

carry it to the shipping ports. Over the first, we regret to say, we have no control, and therefore we shall not allude to it at present. With respect to the second, or food question, although we have certainly been by no means so provident as we ought under the circumstances, still we have reason to believe that our warning voice has not altogether been unheeded, and that steps are now being taken to render ourselves less dependent upon foreign markets than hitherto, by a much more extended cultivation of ground provisions. Of the practical economy of this, none can doubt—more especially if provision farms are established, of which we yet hope to see several in every parish—when it is borne in mind that each acre of land is capable of producing $4\frac{1}{2}$ tons of yams, and the same quantity of sweet potatoes within the twelvemonths, or nine tons per acre for both—being nearly as much as the return obtained at home in the cultivation of potatoes; while we have the authority of all analytical chemists for saying that, in point of value, as an article of food, the superiority is as two to one in favour of the tropical roots. We now turn to the subject of improved machinery, for the manufacture of our produce; and this, so far as our chief staple, sugar, is concerned, can unquestionably best be accomplished by means of central factories. These, aided by tramways, are calculated to effect a complete revolution in sugar making. We, therefore, hail with infinite satisfaction every movement in this direction, and trust that, whether conjointly, as is proposed in Westmoreland, or separately, as is the case in Clarendon, every such effort will be attended with success. To expect, however, that the funds requisite to carry out such undertakings, however valuable they may be as investments, can be found in Jamaica, would, we fear, be only trusting to a broken reed; we must, therefore, once more strenuously call upon the Government at home to help our spirit of enterprise, as they have already done with so much success among the agriculturists of the United Kingdom. Should, however, our hopes in this quarter be doomed to disappointment, it will then devolve upon our own legislature to adopt such steps as they may consider most advisable—either by borrowing the necessary funds, and lending money to

the respective companies, proportionately to the capital otherwise subscribed; or else, by issuing notes to the amount required, either to form a portion of the floating circulation of the Island, or redeemable, on the Guernsey plan, at stated periods, as may be agreed upon."

Boswell Middleton, Esq., the Island Solicitor General, had, upon a case submitted to him by the Kingston Chamber of Commerce, given it as his unqualified opinion that the general trading and wharfinger privileges lately assumed by the Kingston Railway Company, are CONTRARY TO LAW.

The Jamaica Railway.—The return of the traffic on this line, for the quarter ending the 23rd May last, shows the following comparison with that for the same quarter in 1846:—

	May, 1846.	May, 1847.	Increase.
Passengers.....	31,445	34,300	2,855
Merchandise, tons	2,113	3,027	1,014
Carriages	5	11	6
Horses	6	55	49
Cattle	2	98	96
Sheep	103	130	27
Goats	33	50	17
Pigs	28	17	—
Grass (bundles)	—	10,503	10,503
Wood (ditto)....	—	14,744	14,744

CANADA.

The number of emigrants arrived at the Port of *Quebec*, this season, up to the 25th June, amounts to 32,338; to the same period, last year, 21,532 had arrived, showing an increase, this year, of 10,806. In the number of vessels arrived to the 26th June of the past and present year, the falling off in 1847 is 169—the numbers being in 1846, 659; in 1847, 490.

It is stated in the *Quebec Morning Chronicle*, of the 28th June, that there were 140 deaths at Grosse Isle on the preceding Friday.

Two Catholic Clergymen who returned to Quebec on the 11th June, from Grosse Isle, reported the number of deaths among their people at the quarantine station, up to the morning of that day at 1,390. Those of other denominations could not be less at that time than two or three hundred. On the 14th, twenty-five days after the first