

From Messrs Hill and Martin, Montreal, "New reading made Easy" 1 vol. in 18vo. "The girls first help to reading" 1 vol. in 13mo. "The girls second help to reading" 1 vol. in 18o. "First lesson in Arithmetic" 1 vol. in 8vo. "Illustrated practical Geometry" 1 vol. in 18o. "The Elements of Natural Philosophy" 1 vol. in 8vo.

From Mr. M. E. Simays, Teacher, of Ste. Genevieve de Montreal, two copies of the "Almanach des Connaissances Utiles," by himself.

From the Honorable W. H. Seward, Washington. Patent office report for 1856, 3 vols in 8vo.

From Messrs. Sadlier and Co. Montreal. "Gerald Griffin's works" 5 vols. in 8vo. History of Christianity in China, Tartary and Thibet," translated from the french by the abbé Huc, 2 vol. in 8vo.

From Mr. B. Dawson, Montreal: "The National Arithmetic," by B. Greenleaf, 1 vol. in 8vo.

From Messrs Duminigan & co. New-York: "Aspirations of Nature" by Hecker, 1 vol. in 8vo. History of the Catholic missions by Shea, 1 vol. in 8vo.

From Messrs. Beauchemin et Payette, Montreal. Travels in France by madame Tastu.

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MONTREAL, (LOWER CANADA) AUGUST 1857.

Law for making better provision for the encouragement of agriculture, and also to provide for the promotion of Mechanical science.

Among the laws passed in the last session of parliament, few in our opinion are of more importance, than the one the title of which we have just given; consequently, we earnestly call the attention of the professors in our colleges, and the members of the several mechanics institutes, to such of its provisions in the working of which, they are called upon by the law, to cooperate.

The legislature well understood how closely the progress of public instruction in this country is allied to the progress of agriculture, arts and manufactures, when it named the Superintendent of Public Instruction *ex officio* a member of the board of Agriculture and also of the Board of arts and manufactures; also by naming all professors of agriculture, *ex officio* members of the former board, and all professors of physical science, *ex officio* members of the latter.

The preamble of the law to which we allude (20 Victoria Chapter 32) is as follows.

"Whereas it is desirable to promote the development of mechanical talent among the people of this province, by disseminating instruction in mechanics and the kindred sciences, and by affording increased facilities for the study of models and apparatus: and whereas for the attainment of this object by these means it is expedient to provide for the establishment of central boards of administration in Upper and Lower Canada respectively connected and co-operating with the Mechanic's Institutes of the several cities, towns and villages in the pursuit thereof; and whereas, it is also desirable to extend encouragement to arts and manufactures, and stimulate the ingenuity of Mechanics and Artisans by means of prizes and distinctions, distributed and awarded on the same principle as has been already so successfully applied to the encouragement of agriculture in this Province: Therefore &c.

The first eight clauses of the law refer to the establishment

of a central board of agriculture and statistics, presided over by the minister of agriculture, whose powers and duties are thereby specified and regulated. The seventh clause obliges all boards of agriculture, agricultural associations and societies, all boards of arts and manufactures, Mechanics institutes, all public institutions and public officers to answer promptly all official communications by them received, from the central board of agriculture and statistics and to make diligent efforts to supply correct information on all questions submitted to them respectively, under a penalty of ten pounds currency, for each and every offence, in case of neglect or refusal to furnish the same.

The ninth clause nominates all presidents of agricultural societies, all professors of agriculture in chartered colleges, universities and other public educational institutions and also the chief superintendents of Education in Upper and Lower Canada respectively, members *ex officio* of the board of agriculture for that section of the province in which they reside.

Four members of each board shall annually retire, to be replaced by members chosen at an election to be simultaneously made by all the societies; the Board will be composed of a president, vice president and secretary, the latter of whom shall alone receive a salary for his services; five members shall form a *quorum*.

The importance of the operation of this board, and the necessity which exists for all colleges and other educational institutions to be represented by their agricultural professors, can be easily comprehended on perusal of the fifteenth clause which we now publish in full.

"XV. It shall be the duty of the said Boards to receive the Reports of Agricultural Societies, and before granting the certificates hereinafter mentioned, to see that they have complied with the law; to take measures, with the approbation of the Minister of Agriculture, to procure and set in operation a model illustrative or experimental farm or farms in their respective sections of the province, and in connection with any public school, college or university, or otherwise, and to manage and conduct the same, to collect and establish, at Toronto and Montreal respectively, an Agricultural Museum and an Agricultural and Horticultural Library, to take measures to obtain from other countries animals of new or improved breeds, new varieties of grain, seeds, vegetables or other agricultural productions, new or improved implements of husbandry or new machines which may appear adapted to facilitate agricultural operations, and to test the quality, value and usefulness of such animals, grain, seeds, vegetables or other productions, implements or machines, and generally to adopt every means in their power to promote improvement in the agriculture of this Province; and the said Boards shall keep a record of their respective transactions, and shall from time to time publish in such manner and form as to secure the widest circulation among the Agricultural Societies and farmers generally, all such Reports, Essays, Lectures and other useful information as the said Boards respectively may procure and adjudge suitable for publication; and if the said Boards or either of them shall publish a monthly Journal, or adopt as their channel of communication with Agricultural Societies the Agricultural