

py influences effected through well conducted agricultural publications, are becoming every day better acknowledged and appreciated, by men of superior and refined minds. And it is an unerring index of a country's prosperity and advancement, to see its agricultural literature of a high order, sustained, cherished, and liberally supported by all classes of the community. We have good grounds for believing that the period in the history of Canadian agriculture has arrived, when it becomes no longer necessary, that a conductor of an agricultural magazine should be obliged to appeal to the sympathies of the public for patronage, inasmuch as the public mind has now become so well informed, regarding the benefits that such publications confer upon society, that every individual possessing a spark of intelligence and patriotism, would not withhold his support when solicited in a becoming manner. When we contrast the spirit and enterprise of a large and respectable portion of our fellow countrymen of the present day, with the actual state and condition of parties 12 or 15 years ago, we are led to stretch the mind forward to the same given time in the future, with a view of measuring the improvements that will be brought about in the intellectual and physical condition of our people and country. It is only reasonable to expect that the changes which will be produced for the better, will be many times greater than those effected in the before mentioned period. The country has arrived at that stage of civilization and greatness, that her inhabitants will not be satisfied with a retrograde or stationary condition. Nothing will do now-a-days but *progression*; and progression too, at a ratio proportionate to the advancing spirit of the age. We hope, and believe, that Canadians will not much longer suffer themselves to drag behind their neighbors, the Americans, in the pursuits of agriculture and the industrial arts.

Carrying out this spirit then in an agricultural point of view, let us for a moment examine the good offices that our various Agricultural Societies in the province can perform, in moving forward the gigantic car of agricultural improvement. These Institutions are already doing much good, but it is expected from them that they should extend their operations, and thus render more essential service to the country, for the very liberal patronage they receive from the Government and people of this colony. It would

not be expedient to impose too heavy duties upon these societies; nor for them to undertake any thing more than they can creditably and efficiently perform. But the public expect from them, at least, that in future they will make known to the world, the *results* of their operations. It would be of immense advantage, if these societies were to issue an annual report, embracing the changes that have been wrought in the agriculture of their respective districts, counties, and townships, together with the best practical and scientific experiments that have been made by their several members. The results of these deliberations, reports and experiments, as well as the other transactions of the Canadian Agricultural Societies should be published in a neat and cheap volume for general circulation. The machinery for collecting and publishing such a book could, we think, be brought into requisition by the Provincial Agricultural Association of Upper Canada. The transactions of the New York State Agricultural Society would form a pretty good model for the transactions of our Canadian Societies. In our judgment, an original work of equal dimensions and combining as large an amount of real talent could be compiled, provided that the various Societies of the province would evince a desire to further such a movement. The three great Societies of Great Britain,—The Royal Agricultural Society of England, the Highland Society of Scotland, and the Royal Agricultural Improvement Society of Ireland, each publishes its periodical report, which is also the case with many of the local societies, a course of proceedings which keeps alive a spirit of enterprise in their respective members, and by placing on permanent record whatever is new and useful, the whole community is made to feel interested in the progress of the most ancient, as it is indisputably the most important of all arts.

The foregoing hints have been submitted to the readers of the *Cultivator* at this time, for the sole purpose of preparing the public mind for such a movement as the one under contemplation. One of the Vice-Presidents of the Provincial Association suggested to us the importance of such a work, and he likewise said, that the proper time to move in the matter, would be at the Society's meeting at Hamilton. Doubtless some action will be taken in the matter very soon,—and in our opinion it would be well for our leading agri-