

produced within the limits of the country, — the establishment of Boards of Agriculture in every district of the province, as well as a General Board of Agriculture, — the diffusion of useful knowledge on all practical and scientific subjects that would tend to elevate the standing of the producing classes of the community, — the divesting ourselves of everything that is exclusively selfish, by uniting in our strength to fortify our highly favoured province with a spirit of good will and brotherly love towards each other, — the organization of Agricultural Societies on such exalted and benevolent principles that a manifest benefit would be widely diffused throughout their whole field of operations, that would at once convince the uneducated and selfish that the ostensible object of their exertions was for no other benefit than the general good of mankind. These are only a few of the many movements which we would recommend for the consideration of those who guide the helm of state affairs. We have nearly exhausted the space which we allotted for these few hastily arranged remarks; but before we draw the subject to a close, we cannot refrain from embracing the favourable opportunity, which here presents itself, of giving a few hints to the Agricultural Societies throughout the province. As praiseworthy as has been much that has been done by the associations for the promotion of a better system of agriculture, the beneficial results derivable from their exertions have been limited, in comparison to the great amount of benefit that might have accrued to the country, had they adopted the plan which their brethren of the sister province of Nova Scotia have latterly pursued with so much zeal and laudable enterprise. A better system of agriculture will make slow progress indeed in a country where there are no other sources of encouraging improvements, but merely the dividing a few paltry premiums among a few of the leading, or best farmers. What we want are *facts*, communicated through the medium of an ably conducted press. The manner in which these facts may be obtained and disseminated through the length and breadth of the land, will be a matter for us to point out. But, before we proceed, we would observe that the public must have their minds divested of hereditary prejudices, and they must allow the general rays of truth and sound philosophy to reign predominate in their breasts.

We say the press must be brought into requisition. Each farmer must take his one, two, or more agricultural and scientific journals, so that instead of one small and comparatively unknown agricultural magazine, struggling for a mere existence, we may see at least a dozen respectably conducted and efficiently established exclusively agricultural journals, sending forth rays of light to illuminate the understanding of the cultivators of the soil. If a correct and judicious system of managing the fertile lands of Canada were put into general practice, the result would obviously be that an increased produce would be created, sufficient to give a balance of trade in favour of this country, after

paying for all the necessary importations which we require. This point once gained, will place our noble country in an enviable position, both in an agricultural and commercial point of view.

The advice to Agricultural Societies may be seen in another column under its appropriate heading.

#### ROME DISTRICT CATTLE SHOW AND FAIR.

The Exhibition of the Parent Agricultural Society of the Home District, will take place on the 11th of October, on the grounds allotted for that purpose, near the new Gaol and Court House. As will be seen by advertisement on the last page. The very liberal premiums to be awarded for the article of Hops, will, no doubt, have the effect of drawing the attention of the farmers of the District to the cultivation of that plant. We trust that the encouragement thus given for this one particular object will increase at each Autumn exhibition in quadruple ratio during the next two years; and we will venture to say that the Home District alone would be able to supply every brewery in the Province with that article, within very few years, if the steps we propose be adopted.

A Home District farmer of our acquaintance is amassing a fortune from the profits of his hop-grounds; and he informed us, when last in Toronto, that there was no branch of farming which brought in such heavy returns for the capital and time invested in the business, as that of the cultivation of Hops.

Many might object to engage in the cultivation of this plant from their want of experience in its culture; to those we would say, subscribe for *The British American Cultivator*, and there they will find the desired information at a mere nominal cost.

We have given the subject of cultivating the Hop plant much consideration and arduous investigation, and we conceive ourselves to be so far master of the subject as to be able to enter into the minutia of its cultivation; and, after preparation, will prove to be of much use to those who may be prepared to engage in the business. A series of articles will be arranged on the subject, in time to make their appearance to the public in the three last numbers of the present volume.

The Home District Agricultural Society deserves the hearty thanks of every spirited Farmer in the District, for the bold efforts they have made in his matter.

The September number will be before the public at least ten days before the day of the above exhibition, in which number we shall take further notice of the proceedings of the Society in question.

#### HOUSES OF UNBURNT BRICK.

We were lately invited by Jesse Ketchum, Esq. of this city, to call and examine a new style of good houses which he has in course of building, a short distance north of this city. The bricks are made of the size and style recommended in a late number of the *Cultivator*, and built in the wall the width of one brick. The outer side of the wall is encased with a course of burnt brick, which gives it the appearance of a burnt brick building. This is unquestionably one of the cheapest and best style of houses for the general purposes of farm buildings, and one which will undoubtedly be warm and durable.

#### LIME.

The application of lime to the soil, as a stimulant food to the plant, and as a corrective, or neutraliser to the pernicious acids, which are more or less frequent in all soils, is a branch of farming almost unknown in this province.

There are but few portions of Canada, which we have not traversed, and we have no scruple in asserting, that in no country in the world, would the application of lime to the soil have a more direct and beneficial influence, than on the majority of the cultivated lands of this country.

But few in the province could be found who would believe that the return made from liming ground for crops would pay the expense, — the experiment has never been fully tried, and why should any one raise objections to the carrying out of a scheme with which they are totally ignorant? In all of the improvements which we intend to recommend to the notice of the Canadian farmer, their practicability and profit, shall be features of the system which we will endeavour to be master of, — and only such as are calculated to handsomely repay the producer, shall receive our countenance. We conceive the amount of the profits of a business, to be the grand propeller to stimulate mankind to action; and unless a fair amount of profit be the result of the improvements which we recommend, only few will follow our suggestions. To convince the farmer that we are sincere in our advocacy of their best interests, we would suggest the propriety of each and all, testing the plans we lay down, on a small scale at first, — and if any require information on any branch of their business, we shall at all times feel pleasure in answering any inquiries which would tend to benefit the public.

Lime may be had in large quantities in this city, for the low price of one shilling and three pence per barrel, — ten barrels per acre would be found to have a wonderful effect on the growth and early maturity of the plant, which is so trifling a cost that no one could object to trying it on a small scale. Where limestone can be had at a mere nominal cost, and fuel for the mere chopping and drawing, the cost would not exceed ten pence per barrel, and even less than that sum in cases where much of the work of chopping wood, drawing stone, and burning, may be performed by the farmer, his sons, or his farm labourer. The subject is worthy of experiment, and we trust that its importance will not be lost sight of by the farmers generally.

The quantity of lime to be applied to the land must, of course, be proportioned to the quantity of the lime, as well as to the nature and condition of the soil; the operation must be in a great degree governed by the expense and the probability of the immediate and future profits. A less quantity than 20 bushels per acre would scarcely be perceptible, and in many instances, 200 bushels per acre would be found to remunerate the expense, and leave a handsome profit over and above. The only lands in Canada, that would require that quan-