

ons articles, which we are at present under the necessity of importing, often at great cost. By adopting such a course, by raising up Towns and Villages where various descriptions of artisans would congregate for the purpose of manufacturing those articles, we shall at the same time be creating a home consumption for a large portion of the surplus productions of our fertile soil. With railroads, macadamized and gravel roads, and other important projected improvements in prospect, I am convinced that Canada is destined at no very remote period, to become a great and wealthy country; and if every farmer pursues a proper and judicious course, husbanding all his resources, suffering neither *fodder, manure, fuel*, nor any other adjunct to his farming operations to go to waste, he will materially contribute towards bringing about such a result, for let some of them think as little of their profession as they may, farmers are the *bone and sinew* of the country. It is to be regretted that this day for our Autumn Show has turned out so wet and unfavorable, so much so, that great numbers, I am sure, have been prevented from attending, and from which cause the enjoyment we looked for has been considerably marred. However, we ought never to repine at any act of Providence, which rules all things and orders all things for the best, and to which it behoves us to bow submissively. This Show, I fear, will not compare favorably in some departments with your previous ones, owing to the unfavorable state of the weather through the greater part of the day. However, let not this discourage us; let us hope for a better day next time, and let us by no means neglect to support as we should these Agricultural Societies, which have been the means of doing so much good, and which are so well calculated, if properly conducted, and equally protected by the Government, to do still more good every succeeding year. The Legislature is now about to make some amendments in the law relating to these societies, and it becomes our duty to second those praiseworthy intentions on the part of our Legislators, and to show by our exertions that we duly appreciate the valuable support given to these societies by the Government. If you conceive, gentlemen, as no doubt you will, that my seeds of information have been badly cleaned, too hastily prepared, as well as carelessly sown, I trust they will not fall upon barren ground; for, believing, as I do sincerely, that for the kind of soil on which I had to sow them, they were the best which I could in my haste cull from my own store, together with a few borrowed grains which I have thrown in here and there; and although sown broadcast by an unpractised hand, I think you will admit that they are not deficient in *measure*, so that allowing the light grains to perish, I trust that those which survive will take deep root, *stool* and spread, and in good time produce a profitable return, or at least prove germs that may produce a better sample of seed; and should any such results follow, I shall feel amply paid for my time spent in sowing them. The show of young horses, mares and foals to-day is certainly creditable to the exhibitors and to the township at large; the few sheep exhibited were by no means inferior, and it appears that

some of them were readily bought up at good prices; the quantity of wheat on the ground is very fair as to *quality*, both fall and spring varieties. I do think that some of the samples could not easily be beat in the Province; and for the domestic woollens, both as to *quantity* and *quality*, they have exceeded anything of the kind ever before brought under our notice on a similar occasion within the township, doing very great credit both to the producers of the wool, the carders, spinners, weavers, and cloth-dresser or finisher. There are one or two remarks which I forgot to make. The first has reference to the proportion of the government grant allowed to the township societies, which I think is by no means equitable, being too small; so much so, that these local societies are enabled to offer but a small amount of premiums on occasions like the present; too trifling, generally, to induce sufficient competition. Could these township societies be placed in a position to enable them to offer larger and a greater number of premiums, they would effect much more good than can be expected with their present limited means. I am willing to admit that much may be advanced in favor of giving to the County Societies a large share of influence, with a view to bring the very best and choicest productions of the whole County, periodically, into one focus, and for mustering as large a number as possible of the most influential and best informed farmers; but so far as my observations have led me, I am quite of opinion that in the present state of society, particularly in the rear townships, these county meetings do not attract to any extent that *class* which most need a spirit of emulation infused amongst them, but are confined in a great measure to the leading farmers, and men of other professions, including a portion of the poorer farmers that reside within a very moderate distance of the place of rendezvous. Now I am led to the conviction that the township societies, if placed upon a proper footing, are decidedly better calculated to supply this desideratum, viz., of *bringing those together who most require instruction, encouragement, and a spurring on*. I am sorry to have to inform you, that in consequence of our funds for the year being nearly exhausted, the Directors have with much regret been obliged to abandon the contemplated *Ploughing Match*. I would advise the Directors to instruct the Secretary to correspond with some of the neighboring township societies, on the subject of those resolutions which you adopted at your last annual meeting, in order to obtain an expression of opinion thereon. Before parting from you, I must be allowed to say, that it is my firm conviction that the members of our society do not take as much interest in the County exhibitions as they ought. I feel satisfied that a better attendance of our members at these shows would be attended with beneficial results.

The object sought to be obtained by the passing of one of these resolutions has been provided for by the new Agricultural Act, viz., that of appropriating *three-fifths* of the Government grant for the use of *Township Societies*.—Ed.