

tions of fruit can be successfully cultivated here—notably apples, plums, cherries, strawberries, raspberries. There is another fruit—the cranberry—which, owing to its superior qualities, must be in constantly increasing demand, and which, growing luxuriantly with us in a wild state, there is little doubt could be cultivated to advantage. There are persons in the Province, who, by giving their attention to one or two of these articles alone, have earned an independence, although having little advantage over us in situation. The culture of the strawberry and raspberry in Kings Co., N. B., to the extent of exporting large quantities to the United States, is an example of what we might do with similar enterprise. There are, doubtless, some of our landowners who have not suitable tracts for the growth of the larger fruits, owing principally to the prevailing winds along our coast lines, but even some of the farms most exposed to this objection contain tracts which, by the use of hedges of rapid growth could be better protected than some profitable orchards we know of on the Bay of Fundy coast. Our people need to use more of so healthful an article of food as fruit, and in an economic point of view every person with a considerable tract of land ought to devote some of it to the production of apples for his own use. We do not write in the interest of physicians when we say that when this can be done, more of our fat pork and buck-wheat, which too many make staple articles of food for summer and winter, can be disposed of, and fruit to some extent substituted. We have frequently invited attention to the cultivation of fruit as a pleasing and profitable employment, and are led to refer to it again just now in view of the public meeting soon to be held here in connection with the subject, as advertized in the GAZETTE of to-day. We hope the meeting will be largely attended by those who ought to be interested, as we have no doubt it will afford much profitable and practical information.

OUR Local and District Agricultural Societies are not Dining Institutions. At last Exhibition some one suggested a Public Dinner, but everybody else was too busy to think of it. Our Central Board of Agriculture has never dined. It is not so with our neighbours in New Brunswick. The Societies there seem to have frequent dinners. The Sunbury Society ate one the other day, and if the dinner proper was at all proportionate to the speeches, in quality and quantity, then it must surely have been a sumptuous repast. The report of the speeches runs through two numbers of the *Colonial Farmer*, filling column after column with practical truths, rough and ready criticisms, and sage suggestions, for only a few of which

can we hope to fit a room, and our recital of even these must be in very condensed terms. Speaking to the toast of "The Board of Agriculture," Mr. Sterling spoke of the farmers' high expectations, and how, when the result was not up to the standard, complaints rang fast and loud about their ears, the Board being denounced as useless, its members incompetent, &c. In New Brunswick the Board seems to be a sort of buffer between the Government and the farmers. Let the Board resolve on an onward step, and up comes the Government, and places a cog on the wheel. The Model Farm fell through for want of a grant. When delegates were appointed last year to purchase stock, the Government objected to the number, and when the number was reduced, the Government objected to the lateness of the season. And, what next? They then proposed to abolish the Board and substitute a Bureau of Agriculture, which change the speaker strongly condemned.

Ex-Warden Mitchell spoke of the great influence of Education in promoting a better system of Agriculture, and of the immense development of Agricultural machinery of late years, which was chiefly due to the efforts of Agricultural Societies.

Mr. Payne eulogized the Agricultural press, and told the farmers not to complain of the want of useful or original observations in their local agricultural paper unless they performed their duty of sending regularly to the Editor the results of their own experiments and observations.

Mr. W. D. Perley, when he first came to Maugerville, fourteen years ago, found hardly ten bushels of wheat raised in the entire Parish, while last season, on the farms from Mr. Daniel Sterling's to Mr. Foster's the crop was over one thousand bushels, and from inquiry he had learned that in Blissville, Lincoln and Burton, the increase is proportionally large. To prove the crop is one that pays, he cited the cases of Mr. Sterling and Mr. Johnson, the former raised one hundred bushels from five, the latter twenty-eight from a single bushel. The best varieties in his opinion were, the Fyfe, the Lost Nation or Old Man's Wheat. Mr. P. agreed that the Board had been crippled. He was not a member of the Board, but had worked hard against its overthrow, not for selfish motives but in defence of his rights as a farmer. The Government want to abolish the Board, not for the good of the farmers, but to make room for some lawyer as a head of a New Department, and to prevent such change it was necessary for the farmers to combine in their might. Instead of abolishing the Board, he would advise the withdrawal of all grants to local societies, and the placing of a sum, say \$20,000, in the

hands of the Board, to be expended, in England, in the purchase of stock by a competent delegate. The purchases could be sold in the Province for at least half cost, and, by continuing this plan for three years, there would result such a grade of stock as would be sought after by Canada and the United States. By this plan, properly carried out, the money would be applied directly to the object for which it is granted, and not frittered away through a hundred different channels, as in the purchase of inferior stock in Canada and other places. He likewise advocated the establishment of an Agricultural College.

Mr. D. Smith did not agree with Mr. Perley. The drain on the Provincial Treasury would be too great. Our stock is not so bad as people say. After what we had heard about the sale of Canadian cattle in England, it would be a poor investment to send money there to bring them back again, &c., &c. Half the breed is in the mouth. Let us learn to feed and house what we have, before prating about improvement, and so on.

Mr. Hazen, J. P., ridiculed the Sunbury Society's importation mania, which at one time (he said) threatened to result in a collection of animals only equalled by that of the Royal Theological Society of London. As Mr. Hazen seems to have thrown his whole force into an attempt at the ludicrous, we give him the full benefit of the "Theological" lapsus, lest any correction by us of supposed slips of tongue, or pen, or printer, might perchance impair the picturesqueness of his description.

Mr. T. O. Miles, President, said that he was opposed to surrendering the \$12,000 Government grant, as the local Societies required all the money, but he was and always had been, favorable to a model farm. The history of England shows that thirty years ago the introduction of new chemical manures into England gave an enormous gain in crops, especially turnips, resulting in raising the stock of that country to be the best in the world. Thus, by the application of chemistry to practical farming, England's farmers have been enormous gainers, and in the light of the 19th century, I hold it is unwise to shut our eyes to their experience. What we want is a School and Farm where such things can be taught and worked out before the eyes of the Students, and this we must have in New Brunswick before long. Again, there is another wide field opening up to mechanical genius. Improved farm implements we must have, and why not make them in the Province? With fifteen or twenty varieties, we have not yet seen a plough suited to the country. Who will be the first to invent it?

In conclusion the President expressed his gratification at the success of the