

knowledge they possess of farming, but would rather the world would believe they were possessed of this advantage naturally, by superior intellect over their fellow men. We are confident that if a properly conducted Agricultural Journal was extensively introduced throughout Eastern Canada, it would produce improvement that would pay the expenses of the Journal a thousandfold. It is some encouragement to know that the highest and most honourable in our country was greatly pleased to signify his opinion of the usefulness of this publication.

We give the following report from a late number of the *London Times*, of the sale of American hay in the English markets. It appears that the quality of the hay, was not the best, but of mixed varieties and one of these varieties not much esteemed. We are satisfied, that we might export from Canada, hay of much better quality, that would be superior to any hay ever seen in the old country. Indeed our timothy hay, unmixd as it mostly is, with other grasses, is the best hay we have ever seen, and even when it has some clover mixed with it, it is excellent. The price of hay must, however, be very high in England when it will be a safe speculation to export it from Canada. Such a bulky produce as hay is not likely to become an article of export, unless under extraordinary circumstances:—

SALE OF AMERICAN HAY.—This sale, which comes off to-day, is an experiment on the part of some enterprising American merchants to ascertain how far it is possible to supply the English market with hay grown in the northern parts of the United States, and considerable curiosity was exhibited amongst dealers and others using great quantities of hay, who very narrowly inspected the samples shown both at the corn-market, Mark-lane, and at the brokers' counting house. The quantity to be sold at the sale is something like 15½ loads, which weighed on shipment 330 cwt., but which on landing had diminished in weight to 281½ cwt. The quality appeared rather coarse to English eyes, but the hay was, though somewhat reedy, sound and well got, consisting chiefly of bents and white clover, with a fair admixture of Timothy grass and the common foxtail, what would be called fair stock fodder by an English farmer. A somewhat inferior sample of this hay lately sold at Liverpool for 8½d. to 8d. per stone, which would be about 5l. per ton; whilst English hay of the same quality was fetching 5l. 10s. per load of 36 trusses weighing 18 cwt., thus giving a balance in favour of the American produce of about 1l. 2s. per load. The present sale will determine the question whether such description of produce can be brought to an English market at a profit; a matter which at the present moment is rather doubtful, seeing that the freight upon the present importation is 25s. per ton, which would be 22s. 6d. upon a load; whilst the duty upon the load of 18 cwt. is 16s., and 5 per cent. additional, making together better than 38s. 6d. independently of wharf-charges, housing, &c., all to be deducted, leaving the actual price something like from 50s. to 55s. per load for the American shippers at New York. A great difficulty, moreover, and one which it would seem must have been attended with considerable expense, was experienced in landing this hay, as the docks could not take it in or house it, owing to its being a combusti-

ble matter, which, in case of fire occurring from spontaneous ignition or otherwise, would vitiate their policies. It was therefore of necessity discharged in lighters in the stream, duty paid, and housed in a private yard, the sale of to-day will settle an important question, as in the event of such importation being a paying one, even in the slightest degree, it would be a very useful freight from running ships at this period of the year, when no other description of loading is to be obtained, and the quantity which could be sent would be almost illimitable.—*Times, Friday.*

Until Agriculture becomes a fashionable occupation, as in the mother country, we need not expect it to make any great advances in profitable improvement. Until farmers are proud of the occupation and of being seen employed at their work, they can never feel that interest in it that would be necessary, in order to ensure their success. If we allow ourselves to imagine that farming is a degrading occupation, and only fit for ignorant, uneducated men, we never shall take any pleasure in excelling as farmers, or in fully understanding our business. For our own part we have always considered it as creditable to be employed in our business as farmers, as it would be for the merchant to be seen occupied in his counting-house. The farmer's occupation is as honourable as any other, and much more useful to mankind. It is the false estimate that is made of it, that causes its improvement to be neglected by the wealthy, and educated classes. In the British Isles, Agriculture is now estimated as it ought to be, and in this country it is more essential to the general prosperity of our inhabitants than even in Britain. There is not a country on earth where a prosperous agriculture is of more consequence than in Canada, and it should be estimated accordingly. Though we should stand alone in making the assertion, we do say that this country never can be permanently prosperous without an improving and prosperous agriculture.

The very general destruction of the potato crop this year by rotting in the soil, previous to their being at maturity, will be a very serious loss to the farmers, as the expense of manuring and cultivating an acre of potatoes cannot be less than five pounds, and sometimes double that. We understand from several farmers, that potatoes after taking them up, and putting them in pits, have rotted to a great extent; and we much fear they will continue to rot, as we believe it to be a species of disease that has affected them, and that those that appear sound now, may still be liable to decay. We would strongly recommend that sound seed should be provided for planting next spring, and it would also be right to import some fresh and new varieties of seed from the British Isles. There is very little doubt that it would be a safe mercantile speculation, and the potatoes would be sufficiently early if before the end of May, or even the 10th of June. We would strongly urge the necessity of importing seed of various descriptions, and the best quality, particu-