

be stated in full in the forthcoming premium list.

The Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary were authorized to complete the arrangements with the University Authorities respecting the grounds for the Experimental Farm, and commence the necessary preparations without delay. It was thought that the Winter season would be the most suitable to young men in the country, for attending the lectures of the Professor of Agriculture, in the University, and that publicity should be given to the arrangement as soon as completed.

The Board have received permission from Government to occupy a room in the Parliament Buildings for an office.

Professor Croft, of the University of Toronto, was requested to act as consulting Chemist to the Board.

Donations of Books for the Library had been received from F. Widder, Esq., Hon. Adam Fergusson, and Wm. McDougall, Esq., for which a vote of thanks to these gentlemen was passed.

J. B. Marks, Esq., favored the Board with a long communication containing several useful suggestions for which a vote of thanks was passed. Mr. Marks was prevented attending in consequence of navigation not being thoroughly open, and a letter from Mr. Sheriff Ruttan was also read, who was detained on Assize business at home. The Secretary received a communication from Mr. Sheriff Treadwell too late to bring before the Board.

The Treasurer was instructed to procure the accounts of the Committee at Brockville relative to the expenditure in erecting fences, buildings, &c., in connection with the last Exhibition, and the payment of the balance yet due, and that the Chairman, Secretary, and Captain Shaw be a committee to audit the Treasurer's accounts, before the next meeting of the Board. It was left to the Chairman to determine the time of the next meeting of Board, the proceedings of which then terminated.

GEO. BUCKLAND,
Secretary.

Toronto, April 27, 1852.

A DISCOVERY.—A chemist in New Orleans has been making experiments with Indian Hemp, (*Canabis Indica*) in order to test its availability for medicinal purposes. He found that six grains, a large dose, produced great weight about the head, followed by irresistible bursts of laughter, during which, however, he was perfectly conscious of all that he was doing, or felt or thought. He says:—"I was astonished by the crowd of brilliant and novel ideas and fancies that rushed through my brain, returning over and over again. Imagination and perception were developed to their greatest extent. All the principal incidents of my life passed before me like a flash. This condition of mind lasted about two hours. Dreams and reveries of the most pleasing nature followed this extraordinary tension of the intellectual faculties. Then came a deep, calm sleep, which terminated this singular fit of mental hallucination." He thinks it will become extensively used in medicine.

The Agriculturist.

TORONTO, MAY, 1852.

FLAX; ITS CULTIVATION AND MANAGEMENT. NO. II.

There can be but little doubt that the cultivation of Flax, on a *moderate scale*, might be made profitable in Canada; provided a certain market could be depended on for the raw material. A slovenly cultivation, however, could never pay; and it is most desirable that whatever attempts may be made in this, to us, new department of husbandry, should be as thorough and perfect as circumstances will permit. In the introduction of any new crop into our rotation, except upon a mere limited, experimental scale, more than ordinary caution should be observed. A speculative demand may exist for a particular article for a short time, and high prices may consequently be obtained; but a reverse is sure to follow in the ordinary course of things, involving often the ruin of thousands. A practical Farmer, in a recent number of the *Mark Lane Express*, has the following sensible remarks:

"It is very speculative to relinquish a common corn crop which is almost certain in its production, for one of which we know comparatively nothing, be its prospective advantage never so great. Times of great and long depression are sure to call forth speculations of this character: the result has been disastrous to thousands. It pains us to know that the cultivators of chicory, canary seed, and turnipseed and like small seeds, have suffered most severely during this season, and that the cultivators of potatoes and flax have not as a class been remunerated. The price of the dried chicory-root has fallen from £27 10s. to £6 10s. per ton; canary-seed from about £5 10s. to £1 15s. per qr.; and turnip and other seeds, in all their varieties, in equal proportion. This is owing to speculative growth within a very short period. Potatoes and flax are of more general utility, and in consequent demand; but we fear the continued extension of their culture may ultimately prove very unprofitable. We entertain a high opinion of flax culture, and we believe that the efforts now making to bring into full development all its powers will end in its becoming one of the most general and most profitable of our cultivated crops."

The uncertainty of the Flax crop on this continent, arises more from the *slovenly manner* in which it is commonly treated, than from anything unfavourable either in soil or climate; although the extreme dryness of the weather, during the spring and summer months, which more or less characterises the American climate as a whole, must be regarded, to a certain extent, as unfavourable to the successful culture of