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CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Among the great variety of subjects that properly come under the notice and discussion of agricultural periodicals, none are of greater importance than that of the organization and management of associations that have for their object the encouragement of the agricultural and mechanical improvement of the country. At this season of the year the practical operations on the farm are of such a nature that it would scarcely be necessary for a public journalist to attempt giving directions, with a view of having them put into practice, for the obvious reason that the simple processes of thrashing, chopping, and delivering the produce of the farm to market, together with the various other details of labor required to be performed during the winter months, do not require much skill in their execution, and may be tolerably efficiently done by persons who, in other respects, would be ill calculated to take charge of the improved management of a well regulated farm. For this reason no attempt whatever will be made during the winter months, at writing upon those subjects that might, in a practical point of view, be termed *seasonable*; but rather a considerable space shall be occupied in the discussion of a class of subjects that will have for their object the preparation of the public mind for the due and better performance of those acts that devolve upon both statesmen and citizens, in order that the full development of the numerous resources of the country may be speedily and fully accomplished.

A little attention will be given at this time, to the consideration of what, in the judgment of the writer, may be considered the best method of organizing agricultural

societies in that portion of the province now styled Western Canada; and before the conclusion of the remarks, the beneficial influence that the proposed system will have upon the agricultural and mechanical classes of the country, shall be clearly pointed out, so that all who evince any interest whatever in favour of the welfare of the colony, may be induced to render all the aid in their power in consummating either such, or a very similar system of organization.

The agricultural societies of Western Canada are very properly divided into three distinct classes, viz.:—the Provincial, the District, and the Township Societies. For convenience sake, they will be taken up and discussed in the order of their importance, and as they are above presented to notice.

PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF UPPER CANADA.

This Association was organized on the 17th of August, in the year 1846, at the city of Hamilton. After three unsuccessful attempts in the city of Toronto, at obtaining an organization, it was deemed by the originators of the movement, a wise course to adjourn to the city of Hamilton, so that the friends of improvement in the districts lying east and west of the Home District, might have confidence in it; and accordingly, seventeen delegates reported themselves, and the institution was organized and established on the day and place mentioned above. Without five pounds in the Treasury, premiums to the amount of between five and six hundred pounds were announced by public advertisement, and in ten weeks from the period of the formation of the Association, the first public exhibition under its patronage was held in the city of Toronto, at the Old Government House, now the Provincial