

realized on the produce of these seeds that we conceive they should not be subjected to a heavy duty. We maintain that the produce of the country pays nearly all the revenue, and it is a great injustice to make the seed of this produce, also, pay revenue. It is like collecting tithes from the seed, instead of the produce, and therefore must have a tendency to diminish production, as well as discourage sowing seeds, that above all others are necessary in an improved system of agriculture.

HEMP AND FLAX.

Enquiries have been made of us respecting hemp and flax, and we shall endeavour to answer them in a future number. We have for a long period recommended the cultivation of these plants in Canada, and from what we know of the country, and our experience of the production of flax and hemp, we have no doubt whatever that they might be produced here in the greatest perfection. Flax may be grown that will produce about two tons of straw to the acre beside the seed, and of the latter there may be from eight to twelve bushels to the acre, or perhaps more. Of course the soil must be suitable and properly cultivated to give these returns. We have seen hemp grow to the height of nearly ten feet, and there is not a doubt that very heavy crops may be raised. The great objection to raising these crops in Canada has been the want of machines to dress the fibre. Indeed we are not likely to see them much cultivated until the farmer can sell the straw and seed immediately after it is raised. If such a market was certain to the farmer, a large quantity of hemp and flax would be raised annually, but without this market, agriculturists will not incur the risk of cultivating plants which they may not be able to dispose of.

We beg to call attention to the three District Cattle Shows which are to take place this month. The District of Montreal, at Terrebonne, on the 6th, the District of Quebec, at Point Levy, on the 12th and 13th, and the Dis-

trict of St. Francis and Three Rivers, at Melborne on the 13th and 14th of October. We hope these shows will be well attended. There is the advantage of rail-road to the latter place, and this circumstance will induce many to go to that show.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER,

Up to the 11th, the weather was very hot and dry, with an unclouded atmosphere, and must have produced ripeness in any crops that were near maturity. It may be possible that the excessive heat has in some cases prematurely ripened crops, but we are decidedly of opinion, that dry weather in September, is more favorable for crops generally, than wet weather would be, though pastures and after grass may suffer by it. We however had a considerable fall of rain on the 11th, 12th, 20th, 25th, and 27th, that will greatly serve pastures and grass, and soften lands for the operation of ploughing, which was impossible to execute previous to that rain. We do not recollect to have seen the soil more dried up and hard, than it was the first ten days of September. The wheat, which was not sown before the 25th of May this year, is considered to be generally a fair crop, and not much injured by the fly, though it has suffered some damage. There is no doubt but the fly continued to a later period with us this year than it has ever done before. We have seen the larvae of the fly in wheat, that was not in ear until the 1st of August, and this is an unusual occurrence. We have remarked that the smooth-eared varieties of wheat are liable to be more injured, than the bearded varieties. In the Spring of 1851, we had some seed wheat imported from Scotland, though by mistake it got into other hands, who sowed it on arrival in the month of May of that year, and again sowed the product last Spring, and has sent a sample of it in the ear and straw to the Rooms of the Lower Canada Agricultural Society. It is known in Lawson's Catalogue as the Fern Spring wheat, and the ear is bearded. The sample