

TO THE DIRECTORS OF AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

We extract the following from the *Genesee Farmer*, for 1810, and would recommend the Officers of Agricultural Societies, to take up the subject of supporting our efforts in the manner suggested by our worthy contemporary:

"From much observation and inquiry made during a late tour in Western Canada, we are convinced, that with the liberal aid which is rendered by Government, much more can easily be done for the advancement of agriculture in that rich Province than is done at present.

The principal difficulty which exists, is a want of proper stimulus for the mind. The farmers do not rightly estimate the advantages which they possess; or appreciate the dignity and importance of their profession. Their minds are not sufficiently interested in their calling, and therefore it is obvious that the first thing to be done, should be to persuade them to read on the subject. Let them be often informed what other farmers, and other societies have done, and are now doing, in their own and other countries, and they will not long feel indifferent on the subject of improvement, or be contented with present attainments. An active spirit of emulation and enterprise will soon be elicited, which will effect a most salutary change in the character of their agriculture, and impart new life to their societies. WE ARE CONVINCED FROM OBSERVATION AND EXPERIENCE, THAT NO AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES CAN LONG BE SUSTAINED WITH MUCH SPIRIT AND USEFULNESS, UNLESS THE MEMBERS ARE READERS OF SOME SPIRITED AGRICULTURAL PERIODICAL; AND NOTHING AT SO LITTLE EXPENSE WOULD DO AS MUCH FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF CANADIAN AGRICULTURE, AS THE GENERAL CIRCULATION OF A PAPER CONTAINING INTERESTING INTELLIGENCE AND VALUABLE ESSAYS ON IMPROVED HUSBANDRY.

It is admitted that such a paper cannot be published in that country now with much success, and therefore at the suggestion of some warm friends of the cause, we make the following propositions:—If the Directors of the Agricultural Societies will make arrangements to place the *New Genesee Farmer* in the hands of each of their members, we will devote a portion of the paper to Canadian intelligence, &c. If it was made a rule as some have suggested, that when a member pays his annual subscription for the society, it shall be understood to entitle him to the paper for a year, it would doubtless induce many more to subscribe, as two-thirds the amount comes from the government, and thus greatly extend their usefulness. We are certain that so trifling an amount could not possibly be expended in any other way so as to produce as much good to the societies and to the country at large. We hope that all the societies will enter into such an arrangement in order that there may be union of effort and a mutual understanding throughout the province. We shall be happy to hear from all societies on the subject, during the coming month."

When our friend Mr. Bateham, made a tour through Western Canada, in 1840, his useful magazine had a circulation of upwards of 10,000 copies, although it had not been in existence more than six months,—if the above suggestion had been generally acted upon through the British Provinces, he might have calculated upon other 8,000 at least, which would have given him the largest circulation of any similar Journal in

the United States. To their credit be it spoken, many societies throughout the provinces, acted upon the suggestions, and the result was vividly manifested in extending the general objects of such associations.

Only a few weeks subsequent to the period that the foregoing was penned, *The Canadian Farmer and Mechanic*, made its appearance, which it will be remembered, "died for want of proper care and nourishment" after a severe attack of the brain fever, which lasted exactly three months!!! It so happened that the arduous task fell to our lot of, endeavoring to convince our own countrymen and our neighbours, that Canada has talent, nerve and stability sufficient to look after her own affairs, and as a means of accomplishing our purpose we resolved to make up the losses which the public sustained through a party of adventurers.

We have thus far progressed on our journey without much aid from any other quarter, than our own resources, and we are happy to communicate the intelligence to the few (we speak comparatively) who have so nobly come forward in support of our endeavours to benefit the Canadian Agriculturist, that we have resolved to persevere—regardless of consequences. All doubts about the ultimate results of our exertions, are now thrown into oblivion, and our constant study shall be in future, to instruct our readers on the science and practice of their highly respectable calling.

We have between two and three thousand complete copies of the current volume, up to this period, and if each society would subscribe for a fair quantum, so that the whole would be subscribed for,—we promise our friends that the next volume shall be much improved.

We are desirous, if the public will support us so as to warrant the outlay, to commence a new series of volumes, each volume to contain about 400 pages, on a sheet about one fourth larger than the one we use at present,—and the work to be conducted in such a masterly style, that it may with propriety be introduced into our District and Common Schools, for the use of the senior classes. The general complaint of hard times has operated against us more seriously than could be anticipated, but the sum being so small, that it will require only a trifling effort to place our little sheet in the hands of every intelligent farmer in the province, if the present subscribers, and agricultural societies would take up the subject with a determination to support it.

For the Cultivator.

ETONCOKE, July 28, 1813.

Sir,—It appears to me that you have anticipated every thing that I can say upon the subject of cheese making in your valuable paper already, yet as I believe you made me promise to communicate our way of making cheese in England, I will attempt it, and if there be nothing new or useful in it, it will have the merit of costing nothing as I

desire no reward for any of my communications.

We make rennet, by taking a calf's stomach and hang it up two days, then open it and empty its contents, but not wash it, cure it with salt and Sol Prunella, then make a brine strong enough to bear an egg; put both into a stone jar with a slice or two of lemon and tie it closely down; one quart of brine is sufficient for three rennets, it should at least be one month old before it be used, and will keep two years if made carefully.

We put night and morning's milk into a cheese-tub and make it nearly the warmth of new milk, then take about one quart of the milk into a cheese bowl, take a cake of anatto and a piece of stone or brick, rub them together in the bowl until the milk is of a fine yellow, then strain it through a hair sieve into the cheese-tub, and mix it well with the rest of the milk; then four table-spoonfuls of rennet to every fifty gallons of milk, and so in proportion; if the rennet be good it will be ready in half an hour, then begin to break with the hand; when about half broken, dip out some whey and set it over the fire to warm, make it warm enough to raise the temperature of the contents of the tub considerably, then make it fine and let it settle one hour, then put the curd into a vat or hoop (no matter which) and press it for a quarter of an hour, then take it out of the press, turn it into the cheese-tub again and cut it into slices; it is then ground in a curd-mill fixed on the side of the tub, until it is perfectly fine, then return it to the press for four hours; it is then taken out and a dry cloth applied, then put back again until next morning, when it is salted, and receives another dry cloth. This is repeated three days,—if the cheese be large it is then taken from the press into a dry airy cheese loft, and turned every day for a fortnight; then every other day until sold. Good thick cheeses of forty or fifty pounds weight, and from one year to a year and a half old, have generally brought about £3 to £3 10s. sterling per cwt.; older cheese has generally brought £4; but I believe the late tariff has had the effect of lowering prices.

American cheese is very good, but is too mild-tasted, and not thick enough in general for the English market. I received a letter from a relation in England the other day, in which he says, it was selling there at middling prices.

The quantity of cheese per cow, depends on the nature of the soil, it is not always the richest soil that makes most dairy goods. I have known the same dairyman make five cwt. of cheese per cow on one farm, and on another a few miles distant, could only average 4 cwt.

You will perceive this is done in a hurry, but you must recollect I have little time except during thunder storms, or after bed-time.

I am, Sir,

AN ENGLISHMAN.