

at least would be trifling, and the gain in the shape of useful knowledge, very great indeed. I have in my pocket a copy of the catechism which I shall leave with you, Mr President, till all in the settlement, who desire to ascertain its value by a perusal of it, shall have had an opportunity to do so. "The Book of the Farm" I have not seen, but I know quite enough of it and its author, to warrant my recommending it in the strongest terms to your careful perusal.

To Professor Johnston the world is largely indebted for many valuable literary productions, but for Agricultural works, mankind owe him a debt of ten-fold magnitude. He has indeed proved himself the farmer's friend.

It is to the *headwork* and diligence of such men as Professor Johnston, that we are most indebted for the great advances that have been made in science. Had it not been for the untiring labours of such men as he—many of them, it may be, over their scanty crust, and midnight lamp.—*Navigation*, for instance, like the science of Agriculture, at a recent date, would have remained undiscovered, and our mariners, like those of olden times, however expert in working their craft—would be creeping cautiously along the shores of continents and islands, instead of traversing boldly the wide ocean, and exploring unknown seas.

Aided by the experience of intelligent practical farmers, men of science have now gone far to perfect a system of all that is yet known of the chemical composition of soils, and the philosophy of vegetation. It is therefore, with you farmers, first to acquire a knowledge of this system, and then to test its correctness by your daily operations.

I have attempted little more this afternoon (for little can be done in a single lecture) than to conduct you, as it were, to the borders of a lovely and almost boundless field of contemplation. Could you prevail upon others more capable than I, to prosecute the subject, they would be able to lead you forward, in the course of a few lectures, so far, as to enable you to comprehend the admirable connexion which subsists between the animal and vegetable kingdoms: they would describe to you the suitability of the growing plant, to the wants of the living animal, supplying, as it does, all the substances of which the animal is constituted, the gluten of its food being nearly the same as its muscles, and the oil as the fat of its bones.—The *bone-earth* of the plant, supplying materials for the bones of the animal, and the starch and sugar affording the supply of carbon for the purposes of respiration. "How wonderful are the works of the Almighty; they are past finding out!" "There are none like unto thee O Lord! neither are there any works like unto thy works."

May I not conclude this lecture, my friends, firmly impressed with the belief, that all you who have honoured me with your presence at this time—aided by that wisdom which cometh from above—shall take greatest care that the chief end of all your studies, be to make fresh discoveries of the power, wisdom and goodness of that great and good Being, who has been pleased to usher us into a world, abounding with such glorious displays of His consummate skill, and uncomprehensible power, permitted us to be spectators of His wonderful works, and granted us free access to all the comforts and conveniences, which with His bountiful hand he has poured forth around us; and while you humbly but diligently dive into the mysteries of creation, may you all be enabled to look more and more rapturously "from Nature up to Nature's God."

## Colonial News.

### New Brunswick.

St. John New Brunswick, Aug. 15. Steam Explosion and Loss of Life.—On the 7th inst., the Steam Saw Mills of Messrs. Botsford and Ferguson, at Pughwash, Cumberland, were partially destroyed by an explosion of one of the large boilers. The accident occurred just after the return of the men from dinner. The exploded boiler was thrown from its bed—one portion driven several hundred yards into the harbor—the other forced a considerable distance into a pile of deals on the wharf. The roof of the engine house was blown up, and the heavy tall chimney was blown away, the bricks falling in every direction. A man named Michael McKenny, from New Brunswick, about 35 years of age was killed instantly. Douglas the fireman is terribly scalded and his life is des-

paired of. The engineer was seriously hurt, and others more or less.

## Canada.

Quebec Gazette, Aug. 14.

Rumours.—The unexpected return of the Governor General to Montreal on Saturday, while it was said that His Excellency had embarked on board the *Alliance* at Beaumont on Friday, for the Saguenay, gave rise to a rumour that despatches had been received which required his presence at the seat of government. We have no information on the subject, but we presume that no such despatches could have been received from England as the royal mail steam packet on the 29th ult. had not arrived at Boston. It is possible, however, that some important information may have been transmitted from the United States by Messrs. Lafontaine and Sullivan.

The Montreal Gazette of Saturday notices the following rumours as having been circulated during the last few days in that city, but says it does not believe any of them:

'That His Excellency the Governor General has tendered his resignation of the government of the Colony.

'That His Excellency is recalled and is to be succeeded by Sir George Grey.

'That three regiments of militia are immediately to be ordered out and drilled.

'That the Irish of the United States are about to make an irruption into Canada, for objects which no human being seems able to conjecture.

'That in the event of Mr Sullivan being made a judge, Mr. Cameron will be made Commissioner of Crown Lands.

'Mr. Hinck's temper, always bad, has latterly got so intolerable, and his vulgar arrogance to match, that he is to be turned out of the Executive, and provided for, either in an appointment at Quebec, or some other specially to be made for him.'

Another Slice off the British North American Territories.—It is stated in the Washington correspondence of the New-York papers, that the Hudson's Bay Company have made a proposition to the United States Government to sell to the United States all their right and possessions in Oregon, south of the line of 45 deg. north latitude, and that the proposition was discussed in a secret session of the Senate on the 4th inst.

The following article on this subject is from the Washington correspondence of the New York Journal of Commerce:

'A proposition is before the Senate for the purchase by the U. S. of the territorial rights, privileges and immunities of the Hudson Bay Company, and the Puget's Sound Company. The proposition came through the State Department, and is recommended to Congress by the Administration.

'The proposition is to cede to us a tract of territory larger than the State of New York, and for a comparatively trifling consideration. I have understood that the sum proposed is only a million of dollars; but as to that I cannot vouch. The importance of the cession cannot be doubted. It would include the country and the military posts on the Northern bank of the Columbia river; and forever prevent any collision between this country and England, in regard to points which are unsettled by the Ashburton and Webster Treaty.

'I have been made acquainted with the fact that a number of our most distinguished Senators, of both parties, are in favor of the purchase proposed.

'It remains to be seen whether the companies named, propose to sell land merely, or the jurisdiction and government of the land. The latter we have supposed—even when entrusted temporarily by the British government to a private company—to be a right, authority, power and trust, which such a company could not sell. We shall look with some curiosity for farther explanations of the terms of this new proposal.'

Another correspondent writes under date of the 7th instant:

'The Senate have before them, in secret session, the proposition of the Hudson's Bay Co., and the Puget's Sound Co., for the conveyance to the United States of all their lands, buildings, improvements, fields, cattle, forts, &c., and all their possessory rights south of 49°, as well as the territory, &c. north of that parallel.

'I learn that Sir John Henry Pelly, the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Co., and the agent of the Puget's Sound Co., represented to Lord Palmerston, the expediency of the transfer of the territorial rights, property, and interest of the two Companies to the United States Government, and that Lord Palmerston, readily embracing the project, instructed Mr.

Crampton, the British charge, to bring it before this Government. His letter to Mr. Buchanan is very strong; and Mr. Buchanan's communication to the Senate, urging the acceptance of the proposition, presents incontrovertible arguments in favor of it.

'Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Webster are in favor of it; and to-day I learn that Mr. Benton and Mr. Hannegan have taken the matter in hand.

'The Senate will I suppose, sit very late to night.'

M. Pageot, late Minister Plenipotentiary of the King of France, has left the United States for England, with the alleged intention of placing at the service of Louis Phillippe, a large share of his princely fortune, and inviting the ex-King and family to take up their residence in America.

## Novascotia.

From the Halifax Courier, Aug. 16.

A portrait of the Queen, for the Legislative Assembly of Canada, painted by Patridge of London, cost 400 guineas. has arrived in Canada.

The weather during the week has been intensely warm—the thermometer ranging between 90° and 100° in the shade. Rain is wanted very much.

A CRICKET MATCH was recently played between the Toronto and Hamilton Cricket clubs. The game terminated in favour of Hamilton.

## West Indies:

The British West Indies.—By an arrival from Kingston, Jamaica, we have files of the *Despatch* and the *Journal* to the 7th July, being the same as received a few days since by the Robert Peel at New Orleans. The political affairs of the colony engross the attention of the people and the press. The feeling of discontent caused by the depressed state of mercantile and agricultural pursuits, is yet on the increase; and various movements and projects are presented, in order to relieve the people and the local government of the oppression and embarrassment that have been daily growing upon them, through the illiberal policy of the home ministers.

Among the movements now on foot, is one urging the Assembly to resign its functions into the hands of the Governor. Another recommends a separation from the mother country. This last appears to have a large number of advocates: and their object, it is stated is a union with the United States—*N. Y. Herald*.

From the Novascotian, August 16.

We have received papers from Bermuda, these contain later news from the West Indies than hitherto given.

News from Martinique is to the 24th June, being about 17 days later than in our last. We copy from the correspondence of the Barbadian.

'Things are not getting better since I last wrote you, though Emancipation has been proclaimed. The Citizens of the French Republic, as the Negroes call themselves, are not quiet: they behave very badly; they don't work, they ask very high wages which the planters cannot afford to give them on account of the low prices at which sugar is sold both here and in France. They go from one estate to another, devastating and plundering all the ground provisions which are not yet quite ripe, cutting and destroying also the yams and old canes for the sake of doing mischief. The planters are out of their wits, for, not to be exposed to their insolence, which they cannot prevent, they fly from the country and come to reside in town, abandoning their estates. Those that have the means leave the islands, and the greater number go to the United States of America, believing that they will be in greater security in those countries than here. The authorities, to their shame, can do nothing to protect them. We cannot say how long things may continue thus, if there is not a more firm government. The country and the whole island will soon be deserted. You cannot conceive what a great number of inhabitants have already left. The negroes say, that it is not freedom they want—they have conquered that—they want the land, the properties to themselves and wish to expel the white population, that this fine island may belong to them. We have a new Governor who arrived here on the 3d, from Cherbourg, who takes the title of Commissary General of the Republic, he has more power than any previous Governor. I send you the Proclamation which he made on his landing. It is well written and tells the newly freed what they have to do. But they do not listen to him. We hope things will get better, and amend shortly, but unfortunately the ne-

groes receive bad counsel from the coloured people, who have nothing to lose, and they listen to them."

The Barbadoes Globe of the 15th ult. gives the following item relating to Santa Croix:

Slavery has been abolished in the Danish Islands of Saint Thomas and Santa Croix—we regret to learn that in the latter place several acts of incendiarism were perpetrated, and so great was the apprehension of the authorities for the lives and properties of the citizens and other respectable colonists, that they applied for military aid to the Governor of Porto Rico, who sent up 580 soldiers in the inter colonial steamer Eagle, whose presence had the happy effect of instantly overawing the disaffected and restoring peace and good order.

## SANDWICH ISLANDS.

We have received, says an exchange, by the overland route, Honolulu papers to the 6th of May.

The Hawaiian Legislature assembled on the 27th April. The royal speech announced the ratification of the treaties with France, England and the free city of Hamburg, and that no treaty had been negotiated with the United States. A satisfactory division of lands had been effected between the King and his people. His Majesty enjoys upon the Legislature 'to bear in mind the equal toleration which is to be shown to both Catholics and Protestants. The assurances received on the part of Great Britain and France confirm me in my policy of resisting all foreign control in the government of my Kingdom.'

## THE CUBA INSURRECTION.

A letter from Philadelphia to the New York Tribune, says:

The reported news from Cuba respecting the rebellion there, and the petition to the president, asking to be admitted into the Union, I have the best authority for believing to be entirely unfounded. I have this morning seen a letter from the most intelligent source in Cuba, stating that the accounts have been altogether exaggerated, and they fear the most unfounded rumours have found their way out of the Island. The movement in Cuba is dignified and intelligent, and different from the demagogical views expressed in some ultra-Cuban papers in this country.

## YESTERDAY'S MAIL.

### EUROPEAN NEWS.

British papers to the 5th August, was received by us late last evening by the mail. The steamer Cambria arrived at Halifax on the evening of Wednesday last. We give extracts below, by which it will be seen, that an attempt had been made at rebellion in Ireland, which signally failed.

The task of recording the events which have happened during the past week in Ireland is one of unmixt pain. The powers which have been entrusted to the Executive were however, indispensable for the protection of life and property; by a vigorous application of those powers, the whole scheme of the Confederates has been dissipated, and the Government having now vindicated its authority, will we hope and believe, temper mercy with justice, and will not carry the vengeance of the law beyond the actual necessity of the case. The history of the Irish insurrection of 1848 will afford but few materials for the historian, it may be comprised in a brief space.

Prior to the news of the Habeas Corpus Suspension Act having reached Ireland, Mr. W. S. O'Brien, Mr. O'Gorman, Mr. Dillon and we believe, Mr. Meagher, perceiving the danger which was impending, quitted the capital of Ireland, and repaired to their strongholds in the south. On the 25th ult. Mr. O'Brien and other Confederate chiefs addressed the people at Carrick-on-Suir, and then plunged into the heart of Tipperary, where for several days no authentic accounts could be obtained respecting their movements. At first it was declared that O'Brien was at the head of 10,000 insurgents, which rumour magnified to 100,000; more trustworthy reports having since arrived, we find that at no period could there have been more than 2000 adherents to his cause. In the meantime the Government proclamations, offering a reward for the apprehension of the leaders of the insurgents, was extensively posted throughout the chief towns of Tipperary, Kilkenny, Waterford and Limerick, and many were deterred from continuing in a course which imperilled their lives. All the penalties of high treason attached to the harbours or abettors of the movement, and the whole body was completely panic stricken. Of Meagher we have no authentic accounts whatever, it is said that he has escaped. O'Brien, after an interval of some days, during which he was doubtless occupied in stirring up the peasantry, next appeared about Mullinahone armed with pike and pistols, and surrounded by a body guard similarly accoutred. He certainly halted at the police station there, and demanded the