

# THE HURON SIGNAL

TEN SHILLINGS IN ADVANCE.

"THE GREATEST POSSIBLE GOOD TO THE GREATEST POSSIBLE NUMBER"

TWELVE AND SIX PENCE AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

VOLUME III.

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## The Huron Signal,

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**INQUEST.**—On Thursday the 14th inst., an inquest was held in Oshawa before Dr. Joseph Clark, Coroner, on view of the body of James Turner, who was found dead in his own shop. The Jury returned a verdict of "Died through the effects of excessive drinking.—Whitby Reporter.

Two men making love to the daughter of Theroctia, he preferred the virtuous man to the rich one, saying "He would rather have a man without riches, than a rich without a man."

A bronze statue of Sir R. Peel, at a cost of £200 has already been subscribed in Birmingham. Mr. Peter Molins, the sculptor of the statue of Dr. Johnson, at Leamington, has been commissioned to execute it.

**THE ST. JOHN'S FIRE.**—The Telegraph from St. John's, last night, says the loss by the Frederick fire is £25,000, exclusive of merchandise, personal property, furniture, &c. The insurance amount to £19,000; 3 or 4 thousand of which are in local offices; 177 families were rendered homeless, 59 of which were in the most destitute condition.—Globe.

**TRANSMISSION LOSS OF LIFE.**—We learn by the telegraph from New York last night that a tremendous loss of life has taken place at Constantinople. The announcement is that the *Captain Pasha*, a Turkish vessel of battle ship, was blown up at Constantinople on the 23d inst., when 1000 persons on board were killed.—Globe.

**KICKING HORSES.**—A writer in the *American Farmer*, gives the following as his mode of breaking horses of the vice and dangerous habit of kicking. He says, "I attach one end of a strong line to the hind pastern of the horse & take it forward through the lead, fastened to the trace, at the side of the horse, and attach the other end of the line to the bridle; a line attached thus at each side of the horse, if left sufficiently long to just enable him to make a step, will at every kick he may make operate so severely upon his mouth as to cause him very soon to give it up as a bad job."

**MONUMENT TO WORDSWORTH.**—It is satisfactory to be enabled to announce that upwards of £200 have already been subscribed towards a fitting monument to this distinguished poet.—*Art Journal*.

**FROM THE WEST INDIES.**—Advice from Barbadoes to the 14th inst., bring us intelligence of a large meeting held at Bridgetown on the 11th, in relation to the agricultural and mercantile interests of the island. A series of resolutions was adopted, declaring against the repeal of the navigation laws and fixing 30s. as the maximum rate of freight, beyond which the planters should not be prepared to ship, the sugar being Sugar crop. In Trinidad, the principal topic is a rumored misunderstanding between the Governor and Chief Justice. The Sugar crop looked well.

**EKTING INCIDENT.**—On Friday week a child about 8 years of age was amusing itself in a skiff, at the mouth of the Chippawa creek, when by some means the boat got loose and drifted into the river above the rapids. The child unconscious of the danger of his proximity to the Falls—was hurried along at a great rate by the force of the current, and would inevitably have been lost in a few minutes, had not three young men, named Burnham, Huff, and Lyons, seized a skiff, and put off to the rescue with courageous daring. Ability and skill enabled them to pass through the water like an arrow through the air, and they reached the object of their solicitude, at a point lower down this river than was ever known to have been visited with impunity before, and they bore it in safety to shore, about a mile below Chippawa near the burning spring. One moment more and both boats would have been drawn in among the breakers, where no human power could be of any avail. The child occupied but a very brief period, and it was one of the most thrilling and intense interest to the spectators on shore.—*Niagara Mail*.

**MILITARY VIOLENCE TO ENGLAND.**—We learn that the "New York Light Guard," one of the "crack" military companies of our city, under the command of Capt. Vincent, are making extensive arrangements to visit Liverpool, London and Paris, in June next. They contemplate mustering 100 strong, "crack and file." One of Collin's magnificent steamers is to convey them to England and back. In furtherance of this brilliant design, we are informed that one of the honorary members of the corps has signified his willingness to subscribe \$3000 towards defraying the expenses attendant upon the journey. This is a splendid idea, a voyage to Europe in these times is but a holiday excursion. How delightful the true republicans of England and France would be to see a Yankee Volunteer company marching through the streets of London and Paris, and how the eyes of the antipathetic nations would open and twinkle at such a "sight" from the new world.

## AGRICULTURE.

### LECTURES ON AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.

BY HENRY FOURIER HIND.

We rarely appreciate the value of any science in its state of infancy. It is generally impossible to foresee what useful results may flow from its practical application. When any new discovery is brought to bear with advantage upon industrial labor, it soon acquires a popular interest which ensures its rapid spread; electricity itself had created no stir in the arena of practical life, until electro-planting and the telegraph gave it importance in the eyes of practical men; and now we know what it has done, our anticipations are almost boundless of what may be made to do—many of us, looking with confidence to a day, not far distant, when some new discovery will convert it into a source of cheap and commodious motive power.

The science of chemistry has for ages been the hand-maid of the manufacturer in the preparation of raw materials for useful and refined purposes. It is only lately that her aid has been sought by the producer; and with such successful results, that the light which the application of chemistry to agriculture has thrown upon his operations, enables him to convert an experimental art into an intellectual and noble science.

A branch of knowledge, hardly a dozen years old in its practical application, can scarcely be supposed to have met with an extended appreciation among the farming communities of Canada, or even to have received the attention of those whose time and opportunities afford them the facilities for improving their acquaintance with it.

In its early stage of development the science of Agricultural Chemistry was necessarily very imperfect, and often much misunderstood. A too sanguine expectation of the magnitude of its promised results, while still in this imperfect state, led to much disappointment, which had the effect of creating a violent prejudice in the minds of many practical men,—neither was it until materials drawn from experiments confirming, or modifying the prognostications of theory, were moulded into a rational system of Agriculture, that the visionary hopes of multitudes became sobered down into a proper view of the actual good to be obtained.—an event which has taken place during the last 4 or 5 years. What Chemistry has already done for Agriculture is immense; what she may yet do is incalculable. And now that a clear insight into the relationships established, the difficulty of presenting a popular view of the subject has almost vanished.

Very strong prejudices exist among farmers against book farming, prejudices which have arisen from disappointed hopes, and ruinous loss in following arbitrary rules. Agricultural science is no system of book farming—it presents no prescribed rules to be implicitly obeyed. It portrays in simple language, devoid of technicalities, the reasons why farmers plough, drain, fallow and rotate their crops; it shows how repeated cropping without manure must inevitably ruin for a time the most fertile soil; and it establishes such an intimate relationship between the soil and the kind of vegetable growing upon it, that every farmer may frame for himself a rational system of husbandry as varied as the soil he may chance to cultivate. It has been occasionally urged by some, who speak from experience acquired in a very contracted sphere that Canadian farmers in possession of a fertile soil, do not require the aid of a scientific system of agriculture. Such an objection, rarely advanced, it is true, may be dismissed by a reference to the present deteriorated condition of many fertile regions, and to that growing desire which every intelligent farmer exhibits to make himself acquainted with the rational of agricultural processes—as well as to the inevitable success attending the acquirement of such information. Another objection to its general diffusion is said to be found in the circumstances by which Canadian farmers are frequently surrounded—distance from markets, the high price of labour, the low price of produce and of land, all conducing to foster a system of husbandry directly opposed to rational views. Agricultural science is replete with suggestions, many of which may be received, and many, if not found remunerative, rejected; it moulds itself to every condition of locality and circumstance, and wherever calculation proves that some of its suggestions are not remunerative, they can form no part of a rational system for that neighborhood.—The complaint of diminishing scales of produce is general throughout the older settled portions of the Province; it has been long and loudly urged in New England and the State of New York History furnishes us with numerous examples of once famous fertile soils—now scarcely able to make a quadruple return.

It is not necessary to have seen it noticed in any agricultural work, I mention it. Wherever the soil has been ploughed wet, or poached in any way, then fingers and toes are almost sure to make their appearance in the following crop. My attention was first directed to this by a friend; and I have this autumn, what appears to me a clear proof of its truth on my own farm. Instead of Oats after Grass, from peculiar circumstances I was obliged last year to sow Turnips on part of a field. This year the whole field is under Turnips, which are remarkably good and quite free from disease, except that part of the headland which was used as a road wheel-track; the crop was cut off, and which was much poached and cut up. On this part there is much disease, though the rest of the headland is quite free from it. I do not see any traces

of it, even on the ends of drills next the diseased part. Whatever the cause of this disease may be, there can be no doubt, but the only cure hitherto discovered is lime.—The Turnip crop in the east of Scotland is much damaged by it this year; indeed it appears to be spreading more and more every year.—*A Lanarkshire Farmer*.

**LAKE HURON OAR.**—The first cargo of one ore over ship for the European port is now lying in the Canal Basin on board the *Minnesota*, which our readers will remember was one of the two vessels engaged to take the ore of the Montreal Company to Swansea. We believe that the *Minnesota* will also be the first craft of the burden commonly understood to constitute a ship, to pass from Lake Huron to the Ocean.—Other craft have had the honor of making the first voyages from Lake Ontario and Erie. Huron has its turn now, and doubtless Lakes Superior and Michigan will come in due course. We say the *Minnesota* because she has had the honor of making the first voyage, but she has met with an unfortunate accident that may possibly prevent the voyage even now. It appears that she took the ground at the entrance of the Lachine Canal, and received so much injury that it has been necessary to keep one pump going ever since. The Captain took measures to have a survey immediately on his arrival; but up to yesterday afternoon, he had found it impossible to procure competent surveyors. The consequence of the accident may be either that she will discharge in Montreal or Quebec and be detained till Spring; or that, being put ashore, the mischief may be repaired, and the ship again enabled to proceed. The *Minnesota* is schooner-rigged of 260 tons register; but capable of carrying 400 tons of cargo. She is only half-loaded with ore, and now draws 8 feet 6 inches of water. She took nineteen days to come from the Bruce Mines to Montreal, including eight days' detention, on account of the breach in the Cornwall Canal, and the want of tug boats. The Captain thinks that the average will not exceed about ten days, when everything is in order. If something like these expectations should be realized, the whole voyage from these distant inland ports to England would occupy forty days. We regret exceedingly that the lateness of the season, and the untoward circumstances in the Lachine Canal, should have exposed this essay to the risk of failure. We hope, however, that our friend the skipper, may yet be in time for John Bull's Christmas beef and pudding.—*Montreal Herald*.

**A SHEEP FOR SHEEP.**—Ten Scotch pint Archangel tar, 28 lbs, butter, for 20 sheep. Melt the butter, and mix it well with the tar, adding a gallon of milk to make it work better when laid on the sheep. A good hand will smear 25 sheep in a day of 10 hours. The price of the materials varies very much, but the cost per sheep is generally estimated at 3d. or 3½d. Being the best preventative and cure for scab, summer, winter, and less value than white per lb., it is now much out of fashion. Fox Balmine.—One wine-glassful spirit of turpentine, 2 lb. Tobacco leaf, for 20 sheep. Make a decoction of the tobacco; mix this with as much water as will afford a quart to each sheep. An over dose of the spirit being dangerous, put a glass of this into each quart as required, shaking the vessel well before running it over the sheep. 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