

influence would be sadly curtailed, and I would just remark in conclusion, if Farmers now a days are satisfied with the improvement of their farms, horses, sheep and pigs, &c., and at the same time neglect their own, such men will soon find themselves lost in the race, and the post of honor occupied.

Mr. ALCORN said, it is my opinion that Agricultural Societies have been of great benefit to this country, from their commencement to the present day. I have now been twenty years in this country during which period I have always supported these Associations, and shall continue to do them all the good I possibly can by endeavouring to induce others to become members of our Society, and if spared to see another twenty years I hope to see Agriculture improve in the same ratio as it has done for the last five years. Our having the Provincial Show here this year, I trust will be the means of bringing out a great many new members, and thereby infusing fresh blood into all our Associations.

Mr. RIDDELL said, he did not rise to make a speech but merely to correct a small error that his friends Messrs. Wade and Wright had fallen into, by saying that the first Society formed was the Highland and Agricultural Association, as he found the following in "McIntosh's History of Scotland,"—that "in 1723 some enterprising proprietors, who had introduced the culture of clover and turnips upon their personal farms, formed themselves into an Association under the title of 'The Society of Improvers.'" In the knowledge of Agriculture in Scotland, this Society existed for upwards of twenty years. In 1784, the Highland Society was established, and procured a Royal Charter of incorporation three years after."

Mr. PRATT heartily concurred in what had been said by the former speakers, as to the benefit of Agricultural Societies, and from experience had felt some of the jealousy alluded to by Mr. Wright, and which he thought had done him no harm, as it had spurred him on to put a better class of stock in his barnyard.

Mr. BLACK had not been long a member of the Agricultural Society, but so thoroughly convinced was he of their usefulness, that he intended canvassing more amongst his neighbours for new members than ever, although some have even said that it was surely a profitable business to him, but so far from that, he had been at considerable loss of time, and expense both; still as he thought the Society was doing good, he would do all he could for them.

Mr. CASTLE perfectly agreed with Mr. Pratt, that a little jealousy was the means in many instances, of putting better stock on our own and neighbouring Farms.

Mr. WRIGHT rose for explanation—the jealousy spoken of by Messrs. Pratt and Castles—is not jealousy at all, but emulation which was highly commendable;—what he meant was the jealousy which prevented so many of the neighbouring farmers from becoming members of our Society, and saying there is no use in our doing so, as the Messrs. Wades and others along the front road, had been members so long, that they made up the premium lists and divided it amongst themselves.

Mr. BOURN said, I find there is only one opinion in this meeting as to the great benefits Agricultural Associations are to the Farmer, and through them to the Country; we find they have been so in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and if carried out in their proper spirit will be so here in Canada. And now, Gentlemen, seeing, that we are to have the Grand Provincial Show in this Township, next fall, I hope we shall all put our shoulders to the wheel, and carry out the object of such meetings to the fullest extent.

It was then moved by Mr Riddell, and seconded by Mr. Alcorn, that the meeting do adjourn to the first Saturday in March, to meet at Dixon's Hotel, Court House, at 1 o'clock, and that G. E. Castle, Esq., be requested to introduce the subject of "Constructing Farm Buildings, in regard to comfort and convenience."

WILLIAM RICHARDSON,
Secretary.

MR. McDUGALL'S REPORT TO THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE.

Among the Documents submitted to Parliament by the Bureau of Agriculture, and ordered to be printed, we find the Report of Mr. McDougall, the proprietor of this journal, on the subject of importing Machines, Implements, &c., into this country at the public expense. It was not without reluctance that Mr. McDougall undertook the mission confided to him by the Minister of Agriculture, inasmuch as he doubted the expediency of making the Bureau or Boards of Agriculture, *importing agencies*, except in a few rare cases. But, as the Bureau was a new department, and as Mr. McD. had taken an active part in its establishment (having drawn up the various Agricultural Acts of the last Parliament,) he was very anxious that it should meet the expectations of its friends, and prove useful to the country. To dissuade from foolish or extravagant projects, is sometimes as necessary as to suggest useful ones. That the Bureau *could* be made a most valuable aid to Agricultural improvement without interfering with private enterprise, and without excessive drafts upon the public purse, no one can doubt. Its operations thus far have not been very systematic, or very promising. But it is too soon to decide against the Bureau, as it has not yet been properly organized. Let us hope that it may find proper a *head* at the next turn of the wheel. Its *first Clerk* should be a competent man, holding his office during good behaviour; and he should *do the work*. A mere politician is out of place as manager in such a department.

The friends of Agricultural improvement will see in the following report some of the suggestions and recommendations made to the Bureau by the proprietor of this journal, and can judge of their utility.

For the information of those who may fancy they detect a "job" in this report, we beg to say, that Mr. McD. has not been paid the *expenses* of his mission; and that he never expected, and would not accept anything beyond a fair allowance for that item.