

## The Canadian Agricultural Societies.

These highly useful Institutions have ever been favorably regarded by us, and we have repeatedly urged all ranks of the Canadian farmers to unite their efforts in sustaining them by contributions, and by exerting their influence in every possible manner that would be calculated to promote this laudable movement. Among the means suggested by us that should be employed by Agricultural Societies, to accomplish the objects for which they have been established, is that of efficiently supporting the agricultural press. In many instances this plan was adopted, and to some extent answered the expectations of the parties who were instrumental in carrying it into operation; but after giving it nearly five years' trial, the Conductor of this magazine has come to the conclusion, that the cause of Canadian agriculture and general improvement, require a more certain and efficient system of organization to get its claims brought before the public than that hitherto put in practice. To show a willingness to devote a share of time and talents to the cause of our country's prosperity, is the duty of every patriotic mind;—the bent of some persons' minds might lead them to advocate certain opinions and operations, which to them would seem wisely calculated to cure the maladies subject to frail human nature and mankind and the world in general—whilst others would advocate, with equal zeal and ability, a course diametrically opposite. The one object we feel warmly attached to is—Canada and her Agricultural and GENERAL IMPROVEMENT.—These are the text words that shall receive a large share of attention at our hands; and to convince, if possible, our numerous patrons and the public in general, that we are not disposed to be satisfied with half measures, we would here state, for their information, that we shall have a GENERAL AGENT in each District of Canada, whose duties will be—to get subscribers to our publications—to supply the back volumes—to get advertising patrons—to take orders for all the improved agricultural and other machinery that we have on sale or shall be instrumental in introducing into Canada—to solicit, at the hands of all classes who desire the prosperity of their country, to become members or patrons of the Agricultural Association for Upper Canada—to bring the Agricultural College which is about being established in the neighbourhood of Toronto, before the attention of all classes, and to aid in carrying this Institution into operation—to both write original articles for our publications, and to induce able and practical correspondents to write for our columns, so that both publications may be well-stored with spirited and instructive original articles, written by Canadians. These are the duties of agents, and we doubt not but that much good will result to the country through their efficient co-operation.

## BUCKWHEAT.

We have lately had some enquiries made to us regarding the uses to which this grain are chiefly applied, and the soils best suited for, and the proper mode of cultivating it.—As the season is now at hand in which it ought to be sown—if attempted at all—which, however, we by no means recommend, if wheat, barley, or Indian corn can be cultivated to advantage,—we now proceed to give a few details, first, of the soil on which it ought to be grown, with most advantage to the farmer, and second, of its uses.

*Soils.*—Buckwheat is a plant of a hardy kind, which throws out broad leaves. It consequently derives much nourishment from the atmosphere, and can thus be grown on the very poorest or driest soils. Plaster is known to be well adapted for being applied on sandy land,—and if buckwheat be raised on sand, and plaster applied copiously as a top-dressing,—much of the ammonia which is floating in the air during summer, is thereby attracted, and a crop made available, where nothing better can advantageously be attempted. Indeed, poor soils are best fitted for the cultivation of this plant, when good quality of grain is desired, as on