

British Agricultural Returns.

FROM THE "SCOTSMAN."

Now that the full agricultural returns for the whole of the United Kingdom are published, it is possible to get a glimpse of the condition of farming; and that glimpse is not altogether unsatisfactory, though there are temporary reasons for condoling with farmers. This is shown as much in Mr. Giffen's report on the returns as in the returns themselves. He has to make the gratifying statement that farmers have shown greater readiness to fill up the schedules issued by the collectors, and that, consequently, there is every reason to believe that the returns are this year more nearly correct than they have been. That, however, is not the only gratifying part of his report; for he is able to show that there has been and still is great effort on the part of farmers to extend and improve the practice of agriculture. Unfortunately this year, as most of us know, the weather has not been such as to promise a fair reward to those efforts. Indeed, there is abundant reason to believe that this year, notwithstanding the increased price of wheat, the profits of farmers will be less than they have been for some time past. The country, however, is not in the least likely to run short of the commodities which farmers produce. The world grows corn for us and meat also, and though our crops should be light and our herds smaller, bread and beef will not be wanting.

The acreage under wheat in the United Kingdom this year was 3,321,063 acres, being an increase of close upon 200,000 acres as compared with 1876, but about 340,000 acres below 1866. Here then is a great decrease shown in twelve years, and it may be well to see what has been done with the land thus taken from wheat. Part of it has been taken for barley. This year the acreage of barley was 2,652,300, against 2,298,228 in 1866. Here alone is over 250,000 acres accounted for. That, however, is more than lost upon oats—a curious fact when it is remembered that there has been an increase in the number of horses, and it may be assumed no less consumption of oatmeal by men. This year the acreage under oats is 3,238,957, while in 1866 it was 3,471,344—the decrease being thus about 230,000 acres. Possibly one reason will be found in a less inclination to cultivate a crop in some districts where it is always more or less hazardous, and to try pasture instead.

The breadth under potatoes this year is nearly 160,000 acres less than in 1866; while turnips are about 60,000 acres less. Mangold, on the other hand, has increased from 279,851 acres, and there is evidence in the regularity of the increase that this root is becoming a more general favourite. The total of what are called green crops is less by 200,000 acres this year than it was in 1866, while bare fallow is scarcely more than half what it was twelve years ago.

As a matter of fact, there are about 1,600,000 fewer sheep in the United Kingdom this year than there were in 1867—the first year for which the figures are accessible—but the falling off is entirely within the last two years, and is ascribed by the collectors to a deficiency of keep. A fact mentioned in another part of the report may also partly explain the decline. "In some counties," says Mr. Giffen, "many farms are said to have changed hands during the past year, while some have remained untenanted."

The estate of Philadelphia's Mortgage Prince is worth the pretty penny of a million and a half. Heinrich Weller came to America when a boy, and his first business venture was the importation of lace and ribbons, in a very small way, from Switzerland. By stinting himself, and saving every penny not required in his business, which he immediately invested in mortgages, he accumulated his vast fortune. He wore one coat for over ten years steadily, and always carried his lunch to his place of business in a plate slung over his arm. He was scrupulously exact in all his dealings, and when, after his death, the Auditor called upon all those having claims against him to present them, there was not a single response. Up to the day of his death in 1875, he refused to take seven per cent interest when the law only allowed six.

ARRESTS IN MOSCOW.

A letter from St. Petersburg says that the Nihilists, who are anxious to take advantage of the critical position of the Empire and the absence of the army, are giving the police a good deal of trouble. A domiciliary visit made at St. Petersburg led to the discovery of a packet of letters which induced the police to effect several arrests at Moscow and Kiev, and the report is that a certain number of officers now at the centre of war are seriously compromised. In a report upon this subject to the Minister of Justice says that "the government is powerless to stay the current of these subversive doctrines; for they have deep roots, being the result of disolute manners and an antagonism always on the increase between the paternal authority and the children who will not submit, and also of the complete absence of religious principles not only in the families, but in the State schools, where religious education is much neglected." The Minister proposes as a remedy that the condition of the clergy should be improved, and calls on the public to denounce guilty parties.

Five steamships sailed for Europe from New York on Saturday with grain and provisions. A new feature was 150 barrels of quercitron extracts, used for tanning purposes, going to Liverpool.

Fire at St. George.

St. George, Nov. 3.—Between 8 and 9 o'clock on Thursday evening last, a house and a barn belonging to George Thickens, Esq., were totally consumed by fire. They were situated from the town and from any other buildings. There being no water to be had in the vicinity, nothing could be done to save the property. It originated by the upsetting of a lamp which had been left standing in the barn. It is supposed that the lamp was kicked over by a loose bolt.

The building was insured for about two thirds its value, \$2,000. Mr. Thickens also lost about \$2700 in furniture and live stock on which he had \$700 insurance.

The St. Andrews Standard.

Saint Andrews, November 7, 1877.

REMOVAL.

The STANDARD office has been removed to the building immediately opposite the late office, in the building recently occupied by Mr. Bradley. Entrance through the store for the present. The printing and publication are on the second flat.

THE WAR NEWS from the East is reliable, indicates an early termination of Russia-Turkish hostilities. The Russians have it is reported won several battles, and are surrounding Plevna, which is now invested. They are also forming an army of 70,000 in rear of Plevna and are advancing on Adrianople.

Lord Derby has informed the foreign ambassadors that England has not had any opportunity of making a proposal for mediation.

THE FRENCH ELECTIONS have resulted favorably to the Republicans. The returns show 567 Republicans and 350 Conservatives. There are 538 districts to be heard from. It is reported that the French Ministry will resign or that it will be remodelled. Gen. McMahon is convinced of this, that the nation or a large majority are against his government. The Duke De Broglie's defeat by a Bonapartist candidate, created a great sensation.

LABOR STRIKES are still carried on. The latest is the one at San Francisco, where, at Working mens meeting, violent and incendiary language was used, threatening the peace of the city. The Chinese are so alarmed, that large numbers are returning to China by the Steamships.

DEATH OF CHARLES STEVENSON.—The melancholy duty devolves upon us of recording the death of Mr. Charles Stevenson, aged 70 years and 10 months, which occurred on the 31st ult. Mr. Stevenson arrived here with his family fifty one years ago, and resided in this town and parish during that time, where he maintained an unblemished character, and was esteemed for his genuine worth. He possessed no ordinary powers, and his advice and counsel was sought by many. For many years he was member, and class-leader in the Methodist church. He leaves a widow, daughter and sons, with numerous relatives and friends to mourn their loss. Funeral service was held in the Methodist church on Sunday last, after which his remains were followed to the cemetery by one of the largest funerals which has taken place for years.

GALLANT CONDUCT.—We learn from the New South Wales, Sydney Herald, of the gallant conduct of a St. Andrews boy, second officer of the ship, N. Boynton of New York. On the passage from New York for Sydney, with immigrants, a young gentleman of Philadelphia, named J. H. Dearborn, who was fond of fishing, stood on the martingale back ropes, with a harpoon and struck a porpoise which was passing, but unfortunately got entangled in the line and was drawn overboard in spite of the efforts of his comrades. The vessel was going at the rate of ten knots an hour, and when the young man was seen he was about fifty yards astern. It is believed he was struck by the vessel and injured. The vessel was hove to, and in the face of a rising gale and heavy sea, a boat was manned by the second officer, Mr. John McElwee, (son of Alex. McElwee of St. Andrews) and with four of the crew put off to the rescue. Darkness came on, and the boat lost sight of, lights were kept burning to guide her return. It was some hours before the brave men returned from their fruitless search. Dearborn having met a watery grave. Next day a purse of sixty dollars was subscribed by the passengers, and handed to Mr. McElwee who generously divided the amount among the men, accepting only as his reward—the consciousness that he had done his duty. He has since been appointed first officer of the ship, and it affords us pleasure to record his bravery and advancement on shipboard.

LOCAL MATTER.

The Admiral's Fleet left Halifax for Bermuda on Friday last.

Quick Passage.—Christina, Andrews from Quebec, grain laden, arrived at Queenstown, on the 6th inst., in 16 days.—Tel. to J. Watson.

We were pleased to notice Mr. James Stevenson was able to be out after his severe attack of throat disease.

Earthquakes are reported as having occurred in Ontario and Quebec on the morning of the 4th inst., also in New Hampshire and Vermont.

As was anticipated a protest was entered in the Arthabasca election—Bribery, corruption and clerical interference are the principal clauses in the protest.

Fires occurred in Cape Briton, Liverpool, N. S., Carleton County, and St. George in this County last week, all which are reported the work of incendiaries except the one at St. George which was accidental.

Trespassers, on the Eastern Commons have been officially notified that they will be prosecuted according to law. We suppose this refers to carrying off the soil and cutting the bushes which will not be permitted in the future. Posters have been stuck up cautioning persons from committing such acts.

The Fisheries Commission having brought their labors to a close, as far as taking evidence, the people of the Dominion are waiting patiently for the award, as it is currently reported that the Canadian claims have been established.

Fires are daily occurring throughout the Province. Portland was again visited by the fire and one or two buildings destroyed. Moncton too has had a new two story dwelling damaged. We regret to add that these fires are said to be the work of incendiaries.

The Anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot was celebrated on Monday evening last at Moncton, St. Stephen, and other places in the Province by balls, suppers, addresses and other entertainments. The Grand Master of Organism, Hon. Mr. Willis, opened the ball at St. Stephen, which is described as a grand affair; the music for dancing was performed by the Calais Quadrille Band.

The gale of the last few days was severe on the inland lakes and on the Atlantic ocean. Several vessels were wrecked on the Lakes, and the Steamship Russia from Liverpool to New York was fourteen days on the passage, during which she encountered terrific gales all the way. Many of the passengers feared being drowned.

Fredericton News.

The river is rising rapidly. The Mayor has offered a reward of \$500, for the apprehension of the parties who it is supposed set fire to the Exhibition Building. The semi-Annual examination for the admission of students to the Normal School commences this week. There are upwards of 200 applicants.

During the past week several children have died of diphtheria which is very prevalent here. Precautionary measures are taken to prevent its spread in the schools. Owing to a misplaced sitch, the excursion train from St. John, when returning early on Monday morning, ran off the track at Waasis, on the F. B. Railway. Fortunately none of the passengers were injured, the damage being confined to the locomotive and tender.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Standard: DEAR SIR—I am informed that the Annual Meeting of the Charlotte County Agricultural Society was held last week in St. Andrews, and the usual business transacted. If the information is correct, I, and others who have been paid up members of the Society for several years, feel that we have not been justly treated, as we received no intimation of the meeting by letter, printed notice or advertisement in the newspapers. Has the Society or rather the Directors become a close borough? Our subscriptions will be asked for and perhaps additional aid solicited. How can it be expected that either the one or the other will be given when we have no voice in electing the officers. Yours, PLAIN FARMER.

[We can scarcely believe that the Annual Meeting has been held as our friend "Plain Farmer" states. The Society has never to our knowledge transacted the business of the Annual Meeting in hole and corner style. The information must surely be incorrect, as the meeting as far back as we can remember, was advertised in the STANDARD annually.] Ed. STANDARD.

A NEW GLACIAL PERIOD IN PROGRESS.

A Swedish paper states that in the Bay of Komenok, near Koma, in Greenland, fossil and very characteristic remains of palm and other trees have been discovered lately, which tend to show that in these parts formerly a rich vegetation must have existed. But the ice period of geologists arrived, and as a consequence of the decreasing temperature, this fine vegetation was covered with ice and snow. This sinking in the temperature, which moved in a southerly direction, as it can be proved by geological data, that is, the discovery of fossil plants of certain species, seems to be going on in our days also. During the last few years the ice has increased far towards the south; thus between Greenland and the Arctic Sea colossal masses of ice have been accumulated. On European coasts we now frequently find ice in latitudes where it never existed before during the summer months, and the cold reigning upon the Scandinavian peninsula this summer results from the masses of ice which are floating in the region where the Gulf Stream bends toward the British coasts. This is a repetition, says Nature, of the observations made in the cold summer of 1865. The unaccustomed vicinity of these masses of ice has rendered the climate of Iceland so cold that corn no longer ripens there, and the Icelanders, in fear of a coming famine and icy climate, begin to find new homes in North America.

A spirit of incendiarism seems to be sweeping over our land. There is a species of malicious crime in connection with this act which is more worthy of severe punishment than almost any other offence against our laws, inasmuch as when the torch is applied it is done in the still watches of the night, and when it is once lighted it is impossible to tell what may be the result to life and property or where the devastation may stop, and every effort ought to be employed to hound the perpetrators to justice. It would seem that our rulers are asleep as regards the prevalence of fire setting, (time and time again we note that property and often life has been destroyed by the fires which were clearly shown to have been caused intentionally, yet no effort has been made or reward offered for the detection of the guilty parties, or occasionally an investigation has been held, and the conclusion of the whole matter was what almost every person already knew and then the matter dropped.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.—Germany has elected to take no part in the Paris Exhibition of 1878. The reason of her isolation, writes a London correspondent, is not very far to seek. The exhibition has been designed to show that France has, after a disastrous and overwhelming war, been able to retain her ancient strength. So that the revival of the country can be judged by an international competition. The reasons that influence France in promoting the exhibition are much the same as those of Russia, who will be a considerable contributor to the show. Russia is anxious to demonstrate that the present war is not so exhausting that the country cannot bring forward the proofs of its industry. Probably the same idea is present in the mind of the Porte, who has requested that a place should be reserved for Turkish manufactures.

Relics of Sir John Franklin.

NEW YORK, Oct. 31.—Thomas Barrett, of the whale bark "Houghton," lost in Hudson Bay, June '76, arrived here with a silver spoon bearing Sir John Franklin's crest, which he obtained from an Esquimaux Indian. The latter told Barrett the ship from which the spoon was obtained was crushed by ice at an Island near Cape Hollowell and that the natives took the crew near Cape Englefield and kept them, until one by one they perished from cold, hunger or disease. Barrett says the natives about his winter quarters at Marble Island had two other spoons, one having a crest and the other having "S. S. S." engraved upon it. This was purchased by the United States Consul at St. John. The Esquimaux say the vessel became a total wreck, and that Franklin was with them, and they recognized him as the leader, while the men who died, were buried by them. The most important fact they communicated was that this crew of whites left a lot of books with writing on them, which were buried also at Englefield. This spot is about 900 miles inland and has not yet been reached by any exploring parties. It is proposed to fit out an expedition from New York in the spring to secure records.

Capt. Chisholm, agent for Liverpool underwriters, who has been in Pennsylvania adjusting losses to British vessels occasioned by tidal waves and earthquakes on the 9th of May, has returned to England. The aggregate loss to insurance companies was about seventy thousand pounds sterling.

What the Suez Canal has Done.

In a recent lecture on the Suez Canal, Professor Leone Levi gave some interesting statistics about it. The Canal, he said, was opened to traffic in 1869 and from 1870 to 1876 the tonnage passing through it rose from 436,600 tons to 9,009,772 tons, whilst the receipts rose from £20,000 in 1870, to about £1,200,000 in 1875; and in 1876, after the share and debenture holders had received their 5 per cent. dividend, a small balance was still left to be accumulated in subsequent years. The result was therefore, in every way satisfactory. The canal had been the means of saving an immense amount of time and money. Already 2,000,000 tons of shipping was passing through it in a year, and this, at the low estimate of £30 a ton for the value of ship and cargo, represented £60,000,000 of capital, upon which there was a saving of two months interest of from £300,000 to £500,000 a year. Descending upon the particular commercial advantages of the canal, Professor Levi stated that, by shortening the line of navigation, and with the abolition of the export duty, an important trade had sprung up in wheat between England and India, and wheat was also a valuable cargo, and acceptable in the English market. The opening of the canal had also given an enormous stimulus to the building of steamships. In 1869 there had been 100 tons of iron vessel, whilst in 1875 there had been 2,000,000 tons. Hence the supremacy of England in the Suez Canal.

THE DISSOLVING SOUTH.

The South is no longer solid. President Hayes is already fastidious by the independent movements in Mississippi and Georgia. The dissolving of the solid South is being followed by the dissolving of the solid North. Action and reaction are equal in politics as well as in mechanics. The resistance of the South to the Union is being relaxed. The party which Governor Chamberlain of South Carolina, described as composed of equal parts of ignorance and rapacity, disappeared. The new divisions are more wholesome.

In Mississippi independent tickets are everywhere springing up, and in many counties greatly alarming Democratic leaders. In Jefferson county, a few days since, Mr. Thompson, a leading democrat, having accepted an independent nomination for sheriff, met his fellow citizens to address them on political affairs. He was confronted by his former political associates armed with rifles. Among these visitors were the editors and committees of the popular party organization. The rifle is a familiar political argument in Mississippi. Mr. Thompson did not speak, and has since retired.

A powder mill at Acton, Mass., was blown up on Sunday morning, Chas. H. Perry was killed.

Joseph Popper, the boy murderer, serving a life sentence in Charlestown prison, was detected Sunday morning in an attempt to cut his way out of his cell. He was caught by the warden, and several inches of wall would doubtless in a short time have been able to effect an escape.

At Springfield, Maine, on the 22d ult., by Rev. A. Bryant, Atwood W. Allen to Maria M. third daughter of Mr. T. Truesdell, of St. Andrews.

At Chelsea, Mass., on the 31st ult., aged 72 years and three months, Jane, wife of Joel Patrick and daughter of the late David Stinson, of St. Andrews. She was a true wife, a devoted mother, and a generous friend. Beloved as she was, the influence of her self-sacrificing spirit will never be lost from the wide circle which called her friend.

Ship News.

PORT OF ST. ANDREWS	
ARRIVED.	
Oct. 17	Dolphine, Fuller, Eastport, flour, &c. J. R. Bradford.
20	Mary Ellen, Ross, Portland, car wheels, &c.
24	Black Warrior, Stevens, Eastport, fish.
27	Charlie Ross, Ross, Nails, &c.
"	Robert Ross, Clark, Portland, car wheels, N. B. & C. R. R.
30	Sarah, Tinker, Portland, ballast.
31	Daisy, Waddell, Portland, ballast.
"	Julia, Cough, Maloney, Grand Manan, fish.
"	Harold, Hansen, Boston, canvas.
"	Matilda, Stinson, St. Stephen, gen. cargo.
Nov. 3	Linda, Simpson, Boston, gen. cargo.
CLEARED.	
Oct. 22	Harrie, McQuoid, Boston, 4,000 lbs. turnips, potatoes, beets, carrots, &c.
26	Charlie Ross, Ross, Eastport, ballast.
27	Esther, Maloney, Boston, 3,400 bushels turnips, J. Greenleaf.
"	Sarah Glass, Glass, Boston, 4,000 bush. turnips, 12 bls. potatoes, C. E. Mowatt.
30	Black Warrior, Stevens, Rockland, 2,300 bush. turnips, T. McCulloch.
Nov. 3	Sarah Beach, Glass, St. John, 1,700 bush. turnips, G. E. Lawrence.
"	Linda, Simpson, Calais, sundries.
"	Civilian, Gupitt, St. John, turnips, &c.
5	Daisy, Waddell, Eastport, wood.
"	Odessa, Stuckney, St. John, 70 M lumber, Robinson & Glenn.

A passenger train Railroad, near Farm the track and turn wind; coals from through the cars, out before any day persons were badly.

The clothing store Ledger Building, closed on Sunday night \$16,500 in small silver coin.

Circuit.

The Circuit Court of will sit at St. Andrews, ember, instant, at two. At which time and other persons required are publicly notified to.

St. Andrews, Nov.

TO THE

In justice to myself, friends, and to the public, I should expose by John Best to ruin a complaint against the Building at Beaver Lake, the common law of days, and a Bill was the Grand Jury at which was justly indicted as there was no conviction of such therefore restored to innocent men. I declare that I desire to inquire my duty as I have been that and his unpunished heretofore borne a to keep it. I have who will bear testimony statement which published in my being guilty of a to contradict the fact.

St. Andrews, Oct.

BLAKE

DE

Parlor, Office,

LEAD PIPE, P

ALSO

TIN SHEET IR

Calais.

\$20 M

The New Steel Machine all on price \$30. I deliver the U. S. or Canada Prices. Send for a splendid catalogue for every town. Exc. FREE. BICKFORD KE

Execut

ALL Persons having the estate of St. Andrews, sent the same day from the date here to the said estate, immediate payment.

St. Andrews, Oct.

SHE

To be sold at Public House at St. Andrews, on Tuesday next, between 10 and five o'clock.

ALL the right, and demand JOIL

which he had on the year of our Lord and seventy four, and of Judgment of son of John S. A. McGuffin, in the for the County of Dublin, piece of the Parish of C. granted to the day of January thousand eight hundred and eight de and situate in the County of C. to wit:

Beginning at a single of and Seventy-four C. in C. Creek, ne. of the year on fifty-nine, east of thence south to another spruce tree, a maple tree, and fifty links to the One hundred and as a L. at number in C. Creek, together improvements there pertaining. The same having an Execution of the Supreme Court at the suit of J. Levy Three hundred and \$248 on the 25th day of Dec. fees and all other said writ.

Sherriff's Office, St. Andrews, Oct.