

THE GLEANER:

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

OLD SERIES] *Nec araneorum sane textus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes.* [COMPRISED 13 VOLUMES.

NEW SERIES, VOL. VII.]

MIRAMICHI, TUESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 26, 1848.

[NUMBER 9.]

PETITION.

The humble Petition of GEORGE WASHINGTON DWYRE, of Pokemouche, in the County of Gloucester, Contractor:

Respectfully sheweth to the public generally— That about July, A. D. 1847, he contracted to put up a Frame for a Roman Catholic Chapel, in Pokemouche, 120 feet (including Tower and Vestry) by 41 feet wide, for £120, which he had completed about September following.

That he then took another contract for the framing of the outside and inside of the said building (excepting the bellry) for £900; the whole of the outside of which was finished at the time of the sad catastrophe herein after mentioned.

That on an average your petitioner has had three men, besides himself, constantly employed about the building, since the 20th July, 1847, to the 15th November last, at the average wages of about £5 per month, and found.

That on the morning of the 15th November last, about 2 o'clock, the people were awakened by an alarm of fire; the building was in flames, and soon burnt down to the ground, nor was there wanting suspicion that this was the work of an incendiary.

That your petitioner not only lost the value of his labor, and materials put in the building, as hereinafter stated, but also his Tools, Clothes, and a large quantity of material on the spot, not even excepting his books and papers.

That the following is a rough statement of the work done, and the losses sustained:

The Contract for the Frame,	£120 0 0
From $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{2}{3}$ of the 2nd contract, say at least $\frac{1}{2}$ of £900,	450 0 0
The tools and clothes of Mr Dwyre, at least,	75 0 0
The tools and clothes of his men, at least,	25 0 0
Value of the material not put into the building, but ready on the spot, paint, oil, nails, &c., at least,	50 0 0
	£720 0 0

Amount received from the people, in all about

£250 0 0

Leaving a balance due Mr Dwyre, about

£470 0 0

That the people of the parish sympathize with your petitioner, but are not able to assist him, having met with a very serious loss themselves, viz: the amount paid to your petitioner, and material put in the frame, and the old Chapel, which accidentally caught fire from the new building.

Your petitioner having thus lost all he possessed, not excepting the tools and instruments by which he was enabled to gain his daily bread, he trusts, and confidently believes, that a generous and humane public will assist him in extricating himself from these most unexpected and unforeseen misfortunes.

GEO. W. DWYRE.

Dated Pokemouche, 15th December, 1848.

PHILIP ROBISHAW, of Pokemouche, in the county of Gloucester, Lumberer, doth hereby certify to the public generally, that he was the committee appointed by the people of Pokemouche, in July, 1847, to apply to Geo. W. Dwyre, the within named petitioner, to build a Church at Pokemouche. That in consequence thereof, a contract was entered into, and the said George W. Dwyre immediately proceeded to erect the frame, and finish the building. That the outside of the building was finished, when on the morning of Wednesday, the 15th November last, about 2 o'clock, A.M., that the building was unaccountably found in flames. That the foregoing petition of George W. Dwyre has been read and explained to me, and that the statements therein are correct and true, to the best of my knowledge and belief. And I do further certify, that the said George W. Dwyre has given unanimous satisfaction to the people of Pokemouche, who highly approved of his work, and designs. That the people are going on with another Church, and that the said George W. Dwyre, by their unanimous voice, has been selected as the fittest person to undertake the contemplated building.

To Let.

The HOUSE and PREMISES formerly occupied by the late JAMES PATTERSON, in Chatham, situate between the residences of Mr John Fitzpatrick and Mr Robert Couson. Immediate possession can be given.

JAMES PATTERSON.

Chatham, 4th October, 1848.

To Let.

And possession given immediately, the premises now occupied by Mrs. Bird, in the upper part of Chatham. Apply on the premises. November 14, 1848.

Agricultural Journal.

BOUSSINGAULT'S EXPERIMENTS WITH SALT.

Few men deserve more hearty thanks at the hands of farmers, for unwearied researches into agricultural questions, than Boussingault; and any one, who has himself tried agricultural experiments, will be able to form some idea of the labor required when they are carried on for months or even years, as he has done. He is also peculiarly fitted for the investigation, both by his scientific attainments, and such a measure of worldly goods, as enable him to carry on his researches without that strict regard to profit incumbent on ordinary farmers. It has been stated that he carries on an experimental farm in the south of France; sparing neither time nor trouble in the investigation of disputed points bearing on practical farming. For many months past, he has been trying the effect which salt produced on the fattening powers of cattle, and also on the quantity of milk obtained from cows. In the latter case the cows were fed on hay, one receiving a small quantity of salt, and the other none; and after carefully measuring the milk and weighing the hay consumed, Boussingault comes to the decided conclusion that salt in this case neither increased the yield of milk nor diminished the consumption of hay. Negative results are as valuable to a farmer as positive ones; and though it is possible that with other food, as turnips or brewers' grains, some benefit might be produced by the use of salt, the above experiment would seem to render the common practice of mixing salt with the hay, (as far as milk cows are concerned) of little more than problematical benefit.

In addition to the above, Boussingault some months ago laid before the French Academy of Sciences an account of two series of experiments he undertook, for the purpose of determining the effect which salt produced on the fattening powers of horned cattle; in the one case one half of the animals experimented on received daily a portion of salt with a weighed out quantity of food; in the other case they were given salt along with an unlimited quantity of food. In both cases, not the slightest benefit could be seen when the weight of the cattle was compared with those which had received no salt.

Still further to test the value of salt when mixed with the food of cattle, a third experiment was tried. In this case one half of a lot of young cattle were deprived altogether of salt for 13 months, in order to ascertain the effect its continued want might produce on their health. We give the result in the experimenter's own words—"These researches, like those which have already been published, show that salt is far from exercising the influence on the growth of cattle, or on the production of flesh, which is generally attributed to it. Any trifling variation which may be seen in the result, so far from weakening this conclusion, only strengthens it."

There was in the end, however, one result produced by the absence of the salt which deserves notice. Both lots of cattle felt the same to the touch, but after the experiment had lasted six months, lot No. 2 (without salt) began to have a very coarse, staring coat, whilst No. 1 (with salt) was beautiful and glossy.—Indeed, there seemed to be a partial change in the nature of the animals; as the experiment proceeded, lot No. 2 lost their hair in spots, seemed dull and heavy, and generally of a lower temperature than lot No. 1, which were exceedingly active and sprightly, "and would undoubtedly have brought a higher price in the market than the others." It is to be regretted that Boussingault found himself compelled to part with the animals at this stage of the experiment, for we have here obtained a singular fact, viz.: that though salt produces no more weight of flesh, it evidently influences the general health of young cattle. As the animals experimented on were at the conclusion three years old, it is likely that

they would have been fed off the next season: it would have been interesting to have known the final result of the use of salt when the cattle were brought to the butcher.

From the London Agriculturist. GREASE IN HORSES.

This disease is a local inflammation in the heels of horses, and sometimes arises out of the complaint called 'swelled legs,' with which it has frequently been confounded, yet the two diseases are quite distinct. It occurs sometimes in the fore feet, but oftener in the hind feet: and though neither contagious nor epizootic, it not unfrequently appears about the same time, or within a brief period, in most or all the horses of a stable. It essentially consists in a stoppage of the greasy secretion, which is beneficially provided for maintaining a soft condition of the skin, of the heel, and preventing chapping and excoriation: and it usually develops itself in redness, dryness, and scurfiness of the skin; but in bad or prolonged cases, it is accompanied with deep cracks, and ichorous discharge, considerable lameness, and even great ulceration, and much fungous growth; and in the worst cases it spreads athwart all the heel, extends on the fetlock, ascends the leg, and is accompanied with extensive swelling, and a general oozing discharge.

Most of the causes of grease are referable to bad management, especially in regard to great and sudden changes in the exterior temperature of the heels. The feet of the horse may be alternately heated by the straw of his litter in the stable, and cooled by the opening of the stable door; or they may be first made hot and sensitive by the irritating action of the urine and filth on the stable floor, and then violently reacted on by the cold breezes of the open air; or they may be moist and reeking when he is led out to work, and then chilled for a long period by the slow evaporation of the moisture from them amid the clods and soil of the field; or they may be warm or even perspiring with the labor of the day, and next plunged into a stream, or sponged with cold water, and then allowed to dry partly in the open air and partly in the stable: and in any of these ways, or of any others which occasion sudden changes of temperature in the heels, especially when these changes are accompanied or aggravated by the irritating action of filth, grease is exceedingly liable to be induced. Want of exercise, high feeding, and whatever tends to accumulate or to stagnate the greasy secretion in the skin of the heels, also operate, in some degree, as causes. But by mere good management, the British cavalry have expelled grease from the list of their horses' diseases; and by the same means all yeomen and farmers might drive grease from the list of theirs.

In the early, dry, scurvy stage of grease the heels may be well cleaned with soap and water, and afterwards thoroughly dried, and then treated with either saturnine wash, or with a saturnine ointment. In the mildest form of the stage of cracks and ichorous discharge, some drying powder, such as equal quantities of white lead and turp, may be applied, or simply the saturnine ointment may be continued. In the virulent form of cracks, accompanied with ulceration, the heels ought to be washed clean with warm water, and afterwards bathed with a mild astringent lotion, and every morning and evening thinly poulticed, or coated with a mild saturnine ointment, and the whole system ought to be acted on by a moderate bleeding, by alteratives, by a nightly bran wash, and, if the animal be in full condition, with one or two doses of some purgative medicine. In the worst and most extensively spread cases, poultices of a very cooling kind, particularly poultices of scraped carrots, or scraped turnips, ought to be used day and night, both for the sake of their own action, and as preparatives to the action of the astringent application; and the whole course of treatment should aim at the abatement of the inflammation, previous to the stopping of the discharge. In the event of

great obstinacy, as well as much virulence of the disease, the horse, especially if he be young and vigorous, may require to be turned out to grass. "Nothing tends so much to prevent grease and swelling of the legs," says White, "as frequent hand-rubbing, and cleaning the heels carefully as soon as a horse comes in from exercise. In inveterate cases of grease, where the disease appears to have become habitual in some degree, a run of grass is the only remedy. If a dry paddock can be procured, where a horse can be sheltered in bad weather, and fed with hay and corn, it will be found extremely convenient, as in such circumstances, he may perform his usual labor, and at the same time be kept free from the complaint."

STEEP FOR SEED WHEAT OR BARLEY.

As the time for sowing autumn wheat approaches, the following recipe, given by an eminent chemical Agriculturist to a member of the Highland Society, who has experienced its safety, is worthy of trial, instead of pickling the grain.

For one quarter of wheat or barley take 1½ pounds weight of each of the following articles:—

Sulphate of Soda	} In all 7½ lbs.
Nitrate of Potash	
Sulphate of Magoesia	
Sal Ammonic	
Sulphate of Soda	

The above materials to be mixed with eight imperial gallons of boiling water, so as to melt easily. The liquor, when quite melted and cold, to be put into a tub, or tubs, along with the grain, and left to soak for twenty four hours.

After this, the grain is to be spread out and dried on a floor, with a sprinkling of lime dust to hasten the drying. It may be sown on the following day, or a few days afterwards, as convenient.—Generally there should be one gallon of the cold melted liquid for every bushel of wheat or barley. For oats, 5 lbs. of the salts will do for every boll.

If any other steep, with a change, has been used with success, it should be communicated through this publication.

If 1 lb. of chloride of lime were substituted for the 1½ lb. of phosphate of soda, it will diminish the expense about 1s. 6d., and probably be equally efficacious.

LIQUID MANURE.

We hear much concerning liquid manure, but cow wash and similar fluids poured over grass or vegetables invariably scorch, and are productive of no beneficial results whatsoever. They must be blended with earth, or with any other vegetable refuse reducible by putrefactive fermentation. "Of the value of liquid excretions of animals," observed Mr. Gyde, "few farmers are at all aware, or more attention would be paid by them to their preservation. It has been found by direct experiments that a single cow voids in her urine, in the course of one year, no less than 900lbs. of solid dry saline and organic matter, which is fully equal in fertilising power to the best Peruvian guano, and which, if carefully fermented will yield 226lbs. of ammonia. Now, if this 900lbs. be of the same value as guano—i. e. £10 per ton, the brine of each cow will annually be worth £4, and be capable of manuring at least two-and-a-half acres of land." If this manure be wasted at home, "the farmer is probably expending its worth in the purchase of bones and guano—manures are incapable of supplying the place of the urine, since they are nearly wanting in potash, soda, and salts, while the urine of twenty cows contains 7,400lbs. of these." Mr. Gyde, however correct in his general references, errs in respect of good guano, which unquestionably is rich in salts; nevertheless, we possess at home abundant stores of all efficient fertilizers.—*Quarterly Journal of Agriculture.*

To find the number of gallons in a cistern or reservoir—Find the number of cubical feet, and multiply by 7½ for the gallons.