

advantageously in various ways. It then becomes a question of some consequence to ascertain how the power which knowledge confers is at present shared between the several classes which compose the population in Canada. I am sorry to say, that though the agricultural class forms an immense majority, that they are by no means educated in proportion to their numbers, compared with the other classes; and that consequently, a minority possess a preponderating power and influence. There are various causes to which this state of things is to be attributed. It has often been to me a matter of regret, that few of the young men educated at the colleges and seminaries in Canada, hitherto, have become farmers. I suppose they must have considered that were they to settle on farms, their education would be of no value to them. They almost invariably apply themselves to the professions of lawyers, doctors, notaries, merchants, shopkeepers, or any other rather than to agriculture. This is one that it would appear is looked upon as a degrading profession for an educated young man. How strangely do men differ in their estimation of things? The greatest men of former ages, and *Washington*, of our own times, when they retired from public life, occupied themselves in husbandry, as the only employment fit for great men.

How injurious it must be, that those who are the best qualified to promote Agricultural improvement, and raise the character of agriculturists, are withdrawn from that occupation, which ought to be honourable, and that station in society where, of all others, they might be most useful to the community. Farmers cannot occupy that high station they may and ought to do in British America, without a sufficient education. It is this alone that is necessary to qualify them to fill this station, and re-