

heads hold seven bushels each, is a good compost, for either corn, potatoes or grass. A layer of six inches deep of the muck is spread down, and the lime is slaked to a dry powder as fast as wanted, by sprinkling on just water enough for that purpose, and immediately scattered over the muck; then another layer of muck and of lime, and so on, till the whole is mixed. It is better to crumble the lime to a powder than to put it on in lumps, because it becomes more thoroughly intermingled with all the muck, and if slaked no faster than wanted, and if put on immediately, while yet warm, there will be heat enough to produce a powerful fermentation at once. The best of fresh lime is the cheapest; for it will make more than twice its bulk when dry slaked, and its action upon the muck is immediate and strong.

In composting muck with either lime or ashes, the best success will depend upon the care and precision exercised in mixing the ingredients. The layers of muck should not exceed six inches in thickness, and then the alkali will penetrate them in every direction, and all acids will thus be neutralised. Complete fermentation will be most surely secured if the heaps are made up in hot weather, as every one knows. Whenever I want to use more manure than I can make with my stock, as is frequently the case, I had rather depend upon these two composts than to be at the expense of the purchase and transportation of manure from abroad.

If the farm does not afford muck, other materials may probably be found, with which to save the volatile and liquid portions of the manure, as well as to increase the heap. The extra accumulations of leaves and vegetable mould in the hollows and at the foot of hill-sides in the forest, may be dug up with profit. I collect more or less of this material every year. In the latter part of November, and until snow falls, it may be dug up with stout hoes made for the purpose, and with a wheelbarrow, put into a heap or heaps convenient for hauling to the barn and yards, in the winter. It is so light as never to freeze more than two or three inches, and can therefore be handled at any time. It may be managed agreeably to the directions heretofore given for the treatment of muck, with this difference,—being free from hurtful acids, it is much sooner fit for use. It would not be advisable to take off this vegetable mould indiscriminately; but there are places where it gets to be four to six inches deep, and if taken off, a sufficiency for the wants of the trees will soon accumulate again. In such instances, the deposits are probably worth more to the tillage fields than to the forests. Often, too, a stone wall or a rail fence, bordering a wood-lot, will be half buried by an accumulation of leaves in various stages of decay. Such deposits should be sought out and turned to good account. Last season I applied a compost, made of this vegetable mould and lime, to my potatoes, and I never raised better ones. They came out in the fall large and clean, have kept well, and cook finely.

Rich, thickly matted turf may be used for manure in the yard in the spring, and frequently plowed and polished during the summer, and in the fall carried out and a new layer supplied. The hogs like it in their yards and it is healthy for them. A lot of it may also be dug up and used by itself, to rot, and then it can be more readily incorporated with the manure from the stables. If the road-side does not afford good turf, it may be taken up near the fences in the fields. Where the farming has been bad heretofore, there will be high ridges or headlands beside the fences, and these may be taken to the yards. Then there are hollows in the pasture and elsewhere, that receive more than their share of the riches of the farm; and by taking a portion from them to the compost heap, and from thence distributing it back to the fields, the farmer may perhaps find his income increased.

All waste vegetable substances, wherever to be found, should be gathered up and brought to the yards. A systematic saving of this kind, amounts to a very important matter, in the course of a year. In short, something must be used to absorb those portions of the manure in the stables and yards, which are too often allowed to escape beyond reach.

To bring up a worn-out farm rapidly, such a rotation of crops should be adopted on the tillage fields as will give each of them a dressing of manure at regular intervals, and those as frequent as possible. The depth of furrow should be gradually increased, bringing up an inch or two of the poor lower stratum at each breaking up, until a surface soil of uniform quality, of nine to twelve inches deep, is obtained. The compost should be spread on the top of well-turned furrows and harrowed in, and the land planted to whatever crop it is best to raise. The next season, the surface should be levelled and made mellow, without bringing up the sod, and sowed to grain and grass seed. The decomposing sod beneath will furnish food for the growing crops; it will keep the land lighter and mellow than would a half-dozen plowings and grass plowings in the spring; it will hold moisture for the use of the young grass for several years, in consequence of the vegetable decomposition beneath. Grass-seeds should therefore be scattered bountifully at seeding-time, for thus the soil is filled with the kind of vegetation wanted, and a richer turf is formed with which to enrich the land at the next plowing. Clover should be profusely mixed with the other grasses, for by its system of large tap-roots it fills the soil, draws up a good portion of its sustenance from the reach of the other grasses, and the decay of its roots improves the surface soil. None of us like clover for hay so well as some other grasses; but while our farms are poor certainly, and our object is to improve them, we cannot dispense with the advantages arising from the liberal sowing of it.

I have often thought that if I had a poor farm to bring up, I would not at first attempt to raise much grain. In August or September, I would turn over as much of my worn land as I could manure with 12 to 15 loads of compost per acre, spread the compost on the inverted furrows, and reseed immediately to grass, without taking a grain crop. This dressing would probably improve the land as fast as 25 or 30 loads per acre would, if it were planted one year and sowed to grain the next, in the usual way; and thus

my tillage land could be sooner brought to do something to remunerate labor.

Worn-out pastures, level enough to plow, may be improved as fast as leisure can be found to turn under two crops of buckwheat in a season, and then sow rye in the fall, and grass seeds on a late snow in the spring,—the rye to be fed off the following season, while the young grass is getting root. The rye should not be taken off in the form of a grain crop, for that would sap the land and defeat all improvement. In the immediate vicinity of large villages, where pastures and pasturage are scarce and high, this kind of management would pay well.

Step unproductive hill-sides may be put into a more productive condition by planting them out to wood and timber; and in this day of rail roads and steam mills, no improvement can be made in some localities, that will, in the end, pay a better interest. If planted to trees, these lands lay in a state of rest, soon the annual fall of leaves adds fertilizing matter to the soil, the rains do not wash them so much as before, and thus they are gradually restored to fertility. If poor hill-sides are wanted for pasturage, they may be much increased in productiveness by planting out here and there the common white locust tree. It will improve the land and the quantity of feed in a very few years.

Finally, there are numberless methods by which our poor old farms may be improved, and that too, in a way that shall pay as the improvements proceed. I have taken up a subject that hardly has limits; but I will pursue it no further at this time. I will merely remark, that close observation, diligent study, and patient but strenuous industry, are the essential requisites to good farming in our older settled districts of country; and with these, the farmer need not fear any rivals, no matter from what quarter they hail. C. HOLBROOK, Brattleboro', Vt.

## ENGLISH NEWS.

### ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICA.

#### SEVEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamship *America* arrived at Halifax on Monday evening, the 9th, at 9 o'clock, in little less than 9 1/2 days from Liverpool, bringing Liverpool dates to the 31st of May. She brought 61 passengers, and reports having experienced heavy weather. We take the following report of the news from the despatch to the News Room.

The Niagara arrived home on the 25th ult. The commercial news is devoid of any exciting feature. Sales of the week 51,030 bales. The market for Broadstuffs was firm, but without any change, except a slight decline in Indian Corn. In Provisions not much. The money market was active, and Consols had advanced one-eighth. Trade was reported dull in the manufacturing districts.

PARLIAMENTARY.—The first clause of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill passed the Commons on the 30th May, by a majority of 244 against 62. The debate on Mr. Baillie's motion relative to the Government of Ceylon terminated in a majority of 80 for Ministers. That being the last motion of importance on the books, the Russell Ministry is therefore safe for the remainder of the Session.

On the evening of the 27th, the Protectionists held a banquet at Tamworth, the residence of the late Sir Robert Peel, when the people of the town rose up en masse and dispersed the gathering. Windows were broken and finally the military were called out to quell the riot. Several persons were injured.

The crops present a promising appearance. The Great Exhibition continues to attract its thousands. Upwards of fifty thousand passed through the doors in one day. The receipts at the doors on the 30th, amounted to £2839, and the sale of season tickets to £51 19s.

The United Service Gazette states, on high authority from the Cape of Good Hope, that the Cost incurred in the first month of hostilities was about 260,000, and that it has been between £80,000 and £90,000 per month since.

Mr. Crawford, a free trader, has been elected for Harwich.

Three failures were announced on the London Stock Exchange on Friday, in connection with the Share settlement, the parties being Mr. Legraude, Mr. Stephenson and Mortimer, the latter being compelled to suspend payment on account of the default of a principal at Nottingham.

IRELAND.—Labourers are said to be scarce in many of the agricultural parts of Ireland, owing to the vast emigration.

Several Scotch and English Capitalists have lately taken extensive farms of land on the property of the Marquis of Sligo, in the Westport Union, and other parts of Ireland, whereupon they purpose building residences and rearing large numbers of stock.

FRANCE.—The Legitimists are making every effort to attain their desired revision of the constitution.

The expeditionary corps in Africa has suffered a loss of 306 killed and 1331 wounded, in a conflict with the Kabyles. The latter were defeated, with the loss of 437 killed and 1200 wounded. Twenty-two villages had been burned, and several tribes had made their submission.

AUSTRIA.—A great sensation has been created in Hungary by the arrest of the Countess Teleky and her companion, Madame Erdely, at Belfaloo. They have been ordered for trial by a Court Martial, at Peterwarden. It is said that the Countess has been the medium of a correspondence between the refugees in London and Asia Minor, and their partisans in Hungary. Some of this correspondence has been seized.

## Summary of News.

[From the Halifax Guardian.]

The Anti-Papal Aggression Bill drags its slow length along. Another almost interminable discussion has taken place upon its merits, without any real or satisfactory progress having been made. The anomalous position of the ministry, to a certain extent accounts for this. It can scarcely be expected that much vigour of purpose should be exhibited by a government leading a precarious existence, the thread of which may be snapped at any moment. Every effort, every scheme, which the enemies of Protestantism could think of, has been put in operation to defeat it, or retard its progress. We were prepared for any amount of meanness, inconsistency, and degradation at the hands of Irish Members, but we must confess, when a large party appeared willing to sacrifice this Bill for the purpose of overturning the government, we were taken by surprise. We are aware of the strength and influence of party feeling, and in present circumstances are disposed to make allowance for it,—but here, partizanship overstepped its legitimate boundaries, and we are glad to find did not enlist many of the true friends of the Protestant cause in its ranks.—Lord John Russell characterized the resolution as a mean and shabby attempt at once to sweep away the Bill itself and the Government along with it. We fully agree with him. This was not a time to denounce the ministry, when the price of success would be the triumph of the enemies of our faith. Of course the resolutions were greedily clutched at by the papist, the puseyite, and the radical. It is curious to observe with what gusto the friends of religious liberty support the papist, whose creed is persecution whenever he has the power—support an open and daring attack upon the constitution—merely because it is also an attack upon the Protestant religion. But it has always been so,—and strange and paradoxical as it may seem, we will find the infidel, the Nothingarian, to use a vulgar but expressive term, ranged on the side of the Papist against the Protestant, and lending their aid to crush religious liberty and social progress, under the caption of toleration and that very liberty whose name they profane.

We live in strange time. Who would have expected ten years ago to have found Sir James Graham the ring-leader of so motely a crew of Papists, Puseyites, &c., in an English House of Commons? But so it is. We are old enough to remember when this gentleman, elected Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow, upon the strength of his Protestant principles, delivered a speech in the hall of that University, in which he acknowledged that the greatest error of his political life was the support he gave to the Catholic Emancipation Act, an error he deeply deplored, and would deplore to his last hour. Since that period the right honourable gentleman has performed almost the cycle of political apostasy. He has passed through the various phases of whig, conservative, ultra-tory, free-trader, and now he is fast verging towards radicalism. What are we to look for from such a man? Is it not in such as he that Protestantism is to place her faith. His talents may be great, but apart from political consistency of character, their influence must continue small. We are rapidly approaching a great change. England is on the threshold of a new Parliament, when the voice of the People will let itself be heard on this subject. If we are to form our judgment from present appearances, till then the Anti-Papal Aggression Bill will be *nil*.

DEATH OF LADY COLEBROOK.—Barbadoes papers announce the death of Lady Colebrooke, consort of His Excellency Sir William Colebrooke, late Lieut. Governor of New Brunswick, and at present Governor of the Windward and Leeward Islands. Her Ladyship died on the 19th of April. The annexed extract we copy from the *Barbadoes Liberal*.

Lady Colebrooke is no more! She was well on Saturday evening, when she left Government House for Duncombe, in the Parish of St Thomas; so well that she got out of her carriage and walked up the steep hill to the house; on arriving at which, she complained of a severe pain in her chest, called for a glass of water, sat down and almost immediately breathed her last!—and thus passed away from us an ornament to society, a pattern to her sex as a wife and mother, and a most liberal and kind benefactress to the indigent and the poor.

The remains of this gifted and lamented lady were followed from Government House to the Cathedral, at half past 5 last evening, by an immense multitude of all ranks and classes of this community; at the "Governor's gate" they were received by the Lord Bishop and several of his Clergy, and, after the usual Church service, were consigned to the tomb in the Cathedral burial ground, amid the general grief of the largest and most perfectly ordered assemblage of persons we have ever seen congregated on a similar mournful occasion.

HEAVY LOSS BY FIRE.—Mr. Wm. Redstone, of Jerusalem Settlement, Queen's County, experienced a heavy loss by fire on the night of the 19th ultimo, in the entire destruction of his large and commodious Grist Mill, erected last summer, in which were about 400 bushels of grain, his saw mill, with a large quantity of logs, boards, planks, &c., belonging to the surrounding inhabitants; his turning machine, together with his barn, which was distant some 20 or 30 rods from the Mills, and all its contents—among which were a mare and cow, and some vehicles. Mr. R. knew nothing of his misfortune till he rose next morning, and beheld his buildings and animals reduced to ashes.

The general opinion is that the whole is the work of an incendiary, which opinion seems to be corroborated by the fact, that some buildings that stood between the mills and barn were not injured; and also that no fire was known to be about the said premises for the last fortnight. His loss is estimated to be about £500 or £600.