

bushels. He proposed to a friend of his last winter to soak his corn in muriate of ammonia. He did, and on a poor chestnut ridge he got 94 bushels of corn to the acre. There are certain salts necessary to the perfection of plants. Wheat contains phosphate of lime, without which it is imperfect. This substance escapes from animals in their urine. This should be preserved. It is probable that in this state there is millions of pounds of this phosphate of lime taken from the land annually. This loss must be made good, or the soil will grow poor. Seeds, Dr. L. said, should be steeped in those substances necessary to the perfection of the plant, before sowing.

Prof. Emmons said he could not altogether agree with Dr. Lee in some points of vegetable economy. He, (Prof. E.) thought plants derived their sustenance almost entirely through their roots—the roots were evidently designed to take in the food of the plant—their spongioles were extended in every direction for this purpose. Leaves may be considered the stomach of the plant, where the food taken through the roots is digested. This is a question of practical importance, for if plants derive their nutriment from the atmosphere, then let manures be applied so as to ascend. It was possible that plants may absorb carbonic acid by their leaves; but was this their proper function?

Dr. Lee replied that he thought Prof. Emmons had misunderstood him—it was conceded that plants derive part of their food from the soil. The question was, how much? If we could know this exactly, we should know just how much manure to apply. It is clear that we must restore more than we take away. We were at present in the dark about this, but it was his impression that in taking off 100 lbs. in crops, 80 of the quantity comes from the atmosphere which would leave 20 to be restored.

Professor Hall said different plants possess different powers. Some absorb more from the atmosphere than others. Take peas, for instance: the tops will remain green and flourishing, while an inch or two of the stalk near the ground may be nearly dried up. This shows that they absorb nutriment from the atmosphere. A vine would move in the direction of a dung-hill, and flourish better if suffered to run over it. Some plants will flourish in potted glass watered only with distilled water—others will grow without the roots being covered at all.

The President, Mr. Prentice, being called on, observed that the call had been unexpected, and he was not prepared with any data from which to give the information asked. He would state, however, that the peculiar manure alluded to, was the refuse of a fur-factory, and was composed mostly of the fatty substance, or blubber, adhering to the skins of seals, with portions of the skins and hair. Of this refuse, there was sometimes as much as three pounds from a single skin. Owing to the trifling estimation in which manures had formerly been held by the farmers in this vicinity, he experienced great difficulty in getting rid of this refuse. He had offered to give it away, and afforded any facilities for loading it, &c., but strange as it may seem, the farmers would not take the trouble to cart it away, and he was actually under the necessity of purchasing a piece of land on which to deposit it. Its effects, as had been remarked, were quite remarkable. He had never seen so powerful a manure. He had applied it, with results astonishingly beneficial, as a top-dressing to his pasture grounds, but the effluvia from it when applied in that shape, was exceedingly offensive. He had mixed it with the sweepings of the streets, so as to absorb the gases; and for cultivated crops, he preferred to use it in this form, worked into the soil. For a top-dressing to grass, it was perhaps as well to spread it on without mixture. Where he had so applied it, the crop had been increased from one ton to three tons per acre. Care was needed lest too much should be applied. In one instance where it had been applied to a potato-crop, an enormous growth of vines was produced, some of them 8 or 9 feet long, but very few potatoes. On corn it had done well, when used in moderate quantities—giving, he thought, a third more than he had got by other manures. He had once applied it to his orchard, but put on so much that it destroyed about one-half his trees. He was unable to state, from recollection, the precise quantity he had used per acre in all cases.

European News.

From British Papers to the 4th May, received by the Britannia, Steamer.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO IRELAND.

At the meeting of the Dublin corporation on Wednesday week, Mr. O'Connell anxiously inquired of the Lord Mayor whether he had received any further communication respecting her Majesty's intended visit to that portion of her dominions, and being answered in the negative, the learned gentleman proposed that his lordship should be requested to convene a special meeting on Tuesday, for the purpose of addressing the Queen, "begging of her Majesty" to honour her loyal and devoted Irish subjects with a visit.

On Friday there was a special meeting of the corporation of Dublin, for the purpose of proposing an address to her Majesty, inviting her to visit her loyal and faithful Irish subjects.

Alderman O'Brien proposed the address, which contained the suggestions made by Alderman O'Connell, at the last meeting of the assembly.

Sir John Power seconded its adoption. Mr. Hudson moved an amendment, that the question be postponed for a month.

His reason for proposing this amendment was, that he apprehended political differences and party dissensions would take place if her Majesty visited this country, in consequence of speeches delivered in the Conciliation Hall on the previous day. It was evident from those speeches that political demonstrations were to be submitted to her. If such a course were pursued, those who entertained different views would consider it their duty to come forward with a counter demonstration, and the result would be that her Majesty's visit would produce a good deal of injury, instead of that benefit which she expected to confer upon this portion of her dominions. Those with whom he acted were desirous her Majesty would come to Ireland, because they thought her visit would be attended with beneficial effects; but after what had taken place on the previous day, he could not think of supporting the original resolution, and he deeply regretted that anything should have occurred to mar the unanimity which heretofore existed on this subject.

Alderman Kinahan seconded the amendment, and spoke to the same purpose as the mover of it.

Alderman O'Connell said he would not oppose the original resolution, neither would he support it, but would remain silent as to its merits. He confessed his feelings had undergone a change, in consequence of the course taken by the leading members of the Whig and Tory parties in the recent debate in the House of Commons. He was not now inclined for the visit of her Majesty, but if she did come, he would not consent to the abatement of the repeal agitation for a single day, lest it might be said afterwards that the question had declined, or was abandoned. His intentions had been altered by the alteration in the conduct of others. After the language of Mr. Macaulay and Sir James Graham, it would be impossible for the people of Ireland to meet her in the spirit in which they would meet her had not those sentiments been uttered which had given so much offence. If a coalition had been formed in Parliament between the Whigs and Tories to put an end to the unanimity which existed in Ireland on the subject of suspending the repeal agitation during her Majesty's visit, it could not have adopted a more effectual mode for effecting its purpose. He was disposed to think, from the speeches uttered, there, that some such coalition had taken place. When the Irish people thought that repeal was necessary for the salvation of their country, and for the preservation of the connection with England, it was too bad they should be told by Mr. Macaulay, that under even the circumstances he stated their demand should not be complied with. If they postponed their agitation for the repeal while the Queen was here, it would be laid hold of, and it would be proclaimed that the agitation had ceased; that the people had grown apathetic, and that her Majesty's presence, without any more good measures, was quite sufficient to make them entirely abandon their claims to a restoration of their parliament. He did not hesitate to say, that if the Ministers had not interfered as they had, he would have felt himself bound to proceed with the formation of the committee. He could not vote for the original motion, and he would not vote for the amendment; he would not vote at all. He gave a pledge at the last

meeting to toast her Majesty's ministers, and he should observe that pledge; and if those speeches had not been made he would have been ready to give his time and his money, like any other gentleman present, in carrying out the object the assembly had in view. He concluded by declaring that he would stand by the speech he made at the Conciliation Hall yesterday, which, was, that the repeal agitation was not to be abated during her Majesty's visit, and that every means should be taken to show her Majesty the feeling that existed here on the subject.

Mr. Reilly said he was no party to the requisition for calling this special meeting. He did not understand why Ireland should invite her Majesty to come here more than to any other portion of the kingdom. The trade and business of Ireland would not be benefited to the extent that was generally anticipated. When George the Fourth came here a great deal of money was spent, which subsequently occasioned much misery. The landlords of Ireland were too poor to do honour to her Majesty in a proper and becoming manner, and if they attempted to do so, they must mortgage their property to raise the means; they would afterwards put the screw on their tenantry to relieve themselves from their liabilities thus incurred. They would raise money for this purpose on any terms to enable them to show off before the English aristocracy who would accompany her Majesty. He had no objection to her Majesty coming, as she went to Scotland, but he objected to any invitation being sent from this country.

Mr. Kirwan, as a repealer, was of opinion the repeal agitation could with perfect safety be allowed to remain in abeyance for a few weeks during her Majesty's stay in Ireland.

The question was then put *ex cathedra* and carried.

A committee was appointed to prepare an address to her Majesty, inviting her to visit Ireland, and the assembly adjourned.

Egypt and Syria.—The latest advices from Alexandria are to the 10th inst.

The Pasha had been residing at Cairo for some weeks past, and intended in a few days proceeding on a visit to the lower provinces, and thence to Alexandria for the summer. Ibrahim Pasha, jun., nephew of Mehemit Ali, was to proceed to Europe in the course of the present month, by the Nile frigate, with the view of consulting the medical faculty on the state of his health; he has been suffering severely from disease of the liver.

On the evening of the 3d it blew a terrific gale of wind, and much damage was done among the shipping in the harbour.

An act of the most wanton and barbarous character was perpetrated on a native Christian, some days ago, at Damietta. This person was accused of having spoken slightly of the Mahomedan religion, and on the fact having been made known to the populace, they collected round him, gave him 500 lashes, praded him naked through the streets mounted on a buffalo, with two dead dogs and a pig attached to his legs and shoulders, and afterwards beat him until he expired under the effects of the punishment. The European Consuls have taken it up strongly; but the punishment inflicted on the principals has been limited to a five years' incarceration in the Castle of Aboukir!

Reports from Syria have reached us of the plague having broken out at Jerusalem, and that the number of deaths is 40 a day.

The coalition which existed among the Arab tribes who had assembled to attack Aden has been prematurely broken up by their quarrelling amongst themselves, in consequence of which a general fight ensued, and many were killed on both sides. The greater number have returned to their own country.

The Cape.—We have Cape of Good Hope papers to the 28th of February. The territory of the Amapendas, a tribe with whom the colonial government had concluded a treaty some time ago, to protect them if necessary against hostile invasion, had been entered and spoliated by a tribe of mountaineers, and a large number of their cattle and sheep carried off. A call had in consequence been made upon the colonial government for assistance to punish the marauders, a call which it was expected would be responded to. The territory occupied by the Amapendas lies between the north eastern boundary of the colony and Port Natal.

The Great Britain Steamer.—It will be seen, by reference to our advertising columns, that the Great Britain steamer is announced to sail from Li-

verpool for New York on Saturday, the 26th of July, and from New York for Liverpool on the 28th of August.

[From a late British paper, we copy the following account of the proceedings of a recent Repeal meeting in Dublin.]

REPEAL MEETINGS.

Mr O'Connell said this was a great day for Ireland. Circumstances which had lately occurred ought to prove to the people the value of perseverance; by perseverance they could achieve the glorious object for which they were contending. The time was fast approaching when Ireland would be treated as an integral portion of the British empire. It was now his duty to bring up the second report from the Parliamentary committee upon the report of the land commission. He then read the following report:—"That it is essentially necessary for the alleviation of the misery of the people of Ireland, that the legislature should impose a heavy absentee tax—that such tax should not be less than 10 per cent. on all incomes exceeding £200 per annum; that every person should be considered as an absentee who shall not reside in Ireland during at least six months in each year, and that the proceeds of such tax should be applied in augmentation of the funds raised by local taxation for useful objects connected with the districts from which the income of such absentee is derived,"—and proceeded to comment on the many evils which absenteeism had inflicted on Ireland, and pointed out the means by which it might be counteracted. He continued to observe that he had read, with the greatest satisfaction, and in a spirit of the greatest kindness, the speeches which had been delivered by the Ministry during the late debate, and greatly eulogised Sir James Graham, who declared that the Maynooth Bill was to be the precursor of more beneficial measures, and that Potestant ascendancy had departed for ever. He also complimented Sir Robert Peel. On the whole, he considered the debate as most creditable, and he was certainly astonished at seeing so much type used in a debate in England and so little abuse of him. The opposition to the Maynooth Bill was headed by the Dissenters, and drew from his friend Mr Sheil a well merited castigation. The Dissenters were guilty of base ingratitude—they were emancipated in 1828, and for that event they were chiefly indebted to the Irish Catholics. It was he who drew up a petition in their favour, which was signed by 28,000 persons, and within a fortnight after the presentation of that petition they were emancipated. They were not surprised at the opposition of the Methodists. The Catholics had supported the cause of the free church party in Scotland, but they had also evinced ingratitude. He had done with these parties, he wanted nothing from them but abuse. It gave him sincere satisfaction to have it in his power to declare that the Church of England Clergy, both in England and Ireland, had not made any demonstration against the Maynooth Bill. Never at any former period of his life did he consider himself as standing in a prouder position than he did at that moment. The man who could now commit a crime would indeed be an enemy to Ireland. In the name of their common country he would implore of the people of Ireland to preserve tranquillity—to avoid Ribbonism and all secret societies whatever, and to prove themselves worthy of the moment they had arrived at.

Mr O'Connell announced the amount of rent to be £355 19s. 6d.

At a meeting on Monday, the 28th, Nicholas Maher, Esq., M. P. for Tipperary, was called to the chair, and commenced the proceedings by saying that as a Catholic, and the representative of a Catholic constituency, he was happy to have that opportunity of thanking Sir R. Peel for the manner in which he had pressed the bill conferring the grant upon the College of Maynooth. The Irish people would receive with gratitude the smallest portion of reparation for the wrongs that had been inflicted upon them for centuries; but nothing would satisfy them but a repeal of the union. They would accept, as it had been said in another place, the sympathies of France, of Spain, of America, but they wanted not their assistance. They had determination—they had perseverance—with hearts resolved and arms nerved.

Mr O'Connell read a letter from Dr. Higgins, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Ardagh, which conveyed a remittance of £70, subscribed by his priests. The following are extracts:—

"The events that have taken place in England during the last month have settled the question among Irishmen. Every one, even the most apathetic, has been alarmed, and aroused to a sense of national duty; and despair of any measure of justice from England has sunk deep into every heart. In that wicked and besotted country, not only has the mob risen up against us, but the peer, the squire, the merchant, the trader, the parson, the swindler—in a word, the whole population, men, women, and children, of every creed, class, and section—have openly declared that they will keep us eternally under their cruel domination. Such being their unchristian disposition, I am exceedingly glad that they have manifested them to the world. I think we may now safely point to any Irishman as a hypocrite or a fool who will have the hardihood to assert that England will ever do justice to his country."

"This infamous manifestation will, moreover, unmask some English knaves, who were perpetually assuring the authorities at Rome that if the Irish priests gave up the discussion of repeal, England would return *en masse* to the bosom of the Catholic Church. What egregious folly or profound wickedness to propa-