

moreover say, that this is the true cause, the source and fountain, whence flows upon society a continued stream of disease, especially of that kind so constantly and erroneously attributed to a weakened stomach and bowels, instead of an overtasked, excited, and exhausted brain; and that it is to this organ, and not to the stomach, that we must address the remedy if we would cure the disease. And it is this fatal error which constitutes the reason why this peculiar form of disease has hitherto baffled all skill and defied all remedies.

In the upper circles the case is essentially the same. There is the same mental drudgery at school as in the other instances. Then comes the excessive indulgence in all sorts of exciting and exhausting pleasures which their pecuniary circumstances enable them to purchase. Then comes the political arena, where the struggle is deadly as the gladiator's, and the prize an unsubstantial shadow.

Agriculture.

SCIENTIFIC AGRICULTURE—BUYING LAND.

"You know very well," said Science, "how your neighbour, old Mr. Stubborn, went into the next State to buy a farm. The owner knew what the farm was, and advertised it in spring time, when he expected damp weather. I advised Peter to take me with him to view the strata of rocks below, and to analyze the soil on the surface, to see how it laid for draining, and what aspect it presented to the atmosphere. I told him I could save my expenses many times over. But Peter scorned my advice—he thought he had worked more land than I had, and was as good a judge of land as any man in the States; and he set off muttering something about 'not letting book-worms make money out of him.' He walked carefully over the farm—it looked green and flourishing, and not swampy, even in that damp, wet weather. He was delighted with it, and gave forty dollars an acre for three hundred acres. He paid his twelve thousand dollars and took possession. But in summer time as I passed that way, I found that so much-praised farm almost burnt up with drought, and its vegetation drooping and panting for moisture which the soil could not supply. Peter had bought a light, sandy soil, lying upon what we call, geologically, a cool formation, with a pretty decided slope eastward. I took a little bit of the soil and analyzed it, and showed what it contained. In one hundred parts there were about eighty-three of lime, three of oxide of iron, one of potash, and one part of phosphoric and carbonic acids, and four parts of vegetable and organic matter. 'Now,' I said, 'the soil will be beautifully productive in wet weather, but will be parched in dry weather.'"

"Ah," he said, "that was how I was taken in—I saw it in a wet spring season."

"If," I rejoined, "you had taken me with you, I would have taken a handful of this soil from various parts of the farm, and would have told you exactly what it contained, as I do now. I would have told you that sand, which predominates here, cannot retain moisture, which flies off; nevertheless, I would have told you that in certain positions the soil might be made fruitful, if it laid upon a faithful geological formation, and with a moist atmospheric aspect. I should then have examined the geological strata here, and have told you that it was on a coal formation, consisting of beds of limestone and blue shale, near the surface, which generally underlays the worst lands, and sloping so rapidly toward the east, the moisture would drain away through the sands and down the slope, while the east wind, the most drying and piercing of all winds, would blow with its keen, droughty breath into the soil, driving out that moisture which had not drained away; that in summer your crops would be impoverished, and, in long droughts, probably would not grow at all. I could have shown you all this, and you would have known that the farm was of small value, and saved your money. Your ignorance has caused you to throw away as much as you have made in many years of hard work."—*Saturday Courier*.

TUSSAC GRASS.—It appears that this species of grass recently imported from the Falkland Islands into Britain, is likely to prove advantageous. Several trials have been made, particularly in

Scotland, and as far north as the Orkney and Shetland Islands apparently with encouraging success. The grass appears to be hardy and easily propagated, both by seed and separating its roots,—the latter to an immense size, from one to two and three feet in circumference. Cattle and sheep are particularly fond of it, and it keeps green and nutritious all the winter. It seems to prefer a peaty soil, or at least one that is rich in decayed vegetable matter. May it not be worth a trial in Canada? If it succeeds, the large amount of provender it yields would be of immense advantage to cattle during our long winters. Professor Johnson has, it appears, analyzed several specimens grown in Scotland, and he pronounces it very nutritive, abounding in protein, or muscle forming compounds, as much so in a dry state, as wheat or oats.

TO DESTROY THE TURNIP BEETLE.—Finely pulverised lime sifted over the tops of the young turnip plants, has been found a certain remedy against the depredations of the turnip beetle. A number of farmers have tried this remedy on a large scale, and speak in the highest esteem of its utility in driving away the turnip beetle, or "fly," as it is generally called.

PLEURO-PNEUMONIA.—It appears that this virulent disease among cattle is still very prevalent in many parts of the united kingdom, and in many cases is extremely fatal. In Germany and adjacent countries it continues to produce sad havoc, and it is from these countries, it is supposed, the disease was first introduced into England.—*British American Cultivator*.

News.

CANADA.

Seely, the fugitive exchange broker, has had his leg amputated, and is doing well. He will be brought to Montreal, on a charge of forgery, under the Ashburton treaty.

His Excellency the Governor General went in state to the Legislative Council on the 23d ult., when the Provincial Parliament was prorogued, after eighteen bills having received his Excellency's sanction. The principal bills were the Emigration Act and the one for the inspection of Butter and Flour.

A deputation of three Indian chiefs of the Wataignais tribe, on the Saguenay, waited lately on Lord Elgin with a petition for assistance. They were tall muscular men, dressed in flannel, with red caps and eschies.

A man named Carrol was found by the police in a yard in Quebec lying asleep drunk. He had been exposed to the frost for many hours, and will likely lose his hands from being frost-bitten.

Near Goderich, on the 15th February, George Gordon, aged 38, a native of Craig, Sutherlandshire, Scotland, died in a fit brought on by the use of ardent spirits. A verdict was returned accordingly.

The labourers on the Great Western Railroad, near Hamilton, who were receiving 3s. 1½d. per day, struck for higher wages. The contractor refused to comply with the demand, and paid off the whole squad.

Of the capital stock of the Great Western Railroad, amounting to £1,500,000, only £625,000 has been subscribed for. It is proposed to apply to Government for assistance in procuring a loan of £500,000. The remaining £375,000 must yet be raised by subscription.

The New Brunswick House of Assembly has appropriated £5160 for the relief of the sufferers by the failure of the potato and other crops. The Intercolonial Free Trade Bill passed committee, and is likely to become law.

The English mail, by the "Cambria," arrived in New York at 11 o'clock on the 18th March, and by one o'clock the principal items of news were received in Montreal. The "Cambria" reached Halifax on the 15th, and her letters were delivered here on the 20th.

The commissioners from the different British North American Provinces to make new postal arrangements have published their report. The principal point seems to be the recommendation that a uniform rate of 3d. currency, per half ounce, for all distances under 300 miles, and, if necessary for revenue, 6d. currency for all distances over 300 miles, be adopted over the Province.