

On 26th August a meeting was held, at which were present many leading citizens. Sir William Young presided. Colonel Laurie explained his meetings in England with Miss McPherson and Mrs. Birt, which had resulted in the bringing out of 70 children, for whom 100 applications had already been received. The meeting was addressed in simple, touching terms by Mrs. Birt; also by Hon. Mr. Amund, Mr. Mackenzie of Ontario, Rev. G. M. Grant, Rev. Geo. W. Hill, Rev. Dr. Clay, and others. It seems now as if one successful "emigration road" is at last opened up to our Province, and we earnestly hope that this system, after being so auspiciously begun, will be continued so as to secure for us a continuous stream of a class of juveniles much in need of removal from their old city haunts in England, and much needed for their usefulness here.

At a recent meeting of the London Horticultural Society a letter was read from Mr. Moseley, naturalist on board H. M. S. "Challenger."—"Seed for the onion crops in Bermuda is all imported yearly, mostly from Madera, and the potato seed is brought from the United States. Various weeds cannot fail to reach the Island with these imports, and the constant importation of hay must have led to the introduction of many more. Shipwrecks furnish additions to the flora occasionally. A vessel laden with grapes was wrecked on the coast a short time ago. The boxes of grapes were washed ashore, and the grape seeds germinated in abundance, so that General Lefray was able to gather a number of small plants for his garden."

In London, complaints are being made of painted sparrows being sold for canaries, and of West India pine-apples with fresh "tops" inserted to make them look like home grown fruit. Perhaps Queen Pines have as good a right to be decorated with false top knots as other queens of fashion. The great improvement in West India pines is due to the importation of suckers from England, and to the great care now bestowed upon their cultivation, especially in Cuba.

THE Grain Harvest in France is poor. Wheat ripened prematurely, just as some of our grains have done in this Province, and the ears are light in consequence.

We find the following notes on Canadian Crops in the *Agricultural Gazette*, an English publication:—

"We had fine rains the end of June and the beginning of this month, and the fall Wheat is making admirable progress. Near Toronto, and in the Eastern United States, a good deal has been winter-killed.

Our spring crops are doing well, although they have suffered some damage—the spring Wheat from wireworm, and the Barley and Peas from grub. Early sown Oats look remarkably well—White Surprise and Norway Black are excellent descriptions. Our two sowings of Swede Turnips, Bangholm and Aberdeen, are both eaten by fly. Our grass crop is all but a failure, occasioned by drought, and more particularly by the frosty nights; the Clover, however, is not so bad as the Timothy. Strawberries, wild and cultivated, have been plentiful, the wild ones are much finer than the English, and have a flavour somewhat like Myatt's British Queen. There are two sorts of wild Raspberries—the ground, a delicate soft-stemmed plant, and the usual cane; these and the Blackberries will be soon ripe; the latter are in flavour a hybrid between the Raspberry and your Blackberry; many different varieties are cultivated."

THERE are now several Cheese Factories in Derbyshire; in one factory, 3 men and 1 woman make up the milk of 600 cows. The cheese commands a ready sale, and realizes the highest price of any cheese made in the county.

THE Annual Exhibition of the Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland was held this year at Stirling, and appears to have been very successful. We condense a portion of the Report given in the *Agricultural Gazette*:

Stirling is associated with many stirring events in Scottish history. Its castle was often a Royal residence, and from its battlements can be seen a dozen battlefields, including Bannockburn, only 2 miles distant, on which Scotchmen still look with some pardonable pride. From the same lofty turrets may be observed most of the scenery depicted in Sir Walter Scott's "Lady of the Lake," and in the not distant background are the lofty hills of Ben Ledi, Ben Venue, Ben Lomond, and Uamvar, the scene of the chase depicted by Sir Walter. Close at hand are "the Links of the Forth," so named because of the serpentine winding that gives it the appearance of a great silver chain lying in its bed of green meadows, healthy Turnip fields, and waving grain, yellowing for the harvest. Two miles to the northward are the woods of Airthrey, and beyond them is Keir, the residence of Sir William Stirling Maxwell, Bart., one of the foremost breeders of Shorthorns. Near at hand also is Dummore, the home of another celebrated herd; and at Alloa, 6 miles distant, is the Shorthorn herd of Mr. Mitchell. A few miles westward is Blair Drummond, conspicuous for the drainage of its extensive moss some years since by the great and persevering exertions of its spirited proprietor; and not

far off is Deanston, famous as the residence of Mr. Smith, the pioneer of "thorough draining."

The situation of Stirling for a great agricultural show is one of the best in Scotland. Stirlingshire is one of the central counties, and has direct connection by rail with Edinburgh, the Lothians, the border counties, and England, with Glasgow and the West of Scotland, with Perth and thence with Aberdeen, Inverness, and the whole North of Scotland. Its importance as a centre has been long recognised, for at a distance of 10 or 12 miles are held the great annual sales, under the name of Falkirk Trysts, where the breeders of the North exhibit many thousands of sheep and cattle, which are purchased for feeding on the Turnip soils of the border counties and England—a considerable change from the days when Rob Roy and his caterans were in the habit of "lifting" and carrying northward the cattle reared and fed on the carse lands about Stirling to supply their winter necessities. It is, likewise, a district of interest to agriculturists, because its progression from a very primitive to a very forward state of husbandry has been very late and rapid. Long after the rebellion of 1745 the district was far from safe against incursions and raids from the neighbouring highlands, and, as a consequence of such insecurity, agriculture was in a wretched condition. The average size of farms was about 30 acres, and the rent was paid partly in money, but mainly in kind, particularly "kain hens," and certain "servitudes," to be performed for the proprietor. The agricultural system was in some aspects similar to that adopted in the poorer districts of Nova Scotia at the present day. The land was divided into "out-field" and "in-field," of which the "in-field" only was cultivated, while the "out-field" was pastured with two or three hardy black cattle. On the in-field land Oats or Bere, a coarse kind of Barley, were sown in spring; but as the land was impoverished by incessant cropping, weeds and Thistles were the principal crops in autumn. Regarding some of the best haugh land, an old writer on Scottish husbandry says, "The method has been these hundred years past to sow it every year with Oats, without giving it any other manure than what it gets by the overflow of the river. Its increase does not exceed three seeds, having great abundance of grass among the grain." Dwellings were very wretched, the best of them containing only a spence and a kitchen, and they were generally built by the occupier and not by the proprietor. It was only toward the close of the last century that some enlightened proprietors, including Lord Dummore, the Duke of Montrose, Lord Dundas, and Mr. Forbes, of Colinton, took the lead in agricultural improve-