

DOWNING STREET, }
28th June 1860. }

Sir—With the view of ascertaining what materials may have been collected, or what works published, descriptive of the Natural History of the British Colonies, and relative also to some other scientific subjects, I shall feel obliged to you to furnish me with such answers as you may possess the means of giving, within your government, to the questions contained in the enclosed paper.

In any of the Colonies where Scientific Societies are constituted, it will be advisable to make use of any aid which they may be so good as to contribute towards answering the enquiries.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obdt. servant,

NEWCASTLE.

To the Right Hon. the Earl of Mulgrave, Lieut. Governor of Nova Scotia.

1. Have any works been published on the Botany of the Colony; and if so, state the title of each work, the name of the author, and the year of publication, adding, if requisite, any remark on the esteem in which it is held.

2. The same question as to Zoology.

3. The same question as to any work or published reports on Geology.

4. Does any Botanical Garden exist in the Colony; and if so, briefly state the authority under which it is superintended, and funds by which supported?

5. Is there any Zoological Museum, or any collection of living animals in a Zoological Garden, or any accredited set of correct drawings of the chief animals of the Colony?

6. Is there any Geological Museum, or any well known private collection of Geological specimens, or unpublished records of Geological surveys by competent observers?

7. What are the best known records,

if any, of the Meteorology of the colony, and are they published or easily procurable?

8. Are there any well known records of the phenomena of the Tides, and if so, by what observers, and at what date?

9. The same question as to Magnetic phenomena.

10. Have the Latitude and Longitude of the principal places on the coast been determined by careful celestial observations, and if so, by what observers, and what periods?

11. The same question as to the Latitude and Longitude of principal places inland.

N. B.—It is requested, that the answers may be sent on a separate sheet, prefixing to each the number of the question in this paper.

The Journal, in a note says:

We saw, a few years ago, two volumes of a set of three, on "Mushrooms found near Halifax, Nova Scotia." It was a very old work, and illustrated with numerous colored plates, published in London, if we mistake not. It was purchased in Boston at an antiquarian book store, by Dr. Peabody, of Massachusetts, who we believe still has it in his possession.

Doubtless a duplicate of this circular has been issued in regard to New Brunswick and P. E. Island, and the people of these Provinces owe to themselves to see that such queries are properly answered. In Nova Scotia, the Literary Societies have been appealed to on the subject.

THE JOURNAL OF EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURE FOR NOVA SCOTIA, &c. failed to procure sufficient support to warrant its continuance. This monthly was commenced two years ago by Dr. Forrester, principle of the Normal and training school of this Province, who devoted a week gratuitously every month to its preparation, and delivered a