

chase there, should be satisfied that he could have any article he required, of the very best description, and that it should always be what it was represented. These would be advantages of no ordinary character, and they are not imaginary, but would be perfectly possible, and ought to be realized to their fullest extent upon a well-conducted Model Farm. If a Model Farm and Agricultural School cannot be made to pay its own expenses, farming must be an unprofitable occupation. But we are fully convinced, that, with a suitable farm, of the necessary extent, judiciously stocked with animals and implements, furnished with good and convenient farm buildings, a good dairy, and root-houses or cellars, and a competent conductor, the farm would pay its expenses and the interest of the money invested. What is the use of recommending improved systems of husbandry if they are not to be profitable? What should prevent a Model Farm from being profitable? Of course it must be conducted properly and economically, or it would not pay. Everything about it should be on a respectable scale, but not too expensive. If it was on too expensive a scale, it would be no model for Canadian farmers, and ought not to be. A *pattern* farm should be its proper designation, that any farmer coming to visit it might adopt the same system upon his own farm. This should undoubtedly be the proper plan for a Model Farm, or there would not be any benefit from their establishment.

*To the Editor of the Agricultural Journal.*

SIR—The grand aim of your Journal being the advancement of agriculture, and the consequent prosperity of agriculturists, I shall make no apology for soliciting a small space in your columns to offer a few remarks upon a subject which, though sadly neglected by our farmers, might be made a business of the most profitable kind, and whether limited to domestic purposes or extended to supply our markets, and to furnish an article of export is equally deserving of attention,

and promises a very lucrative return. I allude to the products of the orchard, the value and importance of which can hardly be overrated. Even though the fruit of the orchard was perfectly worthless, and claimed no higher rank than its highly ornamental qualities, the cultivation of an orchard would still recommend itself to the man of taste, and would be likely to receive almost as much attention from the farmers of this District, as at present it receives. Nor is this supineness restricted to those whose limited means would make the expense of planting an orchard difficult, but extends almost without exception through all classes of agriculturists. This state of things, I am aware, may be explained by the fact, that, the results of ignorant or unskilful experiments, have too often been stereotyped into immutable laws, which nature stubbornly persists in maintaining in defiance of art, however skilfully applied. Now, sir, let me not be misunderstood as advancing the absurd theory that art may be made to supplant nature; what I do mean to assert is, that nature is frequently misunderstood, and that the blunders of the unskilful are oftentimes most erroneously placed to her account. And further, that in the laws which are truly of nature's framing much, even very much is conceded to skilful entreaty.

Among the blunders which have tended too prejudicially in this respect, as connected with my present subject, is the very prevalent error that the apple can only be cultivated with success, upon light gravelly, or limestone soils, and that it will not live upon clays. This error which has long prevailed in this District, and is now regarded as one of nature's inviolable laws, has, I have no doubt, deprived us of thousands of acres of orchard, in this Province, and is sending tens of thousands of dollars across our frontier, annually, to purchase an article, for the perfect development of which, our soil and climate are admirably adapted. To prove the fallacy of the above opinion, I shall first quote an article from the celebrated Downing, and then state my own experience in corroboration.

"Clayey loams are, when *well drained*, and when the clay is not in excess, good fruit soils, they are usually strong and deep soils though rather heavy, and difficult to