

grow a large quantity of Black Sea wheat. The price of oats and barley in the English markets, will seldom admit of our exporting either of these grains to advantage, and pay all the shipping and commission charges. Flax, hemp, cheese, butter, beef, and pork, might be exported if we produced them in sufficient quantity, but we do not, and it will be a long time before Canadian farmers will produce these articles in any great quantity and in the required perfection. They are, however, accustomed to grow wheat, and understand the management of it better than that of any other crop.

*To the Editor of the AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.*

Sir,—It is with much pleasure that I observed, in the last number of your Journal, that a respectable member of the Society, and a subscriber to the Journal, has suggested the propriety of making some provision for giving instruction in the veterinary art. This appears to me to be the very best advice that could be given to the Society, and demands the highest consideration of the Executive of the Society. If the amount of farm-stock in this Province was properly known, and we assume that five per cent of the whole is lost per annum, by the united effects of accident and disease, which is a moderate enough calculation, including young and old, it would show an annual loss of a very large amount, which is not only ruinous to individuals, but is a very material loss to the Province generally; and if any means could be employed by which only one-half of such losses could be prevented, it would be the saving of much money,—far more than would be required to educate and establish a veterinary surgeon in every Township of the Province. It appears to me that this is a subject which should not be lost sight of, and, as it is one of public utility, it requires much deliberation in ascertaining the best means how such an establishment could be brought into operation. Veterinary science, and a knowledge of this art, have been considered of so vast importance in Europe, that almost every nation there has established one or more colleges or seminaries, for the diffusion of such knowledge among the people. And such establishments are

generally supported by the aid and patronage of their respective governments.

And to show that small beginnings should not be despised, the now Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, at London, was first established under the Agricultural Society of Odiham, in Hampshire, in 1792. And I think six students were all that could be found to attend for the first session, under the direction of St. Bel, from the Royal Veterinary College of Lyons. The professor could not speak a word of English, nor the students a word of French, (a fix to begin with), but the difficulty was soon got over by the assistance of an interpreter. More recently, a School of Veterinary Medicine was founded in the Northern Metropolis of Scotland, under the aid and patronage of the Highland and Agricultural Society, which flourishes with prosperity under their care. Till upon the eighth day of March, 1844, the two establishments of London and Edinburgh were united and incorporated by Royal Charter, under the name and title of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons; while each establishment still continues to teach in the respective cities. With such examples of prosperity and success, from so limited and slender means of beginning as I have here referred to, I think the Provincial Agricultural Society of Lower Canada has got nothing to fear. Let them make a beginning, and there is not the least doubt but it will creep on and gather strength and encouragement by degrees, until it becomes a beneficial and useful establishment.

You threw out, Mr. Editor, a very laudable suggestion, that it might be of advantage, if a few of the very numerous class of young men who are educated as doctors would condescend to study the constitution and diseases of domestic animals. There is nothing to prevent them from doing so if they were inclined, for, in sundry instances, such men have forsaken their own profession and followed the veterinary art with distinction, and contributed much to its interest and success. This, however, happens but seldom, as many of our medical gentlemen believe that such condescension on their part would be far below their dignity, and ruin their reputation as human practitioners; forgetting that the most renowned physicians, recorded in the early history, practised upon the lower animals as well as upon their masters. And Hippocrates, the most celebrated