

We beg to acknowledge from the New York State Agricultural Society, an invitation to the great Annual Show and Fair of that Society, which is to take place at Syracuse in September next, and also an invitation to the Lower Canada Agricultural Society, to send delegates to the meeting. We have no doubt that the Canadian Society will, with pleasure, send delegates to the meeting; and, for our own part, if circumstances will admit, nothing would afford us more satisfaction than to be present at a meeting that must be extremely interesting to all friends of agriculture. To the Secretary of the New York State Agricultural Society, B. P. Johnson, Esq., we offer our best thanks for his kindness in sending us several interesting papers, and his obliging communications, whenever we have had occasion to address him respecting agricultural matters. A friendly correspondence between Agricultural Societies is most essential to their useful working for the general good of the human race, and the New York State Agricultural Society are entitled to the greatest praise for their friendly disposition to the advancement of agricultural improvement in foreign countries as well as in their own.

The Secretary of Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, John Hall Maxwell, Esq., has very kindly sent us a complete copy of the transactions of that Society from 1843 to 1849, being the new series, and consisting of twenty-four quarterly numbers neatly covered, and containing most useful and interesting information on the subject of agricultural improvement. This work makes a valuable addition to the library of the Lower Canada Agricultural Society, for which they beg to offer their best thanks. The Canadian Society may, at some future period, be able to send the Highland Society a publication that will be better worthy of their acceptance than this Journal. For the present, they are merely able to make a commencement, and find a considerable difficulty in doing this. We can assure our friends in Scotland that it is not because agriculture in

Canada is in a high state of improvement and prosperity, that the Lower Canada Agricultural Society is not adequately supported—the fact being exactly the contrary. The most intelligent and active Agricultural Society in the British dominions would find ample scope for all they could possibly effect in the way of improvement in Canadian Agriculture. What we require is to understand perfectly the defective state of our agriculture, and what are the improvements it is capable of? This would appear a very easy affair; but, nevertheless, farmers will not be convinced on the subject, or come to any conclusion, as to whether their system of husbandry is a good or a bad one, and the produce from it ample, or not a fourth of what it might be. In every country it must be the fault of the farmers when Agricultural Societies do not produce much good to agriculture. Such Societies are organized for the benefit of farmers, and if supported properly, they cannot fail to be beneficial to them, particularly if their object be the *general* improvement of agriculture, and their funds applied to the carrying out of this upon a judicious plan.

The necessary attention is not given to the breeding of cattle and sheep in this country. It is impossible to have a valuable breed of either without careful selection, and not allowing the inferior animals to breed, but to fatten them for the butcher. When a farmer has once got a select stock of good animals, there may not be any necessity to prevent all the females from breeding, but the stock the farmers in general have at present are very unsuitable to breed from without careful selection. Until we adopt this plan, our cattle and sheep will become more inferior every year. There is much care necessary to carry out this system, because the farmer cannot allow all his cattle to feed together, and bulls and rams run out at large. All the males not intended to breed from should be changed when young, and those chosen for breed should be separated until required, and then only allowed to go with the