

to attend to all, many omissions may have taken place in our paper. Many things should have been corrected, many things should have been brought before your notice; your paper might have been improved, seed might be had at lower rates, the paper may be increased in size, embellishments and utility, and reduced in price.

#### A Visit to Mr. Wilmot's Fishery Establishment at Newcastle, Ont., for the Propagation of Salmon.

We first went down to what is technically called the "Trap House," where we saw about 300 fine salmon that had worked their way during the migratory season to various creeks for spawning, the males accompanying them on their travels. Through this Trap House a stream of water is constantly running from the creek. As often as required, the man in attendance, by using a bag net, would secure a female fish, which was immediately placed in a box about two feet long and open at the ends; a plug secures the tail, which prevents the prisoner from floundering. When perfectly quiet, the man then manipulates. In a few minutes, from a pint to a quart of fine ova is produced, each ova about the size of a small pea. The ova is of a light pink or flesh color. After this process, the fish is released and put back into its native element. Others are served in the same way until about a gallon of ova is secured. Three or four males are then alternately secured and placed over the female ova which is in the box containing but a small quantity of water. The fluid from the male, white as milk, is then ejected which soon discolors the water and the process is ended. The ova is then placed in boxes 18 x 10 inches, half inch deep, perforated zinc, and carefully laid in long troughs through which a constant stream of water flows, and there they remain until the young fry make their appearance, which generally ensues early in April. Provision is made for their escape into an artificial pond where they soon flourish and increase in size. Being well fed and constantly watched, they thrive and grow fast—from one to two pounds a year. The product of one gallon of ova is enormous, so that by care and attention, our lake will soon be stocked with an abundant supply. In Europe it has been tried with wonderful success, producing a large income from the first outlay.—J.R.B., IN COBBOURG SENTINEL.

#### EDUCATION OF THE FARMER.

No man is so high as to be independent of the great interest of agriculture; no man is so low as not to be affected by its success, progress, or decline. Agriculture supplies us with food, and to a great degree clothes us; without it we could not have manufacturers, and we should not have commerce. These all stand together like pillars in a temple, the largest in the centre, and that largest is agriculture.

Agriculture is not only indispensable to national prosperity, but it is eminently conducive to the welfare of those who are engaged in it; it gives health to the body, energy to the mind, is favorable to virtuous and temperate habits, and to knowledge and purity of moral character; which are the pillars of good government, and the true support of national independence. How necessary, then, does it become farmers as a class to strive earnestly for higher attainments in regard to farm education. Not a fraction of the attention is given to the training of farmers for the farm that the age demands.

If ever agriculture becomes a true science, it

must be by the thorough education of farmers, in the practical experiments and views of the farmers themselves. Almost every question and practice of agriculture, such as draining, drilling manuring, and so through every labor of the farm, is still in doubt and uncertainty. These things should not be.

And it becomes the business of farmers to observe and think, and read, and learn more of their calling, and thus be able to clear up doubt and error, and render more certain every process of farming.

The man who is no wiser in relation to his profession, in the waning hours of the year than he was at the commencement, is either very stupid or unpardonably negligent.

With the multitude of agricultural publications, teeming with practical and useful information, no farmer can justify himself in remaining in willful ignorance of "the art and mystery of his profession."—Ex.

#### Visit to the Agricultural Hall.

As we approached the Agricultural Hall of the Dominion, we were utterly astonished to see the large, handsome front disgraced with a series of show flags, hung in various devices from the ornamented balconies of the building. One of these flags, more conspicuous than the rest, hung out towards the road with ropes across the street. On these decorations were painted a negro girl, having two heads and four legs. We previously described the old ploughs, old bones, &c., &c., that occupied the Hall on a previous visit. At a second visit it was filled with hen-coops, and now a negro exhibition. If this is for the advancement of agriculture, we fail to see it.

The Board of Agriculture were holding their last meeting for 1869. They appear to be working harmoniously, and the main subject that engrossed their attention was the extortion attempted to be practised on them by some of the citizens of London. Mr. Glackmeyer's bill was rejected; he first demanded \$2500; secondly, he reduced it to \$1800, but the Board refused to treat with him at all. They had offered him \$1000; this he refused. The general accounts were carefully gone into and all items examined, and in these accounts two more of our citizens were deemed to be following in the track of Glackmeyer, in sending in another extortionate account. Their names are Harris & Magee, lawyers of this city. The account was cut down to half of their demand. The Board awarded to your humble servant the sum of \$50, as an acknowledgement of the good we are doing in testing of seeds, roots and plants, and giving information about them. It is a high mark of respect, coming, as it does, from the Board that has been newly elected by the country. We understand it was a unanimous vote. This is the first divergence from the time-worn beat of the old Board. We hope yet to see greater changes.

We believe they will even pardon our audacity, as you may call it, to make a suggestion or two in the form of questions. Would not a general trial of implements be of advantage some time this year? Perhaps the Board might suggest to the Legislature the propriety of having seeds sent, per post, as cheaply in Canada as they are sent in the States, or even as cheaply as newspapers. Also they might, if they saw fit, ask that the postage on agricultural papers be paid at the post offices where they are received, the same as political papers are. The Board passed a resolution that the monthly receipts and expenditures of the Association should be published; perhaps if it were carried into effect it might satisfy some of the fastidious.

Why should American agricultural papers pass through our post offices without prepayment of our postage. Our papers must be prepaid.

When the soap is nearly dissolved, add the borax and sal-soda; stir till all is melted. Pour into a large tub or a shallow pan; when nearly cold, add the ammonia slowly, mixing it well. Let it stand a day or two, then cut it into cakes or bars, and dry in a warm place. No better soap can be made to wash white clothes, calicoes, and flannels; and it is excellent for all household purposes. It costs but three cents per pound, and is made in less than half an hour. This recipe has been sold for five dollars, and will be of service to every family.

#### THE EXODUS FROM VIRGINIA.

The press of Virginia is every day attracting attention to the immense exodus of negroes from the State. The importance of this movement in its various bearings cannot be over estimated. We have long considered it certain to take place, and as furnishing the true solution of the labor question as far as this State is concerned. That the vacuum in the labor supply of Virginia thus produced will never be again supplied by hiring labor we consider as absolutely certain, and it is equally certain that this vacuum will be filled by small farmers of the North, who are already pouring into the State. The most obvious effect of this change in the labor of the State will be the rapid subdivision of large and ill-cultivated plantations into small and highly cultivated farms. Radical changes in the staples of production as well as the mode of cultivation, and, above all, a vast increase in the price of land will also necessarily follow. The difference between the State densely peopled with intelligent and enterprising whites, and vitalized by the influx of Northern and foreign capital, and the state without capital, and dependent for labor on the negro hiring, is beyond calculation. Another less obvious but equally certain result of the southward movement of negroes, will be a similar movement by a very large portion of the white Virginia population. Already the beginnings of this are discovered in our business and correspondence with land buyers and sellers. Many of our large landholders are so wedded to the negro that they will employ no other kind of labor, and as the negroes leave the State, these "old masters" will follow in their wake, and both will profit by the change. Virginia has been formed by nature for a great manufacturing, mining and agricultural State, and these movements of population point to a speedy realization of the great destiny in store for us.—LYNCH AD.

ILLUSTRIOUS DUNCES.—The brilliant Sheridan showed so little capacity as a boy that he was presented to a tutor by his mother with the complimentary accompaniment that he was an incorrigible dunce. Sir Walter Scott was all but a dunce when a boy—always much readier for a "bicker" than apt at his lessons. At the Edinburgh University, Professor Dalzell pronounced upon him the sentence, "Dunce he was and dunce he would remain." Chatterton was returned on his mother's hands, as "a fool of whom nothing could be made." Burns was a dull boy, good only at athletic exercises. Goldsmith spoke of himself as a plant that flowered late. Robert Clive was a dunce, if not a reprobate, when a youth, but always full of energy, even in badness. His family, glad to get rid of him, shipped him off to Madras, and he lived to lay the foundation of the British power in India. Napoleon and Wellington were both dull boys, not distinguishing themselves in any way at school. Ulysses Grant was called "Useless Grant" by his mother, he was so dull and unhandy when a boy.—Smile's Self-Hope.