

ducts of the rich wheat field; all seemed to be fully alive to the importance of the hint, "Work while the sun shines."

When at NEWMARKET, a pleasantly located village, upon the East Branch of the Holland River, with its two or three mills—its flourishing Woollen Manufactory—its Stores, Hotels, Coach Manufactory and Cabinet Shops—its four Churches, etc., I was lead to make inquiry as to the existence of an Agricultural Society, and certainly anticipating, after the farms I had seen, finding one in rather a flourishing condition. The vicinity exhibited sufficient marks of the intelligence of the yeomanry, to lead one to believe they were fully alive to the truth of the maxim, that "Union is Strength."—However industrious and active individual farmers may be, yet it is most certainly true, that combined they can do much more to further their own interests and those of their neighbourhood, than they can single-handed. It is an observation, generally true, that where a people exhibit a spirit of interest in each other's welfare, and are careful not only for themselves, but are really anxious to secure weal to their neighbours—prosperity attends them. There is something that deserves success in—

"The heart that can feel for another!"

However, the result of my inquiries as to the Society, was, to say the least of it unexpected and unsatisfactory. It may be true, in impolite language, that "it is none of my business" that the Newmarket Agricultural Society has not been a vigorous and active one, but I shall not the less give the public the benefit, if benefit it be, of such information as I obtained. I found that a society had been formed some few years ago, with the expressed design of promoting "Agriculture, Horticulture, Household Arts, and the Importation of Stock." This society has doubtless been in some degree, indirectly instrumental in furthering some of these objects, but I must be permitted to ask,—not its members truly, for they have been few—but those who should have become so; how much new and valuable seed grain—what useful plants and vegetables—new and improved farming implements, valuable stock embracing the improved breeds of the day—what useful and interesting publications, calculated to promote the intelligence of their rising families, and to infuse a general spirit of inquiry—they, the good people of the Fourth Riding, joined together hand in hand, like brethren, the *Bond of Union* their agricultural Society have introduced? I beg pardon of the farmers for impertinence, but in the present instance, there is such an appearance of excuse for it, that the guilt causes "no pang of conscience!"

The Newmarket Society, established as above mentioned, and which should have been an object of peculiar interest to the farmers, has I am told never had more than ninety members, and even some of these are far-fetched friends, to wit, Messrs. Lafontaine and R. Baldwin. I am happy I must say to find, what I need hardly have expected to have been otherwise, that these gentlemen, whose names are so intimately connected with the Riding, have not neglected to lend their influence and subscriptions to further a noble cause. It is right however to add, that if these gentlemen, and the remark applies to others as well, could amidst their many avocations, find time to attend occasionally, the meetings of the Society, and by their "powers of speech," would endeavour to dissipate the carelessness and indifference which pervades the minds of many upon the important subjects which are within its peculiar scope, they would render

the Society and the Riding a valuable and praiseworthy service.

But to return. Ninety members! Bless me, where are the hundreds of proprietors of the valuable and rich farms, which are so pleasing to the eye of the traveller, and capable of supplying their proprietors with all degrees of temporal comforts and satisfactions! It would astonish an intelligent person, brought up in a land of enterprise, were he told that some of the most influential and wealthy farmers in the immediate vicinity of Newmarket, have not properly honoured the Society with their presence, and themselves by doing so; while others have of late neglected to pay their annual subscriptions!

The present Officers of the Society are—

Colonel Carthew,	President,
Geo. Plater,	Vice-President,
Michael P. Empey,	Secy. & Treasurer,
Rev. M. Ritchie,	Chaplain.

COMMITTEE:

James Pearson,	Isaac Lundy,
Nathaniel Pearson,	John Rogers,
Peter Pearson,	Capt. Irving,
James Forsyth,	F. Green,
P. Lyne,	Geo. Simpson,
R. H. Smith,	Thomas Garbutt,
Joshua Wilson,	Lot Harman,
Thomas Cosford,	John Clubine.

It is useful to remark that much, very much indeed, depends upon the efficiency and energy of the officers of an institution, and it under their auspices it has not been vigorous and flourishing, there is evidence either of want of zeal or of want of good management. Those who are fully alive to the importance of the Agricultural Society, will not fail to appreciate the exertions of such officers as have faithfully discharged their duties, while at the same time, they will not omit also to make in their own minds, (for the task of 'speaking out' would be an invidious one), a proper estimate of the character of individuals who accept of office, and then treat its duties with carelessness and neglect. Some situations are purely honorary, and originated to promote the public good, having no pecuniary emolument connected with them, and these are the situations which the best and most patriotic friends of the country are the best calculated to fill. No truly honourable man would think of accepting such a situation, without expecting at the same time to be zealous and spirited in the discharge of its duties. The application of these remarks to the various officers of an Agricultural Society is obvious; and in reference to the officers of the particular institution which has called them forth, it is not incumbent on one to make this application.

Desirous of knowing who were the most intelligent and enterprising farmers in the vicinity of Newmarket, I asked who among them had been the most zealous in forwarding the interests of the Society, under the impression that these would most probably be of that class. I was told that Captain Irving had been elected President in Oct'r. 1840, and that he acted for the then ensuing year, aiding and assisting the Society, both by liberal donations, and which was quite as important, by carefully attending to the duties of his office. Preceding him was James Pearson, a wealthy farmer, who was instrumental in getting up the Society, and who has proved himself friendly to the cause of agriculture, by giving a share of his time and attention to its interests. I may remark, that Mr. Pearson and perhaps some others whom I may mention, from the situations which they hold, are entitled to be dignified as "Squires," were it my particular business to be very courteous, but I beg leave at this time simply to write of all such

as farmers, believing that the appendage of 'Esquire' to the name of an honest yeoman, does not make him a better or more noble man, nor is it particularly calculated to raise him in the estimation of those who know of what true worth is really composed. The names of Isaac Lundy, Joshua Wilson, Geo. Plater, James Forsyth, George Simpson, Peter and Nathaniel Pearson, and Lot Harman were made honourable mention of as good friends to the Society, and of the noble cause of agriculture. It is right that such men should be pointed out, and respected in proportion to their usefulness. Michael P. Empey, a merchant at Newmarket, it will be observed is the Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, and though not a farmer, is known as one of its warmest and useful friends.

By the Constitution of the Society, it appears the members of the Executive Committee is limited to 16. It is read 16 "or more," it appears to me, there would be a manifest improvement. The office of Committeemen, is one of the most efficient connected with an Agricultural Society; and in order that its influence might be generally felt, it is always advisable to endeavour to have one good Committeeman in every line to converse with his neighbours as to prosperity and business of the Society, to warn them out to the general meetings, and to solicit their support.

I was on the point of concluding this essay, when those 90 members run into my mind again. Only 90 members! just think of this ye friends of agriculture! One of the most fertile sections of the Province, well settled and pretty well cultivated, is able to turn out ninety members as belonging to their Agricultural Society! What a spirit of "looking on and doing nothing" is here manifested! It would not be easy to calculate the amount of good which might be effected by a Society managed with spirit and ability. There has been no such discovery yet made as absolute perfection in agriculture, but on the contrary a vast field is lying open unimproved, and I know no better way of occupying the untenanted tract, with profit to those who immediately occupy, and to the country at large, than by bringing as it were into one vast store house, all the knowledge and skill derived from experience which the oldest and the ablest, as well as others of those, who have followed the necessary and honourable business of cultivating the earth, have been able to acquire, in order that all may have the benefit of them. The meetings of the Society itself, afford an agreeable opportunity for collecting and conveying information throughout its own neighbourhood, and THE CULTIVATOR, now happily established in the City of Toronto, affords a medium of more general communication with other parts of the Province.—It is a source of regret, that the friends of agriculture do not "arise in their might," and assist to make THE CULTIVATOR peculiarly interesting in each and every vicinity in Canada, by cheerful and spirited communications. There is no duty more gratifying to the enlightened and generous man than that of imparting useful instruction to his fellows; and there is no task which the really patriotic Canadian, whose attention has been turned to the subject, should be more ready to perform.

W. O. BUELL.

August 20th, 1842.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE BREED OF IRISH PIGS.—Five years ago, some hogs were sent from Berkshire and Hampshire to Bristol, for Ireland. This is one cause of the improvement. Another is, the plan of frequently washing the skin, and rubbing it with a hard brush. This is the way Hampshire farmers manage their pigs.