

P. E. ISLAND.

We have great satisfaction in being able to state that the Governor of P. E. Island having made a tour of the whole Island, and personally investigated the condition of the tenantry, has, with a view to allay the growing agitation, addressed a circular to the Proprietors recommending such liberal measures as are at once creditable to his head and heart, and calculated to secure that desirable object.

We copy the following Extract from the Document referred to; and call on to all sense of feeling must that heart be which is not moved by this powerful appeal. He promises to send a copy of the Circular to the Colonial Office, together with a variety of documents showing the places where the greatest injustice and severity has been practised on the tenantry, and that these places are the seats of the present agitation. We hope that this timely interference—coming as it does from a Proprietor, will be the means of having a more liberal policy adopted towards the People of P. E. Island.

[Extract from the Circular]

"It is utterly impossible for any person unacquainted with the local circumstances of a new Colony, to form a correct estimate of the difficulties and privations which the first settler upon wilderness lands has to encounter. It is a long series of years before he can obtain from the soil more than a bare subsistence for himself and family, notwithstanding his most unwearied perseverance and industry; and it is his hard wrought labour in redeeming the forest from its original state, which alone stamps a value on the land he improves. It ought not therefore to be matter of surprise, that, although he may be ready and willing to pay a fair equivalent, either in rent or otherwise, for the land he occupies, he should feel dismayed (as too frequently happens) at the prospect of being deprived of the hard earned fruits of the labour of the earliest and best years of his manhood, whether from an accumulation of heavy arrears of rent, which he was unable to realize from the land, or from the refusal of the Proprietor to grant him a tenure of sufficient endurance to ensure to his family the profits of his industry; and this, probably in the decline of his life, with a constitution broken, and health impaired by incessant toil, and over exertion! Can it, I say, be a matter of surprise that he should be discontented with his lot? that he should instil those feelings into the minds of his family? and that they should be too ready to listen to the delusive hopes held out by designing men, and give a willing ear to their proposals, of any measure, however fallacious, which holds out to them a hope of relief!

"You will, perhaps, naturally ask, why the settler, in the first instance, consents to occupy land without the security of a long lease? and remark that he takes it with his eyes open, and under no compulsion! I reply, that many of the settlers are extremely ignorant men, who on first arriving in the Colony, were induced to settle on the lands without due consideration, and incapable of forming a proper estimate of the hardships and difficulties they would have to contend with: others encouraged by false representations; some by the promises of the proprietor or his agent to give them titles, promises which in many instances have never been fulfilled. But cases of greater hardship even than these have come to my knowledge, where the unfortunate tenant has actually paid for his farm, to a person who professed to be the legal owner of the soil, before he left his native country; and he has subsequently been called upon by other persons, who claimed the property, for arrears of rent for this very land, for which he could produce a receipt for the payment of the purchase money.

I will mention two other cases. The first, that of a party of settlers from Guernsey, who purchased a tract of land from a proprietor at a high price, purporting to be situated on the verge of a river which would give them easy access to it, and the means of transporting their produce to market. Upon the faith of this statement they arrived on the Island. Will it be believed, that the land they had paid for, did not exist? and they actually were forced to purchase other lands from another Proprietor upon which to locate themselves!

The second, that of the Acadian French located on Lot No. 10. These people paid to the amount of upwards of £1000 towards the purchase of the Township. The person who received the money had no right to make the sale, and these people are now tenants at will on the same soil, for the Proprietor has hitherto given no authority to sell, or grant Leases. Can it then be wondered at that these people smarting under a sense of the injustice done to them, should be amongst those inimical to the proprietary system altogether, and that they should inoculate others with their principles.

AGRICULTURE.

From the P. E. Island Colonial Herald.

UTILITY OF AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS—EXPERIMENTAL FARM AND GARDEN.

SIR,—My reason for addressing you at present, is to call through you the attention of my brethren of the Plough to the subject of Agricultural Societies, which, when supported as they are in Britain, and under good management, have been the means of diffusing much knowledge, and of practically bringing forth much that existed—they have introduced better stock, seeds, implements, and modes of culture, and there can be no doubt the same consequences would follow here, if the experiment was tried on a proper scale. Our excuse has hitherto been, that we wanted a leader—a patron who understood and took an interest in the subject. We have now no excuse. Our Governor is our patron and leader; he has a thorough practical knowledge, and is an enthusiast in farming. The question is, can we make our 5s. a year subscription 10s? I think we can. Could we, by a proper representation to the House of Assembly, and through the Council to the Governor, induce them to grant the additional sum of money necessary to support, on a respectable footing, the Central Society? We can also do this; and through the Central, all District Societies ought to be liberally encouraged. And therefore, I will take the liberty of stating what I think ought to be done by the Society, and who ought to be the Directors of it London says, "The certain way of obtaining any thing, is to be impressed with the necessity of possessing it,—and that the grand drawback to every kind of improvement is the vulgar and degrading idea that certain things are beyond our reach." The Committee of Directors should be composed of persons of liberal ideas, who have a thorough knowledge of country affairs, in some, if not in all its branches; and all must be earnest supporters of, and have an interest in the Island's prosperity.

The mercantile transactions of the Society seem to me well conducted at present, and no more can be expected with the very limited means in the power of the Secretary; but this is not enough—they should be enabled to extend their importations, not only in the seeds and implements, but to import all descriptions of farm stock, roots, plants, and every other article connected with farming and gardening, suitable to the soil and climate of the Island. I wish, also, seriously, to recommend to the

notice of the Society and the Public, the great and certain benefit they would derive by establishing, on a proper scale, an experimental farm and garden, to be conducted by a manager of experience and practical knowledge. The example of a well cultivated farm and garden would stimulate every farmer in the Island to exertion, they would see what could be produced, and the method of doing so. All new seeds, plants, implements, stock, manures, &c. would be provided before being recommended to the public. New varieties of seeds and plants would be propagated, and old varieties selected and improved. The produce would sell readily in Charlottetown, and, if well conducted, the farm and garden would in a few years, do more than pay the original outlay and their own expenses.

The Society ought also to give premiums for improved breeds of horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry—for the best grain, butter, cheese, &c.—for the best cultivated farms and gardens—for improved or new implements, ploughing matches, and every thing that has a tendency to the prosperity of the Island.

It would be of the utmost importance to publish the transactions of the Society, in the form of a Quarterly Journal, at a moderate price, and request the public to communicate their knowledge and experience in all sorts of rural affairs, to the Editor, for selection and insertion. By these means, every person in the Island could become acquainted with all the improvements going on; they would know the state of the Society's affairs—the progress and management of the experimental farm and garden—the premiums offered by the Society—and who were the successful competitors—and thus stimulate, encourage, and promote the best interests of the Island.

I remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
AGRICULTURE.

The intelligent writer of the above article has expressed himself dissatisfied with a Note we put to his communication on the rotation of crops, (see Bee Vol. iii. No. 19.) as appears from the following notice copied from the Colonial Herald of the 21st ultimo:

"SIR,—I cannot but feel grateful to the Halifax TIMES, the PICTOU BEE, and the generous and kind criticism of OBSERVATOR; but I must beg leave to state, that I do not think either the BEE or OBSERVATOR have more fully accounted for the benefits derived from a rotation of crops, than the quotation I gave from Sir Humphry Davy, which is all that is known at present in Europe on the subject. But their remarks will assist me in my object, viz. to urge the farmers to adopt some better system of farming, or, at least, to think of what they are doing.

"I remain, Sir,
"Your obedient servant.
"AGRICULTURE."

In answer to this, we now annex our authority in the shape of an extract from *Rogel's Bridgewater Treatise*, an authority so respectable that we do not think "AGRICULTURE" will gainsay it, without offering the most satisfactory reasons for so doing.

This writer will observe that we have not questioned the propriety of a rotation of crops, but on the contrary, have offered a solution of the causes which render that rotation necessary—a thing which he and his author, Sir H. Davy, have not only left undone—but he ventures to assert that he has given "all that is known in Europe on the subject."—ED. BEE.

[Extract from *Rogel's Bridgewater Treatise*].

EXCRETION IN VEGETABLES.—It had long been conjectured by De Candolle, that the superfluous or noxious particles contained in the returning sap are excreted or thrown out by the roots. It is evident that if such a process takes place, it will readily explain why plants render the soil where they have long been cultivated, less suitable to their continuance in a vigorous condition, than the soil in the same