

improvement is desirable, we cannot see what other means are in the power of the Society to propose and recommend such improvements as might be necessary. If publications of this nature are not calculated to produce any good there must be a great waste of capital in the neighboring States and in the British Isles, by the publication of Agricultural Periodicals where so many are published. What can be better calculated to instruct the ignorant than the successful practice of experienced agriculturists? If these experienced and successful farmers are desirous of instructing and encouraging their less fortunate brother farmers, we offer the columns of this Journal for any and all interesting and instructive communications, and it shall not be any expense to them except the trouble of writing their report for the benefit of their country.

If parties obtain premiums for good stock, good crops, or well-managed farms or dairies, their mode of cultivation and management, by which they obtain successful results, should be reported and made public for the general advantage of agriculturists. This, we conceive, would be the most certain mode of making the expenditure of Agricultural Societies useful, and we cannot see any reasonable objection to it.

We copy the Report of the Committee of the Legislative Assembly of last Session of the Provincial Parliament, which has been published in pamphlet form, with the Annual Report of the Lower Canada Agricultural Society to the Legislature, and several letters received by the Directors of that Society, in reply to Circulars containing various queries on Agricultural Statistics, addressed to country gentlemen throughout Lower Canada. There is also a Report from the County of Beauharnois Agricultural Society. The pamphlet contains very interesting information, and the Report of the Select Committee is a proof of the deep interest entertained by the Provincial Parliament in the progress of Agriculture. It is only by a perfect acquaintance with the state of our

agriculture that we can understand the most suitable measures to be adopted for its amelioration. And by the time the Provincial Parliament assembles, we believe the Government will be in possession of very full and accurate information of the present state of Agriculture in Lower Canada, through means of the answers to the printed circulars distributed by the Office of Registration.

REPORT.

The Special Committee, to whom were referred the Annual Report of the Lower Canada Agricultural Society, and the Special Report of the Agricultural Society of the County of Beauharnois, have the Honor to Report, as follows:—

In conformity with the order of reference of your Honorable House, your Committee have examined, with all the care which the subject demands, the Report of the Lower Canada Agricultural Society, and the Special Report of the Agricultural Society of the County of Beauharnois.

Your Committee have understood with great satisfaction, that the publication in French and English, supported by the Society of Lower Canada, and known as "The Agricultural Journal," is going on prosperously, and has a wide circulation.

The Agricultural Society of Lower Canada has set on foot an inquiry, the object of which is the solution of some interesting problems in practical Agriculture in Lower Canada; and your Committee invite the attention of your Honorable House to the documents resulting from that inquiry, annexed to this Report.

Your Committee do not stay to consider the several questions which the Lower Canada Agricultural Society have proposed in the inquiry of which mention has been made, and which especially relate to the practice of Agriculture; Your Committee feeling bound to attend more particularly to that part of the Report which indicates the legislative measures to be adopted for the advancement of Agriculture, and the diffusion of scientific facts and principles connected therewith.

The Special Report emanating from the Agricultural Society of the County of Beauharnois, strengthens the consolatory opinion held by your Committee, that Agriculture, as a science and as a pursuit, is making regular and rapid progress.

Your Committee consider it a duty to remark, that it is desirable that each County should make a special annual return, on the plan of the Report made by the Society of Beauharnois; but they must also remark, that it would be desirable that such documents should be entirely free from sectional prejudices, and sectional feelings.

Your Committee regret the coloring given to certain parts of the Report of the County of Beauharnois, particularly to that part of the Report in which allusion is made to the holidays (*fêtes d'obligation*) observed by Catholics; an allusion the more particularly unreasonable and misplaced, as it is the less probable that the Legislature will, by any act of that body, oblige Catholic farmers to labor on those days which are, by their Church, consecrated to the worship of the Creator.

Your Committee having in view the Report made last year to your Honorable House, and the documents annexed thereto, as well as the Appendix to the pre-