

topic worthy of being reported,—all of which might be committed to paper by the secretary, and subsequently be published for the general benefit of the country. A board of directors, consisting of the most influential and patriotic farmers in the township, should be elected, for the purpose of soliciting members to the institution, and to take such other management as the spirit of the parties composing the club would dictate. We would especially recommend that the directors of these clubs be considered proper persons to give sound and wholesome advice to emigrants when they arrive among us. If in each settlement or concession of a populous township, a person were appointed who would interest himself in the welfare of the newly arrived emigrant, and give him wholesome advice or information regarding the country, such proceedings would be of vast importance to the country, and would show most conclusively that the Canadians were a people worthy of the notice of the influential classes of the mother country. If only twenty men can be found in each township who have the great interests of the country at heart, who would co-operate in a general movement similar to the one we propose, we confidently predict that very shortly a new and healthy state of things would be the order of the day, and in less than two years the tide of emigration would flow to this country in a manner quite unprecedented in the history of the British colonies. It is probably a fortunate circumstance for the British North American Provinces, that the Australian scheme of emigration has partially failed, and there is every probability that it will be wholly relinquished very shortly. Mr. Buller's scheme is an evidence that an unusual interest is evinced in Britain on all matters relating to the British North American Provinces. Before much can be accomplished, the colonists themselves must take active measures to provide the necessary accommodation and information for intending emigrants. These directors to the township clubs might give much practical aid to the Government Emigrant Agents, and information through them and the clubs might be published, which would have a wonderful effect in developing the resources which each township possesses.

DISTRICT BOARDS.

District Boards of Agriculture might be formed as soon as the township clubs could be brought into active operation. A representative from each club would form the District Board, and as a matter of course, the most intelligent would be selected, as the duties would be of an exalted and very important nature, viz.: the development of the agricultural resources of the country—the general diffusion of useful knowledge, and the complete management of the funds granted by Government for the laudable purpose of encouraging agricultural improvement.

These District Boards might meet once per quarter, and prepare the information collected by the local clubs for publication, and publish

such other useful information as the intelligence of the Board would afford. Instead of a number of badly managed agricultural exhibitions in each district, only one should be held, which would have the effect of bringing the best stock from every township in the District to one point, and instead of a few paltry premiums being awarded, as now is the case, at least five hundred pounds might be distributed in agricultural premiums in each district, each and every year. It is at present considered a great achievement for a populous district to raise by *hook and crook*, the small sum of one hundred pounds, through the members of agricultural societies; and if that sum be raised, it is thought a matter unworthy of further exertion to increase it, as it will fully entitle the district to two hundred pounds from the Government. We look upon this, and most of the proceedings of agricultural societies, as a matter of very little moment either to themselves or the country, and have therefore but little confidence in recommending any plan for their improvement, unless the old system be amended, in a manner calculated to benefit the parties engaged, and the country in general. What the farmers in this new country want to enable them to become respectable, wealthy, and wise, is useful ideas on practical farming. We have participated in some scores of agricultural exhibitions in this country, and we feel warranted in asserting that at no exhibition that we have had the honour of attending, have been any suggestions made, experiments reported, speeches delivered, or, in fact, any thing else brought on the carpet, calculated to expand men's minds, or give them a single idea whereby they might "cause too blades of grass to grow, where formerly only grew one." We are not a friend of taxation, without those taxes be judiciously expended. At present, our tea, sugar, coffee, and other necessary importations are taxed, a portion of which has very properly been set apart for the laudable purpose of encouraging improvements in agriculture. This money to the tune of thousands per year, have been in too many instances very badly expended. We know of some districts in which the secretary of the Society, receives a very handsome salary and in others, where the printers' bills have equalled the enormous sums of £40 a year—and in others, where the annual dinners were paid from the funds of the Society—and others, when the officers have received fully two-thirds of the amount awarded!! We might fill our sheet with this category of mismanagement, but probably what has been advanced will suffice for the present.

We want the agricultural profession to take a stand worthy of its importance. We mean to say that we shall not let the subject rest until we see our Legislative Assemblies composed of men who have borne the heat and burthen of the day at the honest and important occupation of holding the plough. Native talent, of a very high order, abounds in this country. We know of young men, who are now in comparative obscurity, whose native talents would do credit to any country were

they brought into active and useful exercise. These young men will never presume to step further on the path of intellectual advancement than their forefathers trod, nor will they have the slightest idea of what their intellectual capacities are capable of performing, so long as there are no local institutions in being that are calculated to bring to light the hidden treasures of their minds. We frequently hear some half dozen great men highly spoken of, as being ornaments of their country, who have rose to opulence and public favour, by a combination of favourable circumstances, both creditable to themselves and the parties who advanced them. We have taken some pains to inquire into the manner and character of the steps which these comparatively self-made great men practised, and we find that, in all cases, they first learned the *alphabet* the same as other pupils, and subsequently rose step by step, until they at last achieved the most honourable posts that the people or the crown had at their disposal. In the same manner must the farmers' sons achieve the laurels laid in store for them. They must delight in the science and practice of their noble calling. They must show themselves worthy of the respectful notice of other classes, and show those classes by their conduct that it is their interest to respect them. The farmers of this country are lords of the land they cultivate. Each farmer should look upon himself as a *governor*, and his parliamentary representatives as his servants. How is all this to be accomplished? Can it be achieved by sending gentlemen of the long robe to represent them in Parliament? Certainly not. Or can it be brought about by selecting block-heads from among themselves to represent them? Every man of common sense understanding will answer, No. Well, how shall this gigantic movement be brought into exercise, so that Canada will have all the advantages which an honest and *practically working* legislature can afford? We would answer, simply by the means pointed out in the foregoing observations. We must begin at the foot of the ladder, by forming local clubs of agriculture, the active members of these clubs will feel delighted in imparting information to their audience: the most active member will unquestionably be selected to represent the club in the District Board. A higher order of intelligence, and duties will there be presented to his view. A certain number of the best qualified members of the Board will be selected to represent the District in a Provincial Board of Agriculture, as soon as the Districts have consented to engage in the movement. This brings us to another topic, which has been frequently brought before the notice of our readers, and upon which, we are sorry to add, no action has yet been taken.

A PROVINCIAL BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

might be formed, by one, two, or more representatives from the District Boards. The duties devolving on this Board would be of the highest order, so far as agriculture and the general prosperity of the country is concerned.