

be 150 miles long by about 70 miles, and Nippon, the largest and principal island is upward of 300 miles in length and more than 100 miles of average width. The Empire is guarded by dangerous shores and by stormy seas as well as by the jealousy of its government and the severity of its laws. But it was not always so in Japan. The finer feelings of our nature had at one time free scope there as in other places, and the ear was not always deaf to the cry of distress. With the exception of the mention made of the country by Marco Polo in the end of the thirteenth century the islands of Japan were unknown to the European world till 1542, when a Portuguese ship, bound for Macao in China, was driven from her course and forced by the storm to take shelter in the harbor of one of these islands. The Portuguese were received with courtesy and kindness. The first two of them who set foot on shore on this unknown land were named Antonio Mota, and Francesco Zei moto. The Japanese have preserved portraits of them. From this accidental circumstance a regular trade was opened up and a Portuguese ship, laden with woollen cloth, furs, manufactured silks, taffetas, and other commodities in request, was sent once a year to the same island. The Portuguese were thus the first Europeans who had any commercial dealings with the Japanese, and about eight years after the discovery, Francesco Xavier joint founder with Loyola of the order of the Jesuits, and some other Jesuit padres embarked for that new territory as missionaries. The faith prevailing at that time was said to be of Brahminical origin. Xavier quitted Japan for China in 1551, and died on the 2nd December of the following year at Shan-Shan on the Canton River, not far from Macao. The labors were, however, kept up for many years, until at length the native priests were roused into vigorous opposition, and so prevailed with the Government as to procure a proclamation forbidding under pain of death the practice or profession of the Portuguese religion. As yet no Englishman had set foot on the Japanese soil, but in the years 1591 William Adams, a warm hearted genuine, unsophisticated, Englishman hired himself for chief pilot of a fleet of five sail of Hollanders, made ready by the chief of their Indian Company. The fleet set sail from the Texel on the 21st of June, and after serious calamities they reached the Straits of Magellan, where they wintered. Having again set sail, and suffered a variety of encounters, the ships lost sight of each other and never again met. Of the five ships that left Holland only one remained, yet they did not give up to despair, but determined to direct their course for Japan as they had learned from one Dirreck Gerritsen, who had been there with the Portuguese, that woollen cloth was of great estimation in that island. On the 12th of April, 1600, they came close to Bungo on the island of Kadoso. Here for the present we will leave the good English pilot having first recorded the account which he gave of himself. "Your Worshipps shall understand that I am a Kentish man, born in a town called Gillingham, two English miles from Rochester, and one mile from Chatham, where the Queen's ships do lie; and that, from the age of twelve years I was brought up in Lincolne-house, near London, being 'prentice twelve years to one master, Nicholas Diggins and have served in the place of master and pilot in her Majesty's ships, and about eleven or twelve years served the woishippful company of the Barbary merchants until the Indian traffic from Holland began, in which Indian traffic I was desirous to make a little experience of the small knowledge which God had given me."

Four bags of apples were stolen lately from the orchard of Mr. Toshock of Ramsay. He can do without the apples but he would like the bags back. A word to the wise is enough.

POULTRY REMEDY.—About six weeks ago one of my hens became ill, and lost the use of one of its legs. I was told over laying was the cause of the malady, and was recommended to give her a few pepper-corns and a little bread soaked in ale, which was forced down her throat. In a few hours the bird was walking the yard; however, in a couple of days she had a relapse, when the same dose was administered, and she was separated from her companions for forty-eight hours, when she quite recovered, and has had no return of the complaint, and produces her fair number of eggs per week. This may be a useful hint to amateurs, as I was informed by a poultry-fancier of some experience that my hen would die.

FOR YOUNG CATTLE AND HORSES.—Mix occasionally one part of salt with four parts of wood ashes, and give the mixture to different kinds of stock, summer and winter. It promotes their appetites and tends to keep them in a healthy condition. It is said to be good against botts in horses, murrain in cattle, and rot in sheep.

Obituary.

PROFESSOR NORTON.

With the deepest sorrow we announce the decease of this distinguished and promising scientific Agriculturist, who has been, according to human judgment, prematurely cut off in the midst of his usefulness. In the demise of Norton and Downing this continent has lost two of its most able and successful cultivators of the important and attractive arts of Agriculture and Gardening, whose places will not be readily supplied.

Professor Norton had enjoyed the great advantage of studying under such able chemists as Professor Johnston, in England, with whom he continued on terms of the most friendly intimacy, and Professor Mulder, of Holland; and distinguished himself for patient and original research in completing a series of analyses of the Oat, for which, the Highland Society awarded a premium of Fifty Pounds. His excellent little treatise on Scientific Agriculture, for which he received a liberal prize from the New York State Agricultural Society, is well known and appreciated; while his Notes to the American Edition of Stephen's great work, the Book of the Farm, or, as it is called on this side the Atlantic, "*The Farmer's Guide*," display an intimate acquaintance with practical as well as Scientific Agriculture that must render that truly able and original work, of still greater usefulness to American farmers. He was likewise a frequent contributor to the *Albany Cultivator*, and occasionally to other periodicals of a similar character. Mr. Norton filled the Chair of Scientific Agriculture in Yale College, and took a warm interest in the establishment of a University in Albany, in which Agriculture should hold its rightful position. Over exertion seems to have developed that insidious destroyer—consumption, which rapidly hurried him to the grave at the early age of 30 years, but not till he had laid a solid foundation of substantial learning, and acquired for his sterling integrity and moral worth, the profound respect of all who knew him.—Truly, the memory of the wise and virtuous is blest.

ROBERT HOPE, ESQUIRE.

Mr. Robert Hope, the Scotch Agriculturist, died a short time since at an advanced age. For upwards of half a century he has been tenant of the farm of