

A WORD ON FARMING.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND is pre-eminently an agricultural Colony. The progress of development in this branch of industry has been marvellous. Let any one compare the condition of the Island, in an agricultural point of view, with that which existed twenty-five years ago, and he will be struck with the result as showing a rate of progress to which there is perhaps no parallel in any part of the Dominion. The shipments of produce at the former period were on a very limited scale as compared with the enormous quantities which are now annually exported; and it may be safely predicted that the rate of progress which has distinguished the last quarter of a century will mark the next quarter. The increase has not been so much owing to the native fertility of the soil, as to an improved system of agriculture—attention to the necessary rotation of crops, the selection of seed, and the extensive application of mussel mud. And we must not forget the beneficial results so far as live stock is concerned, of the importation of superior breeds of cattle and horses. But there is another means of cultivation which has been tried amongst us, but to a very limited extent, and which, if generally adopted, would increase the yield of cereals and esculents to a very large extent. We mean thorough drainage. In every country in which it has been tried, the returns have been such as could be anticipated by the most sanguine. There is hardly a farm in Scotland which has not been thoroughly drained. Drainage may be said without exaggeration, to have done wonders. We are within the mark when we say that it has far more than doubled the amount of agricultural produce, whilst at the same time the quality has been greatly improved. Without this important process, Scotland could not have attained to the proud position which it now holds, of having the best system of agriculture in Europe. By means of drainage, a soil by no means, naturally fertile, has been made productive—thousands of acres which were once covered with desolate heath, or which consisted of peat moss, are now producing splendid crops.

It may seem marvellous to some of the farmers of the Island that thousands of tenants in Great Britain can pay twenty dollars an acre of rent for their farms, and yet live well, give their families a good education, and make money. The secret of their ability to do this is the adoption of the most scientific modes of cultivation, of which deep drainage constitutes one of the most essential elements. Not only are farms which consist of heavy, wet soil subjected to the process, but also land which might be supposed to be naturally dry. It may be safely affirmed that hardly a farm of value in Britain wants drainage. It may be said that the process is an expensive one. To dig drains from two to three feet deep, and lay tiles for the conveyance of the water at the bottom, requires a great deal of labor, and is consequently attended with considerable expense. And it is evident that the farmers of the Old Country enjoy advantages which are not to be had in this Island for the prosecution of the work. In the first place, the winters in the Old Country are comparatively mild, so much so that, as a rule, ploughing can be done during dry weather in the very depth of winter. The greatest obstacle to out-door labor there is the great amount of rain fall. It is rarely, except in the Highlands of Scotland, that field work is interrupted either by frost or snow. Interruption to labor arising from these causes, either in England, Ireland, or the low country in Scotland, is quite exceptional. On the other hand, the British farmer has the advantage of cheap labor. Here it is impossible to secure workers under a dollar a day. In the Old Country, not many years ago, only half a dollar was paid, but now we believe the rate is about sixty-two cents.

sets in sometimes earlier. But, notwithstanding the disadvantages referred to, we believe that drainage would yield on this Island highly profitable returns. If the Prince Edward Islander works under disadvantages from which the British farmer has immunity, let it not be forgotten that the former pays, as a rule, no rent. If one of our farmers had to pay, for a hundred acre farm, two thousand dollars of rent annually, he would regard it as an intolerable burden.

The farmers on the Island cannot complain of the want of a market for their produce. There are on the Island enterprising merchants who carry on an extensive export trade, and who are always ready to pay fair prices for produce—prices which are of course determined by those current in the great centres of commerce in the old and new world. There is also an outlet for all the live stock that can be reared. By means of the railway, to the construction of which stupid objections were made, the means of communication with the capital has been greatly facilitated, and the communication with the American continent and Europe is yearly improving. There is a bright future in prospect for the Island. Let our farmers who, if they could live by their farms twenty years ago, must now be making money, not hoard up their means, but expend them in improving their farms. If a fair trial were given to thorough drainage of the land, we have no doubt that amongst the better class of farmers it would be quite as extensively adopted, and to quite as much advantage, as in the old country.

A SHARP CUSTOMS OFFICIAL.

On Wednesday evening a poor country-woman—desirous of adding a few quarters to her scanty store—went down to the Steamship *Carroll*, carrying under her arm one of those "hooked mats," in the manufacture of which our fair friends of this Province are so justly eminent. Passing through the throng, she made her way on deck, and anxiously interviewed the captain, the first and second mate and steward; but failed to sell. With a heavy heart she was making her way ashore again; when, O horror! she was met by a Customs official, charged with an attempt at smuggling and obliged to deliver up her mat. She remonstrated, and the officials of the boat explained. But all to no purpose. Get her mat she could not; and she was obliged to take lodgings in town until yesterday morning to have it restored. Such a sharp official deserves promotion.

SUPREME COURT—SUMMERSIDE.

WEDNESDAY, June 13.

In the case of the Queen at the prosecution of Charles McFarlane against James Bastobal, the Grand Jury brought in a true Bill for larceny. The prisoner was arraigned, and pleaded not guilty.

The Queen v. Henry Monaghan, for stabbing. Pleaded not guilty.

The Queen v. Jacob Murray. Grand Jury returned a true bill for larceny.

J. C. Pope v. Richard Gladney and others. This was an action upon a Sheriff's Bail Bond. Mr. Peters moved for an order to stay further proceedings upon payment of costs, with liberty for the plaintiff to proceed against Gladney in the original action upon the ground that the bail had rendered Gladney. Mr. Hodgson showed cause, contending that there was no evidence that Gladney had been legally rendered or that he remained in custody; also that while the affidavit upon which the rule was obtained, is entitled in the original suit, the rule itself is entitled in this suit, and that this was a fatal variance. He also produced an affidavit showing that the suit had been proceeded with at the request of the bail themselves. The Chief Justice reserved his decision until to-morrow morning.

Simmons v. McKinnon. This was the suit the hearing of which commenced yesterday. The parties live on Lot 16. The plaintiff owns 43 acres and the defendant 30 acres. The question in dispute is a piece of land one chain by fifty chains, being in fact the boundary line between them. The parties have been at war for nine years. Assaults, in which pitchforks were freely used, took place between them. Upon one occasion the Grand Jury intervened. The Hon. Alexander Anderson, who surveyed the land 30 years ago, was examined, and produced his field notes, on the part of the plaintiff. So far as the exact position of the disputed line is concerned, his evidence leaves little doubt; but the defendant contends that another line was agreed to by the plaintiff since Anderson's survey. This is the point which the Jury have to decide, and the evidence is conflicting. Mr. Charles Palmer is addressing the Jury for the plaintiff, and the Chief Justice will probably charge the Jury to-morrow morning.

DIPHTHERIA.—This dangerous disease is at present rapidly increasing in this city. The first case was that of a boy of eleven, who caught the disease about three weeks ago, and now there are over twelve cases.

THE NEW ASYLUM.

At four o'clock yesterday afternoon the ceremony of raising and turning the first sod of the ground at Falconwood on which the Asylum for Insane Persons is to be built, was performed by the Commissioner of Public Works and His Worship the Mayor. A number of our leading citizens and several members of the Press were present upon the occasion.

The design of the Asylum, as our readers are aware, was furnished by Messrs Sterling and Dewar, of Halifax. It has passed into the hands of Messrs Sterling & Harris of this city, and they will prepare the working plans and superintend the work.

DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING.

The central block of the proposed building and but one ward wing is to be erected under the existing contract. The central block is to be 154 feet long—in three divisions. The first division will be 52 feet wide and 38 feet long; the second division, 78 feet long and 28 feet wide; the third division, 58 feet wide and 38 feet long.

The first division is to be three storeys high with a French roof. On the first story will be the reception room, the Commissioner's room, the dispensary, etc. The second storey will contain the doctor's apartments study, dining room and kitchen. The third story will furnish bedrooms, and other apartments, for the doctor, and the attic story will be laid off in rooms for convalescent patients.

The second division will be a long, narrow shaped piece of building connecting the first or entrance division with the third or kitchen division. It will contain, on the first story, the main hall, a large staircase and several rooms, and on the second story, a chapel 25 by 40 feet and 22 feet high, with a hall or passage-way extending along its side. The staircase hall in half of this division rises in a tower above the surrounding roofs.

The third division contains, on the first story, kitchens, laundries, sculleries, &c.; on the second, matrons, and servants' sleeping apartments.

The central block of the building runs north and south. The ward wing lies east and west, so that the building will be in the form of a —. It is intended at a future time to add a corresponding wing on the other side of the central block.

The end wall of the ward wing is thirty-five feet away from the central block, and connected with the second division of the same by a brick corridor nine feet wide by thirty-five feet long, running up to the height of all the stories. In case of fire this corridor will effectually stop the spreading of flames from the central block of the building to the ward wing.

The ward building is three storeys high with French roof. It averages fifty feet wide, and is one hundred and sixty feet long. At the end of the long corridor a staircase connects the three storeys. These three storeys comprise three separate wards, or, if required, six. An iron door is arranged to divide each ward into two distinct ones. At the west end of the ward another staircase connects the three storeys.

A corridor 10 feet wide runs through the whole length of this piece of the building, with a bay window at one end. The other end opens into a spacious day room with a bay window twenty feet wide. The central part of the corridor branches into another day room looking on the river. On either side of the corridor are arranged the dining room, pantry, linen closets, bed rooms, large dormitory, and single bed rooms for patients.

The bath rooms, water closets, and foul linen rooms are conveniently arranged in a separate block of the building at the back of the wards, running up the same number of storeys on the ward building, and connected with the same by a narrow brick corridor—thus keeping the wards clear of offensive cases.

The plan of the building is so arranged that the sun will shine into the front windows in the morning and into the back windows during the afternoon—thus making all bright.

A thorough system of heating and ventilation is arranged by means of flues built in the centre walls of the corridor and five large shafts in the ward wing, carried from basement to roof. A smouldering fire will be kept in the bottom of those shafts, causing ventilation winter and summer.

The basement flat will be used for heating purposes.

The bakery and store room will be under the kitchen.

The excavated earth will be used to raise the site of the building.

THE OLD RANKIN HOUSE was offered yesterday by Mr. Dodd. The bids given were not high enough to induce the owner to part with such a valuable property. He did not advertize in the DAILY EXAMINER

Local and Other Items.

STRAWBERRIES and Cream at "The Confectionery."

BEST BEDEQUE OYSTERS, at "The Confectionery."

STEAMERS.—The M. A. Starr left for Halifax and the Carroll left for Boston yesterday.

A fine horse was killed by the poll train last Friday between Miscouche and Wellington.—*Journal*.

PINE APPLES, Asparagus, (cheap), Cranberries, Gooseberries, Bananas, Lemons, Oranges, at "The Confectionery."

FISHERY COMMISSION.—The meetings of the Fishery Commission are being held in the Legislative Council Chamber of Nova Scotia.

FRESH Bedeque Oysters, by the quart or bushel; or served up at all hours, stewed fried or raw, at "The Confectionery, Lunch Room."

NUISANCE ABATING.—We are pleased to see that the City Surveyor has his men busily at work abating the nuisance at the head of Pownall Wharf.

BUTTER.—The City Council have in hand the passage of a by-law to compel vendors of butter to give full weight. Such a law should not be required.

SOME citizens are anxiously enquiring why the Financial Statement of the Corporation has not yet been published. It is, we understand, in the press.

BAZAAR.—The ladies of the Methodist Church have decided upon holding their bazaar in the Citizens' Skating Rink on 10th and 11th of July next.

THE CITY COUNCIL are about to appoint a keeper for Victoria Park, who will receive a salary of not less than three hundred and seventy-five dollars a year.

THE FIRST PICNIC.—Prince Edward Division S. of T. intend holding a Picnic at West River on the 21st inst. Mr. Kennedy supplies the refreshments.

NEW BOOKS RECEIVED.—"The Home of God's People," by Rev. William L. Gage, fully illustrated with nearly one hundred and seventy-five engravings, published by subscription only. An agent is now on the Island.

WHARF PURCHASE.—Messrs George J. Wright and A. H. B. Macgowan have purchased from J. C. Hall, Esq., the lease of Queen's Wharf and warehouses thereon. We understand they intend carrying on general commission and brokerage business.

INSURANCE.—We notice, from another column, that the Queen Insurance Company, which is one of the largest and strongest of the old English companies, has extended its operations to this Province, under the agency of Mr. McLeod, of the Union Bank. We congratulate the Island on the advent of such a responsible institution.

We received a communication from "A Charlottetown Boy," stating that there was no base ball club in Charlottetown in operation to pit against "Prince Edward." At the time the paragraph was written we were under the impression that there was such a club in the city. We might say for the information of our correspondent that we have no cricket club in operation that would wish to play a match with the Charlottetonians, as they are only amateurs. The game of Lacrosse is not played here at all. We would like to know, however, if there is no base ball club in Charlottetown, why the *Examiner* wished our boys to send them a challenge.

[Whoever the "Charlottetown Boy" is that wrote the *Summerside Journal* saying there was no base ball club here, should "go West" and see the noble band of batters who every evening practice in Major Lane's Square. If the "Prince Edward's" wish to challenge, please forward it to Mr. Leo. Harrington, Sec'y pro tem., of the Charlottetown Base Ball Club, *Herald* office, so as to arrange the match for Dominion Day.—ED. DAILY EX.]

MR. PROWSE'S LETTER.

BEFORE passing judgment on the letter about which such a hub-bub has been raised by the *Presbyterian*, it will be necessary to read the communication to Mr. Prowse, which called it forth. To the ordinary reader it would seem to contain only judicious advice from a member of the Government anxious to restore peace amongst quarrelling Press supporters. The morale of the man who can see anything criminal in it, must be exceedingly high,

New Advertisements.

TRADE SALE.

WE WILL OFFER

AT AUCTION,

—ON—

SATURDAY,

the 16th inst., at 11 o'clock,

100 BBLs CANADA FLOUR,
100 bbls K. D. CORNMEAL,
50 boxes RAISINS,
20 chests TEA,
15 casks Kerosene OIL,
50 sides Sole LEATHER,
25 dozen PAIRS,
10 zinc Wash. BOARDS,
25 boxes SOAP,
5 puns. Trinidad MOLASSES,
10 cases } MATCHES,
15 hf. do. }
100 boxes Smoked HERRING.

TERMS AT SALE.

FENTON T. NEWBERRY & CO.
Ch'town, June 15, 1877.

LONDON HOUSE.

NOW SELLING,

AT VERY LOW PRICES,

to clear the balance of Summer Stock, in the following Departments, viz:

READY MADE CLOTHING,

DRESS GOODS,

PRINTS,

STRAW GOODS.

Ch'town, June 15, 1877.

QUEEN INSURANCE CO. OF ENGLAND.

Capital -- Two Millions Sterling.

INSURANCE effected on all kinds of Buildings, Merchandise, and Produce. Also, on Vessels on the stocks. Special rates for isolated residences. Losses settled promptly. GEORGE MACLEOD (Union Bank), Agent for Prince Edward Island. June 15—

A NOVELTY!

GLOBE CARDS! at BREMNER BROTHERS. June 15—1in

BOARDS!

BY AUCTION, this Evening, FRIDAY, JUNE 15th, at 6 o'clock, p. m., on Connolly's Wharf, cargo schr. "Lucy Ann," namely, 35,000 feet, in Pine, Spruce, and Hemlock BOARDS. A. MCNEILL, Auctioneer. No. 11 Queen St., June 15—1in

WOOL WOOL.

THE Highest Cash Price paid for Washed and Unwashed Wool, by MCKENZIE & STUMBLER, North Side Queen Square. Ch'town, June 15, 1877. 3ins.

The Best Turnip!

HASZARD'S improved SWEDE TURNIP is so generally acknowledged to be the best ever introduced into this Province that an advertisement would be superfluous were it not necessary to inform those who sow this sort exclusively, that the Stock on hand is limited, and the only place in P. E. I. to buy it is at HASZARD'S AGRICULTURE STORE, Queen Square—tw 4in

Wants, etc., etc.

Advertisements under this heading, in space not exceeding half an inch, will be inserted for TEN CENTS per day.

WANTED—A good plain cook to go to Halifax. Recommendations required; good wages. Apply immediately at office of DAILY EXAMINER.

WANTED, AT ONCE, at good wages, 4 or 5 Carpenters who understand their business. No man need apply who thinks it a duty to leave his work in the busiest season for a ten days' spree. JAMES M. BUTCHER. June 1—2in

BOARDERS WANTED.—Three or four Boarders can be accommodated at the head of Queen Street. For particulars apply at the Office of the DAILY EXAMINER. July 14—4in