

between 500 and 600 cultivated farms in the Township, averaging each from 50 to 200 acres of cultivated land; and in numerous instances the latter quantity, being so perfectly cleared that scarcely a single stump can be seen in tracts of some miles in extent, and which land cannot be excelled in quality.

It is only necessary for us to add, that we anticipate most important results from the "sayings and doings" of this Agricultural Society—and we would not be much surprised if the intelligent and wealthy farmers of Markham, would continue to persevere in their laudable efforts to advance; strengthen and establish the character of their noble and exalted calling, in such a manner as will redound to their credit, and be a lasting benefit to their posterity; and a credit to our common country.

### REVOLVING DRYING KILN.

Many of our readers will undoubtedly recollect that we noticed in a late number of the *Cultivator*, a most important invention by Mr. Hiram Bigelow, of Tecumseh, for the drying of Wheat and other grains, in a perfect manner. We feel an additional pleasure in being able to direct their attention to Mr. Bigelow's advertisement which may be seen on another page of the present number, which will explain the amount of work which the machine is capable of performing in a given time; and other particulars. One of the most important purposes for which this machine may be brought into almost immediate general use, is the drying of spring wheat, in such a perfect manner, that it may be ground into flour, packed and shipped to any part of the world, in equally as safe a condition as flour made from winter Wheat. The inventor feels confident that such will be the result from spring Wheat, after it has passed through his machine. If it be the case, which we have no doubt if we could judge from a sample which lately came under our inspection, we would venture to say that but few machines have ever been invented in this country, which have been of greater service to the country, than the one now under notice will prove to be. As soon as our wood engraver returns, a correct drawing will be taken of this machine, which will appear in the *Cultivator*, accompanied with a full description.

### BROOM CORN.

**Broom Corn.**—The Canadian Farmers have heretofore paid but little attention to the cultivation of this crop, and nine-tenths of the brooms used are imported from our neighbouring country. We are happy to observe that some of the Farmers in the Western District have cultivated this crop on a scale sufficiently large to test its adaptation to their soil and climate, who appear to be of opinion that it would prove a most remunerating crop to the Farmers of their District, provided that a certain sale, at present prices, could be had for the article in the eastern towns and cities of the Province. The soil, best adapted to the growth of broom corn, is a deep moist alluvial or vegetable mould, this description of soil is

abundant in portions of the Western District, and if the Farmers there would pursue a proper system of cultivation, they might supply united Canada with brooms. We have a letter before us; from an intelligent farmer of the township of Gosfield, who states that he raised this crop to a limited extent for the past two years, and found it to answer his most sanguine expectations. The past season he raised brush enough to make 3000 brooms.

If we could have our will in the matter, we would not purchase a single article from our American neighbours, that could be profitably produced in this Province. We hope this spirit will grow with the growth of the country; and then we may hope to see all branches of industry in a most flourishing condition. Certainly we have the elements of wealth in this Province to an extent fully as great, if not greater, than any State in the American Union. The item of growing and manufacturing our own brooms is probably the least important among the catalogue of articles that is imported, but notwithstanding we should endeavour to curtail the immense importations of foreign goods in every particular where it is practicable, and probably if we begin with the smallest, and those in which the profits will be most certain, success will be more likely to crown our efforts, than if we should commence at first in manufacturing articles, which would require an immense capital, and a vast amount of skill to work them. The great thing requisite to secure success in almost any enterprise, is a combination of effort, and a will on the part of the public to sustain it.

### TORONTO TOWNSHIP AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The Farmers of the Township of Toronto have organized themselves into an Agricultural Society, in accordance with the scheme lately published in the *Cultivator*, and we have no doubt but that the wealth, respectability and talent of the Township, will concentrate their efforts in a grand movement to establish their Society, on a permanent basis. The principles upon which it is founded is unquestionably one wisely calculated to effect a lasting practical benefit upon all who take part in its proceedings; but to accomplish a great apparent good, a trilling sacrifice of both time and money must be made, by those who have talent and influence in the Township. We flatter ourselves that there are those in the Township who would go to any reasonable length in endeavouring, to arouse their supine neighbours to the importance of the immediate adoption of a more systematic and profitable mode of managing their naturally fertile lands. If there can be found in any one Township a dozen practical Farmers who will meet monthly, or semi-monthly, to mutually instruct each other, as well as their less favoured neighbours, in the highly important and honourable occupation by which they are mainly dependant for a livelihood, we maintain that such a course would produce a most powerful effect upon the entire Agricultural population of the Town-

ship, and if the principle were generally acted upon, the character of the Agriculture of the country would be materially improved. And shall it be said that twice that number cannot be found in the large, wealthy, and densely populated Township of Toronto. We venture to answer in the affirmative; and hope we shall not be disappointed in being able to treat our readers with a synopsis of the speeches which will shortly be delivered on Agricultural topics in the Township, at those conversational meetings alluded to.

### GORE DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the *B. A. Cultivator*.

Sir,—The exhibition of Grain and Fat Cattle, held annually by the Gore District Agricultural Society, took place in the Court House and Court House Square, on Tuesday the sixth instant. The samples of grain, roots, butter, cheese, &c. &c., were of a very superior quality, and gave ample proof of the onward march to perfection pursued by our intelligent farmers, and of the great benefit to be derived from the exertions of our Agricultural Society, which is now patronized by the leading and most influential agriculturists of almost every township.

A Short Horn Cow, in prime order—the property of Mr. Duff, butcher—was much admired; also an Ox, fed by Mr. Joshua Freeman of Nelson. Three one sheer Wethers (half bred south down), bred and fed by Mr. Wetenhall, of Nelson, took the first prize, and were much admired for their perfect symmetry of form and fine close fleeces. These sheep were purchased at a very high price by Mr. Smith, butcher.

After the several Judges had given in their decisions, the Annual Meeting of the Society was held, for the purpose of choosing officers for the ensuing year, when John Wetenhall, Esq., Warden, was elected President. Few changes were made in the Directors, &c. &c.

A number of respectable farmers afterwards partook of an excellent dinner, prepared by Mr. Mitchell, and much useful information was elicited from several gentlemen who addressed the party.

Mr. Osborne, of the firm of Osborne & McIntyre, one of the Judges, expressed his satisfaction at the samples of domestic manufactures. He was understood to say that the Blankets, manufactured by Mr. William Barber, Councilor for Esquimaux, were superior to those imported from Scotland, and but little inferior to the best English Blankets. He spoke also in high praise of the Cloth, Flannel, and Carpeting exhibited, and expressed his opinion that the day is not far distant when the Canadian manufacturer will be able to produce woollen goods sufficiently fine to supply the wants of this rising Colony.

These opinions, expressed by a gentleman of such high commercial standing as Mr. Osborne, produced an excellent effect upon the agriculturists who had the advantage of hearing him, and will undoubtedly tend to induce the farmers of this beautiful district to hesitate seriously before expending their money in the purchase of British Broad Cloths and English Woollens, instead of having their own wool manufactured for the use of themselves and families.

This letter is already much longer than I had intended. I shall, therefore, subscribe myself your old Correspondent,

B. A.