

in a great measure, dependant on our American neighbors. As regards manufactures, generally, it will be our business, for many years to come, to export whatever we can with advantage,—whether as mere surplus, or grown expressly for the purpose,—and in return, to trust chiefly to importation from the Mother Country, for whatever we may want in the way of manufactured luxuries or conveniences.

The Prizes for improved domestic manufactures, are succeeded by various premiums for the best reports of practical agricultural experiments on the clearing of land, the most approved rotation of crops, the best general agricultural essays, and the best agricultural and meteorological diaries. This diversified head, Gentlemen, is of far more importance than may at first be apparent; but when duly considered, it will be found to yield to few. In fact, practical experiment is not only the touch-stone of theory and the test of truth, but the parent of improvement, as well as of *new* discoveries; and in no science does it afford more beneficial results, than in that of agriculture. Of the truth of this observation, a whole host of evidences and proofs might be adduced, if necessary; but such is not required; and it is, perhaps, equally beyond a doubt, that there is no part of Canada in which experiments of the kind are so likely to be productive of direct and immediate good effects, as in the *Western District*. To enable the members of the Society, however, to have a fair chance of carrying on such experiments with success, it appears to me that some measures should be adopted for putting them in possession of the *opinions*, as well as *experiments*, of the scientific agriculturists of Europe, together with the later and nearer, and therefore more congenial ones of those in the neighboring American States; and that it would therefore be advisable that the Society should, in time, possess a tolerable *Agricultural Horticultural*, and *Botanical LIBRARY*; but that in the interim, a limited number of the most approved English and American standard works and periodicals on Agriculture and Gardening, should be purchased in duplicate or triplicate, for deposit for reference, if not for circulation, at what might be called the *Head Quarters* of each Division of the District;—and none seem more desirable than the *Gniese Farmer*,—not only on account of its intrinsic worth as an impartial and successful general gleaner of every kind of agricultural information and experiments, but as emanating from a part of the United States so similar to our own country, in climate and parallel of latitude, as to hold out every prospect of whatever has been found successful there, yielding similar results with us.

The mention of Prize Essays may also, at first, startle some,—as giving, in conjunction with the last mentioned head, too much of a literary character to the Society; but in this, I am little disposed to acquiesce; for I can perceive no good grounds why there should not, at least, be Premiums for the *best reports* of well authenticated, *successful experiments*; and if that be admitted, why should not good

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