

## HORSE BEANS.

The *Canada Farmer* supplement of the *Globe*, states that at the Agricultural show of the township of Howard, held at Ridgetown on the 12th October, Mr. Wright showed a box of English Horse Beans, "said to be the first grown in Canada" In that case "Canada" is fifty years at least behind Nova Scotia, where Horse Beans have been grown from an early period. It is only within the last two or three years, however, that their culture has been revived and extended through the efforts of the Board of Agriculture, who imported a large quantity of new seed from England. The great secret of their culture is to sow early; they are not touched by early frosts like other beans.

## GREENLAND.

The *Panther*, has just returned from a summer trip to Labrador and Greenland. Among the objects of interest visited by the party was the Norse ruin at Krakatok or Gardar in South Greenland, at which place there once flourished an extensive colony founded in the year 986, a son of the founder named Thorwald, being, in 1001, the first discoverer of Newfoundland; the party discovered the walls of an old cathedral in a tolerable state of preservation. They produce many evidences that the climate of Greenland—since the Norse occupation—has grown much colder. They paid a visit to the famous Kryolite mine at Ivigtut, the only place in the world where that valuable mineral—which is almost pure soda—has been discovered. The annual production of the mine is about 12,000 tons, the half of which is shipped to the United States. The party finally reached as far north as the middle of Melville Bay. The season has been very unfavorable for ice navigation in the upper waters of Baffin's Bay. Many polar bears were seen, and they were lucky enough to shoot six. The bears were literally run down by their powerful steamer, ploughing through and tearing up the ice, driving the game from field to field, until they were brought to bay. A curious incident of this novel chase was that while pursuing the bears, the photographers, stationed on the top-gallant-forecastle, took the portraits while they ran. The party visited, surveyed, and photographed immense glaciers; and in one instance, made a considerable journey upon the great ice sea or *mer de glace* which covers the interior of Greenland. From one of the glaciers they had a narrow escape; its disruption sent the waters rolling in gigantic waves down fiord, and it seems almost a miracle, that in the fearful crash and disturbance they were not dashed to pieces. The photographing party was on the shore and barely

escaped by climbing the rocks, while all their implements were crushed to atoms by the force of the waves, one of which is represented to have been thirty feet high. Those Greenland glaciers are the source of all the icebergs which reach our shores. Besides polar bears, they found abundance of game, in the shape of birds, many of which were shot, especially eider ducks. The Greenland coast, like that of Labrador, abounds in bird life, during the summer, many varieties of water-fowl migrating there to breed. Among the most interesting places visited was Upernavik, in latitude 92° 55' the most northern point of Christian occupation on the globe, where they fell in with Dr. Hayes' old interpreter and dog manager—Peter Jensen, the only white man in the settlement, and who has now for many years lived, hunted and prospered within a thousand miles of the pole. The party was most hospitably received by the Danish officials and people in Greenland, which is owned by Denmark, and trading stations, much after the manner of the Hudson Bay Company, are numerous along the coast. All trading with foreigners is, however, forbidden as the Government holds a monopoly of it. Nothing could, however, exceed their kindness in rendering assistance to the voyagers whenever required—*Church Herald*.

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JAMES STANFORD.

Halifax, N.S., June, 1868.

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Noel, Hants Co., November, 1869.

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