

THE GLEANER:

AND

NORTHUMBERLAND SCHEDIASMA.

VOLUME III.]

"Nec araneorum sane texus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes."

[No. 52.]

MIRAMICHI, TUESDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 4, 1832.

THE GLEANER.

FROM THE SAINT ANDREWS COURANT

HAYING.

"The Comet," which according to the Saint John Courier, had drawn its fiery tail over the face of some aqueous planet, and shaking it immediately over New-Brunswick, has given us such an unmerciful ducking, being now, it appears, tired of his fun, we who live in the country, may safely turn our attention to Haying. The proper time to commence Haying is when half the plants are in flower: for as the seed advances to maturity, the value of the grass rapidly decreases but as a farmer who has a great deal of grass to cut cannot expect to cut the whole of it at the exact time, the better way is to take time by the forelock, and commence as early as possible. Late mowing is always unprofitable; for setting aside the decreased value of the hay, the season itself becomes unfavourable, the days are shorter, the heat of the sun less intense, and the dews heavier. I would, therefore, advise our farmers to go on with all possible dispatch. Cut the thickest grass, that which is in danger of lodging, first; spread it carefully, and expose it to the sun, as much as possible the first day. A boy will spread, easily, as fast two men can mow; take it before night, and roll it up in rolls of one hundred weight each, or cock it up snugly, if there be the appearance of rain. It will sweat a little during the night, and when spread and exposed to the sun the next day, will dry very rapidly, and unless a great proportion of it be clover, will generally be fit to haul in before night. To leave hay in winnows over night, exposed to the dews, without cocking or rolling it up, is a most unfarmerlike practice, which retards the process of drying and injures the hay. After the thick grass is cut and secured, the thinnest grass should be the next cut, as being apt to ripe the soonest, and thereby to lose much of its value: and last of all, that which is a medium between the thick and the thin, or that which grows on moist land, if it be not heavy enough to lodge. The same process of raking and cocking that which remains in the field all night should be followed throughout the season. Towards the last of Haying, however, when the farmer has plenty of barn room, it frequently happens that grass can be cut in the morning, and hauled in the same day. This is a great saving of labour, but grass that can be cured so easily is generally too ripe, and what is gained in time is always more than lost in the value of the hay.

Respecting the drying of Hay and the manner of making it, there are various opinions and practices; but our farmers in this County are more uniform in their practice on this than on any other branch connected with their occupation: there are however some exceptions, and I have not unfrequently noticed excellent grass very much injured, and sometimes almost spoiled, by following a process totally different from the one here recommended. Too much drying is no doubt injurious but this is an extreme into which there is little danger of falling. Some think that a little heat in the mow will not injure hay; this is a great mistake—an ox is an excellent judge in this case—if he has been in the habit of eating other hay, unless he be suffering with hunger he will not eat a mouthful of that which is mow-burnt.—Hay will bear to be laid on a scaffold in a greener state than that which is laid in a mow, and that which is not more than half made, if laid on a scaffold where there is a free circulation of air, and lying there a few days, and being turned two or three times, will get dry enough to mow away. The utility of salt for cattle is generally acknowledged; hay is greatly increased in value by a mixture of salt, say one peck to a ton; when

greener than usual, it can be procured in this way, and the cattle will eat it with avidity. Mowing is laborious business, and the heat to which the mower is necessarily exposed makes the labour the more fatiguing. The mower should begin early in the morning when it is cool, the grass being then wet with dew will cut easily. Excuse fatigue and sweating should be avoided; for this purpose care should be taken to have the scythe and all the apparatus in the very best order, for heavy, clumsy, unhandy tools, should never be used. If the surface be level, the mower will do best with a long scythe; but if the surface be rough, a short, crooked one answers best. To keep the scythe sharp, and in proper trim, is a most essential part of the art of mowing which cannot be acquired by written directions, or by any other means than experience and practice. The greatest part of our cultivated lands are appropriated to the production of grass, and to this and our potato crops we attach the greatest importance; our winters are long, and upon the quantity and quality of our hay depends our success in the employment of our oxen, and the profitable keeping of cows and our sheep—upon this article, indeed, so much depends our prosperity, both as farmers and lumberers, that we cannot expect to succeed without giving it our undivided attention.

A PLOUGHMAN.

COMMUNICATION.

At a Meeting of Freeholders, Inhabitants, and others concerned in the Agriculture, Fisheries, and Trade, on the North side of the River Ristigouche, District of Gaspé, held the 18th of August, 1832, pursuant to public notice, at Mr. Adams's Inn, and convoked for the purpose of taking into consideration matters of public interest, relating to the settlements on the said River.

THOMAS BUSTEED, Esq. in the Chair.

Resolved, As the opinion of this meeting that the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the North side of the River Ristigouche, Bay Chaleurs, included in, and making part of the Province of Lower Canada, have cause to complain of the want of a due Administration of the Laws thereof, such as they are, by competent Courts; of the insecurity of trade, of property, and of person resulting therefrom, and of disregard for their remonstrances, and for their interests generally, by the Legislature of the Province.

Resolved, That the following are, in the opinion of this meeting, reasons sufficient to induce the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the North side of the Ristigouche to desire to be detached from Lower Canada, and from the jurisdiction of its Legislature, and to be annexed to New-Brunswick.

First, The community of interests in the fisheries of the said River, carried on in common by the Inhabitants of both sides, and the constant intercourse between them.

Second, The diversity of Laws relating to those fisheries—the Acts regulating them proceeding from different Legislatures (Lower Canada and New-Brunswick) seldom corresponding—sometimes repugnant—the cause of frequent misunderstandings, and likely rather to increase than diminish while those Laws emanate from two Legislatures—upon the whole ruinous to the fisheries, and prejudicial to the common interest of the Inhabitants of either side.

Third, The imperfect administration of justice in the small causes, within the jurisdiction of the existing Court for the District of Gaspé, as well as the enormity of fees, particularly in petty causes under £10 Sterling, and other notorious abuses, prevailing in that Court—remoteness from the superior Courts at Que-

bec, and the impracticability of compelling the attendance of witnesses there from this quarter, and thence obtaining justice, except after long and vexatious delays and ruinous expense, such as to render the loss of a debt preferable to the pursuit of it through those Courts.

Fourth, Want of the administration of justice in penal and in criminal cases, and of Militia or constabulary force, and of police, for the maintenance of the Laws and of good order, notwithstanding frequent remonstrances on the subject, and cases of extraordinary hardship and oppression.

Fifth, Want of encouragement and of protecting Laws in favor of the fisheries—of sufficient information in the Assembly of Lower Canada of the needs of the River and Gulf fisheries, and of a just appreciation in that body of their importance in a national cause: and a studied disregard of them, and of all internal improvements on this River.

Sixth, The overbearing party spirit, and intolerance prevalent in the Assembly of Lower Canada, as particularly exemplified in the unconstitutional proceedings of that House, as well during the present as late provincial Parliament towards the neighbouring County of Gaspé, of which this formerly made part, and until the recent division of the County, suffered under the injustice and oppression inflicted by that Assembly upon the independent but injured Freeholders thereof, with whom we deeply sympathise.

Seventh, The unconstitutional tendencies, anti-commercial and anti-British character of the said Assembly, as instanced in innumerable cases more particularly by the impolitic and iniquitous capitation or poll-tax, imposed at the last Session upon our countrymen. Emigrants from Great Britain and Ireland, essentially contributing by their emigration hither to the wealth, prosperity, strength, and security of these Provinces, in their connection with the British Empire.

Eighth, The distance of our local situation from Quebec, the seat of that Legislature, and finally want of confidence in it.

Resolved, As the opinion of this meeting that among the advantages expected to result to the Inhabitants on the Ristigouche generally, from an annexation of this (the North) side of it to New Brunswick, and placing both banks of the River, from its mouth upwards under the Legislature thereof, may be mentioned.

First, Uniformity of Laws regulating the trade and fisheries, common to the Inhabitants of both sides of it.

Second, The protection of the Laws of New-Brunswick as now enjoyed by the Inhabitants on the other side; contiguity to its Courts, the benefit of annual Circuits, a prompt administration of Justice, and at far less expense than in the Courts of Lower Canada.

Third, Better information in the New-Brunswick Legislature as to the needs of the fisheries, a more just appreciation than in the Assembly of Lower Canada of their value and importance,—a disposition to foster and encourage them by protecting Laws and Bounties—a due regard to the wants and internal improvements on the river, according to the means at its disposition, and in general a more liberal and enlightened Legislation than in Lower Canada—above all, an absence of popular despotism and tyranny.

Fourth, A rapid increase of population, by the accession of our countrymen from Great Britain and Ireland, owing to consanguinity, to similarity of manners and habits of the people of New-Brunswick, and the approximation of its Laws to those of the parent state, and a speedy development of the capability and resources of this fertile tract of country.

Fifth, Proximity to Fredericton, the seat of the New-Brunswick Legislature; its constitutional, com-