

Oil-Producing Seeds and Plants.

Perhaps the following items may prove germs of some future improvements in our systems of rotation or lists of profitable crops.

Rape, which is very extensively cultivated in France, Belgium, and Holland, for the seed, has also been profitably grown in England for the same purpose. The experiments which have been made in raising it at Boxted lodge, county of Essex, show that the cultivation of rape for seed could be *profitably* prosecuted. During this season about £20 (or nearly \$100) per acre, has been realized. Whether it could be profitably raised in *this* country can only be determined by repeated trials, which, to be safe, should be on a small scale.

The fact is not very extensively known, we presume, that the Swedish turnip (*ruta бага*) produces nearly the same amount of seed as the rape plant, and that the seed of the former yields nearly as much oil as the seed of the latter. While the price of turnip seed is as high as it is at present, there will be no substitution of it for rape seed; but in a change of circumstances this fact might be turned to some good account.

Between Dunkirk and Paris, the white poppy appears to be gradually taking the place of rape as an oil-producing plant. It appears that the quantity of seed from the white poppy exceeds that from the rape plant, while the per-centage of oil from a given weight of seed is also higher—*being about double of that obtained from flaxseed*. If the seed of the white poppy should prove equally rich in oil, when grown in this country, the enterprise of those who should first venture upon its cultivation might secure an abundant reward. In addition to its utility, a field of white poppies in flower is said to be an object of remarkable beauty.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Journal.

SIR.—Since I have had the honour to be the Assistant Secretary of the Board of Agriculture for Lower Canada, it seemed to me that the Agricultural Act was misunderstood by many of the Officers of the County Agricultural Societies, who took the trouble of casting their eye on the law before sending any documents to the Board for their sanction, which put the members of the Board in a position that they could hardly decide the questions brought before them. The Act 16 Vic., Chap. 18, having been amended by the Act 19 Vic., Chap. 47, the two Acts being mixed together, the law is so confused that hardly can we receive from the Societies a regular document out of five; therefore, I thought it proper to make the above analysis, before the Agricultural Societies re-organise in February next; and offer it to the Societies, confident that they will excuse the style in which I wrote it.

Believe me, &c.

T. CHAGNON,
Asst. Sec. B. A.

Montreal, Jan. 20th, 1857.

ANALYSIS of the Act 16 Vic., Chap. 18, and 19 Vic., Chap. 47. About the Organization of Agricultural Societies in Lower Canada.

By T. CHAGNON, Esq., Advocate, and Assistant Secretary to the Board of Agriculture for Lower Canada.

[The first was assented to on the 10th November, 1852, and the second on the 19th June, 1856.]

I. From and after the date of the 1st Act, 16 Vic., Chap. 18, (1st January, 1853) an Agricultural Society may be formed in each of the Counties of Lower Canada, whenever thirty persons shall become Members thereof, by signing a declaration in the form of Schedule A, at the foot of this analysis, and subscribing each not less than five shillings annually to the funds of the said Society, and a true copy of the said declaration shall, within one month after being so signed, be transmitted to the Board of Agriculture.

Society may be formed in each County, and how.

II. To encourage improvement in Agriculture, by holding meetings for discussion, hearing lectures on subjects connected with the theory and practice of improved husbandry; by importing or otherwise procuring seeds, plants and animals of new and valuable kinds; by offering prizes for essays on questions of scientific enquiry relating to agriculture; and by awarding premiums for excellence in raising or introduction of stock, the invention or improvement of agricultural implements and machines, the production of grain and vegetables.

Object of such Societies, and how to be promoted.

III. Societies shall hold their Annual Meetings in February in each year, and shall elect a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary-Treasurer and not more than 7 Directors, all of whom shall form the Board of Directors for such Society.

Annual Meetings.

IV. Officers and Directors shall and may for the year next following the Annual Meeting, and until the election of their successors, exercise all the powers vested in the Society by this Act, holding their meetings pursuant to notice to each from the President, or in his absence, from the Vice-President, given one week at least before the day appointed for such meeting. The quorum will be of five at least, and the said Officers and Directors shall have power to make, alter or repeal By-Laws and Rules for the management of the Society.

Term of Office.

Meetings.

Quorum.

Powers.

V. Officers and Directors shall submit at their Annual Meeting a Report of their proceedings during the year, with the names of the Members their subscription, names of those to whom premiums have been awarded, the amount of such premiums respectively, and the name of the animal, article, &c., in respect to which the same was granted, with remarks on the agriculture of the County—also a report of receipts and expenditures, which, after being approved of by the meeting, shall be entered in the Society's Journal, and a copy, certified by the President, Vice-President or Secretary, shall be sent to the Board of Agriculture, on or before the first day of April following.

Annual Report to be made by Directors; what it shall contain.

VI. Officers and Directors are bound to answer queries by the Board or the Minister of Agriculture, and to act according to the recommendation of the said Board.

Answering queries of Board &c.

VII. Each County Society is bound to hold at least one Show in each year, for the exhibition of agricultural products, farm stock, implements, &c., notice whereof being publicly posted in each Parish and Township of said County. Prizes may be in money, books on agriculture, implements or grain.

Show in each year.

VIII. Instead of holding a Show a Society can have a Public Granary, Agricultural Schools, Model Farms, for the improvement of Agriculture, on obtaining the approval of the Board of Agriculture.

Public Granaries.

IX. The Secretary-Treasurer, only, can have a salary of a sum not exceeding seven per cent on all moneys expended by such Society, in lieu of salary and allowance for Stationery and other contingent expenses.

No Salaries to be paid.

X. The Societies organized under this Act shall be Bodies Politic and Corporate, and shall have power to have land, but not more than 100 acres at one time, to hold their Show and Exhibition or for a Model Farm.

Societies to be Corporations.

XI. On sending an attested list of subscriptions, in the form of Schedule B, at the foot of this analysis, signed by the Secretary-Treasurer of the Society, sworn to before a Justice of the Peace, the Vice-President and Secretary of the Board of Agriculture shall certify to the Minister of Agriculture that statements and reports as required by this Act, have been sent to this Board, and such Society will receive three times the amount of its subscriptions, to the amount of two hundred pounds, (according to the Amendment Act of the 19th June, 1856. 19 Vic., Chap. 47.)

Government allowance to Societies.

XII. The Board of Agriculture will receive that money and pay it over to Societies, less 10 per cent, they have a right to retain for the use of the Agricultural Association.

Payment of Grant to Societies.

XIII. Any Treasurer or other who shall make a false affidavit that a sum of money has been paid to him, shall be held to have committed perjury and liable to all penalties which the Law inflict for that offence.

False Affidavit, Perjury.