, and that its demoralizing effects are not realized until the poor victim has become so much a slave to the habit as to be unable to break off its use.

A Russian paper gives an account of a plague of locusts which has been a source of great distress to the people of the empire. The locusts are said to be a new variety, and are much more voracious than the old ones. They are said to be a new variety, and are much more voracious than the old ones.

A new patent, secured in England, involves the mixing of salts and varnishes with phosphoric acid, or a mixture of lime and sulphur. This composition is to be used to paint and varnish wood, and is said to be a new patent, secured in England, involves the mixing of salts and varnishes with phosphoric acid, or a mixture of lime and sulphur.

Twelve sets of telephones have been sent out to Sir Garnet Wolseley for use at the seat of war in South Africa. The great advantage of the telephones is that they are portable, and can be carried by the troops. They are said to be a new patent, secured in England, involves the mixing of salts and varnishes with phosphoric acid, or a mixture of lime and sulphur.

North Perry, (U. S.), has produced an infant genius, which, although but a year old, is over three feet in height and weighs as much as a healthy boy of twelve years. At birth she weighed 150 lbs., and she is said to be a new patent, secured in England, involves the mixing of salts and varnishes with phosphoric acid, or a mixture of lime and sulphur.

An invention has been patented in Germany which, should its practical application prove feasible, will add very greatly to the power of musketry. It consists of a gun, in design and construction, by which an ordinary breech-loading rifle can, whenever it may be desired, be temporarily converted into a repeating arm. The apparatus holds ten cartridges, and can be carried by the soldier in his pocket. When necessary it can be fitted on the rifle in a moment, when the ten rounds can be fired as rapidly as the same number of cartridges can be discharged from any magazine rifle.

Dr. Woodbridge, of New York, describes a sandstone recently given by the Sioux in Montana. There were about 5,000 Indians present, the dance being held in a large arena 150 feet in diameter, enclosed by willow branches, lasting 28 hours. During the time the Indians feasted on 40 dogs, large quantities of buffalo and deer, and the while the participants in the dance, such as having buffalo heads suspended from staves in their flesh, the weight of which constantly increased the excitement. Some of the brave, and many of them had from 50 to 200 pieces cut out of the living flesh. Others were held to stakes about which they were forced to dance, by cords fastened to their backs. The performance was varied by prayers to the Great Spirit for success at the chase.

Lieut. Governor Taylor, of Colorado, is one of the new-arrived millionaires. He was a poor Vermont boy, who, as a boy, was a poor Vermont boy, who, as a boy, was a poor Vermont boy. He was a poor Vermont boy, who, as a boy, was a poor Vermont boy. He was a poor Vermont boy, who, as a boy, was a poor Vermont boy.

## Communications.

For the "Agriculturist."

MR. EDITOR.—I should like to know why the Clerk of the Market does not take the trouble to keep the Market clean and tidy, and also open a door regularly, and to let the proper ventilation. He cannot excuse himself by saying that he is kept so busy that he cannot find time to attend to it. The Council should see to this matter, or Mr. S. should this officer attend to his duties in a proper manner.

Yours,  
FREDERICKTON, July 18.

For the "Agriculturist."

DEAR SIR.—A short time since, I felt it my duty to inform the public of what I thought was their interest. Some, in their kindness of heart, no doubt, thought it wise in me to let it be known to the world that I had lost the patronage of the County. In all matters pertaining to my public duty, I have done what I considered to be right, and I am sure that the public will be able to judge for themselves. I am sure that the public will be able to judge for themselves. I am sure that the public will be able to judge for themselves.

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of Mr. Turnbull were also of the party. At the start the company was not numerous, but recruits were gathered, a most welcome addition made to them, when the train reached Woodstock Junction. There joined them then, Robt. Watson, F. H. Todd, C. S. Todd, John Chipman, H. Osborne, (Manager of the Canada and New Brunswick Railway) Esqrs., and Dr. Todd, from St. Stephen, Owen Jones, Esq., from St. Andrews, James Murchie, F. H. Pike, Esqrs., from Calais, Hon. J. C. Madigan and John E. B. Page, Esq. from Houlton, and John Allen, J. Drew, C. T. A. Johnston, Esqrs., from Fort Fairfield, John Pickard, Esq., M. P., joined in at Edmundston. The excursion train was under the care and direction of Mr. Thos. Hobbs, Superintendent, who was uniting in his endeavor to look after the comforts of the company, and to afford information as to the country, to those of an inquiring mind. The train was driven at a uniform speed of twenty miles an hour, and the track was found to be in capital order. The engine had only to be slowed down, to avoid collision with a few cows, which had strayed upon the track. The railway train is still a startling intruder, as it rushes by the fields, the cows are most composed, but the shrill whistle makes them turn tails, curling or straightened, horses gallop wildly around or shoot into the cover of the woods, the pigs in their trepidation squeal, and turn queer somersaults in their attempts to run, dogs bark indignantly, and sometimes spit their speed against the locomotive, but soon roll passing in the grass.

The gentlemen from over the American line were a decided acquisition to the party. They could not be called strangers or foreigners, but were as friends and brethren. In fact Calais and Houlton are as much Canadian towns to New Brunswick, as St. Stephen, St. Andrews, and Woodstock are American towns to Maine men, and the Murchies, and the Pikes the Johnstons, and the Todds, the Watsons and the Chipmans become, we would not wonder, sometimes a little confused as to their real nationality. Mr. F. A. Pike, might possibly say, that such a doubt has never in the course of his long political life crossed his mind, that he is a Maine man, an American to his core, but he cannot help looking like an Englishman of the shrewdest kind for all that. But no one could possibly mistake the Hon. Mr. Madigan, with his flowing white locks and full fair and smooth cheeks for either a Canadian or Briton. As it happened these gentlemen were representatives, and worthy ones, of the two great political parties in America, Mr. Pike of the Republican, and Mr. Madigan of the Democratic; both moreover, are candidates for the Governorship of Maine. Yet had their views and their interests been identical, they could not have been more familiar or friendly, we had read and heard that there was in American politics and politics, such man rancorous spirit, but in sight of such an instance to the contrary we did not will to utterly disbelieve that there can be.

A lover of nature on a tour of the picturesque would not regret to be which, he would make studies of particular bits to take home. All Governments, I believe hold that it is their exclusive right creating an office for every man belonging to their party, or a duty of candor, or some government friend of friends that fell at the elections they were called upon, solely for the public interest, to spend their time and money.

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The train speeds past Harewood, Hartland and Peel, and the face of the country shows a much more inviting aspect than that of Rockland, Stone Ridge and Upper Keewick. It stops a few minutes at Florenceville just time enough for the company to admire its fine situation, its neat appearance, and to note the numerous boxes of eggs waiting for transportation by train. Kent, Bath, Burnfear, are then passed, and south of Muncie, Mr. Superintendent Hobbs stops the train a few minutes to allow the company to admire one of the prettiest of natural sights—Hawthorn Brook—which flows down its steep bank, shining in glints through an overgrowth of green and discharges itself in silvery cascade. Eight miles above Muncie the train reached Andover and crossed the bridge at one of the most picturesque points of the St. John, and passed on to Aroostook. Andover is a rising place, and possesses a Court House, some good stores and residences; some of its houses, a few of which are of white wood, and a few front gardens. The most noteworthy object in the village if we may presume to say so, was the Hon. Mr. Beveridge standing in front of his office, and seemingly at some loss to account for the early arrival of the train, and the presence of "the President" and so many men so well known to him abroad. Him the Company saluted.

The Aroostook one would call a "noble" river, were not that the epithet proper for the great St. John, but it is a fine, broad one. At "the Falls" the rocky banks contract so strongly to a narrow rock or gorge, and inconveniently checks the passage and causes many a stick to stick. Immediately above them the river is wide, and it looked placed as an unruffled lake, and on its bosom rested waterfalls or pools that take to water.

The Aroostook is a district favored by nature and culture. Above the Falls, and between Fort Fairfield and East Lyndon stretches the finest agricultural country that has been past since the train left Gibson. The clearances are more extensive, the fields are larger and cleaner than those along the line on the New Brunswick. There is no oxeye daisy or bull's eye among the growing grain, and the potatoes are large and healthy. Some of the farmers the Aroostook farm on a most extensive scale. Doyle's farm, near East Lyndon, is noted for the extent of its timothy and buckwheat fields, as is pointed out as an example of high farming on the Aroostook. Passing East Lyndon, the train soon reaches the end of the line, and whistles off steam at Caribou.

Caribou is reached by driving or walking down hill, across a covered bridge and ascending another hill. It is a rising place, both in situation and prospect, and its inhabitants devote themselves to milling and making shingles. But to the party the supreme question in Caribou was not the prospect or prospects of the place, but its capability of affording them dinner. A blank feeling came over some of them when the landlord of the Adams House, a tall black-haired brown faced, good natured, and well-to-do looking Yankee, announced that he could not accommodate, at his table, all the party at once, and referred such as chose to go to the Caribou House opposite, where they would get an equally good meal. A few of the company took him at his word, and did not eat his dinner; whether they were losers or gainers we cannot determine; we will only say that while the Yankees are a good-natured people, and the Aroostook is a splendid agricultural country, in the matter of cooking and serving dinner, they are behind the age. The rage for mutton was being appeased, or, for the time, stayed, the company took to the train again, and in less than an hour were crossing the railway bridge, over the Aroostook, whose steep and wooded banks are spanned by another bridge higher up.

Between the Aroostook and Grand Falls, the St. John flows black between banks, rising bare, steep and yellow from the water's edge, there, rising in terraces, and crowned with curving wood-covered heights; solitary farms, wooden huts in the midst of rough enclosures, on the steep hill sides, are passed as the train speeds through "the range of settlements." Here and there log houses, and fields in which the stumps are still in the ground, and fields of stunted bull-eye grass suggest the idea of farming under difficulties.

At the Rapids de Femmes, which comes rushing and curling down steep and close banks to tumble head-long into the St. John, the train stops for a minute to water; and then without stop or stay proceeds to Grand Falls.

We are compelled to end here now, but will give the finish of our rapid sketch next week.

The Colorado Potato Beetle.

We have received a copy of a pamphlet on Potato Pests; being an illustrated account of the Colorado potato-beetle, by Charles V. Riley, M. A., State Entomologist of Missouri, which is of some interest, now that the pestiferous insect has made its appearance in our fields. Mr. Riley is of opinion that the beetle's native home is the Rocky Mountain region, and all agree that it is a pity that they ever took to their heads to emigrate. In the last twenty years the Colorado bug has travelled from Nebraska, invaded Iowa, crossed the Mississippi to Illinois, run over nearly all the region lying northwest of a line connecting Chicago with St. Louis. In 1890 its appearance created great alarm in the minds of the potato growers of New England and Ohio. In 1891 it invaded Ontario, at Point Edward, and at the extreme south of Lake Huron, crossed Lake Erie, in double columns, and in 1891 had obtained a foothold in New York, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. By 1896 it was swarming in most of the New England States, and now in this year of grace it has undoubtedly made its appearance in New Brunswick.

The Colorado beetle has a number of natural enemies. The crow the common quail and the duck, spiders and mites, wasps and lady birds, ground beetles, soldier bugs, tachinid flies, &c. The skunk feeds upon them. Mr. Riley recommends as a preventive remedy against the Colorado pest, the emerald green, which is a powerful and effective means of destroying the pest. The remedy would be as bad as the disease. The simplest and most effective means of destruction is picking; in doing this it is generally the custom to collect the beetle and larvae in some vessel of water and afterwards to destroy them, but Mr. Riley thinks that it is a better plan to crush them while tramped by tributaries—Fall, Rocky, Burnt, and Clear Water Brooks of the South West Miramichi, in York, are in their hands, also, most, if not all, the available land in the apex of the triangle of Carleton County, but it is in the counties of Victoria and Madawaska, in the valleys of the Tobique, Salmon, and Grand rivers, and the tract where the head waters of the Restigouche flow, and in the valleys of the Grand Quisisis, Madawaska, Little, and St. Francis rivers, tributaries of the St. John, that their chief possessions lie; and it is a curious description of Providence that the quality of land is best on those localities where the Company possess most.

Paris Green is used with most effect in a liquid state, in proportion of a table spoonful of pure green to a bucketful of water, and applied with a sprinkler. When used as powder, it is most safely applied with the aid of a perforated tin box with a double lid for safety when not in use, and attached to the end of a stick.

Paris green is a virulent poison, and it has been said that it injuriously affects the potato plants, soil, and man himself either through the soil or through the plant. After thorough experiments, the following conclusions have been arrived at by competent authorities:—1st, Paris green, that has been four months in the soil no longer remains as such, but has passed in some less soluble state, and is unaffected by the ordinary solvents of the soil. 2nd, When applied in small quantities, such as alone are necessary in destroying injurious insects, it does not affect the health of the plant. 3rd, The power of the soil to hold arsenic in solution is invariable form, and prevents water from becoming poisonous, the green is used in excess of any requirement as an insecticide.

The idea that the earth is being sown with death by those who fight the Colorado potato beetle with Paris green may, Mr. R. thinks, be dismissed as an idle phantasmagoria. While no one denies, he says—

"The danger attending the careless use of Paris green, and all who have recommended its use have not hesitated to caution against such carelessness, a careful inquiry into the facts from the experimental side bears out the results of a long and