

these substances are actually worth to the farmer for manure 10 and 20 cents per pound; and that immense quantities of fish garbage, capable of affording these valuable substances, are annually wasted in the fishing districts,—should lead to some practical action in the matter. Some years ago we strongly urged this subject on the attention of the farmers of one of the maritime provinces. A manufactory now exists in Newfoundland; and we hope the time is coming when the culture of wheat may be restored to old farms by the liberal application of this manure.

A new feature in this report is the appearance of Mr. Bell's observations on the living fauna of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It has often been remarked, in the press and elsewhere, that without much increase of expense the Geological Survey might collect an immense amount of information on the zoology and botany of the province, and more especially on the geographical distribution of its animals and plants. The introduction of the subject in the present report is a small step in this direction, and gives promise of useful work. Mr. Bell is a very young man, the son of the late Rev. Mr. Bell of L'Orignal, himself a geologist, whose collection, very ingeniously arranged, is now in Queen's College. He has in him the material of a good naturalist, and we hope to meet him in many succeeding reports laden with new facts on the distribution of the invertebrates of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

On the importance of the observations of longitude, by Lieut. Ashe, it is unnecessary to say anything, except that they remind us of the forthcoming map, on which so much of the labour of the survey is at present concentrated. One part of the report, however, is zoological, and relates to certain recent animals of singular habits. "My past experience," says Lieutenant Ashe, "had taught me to avoid the tops of houses, and to select the solid earth and solid rock for the support of my transit instrument. Still I had another lesson to learn. This neighbourhood was infested with boys, who when they saw a light shining through the cracks of the boards, commenced throwing stones with a determination and precision worthy of a better cause; and some of the few clear nights that occurred in this month were lost in consequence of boys' love of mischief. I first tried mild entreaties, and then severe threatenings; they laughed at the former, and made faces at the latter. I then procured the service of the police, who partly succeeded in keeping the boys from further interference with my duties."