

Partial evils, some one has told, oft'times bring forth universal good, and who knows but this may be one of them.—Strong indeed must be the necessity for corporal punishment, irresistible the influence of its advocates, and unanswerable the arguments in its favor, if it now stand the test of public opinion. When an important subject is taken up by the English Commons for investigation, the whole nation with eager curiosity look forward to the result. The press, I had nearly said the pulpit, ordinary citizens, all classes, high and low, unite in examining its merits; and I see no subject so likely to arrest public attention in England, as one that excites public indignation, and with a trifling exception, the reprobation and disgust of all men.

Without claiming any pretension to the gift of prophecy, I have no hesitation in declaring my humble opinion, that the late unfortunate event, much as we justly deplore it, will give a death blow to Corporal Punishment. A consummation devoutly to be wished for.

THE AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR AUGUST, 1846.

The Canadian Harvest of 1846, on the whole, must be pronounced one of the most plenteous with which a bountiful Providence has blessed the Province. From no part do we hear of any failure, although the extra production has not been every where alike. The long continued drought felt so severely in the central parts of Canada West, has not been universal, but seems to have confined its ravages to between Hamilton and Brockville. Consequently, such spring grain as was late sown, together with Potatoes, Turnips, and Garden stuffs, are, in the parts which escaped the drought, plentiful as usual, and from the abundance there, the other portions of Canada, not so fortunate, will be supplied.

Of Wheat a more than full average crop is the result. In a few places west of Hamilton, some injury was done by rust, but not sufficiently to gainsay this general assertion. Wheat is so abundant, even where the rust prevailed, that it was selling at Brantford, on the 29th August, at 2s 3d per bushel. Nearly the whole of this year's crop is still in the barn, owing to the want of water to set the mills in motion.

Of Rye, Oats, Barley, Peas, &c., the produce has been good every where, save where the drought raged, and there Oats and Peas are scarce and dear; but as we observed before, one part of the Province will supply the other, and no general scarcity will be experienced. Although the Eastern Military Contract for Forage has been taken at a very low rate, it is not believed that Oats in the vicinity of Kingston, will range below 1s. 6d. per bushel at any period of the year.

Of Potatoes our accounts are very contradictory. In many parts, some of the newspapers speak of the early ravages of the Murrain, by which the tops of the plant have been destroyed, as if cut with a scythe; while again, other newspapers, published in the same vicinity, declare these accounts to be exaggerated, and that the supply of potatoes will be much as usual. The same remark may be made of the United States Journals, in those States where potatoes are cultivated. Our own opinion is, that the Murrain is gradually spreading itself, and exhibiting new features of disease. In former years the root was destroyed chiefly in the cellar:—this season it takes place very early in the field. When the drought raged, the growth of potatoes was early checked; and the Murrain does not seem to have made its appearance, or at least very partially; but the crop is extremely scanty, and in some places hardly worth the digging. In England the potato blight is general—east, west, north, and south, the cry is "still it comes." In Ireland, the devastation is general, every where the root is rotten, or progressing towards decay.

Of Hay, the supply is abundant in the extreme, in all parts of the province—unprecedentedly so.