condition thereof under oath, (which oath the said Justice of the Peace is hereby authorised and required to administer,) and their determination, or that of a majority of them, shall be final and conclusive, who shall immediately attend thereto, and brand or cause to be branded each and every package of the quality directed by such determination, according to the provisions of this Act, and if the opinion of the Inspector or his Assistant be thereby confirmed, the reasonable costs and charges of re-examination, to be ascertained, and awarded by the said Justices, shall be paid by the proprietor or possessor of the butter, if otherwise, by the Inspector.

ROTATION OF CROPS.

It is better to prevent the exhaustion of the soil, than cure it. It is often difficult to discover what the land really requires, and, therefore, to cure the evil when it exists. The only method of preventing it with which we are yet acquainted is by the introduction of a skilful rotation or alternation of unlike crops.

In adopting such a rotation, we only copy from nature. In the wide forest, many generations of broad-leafed trees live and die, and succeed each other; but the time comes at last when a general pestilence seems to assail them all—their tops droop and wither, their branches fall off, their trunks rot. They die out, and a narrow-leaved race succeeds them. This race again has its life, of centuries perhaps; but death seizes it too, and the expanded leaf of the beech, the ash, and the oak, again cheer the eye—playing with the passing zephyrs, and glittering in the sun. So in the broad meadow, the old pasture changes, and new races of humble grasses succeed each other as the fields increase in age. The alternation of crops, therefore, asserts to itself something of the dignity of a natural law, and man is evidently in the right course when he imitates nature in a procedure like this.

But upon what do its good effects depend? Why do the broad leaves alternate with the narrow in the ancient forest? Why do the grasses change in the old meadow? Why does the farmer obtain a larger produce, and for a greater number of years, by growing unlike crops alternately, than by continuing year after year to grow the same?

The reason is not merely that one crop carries off more, and another crop less, of all those things which all our crops derive from the soil, but that one crop carries off more of one thing, another crop more of another. The grain carries off phosphorus, the straw silica, the bulb alkaline matter. After, perhaps, fifteen or twenty successive crops of the same kind, the surface soil through which the roots are spread becomes so poor in those substances which the crop specially requires, that the plant cannot obtain from it a sufficient supply to nourish and bring to maturity the full grown plant within the time allotted to it in our climate for its natural growth. The roots do their best; they collect as diligently as they can, but winter comes on, and growth ends before the plant is fully matured. In the case of corn, the first effect of a scarcity, say of phosphoric acid, is to make the ear smaller and the number of grains less; the next to continue the growth into the winter, and only when a very fine season occurs to ripen the ear at all.

But suppose we alternate the corn crop, which in its grain carries off phosphoric acid, with a hay crop which requires much silica, or a root crop to which much alkaline matter is necessary—then the one crop would live upon and remove what the other had left in greater abundance. Instead of robbing the soil every year of the same substance, we should be exhausting it more equally of all, and we should be able, for double the time at least, to crop it without the risk of its ceasing entirely to give us a profitable return. We should gradually work up also every available substance in the soil, whether such as are naturally present in it, or such as we have ourselves added in the form of manure.

What is true of the simple alternation of a corn with a green crop, is more true still of a longer and more complicated rotation. The greater the variety of crops we grow, and the longer the interval between the successive crops of the same kind, the more perfectly do we avail ourselves of the benefits which an obedience to the suggestions of this principle is fitted to confer upon us No rotation, it is true, however skilful, will alone prevent the land from becoming ultimately exhausted. Nothing but regular and generous manuring will do this, unless there be, in springs from beneath, or in the decaying fragments of rock mixed with the soil, or in substances brought down from higher grounds, or in the nature of the rains that fall upon the land, some perennial source of those substances which the crops always carry off from the soil. But in a skilful rotation there is this virtue, that land which is subjected to it cannot be ruined in so short a time. If one tenant use it ill, it may come into the hands of another before the ruin is so far irremediable, that the farmer who has a rent to pay cannot reclaim it with a prospect of immediate profit to himself.

News.

CANADA.

Touch Not, Taste Not, Handle Not.—A few days since, a man who was assisting a doctor to remove, was *generously (?)* treated to a glass of Port; when the doctor's back was turned he thought he would help himself, so took hold of a bottle, supposing it to be the same from which he had just been treated, and, resolving to have a good drink, put the bottle to his mouth, but soon discovered his mistake. Feeling unwell he ran out of the house to a neighbour's, in order to hide the theft; vomiting commenced before he reached it; and when he got there he was so ill that two or three doctors were called in, who, with assistance of the stomach-pump, relieved the poor man of a large dose of *disinfecting fluid!—Montreal, May* 13.—*(Communicated.)*

The Caledonia, from Glasgow, was the first arrival at Quebec from sea this season. Since then, many others of the regular traders have arrived, and the harbour of Montreal presents an animated appearance. Business, however, has scarcely commenced, as few Canada West merchants have arrived.

The new French revolutionary cockade appeared a few days ago in Quebec. Three strangers wore it in their hats. It is about the size of an English shilling, the middle is white, next blue, and the outer circle red.

Considerable destitution prevails in the district of Gaspe at present.

His Excellency the Governor General has made a donation of £20 in aid of the projected Canadian settlements in the eastern townships.

There have been three very destructive fires in Montreal within a few weeks; one at the Cross, one in St. Joseph street, and one in Bonaventure street. By the first about thirty dwellings were destroyed, the second twelve, and by the third several houses and ten valuable horses, belonging to the new city omnibus company.

At present there are seven or eight steamers of 2000 to 2500 barrels burden engaged in the western transit trade. Several more are in course of preparation. They pass, without breaking bulk, from the far west to Lachine, near Montreal.

In the provincial penitentiary, there are now 414 men, and 28 women. Thirty-six keepers are sufficient for governing these unruly spirits.

A meeting, on the subject of repeal, said to have been attended by about 1000 persons, took place in the Bonsecours market, Montreal, lately.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE CONTINENT.

Ship-building is expected to prove a profitable business to the Australian colonies. Several fine ships have been launched lately.

Large sums of money have been drawn out of the Limerick savings banks. Government is taking every precaution against outbreak.