

also endeavoured to give a general idea of the state of some portions of science in relation to agriculture, and to point out to them certain means by which they might preserve or restore the capacity of the soil. Whether he had done so successively or not, it was for them to decide; and he hoped they would do so leniently. The learned gentleman then sat down amid much applause.

#### AMERICAN PROVISIONS, &c., OF 1844.

We have the pleasure of laying before our readers the Circular of Messrs. J. and C. Kirkpatrick, a house most extensively engaged in Liverpool in this trade:—

"The result of the trade with America during the past year in provisions, and other articles of modern import, warrants us in speaking with still more confidence of its growing importance; for while the aggregate imports show a considerable excess over those of the previous year, the real advance which the trade has made has been much greater and more encouraging in other respects than the mere increase in imports would evidence. In the previous years large shipments of various articles were made in complete ignorance of the qualities suited to the English markets, and which resulted generally in loss to the shippers; whereas the operations of the past year being regulated by the known wants of our market and the guidance of past experience, have not only been attended with profit to those concerned, but have served also to place the trade on a more safe and permanent footing. The position of our market too in regard of stock, presents a favorable contrast to the preceding year, there being no accumulation of old and inferior parcels to interfere with imports of the new season—thus, the stock of the following articles on the 31st December, 1844, was only, of Beef, equal to 3,427 tierces; Pork, 3,000 barrels; Lard, 100 tons; and Cheese, 160 tons—against 6,080 tierces beef, 860 barrels pork, 696 tons lard, and 285 tons cheese, on the same date 1843, so that future arrivals will be met at once by the current demand as they come on the market. Under these circumstances the prospects for a good and extending trade are more favorable than they have been at any former period since it opened.

"In the past month the arrivals of all produce to our port have been unusually small, owing to the uninterrupted continuance of easterly winds for the last few weeks. Stocks are, in consequence, very low, which joined to the usual disposition evinced by buyers to avoid purchases as much as possible, at the close of the year, has led to a restricted business in most of the articles which we quote.

"In beef the transactions have been few, for want of stock to operate on—the whole quantity of stock reported above, consisting of inferior and unsuitable parcels. New is consequently much wanted, the few parcels that have arrived so far having met with immediate sale from the quay, at 72s. 6d. for 'prime mess,' while 80s. was obtained for a small shipment of 'family' beef. Equal rates will be secured for all the early arrivals of prime quality; and though some reduction will take place as supplies increase, yet there is a prospect of a higher range of prices being maintained throughout the whole season than were current last year, while the absence of Irish from the market will secure a more steady and continuous, as well as a more extensive demand. The quotations above are still given for old. We have no change to notice in the value of old pork, which goes on slowly within the range of our quotations, while Irish continues, to realise equally high rates as at the date of our last advices.

A few parcels of new American have arrived, all of prime quality, and showing a decided improvement on any former imports, one of them being superior to the usual brands of 'prime mess,' and which was sold at the quay at 61s. A higher rate will be obtained for parcels of similar quality arriving in the course of this month, and a continued supply of such quality would soon place American on an equal level with Irish in regard to price. The result of these late shipments proves the correctness of the opinion we have already expressed, that American cures possess advantages, both as regards the quality of their pork and its cheapness of price, which, if rightly improved, will enable them to furnish the principal portion of the pork required by the English markets, as they are already likely to do with respect to beef. There being a considerable demand for pork in this market, which can be much increased by continuous supplies of prime qualities, at moderate rates, we would strongly recommend the trade to the notice of all parties who are interested in its extension.

"Lard has continued to meet a ready sale at our quotations, which do not vary from those of last month, except the purest leaf in kegs, on which an advance of 2s. per cwt. has been obtained. In the early part of the month there was some advance made on the finest qualities in barrels also, but which was again lost as supplies increased. The demand for such will however continue good—the high value of butter having thrown consumption more upon lard, and the supply of Irish being unequal to the demand, a process of bleaching American and preparing it for culinary purposes has been discovered, which may lead to its extensive substitution for Irish. The middling and inferior sorts, suitable for manufacturing purposes, are already at their extreme value, relatively with tallow, and are not likely therefore to alter materially from present rates. The stock, it will be observed, is light, as compared with the commencement of last year. The market for tallow has been dull, throughout the month, and has declined 6d. to 9d. per cwt.; and as the home supply is found to be considerably in excess of that of former years, it is not probable that any advance will now take place on present rates, especially as the demand usually slackens after Christmas. No further decline is looked for, the market being now steady.

**CANADIAN WHEAT.**—We last week drew the attention of our readers to the enormous quantity of wheat stated to have been exported from Canada up to the 28th of October in the present year 1844. Since our last publication we have taken some pains to ascertain the actual quantity imported from Canada into this kingdom, for which purpose we have examined the official weekly returns of the imports from the 1st of Feb., 1844, to the 7th Nov., the result of which search has been that we find that the imports from Canada at the following ports, viz., London, Liverpool, Hull, Newcastle, Bristol, Gloucester, Plymouth, Leith, Glasgow, Dundee, and Perth, have amounted to no less than 218,135 quarters, equal to 43,627 loads of wheat. Now, when we consider the present low state of British agriculture, we cannot do otherwise than wonder at the policy of those who appear in these days to fancy that the only class of persons they ought to protect are the manufacturers, while at the same time they seem to take delight in persecuting and impoverishing the agriculturist. They have ground down the profits of the farmer by truckling to the Free Traders, who still continue to cry out for cheap bread, even though it should ruin the whole of the agricultur-