

PROFESSOR JOHNSTON'S LECTURE.—The Saint John Observer gives the following brief notice of the Lecture which this gentleman delivered at the Mechanics' Institute in that city. It gives us much satisfaction to hear that the Professor entertains such a favorable opinion of the capabilities of our Province, and hope the public will be favored with a more extended report of the Lecture.

Professor Johnston gave an abstract of his Report on the agricultural capabilities of the Province, on Friday evening last, to an overflowing and highly gratified audience. He commenced by exhibiting and explaining a geological map of the Province, which had been prepared under his directions, from Dr Gesner's surveys, the returns in the Crown Land office, and his own and Dr Robb's observations. He next exhibited an agricultural map, showing, as far as our present knowledge extends, the various kinds of soil in the Province—these he divided into five classes; they form, however, three great divisions, which may be classified as good, middling, and bad,—each class containing Five Millions of acres. He then went on to compare the returns of produce, the weight, quality, and market price of the various articles raised in the Province, with like returns from Canada, New York, and Ohio, and found that in each of these particulars, ours excel the others. The returns being in each case derived from the same sources, viz., Reports of Agricultural Committees, and statements from intelligent farmers from different localities, there is no reason to suppose that they do not equally approximate to the truth. We must confess that we were not prepared to expect such a favorable result; but, in such hands, the investigation was necessarily conducted on correct principles and impartially. We must, therefore, bow to the decision, and we feel quite pleased that our own New Brunswick has been pronounced by a competent judge as entitled to take a front rank among the nations, as an agricultural country.

ALFRED THE GREAT.—The inhabitants of Wantage, the birth place of this noble Sovereign of England, have been celebrating his thousandth birth-day. We copy below a notice of the event from a late paper:—

A thousand years having elapsed since the birth of Alfred the Great, (son of Ethelred) the people of Wantage, his native town, commemorated that event on the 2d of November, with great and general rejoicings. The day was observed by all parties as a holiday; the shops were closed and business universally suspended. All vied with each other in giving the greatest possible effect which their means and appliances would admit of, to what they regarded as a great national festival. The public roads approaching the town and the principal streets were spanned by triumphal arches, and the fronts of the houses tastefully decorated with overgreens and flowers. Innumerable flags and banners floated gaily in the breeze, while various mottoes reminded the stranger that King Alfred the Great was born in Wantage in the year 849.

Eggs.—A late English paper furnishes the following curious paragraph, in reference to the produce of Eggs, and the extent of the trade which is now carried on in that article with London.

Some very interesting experiments relative to the production of eggs, were made about ten years ago, by Mr Mout, of Stoke, near Guildford. He obtained three pullets of the Polish breed, on the 1st December, 1835, which had been hatched in June previous, and they commenced laying on the 15th of the same month. They laid from the 1st December, 1835, to the 1st December, 1836, between them, 524. During the year they consumed three bushels of barley, seventeen pounds of rice, and a small portion of barley meal and peas, the cost of which amounted to about sixteen shillings and ten pence. The number of eggs being five hundred and twenty four, gives about 31 eggs per every shilling expended, and assuming the weight of each egg to be one and a quarter ounce, we have a result of forty one pounds of the most nutritious food that can possibly be procured, at the low price of four pence three farthings per pound; or, if these eggs were, instead of being consumed, sold to a retailer, a profit of about one hundred per cent accrued to the producer, out of seventy two millions of eggs, annually imported into England from France, Germany, the Netherlands, and other countries, France contributes fifty five millions. Calculating the first cost at four pence half-penny per dozen, England pays annually to France for eggs about seventy seven thousand pounds.

WOMAN'S PRIVILEGES.—Ladies do you wish to know the advantages you possess, which are not enjoyed by the lords of creation? If so, read the annexed article, from the pen of an American Editor. Who would not wish to be a woman?

A woman can say what she likes to you, without the risk of being knocked down for it.

She can take a snooze after dinner while her husband has got to work.

She can dress herself in neat and tidy calicoes for a dollar, which her husband has to earn and fork over.

She can go into the street without being obliged to 'treat' at every coffee house.

She can paint her face if she is too pale, or flour it if too red.

She can stay at home in time of war, and weep again if her husband is killed.

She can wear corsets if too thick, and other 'fixtures' if too thin.

She can run into debt all over, until the husband warns the public, by advertising, not to trust her on his account any longer.

CANADA.—The Canadian journals furnish us with a copy of the letter which Mr Holmes wrote to the Executive, in answer to the circular, informing him of his dismissal as a Magistrate for the district of Montreal, in consequence of his signing the annexation address to the people of Canada. We publish it below:—

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the letter, dated 5th instant, communicated by command of His Excellency the Governor General, that her Majesty has no further occasion for my service, as one of her Justices of the Peace for the District of Montreal, and you are further pleased to inform me that the reason which has determined His Excellency to expunge my name from the commission was, my having signed an address to the people of Canada in which was recommended separation from the British Empire and annexation to the United States of America. You inform me also that His Excellency feels bound by a sense of duty to maintain the connexion of the Province with the Parent State, by the exercise of all the powers conferred upon him—a caution for which I cannot but express my grateful acknowledgments, especially as I am also admonished 'that it is for priests to satisfy themselves to what extent they may proceed with such speculations, without the risk of compromising themselves by a breach of the laws of the land'—another caution sufficiently indicative of the desire entertained to suppress with a high hand the exercise of a right, which perhaps erroneously has been considered by colonists their inherent privilege as British subjects—discussion.

Sincerely anxious for the welfare of the country in which my lot is cast, but strongly impressed with a desire of becoming a party to the agitation of so grave a question as its future elevation to the position which the energies and the capacities of its people for self government clearly entitles them to, every expression likely to irritate or evince even the slightest approval of a feeling of hostility toward the mother country was avoided, or I should certainly never have become one of the signers of the address. Subsequent intelligence from England, has clearly demonstrated to the framers of the document, that neither the people of England nor the Imperial Government look upon its authors as guilty of either disrespectful or seditious action; indeed they have been fully confirmed in their belief, that no obstacle will be offered by Great Britain to the friendly and peaceful severment of the Colonial Bond, when the people of Canada shall, as I firmly believe, ere long they will, in a firm, but constitutional manner demand it.

Believing that a continuation of Colonial dependence is inconsistent with the well-being of Canada, more especially under the wise and beneficial changes recently adopted by the statesmen of England, for the advantage of the people of the U. Kingdom, which cannot and will not be changed, even to conciliate or encourage the Colonists of British North America, I have no excuse to offer, nor any regret to express for my having signed the address to the People of Canada. Its representations I believe to be true; its objects I believe necessary for the welfare of the country; and I deeply regret to find that a full and free discussion of political questions, even though they may involve the ultimate severment of the connexion of this colony from the Parent State is denied, and to be suppressed and punished by the Provincial Executive while in England—even in the Imperial Parliament—the self same questions are freely mooted. This I say is deeply to be regretted; but in giving expression to that feeling, I cannot but congratulate myself and the signers of the address to the people of Canada, upon the course apparently adopted by 'the Liberal administration' which now rules the destinies of this Colony, a course which must, of all others, tend to the more speedy acquiescence by the people of Canada in the views, opinions and recommendations set forth in the address.

In conclusion, I beg to remind you that my name was inserted, some nine years past in a commission for the construction and management of the Turnpike Roads leading from and into the city of Montreal. The duties of Chairman to that Trust have absorbed no little portion of my time up to the date of the completion of the work, and some trouble and anxiety since. Of course it would be improper in me any longer to hold an appointment of such more importance than a Justice of the Peace, and I therefore beg leave most respectfully to resign it.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

BENJ. HOLMES.

INDIAN RESERVES.—We copy the following notice from the Gazette, respecting the sale of a portion of the Indian Reserves, for the information of those immediately interested as well as for the public generally, knowing that the Government paper has but limited circulation in this quarter. We cannot refrain from remarking, that it is a most miserable parsimony on the part of Government to confine the publication of such documents to the Gazette—for they well know that its very circumscribed circulation does not put the public in possession of the information they thus pretend to furnish.

CROWN LAND OFFICE, Dec. 22, 1849.

Public Notice is hereby given, that the Lots in the Little South West, and Big Hole Indian Reserves, which were offered for sale by the Indian Commissioners for Northumberland, at Newcastle, on the twelfth day of September last, but not sold, will be again offered at auction by them, at the same place, at noon of the thirtieth day of January next, on the same conditions, and at the same upset prices; and such present occupants as are unable to purchase, will be allowed to lease their respective lots for a term not exceeding three years, at such rates as may be determined by the Commissioners. Any person refusing or neglecting either to purchase or lease under these arrangements, will be immediately prosecuted as an intruder.

The undermentioned Lots will also be offered at the same time:

50 acres, Lot No 2, Eel Ground, occupied by James Ledden. Upset price of the Lot, £12 10.

25 acres, Lot No 11, Indian Point, occupied by Mary Fitzgerald. Upset price, 4s per acre.

36 acres, Lot No 12, Indian Point, occupied by Peter Hyland. Upset price 4s per acre. (Note—a road is reserved along the south east line of this Lot.)

39 acres, Lot No 14, Indian Point; occupied by William Stewart. Upset price, 4s per acre. (Note—the extent of this Lot has been reduced by adding 4½ acres to the Indian Lot, No 13, adjoining.)

15 acres, Lot No 15, Indian Point, occupied by Charles Dooling. Upset price, 4s per acre, THOS. BAILLIE, Sec. Gen.

CANADA TIMBER TRADE.—We copy the following information in reference to the Timber Trade of Canada, from Forsyth & Bell's Quebec Annual Circular and Prices Current, published in late papers:

In taking a review of our markets for the last twelve months, we may remark that prices generally, have fluctuated very little, and our quotations of to-day are in the main similar to those of last year.

The expectation generally entertained, of increasing consumption in England, has not been realized, and the markets there for all wood goods, have been dull, languid, and unprofitable, and by no means warranting the prices given in Quebec, which, however, barely remunerated the Lumberman. This shows that the business is still overdone, and until greater curtailment is made in the manufacture in the woods, the stocks both here and across the Atlantic will remain excessive.

White Pine.—The stock of this article is much reduced from the average quantity wintering over for the last three years, but nevertheless is far exceeding that of any season previous to 1846, and being generally of fair quality, is equal to half the estimated export of next season. It behoves the Lumberman, therefore, to be cautious in the quality he manufactures, for if the English markets continue depressed as at present, he cannot look for any animation in the Quebec market.

True, a market has arisen in the States, and has taken a small share of square timber; but it cannot be depended upon, and it remains to be seen whether the demand for New York, manifested these last two seasons, arises from extensive works now erecting there, or is the commencement of a healthy and increasing business.

Tamarac.—This fine wood, which was beginning to be manufactured largely for Sleepers, Ship building, &c., is again little sought after, and except for local demand, we can hold out little encouragement. Its intrinsic value is not known as it ought to be, and we feel certain that the day is not far distant when it will be eagerly purchased.

Deals.—In no article but Red Pine, has the altered tariff in England entailed so great a loss on parties interested, and nearly all the small mills in the Lower Province are stopped; those in Upper Canada finding a good market in the neighbouring States. This great curtailment may bring the market round for Pine, but for Spruce, though the prices may now and then be good and even excessive from scarcity, yet we feel certain that a steady business cannot be done at a remunerating price, and that in Spruce Deals and inferior Red Pine Timber, we cannot compete with the Baltic Merchant, but for choice Pine Deals as well as for large Red Pine Timber, we can to a certain extent meet our rivals.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE IN NAPAN.

MR PIERCE.—As you were prevented from attending the Napan Temperance Meeting, I

beg to send the following synopsis of it, at the request of many of your Napan subscribers.

ONE WHO WAS THERE.

The Meeting was opened by Mr George Johnston, who introduced to his friends and neighbors the Sons of Temperance of Northumberland Division, and called upon Mr Fraser, D. G. W. P. to address the first, who gave a short account of the origin, progress and present standing of the 'order of the Sons' both in the States of the Union and British North American Provinces, concluding by shewing that it was the duty of parents, especially, to identify themselves with the Temperance movement, so as to set before their children an example which they will be safe in following. Mr Caie, F. Scribe of the Division, was next introduced, who in his usually pretty and pointed manner, gave his reason for joining the Sons of Temperance, showing by matter of fact, the great misery and wretchedness intemperance has brought upon the human family; concluding by shewing, that the only effectual way for removing the monster from our land, is by all classes and persons identifying themselves with Total Abstinence Societies.

John M. Johnson, Jun., was next introduced, who, stating that he felt as if he were walking upon a beaten path, invited any one present who had any objection to total abstinence to state them, and he would try to answer them. After a short delay an objection was advanced, and being the only one at that stage of the proceedings which they would consent to advance, Mr Johnson satisfactorily replied to it; and then in a speech of sound logical argument, shewed that the drinking of Alcoholic Liquors as a beverage, was a political, social, and moral evil, prejudicial to all concerned. Alluding to the general outcry about the amount of our taxation, he shewed that we were taxing ourselves, by drinking what was not necessary, worse than useless, being pernicious to a far greater extent than we were taxed for the support of the Revenue. Before then we could with any consistency demand a lessening of our taxes, we should shew that we were willing to begin at home. Mr George Johnston at the conclusion of the speech, addressed the audience, calling upon them now to state their objections, or forever after to hold their peace. Two objections were advanced, and, we presume, satisfactorily answered; and the meeting being about to break up, Mr George Johnston, in his own name and his Napan neighbors, moved a vote of thanks to the Sons of Temperance. Another motion was introduced, requesting Mr Pierce to publish the proceedings of the meeting, in the Gleaner, which being unanimously passed, the meeting broke up, highly gratified with the evening's proceedings.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

NORTHUMBERLAND DIVISION, No 37.—B. Miller, W. P.; John Mackie, W. A.; J. M. Johnson, Jun., R. S.; John Smith, A. R. S.; G. B. Bell, F. S.; James Caie, T.; James Patterson, C.; Chas Vanstone, A. C.; Thomas Hardie, I. S.; Alex. McLellan, O. S. James Firth takes the chair of the P. W. P.

CALEDONIAN DIVISION, No. 41.—Wm. Stewart, W. P.; Arthur Robertson, W. A.; Wm. Porter, R. S.; Robt Edgar, A. R. S.; Daniel McGinnis, F. S.; John Norman, T.; A. Campbell, C.; Nicholas Loy, A. C.; John McCosh, I. S.; Nicholas Reeves, O. S. Alex. McKillop, P.W.P. Wm. Grimley, Chaplain.

Deaths.

At Cocaigne, of Typhus Fever, on the 3d instant, JOHN, second son of James Long, Esq., in the 26th year of his age, severed in early life from a numerous circle of relations and friends, to whom his kindness and generosity of manner and disposition had endeared and attached him. His loss will be long deplored and deeply lamented. His remains were conveyed to the family burial place, Shediac, and were followed by a large and respectable concourse of the inhabitants.

On the 29th November last, at the residence of her husband, St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, after a short illness, AGNES, the beloved wife of Allan Gilmore, Esq., and fourth daughter of the deceased John Sirang, Esq., formerly of St. Andrews, in this Province, much and deservedly regretted by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance.

TEA MEETING.

A TEA MEETING

Will be held in the VESTRY of WESLEY CHAPEL, Chatham, on the evening of WEDNESDAY, the second day of January next, at 7 o'clock, for the relief of the Trustees of that Chapel.

Tickets at Two Shillings each.—To be had at Doctor Kirk's, Newcastle; from Mr Charles Hawbolt, at Messrs. Gilmore, Rackie & Co's store, Douglastown; from Mr Weatherley, at do, Chatham, and at the store of Messrs. K. B. & W. Forbes.

A CHILDREN'S TEA MEETING will be held in the same place, on the following afternoon (THURSDAY), at half-past 4 o'clock. Tickets, 5 pence.

Chatham, December 24, 1849.

Stove Pipe, Bake Pans, &c.,

Can be had of the Subscriber, or at the shop of R. K. Whyte, Tinsmith, for Cash, or in exchange for Wheat, Oats, Pork, Beef, or Mutton.

JOHN RITCHIE,

Chatham, November 24, 1849.