

less than one agricultural paper, and as this is the usual season to renew the subscription to such periodicals, we would embrace this opportunity to urge the claims of the *Cultivator* to the attention of every Canadian farmer. It is not sufficient that it should be in the hands of the best farmers of the country. Every man should take it. Even the humble cottager and his family might receive from its columns a fund of knowledge that would be worth as many pounds as the cost of the paper would be in pence; and if the contents of only one volume were read, understood and practiced, even by the best practical farmer in the province, it would be worth in the end, to such a farmer and his family, far more than most people would imagine. We trust that none of the present subscribers will fail in renewing their subscriptions in time to get the first number of the forthcoming volume as soon as it is issued, which will be by the 25th inst. If the present subscribers would exert their influence with their friends and neighbours in behalf of the *Cultivator*, it might be placed in the hands of all the principal farmers of the country. Every farmer should be in possession of a periodical devoted to the science and practice of agriculture, and this is the proper season to attend to this matter. So much valuable information upon Canadian agriculture, has never before the existence of the *Cultivator*, been offered to the public at so low a rate, and it would be strange indeed if the intelligent portion of the agricultural classes should prove to be so indifferent to their own interests, as not to subscribe at once for the work.

While every intelligent farmer should feel an honorable pride in devoting a portion of his time, especially the long winter evenings, in mental culture, he should at the same time not neglect to execute any branch of business which could be better and more profitably performed at this season than any other. It looks bad to see a farmer constantly spending valuable time in visiting, loitering about public-houses, attending places of idle and silly amusement, when there is much to be done at home, which really requires his attention. A twelve month stock of fire-wood should be first provided, then saw-logs should be drawn to the mill, so that an abundance of lumber may always be at hand for building purposes; and when this is done, a quantity of rails

should be split and drawn to the spot required for use; and next comes the making of sap troughs or other vessels to be in readiness to hold the sap taken from the sugar-maple in the spring, all of which should be done while the snow is on the ground. Many say in excuse for spending their time to so little purpose in winter, that they have nothing to do.—Without a desire to unnecessarily dictate to any, we would suggest to those who have such a surplus of spare time, the necessity of procuring suitable material for draining the intervalles and other wet spots of ground upon their farms. The best material for constructing covered drains is cedar, though straight pieces of other durable wood laid at the bottom of the drains, about six inches asunder, and covered with slabs, will make a durable drain. If only eighty or one hundred rods of such drain be made each year, a vast improvement at a very trifling expense will thus be effected. To make home cheerful and pleasant, it is indispensably necessary for its owner to study a little taste in planning and arranging his dwelling, farm offices, and fences in their immediate neighbourhood. Now, the latter should be made of posts and boards, in such a style as would correspond with the character of the buildings, and the pecuniary circumstances of their owner. It would require but little effort and expense to construct 40 or 50 rods of post and board fence each year, and the farmer who totally neglects this branch of operation, to say the least of it, is a man of little taste. This is a good time for cutting and getting out posts for fencing. We hope that the foregoing hints will have the desired effect upon all who wish to be considered models in every thing that is excellent that pertains to agricultural improvements.

TALBOT DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We are happy to observe that an Agricultural Society has been recently formed in the Talbot District, and that the first Show under its patronage, which came off on the 8th of October last at Port Rowan, produced a general interest in its favor among all classes. This society, so auspiciously begun, already numbers about 100 members, and bids fair of exciting a very laudable spirit of rivalry among the friends of agricultural im-

provement in this fertile and highly favored District.

We have on various occasions written to a number of respectable parties in the Talbot District, pointing out to them the advantages that would result to the cause of agriculture, and to the prosperity of the inhabitants in general, if a well organized and an efficiently sustained agricultural society were in operation. The reply in every instance was, that the proposition could not be carried into effect, as party politics ran to such an extreme, that the two parties would not meet on common ground to act for the good of the country. It, however, appears that such a society has at last been established, and we earnestly desire that the intelligent farmers of Norfolk may throw all party difference of opinion in the shade, and unite for the general good in improving the condition of their excellent country.

If we were to pronounce a blessing upon Norfolk, it would be, that may her Agricultural Society accomplish for her as great a change in her agricultural condition as have similar institutions produced in favor of the agriculture of Norfolk, England. The natural qualities of the soil of the two Norfolks are strikingly similar; but the present state of agriculture in the two countries is so great in favor of the former, that our Canadian friends will have to bestir themselves, if in the course of the ensuing twenty years they arrive at the same state of excellence. The founders and patrons of the Talbot society will please accept our best wishes for the success of their infant association; and we at the same time assure them, that we shall watch with much interest their future proceedings.

TO OUR PATRONS.

This number completes the third volume of the *Cultivator*, and also the present series. The next number being the commencement of a new series of volumes, will contain thirty-two pages, upon a sheet considerably larger than those used for the three first volumes. The type employed in printing the work will be entirely new, and the paper and other material, will be of a superior character, compared to that formerly employed.—As an evidence that the proprietors are not actuated by selfish motives in improving the style of the *Cultivator*, they have decreased the price to clubs, so that it may now be virtually called a half dollar paper. The editor being a practi-