rison, of observation and discussion, that it may become To render agriculture fashionable, the Emthe fashion. peror of China, once a year, goes into the field, with his court, and actually holds the plough in person, as an example to his subjects. We have no emperors to teach us the art of ploughing; but we have men of respectability, whose united influence may give an impulse to the public sentiment, in favor of exertions and improvements in agriculture. It is a science, as well as an art. The natural philosopher, the chemist, the geologist, the man of taste, the admirer of nature, not less than the day laborer, may here find exercise for his proper talent. There cannot be a more delightful employment than that of a scientific agriculturalist. Gentlemen of intelligence and leisure may amuse themselves, while they subserve the public welfare, by collecting and publishing the results of practical experiments, made by themselves or others. The newspapers read in the district, are open to such publications, and they will be perused with more interest, than speculations or experiments on similar subjects made in other countries.

It is reasonably to be expected that many competitors will in the course of the present year make seasonable preparations to enter the lists for prizes, at the next year's exhibition; and that improvement in the various branches of agriculture will by that time be visible in every township of the district.

## NUMBER XXV.

ROM the first settlement of this province, the general use of ardent spirits has been a serious evil. Their impoverishing and demoralizing effects have been, and still are, too visible not to be seen by every attentive observer, and lamented by every patriot and philanthropist. Brandy has slain its thousands, and rum its ten thousands. Wherever they have been freely and habitually used, their consequences have in many instances been penury, madness, disease and death; and no where are their victims more common than in this country. The national drink of the English is beer, of various qualities; and in England drunkenness is not so frequent or fatal as here. The comparison may be extended to New England, where the popular beverage is cider, and the people are comparatively temperate. In Canada more ardent and stimulating spirits are in customary use; and the natural consequences follow. A change in this custom of the Canadians would be a salutary reform, conducive alike to the preservation of their health, the amendment of their morals, and the advancement of their prosperity and happiness.

If, in the place of rum and brandy, they would generally substitute beer and