

Communications.

Mr Editor,

An extract from the "Oswego Times" has appeared in your Gleaner of the 5th inst, in which the writer strongly recommends the practice of sowing a small quantity of Rye with seed Wheat, as a preventive against the attacks of the Weevil. In recommending this mode to one of our agriculturists, he informed me that in preparing his seed the past season, he found that a part of it contained a considerable quantity of Rye; this he planted by itself, adjoining to which, on the same day, he also sowed another quantity, which contained none; and the result was that the former was scarcely worth cutting, whilst the latter proved a very fair crop. Another of his neighbours made a similar trial, which proved equally unsuccessful. These experiments were made casually, and not from any previous information received on that subject.

Yours, &c.,

A WESTMORELAND CORRESPONDENT.

October 8, 1847.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, OCT. 12, 1847.

The Subscriber having been compelled to consume a large amount of time, and incur considerable expense, in his too often fruitless endeavours to collect his far spread Outstanding Debts, hereby notifies all persons to whom he is indebted, and with whom he has not a running account, that orders for advertising in this paper, and for Printing, in future, must be accompanied with the CASH, otherwise they will not meet with attention.

JAMES A. PIERCE.

PLOUGHING MATCH

OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

WHEN it is remembered that Northumberland, from having been the most backward county in the Province, has recently become the most advanced, in point of Agriculture, one would think that the question would naturally suggest itself to the mind of our Farmers—What is the cause of this? and that they would thus be led to see that it is alike their duty and their interest to countenance and support an Institution which, without doubt, has been mainly instrumental in effecting this desirable change. Natural, however, as this supposition may appear, it is far from being borne out by fact. Altho' Wednesday last—the day of the Annual Ploughing Match—was as pleasant a day as could well be desired, there were but seven ploughs on the field of competition, instead of 12 to 15 that were expected, and the turn out of Farmers was shabbily small. It is pleasing however, to know, that if the number of Ploughmen was small, the number of spectators present on the occasion was agreeably large and respectable; a circumstance from which it would appear, that as our Farmers begin to flag, greater vigour is put forth in favor of agriculture by those who are but indirectly involved in its success.

The competition took place in a 4 acre Lay field, the property of John T. Williston, Esq., near the Town of Chatham; and altho' there were but few competitors, the quality of their work was such as to afford an easy solution of the enquiry, why had they so few rivals? It is no flattery to say, that altho' the Ploughmen were chiefly natives of the county, and several of them under 20 years of age, (the winner of the 2nd prize only 17) the ground ploughed by them is as prettily and as precisely turned up, as any field of the kind has ever been in Northumberland.

The Judges were, Messrs. — Rust, Newcastle, M. Searle and Wm. Gray, Napan, and the prizes were awarded as below:—

1st prize, George Dick, son of A. Dick, Napan, £2 5 0

2nd do., James Johnstone, son of G. Johnstone, do., 2 0 0
3rd do., William Wilson, son of M. Wilson, do., 1 15 0
4th do., James Galloway, son of J. Galloway, do., 1 10 0
5th do., John Thompson, son of D. Thompson, Douglastown, 1 5 0
6th do., Wm. Brown, late servant to Mr M. Searle, 1 0 0

Mr Archibald Campbell, of Napan—although the only loser on the present occasion—has been the winner of several prizes at former Ploughing Matches. When Mr Campbell left Napan, he had no intention to compete; but was prevailed on, long after the others had started, to borrow a Plough—and by way of banter—commence work. The outfit with which he was enabled to equip himself proved wretchedly bad; but notwithstanding this, had it not been owing to the late hour at which he had of necessity to finish, he might perhaps have been awarded one of the prizes.

Among the spectators, who appeared to take a lively interest in the proceedings of the day, by closely inspecting the work as it progressed, &c., the following gentlemen seemed the most conspicuous: John Wright, Esq., President of the society; John M. Johnson, (High Sheriff) and John Porter, Esqrs., Vice Presidents; George Kerr, Esq., Treasurer of the Society; the Hon. A. Rapkin, M. P. P.; Wm. Carman, Jun., Esq., M. P. P.; M. Cranney, Esq., M. P. P.; Colonel A. Fraser, Jun.; John T. Williston, Esq., A. Davidson, Esq.; David Swayne, Esq. of H. M. Customs; James A. Pierce, Esq.; J. Donalds, Esq., South West; Joseph Samuel, Esq.; J. M. Johnson, Esq.; Mr D. Johnstone, Douglastown; Mr D. Wetherall, Newcastle; and several other persons from the South West, &c.

JAMES CAIZ, Secretary.

The Secretary has given such a faithful account of the affair, that he has not left us any thing to say on the subject. The fewness of agriculturists present, as well as the paucity of competitors, was much regretted by all present, and the lukewarmness thus manifested, was severely commented on.

NINETEENTH VOLUME.

We commence to-day the nineteenth volume of the Gleaner, and it will be our constant endeavour to render it as acceptable to our readers as we have reason to imagine it has heretofore been. To accomplish this, a great deal will depend on our subscribers;—if they respond cheerfully to our demands, it will will materially facilitate our efforts to accomplish this task; but if they hold back, and hesitate to supply us with means, it will be up-hill work, as it must of necessarily curb our enterprise, and militate against the efficiency of our establishment.

We shall not, however, anticipate impediments, but pursue our undertaking with an inward assurance that there will be meted out to us an increased measure of patronage, which we shall endeavour to meet by the more extended usefulness of our periodical.

In answer to numerous enquiries made to us of late, we remark—we do not hold ourselves responsible for the sentiments expressed by our Correspondents, or for the political principles they propound. This is an old compact entered into with the public.

While on the subject of responsibilities and particularly at the commencement of a new volume, it may not be amiss to insert the following extract from the Prospectus which we issued in the first number of the Gleaner, published in 1829. To this compact we have endeavoured to adhere as strictly as the nature of the times and other circumstances would admit of; and it is the chart by which we shall continue to steer our bark on our onward voyage over the boisterous sea of public and political life.

"Conceiving that the free exercise of the

Press, is the foundation stone of the constitution under which we live, and one of the many and invaluable blessings emanating from that source of all our grandeur and glory, Magna Charta, we shall endeavour to show how highly we value the one by preserving the other, in our regard, free and unfettered. Conceiving it to be the grand channel of communication—the main conduit through which all useful information flows—and the arena for the discussion of all matters of a public nature—our columns shall be open to all and influenced by none; and we shall hold ourselves indebted to such persons as shall favour us with their correspondence, to which we shall gladly give publicity, so long as they exercise their talents with propriety, and upon such subjects as will be conducive to the benefit of Miramichi, or to the edification of our readers.

"The circle of social intercourse shall be considered by us as a sacred boundary; never shall we make the Gleaner a mirror for the reflection of private character, nor shall we interfere with any individual, so long as he plods his way quietly, but the moment he thrusts himself forward to mar public happiness, or to impede public improvement, that moment we shall feel it our duty to denounce him."

"The Gleaner never shall degenerate into the vehicle of personal animadversion or slander, nor shall we permit it to become the medium through which envy and spleen might distort the fair face of private society, or sear the bosom of domestic harmony—on the contrary, our most strenuous exertions shall be used to render it the guardian of private rights—the redresser of grievances—the protector of the oppressed—and the terror of the oppressor, and therefore shall publish all communications intended to hunt down public vices by public exposure—t. canvas public opinions by fair discussion—and to review public measures by just and honourable criticism—thus rendering our publication, as far as we are able, a terror to evil doers, and a praise to those who do well."

"Born in a sister province, closely united to you by geographical position, and long and intimately connected with yours by commercial intercourse, assimilated like twin sisters, by customs, laws, manners, and colonial relationship, we consider ourselves as natives of the soil, and of course as Englishmen, and consequently shall always exert ourselves to perpetuate the connexion between the venerable parent state and her colonies—in a word, all our energies shall be employed to merit a continuance of public patronage, and to deserve public esteem, shall be the "ne plus ultra" of our ambition."

FRUITS OF SLAVERY.—The following paragraph copied from a late number of the Washington Patriot, gives a fearful illustration of the sad effects of slavery, how it abrogates all that humanity, religion and morality dictates:—

"We noticed some time since the sudden disappearance from Charlestown, South Carolina, of a certain alderman and bank director on account of debts he could not pay, and who was married to a mulatto woman by whom he had six children. It turns out now that this mulatto woman was his slave; consequently, the six children are slaves also! The result is, the creditors of the absconding alderman have made arrangements to seize the wife and children and sell them for her husband's and their father's debts."

SOMEWHAT OF A FARM.—An American Journal says—"The largest Farm in Vermont is said to be that of Judge Meech's, at Shelburne, eight miles south of Burlington. A correspondent of the New Bedford Mercury, who has just been over it, says, this year, he will mow 500 acres and cut 1000 tons of hay. He keeps 300 sheep, and has 400 head of neat cattle. A few days ago he sold fat oxen enough to amount to the sum of \$2460. He has also sold this season 1000 bushels of rye."

HINT TO FARMERS.—The Gardener's Chronicle says, that "in the south of England, turnips sown with super-phosphate of lime, as manure, are never troubled with the fly."

FREDERICTON.—We perceive by the papers that the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward's Island has been paying the Governor of this Province a visit. He arrived at Fredericton in the Reindeer, from Saint John.

SHEDIAC.—His Excellency Sir Henry Vere Huntly, K. H. Governor of Prince Edward Island, arrived at Kinnear's Hotel, Shediac, on Wednesday last, on his return from Canada, and proceeded to Charlotte Town the same evening in the steamer Conqueror.

HALIFAX.—William Stairs, Esq. has been elected Mayor of this City.

The fever hospital at Melville Island was closed on the 24th ult.

CORN TRADE IN BRITAIN.—The Liverpool Journal of the 18th ult., concludes an article headed—"Talk on 'Change,'" with the following remarks on the prospect of the corn trade for some time to come:—

"The talk is, that circumstances have, at present, greatly favoured the corn trade; that the recent advance, props the tottering and adds to the resources of the strong; that the eagerness of the farmers to save all crops before proceeding to prepare grain for market, affords the opportunity to holders of diminishing their stocks on terms advantageous, but that, if they are wise, they must not calculate on the run of good luck running far into the winter; that all the facts admitted proclaim the advent of low prices; that the harvest has everywhere been housed in excellent condition; that the produce is not only good in quality, but far above an average; that the potatoes, though limited in the quantity grown, are comparatively abundant, and that Professor Lindlay does not hesitate to ridicule those who—the wish being father to the thought—proclaim the prevalence of rot; that it does exist in parts of England, but that it has literally disappeared in Ireland and on the continent."

"The further talk is, that the supply of food being in excess, prices, without reference to back stock, will be low; that the high prices will enable opulent farmers at home and abroad to hold, but that all past experience shows that such proceeding, on their part, has an effect directly opposite to that intended; that a knowledge of the fact has a result similar to what would be produced by a hurried sale, and that while one man thinks prices will rise, another concludes that they will fall, and the market is crowded with sellers; that the maintenance of high prices will bring upon us a flood of food from the continent; and that once here, it will remain for the next twelve months, for there is no place to export it to; that all are full, and that the Americans will ship flour—at any price—the remunerating prices to producers being always—what they can get."

MINING IN CANADA.—The Quebec Gazette of the 29th ultimo, contains the Report of the Directors of the Quebec and Lake Superior Mining Association. The company, it appears is in active operation and the shareholders anticipate a rich return for the capital invested. We select the following paragraphs from the report:—

"The Company, as already stated, possesses fourteen locations of ten square miles each, containing together 86,600 English acres, viz: four between the harbour of Marmaine and Pointe aux Mines, seven on the Island of Michipicoten, one on the Island of St Ignace, and two at Pigeon River, near the American boundary line at the head of the lake. It may be supposed that the minute exploration of this large tract of country cannot be accomplished in a short time. Mr. Matthews has, however, visited every location. On all of them favourable indications of Copper have been discovered, particularly on the location on Isle St. Ignace. A vein of grey sulphuret having been there shown to him, of such magnitude and richness, that he did not hesitate in at once declaring it to be of very great importance, and admirably situated for mining purposes. On the location adjoining, (belonging another company) considerable quantities of native copper have been found; and, from the veins running across both these locations, there can be no doubt that what has been discovered in one, will be found in the other. The Island of Michipicoten presents equally favorable indications, as well as the two locations near Pigeon River, situate within two miles of the celebrated silver location of Col Prince, and consisting of precisely the same formation. Mr. Matthews assures the directors, that whatever success attends the work on the Prince location, will be met with on those belonging to this company, whenever mining operations are commenced there."

But the interior of all the locations belonging to the Company is as yet almost totally unknown. With one or two exceptions the veins already discovered are on the Lake Shore, many of them, indeed, within a few yards of the water, beyond which is an unexplored wilderness. In only one spot between Marmaine and Point aux Mines have persons in the service of the Company penetrated into the interior about two miles, where veins were discovered still richer in appearance than those on the coast, and where, to use the expression of one of the parties, "the surface of the ground presented the appearance of a new work of small veins."

"It is not, therefore, improbable, that favorable as the indications visible on the coast are, richer discoveries are yet to be made in the interior; and when it is considered that the surface of the ground is covered with vegetable matter to the depth of one or two feet—the accumulation of centuries, it is manifest that years must elapse before the hidden riches of the immense region round Lake Superior can be disclosed."

QUEBEC.—The Gazette of the 27th