

THE GLEANER:

AND NORTHUMBERLAND, KENT, GLOUCESTER AND RESTIGOUCHE
COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.

OLD SERIES]

Nec aranearum sane textus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes.

[COMPRISED 13 VOLUMES.]

NEW SERIES, VOL. IV.]

MIRAMICHI, SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 9, 1846.

[NUMBER 31.]

ROYAL MAIL

AND ACCOMMODATION COACH,
Between Peticodiac and Miramichi.

The subscriber takes this opportunity of returning his sincere thanks, for the very liberal patronage he has received for the last three months, on this line; and now begs leave to inform the public, that he has furnished himself with first rate Horses, and a good, comfortable Coach, for the accommodation of travellers, and having contracted for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails; twice a week on the above route, This Coach will leave Mrs Ferrigo's Hotel, Peticodiac, on the arrival of the St. John and Halifax Mails, on the days of Wednesday and Sunday in every week, and passing through Shediac, Richibucto, and Kouchibouguac, will arrive in Miramichi on the following mornings at seven o'clock; and will leave the subscriber's residence in Newcastle, on the mornings of Tuesday and Saturday in each week, at five o'clock, A. M., and Layton's (Royal) Hotel, Chatham, at a quarter before six, A. M., and arrive at Peticodiac the same night at eleven o'clock.

Each passenger will be entitled to carry a trunk, (not exceeding 40 pounds weight) a hat box, and travelling bag; all extra luggage will be charged two pence half-penny per lb. weight.

No pains will be spared by the subscriber to make passengers comfortable; and he trusts that the public will continue to extend towards him, a share of their patronage.

WM. KELLY.

N. B. Passengers will please be punctual to the above mentioned hours of starting.
Miramichi, 7th July, 1845.

Accommodation Stage.

Circumstances have recently occurred which induce the Subscriber to send an ACCOMMODATION STAGE at any time that it may be required, from Chatham to Fredericton, starting on the morning of any day in the week (Sunday excepted) with one passenger, and, if required, two hundred and fifty pounds of Luggage, for the present stage Fare of two Passengers, viz: four pounds five shillings; or with any greater number than one passenger, with ordinary luggage, at the stage fare, viz: two pounds two shillings and sixpence each.

The travelling public, by availing themselves of this arrangement, will have the advantage of travelling in a well mounted, comfortable, covered conveyance, with as good horses as any in the Province, and careful drivers,—and of stopping at the best Houses of Entertainment on the route—and at the same time, leaving Chatham by seven o'clock on the morning of one day, with the engagement, that with the roads in any thing like tolerably good order they will be placed in Fredericton by, at the latest six o'clock, on the evening of the next day.

JOHN HEA.

N. B. Return Passengers will be brought at reduced rates.

Accommodation Mail Stage

BETWEEN
MIRAMICHI & FREDERICTON.

The Subscriber desires to tender his unfeigned thanks, for the very liberal share of public patronage, which he enjoyed during the many years he acted as Courier and Stage Driver, between Chatham and Bsthurst; and begs most respectfully to announce, that having again contracted for the conveyance of H. M. Mails, he will run a

TWO-HORSE STAGE,

Weekly, to and from Miramichi & Fredericton.

The Fredericton and Miramichi Stage, will leave the Royal Hotel, Chatham, on the morning of every MONDAY, at Eight; the store of Messrs. Gilmour Rankin & Co., Douglastown at Nine; and Hamill's Hotel, Newcastle, a Ten o'clock, precisely.

The Fredericton and Miramichi Stage, will be drawn by strong, swift Horses,—is easy and commodious,—and will travel at the rate of 6 miles an hour. These advantages,—together with his assurance, that no exertion or expense, that may contribute to the comfort or accommodation of Travellers,—shall be wanting on his part, encourages the subscriber, to solicit, most humbly—but confidently—a renewal of the support which he had wont to enjoy.

JOHN M'BETH.

May 1, 1845.

N. B. The Miramichi and Fredericton Stage arrives at, and departs from Fredericton, timeously for the arrival and departure of the Saint John steamer, and Canada mails.
All parcels at the risk of the owners.

Agricultural Journal.

From the London Farmer's Magazine,
for April.

GERMAN PAMPHLETS ON THE
POTATO DISEASE AND ITS
REMEDIES.

Authentic Facts on the Renovation of the Potato by means of Seed, in relation to the disease of that plant now prevalent; by W. Albert. With remarks by the Justiz-rath Isensee, Magdeburg, 1845.

This pamphlet is introduced by some remarks from Mr. Isensee, who states that he is not himself a practical agriculturist, but one who takes great interest in all that relates to agriculture. He is the President of the Agricultural Society of Cothen, in which position he has not only great opportunities of observing the different branches of agriculture, but also is able to make comparative experiments. Having become acquainted with the fact that one of the Saxon agriculturists had made experiments on obtaining potatoes from seed, and that even in the first year useful tubers for food and other purposes had been obtained, he turned his attention to the subject, and thus collected a variety of important details, which are recorded in the pages of the pamphlet before us. It ought to be added that the season in which the experiments were tried was not favourable; the spring was cold and wet, and the frosts in the beginning of September did much injury.

During the last ten years it has been observed that the potato has exhibited a marked change in the vital powers. For

1. Their preservation is more difficult now than formerly: 400 or 500 bushels of the tubers might be laid together, and no bad results ensued; but recently 60 or 70 bushels laid together will speedily decay.

2. Formerly potatoes, when wounded in digging them up, healed; but now they either putrify or become tainted.

3. It is well known, moreover, that in many places they cut off the ends of the potatoes, where the buds are mostly found, and planted them as sets. Now, however, these ends most speedily run to decay.

4. Damp Oelds, that used to yield sound and beautiful potatoes, give now a crop of far less durability.

5. Varieties of potatoes, that formerly blossomed and bore fruit, perform these functions no longer, the blossoms drop off, and no seed can be obtained. All these points have been more or less observed in many places.

In 1839, however, a disease appeared, which within a short time, destroyed thousands of bushels of potatoes. This was the dry gangrene (kartoffelfaule), which speedily changed the tubers into a brown dry powder, and rendered them unfit for any kind of use. The author discovered that this disease was caused by insects, especially small mites, resembling those in cheese. Many persons smiled at this discovery, and supposed that the insects were produced by the disease in the potato. The following things, however, ought to have some weight with such opponents:—

1. Such an explanation would favour the doctrine of equivocal generation, which the celebrated naturalist Ehrenberg, of Berlin, has contradicted.

2. The author has found in the midst of sound potatoes nests of small white mites, and in the centre of an apparently sound Gibraltar potato a small living fly.

The author tried every means in his power to get-rid of this disease, but failed; he at last, however, succeeded, by procuring seed potatoes from a district where the disease had not been known. At the same time were constantly found individual potatoes which entered into a state of decomposition, by which their whole organization was quickly destroyed. Besides, also, the scurf (schorffigwerden), or, so called, pock mark (pockenkrankheit), made its appearance.

This disease, for the most part, exerted no influence upon the produce, nor upon the firmness or germinating power of the potato; only, in the sale, it prejudiced them on account of their unseemly appearance. The scurf, for the most part, made its appearance where the land had been strongly manured, or mixed with marl, chalk, or soap-ashes.

This year a disease has attacked the potato in Belgium, Holland, the Rhine region, and other places, which has destroyed their organization, and rendered them unfit for the food even of brutes. This disease has been accurately investigated in the countries where it has broken out. The French and English governments have both appointed commissioners. By some the disease has been attributed to the attacks of a fungus, which, fastening itself on the under surface of the leaf, prevents that organ from performing its proper functions, and the whole plant becomes diseased. In this district (Lower Saxony) the potatoes have this year (1845) exhibited a greater tendency than usual to run into a fluid decomposition. This is especially the case with potatoes in damp soils, and those which were placed under the water during the spring. Here and there specimens have been found which in all respects correspond with the above mentioned disease.

What then is the origin of this disease? Numerous hypotheses are advanced in the various journals. To us it appears that it must have arisen out of the following causes:—

1. Peculiar atmospheric influences.

2. A continual propagation by tubers.

As a proof of the last cause acting before all others is the fact that the later varieties of potatoes will not produce flowers and seeds. Unquestionably it is the legitimate function of a plant to bear seeds. The seed is the crowning result of the life of a plant; to it is committed the propagation and increase of the species; and when it fails to be produced, it indicates a want of power both in the vegetable and animal kingdom. Further, it is a fact that the early varieties of potatoes which generally blossom and bear seed have been affected to a much less extent with the prevailing disease than those varieties which are older, and which bear no flowers nor fruit. A brother of the reporter planted a field this year with the following varieties of potatoes:—

- Gibraltar potatoes.
- Sugar potatoes.
- Leipsic potatoes, with red eyes.
- Potatoes planted from seed.
- Wax potatoes (wacks-kartoffel).

At the harvesting, which occurred on the 20th of October, 1845 the potatoes a, b, and c, were found to contain more or less indications of disease, whilst the wax potatoes and those grown from seed were not touched at all. My brother also received from an agricultural society four potatoes of a new sort, which were planted in a garden amongst other varieties. At the time of gathering, all the other potatoes afforded traces of the scurf, and exhibited suspicious-looking spots upon the skin, whilst the produce of the four new potatoes were entirely clean and free from disease. The produce of the four potatoes was 40lbs.

It ought, however, to be observed that it has always been found that some sorts of potatoes are more liable than others to be diseased, although placed under the same circumstances; thus, in the district of the reporter, the red varieties of potatoes have been much better preserved than the white. The first posess always more consistence, and contain so much less quantity of water than the last.

From these observations it appears to result that the changes which the potatoes exhibit in disease are produced by the soluble substances which they contain, and that the disposition thereto is produced by a weak cohesion of the elementary matters of which the potato is composed. This asthenic state of the potato gives many insects their nourishment in its tissues, and by this means the decomposition of the tuber is more readily effected. Even in the fluid forms

of putrefaction, the reporter has discovered such insects; and at the moment of writing, a potato is lying before him, which on being inspected with the microscope, exhibits countless insects, the most of which resemble in appearance the cheese-mite.

European News.

From British papers to the 19th April, received by the steamer Cambria.

From Wilmer and Smith's European Times, from April 5 to April 11.
PARLIAMENTARY.

Parliament has adjourned for the Easter holidays, and will not meet until Friday next. The adjournment is of the briefest. The Premier justifies it on the ground of the urgency of public business. Easter is the half-way house on the road of legislative locomotion. Usually, it has been considered a culminating point in the history of the season—a fit one for taking stock of measures in hand or in abeyance; and according to the progress or otherwise of the ministerial development, has the Executive received credit for activity or censure for laziness. The praise and the blame, as regards the conduct of Sir Robert Peel, have been pretty equally distributed. Three months have nearly elapsed since the Tariff was introduced, and the measure still lingers in the House of Commons. It was vehemently opposed on its introduction by the enemies of Free-trade, and, irrespective of extraneous delays, the protectionists shewed anxiety enough to procrastinate its final triumph. All their petty artifices to gain time were well nigh exhausted; the war of words had been spun ad nauseum, and the ingenuity of baffled tactics was drawing to a close, when the Minister, in an evil moment threw out a rope, in the shape of an Irish Coercion Bill, to save the unhappy men from drowning. It proved a Godsend, and right gladly was it grasped. All Irish subjects afford food for talk—for controversy; but the attempt to cure the chronic disease of the country by this *ad captandum* process, aroused all the latent powers of verbal fluency with which heaven, for a wise purpose, has gifted our Celtic neighbours. The fight about the Tariff ceased, and the still more fierce wrangle about the "Curfew Bill" commenced. In this humour the House separated, ready, with renewed ardour, to begin the conflict when it meets again. Sir Robert Peel states that his Irish Bill will be taken up again on the reassembling of Parliament, and pressed to a first reading. Arrived at that stage, the Corn Bill, which stands committed to Monday week, will be once more on the tapis, pressed to a third reading, and sent to the House of Lords for acceptance or rejection. Had it not been for the fastidious deference to the Peers, which induced Sir Robert to shelve his pet measure of Commercial Reform for the purpose of discussing the odious Coercion Bill, the former healing measure would, ere this, have passed through its legislative formulas in the Lower House, and the Peers would have been in a position to say aye or no to it. As it is, a sad blow has been given, not only to the hopes, but to the trade of the country, by the delay, and the Minister has compromised his character for parliamentary tactics, in which, previously, he was supposed to have transcended his contemporaries. But we must submit patiently to the "good the gods provide," and even when it is a little saturated with evil we can more full appreciate the merit of that cardinal virtue—resignation.

Discussions continue as to how the Tariff will fare in the Lords. The opinions of some 300 members of that House are ascertained, it is said, and they are nearly equally balanced; but the views of some 50 more are oscillating. Upon these the fate of the measure and of the Government depends. It is asserted, with a good deal of confidence, by the advocates of the Tariff, that a majority of at least 25 will affirm the bill, but that some amendments in committee may en