

the punishment itself received, there can be little doubt as to the efficacy of the lash. Recently, a desperado named Dundas was convicted at the Old Bailey of robbing a man, with brutal violence, and sentenced to ten years' penal servitude, and to receive twenty lashes from the cat. The penal servitude would, perhaps, have been regarded as a mere trifle, but the fear of the cat sent the prisoner howling from the stool.

THE QUEEN'S LIFE OF HER HUSBAND.

We give our readers this week a few extracts taken from an English paper, from "The Queen's Life of Her Husband." They are exceedingly interesting. Those that we have chosen relate to the Queen's courtship and marriage, and will therefore be eagerly read by all our readers, old and young. This volume was originally compiled for private circulation, but doubts rose as to whether, through some channel or other, it would not reach the public in a garbled form; and it was thought expedient to publish it "in substantially the same form as that in which it was first printed for private circulation." The translations of the Prince's letters, as they appear in the text, are for the most part by Princess Helena:—

"In June, 1839, the Prince returned to Coburg. In October he made that eventful journey to England which decided the future current of his life. When all opposition was removed, the Queen herself seemed to hesitate, so that the Prince began to dread that she might change her mind. But we read here (in a passage which deserves particular attention on more accounts than one)—

"The Queen says she never entertained any idea of this, she afterwards repeatedly informed the Prince that she never would have married any one else. She expresses, however, great regret that she had not, after her accession, kept up her correspondence with her cousin, as she had done before it. "Nor can the Queen now," she adds, "think without indignation against herself, of her wish to keep the Prince waiting for probably three or four years, at the risk of ruining all his prospects for life, until she might feel inclined to marry! And the Prince has since told her that he came over in 1839 with the intention of telling her that if she could not then make up her mind, she must understand that he could not wait for a decision, as he had done at a former period when this marriage was first talked about. The only excuse the Queen can make for herself in the fact that the sudden change from the secluded life at Kensington to the independence of her position as Queen Regnant, at the age of eighteen, put all ideas of marriage out of her mind, which she now most bitterly regrets. A worse school for a young girl, or more detrimental to all natural feelings and affections, cannot be well imagined than the position of a Queen at eighteen, without experience and without a husband to guide and support her. This the Queen has stated from painful experience, and she thanks God that none of her dear daughters are exposed to such danger."

"On the 8th of October the Prince set out from Brussels with a letter from the King of the Belgians to the Queen. Accompanied by his brother, the Prince arrived at Windsor on the 10th—at half-past 7 in the evening. They were met with the most cordial and affectionate reception by the Queen, who received them herself at the top of the staircase, and conducted them to the Duchess of Kent." The way of life at Windsor during the stay of the Prince is thus described:—"The Queen, breakfasting at the time in her own room, they afterwards paid her a visit there; and at two o'clock had luncheon with her and the Duchess of Kent. In the afternoon they all rode—the Queen and Duchess and the two Princes, with Lord Melbourne and most of the ladies and gentlemen in attendance, forming a large cavalcade. There was a great dinner every evening, with a dance after it three times a week!"

THE QUEEN DISCLOSES TO HER MINISTER HER INTENTION TO MARRY.

"On the 16th there was an important interruption to the ordinary routine of the day. The Queen had told Lord Melbourne the day before that she had made up her mind to the marriage, at which he expressed great satisfaction, and he said to her, as Her Majesty states in her Journal, "I think it will be very well received; for I hear that there is an anxiety now that it should be, and I am very glad of it; adding, in quite a paternal tone, 'You will be much more comfortable; for a woman cannot stand alone for any time, in whatever position she may be.' Can we wonder that the Queen, recalling these circumstances, should exclaim, 'Alas! alas! the poor Queen now stands in that painful position?' An intimation was accordingly given to the Prince, through Baron Alvensleben, Master of the Horse to the Duke of Coburg, and long attached to his family, who had accompanied the Prince to England, that the Queen wished to speak to him the next day. On that day, the 14th, the Prince had been out hunting early with his brother, but returned at twelve, and half-an-hour afterwards obeyed the Queen's summons to her room, where he found her alone. After a few minutes' conversation on other subjects, the Queen told him why she had sent for him; and we can well understand any little hesitation and delicacy she may have felt in doing so; for the Queen's position, making it imperative that any proposal of marriage should come first from her, must necessarily appear a painful one to those who, deriving their ideas on this subject from the practice of private life, are wont to look upon it as the privilege and happiness of a woman to have her hand sought in marriage, instead of having to offer it herself.

"The Queen's feelings at the time of her acceptance. From the various letters of the Prince we may learn his own feelings at this time. To Prince Lowenstein he wrote:— 'Yes—I am now actually a bridegroom; and about the 4th of February I hope to see myself united to the one I love! You know how matters stood when I last saw you here. After that the sky was darkened more and more. The Queen declared to my uncle of Belgium, that she wished the affair to be considered as broken off, and that for four years she could not think of marriage. I went therefore with the quiet but firm resolution to declare that I also, tired of the delay, withdrew entirely from the affair. It was not however, thus ordained by Providence; for on the second day after our arrival, the most friendly demonstrations were directed towards me, and two days afterwards I was secretly called to a private audience, in which the Queen offered me her hand and heart."

THE QUEEN'S DECLARATION TO PRINCE ALBERT.

"The subject which has occupied us so much of late is at last settled. The Queen sent for me alone to her room a few days ago, and declared to me in a general outburst of love and affection (*Eryusse von Herlichkeit und Liebe*), that I had gained her whole heart, and would make her intensely happy (*überglücklich*) if I would make her the sacrifice of sharing her life with her, for she said she looked on it as a sacrifice; the only thing that troubled her was that she did not think she was worthy of me. The joyful openness of her heart, and in which she told me this quite untrammelled, and I was quite carried away by it. She is really most good and amiable, and I am quite sure heaven has not given me better hands, and that we shall be happy together. Since that moment Victoria does whatever she fancies I should wish or like, and we talk together a great deal about our future life, which she promises me to make as happy as possible. Oh, the future! does it not bring with it the moment when I shall have to take leave of my dear, dear home, and of you! I cannot think of that without deep melancholy taking possession of me. It was on the 16th October when Victoria made me this declaration, and I have hitherto shrunk from telling you; but how does delay make it better?"

Miscellaneous.

ONE HUNDRED MEN BURIED ALIVE IN A MINE.—On the 1st of July last the wooden framework of a thousand and five hundred feet deep coal pit of a coal mine in the neighborhood of Logan, gave way, blocking up with an impenetrable mass of timber, and rock the pit at a depth of about three hundred fathoms from the top. At the moment of the disaster one hundred and two men, nearly all of them the supporters of large families, were working at the bottom of the mine. Their provisions were only calculated for one day. On the 5th of July, the date of the latest news by mail, the place where the fallen masses had stopped the pit was of such a solid structure that the water was standing on many feet high. From all sides the most available help was offered, but the conviction that nothing could be done soon enough to save the unfortunate miners, weakened, as seems, any energetic efforts. They were doomed to die of starvation and of foul air. On the 4th of July, attempts to reach the bottom of the pit by any quick process was abandoned, and a sure but slow plan was devised, by which, at least, the corpses of the perished could be extracted. Iron tubes of about two feet in diameter were to be sunk through the obstruction down to the bottom of the pit. Among the dead are forty-four married men, one of whom had a wife and nine living children. The scenes at the entrance of the pit are described as lamentable without a parallel. One hundred and thirty-seven children filled the air with wailing cries, whilst the Superintendent of the mine, to whose negligence the disaster was ascribed by the people, could only be saved from being mobbed by his sudden imprisonment.

The Boston Post, in remarking upon the point at issue between the President and the Secretary of War, is not merely whether the Secretary shall relinquish or retain his position, but whether the supremacy of the blacks or the whites shall prevail at the South, and adds:—"Those who desire exclusive negro rule in the Southern States, led by such men as Brownlow and Hannibal, favor Mr. Stanton; those who favor equality between whites and blacks before the law, looking to the legitimate result of white predominance in civil government, side with Mr. Johnson. The radicals are determined to give the negroes supreme control; the Conservatives would confine them to the influence due their intelligence and numbers. The question is no longer 'Is not the negro your brother?' But, 'Is not the negro your master?'"

We observe by the St. John papers that a few days ago a large quantity of lignum invoked "Raw and Boiled Linseed Oil" arrived at that port in a vessel from London, and consigned to a merchant in St. John. A cart load of the article was removed to Mrs. Cudlip and Snider's bonded warehouse, when on being examined by the gauger and inspector, the casks were found to contain nothing but clear spring water. It is presumed the whole lot is of the same quality. It is supposed that the original swindler is now beyond the reach of justice, with the proceeds of his dishonesty in his pocket, and the English shipper will have to suffer. A small quantity of the real linseed oil had been used to give the bungs of the casks the proper odour, and thus make the deception complete. This is one of the most audacious swindles we have read of for some time past.

When a counterfeit is presented at the Bank of England, the gold is instantly paid for it. If it comes from some known person, he is only asked where he got it. If from a stranger, the cashier signals to his detective, always in waiting, and the officer follows secretly. Before many hours the Bank is in possession of the stranger's biography. The offender, once arrested, is likely to be tried, convicted and sentenced, within two days.

In a rowing match for \$400 a side, which took place on Monday last on the Charles River, Boston, the boat *George C. Wiggins*, built by Mr. Coyle, of St. John, and rowed by a crew of men from St. John and Boston, won handsomely.

Hon. Mr. Todd, of New Brunswick, has, in a letter to the government over his own signature, refused to accept the seat assigned him in the Senate of the Dominion of Canada. The non-acceptance will occasion a vacancy in the Senate.

THE CABLE DESPATCHES.—The reason for sending so many uninteresting despatches over the cable to the Associated Press is thus explained by the *Journal of Commerce*:—"It is not the fault of the agent, but of the Cable Company, which has heretofore refused all compromise in the interest of the press. The charge for each despatch is fixed at a minimum rate, so that the simplest market item is charged in full for an entire message. These despatches are, therefore, filled with any item of intelligence to make up the whole number of words. In this sense these unimportant paragraphs cost nothing. If important news was at hand they would not come at all; but if they were withheld, the cost would be precisely the same without them. It is understood that the cable company are about changing this rule."

Mr. Kroeger of Milwaukee conceived the idea of having Count Bismarck for godfather to his son. The Prussian statesman graciously consented and sent the boy a silver spoon, ornamented with the coat-of-arms of the Bismarck family, and engraved with the name "Bismarck Kroeger." People who want silver spoons will take notice.

The death at Paris is announced of Gen. Changarnac, in his seventy-eighth year, cousin of the former head of the executive power under the French Republic.

Latest by Telegraph!

Salzburg, Aug. 20, eve. The private interviews which have taken place between the Emperors of France and Austria, and between Napoleon and Baron Bunsen, have resulted in a good understanding, but no treaty has been made.

Vienna, Aug. 20, eve. All the official journals declare that the peace of Germany is now secured.

Liverpool, Aug. 21. The important suit of the West India and Pacific Steamship Co., vs. Williams & Gossin, just tried in the Liverpool Court of Assize, has resulted in a judgment for the Plaintiffs, with damages assessed at 130,000 pounds sig. This suit grew out of the Nitro-Glycerine explosion at aspinwall, New Granada, on the 2nd April, 1866, by which the steamship *European*, belonging to the plaintiffs, was destroyed while lying at her wharf in the above named place.

London, Aug. 21, eve. The Imperial Parliament was prorogued to-day. The Queen was not present, but the speech from the Throne was read by a Royal Commission. The Queen declares that there is no longer any ground for apprehension of war.

The treasonable conspiracy in Ireland has proved futile, any attempts at revolt have been suppressed almost without bloodshed by the valor of the troops, the vigilance and activity of the police, and the general loyalty of the people. Law has been preserved without the sacrifice of human life. The speech refers with satisfaction to the new postal treaty made by her Majesty's Government, and in conclusion congratulates Parliament and the country generally on the completion of the Canadian Union; the passage of the Reform Bill, and the adoption of other measures beneficial to the United Kingdom.

London, Aug. 21, eve. It is reported from Madrid that the revolt in Catalonia has failed, and that the authority of the Government is being rapidly re-established in the insurrectionary districts.

Edinboro, Aug. 21. The prorogation of the Imperial Parliament took place to-day. Garibaldi has again been obliged to defer his movement on Rome, and the preparations which were being made by the party of action throughout Italy, under the orders of the General, have been suspended.

Paris, Aug. 21, eve. The semi official press of this city declare that the Conference of the Emperors at Salzburg ensures a long term of peace for Europe. Another gathering of European crowned heads is expected to take place here. It is reported that their majesties Queen Victoria of England, Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, will meet the Emperor Napoleon at Paris, in October next.

London, Aug. 21, eve. A despatch from Constantinople states that the Sultan has resolved to form a new Council, composed of equal numbers of Greek and Turkish members.

Paris, Aug. 22. It is said that one of the results of the Conference which has been held at Salzburg between the Emperor Napoleon and Francis Joseph, is to insist that the South German States shall unite in a Confederation of which Austria is to be the head. It is also stated that an agreement had been arrived at between the two Emperors as to the policy to be hereafter pursued by Austria and France.

Vienna, August 22. The *Journal* in this city, generally acknowledged to be the organ of Prime Minister Baron Von Bunsen, asserts that a defensive alliance has been formed between Austria and France.

Paris, August 26, eve. M. Velpeau, the eminent Physician, is dead.

An Abolition Congress composed of the leading anti-slavery men of the world commenced a session here to-day. A large number of Americans and many representatives of the African race were present. One of the objects of the Congress is to prepare and adopt a memorial to all those powers which tolerate human slavery within their dominions urging the total abolition of such bondage.

Berlin, August 26, eve. Preliminaries for a meeting between King William of Prussia and the Sovereigns of the South German States have been arranged. Baden has been agreed upon as the place of the Conference which will be held at an early day.

Marseilles, August 26. An arrival from the Island of Crete brings the following intelligence. While a Russian war steamer was taken on board a number of refugees on the Cretan coast, the commander of a Turkish man-of-war which was lying near forbids any further embarkation. The Russian Commander refused to desert, and both vessels ran out to sea, and prepared for a fight, but Omar Pasha the Commander of the land forces who was on shore in the vicinity hearing of the danger interfered and prevented an engagement.

London, August 26. The reports of trouble in Spain are conflicting and unreliable. Official despatches published at Madrid and telegraphed abroad say that all risings have been put down and that the insurrection is ended, while advices received from the insurgents flatly contradict these statements and maintain the movement against the Government is going on with success and gathering strength day by day.

St. Petersburg, August 26. The Russian Government has sent an order to the United States for 150,000 Berdan Rifles.

London, August 25. Despatches from the East report that a raising had taken place in Montenegro but that it was speedily suppressed, and at last accounts the country was quiet.

Paris, August 25. Reports have reached here from Spain that an insurrection had broken out in the Province of Aragon, and that for the moment the rebels were carrying everything before them.

St. Louis, August 25. A despatch from Fort Hayes, Kansas, dated the 23rd says, a courier has just arrived from Capt. Ames with despatches to Capt. Corbin to the effect that Capt. Ames had a severe battle with 800 Indians under Santate on the Republican River.—Their village was two miles long.

Capt. Ames charged twice through their wigwags. The savages fought desperately. Three of our men were killed and 25 wounded, and 30 horses lost. The Indians lost severely but finally repulsed our troops.

Gold (N. Y.) 140 1/2.

New York, August 27. The cable between New York and Havana was successfully spliced on Sunday last, and is working well. The movement of the telegraphic party between here and Key West are unknown.

Gold 141 1/2. New York, August 27. The Board of Health met yesterday, when Commissioner Stone reported that infected vessels had been permitted by the Health Officer, Dr. Sunburn, to come up to the city and unload their cargoes, and that in two cases of this kind yellow fever had been imparted to citizens.

Madrid, August 23. A state of siege has been declared in all the Provinces in consequence of anticipated insurrectionary movements.

REVOLT AT THE PENITENTIARY IN HALIFAX.

A serious revolt occurred at the Penitentiary yesterday. At noon the prisoners, numbering about fifty, assembled in the wooden building in which they usually dine. Some of them complained that the food was not fit to eat, and in a short time the dissatisfaction became general. The prisoners, as if by concerted design, threw the food on the floor, and commenced breaking the windows and destroying everything within their reach. The governor of the prison sent to the forts in the vicinity for aid, and four men of the Royal Engineers were despatched to the scene. By this time the prisoners had demolished the windows, and were endeavoring to make their escape. The governor called on them to desist, but they paid no attention to the command. The Engineers then fired through the windows. James Burns, who was sent to the Institution a few weeks ago for assaulting Alderman Nash, received a ball in each shoulder, and it is doubtful if he will recover. Michael Bradley, a soldier undergoing sentence for rape, was severely wounded. A soldier named Parks, who was imprisoned by a ball which glanced aside and took off his left ear. In the meantime a messenger had been despatched to the city, and about twenty men of the Royal Artillery, under the command of an officer, went down. The prisoners, seeing the force now at the scene, surrendered, and the wounded were carried to hospital, and the others locked up. A posse of policemen soon arrived and took charge of the building, when the military withdrew.—*Chronicle*.

THE HARVEST.—The accounts of the crops throughout the world continue to be of the most cheering nature, and unless some unforeseen calamity should occur, the prospects of a bountiful harvest are very satisfactory. In our own country the blessings of Providence are as apparent and as gratifying as elsewhere. In England although the season is a little backward, the reports are all satisfactory. The oat harvest was good, and favourable weather enabled a large hay crop to be secured. Subsequent showers greatly helped in the barley, and other articles which had continuation of dry weather. In Central and Southern Russia there will be an unusual yield of breadstuffs, and average yields of grain may be expected in Turkey, North Italy, Austria, Prussia, Norway and Sweden. In Portugal the weather has proved unfavorable to the grape crop. From the United States we have generally good reports of all the great staples; but in some parts cotton will not yield as much as in former favorable years. In most of the Southern States the grain crops so excellent that it is not believed any demands will be made on the stock. In our own country, on the other hand, it is reported deficient. In the great grain-growing regions of the West, it is said that the yield of wheat, corn and oats will be unprecedentedly large. From the Eastern and Northern States the same cheering reports are received, with the exception that some damage had been done in the former by frequent showers of rain. Generally, however, the crops were secured in good order.—*His Reporter*.

The Fenians have lost a valuable man in Jerry O'Brien, who was hung in New York on Friday last, for murdering his sweetheart about a year since, after his return from the raid upon Canada.

A telegram from Omaha, U. S., says that a hard, tough battle between the Indians and whites occurred at Fort Phil Kearney on the 2nd inst. The battle continued for 3 hours. The total loss of savages is reported at sixty killed, and a large number wounded.

Correspondence.

MR. EDITOR:— Permit me to express my unfeigned approbation of the tone, spirit, and style of your excellent Journal. In this peculiar crisis of our Provincial history, there is nothing so important as the weekly education of our people in the things that belong to their moral and political welfare. It is all-important that the strong tide of democracy's vulgar and dangerous influence which is now setting northward from the United States should be met and foiled by the earnest love of country and of monarchical institutions peculiar to intelligent Englishmen. It is only natural that the ignorant and unthinking should be carried away by the sound of "great swelling words;" we see that this is the case in matters of religion, and it will be also in matters of national import. "Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite" was the false mocking sound which led "the beautiful France" into the nameless horrors of her famed Revolution, which deluged her altars with the best and bravest blood of her sons, and destroyed that great bulwark of freedom, an ancient aristocracy; upon this delusive myth has also been reared up that unsound fabric, the Republic of America. Once that huge fabric trembled to its foundation when the storm of war beat upon it, and it needs now but some passing troubled breeze to bring it to the ground. Across that vast republic, from East to West, has yawned a great gulf dividing the North from the South, as the opening earth divided once, in ancient-story, the Roman forum. And as Marcus Curtius cast himself into that chasm and thus closed it up, so has the blood of half a million slaughtered men closed up and cemented the gulf between the contending parties. But the crack is there yet, and many other cracks that portend the falling in pieces towards not only the South, but the West, of that country. If therefore we do not want the weakening, destroying hand of democracy to effect in similar manner hereafter the ruin of these fair Provinces, let us cherish the institutions of our fathers and of our fatherland.

It was, therefore, with peculiar satisfaction, Mr. Editor, that I noticed in your columns a review of the life and labors of Sir Archibald Alison, taken from Blackwood's Magazine. He was without doubt the greatest historian of modern times. His history of Europe from the inception of the French Revolution to the fall of Napoleon is a most masterly record of events thrown in the mould of profound research and thought. The second series, from 1815, to the beginning of the last decade, maintains the same character; the whole comprising the most exhaustive treatise on European politics of the 19th century, now in existence. Alison's style to my mind is far more interesting than the far famed style of Macaulay. In sentences most polished, with burning thoughts, and thrilling clearness, he recites the fearful atrocities of democracy, the terrors of the French Revolution, the bloody track of Napoleon across the world, and the scarce less interesting events of the forty years subsequent peace. If this magnificent history could be rendered a family book, familiar to our youth of both sexes, the effects, in giving truthful and enlightened views of the respective systems of republicanism and monarchy, would be in the present state of our Provinces of the first importance.

Yours truly,
BRITON.
August 26, 1867.

Summerside Journal.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1867.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. We must know the names and addresses of our correspondents; as a guaranty of their good faith. We cannot undertake to return communications that are not used.

FARMS AND FARMERS.

We were much struck, while travelling through the country a few days ago, by the improved appearance of the farms and farm buildings. We do not now refer to the increased area of arable land in the Island—that the dullest observer cannot help remarking. It is really wonderful to see wide fields of growing crops and cheerful homesteads where but a few years ago the primitive forest flourished in untrammelled wildness; fields that but the other day were marred by unsightly stumps and blackened logs are now as smooth as a bowling green, presenting through their whole extent not one single impediment to the plough or the reaping machine. Camps and log houses have altogether disappeared in many settlements, where but a short time ago no other kinds of human habitation were to be seen, and in their places have been erected comfortable, well-painted, and tastefully ornamented frame houses. No trace remains of the old round log buildings which did duty for cow shed, stable and barn; but instead of them we have quite a group of spacious barns, and other convenient out-houses. The mis-shapen bed of shives, bordered by a currant bush or two, and having for ornament a bunch of columbine, a sun-flower or two, struggling for existence, amidst a luxuriant crop of dillies and other weeds—which the poor farmer's wife and daughters amid their many and arduous tasks, had not time to keep under—has expanded, in many cases, into a trim well-kept garden, in which are carefully cultivated many kinds of beautiful blooming plants and all sorts of useful vegetables. Fruit indeed is not as generally cultivated as we think it might be, but here and there may be seen trees red with cherries or bending under a plentiful crop of splendid apples. We say that although these changes obtruded themselves on our attention, they were not those which we intended to write about when we sat down to pen our article. Evidences of a superior system of farming to that pursued by the rural population of the Island in our youthful days, when we wielded the axe and swung the scythe, were everywhere visible. A good crop of hay was in those days the exception and not the rule.—Many and many a day have we mowed in fields where the operation of mowing seemed to us to be a useless sham. The thin fine natural grass was exceedingly hard to cut, and there was so little of it that it was hardly worth the making. Many old farmers would then tell you with a serious face, and in melancholy tones, that it was impossible to raise good hay crops in this country. The soil was too tight, the seasons too dry, and the winters too long and too severe. When the gentlemen farmers about Charlottetown began to raise heavy crops of hay, these persons were astonished; they could hardly believe the evidence of their senses. But they soon found out the secret of the success of our suburban farmers. "It's easy enough for men who have plenty of money and manure to no end, to raise hay, but poor farmers who have nothing but their own work to depend upon need never expect to raise such crops." However, "a poor farmer" here and there did raise good crops of hay in spite of the light soil, the dry seasons and the long and cold winters.

Then Judge Peters' excellent little book "Hints to Farmers" began to be circulated through the country, and our "old fogies" were not listened to with so much respect by young Prince Edward Island. They were voted both ignorant and indolent by the party of progress, and they very unwillingly and very tardily fell in at the extreme rear of the march of improvement. We see no such fields now—days as those which twenty years ago did duty for meadows in many parts of the Island. No light-brown fields of short feathery grass tantalize the discouraged and toilworn mower. Instead of them we find the land covered with a heavy growth of cultivated grasses, clover and timothy. We verily believe that the average crop is to-day at least fourfold of what it was fifteen or twenty years ago.

Who does not remember the miserable attempts made by many in those days to cultivate turnips? How different was the sickly growth, and the hard, dry, pungent roots of that time to the luxuriant vegetation and the sweet juicy turnips of the present day. It seems to us that there is now a ranker growth of all sorts of crops than was then. It is true that wheat and potatoes grew better then than now; but this is owing to the kindness of Providence rather than to the skill of the agriculturist. In the time we speak of, there was a greater proportion of virgin soil to the whole area cultivated than there is now. The new land yielded plenteously for a few years, but a ruinous system of over-cropping soon exhausted it, and consequently the cleared land in many cases yielded miserable crops both of grass and grain. Owing to the small quantity of cleared and enclosed land, in proportion to that in a wilderness state, there was no land that could be spared for pasture on the settler's clearance. The consequence was that his young horses, cattle and sheep were for the greater part of the year roaming about the woods, and one very effectual means of restoring the wasted energies of the soil completely lost.

But all this is changed now in most parts of the country. As the farms became cleared there was each year less new land to depend upon. The farmer was obliged to turn his attention to working the old, and in too many cases the worn out parts of his farm. He found that he must make these parts yield more than they had done for many years, or starve. About this time there was a great cry

raised against the Island. Farmers caught the Canada fever, the New Zealand fever, and half a dozen other fevers. Many left the country in disgust. But, however, many more remained at home, and set about improving their farms with a will. They found by sad experience that something more than hard work was necessary to successful farming. Industry is no doubt one of the essentials of success in farming, but it is not the only essential. Our farmers found that in order to cultivate their lands properly they must think as well as work. Many of them knew nothing of farming previous to their settling in this country. As long as the land was unexhausted they got along in a shiftless sort of way; but when the condition of their farms made systematic scientific farming a necessity, they were completely at sea. At this juncture there was a class of settlers who did an immense amount of good to the Island. These were men who, previous to their settling in the country, had some knowledge of practical farming. As long as the whole settlement were grubbing among the stumps the superior skill of these men did not produce any very conspicuous results, but as soon as they began work with the plough the consequence of their superior knowledge of agriculture became apparent. As long as their less skilled neighbors could manage to make out a living off of their farms, they were at no pains to learn from them. Some of them took to timber-making, some to ship-building, and some to fishing, in order to eke out the scanty supplies which their farms yielded them. But when they saw that their neighbors who stuck to their farms were growing more and more comfortable each year, they began to enquire into the secret of their success. After a time they attempted to imitate the more skillful management and superior processes of their prosperous neighbors. They began to think and to talk more about farming. Old prejudices insensibly melted away, and old practices were given up, and by and by the observer might see in the improved appearance of the farms the happy effects of the new system. Good times, too, acted as a great incentive to improvement. People may say what they like as to the virtues of necessity as a teacher, our opinion is that prosperity is, for a while at any rate, a far better schoolmaster. Never were such improvements made in the country as when farmers were able to get a good price in cash for everything their farms produced. Land was cleared, buildings erected, manure collected, better stock raised, and comforts and luxuries procured. It is now said by some that the farmers of Prince Edward Island are the best in British America. We cannot tell from personal observation whether this is true or not, but we do know that very great improvements have been made in our system of farming of late years.—Our farmers should remember that the soil of this Island requires skillful cultivation. Main Strength and Stupidity will clear a farm quickly enough, but they will be pretty sure to starve on it after it is cleared. The land, though easy enough to be kept in good heart, and not so difficult as some to be brought into good order after being ill-used and exhausted, is easily run out. Good culture will do wonders with it, but bad farming soon ruins it. Hence the necessity of head-farming. Our farmers must be intelligent; they must read, observe, experiment and think. When agriculture on the Island becomes a science, and when the weevil ceases to destroy our wheat crops, there will be no more beautiful or prosperous country on the face of the earth than this our Island Home.

OWING to the blunder of not announcing the *Heather Belle's* visit to Summerside, we did not arrive in the city in time to witness the Scottish Games. We, however, made enquiries as to their success, and the interest taken in them by the public. The answers we received were very ambiguous. It appeared to us that on the whole the proceedings were considered tame and unsatisfactory. The fact is there was wantonly little enthusiasm, even among Scotchmen, about the matter. The question "What's the good of these annual displays of physical strength and agility?" is now very frequently asked. We heard it hinted that men who had plenty of muscular exercise in their regular employments on the farm and in the workshop would be much more profitably employed during their leisure hours in improving their minds than in training their muscles to perform feats which are of no practical value, whatever; and we must say that we fully agree with those who take this view of the subject. As for keeping alive the spirit of nationality among Scotchmen, all that we have to say is that we would much rather see a spirit of nationality and a love of country created among British Americans than witness the perpetuation of any old world pride of fatherland.

We publish in to-day's paper, by order of the Secretary, the list of prizes to be awarded for the different articles named, at the Agricultural and Local Exhibition to be held in Charlottetown, in October next. We trust that the farmers and mechanics of Prince County will be well represented at the Exhibition: They proved themselves last week to be the best marksmen in the Island; let them prove themselves to be the best farmers and mechanics also. Especially would we urge upon the fair daughters of the farmers of the County to display their genius and handiwork.

THE REV. MR. DESBRESAY will, (D.V.), preach a sermon to YOUNG MEN, in the Wesleyan Church at Summerside, next Sabbath evening, at the usual hour.

THE Steamer *Princess of Wales* took from this port on Wednesday morning last over 1500 bushels new oats. We understand that 3s. per bushel was paid for the whole of it.

THE oyster trade will commence again next week. On and after the 1st September they can be fished.