

THE BLUE BIRD.—Before our next week's paper is issued, our readers may expect to see again amongst them this little winged harbinger of spring. Of all the feathered migratory tribe, the Blue Bird is one of the first to brave the lingering frost and snow of our inclement winter.—We are informed by a friend, an ardent naturalist, that, from close observation for many years, he has noted the fact of its return to these regions occurring, uniformly, between the 10th and 15th days of this month. The subject of the migration of birds has for some time been a study with the naturalists of Europe; though we are not aware of the same attention having been paid to it in this country. It forms an interesting feature in natural history, and one easily attained to a certain extent. These few remarks may perhaps be the means of gaining for it some notice.—*British American, Woodstock, March 11th.*

The Agriculturist.

TORONTO, APRIL, 1853.

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE.

It is with much satisfaction we observe that the Hon. MALCOLM CAMERON has already put into operation the new and important Department over which he presides. To mature, however, the numerous arrangements belonging to a Governmental Department of Agriculture and Statistics, will necessarily require much patient study and investigation, and cannot therefore be completed in a day, or a year. The value and permanency of the Agricultural Bureau, will, in our estimation, greatly depend on a cautious manner of arranging its details of operation; slow but sure development, rather than mere speed, will be the proper measure of its success. If conducted—as we hope and believe it will—in a cautious and persevering spirit, in connection with our Agricultural Boards and Societies, it cannot fail of becoming powerfully instrumental in promoting the most important interests of the country.

The Minister of Agriculture, we observe, has appointed Mr. Turner, formerly connected with the *Montreal Courier*, to visit the Ottawa District, with a view to collect information relative to that interesting and important section of the country. This is a good beginning. We have not the pleasure of Mr. Turner's acquaintance, but from all sources, we learn, that he is eminently qualified for the task he has undertaken, and that the appointment will give entire satisfaction.

The flax question—as we intimated in a previous number—has engaged the attention of the

Minister. Mr. A. Kirkwood, is now on his way to the United Kingdom, for the express purpose of ascertaining on the spot, the best modes of cultivating, preparing, and manufacturing flax, as practised in Ireland and other countries. Mr. Kirkwood is a young man possessing a general knowledge of the theory and practice of Agriculture, and has had some previous acquaintance with the growth and manufacture of flax in Ireland; and from his correct, observant habits of mind, and general intelligence, we shall look forward with no ordinary expectation to his report, on his return. It is now quite time that the Flax question, which has of late engaged much attention in Canada, should be put to a sufficient practical test, to satisfy the enquiries and reasonable expectations of the country. The right means are now being taken for the solution of this important question.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE OF LOWER CANADA.

It is gratifying to see so early the fruits of the new Agricultural Statute, passed so recently as November last. A Board has been organized for the Lower Province: and as both sections are now placed on a similar footing under the present law, it is much to be desired that a spirit of mutual co-operation should henceforth be more generally cultivated between the two great sections of the United Province, for the promotion of Agriculture, than has hitherto obtained. That such will be the result, we will not permit ourselves to doubt.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE,

Quebec, February 18, 1853.

His Excellency the Governor General in Council has been pleased to appoint the undermentioned Gentlemen to compose the Lower Canada Board of Agriculture under the Act 16 Vict. Chap. 11, viz.:

Thomas E. Campbell, of St. Hilaire de Rouville;
Alfred Pinsonneault, of Montreal;
John Dods, of Montreal;
Joseph C. Tache, of Kamouraska;
Pierre B. Dumoulin, of Three Rivers;
Robert N. Watts, of Drummondville;
James Thomson, of Shefford; and
Edward J. De Blois, of Quebec, Esquires.

FRONTENAC AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—THE RIGHT SPIRIT.

We observe that at the annual meeting of the above society recently held in Kingston, the proposition for presenting some tangible token of gratitude and esteem to their late respected and indefatigable President, ANGUS CAMERON, ESQ., met with a most cordial reception. Another illustration is thus afforded of the benefits of Agricultural Societies, apart from their ma-