

autumn they are *oviparous*, and deposit their eggs, otherwise their race would be destroyed by the severity of winter. The genial warmth of spring develops their eggs, and what is very curious, the next generation of insects become *viviparous*, and during summer bring forth their young alive. Their powers of reproduction are inconceivably great. Reaumer, the celebrated French naturalist, paid very minute attention to their economy, and observed one insect, in a single day, become the parent of twenty; and these again would give existence to fresh swarms in a few days. Another French naturalist isolated the female insects as soon as they were born, and yet he obtained nine generations of perfect insects, without contact with the male, the latter not being produced until autumn.

The amazing fecundity of these insects would be absolutely destructive to a large class of plants, had not nature in her wise arrangements appointed numerous enemies to operate as checks. The little shining insect, known to children as the "lady-bird," is among the most powerful of them, and should, therefore, never be destroyed. Lady-birds will devour Aphides by millions. In gardens infested by these unwelcome guests, cleansing the plants with tobacco water will have a good effect; but attacks on a large scale in the field, no remedy of this sort is practicable, and nature must be left to work her own cure.

Spirit of the Agricultural Press.

AGRICULTURE IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

By the courtesy of James Caie, Esq., Secretary of the Northumberland Agricultural Society, New Brunswick, we have been favored with the Report of that Association for 1849-50. It is an interesting document, showing that the Agricultural capabilities of the Province are much greater than is generally imagined. The following extract contains truths of universal interest and application.

"Before resigning those offices of trust to which your partiality promoted them, the retiring Board of Directors would be allowed to congratulate this Society, and the country at large, upon the abundant Harvest with which it has pleased a kind Providence to reward the labors of the husbandman. Sure, such manifestations of the loving kindness of the Creator, while they call forth the gratitude of the creature, should never fail to stimulate him to greater diligence in all time to come,—diligence not merely of a *physical*, but of a *mental* character. It is not enough that, encouraged by last year's success, we increase our efforts this year, in the way of

ploughing, harrowing, and stumping our lands,—something more than this is necessary, if we wish to prosper as Farmers. We must endeavor to keep pace with the march of improvement going on in the world around us, for to loiter behind is to let slip our chance of success. We must therefore increase our *mental efforts*, that we may acquire, among other things at least, a *rudimental* knowledge of those Sciences *without whose aid our success as Farmers is more the effect of good luck than of good management*. To assert that this statement is not true, or, in other words, to assert that a man understands his business as a farmer, who is ignorant of the substances that constitute his soil, and of those with which he would enrich it, is neither more nor less than to assert that an individual unacquainted with the art of mixing colors, yet *dubbing* himself a *painter*, would be capable of producing as striking a likeness of us, as a Raphael or a Lawrence; or that a man ignorant of the science of *Chemistry*, and the art of compounding medicines, yet styling himself a Physician, would be as likely to remove a malady, or cure a disease, as a Sir Astley Cooper or Sir Benjamin Brodie.

"Nor is this all. Farmers should be diligent in the *acquisition of experimental knowledge*.—All the practical and useful arts are founded upon *facts*: Agriculture is pre-eminently so. All true science, in Agriculture, is the *process of induction*; that is, it consists of inferences drawn from well authenticated facts. Theories in this case, however plausible, are of no real value, unless the application of them lead to some practical rule or result. Now, it may not require a large farm, or a great capital, or a vast amount of intellect, to make experiments, from which the greatest benefits may flow; many questions still involved in uncertainty, relating to crops, seeds, manures, modes of planting and cultivation; of harvesting, saving manure, &c., &c. are just as likely to be solved, in a farm of *ten acres*, as in one of a hundred. What indeed, is every operation of the intelligent Farmer, but an experiment? In preparing, manuring, and sowing his fields, he may be said to be making an experiment; and if such farmers would carefully note every step in the process of cultivation, and the progress of vegetable growth, the facts thus collected, might prove not only beneficial to themselves, and the districts in which they live, but they might elicit truths—*without the aid of Science*—calculated to throw light upon subjects still involved in obscurity."

VALUE OF LAND IN NORTHERN EUROPE.

From Mr. Jacob's official report we glean the