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Colonial Farmer.

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Editorial.

The Season.

The winter, so far, is both cold and stormy. Large quantities of snow have fallen, followed by strong winds, many times equal to gales, blocking up our roads, and making travelling difficult and tedious. As a consequence, business of all kinds is nearly at a stand-still, and is likely to be so for some time to come. Lumbering parties have almost been snowed under, and the work of getting out logs and square timber greatly impeded. It only needs another storm or two, to drive them out of the woods altogether. Fortunately the days are lengthening out, and the sun will soon have an influence that will affect the difficulties that surround us, and better and more lively times will soon occur. Ice and snow bound as we are, our lot is infinitely better than that of many other countries. We have neither the famine, or the pestilence, nor wars nor tumults. We live in peace. The coast and harbors of other countries have been strewn with wrecks, and the dead bodies of many a tempest-tosted mariner has been cast upon their shores, many a noble vessel during this terrible winter, has gone down, with all on board, and many a wail of anguish and despair has gone up towards heaven when no friendly hand has been near to give relief. Men have been frozen as they have stood at the helm, or handled the rigging, and their stiff, stark dead and frozen bodies, bore witness to their sufferings. Trying as times are, let us be thankful for what we enjoy, and be hopeful as we look out towards the future.

WORK.

A lazy, indolent, loafing life is about the most wretched any man can live, still it would not appear to be so, when a person observes the corner loafers and loungers that infest Towns and Cities of all sizes. These kind of people are little better than dogs. They are in everybody's way, and a pest and nuisance to society. A good book which few persons read as much as they should, and some do not read at all, says—that if a man will not work, neither shall he eat; and when Paul wrote these words, it was quite clear that with all his charity and goodness, he would not have objected to see these idlers starve to death, believing it would be a happy riddance for any people. Loafers are a drag on society, and interfere with its prosperity. National prosperity is dependent upon the industry of the people, and it is morally impossible for any nation to become great, unless distinguished for industry. It is this principle that exalts the Northern and Western nations above those of the South and East. Palastine—the land of milk and honey, was not more favored as regards the fertility of its soil than many parts of our Western country, but its hills and valleys once swarmed with an industrous people, and it rejoiced and blossomed as the rose. Now the tribes that inhabit it are too indolent to labor, and the land is comparatively destitute. Such a land and such a climate peopled by men such as our Province could furnish, would soon be made to abound in rich harvest.

Work is the common lot of all men, and that man is much to be pitied who, forgetful of his duty as an intelligent being, endeavors to reverse the decrees of his Creator. "By the sweat of thy face," are we to earn our bread, and we should not be ashamed to do it. No matter in what position a man is placed, whether he be a merchant or farmer, a mechanic or laborer, let him be true to himself and his highest interests—useful to his fellow men, and strive by every method to make the world better for his having lived in it.

Let no man despise the farmer because of his hard toil, and rough attire. He is engaged in the best, the noblest of all work. He is strong to provide for the wants of the world. Men may gain wealth:—count up their gold and silver, but this cannot of itself feed them. The hand that holds the plough, that scatters the seed, is the one that provides for the true wants of the people, and causes gladness and happiness to rest alike upon the mansion and the cottage.

Young men, make a just estimate of your ability to do something good and grand for your country. Bravely take up the battle of life, and do and dare for the right. Put your shoulder to the wheel. Work with will and with a determination to succeed in whatever calling you may be. If a farmer, plant your standard high. Aim to have the best, the most well regulated farm in your neighbourhood. Don't lose time, move forward now while you are in the bloom of youth, and possess the strength of early manhood. Now is the time to prepare for the harvest; and if you will be diligent, if you but work with a will, you will find in advanced life, when your sun has passed the meridian, and is descending towards the western horizon, the fruits, the blessings, of a well spent life.

MULES.

Some years ago the United States Government made an effort to encourage the introduction of Mules among the farming population of the United States, believing that they were more hardy than the horses, less liable to accident, and able to perform quite as much work, and could be kept at less expense. The first cost of the mule to us was much less than the horse. At the outstart farmers rather got their backs up. They did not like those long-eared half donkey looking things, and were not disposed to make the experiment. A few well-to do farmers, however, thought they would make the experiment, and the result was, that in a short time the much despised mule, rose in public estimation, and now he has become somewhat of a favorite as a working animal, having fulfilled all that was claimed for him. Our farmers are just the least bit inclined to fast horses, but might not the mule be worth a trial here as well as in the United States? If, as we believe, they are now considered among the farmers over the line, as the most useful of animals, and easily kept, would it not be a step in the right direction, to make the experiment? A very little enquiry among those who use them, would settle the question.

Correspondence.

For the Colonial Farmer.

RURAL TOPICS.

BERKSHIRE SWINE.

Twenty-five years ago I had as good Berkshire swine as exist to-day, and sold pigs at $5 each; but now this same breed are sold at enormous prices. I have a list of Berkshire swine before me of 203 pigs which sold pigs at $5 each; but now this same breed are sold at enormous prices. I have a list of Berkshire swine before me of 203 pigs which were sold by a Pennsylvania breeder for $10,702, or an average of $200 each! Some of the finest imported animals brought $1,000 each! The list comprised the breeder's sales during the year 1876. Why should Berkshire hogs sell at these prices? Simply because there are fools enough existing to buy pigs at, not the above prices, but at $25, $30 and $50 each, and if a breeder pays $1,000 for a very fine sow, he gets his money back, and an immense profit in a few years. The Berkshires of the present day are not any better than those in this country 30 years ago, which went a begging for purchasers. Farmers tried them, and discarded them, saying: "They don't have side pork enough, being nearly all hams and shoulders," and that is the case with this breed now, although they are called "improved," but in reality they are not improved at all. This same humbuggery is being extended more or less, to the sales of blooded cattle, sheep, &c., and the only way to get fine Berkshires at low prices is for farmers and others, in all cases, to refuse to purchase them at high prices. That is the only remedy that can be applied.

RENOVATING MEADOW LANDS.

Very often meadows, or mowing lands, require renovating and reseeding; but few farmers have manure to spare to apply to their meadow lands; and to purchase commercial fertilizers, with their uncertain results, is not advisable, unless a farmer can afford the expense, if not profitable. To renovate such lands without any manure, is sometimes feasible in a moderate degree, as the turning under of the sod enriches the soil, according to its thickness, and the density of its grass roots; and the reseeding is always productive of a fair crop of grass for a few years. But a better way is to sow the land to buckwheat early in May, turn it under as soon as it blossoms, and immediately sow a second crop, and turn that under; and early in September seed it down thick to a variety of grasses, without wheat or rye. Clover seed may be sown in the following March, even if the ground be covered with snow; and when the snow melts the seed will find its way into the ground, by the freezing and thawing of it for a few times. Or the land may be left till spring, then harrow it, sow all the seed at once, and brush it in, then roll it; and if seeded quite early as good a crop of grass will be obtained, as if it seeded in the fall previous. A crop of grain may be grown with the grass; but it would not be advisable to do so, unless you have applied some fertilizers, besides the two crops of buckwheat. If stable manure, or any kind of commercial fertilizer, be applied to the land, it should be spread evenly, after the land is plowed; and should be harrowed in thoroughly. If plowed in, it would get buried too deep. A brush harrow can be made in a few minutes, to cover the grass seed, by tying together hemlock, spruce, or other boughs of trees; or small branches may be attached to the under side of an ordinary harrow, between the teeth, so that the seed will not be covered too deep. Some farmers do not cover grass seed at all; and if a heavy rain comes soon all will be right; but it is risky to do so. A heavy roller will generally cover the seed deep enough; but a brush harrow should be used first; and then apply the roller, and the work will be done. Nothing tends so much to success in farming, as to do your work well; and preparing of lands for crops is the most important work on a farm.

WHEN TO PRUNE FRUIT TREES.

Long experience shows that when it is desirable to produce a free growth of shoots and leaves, pruning should be done when the trees are dormant as in the winter season, or early in the spring, before the sap begins to flow. When fruit trees appear to grow too rapidly, and to produce too much wood, they may be pruned moderately in the summer season, cutting away a portion of the wood by degrees; but a shoot growing in an improper place, may be cut away at any time. An experiment being made by pruning apple trees every month in the year, for two seasons, showed that the wounds of the branches cut in February and March, at the end of five years, when all had healed over, were found to be the least decayed under the heated surface. When trees are pruned in winter, or I may say at any time, it is best to cover the wounds with a hot mixture of tar, and pulverized brick dust, or fine sand. A solution of shellac in alcohol, as thick as can be easily applied with a brush, is considered by many as the best preparation that can be applied. During the mild days of winter, orchards may be pruned—while little else can be done; but good judgment should be exercised in regard to selecting the branches to be cut away. It is ruinous to an orchard to cut and slash away one-third to one half the limbs. All that should be done is to give the trees a good shape, and only cut away such limbs as are plainly in excess of the natural requirements of the tree, to conform to the extent of its roots. If we take too much of the top of a tree, it is like taking blood from a man—the more that is taken, the less vitality remains in him, therefore in pruning, only the few unsightly branches, and those improperly situated, should be cut away.

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZERS.

Large quantities of commercial fertilizers are sold because many farmers and gardeners, in some of the States, are unable to obtain enough stable manure for their crops. In seasons of frequent rains these fertilizers produce, in many instances, good results, but they are not as reliable as barn-yard dung. All that we should seek for in commercial fertilizers are potash, nitrogen (ammonia), phosphoric acid, sulphuric acid and lime, the first three constituents being the most important, and in buying commercial fertilizers we should select those that contain potash as the best; second, nitrogen; third, phosphoric acid. The following is the list of some of the best fertilizers and the price per 100 pounds in New York:—

Sulphate of ammonia,	25 per ct. am.	$5 50
Nitrogen of soda,	18 " " "	4 50
German potash salts,	16 " " pot.	1 25
Sulphate of potash,	40 " " "	4 00
Nitrate of do.,	44 " " "	9 50
Muriate of do.,	50 " " "	3 50

The four last articles also contain a certain quantity of ammonia, which governs the prices. Bone flour and superphospate of lime are worth $2 per 100 lbs; or if dissolved with sulphuric acid (ammonia principally) the prices are a trifle higher. I consider muriate of potash is good for any crop. The way of applying all the above, except the bone flour and superphosphate, is to mix them with four times their bulk of oil, and apply a small quantity in the hills of corn, potatoes, &, with the seed, spreading in somewhat. Some of these fertilizers may require dissolving in water, and the soil saturated in layers from a water pot. My advice is to farmers to obtain some of these fertilizers to experiment with, if it be only a few pounds from your village druggist, if he can supply them. He will ask about double the above prices, but for a small experiment the difference will not be much.

MEAT BALLS.—Chop fresh meat very fine—beef, veal, mutton or chicken; beef is the nicest—roll dried bread very fine, add salt, pepper, cloves and mace, and one egg; mix this with the meat. Pound all well together and make into balls a little larger than a hen's egg. Roll in bread crumbs and egg, and fry in hot lard. Dish with a nice gravy flavored with walnut ketchup. Any old meat prepared in this way is very good.

Miscellaneous.

Orchard Manuring.

There would seem to be no good reason why, if we wish to raise good orchard fruits, we should not manure our trees. People often look on trees growing on rocky hill-sides, and argue therefrom that trees can grow without manure. They know that potatoes and other vegetables must have manure or they will not thrive, but they regard trees as a different order of vegetation, something that can thrive and flourish where nothing else would. But, in the case of trees on rocky hill-sides, the land is often anything but poor. The rocks themselves frequently contain valuable mineral matter, which, as the rock decays, is presented in a form that plants can feed upon. Then whatever vegetation grows among the rocks remains there to decay, and even leaves and other foreign substances that blow into the crivices formed by the rocks make a valuable plant food in which the tree thrives. Indeed, trees in apparently poor, rocky places are really much better off than many trees in orchards, where they are in what appears good land.

In more level land trees must be manured. In many cases it is as necessary to the best success that trees have an occasional manuring as it is that any other crop should have manure. There have been many discussions as to whether manure for fruit trees should be applied broadcast or ploughed in. For orchard trees there is no rule; it depends on circumstance. If the trees are on ground where vegetables are grown, the manure is, of course, turned in for the benefit of those crops, and the roots of the fruit trees fight with those of the vegetables for some of it, and get it, too. But there are many orchards where no crops are grown but the trees, and then it is an excellent practice to apply manure as a top dressing at least every other year, if you would have them bear an abundance of good fruit.—*Boston Journal of Chemistry.*

Too Many Small Horses.

Perhaps it would be better expressed and more to the point to say heavier horses are the need of the times. Trotting horses, pacers, runners, or any other gait, are all right in their places, but the majority of horses are for labor and not for show; they are on duty as producers, and are valuable in proportion as they can do work; they are the motive power on the farm, the highway, and in the large towns and cities—as indispensable as bread and butter. Prices of large horses of all breeds, that are compactly built and constructed on good rules of proportion, rule high and pay well the handling. "Plugs" and scrub, stock are cheap, and will be even less in price than heretofore, as all who employ teams are fast learning that a heavy, strong team costs no more to keep than a light, poor one, but even less, and can do much more service. A farmer should have, anyway, one heavy, strong team. He may own a small, light span, but for plowing and general use, the heavy team, that seldom is urged beyond a fast walk on the road, and will take a fourteen or sixteen inch plow and go all day without evidence of weariness, is the one to depend on. The market is full of semi-fast stock; they do not command a staple price, but depend wholly on circumstances for the margin of profit, if any, that they yield. Pure-blooded Norman or Clydesdales may not be the best in their exclusive nature, but by crossing them with good native western stock there can be produced a superior grade of horses that will command good prices and be in demand at all times.

Farmers should not be indifferent to this fact, and when they propose to raise a colt, select from that stock which will insure a heavy horse; it may cost more in the beginning but will net larger returns in the end. Good horses, good cattle, good sheep and hogs, are a good deal the cheapest.—*Factory and Farm.*

Regularity in Feeding.

It is very comfortable in cold weather to sit by a warm fire. Many who have the care of stock dislike to leave warm quarters, and cling to the fire place, letting half hour after half hour pass by, while the hungry stock are shivering and hungering for food and water, an animal loses flesh rapidly. Brutes are the best time keepers in the world. They know the very minute their food should be supplied, and are disappointed if it does not come. The good stock breeder, therefore, should see that regularity and promptness prevail in the cares and management of stock. Their various wants should have attention at the very minute daily. If hired men will not be prompt in taking care of stock, if they don't sympathize with brutes in winter, they ought to be discharged and more humane men employed in their places.—*Massachusetts Ploughman.*

KIND TREATMENT PAYS.—X. A. Willard, in his new "Butter Book," says: "It is really astonishing what a large difference in the yield of milk makes by attending properly to a number of small things in the management of stock—and things which to many would seem quite too insignificant to be worth observing. The dairyman should have a genuine, a hearty love for the animals under his control, providing wholesome, nutritious food, pure water and pure air—everything of this kind in abundance; keeping the animals properly sheltered from storms; feeding always with great regularity; paying the most marked attention to the manner and time of milking, withal, preserving uniform kindness and gentleness of treatment throughout every operation—a gentleness extended even to the tones of the voice. Generally speaking, the cow will do her best that is loved the best and petted the most in her charge. If you wish a cow to do her best, you must cultivate her acquaintance intimately, and be unspairing in little acts of kindness."

Farewell to the Potatoe Bug.

The Colorado potato beetle, or potato bug, as we generally call it, has at last found its match in the shape of a mite parasite. Prof. Riley, at a meeting of the St. Louis Academy of Science, exhibited a potato bug which was so completely covered with a mite parasite that the point of a needle could not be placed on any part of the beetle's body without touching one of the parasites. He estimated the number of the mites at 800. The bug had been attacked by its enemies and killed. The potato bug seems to have a number of natural enemies, such as the toad, the crow, the rosebreasted grossbeak and domestic fowls. There are no less than twenty-three insect enemies that attack and kill it. The bug has also been migrating eastward across the continent for several years, until it has now reached the Atlantic ocean. We hope it may find a watery grave, and let the waves sing its requiem—*Rocky Mountain News*

Too Many Varieties.

Ninety persons out of every hundred who set out fruit trees for home use or market, indulge in too many varieties. This one fatal error has ruined more fruit growers than all other causes combined. Nurserymen propagate their hundreds and thousands of sorts, simply because a majority of their customers do not know what they want, and will not take the advice of men who do. The prevailing passion with the novice in fruit culture is to try as many varieties as possible, and we have known men who had "just begun," and with very little capital, to go into a nursery and undertake to make a short purse go a long way by purchasing a tree or two of each variety, instead of acting the wiser part, selecting from a number of trees a few of the very best.

The man who cultivates fruit for profit had better confine himself to only a few, and these known to be adapted to his soil and climate. Our pomological, horticultural and agricultural societies are perhaps somewhat at fault in this matter, for they in variably offer the largest premium for the greatest number of varieties, and it is not strange that there should be some strife for the highest prize. The man who only exhibits a dozen varieties of pears by the side of another who spreads a collection of two or three hundred, appears to be rather "small potatoes," although he may be in reality the more extensive cultivator of the two, and deserves more credit for possessing wisdom enough to avoid such indiscriminate planting of second rate sorts.—*Moore's Rural*

What is the most Profitable?

Inquiries are frequently made as to which is the most profitable branch of farming. It depends on several contingencies. In some places corn-growing and pork-raising, in others wool-growing, and in others dairying are steadily profitable one year with another. Where circumstances, such as rich corn land, healthful dry pastures, or abundant grass, with pure water, favor one or the other of these specialties, it is best to fall into them and keep to them. But for general purposes special crops or employments are rarely suitable, and mixed farming is the best reliance. This implies the culture of roots, grass, and grain, chiefly for feeding to the stock, and only partly for sale. The aim must be to distribute the produce so that a good portion comes back as manure, and the soil is kept improving constantly in fertility and freedom from weeds. Then immediate advantage can be taken of any exceptional condition of things, and if grain does not pay, meat and wool may be made, and if grain happens to be high, it may be sold, and some other cheaper feed be bought to replace it. A sharp farmer who has some capital, and can turn about at a short notice, will never be caught in a poor year, without at least average profit from his business.—*American Agriculturist.*

The Danger of Eating Too Much.

"Nobody ever repented of eating too little," was the sage remark of an old gentleman on the verge of ninety, next to whom the writer had the pleasure of sitting at dinner the other night. The host was pressing him to take more, urging him in the usual phrase, "Why, you have eaten scarcely anything!" Now, it is to be assumed that the old gentleman's words indicated one of the by-ways to good health, along which he had travelled through his long life, and to which he owed his present remarkably hearty condition; so it was suggested to him interrogatively that he had always been a small feeder. "Yes," he answered, "ever since I was two or three and twenty; up to that time I was a weakly young fellow enough, and I used to make the great mistake of trying to eat and drink as much as I could, in the hope of becoming strong. All my friends and the doctors backed me in my error; but, fortunately, I found it out in time, and 'knocked off'—as your modern slang has it. I gave up the idea of making myself strong, and merely strove to make myself well, and was contented with eating just as much as I could digest and no more. Of course, it took a little time and experience to discover the precise limits; I could not adopt the golden rule of always leaving off with an appetite, because I never began with one; but, by persistently erring on the right side, I got hold of one of the great secrets of life—the secret of knowing when one has enough—and, after a year or two, I found myself so much better that I used to find myself ready to eat a meal at any time, and by degrees actually acquired an appetite. Naturally temptation grew stronger, but I was firm. I did not behave ungratefully to my stomach and impose upon its increased powers by overloading it." Here, indeed, is the secret of a great deal that is amiss with many of us. We are in the habit of eating too much, more than our digestive organs can tackle, and that which is not assimilated more or less poisons. The system becomes overcharged, and gives any latent tendency to disease within us every facility for developing itself.—*Tinsley's Magazine*

FROZEN BITS FOR HORSES' MOUTH.—Let any one who has the care of a horse these cold, frosty mornings deliberately grasp his hand a piece of iron; indeed, let him touch it to the tip of his tongue, and then let him thrust the bit into the mouth of his horse, if he has the heart to do it. The horse is an animal of nervous organization. His mouth is formed of delicate glands and tissues. The temperature of the blood is the same as in the human being, and as in man, the mouth is the warmest part of the body. Imagine, we repeat, the irritation that would be caused the human, and consider that, if not to the same degree, still the suffering to the animal is very great. And it is not a momentary pain. Food is eaten with difficulty, and the irritation repeated day after day causes loss of appetite and loss of strength. Many a horse has become worthless from no other cause than this. Before India rubber bits were to be had, I, myself, used a bit covered with leather, and on no account would have dispensed with it in freezing weather.—*Boston Herald*

HOW TO MANAGE AND FEED WORKING OXEN.—In managing working oxen let the law of kindness be strictly obeyed. Never use the whip except from necessity. When about to strike the awkward young steer or fall-grown ox, ask yourself, "Will he know what I am striking him for?" Let each ox have a name, and be sure he knows it. Never speak a word to an ox without meaning; have a particular word to start the team with, that all may pull together. Never hurry the team while riding behind them, lest they learn to pull apart. Oxen should be shod with a broad shoe to travel on hard roads; the shoe on the fore foot should be set back at the heel nearly half an inch further than the hoof bears upon it. Oxen are frequently lamed by short shoes. The best feed for oxen at hard work is to give to each two quarts of meal, wet, mixed with good cut-hay, three times a day, and as much hay as he will eat.

EXPORTATION OF DONKEYS FROM ENGLAND.—A second exportation of donkeys was recently made from a port of England to Brieux, France. There were 45 animals in this shipment, and the prices paid for them were from $5 to $7 50 per head. Considering the value of these useful beasts of burden, the many purposes to which they might be put here, and the very low price at which they may be purchased, it seems probable that their importation to this country would be profitable.—*Exchange.*

WOOD ASHES FOR FOWLS INJURIOUS.—A correspondent of *The Massachusetts Ploughman* says: "It is often specified in this recommendation that coal ashes should be applied, but I have lately seen in some of the papers the advice given to supply wood ashes for the poultry to shuffle in. I would caution all against following this advice. Wood ashes are so rich in potash that their effect on fowls' feet is exceedingly injurious. I have seen poultry with badly scaled and blisters on their feet from this cause, and in one or two cases have seen birds badly lamed. Coal ashes are excellent, but wood ashes should never be furnished for the purpose above named."

TURKEY OR CHICKEN STUFFING.—Grate three cups of bread, then rub them through a colander; pick out every bit of crust; put a drop of water to the crumbs; add a scant cupful of finely chopped suet; pick out all the stringy parts. Add chopped parsley, if agreeable to all, and, if liked highly seasoned, a little sweet marjoram and summer-savory, but not unless it is known to be pleasant to all who are to partake, for these herbs are injurious to many. Grate the rind of one lemon and a very little nutmeg; add pepper and salt. Bind all together with one or two beaten eggs.

MUNICIPALITY OF YORK.

WEDNESDAY.

(Continued.)

Mr. Goodspeed—The reason why the Valuators went over the County again was because they had not been able to do everything right the year before. In Stanley he had gone back to the Williamson Settlement, the Lime Kiln, and other small settlements. He did not go to Bloomfield and some other places, and was advised not to do so.

Mr. M'Minnamin said he could bring proof that the Assessors had not done their duty.

Mr. Doherty submitted a Report from the Assessment Committee which was adopted.

Mr. Murphy said that while the matter of assessment was before them, he would move the following Resolution:—

Whereas there are certain amounts due by the several Parishes in York County, amounting to the sum of $9,422.33; therefore

Resolved:—That in Parishes where the indebtedness is less than $1000, a certain sum be added to the Assessment Warrants sufficient to pay the debt in four years, and in Parishes where the debt is more than $1000 in six years.

It was ascertained that no assessment could be made for this purpose without legislation, and Mr. Murphy withdrew the Resolution.

The following Resolution was moved by Mr. Henry, and passed:—

Whereas the different Parishes in this Municipality are some of them—largely indebted to the County; and in order to remedy that evil; therefore

Resolved:—That a Petition be presented from this Municipality to the Legislature praying that it may be passed to enable them to assess for the several amounts due.

On motion of Mr. Murphy, a Bye Law relative to the running at large of Cattle on Islands in Douglas was ordered.

Mr. Coburn moved the following Resolution which was adopted:—

Resolved:—That the Council present a Petition to the Legislative Assembly at its next session, praying that this body be granted the right of fixing the salaries of all County Officers who receive their pay from the County funds.

Mr Kilburn moved the following Resolution, which was sustained:—

Resolved:—That the Board allow Mr. S. K. Nason the sum of —— dollars for his service as Chairman of the Committee on County buildings for the past three years.

Mr Kilburn said he had been one of the Committee, but the whole duties devolved on Mr. Nason, who spent much time in attending to them. The Board are the proper judges as to what should be allowed him, if disposed to allow him anything.

Mr. Coburn said that before passing a Resolution of this kind the Board should repeal the Resolution passed two years ago to the effect that Chairmen of Committees should not be paid.

Mr. Murray thought that Mr. Nason, if he had any claims, should have brought them before the Committee on Accounts.

Mr. A. A. Nason said the Committee on Accounts had nothing to do with it.

Mr. Henry asked if Mr. Nason had charge of the work on the Court House, and if he took the work done off the hands of those he had employed. If so, he did not think he should be paid for his services. He would move as an amendment that a Committee be appointed to examine the work done under Mr. Nason's supervision.

The amendment was carried, and Messrs. Henry, Doherty, Coburn, Fox, and Oliver appointed Committee.

Mr. Goodspeed would prefer that the whole Board examine the Room.

Mr. Henry had no objection to that, and the Board was appointed a Committee instead of the above named persons.

Mr Coburn presented a petition from owners of land to prevent cattle running at large on islands below Curry's Mountain, which was received.

Mr. Cotter moved the following Resolution:—

Resolved:—That a Committee be appointed for the different Parishes, to ascertain the actual indebtedness of Parishes, and report thereon at the next January session.

A short discussion arose on this Resolution, when the Resolution passed.

Mr. S. K. Nason presented a Petition from Michael Colter, praying to be reimbursed, $10 being over assessment on property in New Maryland.

Ordered to lie over until the July meeting.

The following Resolution was moved by Mr. Estabrooks, and passed:—

Resolved:—That each Parish pay their own assessors for extra work of assessing under the direction of the Board of Valuators in the year 1876.

Mr. Estabrooks thought each Parish should add the amount to the warrant of assessment.

Mr. Murphy wished to know if it was to become a Parish charge, or if it should be provided for out of the general fund.

Mr. Goodspeed thought the proper way would be for every Parish to pay its own proportion.

Mr A. A. Nason agreed with the last speaker, if each Parish was in a position to name the amount. This was an arrangement to pay for a special service, and the next year, the expenses would be met in the ordinary way.

Mr. Colter moved the following Resolution, which was agreed to:—

Whereas the amount granted by the Provincial Legislature to the Municipality of York for Bye Roads, has been reduced for the past two years to the amount of one thousand dollars each year; and whereas the amount of four thousand dollars granted before the reduction, was greatly inadequate to the wants of this important interest; and whereas it is the opinion of this Board that this is the proper and the only responsible channel for expenditures of all monies on Bye Roads; therefore

Resolved:—That the Board do petition the Legislature at the next session, praying that they may grant for the present year the sum of five thousand dollars for Bye Roads, to be expended by this Board at their July session.

Mr Henry offered the following Resolution, to get at the opinion of the Board. He would not press its adoption at present:

Whereas the City of Fredericton is largely indebted to the County or Municipality of York; and whereas the said City of Fredericton only pays the one quarter for the Administration of Justice, and the greater part of the expenses incurred, are owing to the commitments from the City, &c; therefore

Resolved:—That a petition be presented from this Municipality to the local Legislature, praying that a bill may pass separating the said City of Fredericton from the County, in order that each may transact or conduct its own public affairs, independently of the other.

Mr. Goodspeed thought the utmost care should be taken when considering a Resolution of this kind. In the first place we must remember that all the public buildings are in the City, and the question comes up—What are we going to do with them, in case of a separation? We can sell but only at a great sacrifice, and then would have to erect similar buildings and provide for holding the Courts. His present opinion was that the matter had better lay over for the present.

Mr Estabrooks had proposed introducing a Resolution, and although not exactly like the one now before the Board, yet having in view the principal point, and that is the Administration of Justice. His idea was that the Legislature should be petitioned to readjust the Administration of Justice Account, so as to place the County in a more favorable position than it now is. The matter should be discussed, as we are now placed at every disadvantage in regard to that Account. There are some facts we should understand, and need talking up. He had learned that the basis of that Account was according to population. Now, he thought the valuation of real estate should be taken into consideration. [Here Mr. E. referred to statistics to show that the value of City and County to show that the City did not pay what it should of this Account.] It would also be seen that twenty-eight tavern licenses were granted in the City and only fourteen in the County, and he argued from this standpoint, that as a consequence more crime was committed in the City. We will find that the largest portion of items in the Account were incurred in the City, and it was only reasonable that they should be paid by the City. When the County talks to the City about arrearages, they at once reply, the County receives rent for the Court House which it does not account for. Instead of paying what is due, the City endeavors to get rid of the debt by bringing in offsets of this kind. This sort of thing was altogether unfair. The County could very well make up charges, but did not do so. We have been fleeced long enough, and should not submit to such treatment any further. The Resolution did not meet the case, but he thought that a readjustment should be insisted upon.

Mr. Colter moved that a Committee be appointed to wait upon the Gaoler, to ascertain how the matter stood as between the City and County, and to learn what commitment was made on account of each.

Mr. Goodspeed said the Committee on Administration of Justice Account would meet to-night, when he hoped to be able to arrive at some conclusion, and if so, would bring the matter up to morrow.

Mr. A. A. Nason thought that the difference might be adjusted, and everything satisfactorily arranged after the Committee met.

Mr. Fox said that if the County was divided there would necessarily be two Counties, and a large amount of extra expense would have to be borne by York. Everything inseparable from the establishment of a new County in the way of expense for buildings, courts, and many other things, would be involved, which would be a serious undertaking.

Mr S. K. Nason thought that what was really wanted after all was to arrange matters so that the City should be obliged to pay whatever expenses they incurred for the administration of Justice, and the County to do the same.

The Resolution was then laid over.

Mr. Coburn moved the following Resolution:

Resolved:—That this Council petition the Legislative Assembly at its next session, to so amend the law relating to the collection of taxes, that the Collectors receive Commission on the amount of warrant, to be paid when collected; and all persons whose taxes have to be placed in a Justice's hands for collection, be charged five per cent. on the amount of their taxes, to cover expenses of the same.

Mr. Coburn said the intention was to enable the Collector to get his amount in full, even where he was unable to collect. The five per cent was to go to the Justice.

Mr. Estabrooks—By this arrangement a Collector may go round once and demand the taxes, and after that take no more trouble. When the proper time arrives he hands the Accounts to a Justice, and when they are collected, will receive his pay, as if he had done the work. The law expects a Collector to make every effort to get the taxes himself, but this Resolution would relieve him. The Resolution would be a burden on the poor, and he preferred to leave things as they now are.