

tion of Nova Scotia," as well as by the "Eastern Counties Fruit Growers Association," in giving liberal donations to the prize fund, rendering valuable assistance in the compilation of "Class 11, Fruits," (like the Florists in their Class,) and in the case of the former, consenting to merge their annual Fruit Show in the Exhibition, and thereby imparting to it a prospective success which otherwise could not have been hoped for. Considering the well earned reputation, and generally acknowledged zeal, of the Florists of Halifax and Horticulturists of Nova Scotia in their respective callings, it may be put down as a fore-gone conclusion, that in two Departments at least, the Exhibition will reflect the greatest credit upon Exhibitors, and the highest honor upon the Province; and so well satisfied are we of this, that we already accept the actions of these men towards the Exhibition, just as we accept the green apples and hard buds of spring, as the earnest of the golden fruit and glowing flowers of a later season.

It therefore becomes you to do even more than might be expected under other circumstances, to place the departments in your line in a good state of perfection; so as to make sure that the Exhibition shall be what every true Nova Scotian wishes it may be: symmetrical in all its parts, and unique and beautiful throughout.

Should an additional reason be required to induce you to leave no stone unturned that will add to the success of the Exhibition, you have it in the fact that the Government in its inception, and in the adjustment with the Board of the financial and other details necessary to its successful consummation, entertained the project in the most statesmanlike manner, and gave it their warmest support, and, on behalf of the Legislature, have done everything to ensure success that the most ardent friend of agriculture could reasonably expect. Wherefore, in a matter of such great Provincial importance, one above all party or political considerations, and which in every intelligent country is ranked among the greatest boons government can confer upon the people, where your rulers have done well for you, you should not hesitate to coöperate to the fullest extent of your power to bring to a successful issue that which has been started under such favorable auspices—a great desideratum in which the prosperity of the country is bound up.

But I must consider that I am not appealing to the *Heathen Chinoes*, whose costumes have been so well represented in our skating rinks of late, but am addressing the yeomanry of Hants, Colchester, and Cumberland, where several of our more prominent Agricultural Societies are in active operation, whose handsome contributions to the Prize Fund, through these Societies, indicate the deep interest

already evinced in this District towards the Exhibition. To add, therefore, another reason why you should be up and doing for the great undertaking, and taking time by the forelock to make it successful, would, on my part, be manifesting a 'zeal not according to knowledge.' I therefore desist, else the apology I thought unnecessary at the outset, may become a fitting termination to make to my remarks on a subject, to the great importance of which I believe you are fully alive.

To your wives and daughters I have said nothing, as I feel confident the good example they will set in preparing to compete in Classes 5, 7, and 8 in particular, will not be lost upon the Exhibition, for which reason I have deemed it inexpedient to perform works of supererogation, hatch ideas, churn thoughts—or weave arguments, for their benefit.

Whoever lives to take part in the Exhibition, and may you all be privileged to do so, will not fail to recognize the fact, so painfully impressed upon our minds by the death of our late President, taken from us in the height of his manhood, and in the midst of his usefulness, that we are living in a world where friend after friend passes away. On receipt of intelligence of Mr. Northup's death our energies were prostrated, and we felt unable to proceed in the prosecution of the work for which he had done so much, in which he took so hearty an interest, and and to which we all expected his untiring exertions would be given to the end. We shall all miss him. The agriculture of the Province will miss him. The loss of such a friend to this branch of Provincial progress at any time could not other than be deplored, but at this juncture may be regarded as a public calamity. Others also will be missed. Among the thousands of people present, we shall look in vain for the happy countenance of him whose eloquent and appropriate inaugural address added so much to the success of the last Exhibition; nor shall we be permitted to discern the kindly features of his great political rival, the late Judge in Equity, in their lives and in their history, two of the most remarkable men the age has produced. Others of less note will be thought of as in another sphere of action, and it will be noticed that the agricultural ranks have not remained unbroken. This District will feel the loss it has sustained in the death of Arthur J. Rickards of Windsor, and William Murdoch of New Annan, men whose sympathies were in full accord with the work and life of the farmer, and who were prominent and successful exhibitors at the former Exhibition.

In conclusion permit me to ask whether the labours of these men are lost to us? and whether all the zeal and enthusiasm

they manifested in taking part in every exhibition within their reach, so far as we are concerned, shall count for nought? Rather let it appear, when that which affords so much pleasure in anticipation shall be an accomplished fact, that in the agriculture of the District our departed friends still live.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
ISAAC LONGBORTH.

To the Editor of the Journal of Agriculture:

SIR,—Mr. Thomas expresses an opinion in his letter published in the March number of the "Journal" that his views and mine as expressed in a letter to you in November last are altogether at variance. I should be sorry to think so, and cannot see that we differ much except on one point. I believe just as earnestly as he does, and it is indeed notorious to all who have looked at the matter, that the great want of our agriculture is "capital" invested in farming operations; without it high and skilful farming cannot be carried on, artificial manures and thorough-bred stock must be left alone, and our most urgent want, the most improved farm machinery, cannot be obtained, but recourse must be had to the far more expensive and less satisfactory manual labour. But I must still maintain my point that the fact of the farmer owning his land is a great advantage; I see no reason why the farmer who owns his farm should, to use Mr. Thomas's pointed and forcible phrase, "skin it;" on the contrary I think a tenant is far more likely than a proprietor to "skin" the land; his main object being to get all he can out of it in return for the rent he pays, with an utter disregard of the future; for such men, no doubt restrictions in leases were suitable, but to the high farming tenant of the present day these restrictions are intolerable, and the freedom from these is an additional reason for desiring to own.

The capital that a large proportion of our farmers have to invest in their land is their daily labour, and I take it that they will work more zealously at improvements when they know that every acre they clear up or otherwise improve is so much additional wealth to *them*, and not money or work (which is the same thing) invested in some one else's property. No doubt it would be a splendid thing for the working or any other farmer if some one else would come forward and clear up the land, put up and keep up the buildings, and pay insurance, &c., and allow the farmer to devote all his capital to the stock and working of the farm; but unfortunately people here who have capital are in general like the farmer in this particular, they want all they have, and more, for their own business, and the few who do own and have leased farmers to tenants are not