

ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK.

We copy the following account, in relation to the prosperity of St. John, from the *News* of that city:—

"We have passed through one of the finest, if not the finest, business seasons ever known to New Brunswick. Our ships, timber and deals, have brought satisfactory prices in the English market. We have had a long warm summer. The harvest has been most abundant. The hay crop which fell short in some localities, has been made up in quantity, by the open fall weather, which we have been enjoying for some time. A farmer and a man of judgment informs us, that this favourable season has been equal to one-sixth added to the agricultural wealth of the Province for the last summer. Another farmer states that he has saved £25 worth of hay, up to the present time, comparing this with the last season. Our merchants have done an active business during the present year; and as a proof that our mechanics have not been idle, we may state that carpenters in the ship yards are now receiving 7s. 6d. per day. At the suspension bridge they are obtaining 10s. In the city we believe good house carpenters are getting 7s. 6d. Other operatives corresponding rates. Our dry goods and other business folks, have likewise made good profits during the past summer, if we may judge from the number of people going in and coming out of the stores. Money has been abundant. The banks have been considerate and accommodating, wherever the securities have answered. The city is in a perfect state of solvency. It never was more so. More buildings have been erected this year than during any year before, while some of them would do credit to any city in the world—for example, those brick edifices in King Street."

The accounts from Nova Scotia state that Mr. Howe has been successful in his English mission, and that he can obtain any amount of money for railroad purposes, at 6 per cent., on Provincial security. Also, that the Government were willing to re-open negotiations for affording the Imperial guarantee to build the Northern line, which Mr. Hincks so contemptuously rejected.

We learn from the *Niagara Chronicle* that the result of the recent Municipal Elections in the County of Welland is another tie upon the question of separation from Lincoln—five of the constituencies having elected Councillors in favor of, and five against such separation.

The colonial-built (St. Johns, N. B.) ship *Marco Polo*, 1625 tons, Captain Forbes, has made the unrivalled passage from Liverpool, 3rd July, to Melbourne, Australia, in 68 days, and back in 75 days! She sailed from Melbourne 11th October, and arrived at Liverpool on the 26th of December.

THE MAJOR.—And now, Doctor, for your contributions.

THE DOCTOR.—Science and Art, have I none, for the selections that I would fain make, are long and unsuitable for our purpose, besides, I really think that *Silliman's* and our own *Canadian Journal*, are such valuable works, that it is something like presumption

in us to attempt more than a bare record of any startling discovery,—referring the reader interested in those matters to these journals, for particular information. My Music is here. The song is, as usual, from our talented friend, the Mus. Bac. My remarks, if somewhat severe, are yet, I think, better than unmeaning and unqualified praise. Now, Laird.

THE LAIRD.—Here are my "Facts," and I hope they will do some good to the rising generation,—for I have waled them with muckle care for their especial behoof. (*Laird reads*):—

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION OF FARMERS.

The farmer is, or ought to be, the perfection, the highest grade of the human family in private life; but, as a general rule, he is not so. I have mixed much with all classes of society in this country, and can say frankly that I have met with more genuine gentlemen in the country, on farms and plantations, than in cities and towns. I have found but one fault in all my intercourse with country people, that is calculated to degrade them, and that is almost universally prevalent; and so long as it does prevail it must continue to degrade the profession. It is the absence of a proper *esprit de corps*, and in its place, a longing desire for other professions. They "look down" upon their own profession, and up to every other. They educate their sons for lawyers, doctors, divines, merchants; and those who cannot be thus educated, educate themselves for farmers, as it happens. Is not this the truth?

Now this must be reformed entirely. Farmers must be ambitious of becoming great farmers, instead of great lawyers and doctors; and farmers' sons and daughters must be enabled to see in their father's profession, a station and standing sufficiently exalted to satisfy the highest ambition. But how can this be accomplished? By a proper system of education. At present the great end and aim of education is what is called professional—that is, the student is being educated for a lawyer, &c. Take the catalogue of our colleges, and where you will find one student preparing for an agricultural life, you will find five hundred preparing for other professions. If a farmer has two sons, and the one exhibits a modicum of intellectual "smartness," and the other the same amount of dullness, the former is forthwith sent to the law-school, the latter to the barn-yard.

Among all that has been written on the subject of education of farmers' sons, I have not seen what I consider the proper idea inculcated. It is true, we are continually furnished with essays recommending the establishment of agricultural schools, colleges, farm schools, &c., but they do not contain the germ from which the future tree must grow. Legislatures must not be looked to to establish schools. Farmers must establish them themselves. Lawyers, and doctors, and divines establish their own schools, and why not farmers? These professions would fare poorly, just as the farmers do, if they were to depend upon the legislatures to establish medical schools, &c., for them. No; they first put their shoulders to the wheel, and then call upon Hercules. But the great idea, so universally overlooked, is, that the farmers must first appreciate the respectability