PROGRESSIVE IMPROVEMENT IN AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE.

In our present number, we republish from the Journals of the Assembly, an abstract of the Report compiled by H. W. Baldwin, Esq., Secretary to the Agricultural Society, and High Sheriff of the County of Gloucester.

Late in the present Session, a small grant was moved in Supply, intended as a mark of Legislative approbation of the great care and labor bestowed by Mr. Baldwin in compiling the excellent Report to which we have refered, rather than a remuneration for that service. We look upon this Report as a model which might be adopted by Agricultural Societies throughout the Province with great advantage to those interested in such pursuits, as it conveys within a very small compass, a mass of statistical information which ought to be furnished from every County in the Province. It is upon such information that the Legislature and the people are able to judge of the progress of Agricultural improvement; and when it is found that the returns from any County give a marked improvement in the quantity of Agricultural produce, the people in other sections of the Province will naturally begin to enquire by what means a result so favorable has been obtained. This will lead to discussion on the particular mode of culture and management of the soil, the quality and description of land, in short every thing relating to the Agricultural economy which has been pursued in the district or County to which the Report refers.

In the short discussion which took place in the Assembly on this subject, a number of Members bore testimony to the rapid progressive improvement which has for the last few years been going forward in the Northern Counties in this Province, particularly in the Counties of Northumberland and Gloucester; in the former County it was distinctly stated that, in a space of four miles, running back one half mile from the river, it had been ascertained that *seven hundred barrels* of flour had been manufactured from the wheat produced on this strip of land, besides other crops.

The Farmers in the northern section of the Province may well be gratified at the voluntary and flattering testimony borne to their laudable exertions in the promotion of Agricultural Science; and we hope their example will be imitated by others, who, although equally as well situated as regards soil and climate, do not appear to have made anything like the progress which those in the Counties to which we have referred have done.

We trust that the hints thrown out in the Legislature with regard to the importance of correct statistical information, will not be lost sight of by the members of Assembly resident in the different Counties; and that the example of the Sheriff of Gloucester will be followed by the Secretary of every Agricultural Society in the Province. It is high time that the Agriculturists of New Brunswick should rouse themselves from the lethargy which seems to have retarded the progress of improvement in this most important of all pursuits; and, like their neighbors, bring to their aid the improvements which are year after year enriching the soil, and raising the Farmer who properly understands his business to independence and opulence.

It is not unusual in Great Britain to make monthly Reports on the state of the weather and appearance of the crops, which are usually published by the Secretary under the direction of the Committee of the Agricultural Society for the district or County to which the report refers. If the Secretaries of the Agricultural Societies would forward such information for the *Farmer's Manual* in *June* and *August*, we should be happy to insert them separately, or if too lengthy, a general report could be easily compiled from them, which would afford the necessary information, and might be of use in regulating the market prices of many articles of agricultural produce. We invite the attention of the different Agricultural Societies to this subject, and shall cheerfully lend all the aid in our power to give publicity to any useful suggestions which may be contained in the local Reports—should they be forwarded to us.

☞ Agricultural Societies who have been formerly supplied with copies of this paper by order of the Legislature, will observe that in future the Manual will be sent to the subscribers and only to such Societies as may require them continued. In order to render this work generally useful it must be generally circulated and as we are determined to make it, if possible, a vehicle for the diffusion of useful knowledge on the subject to which it is devoted, we hope our Agricultural friends will second our efforts by promoting its circulation.

(For the Farmer's Manual.)

The power of grain corn or to multiply itself, even in a single year, is a subject as much of curiosity and astonishment as of importance and general utility. For the elucidation of this subject, I transcribe for republication, from a work of unquestionable authority the following examples:—

"In 1816 Dr. Adam Clark sowed for a third crop a field with oats at Millbrook, in Lancashire, England; the grains weighed on an average three-quarters of a grain each. One grain produced three stalks with three ears: the largest had 68 grains on it, the second 26, and the third 25.

Whole number of grains 119, which together weighed,	82 grs.
The root separately, after washing and drying, weighed	13¼ "
The stalks and remaining leaves (for many had perished in the wet season	630½ "
Whole produce of one grain of Oats,	726 grs.;

which was 725¼ more than the original weight."