

hint even from the "far north." Ho had a particular reason for noticing some of the new agricultural publications. Professor Liebig's book he had noticed last year, and recurred to it now for several reasons.—First, from its importance it should be in the hands of every agriculturist. A new and cheaper edition was announced, containing very many additions, and a new chapter on manure. Second, he did not think some of our critics had done Liebig justice.—They had made no allowance for the German mode of writing, and seeming contradictions were hunted for, and triumphantly arrayed, when the author's meaning could hardly be mistaken. Third, Liebig's book had been the means of directing the Highland Society to several topics of vast importance for essays and experiments, on which they had most judiciously offered prizes. After some remarks, on the importance of the subjects proposed for prize essays, Mr. S. proceeded to notice Professor Johnson's lectures on Agricultural Chemistry and Geology, the first part of which was now completed. These lectures having appeared subsequently to Liebig's work, embraced many of his views. In some instances they are corrected, in others simplified, in many extended. The student would peruse them with advantage, especially if he could apply to any well-versed chemist to remove any difficulty that presented itself. The subsequent parts promised to be more practical—more important they could not be. In the foreign journals, many excellent papers bearing more or less direction on agriculture had appeared. He called particular attention to those of Boussingault, and of these none was more important than that in the February number of the *Annales de Chimie*. Mr. S. entered into a detailed account of this interesting paper, comparing the rotations therein specified with those followed in this quarter, and referred to some very useful suggestions on this subject made at the last association by Doctor Daubery. Mr. S. noticed a number of other papers by Boussingault, Liebig, Dumas, and others. He was much pleased to see a translation of Von Thier's Agriculture announced. It was a work of the greatest merit, yet, very few in Scotland had read it. Farmers would now have the very great advantage of studying it in their own language. It deserved to find a place in every agricultural library in the country. Mr. S. next spoke in high terms of a work he was sorry to find scarcely known in this country—the *Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England*. It contained many articles of uncommon merit. He would specify in the last number a most interesting report on the diseases of wheat, by Professor Henslow. Wheat not being cultivated in Aberdeenshire to any extent, gentlemen might not feel so much interest in it; but oats and barley were liable to similar diseases. It would be proper to devote a part of the museum to specimens, preparations, and drawings, illustrative of these diseases. Specimens would be gratefully received, and he hoped farmers would communicate them.—Another excellent paper in the same number was that on the agriculture of the Netherlands, by Mr. Rham. Two of the subjects embraced by it demanded special attention. First, the *texture of soils*—without a thorough knowledge of that no other improvement could be permanent. Second, on the subject of *liquid manures*, they would get most useful lessons. Would it be believed that more than half of the dunghills of Aberdeenshire were placed on declivities, as if on purpose to let the liquid part run to waste, serving merely to give verdure to the acquatics in the ditches, yet it was so.

Lastly, the same number contained a report on the application of Nitrate of Soda, from which they would get more information than from all the newspaper reports hitherto published. Mr. S. felt satisfied that the "Journal" required only to be known to be as extensively read by proprietors and practical men in this district as in England. At the outset, Mr. S. said he had a special reason for noticing so fully the new agricultural books and papers: that reason was that he wished to urge, in the strongest terms, the necessity of establishing an agricultural library, in connection with the class and agricultural museum. He meant to address the patrons of the Lectureship on the subject; and from the readiness they had shown to do every thing in their power for advancing the views of the founder, he was satisfied they would give every encouragement. Were the library well managed it would be of the greatest service—for, by means of comparatively small subscriptions agriculturists would be enabled to obtain a perusal of many works they could not otherwise hope to see. Many clubs and local associations had given too little attention to the establishment of libraries. Mr. S. next noticed several new experiments by himself and others, on manures, and gave an interesting detail of results. He noticed the attention now given to ascertain the comparative merit of different forms of plough, and the estimation of the force required to draw them, concluding by the recommendation to our local club to purchase a few dynamometers before the annual ploughing matches commenced.—*London Mark Lane Express*.

THE SUMMERS FROM 1816 TO 1841.—IN ENGLAND.—1816, extremely cold and wet throughout—one of the severest harvests ever known. 1817, very cold and wet in July and August, but very fine in September, which favoured the harvest. 1818, intensely hot and dry; the thermometer twice at 89, and often above 80. 1819, a very fine hot summer—the month of August intensely hot—scarcely any thunder. —1820, a fine summer on the whole, and very productive. 1821, some very hot days occasionally, but for the most part cold and showery—immense rains during harvest, which did great damage, 1822, a splendid year—hot and dry for the most part, but heavy rains at times, with much thunder—a very abundant harvest. 1823, a very cold showery summer. In July it rained every day except the 24th—very little thunder. 1824, very fine and warm throughout, but never intensely hot; the thermometer stood highest September 1, and was at 79. 1825, very hot almost throughout; July 18, the thermometer stood at 90, which is the highest observation in the course of these summers. 1826, the hottest and driest summer ever known; it began early, and continued late; the thermometer was twice at 83, and often at 84. 1827, hot and dry, but not in such extremity as in the preceding summer—much thunder. 1828, inauspicious rains, which began July 9, and continued almost without cessation; large floods July 16th and 30th; heavy thunder storms, bad harvest. 1829, a very cold stormy summer, in September the rains were very heavy. 1830, very cold and wet, especially in June—much thunder. 1831, warm, gloomy, showery, and electrical—a sickly summer, great numbers of insects, especially horse flies. 1832, moderate for the most part, without much inclination either one way or the other. 1833, very fine, the early part especially; an abundant harvest. 1834, a very fine hot summer, but heavy rains at

the end of July—an early and productive harvest. 1835, hot and dry, with some showery exceptions; another abundant harvest. 1836, in the midland counties dry weather predominated—remarkable for the almost entire destruction of the turnip crop by the fly; harvest not amiss. 1837, a fine average of hot weather, but preceded by a very severe spring; harvest deficient. —1838, a cold wet summer, and a late unproductive harvest. 1839, very heavy rains, almost without cessation; the harvest not unproductive, but much damaged. 1840, a fine warm summer with intense heat in August; fine harvest weather—food deficient. 1841, fine and warm in May and June; wet and cold in July and the beginning of August; fine harvest weather at the end, and in September.—*From the Farmers' Almanac*.

These statistics are given in order that we may compare our seasons here, and the results of the harvest, with those in England. Undoubtedly the seasons here were in some degree similar to those in England, but our seasons upon the whole were more favourable, particularly that of 1841. We always have less rain here, and more favourable weather for harvesting. Last harvest in England, as much as ten inches of rain fell in less than a month, when at the same period we had fine weather. Our seasons in Canada would be much more favourable for the farmer, than the changeable weather of the British Isles.

PROLIFIC PEA.—Last year I published in a provincial paper, the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, the produce of one single pea of the late Wyker Sugar Pea, viz., one hundred and fifty-one pods, containing eight hundred and ninety-three peas, stating that under more favourable circumstances it would have produced a thousand fold. I have tried the experiment again this year with peas of the same kind. The result I have sent to you: the first pea produced three hundred and seventeen pods, containing one thousand six hundred and twenty-six peas; the second pea, three hundred and forty-four pods, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-five peas; the third pea, three hundred and forty pods, one thousand six hundred and fourteen peas. Should any further information be required, I shall have no objection to communicate it, either through your paper or privately.—*Correspondent of the Gardener's Chronicle*.

EXTRAORDINARY EWE.—A ewe, belonging to the Earl of Lauderdale, died about 14 days since at the extraordinary age of 18½ years. She had twin lambs for twelve successive years: viz., from the age of three to fifteen years, and one lamb every year since that age, this year included, but her last lamb died when a few weeks old. From this it would appear that nature was exhausted: her last lamb dying while young, and herself about six months afterwards.—*London M. L. Express*.

FIVE FACTS.—A firm faith is the best divinity: a good life the best philosophy: a clear conscience the best law: honesty the best policy: and temperance the best physics.—*It*.

PRODUCE FROM A SINGLE GRAIN OF WHEAT.—A single grain of wheat planted in a garden in England, in the month of October, without any particular cultivation, produced the following harvest, 64 straws or tillers, all bearing wheat; the total number of grains being 2,800, and the straw weighing when thrashed 14 ounces.