

## Farmers' Clubs and Libraries.

It is with a great degree of satisfaction, we are enabled to present to our readers the following spirited communication, on the above subject. As was stated on a former occasion, the rapid advance in Agricultural improvement in England, must be very much attributed to the Agricultural Clubs, in successful operation in that country. There is no good reason why the farmer's sons of Canada—should not combine their energies through the medium pointed out, in order that they may materially assist each other in obtaining a knowledge of the principles which regulate their important profession. We would gladly see Farmer's Clubs and Libraries established in every township in Canada, and every influence that we can bring to bear, to effect this object, shall be most industriously employed:—

LINDUX COTTAGE, CAMBORO',

January 1st, 1847.

DEAR SIR,—You have at various times in the previous volumes of the *Cultivator*, urged the necessity of contributions from the pens of practical men on agricultural matters, and although I cannot boast of much practical experience in farming affairs, I will venture a few hints on a subject, which will, I hope, prove as interesting to others as it is to me.

It is but a year or so, since I left the counter for the plough, and during that time I have been much surprised at the apathy displayed by the young men of Canada, towards that which ought to be the grand object of all true Canadians—agricultural improvement. It may appear somewhat presumptuous in me—a mere novice in rural occupation—to attempt a correction of this error, but knowing that it exists amongst the greater portion of our young men, and that none are willing, through a mistaken bashfulness, to step forward and “break the ice.” I will offer some suggestions, which, though brief, will if acted upon, materially assist to raise “Young Canada” from its present disgraceful position. There is scarcely a township in the Province, which cannot boast of a Debating Society, where our young men meet each other, with grave faces and logical looks, and with much deliberative wisdom determine the knotty question, as to whether the ox or the horse is the more useful animal? or which possesses most utility, fire or water? Now, Mr. Editor, I have not the least desire to ridicule these Debating societies, but I cannot refrain from noticing the

paucity of the subjects introduced at those meetings, and the little improvement likely to be derived from a discussion of such trivial matters. An important reformation in this one particular, would do much towards creating a desire for a better knowledge of systematic and improved cultivation. Let these Debating Societies be converted into Young Farmer's Clubs—at the usual periodical meeting, let some one of the members read aloud an article, or articles selected from an Agricultural work or Periodical. (The *Cultivator* has, I presume, subscribers in every township)—let such members as may be willing, deliver their opinions on the article read—and the great change that will be perceived where this alteration may be effected, will amply repay those who may exert themselves to bring it about. With each “Young Farmer's Club,” I would connect a Young Farmer's Library—supported by some small annual subscription (say 5s.) and composed of the most practical agricultural and mechanical works of the day—the first selection to consist of these treating more plainly on the leading features of every-day farming. This library must be governed by the usual officers, kept in the building chosen for the discussions of the club, and the books circulated at the periodical meetings of the members; and as a further stimulus for exertion and improvement, I would propose that an annual premium be awarded for the best essay, written by any member, on some subject bearing on agricultural improvement to be decided at a meeting for the purpose the premium to be a good, standard, agricultural work.

That this plan may be brought into operation in every township, I have not the least doubt, could a few energetic young men be found to co-operate and I am convinced that when once such a movement is made, Canada will assume a new aspect and that those who may assist in directing the step of “Young Canada” on the right path, will be looked upon by the next generation, as the true patriots and great benefactors of their country.

Hoping that ere the present winter closes, every township Debating Society will be converted into Young Farmer's Club, and have in connection Young Farmer's Library.

I remain, yours &c.,

C. CLARKE.

**Important Invention for Preparing Hemp and Flax.**—Mr. Fleischman, connected formerly with the patent office at Washington, who has re-