

no wish to improve their own minds; nor do they care whether their country advance in improvement or not, so long as their own individual interests are cared for. For men of such uncultivated minds we may have some sympathy, but we court not their favor nor friendship. We want to see an intelligent and progressive community of farmers in Canada; and to aid in accomplishing this truly desirable object, we want every man who is in possession of even a spark of patriotism, to join us in our endeavours to accomplish the agricultural reform which he have been now for some years contending for. The agricultural products of Canada might be vastly increased, if only those who are engaged in this noble calling would adopt the proper course to consummate this desirable object. It shall be our almost only aim in the future management of this journal to clearly point out the means by which the British American Provinces, and especially Western Canada, could be made to compare in point of prosperity with any other section of this vast continent.

It is useless for us to advocate measures for the improvement of agriculture unless the farmers themselves evince an interest in carrying them out. Most of the practical agriculturists argue that they have no time to read, and therefore cannot afford to purchase books and magazines to lie on the shelves untouched for months and years. *No time to read!*—we hear this hacknied sentence repeatedly sounded in our ears, by men whose years and better judgment should teach them better things. The truth of the matter is, they have not the *will* to read; if they had they would go to some little pains in selecting the choicest modern works that afford a fund of invaluable information upon the science and prac-

tice of agriculture, for their amusement, or rather as a means of profitable pastime during the long winter evenings. Those who have not had the advantage of even a common education, might spend their evenings very profitably in hearing others read valuable agricultural works. We wish to impress the idea upon the agricultural community, that if they wish to make the most of their time and capital, they must become acquainted with the best systems of agriculture, practiced in their own and other countries; and especially, obtain a knowledge of the causes and effects of the various results, that have a favorable or unfavorable influence upon their prosperity. No means are so wisely calculated to consummate this object as that of consulting agricultural works, particularly those that have been written by practical farmers. Five or ten dollars per annum expended for such works would supply a stock of reading matter for the farmer that would be worth some hundreds of pounds in the course of an ordinary lifetime. Every shilling so invested, would give a return of at least a pound in the farmer's pocket, if he would make a judicious selection of works, and devote only two hours in twenty-four, the year through, excepting sabbaths, to reading and reflection. This small period of time, could be spared, if by no other means than a little less indulgence in sleep and idle gossip. The most industrious man in the country can set aside a fraction of each day for useful reading. Entertaining the above views, we beg to crave the indulgence of our friends, when we again press upon their attention the importance of taking both their time and money to some considerable extent, in endeavouring to elevate the character of this province, especially in an agricultural and mechanical point of view. Every inhabitant exercises an influence either in favor or against the welfare of the country; and each individual should honestly ask himself the question, whether is the course I pursue in my business calculated to benefit or injure my native or adopted country?