

omen as have more lately developed themselves, and given reason to believe that we are approaching still nearer the goal to which our efforts have been directed. The causes that have led to the change are chiefly three :—The peculiar organization of our Board of Agriculture—The honourable zeal of our leading characters in all parts of the province,—and the mixed nature of our population drawn from distinct countries, and consequently divided amongst themselves in their maxims, rules and methods of cultivation.

All along since the revival of the provincial industry, the Central Board has been the sole organ by which the legislature has acted. To it the power of direction has been transferred, and through it the grants of public money have been distributed. It has been regarded as the fountain from which the liberality of government has flowed ; and on that account it has gained and preserved a preponderating influence over the minor societies. This derived and delegated superiority which it possesses in consequence of its peculiar organization, has enabled it to wield an undisputed authority and to bind in one common plan of operation the jarring energies which would otherwise have disturbed and thwarted each other. Hence to one grand point has the attention of the country been directed year after year, and the joint labours of all have been infinitely more effective than they could have been, if irregular and divergent. The Board prescribed both the objects and rules of competition, and maintained consistency in the general efforts of the agricultural body. Had the separate societies been left free of choice in their particular schemes, these would have been of an incoherent and motley character, and could not likely have been made to harmonize into a common system. One would have directed their premiums solely to the improvement of live stock—a second would have abetted greatly the domestic manufactures—a third would have thrown out lime and summer fallow as useless—a fourth would have considered oats as furnishing too coarse a meal for the delicate palates of their members—the drill machinery would have been despised by a fifth : and thus each following their own counsels and partial views would have chalked out a line of conduct that baffled and traversed that of the rest. All these evils have been prevented by the peculiar constitution of the Central Board. The Directors from the outset