

having its best qualities washed away by water. It should, if possible, be kept under cover, or be carted to the field, and piled on dry situations, in large heaps, where, if any part of the manure was to waste from it, it would run over the soil and not be lost. In no way will manure be so productive, as if, at once, when possible, ploughed into the soils, or mixed in compost heaps. By this means no part would be lost.

The following is selected from the Preface to the second part of the Report of a Geological Survey of the State of New York, lately published, and is deserving the attention of the agriculturists of Canada:

"The survey of New York, I have said, was one of the same series of scientific enterprises which mark and characterize the times, and which the progressive intelligence of the community was prepared to appreciate. In a similar movement, I now remark, we find the agricultural community. The art or science which this community represents, and which is of the greatest importance to the human family, is without doubt destined to that perfection which other sciences have obtained, or to which they are rapidly progressing. In this department, however, we cannot expect a rapid progress; for the methods by which agriculture is to be advanced, require the returning round of seasons. Truth here requires the cumulative evidence of facts often repeated. But that agriculture may partake as fully in the movements of the times as other sciences or arts, and participate in the discoveries of the present and past, one thing is requisite, viz: that the system of education for those destined for this pursuit should be of a higher grade; it should be more disciplinary, and more directed to secure the perfection of the observing powers. It has, without doubt, been too much the practice with common or uncultivated minds to overlook this first object of education. They have said that those systems of education which are designed to promote this end, were useless, disregarding the ultimate objects; and in asking for reform in the course of instruction in our universities and colleges, the wants and requirements of the mind, to fit it for independent research and generalization, have been overlooked.

"I have said that the education of farmers should be such as tends to perfect the observing powers. To know "how to observe" is the first step towards improvement. Now in the education of an agriculturist, both objects specified above may be partially obtained. The mind may be in this kind of training while it is acquiring that kind of knowledge best fitted for the pursuit. To be satisfied of this let it be inquired, how the mind is affected by the study of chemistry, philosophy and natural history! They all require the closest observation, and the severest scrutiny into facts. The transient shades of color must be observed; the most accurate determination of weight is essential; the almost imperceptible degrees of hardness are to be determined; accurate measures must be applied; in fine, every property, whether transient or fixed, demands observation. In a school where such discipline is instituted, the young agriculturist perfects those powers which are so necessary in every subsequent step of his life. The day dawns to give him an opportunity to observe, and the night closes in on him still engaged in his watchings. If this is true, how essential that the farmer should learn to observe, that his first lessons should be how to use his eyes. And what will be the consequence! Nothing more certain

than he will use his mind also. It will become active; it comes from the law of necessity.

"That an Agricultural Institute, having these ends in view, may be founded, which will greatly advance this department, will hardly be questioned. But when institutions have been founded, heretofore, to observe some particular interest, it has often happened that in attempting to make them practical schools, we have in reality made them empirical. This is always the danger, and it comes from the attempt to avoid that course which, in other schools, is disciplinary, and which in truth is their claim to excellence."

The subject of Geology is one of great interest, and we may expect to have a Geological Survey of our own country reported at no distant period, as a gentleman has been engaged for some time past in the Survey of Canada. In making such a survey, the cultivatable soils of the several districts—their nature and properties—should be reported. It would be of as much, and more consequence to do this, if done by a competent person, as to report the Geology alone. In making Geological surveys, men are apt to advance theories very confidently that are difficult to prove, and this we think very objectionable. We may form some conjectures respecting the Geology of a country, but we should not publish any but those that may be reconciled to the reason and common sense of the reader. It is not of much consequence to us of the present day, how the rocks and soil of the earth have been placed in their present position—and the wisest man that ever existed cannot give us much certain information on the subject. Theory, therefore, only tends to lead into error, and cannot produce much good. Simply to report the Survey as it is found, and allow readers to comment for themselves, in most cases, would be, perhaps, the most prudent plan to adopt, and if this would not greatly enlighten the reader, it would not be leading him into any wild speculation, that might be worse than useless. Where vegetable and animal remains are found in localities that do not produce similar species at present, it is very reasonable to endeavour to account for the change that must have taken place in our earth at some former period, though our conjectures on the subject may be far from satisfactory or capable of any proof. Animal and vegetable remains have been found in situations, where they could not have existed in the present state of this earth or its seasons, but how this change was produced it is impossible for us to prove.

This number of the Journal will be sent to many persons who are not yet Subscribers, but who are believed to be friendly to the object it is intended to advance. Should the number not be returned, those to whom it is sent will be regarded as Subscribers, and the Journal regularly forwarded to them.

The Annual General Meeting of the Montreal District Agricultural Society was held at the Court House on the 18th instant, for the election of Office Bearers, when Charles Penner, Esq. of Lachine, was elected President, an office which he has honourably filled for