

ciously located in different parts of the province as to facilitate the transport of hemp to their stores within the limits of the district respectively assigned to their agency; each sub-agent to be at the head of an establishment of the description mentioned in page 474.

The business of this agent would be to receive the hemp from the farmer, weigh it, and pay to the seller the prices fixed upon by the company, and upon a fair estimation and comparison, to award the premium that may be allowed for encouragement by the company for the three best tons of hemp sold within his district. The hemp thus purchased to be prepared in the agent's mills, carefully packed, and conveyed by the most convenient inland communication to the stores of the company at Quebec, to be ready for shipment. The sub-agent would take vouchers for every thing transacted for the the Company, and keep regular books, to be at all times open to the general superintendent's inspection.

A few acres of the Company's farm (of which each sub-agent would have the enjoyment) might be appropriated to the growth of hemp, to be carefully cultivated as an example and an instruction to the inhabitants; and the company would pay to the sub-agent, for the whole of the hemp so raised one half of the value thereof at the approved prices as a compensation for his trouble in the cultivation. And, inasmuch as the most effectual mode of ensuring a diligent discharge of duty is to interest the individual in the concern, it might be found expedient to allow each sub agent a small per-centage on the moneylaid out by him in the purchase of hemp.

Much of the efficiency of such agents would necessarily depend on the selection, as well of the individual as of the spot where he should reside.— He should, in some measure, be familiar with both languages (French and English), to facilitate the intercourse between seller and purchaser. From the intimate knowledge I possess of the localities of the province from a constant residence therein, it would be in my power to point out hereafter, should this scheme meet with the approbation of His Majesty's Government and British capitalists, such situations as from their eligibility and easy communication by land and water with the principle towns would be most likely to promote the company's object.

Having said thus much of the company's general establishment in Lower Canada, it is fit to examine the advantages that may fairly be expected to result from an undertaking of such magnitude, interest and importance.

Wheat is considered by the Canadian farmer his most profitable crop.— One acre of land yields him on an average 12 bushels of corn, and for each bushel he is often satisfied with 5s 6d., making a sum of £3 6s., the gross produce in money of an acre of land; if from this sum were deducted the amount of his labour, seed, &c. his profits would be found almost too trifling to be mentioned.

One acre of land under hemp would furnish the following statement, deduced from the experiments made by Mr. Grece in 1808, by Ph. Wright, Esq., of Hull, Ottawa River, and more lately by Jacob Pozer, Esq., seigneur of Aubert Gallion. Mr. Grece allows but one-third of a ton of merchantable hemp to be produced by one acre, Mr. Wright says three-fourths of a ton and sometimes one ton, and Mr. Pozer says also three-fourths of a ton. The medium will be about half a ton, which I shall assume.