

or the preservation of the peace: there is no danger: the valve is open, and Jonathan's superfluous steam is escaping.

### Agricultural Journal.

From the British American Cultivator.

#### LIME.

The application of lime to the soil, as a stimulant food to the plant, and as a corrective or neutraliser to the pernicious acids, which are more or less frequent in all soils, is a branch of farming almost unknown in this Province.

There are but few portions of Canada which we have not traversed, and we have no scruple in asserting, that in no country in the world, would the application of lime to the soil have a more direct and beneficial influence, than on the majority of the cultivated lands of this country.

But few in the province could be found who would believe that the return made from liming ground for crops would pay the expense,—the experiment has never been fully tried, and why should any one raise objections to the carrying out of a scheme of which they are totally ignorant? In all of the improvements which we intend to recommend to the notice of the Canadian farmer, their practicability and profit, shall be features of the system which we will endeavour to be master of,—and only such as are calculated to handsomely repay the producer, shall receive our countenance. We conceive the amount of the profits of a business to be the grand propeller to stimulate a man to action; and unless a fair amount of profit be the result of the improvements which we recommend, only few will follow our suggestions. To convince the farmer that we are sincere in our advocacy of their best interests, we would suggest the propriety of each and all testing the plans we lay down, on a small scale at first,—and if any require information on any branch of their business, we shall at all times feel pleasure in answering any inquiries which would tend to benefit the public.

Lime may be had in large quantities in this city, for the low price of one shilling and three pence per barrel,—ten barrels per acre would be found to have a wonderful effect on the growth and early maturity of the plant, which is so trifling a cost that no one could object to trying it on a small scale. Where limestone can be had at a mere nominal cost, and fuel for the mere chopping and drawing, the cost would not exceed ten-pence per barrel, and even less than that sum in case where much of the work of chopping wood, drawing stone, and burning, may be performed by the farmer, his sons, or his farm labourer. The subject is worthy of experiment, and we trust that its importance will not be lost sight of by the farmers generally.

The quantity of lime to be applied to the land, must of course, be proportioned to the quality of the lime, as well as to the nature and condition of the soil; the operations must be in a great degree governed by the expense and the probability of the immediate and future profits. A less quantity than 20 bushels per acre would scarcely be perceptible, and in many instances, 200 bushels per acre would be found to remunerate the expense, and leave a handsome profit over and above. The only lands in Canada that would require that quantity, are such as do not at present produce sufficient to make it worth the attention of an enterprising, intelligent man to cultivate them, supposing the lands cost him nothing. A tract of country in the Niagara district, in the neighbourhood of Smithville, is of the above description, and although limestone is abundant, and wood may be made for chopping and drawing, still no regard is paid to the renovating of the soil, by means with which an All-wise Providence has so bountifully blessed them. The occupiers of about 20 miles square of country, in the above section, instead of living, are merely staying on their land, and a miserable stay they make of it.

Deep autumn and spring ploughing, thorough draining with a trench plough—the application of the manure from the barn-yard before it had passed through the stage of fermentation, and the application of about 100 or even 200 bushels of shell or unslacked lime per acre, applied in the month of June, so that it may be thoroughly incorporated with the soil during the subsequent operation of the summer following process, are a part of the system that we would recommend to the notice of that class of farmers who have a heavy tenacious clay, that they consider at present unwor-

thy of their attention. Ten acres thus managed, would pay better than 40 acres cultivated after the style mostly practised throughout the country.

There is, perhaps, no country where lime has been used to such an extent and with such effect, as in the improved parts of Scotland, where it is often carried to the distance of 60 miles, after having been imported from distant points of the coast, yet, in most cases, the profits have borne out the charges and left a living profit to the farmer.

### Communication.

Mr Editor,

As the Act relative to Parochial Schools in this Province is about to expire, we beg to call the attention of those in authority, to the necessity of establishing a more proportionate scale in the salaries paid to Male and Female Teachers, as by the present statute both are placed on the same footing; this, among the many other matters connected with the School system is of paramount importance, and demands a speedy revision. The allowance hitherto granted to female teachers, have induced several of the sex to assume the pretension and responsibility of conducting a school, solely for the emolument derived from the Government; and we are well aware of numbers who have been actually licensed through the instrumentality of having "a friend at the helm," whose incompetence can be plainly established. In some instances a few weeks training at some preparatory male school, is sufficient to ensure a qualification, and even this necessary step is rarely indulged in. We do not intend this as a sweeping assertion on the whole of the sex, nor pretend to declaim against female instruction from properly qualified and experienced persons; but from a knowledge of facts which are of indubitable authority, and which are daily progressive, we hesitate not in stating that a more efficient system is loudly called for. The mania has now become so general, that even "little misses in their teens" are seen to sway birch and authority in several districts of the Province, and they have been appointed to this important duty merely because "Pa," one of the trustees, or some other connexion at the helm, assures them that the duty is little more than playing "bo-peep," and that they shall be entitled to the annual allowance of twenty pounds. Similar references might also be adduced relative to Male Schools, where incompetent persons are often employed, which is chiefly to be attributed to the allowance being insufficient to remunerate any person possessed of qualifications. We find that immense sums have been annually granted to the support of Grammar Schools throughout the Province, which, with very few exceptions, have been productive of very little benefit. The whole system requires a thorough investigation,—the cause of education should be encouraged and promoted, and the early days of childhood, those most precious years of life, confided solely to the superintendance of experienced instructors, that by their judicious example and influence, the tender mind may be directed into its proper channel, and the foundation of all that wisdom and virtue laid, which enriches and embellishes the world.

CAUTION.

### Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 19, 1844.

ARRIVAL OF THE SOUTHERN MAIL.—The Southern mail reached the Post Office, on Monday afternoon, at 3 o'clock. We went to press to-day at three o'clock.

FROM OTAHEITE.—The Barbadoes Globe, of the 2d May, furnishes the following important piece of intelligence from the above-named Island. The story does not appear to be a very probable one—but we give it as we find it reported in the papers. Should it, however, contrary to expectation, turn out to be correct, it will be a pretty affair for the English and French Diplomats to arrange.

"Our readers may remember, that we informed them of the unjustifiable proceedings of the French Admiral in the Pacific, Du Petit Thonars, towards the Queen of Otahete, now called Tahiti. The conduct of this valiant admiral (against a defenceless woman) has been disavowed by the French King, Ministers, and Chamber of Deputies, and admiral Hamilton

sent out to supersede him in the Pacific. Meanwhile the last island steamer brings the astonishing intelligence, received from Tahiti, by way of Panama, that Queen Pomare having taken refuge on board the British frigate Dublin, the French admiral proceeded thither, and peremptorily demanded the surrender of the Queen's person from the British captain. This was of course refused, high words arose between the French admiral and English captain, and the former left for his own vessel, furious with indignation. He immediately commanded the three large French men of war he had with him in the Bay, to clear for action. They all assailed the British frigate with a murderous, sustained, and simultaneous fire. The British fought to the last, and sunk with her colour flying. If this be really the fact, this cowardly attack of the French admiral upon a force so very far inferior to his own, calls for his peremptory execution; he ought to be regarded as a pirate, and sunk or hanged wherever found, especially as his dastardly persecution of a woman, and all his other illegal and tyrannous conduct, was totally unauthorised by the French Government. Even a vastly superior armament could not, it appears, take a single British frigate, though they could by a sudden and cowardly attack, sink her. The British seamen know now as well as ever, how to conquer or die. Eternal honor to the brave and gallant crew and captain, who so nobly died in the discharge of their duty against overwhelmingly superior odds—in preserving unscathed and unstruck the honor of the British Flag—and in the protection of a female suppliant in distress. The men who could die in defence of an allied Queen, how would they not fight and conquer for their own Victoria."

CANADA AFFAIRS.—The Quebec Gazette furnishes us with the following paragraph.

"Some time ago we had people coming to blows in the south-eastern part of the district of Montreal about religion; politics have recently been the cause of death and personal injuries in the city of Montreal; and it appears that District Council disputes have produced resistance to the enactment of the Council at Nicolet, arrests and consequent local ill-will and hatred among the inhabitants. The continued falsehoods, misrepresentations, irritating and insulting language of a large portion of the Press, gives us reason to believe that in some respects, we will not be long behind our neighbours to the south and west."

LEPROSY AT TRACADIE.—The St. John Courier of Saturday last, contains an article entitled "Brief Remarks on The Report laid before the Government of New Brunswick, by the Medical Commission appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, to investigate the nature, causes, &c. of a disease termed Leprosy, prevailing in certain French settlements in that Province, bordering on the Gulf of Saint Lawrence. By Alexander Boyle, M. D."

The article is too lengthy for this day's paper, but we will make room for it in our next. From all that we have seen, and from all that we can learn, there is not the least danger to be apprehended from its spreading, as the disease is not of a highly contagious nature, for had it been so, from the great length of time it has existed in the French settlements, the entire population must have been affected; besides, the greatest care will be taken to prevent any direct communication with the parties who may be placed on Shelldrake Island. There appears to be much more dread on the score of infection or contagion by parties living at a distance, than is evinced by the inhabitants residing either in this County or Gloucester; in fact the subject is rarely alluded to, so secure do all parties appear from any evils likely to result from the spreading of the disease.

The Courier introduces the article with the following remarks:

"Within the last few months, various statements relative to the disease which prevails at some places in the counties of Northumberland and Gloucester, in this Province, have been published in the Newspapers, and the statements have had the effect of causing a quarantine of vessels from the neighbourhood of the district in question, to be talked of at Quebec, and other parts of the colonies. These restrictions upon commerce, if adopted in Canada, would doubtless be enforced in other places, much to the injury of the trade of New Brunswick. Under these circumstances—and when the report of the medical commission appointed to inquire into the nature of the disease—the measures adopted in the matter by the Provincial Legislature, and those said to be in contemplation by the Commissioners subsequently selected by the Executive Government, all favour the adoption of quarantine regulations—we have much satisfaction in having permission to publish the following paper, drawn up by one of the highest authorities in these matters in the Province, and founded upon his own experience, as well as upon the observations of the first medical men of the age—especially as the conclusions come to are such as to allay much of the alarm and excitement that have prevailed on the subject, and at the same time, to save the continued outlay of large sums of money, which the erection of a Lazaretto proposed to be established on Shelldrake Island, in the Miramichi river, would ne-

cessarily entail upon the general revenue of the Province."

AWFUL PIRACY.—The Halifax papers contain the substance of the confession of two of the crew of the bark Saladin, an account of the wreck of which vessel on the coast of Nova-Scotia, and the arrest of the crew, under strong suspicious circumstances, have been published in the Gleaner. In another page we have given the details of these horrid disclosures, as they are reported in the papers.

The Herald says—that all the sailors will plead guilty, and that the Judge of the Admiralty Court, who is at his country seat in Truro, has been sent for. The trial, it was expected, would commence in about ten days.

The same paper reports—that the Swede, and wooden-leg sailor, are suffering dreadfully from the gnawings of conscience. The latter, it is said, has not eaten any thing for three days.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The Halifax Morning Post furnishes us with the following melancholy intelligence from this Island:—

"We learn from the slate in the Exchange Reading Room, that the latest accounts from Harbour Grace, state, that a destructive Fire had consumed a number of dwellings and stores—and was still raging when the packet boat left for Saint John."

Chief Justice Broune, has been removed from his office by the Colonial Secretary, on account of some disagreement between him and the Governor.

GUANO.—The following article contains some information respecting the mode of applying this manure, which may be of service to some of our Agricultural readers at the present time.

"In the latter end of December, 1842, I ploughed a lea-field, and sowed it with wheat; and in the month of May following, it looked stunted and bad. At this period I sowed over it Guano at the rate of two cwt. to the acre, and in fourteen days an entire change had taken place, the wheat looking green instead of yellow. It continued for some time to improve, and every little piece that was missed in the manuring, was seen from the opposite hill; and I am sure, from the application of this manure (costing about 30s.) the crop was improved full thirty per cent. Guano had the same effect on Barley on a light soil, and a piece of Oats on a stiff clay soil. In the second week of May last, I tried it in a field of Grass, using three cwt. per acre against forty tons of Devonport Dung; and I can be positive in stating, that the part on which the Guano was used, produced a far better crop of Grass than where the dung was used. I have found guano very useful as a liquid manure. I have dissolved it in spring water at the rate of one lb. guano to three gallons, for 24 hours, which has produced a fine piece of grass; but the best and most convenient plan is (where persons possess tanks for containing the liquid manure from the stables, &c.) to put it in the tank, about 1 lb. guano to 5 gallons of water. This I found to produce a most excellent crop of grass, which was in six weeks sufficiently high to mow. I likewise sowed a field of white turnips, one part with dung, the other with guano, two cwt per acre. The guano produced a much better crop than the dunged part, which was allowed to be the case by several farmers who saw the field." William May, Saltash.

BRITISH PRESS.—Under the head of the Politician, will be found some remarks on the subject of the annexation of Texas to the United States. The Colonial Gazette concludes a long on the same subject, as follows:

"It is a disagreeable task—but there is every chance that it will fall to the lot of this country—to chastise the cock-a-hoop spirit of insolent dishonesty which is gaining the ascendancy in the North American Union. It will cost us some exertion and suffering; but the Americans are forcing it upon us, and they have yet to learn what Great Britain can do. The bungled business of the (unjust) attempt to suppress their independence—the desultory flourish of arms of 1812, have given them a false estimate of their own and British strength. They will come to their senses when the mouths of the Hudson, Chesapeake, and Mississippi are blockaded."

☞ The Steamer Saint George will be here on Saturday next, the 22d inst., and leave on Monday, 24th inst for Charlottetown and Pictou.

THE SEASON.—The weather has taken a very sudden change. A few days ago it was exceedingly cold for the season, north winds prevailing; but the last three days have been very warm. The fields are much in want of rain—and our agricultural neighbours must have been sadly disappointed in the sudden change which took place in the weather this morning, as there was every prospect of the speedy fall of refreshing showers.