

Buckland delivered an excellent lecture, and gave full exposition of the manner in which he proposed to conduct the Experimental Farm which had been placed at his disposal on the College Grounds, and we have no doubt the farm will succeed under his able management. On Thursday evening the Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Malcolm Cameron, addressed the meeting, and gave a full explanation of the duties which would devolve upon the proposed Bureau of Agriculture, and also explained the provisions of the new Agricultural Bill now before Parliament, for Lower Canada. It should be very satisfactory to Agriculturists, that they will now be directly represented in the Government, and we have confident expectations that it will have a most beneficial influence upon our Agriculture. We were glad to hear from the Superintendent of Education in Upper Canada that he was in favor of introducing Agricultural Books into the Common Schools, for the study of pupils.— This is a measure we have advocated in our own and other Journals for many years, and we had come to the conclusion that Dr. Ryerson was opposed to it, as we did not perceive that the plan was advocated in the Journal of Education, published by that gentleman. It appears, however, that he is now disposed to introduce this mode of primary instruction, and we have no doubt of the advantageous results. All we regret on the subject is, that our proposition did not meet with more favor long ago, as it was quite as necessary ten years ago as it is now.

It is our firm conviction that if agriculture in Lower Canada should not generally be so far advanced in improvement as in Upper Canada, the fault is not in the soil, climate, or situation. The ravages of the wheat fly was a great drawback to the Agriculturists of Lower Canada, from which the farmers in Upper Canada were comparatively free; but now they are introducing a greater variety of crops, and will not be so much depending upon wheat as heretofore, and as they are at present in Upper Canada. The breeds of neat cattle are not so large in Lower as in Upper Canada; but it remains to be proved to our satisfaction, whether a moderate sized animal of good form is not better adapted for this country than a very large size, and will be more profitable for the farmers. The winters are undoubtedly more severe with us than in the Upper Section of the Province, and must necessarily require a well sheltered yard, and warm stabling for animals, so as to equalize our temperature to that of Upper Canada. If we can do this, and produce as much food from a given quantity of land as they can in the latter country, we cannot see that the severity of the winter injures our circumstances much. It is very desirable that we should be fully sensible of the advantages of our situation. If we attempt to find a justification for bad farming, in any imaginary inferiority of soil, climate, or situation, we may at once give up all hope of improvement. Fortunately, we have abundant proof that our opinion of Lower Canada is correct, in the many excellent farms to be met with in every section of the country, where justice has been done to them, and it will not be supposed that these farms are favored by situation or climate, more than those which surround them.

There are some other things in which we are far behind our Toronto friends. For instance, in beautiful shaded walks, such as the College Avenue and College Grounds at Toronto. There is not so much as a perch of such roads, walks, or grounds for the accommodation of the citizens of Montreal. Our citizens may walk the dusty or muddy streets, or remain in their houses, which they please. In one point, the wharfs at Montreal are superior to any we have seen, but they are not exactly a suitable place for walking except for once, to see them. We cannot but say,

that the want of suitable walks for exercise and recreation in a city of 60,000 inhabitants is a certain indication of the want of refinement in those who have power to provide such accommodation. In the British Isles, where shade is not so necessary as here, we could seldom see a town of one fourth the size of Montreal, without beautiful shaded walks, for the public use. Men of wealth may have such advantages in their own gardens, but this should remind them, that those who are constantly and laboriously employed, require fresh air and recreation much more than they do.

IMPROVED BREEDS OF CATTLE.

To the Editor of the Agriculturist.

DEAR SIR:—I should not, at this busy season of the year, and with sickness still in my family, have occupied my time, nor have taken up further space in the columns of your valuable journal with the above subject, but that I feel, from the tenor of Mr. Tye's letter in your August number, imperatively called upon to notice its contents.

Mr. Tye, it appears is almost as incensed with me as Mr. Sotham, because I won't write and act against my own conviction, or in other words, that because I won't think and write as he and Mr. Sotham does regarding the merits of the two separate Breeds of Cattle they each patronise, that I am not privileged—to speak or write at all on the subject.

I appeal to your candour, Mr. Editor, and to the decision of your readers, if such is not the case? Is it possible then, let me ask, if any controversy on the subject fraught with some importance at least to some of your readers can be carried on with good feeling or usefulness to any party? Mr. Tye commences by mystifying and falsifying my statements which appeared in your number of July 1851, regarding the improved breeds of cattle. This I think, you will allow should not pass without some notice from me. He commences by saying that I asserted that the Durham cattle deserved more premiums, because they were more numerous than any other improved breeds, and insinuates that I have stated that as the only cause. And again, that I have spoken disparagingly of a breed of cattle that Mr. Sotham patronises and has imported. To this, as well as to the former accusation I unequivocally dissent. And it really seems strange to me that Mr. Tye, after a twelve months study of the subject, should not have been able, before now, to dis-