

# AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL,

AND

# TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

# Lower Canada Agricultural Society.

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NO. 2.

We have received a communication from a respected correspondent, A. B. C., to which we would beg to direct attention. The suggestions of this gentleman are the more valuable, because we know that agriculture has not a more steady friend and supporter in Lower Canada. We look most anxiously to the next Session of the Provincial Parliament, in the hope that the agriculture of Canada—the first, and principal interest of the country—will receive all the attention that is due to such an important interest. The suggestions of our correspondent are not to be lightly passed over. As we already observed, there is no interest in the country that deserves more the attention of our Legislature, to do all that can be done to promote its improvement and prosperity, and thus secure prosperity to all interests in the Province. It is not alone by premiums at Cattle Shows, that what is necessary to the improvement of husbandry is to be effected, but by providing the means of communicating general and practical instruction in an improved system of agriculture, by Agricultural Colleges and Schools, Model Farms, suitable books for the use of country Common Schools, and by the general diffusion of useful information, and suggestions by agricultural periodicals. In addition to all these, Agricultural superintendence would be necessary, as proposed by our correspondent. All this cannot be accomplished without expences, but as it must be our agriculture that supplies the means of Revenue chiefly, if there is a loan made to her, it will only be to increase the means of future Reve-

nue. This proposition may be questioned by parties, but we are confident we are able to maintain its perfect correctness. Despise agriculture who may, but we are certain there is no hope for prosperity to Canada, except through her agriculture first of all; that, and that alone, must be the basis. Canals and Rail-roads are great advantages, but their principal use and benefit will be to transport the products of a prosperous agriculture. They need not be constructed unless for that purpose, and they could not be maintained by any other means. Parties may fancy our views to be quite erroneous, but if they can show them to be so we shall acknowledge our error. There cannot be any mistake as to the proposition we advance, as we make it clearly and distinctly, "That it is the productions of the soil of Canada that can alone secure a good and sufficient Revenue, and prosperity to every class and interest in the country."

*To the Editor of the AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.*

"No direct aid has been given by the General Government to the improvement of agriculture, except by the expenditure of small sums for the collection and publication of agricultural statistics, and for some chemical analyses. This aid is, in my opinion, wholly inadequate. To give to this leading branch of American industry the encouragement which it merits, I respectfully recommend the establishment of an Agricultural Bureau, to be connected with the Department of the Interior. To elevate the social condition of the agriculturist, to increase his prosperity, and to extend his means of usefulness to his country, by multiplying his sources of information, should be the study of every statesman, and a primary object with every legislator."—*Extract from the Message of President Taylor, U. S.*

SIR,—You have already submitted to your readers the very important suggestions of the