CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.

Vol. II.

MONTREAL, FEBRUARY, 1845.

No. 2.

ers that we have petitioned the Legislature for an aid to assist us in meeting the expenses of our Journal, for the past year, and to continue it for the present year. The result of our application will also be understood by all who see the newspapers. The whole affair assumed a character which we never anticipated, and which, we conceive, was not by any means necessary to give it. Our Petition was unconnected with parties, politics, or private interest, and it is very probable that, the expense to the public, of the discussion which took place upon it, would have been sufficient to satisfy fully our ex-We do not pretend to say that principle should be sacrificed in order to save expense, but we will say that there would be no sacrifice of principle necessary to be made by the simple consideration of our Petition. If the grounds upon which our application was made, were not generally admitted to be good, it would be quite another affair, but every man of every party will not object to the expediency of advancing, if possible, the improvement of Canadian Agriculture, and augmenting the amount and value of the produce raised from it. This was the ground of our application. It was to enable us to employ our humble efforts towards accomplishing this object that we petitioned for aid, and not to enrich ourselves. However unsuccessful we have been in our past exertions, we can truly say, that, we have devoted much of our time, thought, and money, to forward, what is admitted by all, to be desirable. We cannot take blame to tions, and the support and countenance we have ourselves for our want of success, but we can blame those who would not act upon our suggestions, or support us. We could only suggest the improvements that are required, and give the best information that we could collect, how these improvements would be effected, and what would be the probable result. We can now, with full confidence, appeal to all we have written and published, that we have not proposed any wild tueories, or suggested any improvements that might not be profitably introduced. Many well paid servants may have been as unsuccessful in producing good to the public as we have been, who have had neither pay nor patronage for our services. We do not now, and never did pretend, that we represented the Agricultural and there cannot exist a doubt, that, to secure to class or their opinions. We endeavoured to promote them the means of comfortable enjoyment will be

We suppose it is generally known to our Subsrib. the interests of Canadian Agriculturists generally, by all the means that were in our power. From having given much thought and attention to the subject, we were perfectly convinced that, for ages to come, agriculture must form the basis of Canadian prosperity,-that its products must give the means of successful commerce, and support to all other occupations; and therefore, as a member of the Canadian community, both personally and generally interested in the welfare of that community, we endeavoured to attract some attention to what was of so much consequence, and demonstrate the necessity as well as expediency of giving all possible encouragement to the improvement of husbandry, so that the soil, and industry of the people well directed, should yield a large and valuable product. This has been our unceasing object for many years, and we certainly cannot take any blame to ourselves that a better system of Agriculture has not been long ago in full and successful operation in Canada. Our motives may be suspected to have other objects than those we profess to have in view, but we trust it will only be by those who never allow any other motive to influence them but that of self-interest.

We discovered long ago, that publishing on the subject of Agriculture was not a profitable employment, in as much as we sustained a loss of two or three hundred pounds by our Treatise on Agriculture and the Supplementary Volume. not, however, deterred from continuing our exerobtained is best known to those who have favoured As to Legislative aid, we have received none whatever; and we now begin to think it possible, that we may have been under an erroneous impression a great part of our lives with regard to our estimate of the importance of Agriculture to No doubt if it was really of such impor-Canada. tance, as we conceive it to be, the Representatives of Agricultural Constituencies would have seen, long ago, the necessity of doing all that was possible and expedient to forward its improvement and pros-That Legislation will be the most useful perity. for the Canadian people that will produce the largest amount of comfortable enjoyment to them;