

American neighbors, yet the kind of information likely to prove most useful to the Nova Scotian farmers is to be sought in the Province and chiefly among the farmers themselves. It is to be hoped, therefore, that they will not be backward in aiding our efforts; but will cheerfully contribute to the general fund of knowledge.

We require to know the practical results of experiments in the country, before we can safely recommend new processes of culture or new modes of feeding, however successful they may have proved in other hands. Now, every farmer is to a certain extent an experimental farmer, unless indeed his eyes are closed to the most obvious teaching. Every year, every month, even every day, brings about some result upon a farm in connection with crop or stock, that affords him a useful lesson, worth being made known among his brother farmers. When bone-dust, or superphosphate, or sea-weed, or plaster, or swamp muck, or ashes, or lime, or compost, are applied to a soil, and produce an appreciable effect, other farmers ought to be made acquainted with the result, in order that they too may benefit by the practice, if a profitable one, or avoid repeating the experiment if unprofitable. In the same way let the experience of farmers in the feeding and management of the various breed of neat cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry be made known. Let us hear what varieties of grain, turnips, mangels and potatoes succeed best in certain soils and in certain districts, and are least liable to insect-enemies and disease. Let us know what labor-saving implements and machines are best suited to smooth intervals farms, and what are to be preferred for rough up-lands; let us know what are the most profitable varieties of apples for orchard culture, and why the general culture of apples is so strictly limited to a few counties; why the hum of the honey bee is so seldom heard; what varieties of culinary vegetable are adapted to the farmer's garden; and what creepers and flowers are best suited to throw an air of beauty around his dwelling.

These are a few of the topics that invite attention in the columns of the JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE. To the farmers of this Province we appeal for that practical information which they alone can give in order that the various matters introduced may be discussed in a thoroughly practical and profitable manner. Let it not be said that the farmers of Nova Scotia lack the ambition necessary to give spirited support to a Journal specially charged with the interests of their profession.

Communications, &c.

It is distinctly to be borne in mind that we do not, by inserting letters convey any opinion favorable to their contents. We open our columns to all, without leaning to any; and thus supply a channel for the publication of opinions of all shades, to be found in no other journal in Nova Scotia.

No notice whatever will be taken of anonymous communications. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

TO "CRITIC" IN THE "COLONIST."

I shall spend as few words as possible on your last silly production. As to your pretended respect, and courtesy towards me in your first letter, I only acknowledged them, as what is called "a left handed compliment." Now, from your last low language I may safely infer, that knowing my fair reputation in the Province, you thought it well to preface what you had to say, with that profession of respect, so as to gain some attention to your trifling objections. That profession may now be properly put under the head of what is called, "false pretences;" and even your own conscience will tell you that such is its character. As to my calling the proposed union a Legislative one, I certainly did so name it, and also said, that it was "both a Federal and a Legislative Union." Now, do you pretend to be a critic, and yet cannot see that both these statements are quite consistent, and in harmony? I never said, as you have untruly asserted of me, that it was a Legislative and not a Federal Union. In regard to Mr. McDonald's speeches, I used the words—"his facts and arguments," not his "figures and estimates." Again I ask, cannot you,—a professed critic,—see the difference between the two sets of terms. But, here I must stop, and say that I cannot lower myself, waste my time, and offend against the public, by remarking any further on your silly objections, which as you have truly said,—"are of no moment, in reference to Confederation;" and all of which, I suf-

ficiently exposed and answered in my first letter. You are as yet but a *Myth*,—a very weak anonymous scribe. Anonymous writers are mostly regarded with but little consideration, and are never on a par with those who give their names. I have given mine, to all I have written on this Union subject. Now, do you come forward in a manly courageous manner, and in your true name, endeavour to support your side of the main subject, and I promise to treat you with all becoming civility. I give you the challenge to do it, and then we shall meet on equal terms. As you view my pamphlet with such hostility, and yet affect to make light of it probably it will not be very pleasing to you to hear, that it seems to be most beautifully doing the work for which it was brought out. I have only about some half a dozen copies of it now on hand, having furnished a copy, to nearly all the members of the two Houses of Parliament, and have had calls for it from several parts of the Province,—one by a telegram,—and have supplied to St. John's and Fredericton, in New Brunswick, applications for numbers of copies. I have reason to believe that it has been something like a *shell* in your traitorous camp; and I am now bringing through the press some further, and still more formidable and destructive projectiles, which may possibly put you to the trouble of some other productions which you may dignify with the name of *criticism*. Prepare for the work, but let us have your true name; and as, doubtless, you have some kind of reputation in the community, it may give your critical labour some little effect.

J. G. MARSHALL.

[We cannot agree with Judge Marshall regarding anonymous writers. To our thinking, the best arguer commonly wins the day, whether his arguments be put forward in his own name, or under a *nom de plume*. To assume a writer "*a Myth*," because he writes anonymously, is to measure a man's arguments by his character—a proceeding most unwise. The veriest drunkard might write well upon the merits of total abstinence, and the most self-indulgent man might write well upon the luxury of self-denial. While we agree with Judge Marshall in his views upon Federation, we are by no means prepared to endorse his views regarding anonymous writers in the public press. Many men, well informed, and worthy of an hearing, would never come before the public unless they could do so anonymously. Had Janus no weight,—Ed. B. F.]

WINDSOR, 17th Feb. 1865.

Mr. Editor,—

You are well aware, I suppose, of the fact, that a few months ago a gentleman from Canada, Mr. N. C. Gowan, visited this Province for the purpose of organizing or establishing a new Temperance Society called the "British Templars." That gentleman had no sooner entered upon the performance of his duty, than the Sons of Temperance, commenced to pour upon him, through the columns of the Public press, the severest threats and denunciations that their excited passions could possibly invent. But not only did they act in the most contemptible manner by opposing the gentleman in this way, but Public officers (men in whom any man of whatever class, sect or nationality, should be able to place full confidence) because they were "Sons of Temperance," refrained not to carry the vindictive spirit into their official duties—I may cite as an instance the action of the Colonial Express Agent in this town. That gentleman, sir, a Son of Temperance, mark you! has dared to violate the sanctity of his office, has dared to overstep the bounds of his official relationship to the public weal, and has ventured to lend himself to the intrigues of that order, on the Banner of which is inscribed "Love, Purity, and Fidelity," but whose Standard Bearers, have inscribed on their hearts as their wondrous cardinal principles "Lunacy, Pseudology, &c., &c." But, sir, this gentleman has lent himself to the performance of an act of the meanest character, and one which I think is too barefaced to be allowed to remain unnoticed. Mr. Gowan, the gentleman I before referred to, having had a large quantity of books printed in Halifax; containing the Ceremonies, Lectures, Degree Ceremonies, &c., of the order, (all of which are held sacred and not allowed to be made public), ordered the books to be sent to Windsor by Colonial Express. They came, tied up in thick brown paper, but by some means or other (whether done after the parcel came to the Windsor office or not I cannot say) the paper got broken off one of the corners of the package. The books, however, were tied up in such a manner