

To the Editor of The British American Cultivator.

HURON DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

GODERICH, Huron District, }  
March 11th, 1843. }

Sir,

Having seen in your paper, several accounts of the different Agricultural Societies in this Province, I trust that you will give the following account of the lately formed Huron District Agricultural Society, an early insertion in your excellent pages. This Society was formed on the 14<sup>th</sup> February, 1842, under the patronage of Thomas Mercer Jones, Esq., Commissioner of the Canada Company. The affairs of the Society are managed by a President, two Vice Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, and 15 Directors, elected annually, through whose active exertions the affairs of this infant Society are very prosperous. The Canada Company, with their accustomed liberality, presented the Society, through the hands of their Commissioner, with a very handsome donation in aid of the funds. The consequence of which, at the annual meeting on the 14th February last, the Treasurer, after paying all the yearly expenses of the Society, still had the balance of £152 5s. remaining in his hands. The Society have purchased a thorough bred Durham bull, 4 years old, from the stock of the Hon'ble Adam Ferguson, of Woodhill; and also, a thorough bred Devon—both for the use of the settlement. Six copies of the *Cultivator* are circulated by the Society amongst the members, and will no doubt tend greatly to the improvement of the farmers. A premium of ten pounds has been given for the erection of a weighing machine in the market square; and the same premium offered for the best bred horse, that shall travel the District during this season. And premiums are offered for the best orchards and nurseries of grafted fruit trees.

It is therefore sincerely wished that the farmers will come forward with alacrity, and cheerfully contribute their aid in support of a Society formed expressly to promote their welfare, and which has already promised so fair to become in a few years of much utility, and a source of future wealth.

The first show was held at Goderich, on the 18th of October last, when premiums were awarded for the best stock and agricultural produce. The cattle were only of the common stock of the country, but such as were very good of their kind. Some excellent Berkshire pigs, the property of Mr. William Gooding, to whom the prize was justly awarded. But the agricultural produce was particularly fine, and received great commendation. The fall wheat prize was given to Mr. Elliott, whose wheat weighed 64 lbs. a bushel. The spring wheat 62 lbs., and was very fine. So also were all the other sorts of grain. Beautiful butter and excellent turnips, mangel wurzel and other roots, sufficiently proving the richness of the soil in the Dis-

trict, and the laudable pride taken by the farmers in their productions.

Believe me to be, Sir,  
Ever your well wisher,  
N. BROWN.

To the Editor of The British American Cultivator.

Sir,

In some of your former numbers there appeared a proposition much approved of in my neighbourhood, viz: that there should be formed in Canada, a general board of agriculture. In anticipation of your further urging the subject, I, as well as many others, have remained silent; but we now think it high time, that more than that proposition should be advanced.

The want of union amongst farmers, which has hitherto prevailed, is principally the cause of our want of strength; and the formation of the general board of agriculture would, with your very efficient paper, be the means of a union and co-operation, which would ere long relieve us from our present disabilities—so far, I presume you and I are of one opinion;—but what next is to be done? To reason the matter farther is superfluous:—all the farmers in Canada west, at least, will agree with you; and I presume that were you without further loss of time to act as Secretary to such Board and in your April impression call upon every district society in the Province, to elect a delegate to some central rendezvous, there to concert measures for the more complete organization of such society;—that your call would be very zealously and respectfully attended to.

May I then request that you will take such measures, as to you may seem most likely to effect such meeting, and the formation of such general board, and bear in mind that time is precious—it is fast passing away; and you should not leave until to-morrow what should be done to-day.

The farmer must now look to you as his friend and counsel, and you may depend the farmers of this section of the Province, will appreciate your exertions; but go-a-head—let this board be formed—it will be attended from all quarters of Canada west. Your humble correspondent has for the last ten years, often been alone in supporting the cause you have so seasonably espoused—confident it was and is a strong one: its strength will now, it is evident, be manifested through your columns—the materials are at your hand in every farm house and shanty in the country—be it your business to unite, and thereby strengthen these materials into a superstructure, that cannot be overthrown by any other power in this country;—a superstructure, which from the nature of our soil, our climate, and our people,—must gather bulk, wealth and strength, as time rolls on—if those depending on its existence for justice, are but true to themselves and will remain united.

I am, Sir, yours truly,  
A FARMER.

PITTSBURGH, 16th March, 1843.

To the Editor of the British American Cultivator.

TURNIP CULTURE.

Sir,

Through the medium of your useful paper, I wish to make a few enquiries. Will some one of those farmers, who have had experience in the culture of turnips and stall-feeding, be kind enough to state, whether Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurzel, or what kind of turnips is best adapted to our soil and climate, and the purposes of fattening. How the ground should be prepared to produce the most abundant crop, and what time and in what manner the seed should be sown. How many turnips should be fed to an ox at one time, and how frequently. The answers to these questions by yourself, or some one of your subscribers acquainted with the subject, will greatly oblige

A YOUNG FARMER.

In answer to the inquiries of a *Young Farmer*, we would refer him to an article on another page, which will show him a scale of the comparative value of roots and farming produce of every description for food. So long as things remain as at present, stall-feeding horned cattle for the market, will prove a sinking business, and no farmer would be wise in attempting it on a large scale. Five roods of mangel wurzel may be grown with more ease than four of Swedish turnips, and three of potatoes, than one of the latter. The turnip fly has been so destructive to the young plant for the last few years, that many of the best turnip growers have become quite discouraged. Those little depredators do no harm to the plant, when sown on new lands, lately cleared from the forest. Ashes strewn on the ground are a sure preventive, and if not laid on in too great an abundance, will act as a stimulant for the plant. Field carrots will ultimately prove the most valuable root in use for feeding cattle. Rutabago seed should be sown or drilled from the twenty-fifth of May to the tenth of June. As a general thing we would recommend drilling for every description of roots, so that the land may be cultivated between the rows with a horse and cultivator, and by that means save much manual labour.

Lands for roots require autumn and at least two spring ploughings; and from twenty-five to thirty waggon loads of good barn yard manure per acre. Manure for turnip land, should be thoroughly fermented, and would be most serviceable were it laid in the bottom of the drills, and the drills split with a plough; by this means the plants would have the whole benefit of it. The quantity fed per day, will entirely depend upon the size of the ox and the quantity of other food given him, and should probably average five pecks per day, but must be varied in the different stages of feeding, to suit the taste and condition of the beast; half the above may be given morning and evening; and oat sheaf, cut