

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.

SIR,—I was sorry to perceive by the last number of your excellent Journal that the Directors of the Lower Canada Agricultural Society have an idea of discontinuing its publication, alleging as the cause—the want of adequate support. If this information was to come from any other source, I could not persuade myself to credit it. I imagined it was better supported than any publications in Eastern Canada. I arrived at this conclusion because as a farmer I know the value of your Journal and I also know that nine tenths of the population of Eastern Canada are occupiers of land. They may not all be sufficiently educated to appreciate the useful information the Journal contains, but there are a sufficient number of them who can read and understand that, were they to subscribe, would support the Journal, and pay you as Editor. I cannot understand the cause that farmers to a man should not be subscribers to the Agricultural Journal. I should be sorry to suppose it was poverty that prevented them paying the small amount of five shillings annually, and convinced as I am that the Journal would be useful to the most competent practical farmer in the country. I cannot account for their declining to subscribe to it—I would be sorry to charge my brother farmers, as other parties do, with a disinclination to any improvement in their business, but that they would prefer following the system of their fathers, to introducing any improvement in the old system, however manifestly it might be for their advantage. This would be a grave charge to bring against a class that must have a great influence upon the prosperity not only of themselves, but upon all classes of the community. I am disposed to think better of them, and that it may be from their ignorance of the existence of the Journal, that they do not subscribe for it. May I ask you, Mr. Editor, if all the County Agricultural Societies subscribe for any or many copies; they would be the proper medium to circulate the Journal amongst the farmers, and they could not employ a part of their funds to a better purpose. I know from my own experience that if farmers were ac-

quainted with the useful information I have found in your Journal they would not be so indifferent to their own interest as to let a day pass before they would subscribe for it. Whatever charge may be urged against farmers, the charge of their disregarding their own interest, when they know what it is, will not apply to many of them that I am acquainted with. Prejudice and strong feeling of self esteem might have great influence, but I cannot see why either should operate in withholding them from subscribing to your Journal, and if those feelings have had any effect hitherto, I hope they will have none from this forth.

The letters of the Roman Catholic Lord Bishop of Montreal, and of the Rev. Mr. Cazeau of Quebec, published in the last number of the Journal, must have afforded you much satisfaction, both as they expressed their anxious desire for the improvement of agriculture and their approval and acknowledgment of your well known efforts in that cause. This acknowledgment from such a quarter must be very gratifying to you. The country, however, owes you something more than this, for your labours for its welfare. I am one of those who think that a country, no more than an individual, has no right to benefit by services, rendered voluntarily or not, without full compensation; for them and if you are not rewarded in some shape other for your services, which I know are admitted in all quarters, a great injustice will be done; and it will be the more inexcusable, inasmuch as you have devoted yourself to benefit the country at large, free from self interest or party bias.

A PRACTICAL FARMER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.

SIR,—The true friends of the country admire with sincerity the extended circulation of your interesting publication, the *Agricultural Journal*; which, though printed with care, and replete with appropriate selections, has not up to this time been appreciated as highly as it merits; because in certain localities political affairs, rivalries and other causes, have interfered to prevent it.

Notwithstanding the zeal of the promoters of the art, and the Editors of this useful Journal, I must take the liberty of citing to amateurs and others who are interested, some of the causes,