

their fathers, right or wrong, has given birth to a prejudice against, and a hostility to the improvements of the day that many have no power to overcome. This is the constant cry of those engaged in the regeneration of our agriculture. They cannot persuade the farmer to adopt modes of culture that every principle of science and all experience warrant, because preceding generations have followed different ones.

The reason why our agriculture is so far in the rear of all other pursuits, seems to be of a twofold nature; first, because our farmers are but half educated when young; and, moreover, because they will not be induced by the ten thousand motives held out to them to eradicate mistaken opinions and prejudices engendered in youth, and which are at constant war with their best interests. They will not educate themselves. Scientific principles are ridiculed by them under the name of book farming, and the many substantial improvements and useful discoveries offered to them by the public-spirited, are sneered at by many as being theoretical and visionary. Generally speaking (we appeal to common observation for corroboration of the statement, which is made without the slightest disrespect to the farming interest) they will know but little of the fundamental principles that govern the culture of the soil, and their information and skill are limited to the usual and more general operations of farming. And is this as it should be? Can the husbandman hope to reap the heaviest and most profitable crops while ignorant of vegetable physiology—the organization and habits of plants? Can he expect to obtain the most perfect animals, while he disregards the law of breeding, and the comparative value and properties of different races? He will be successful just in proportion as he renders science and discoveries, which are the result of skilful observation, subservient to his pursuits; for just in that proportion does he compel nature to aid and complete his operations.

There are few, if any, other pursuits, that open so wide a field for inquiry as agriculture. It is true, every boy of common capacity, who is brought up on a farm, becomes sufficiently familiar with the usual farming operations to pursue the business in a way that enables him to get a living. But in most instances his operations are carried on with but very little inquiry as to the most correct and best principles of husbandry. He goes on this year as he went on last year, and his father went for many years. Moving onward thus in his unvaried rounds from year to year, the industrious and prudent man may gain property and be a respected and useful citizen. But his pursuits would be more interesting, and he would become a more intelligent man, were he to observe more closely the immediate and lasting action of each kind of manure that he applies; were he to note the effect of each kind of manure upon each different crop that he cultivates; were he to calculate the cost of each crop that he raises; were he to determine, by careful observation, the soil best suited to each crop; were he to consider the best time and manner of applying manure to each; were he to study how to make as much manure as possible; were he to learn whence his plants derive their principal nourishment, and in what state they take it up; were he to satisfy himself as to the parts of the farm which are too acid or too cold to be

productive; were he to learn carefully what spots could be greatly improved by deep ploughing; were he to seek diligently to know what it would be best to do on each comparatively unproductive spot of the farm in order to make it fertile. Were he to be observing, studying, thinking, reasoning, and judging upon these matters, there can be no doubt, that without ever reading a line upon agriculture, or making experiment above what his usual routine affords, he would become a more intelligent and a more successful farmer.

(To be continued.)

News.

CANADA.

The remainder of the allowances granted to the sufferers by the Quebec fire, are to be transmitted to them in debentures of £10.

Many bridges were carried away in the Eastern Townships by the breaking up of the ice.

Small pox is pretty prevalent amongst French Canadians in the vicinity of Sherbrooke.

The Hon. L. M. Viger has been returned for Terrebonne.

An abortive attempt was made, on the night of the 26th March, to rob the Commercial Bank Agency, St. Catharines.

Counterfeit English shillings are in circulation about London, C. W.

Very lately there was not a single criminal or vagrant under sentence in the city bridewell, Halifax.

A sealing expedition, giving employment to 103 vessel and 3341 men, has been sent from St. John's, Newfoundland, to the out ports.

Several omnibuses are shortly to commence running to and from various parts in the city of Montreal.

Col. Duchesnay, M.P. for Portneuf, has presented his £50 allowance to his constituents.

A public meeting was lately held in Quebec, which was numerously attended, for the purpose of passing resolutions in favour of repeal.

A row took place about ten days ago in Bytown in consequence of a mob attempting to rescue a person from the constables who went to arrest him. Three constables were wounded, but not dangerously.

Two men were found guilty, at Kingston assizes, of inducing soldiers to desert.

The population of Hamilton, C.W., is 9990; being an increase, in one year and nine months, of 2768.

GREAT BRITAIN AND THE CONTINENT.

The cotton spinners of Lancashire, &c., by subscriptions of 2d a head, propose assisting the surplus hands to emigrate. In this way they expect to send off 329 workers yearly.

Sir R. Peel declares himself unwilling to continue to lead the Conservative party in the House of Commons, as in the event of a defeat of the Whigs he considers he would require to assume the responsibility of supplying their place for which he is not disposed.

The leaders of the young Ireland party have been arrested for sedition.

Emigration from Ireland has received a sudden check from the rise of freight, in consequence of the new Emigrant Acts.

Flour going from Canada through the United States, in bond, can only go into Britain as foreign produce.

The news by the *Acadia*, which left Liverpool on the 8th April, was received in Montreal on the evening of the 25th ult.

IRELAND.—Ireland is in a state of great excitement. The Students of Trinity College at Dublin had armed in defence