

THE BRITISH AMERICAN CULTIVATOR.

"AGRICULTURE NOT ONLY GIVES RICHES TO A NATION, BUT THE ONLY RICHES SHE CAN CALL HER OWN."—Dr. Johnson.

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THE CULTIVATOR.

"Agriculture is the great art which every government ought to protect, every proprietor of lands to practice, and every inquirer into nature improve."—Dr. Johnson.

Toronto, August, 1842.

We have in the former numbers of this Periodical, endeavoured to bring the true state of Canadian agriculture before the public, in order to show the necessity that existed that some legislative measures should be adopted for the encouragement and protection of our agriculture, if it was desirable that it should improve and prosper. We may have failed to convince those who have power and influence in the country that such a necessity does exist, and all that we have written on the subject may be unavailing to produce any attention to our interests, or change for the better in our future prospects.—We might urge many other forcible arguments in support of our propositions, but for the present we shall discuss some other subject, merely observing, that a certain market and remunerating prices for all we could raise, would be the best and most effectual encouragement that could possibly be offered for the improvement of agriculture and of the country generally; and that without this sort of encouragement, all efforts that could be made to improve our agriculture or the country will be unavailing.

We were glad to perceive by the reported proceedings of the Montreal Corporation, that Councillor Lunn has given notice:—"That at the next meeting of the Council he would move, that instructions be given to the Market Committee, to report with all convenient speed, on an eligible site for a Cattle Market, in connection with the St. Ann's market, and that the By-Law limiting Viger Square for a Cattle Market for both markets be suspended, until the said Committee have reported to the Council." We hope that it is an indication of a disposition in our City friends, to pay some degree of attention to the accommodation of those who bring cattle, sheep, and swine, to Montreal for sale, to propose providing a suitable market-place for them. We have often before, and for many years, urged the necessity of a Cattle Market, but to no effectual purpose.—We, therefore, are obliged to Mr. Lunn for bringing this measure forward, and we hope that the principal city in British America, containing near 50,000 inhabitants, will provide a suitable Cattle Market, bearing some reasonable proportion to the scale of other public works completed, and proposed to be constructed in Montreal. A large and commodious Cattle Market is required, and let farmers see, at last, that there is a disposition to give them accommodation. We would respectfully suggest that before the site shall be

determined, the opinions of persons interested in having it conveniently and suitably placed will be asked, and receive consideration. We would suggest further, that a law should be passed, obliging all cattle, sheep, or swine brought for sale to Montreal, should be sold in the market-place on certain days—that a regular market note should be published weekly, of all stock exposed for sale, stating the number sold each day, and an approximation to the average price per head, and per hundred pounds for fat cattle. It is high time that our principal cities, who wish to introduce English institutions, should adopt something like the English plan with regard to Cattle Markets. We would also recommend that the same regulations should be adopted with regard to grain, hay, and straw sold in market, which we think might be readily done. Statistical returns of the annual produce of agriculture would give some idea of its state, and suggest the best means for its encouragement and improvement. All this information might be obtained, if only an interest was felt in the subject by those who possess influence in the country. The second Session of the Provincial Parliament is approaching. We shall see what our Representatives will do for the interests of nine-tenths of their constituents. We again urge the necessity for establishing a General Board of Agriculture under proper regulations. It is by means of such a Board, that the improvement of our agriculture will be most certainly promoted. This Board would act for this country, on the same principle that the Royal English Agricultural Society does for England. We have not here the materials for such a Society as the Royal English Agricultural Society, and we must, therefore, establish by the authority of the Government and Legislature, a Board to act in the same capacity, for the general good. They will have an excellent precedent in the English Society, to direct them in their proceedings, for the general improvement of agriculture. No local societies that can be formed in Canada, will ever produce the general improvement that might be effected by a Board of Agriculture, who would have no local partialities or prejudices, that are inseparable from local societies. We may also, by all means, have local societies, but they should be under the control and direction of the General Board, that is, if they obtained public aid to expend in premiums. We most respectfully solicit the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General to this subject, that is of so much consequence to the people of this country.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of *The Colonial Farmer*, with the back numbers, a monthly periodical published at Halifax, N.S., by R. Nugent, and edited by Titus Smith. The *Farmer* is afforded at the low price of five shillings per annum, and is worthy of being supported in an efficient manner, which it no doubt will receive; as one Agricultural Society alone have

ordered 250 copies—an example worthy of the notice of our Canadian Agricultural Societies in the support of their own journal.

We have also the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of a few numbers of *The Pictou Farmer and Mechanic*, an Agricultural, Mechanical, Literary, and Mercantile Weekly Journal; from the masterly style in which the above periodicals are conducted and supported, we have formed no mean opinion of the intelligence of our sister colony, and wish the publishers much success in their patriotic undertaking.

Surely, this is a wonderful age for the diffusion of agricultural information and improvement!—A few years since, there were only six agricultural papers in the United States: there are now nearly 50, twelve of which have entered the field the present year. As specimens of this year's production, we have received *The United States Farmer* and *The American Agriculturist*, both published in the city of New York, in monthly numbers, each containing 32 pages; and *The Southern Planter*, published at Natchez, State of Mississippi. Either of these periodicals would bear comparison with *The Albany Cultivator*—a journal with which most of our readers are well acquainted.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Although the terms of our journal are considered to be moderate by all, yet there are many who imagine that it may be conducted on the credit principle; and in conformity with that idea, have actually ordered it, with the conditions emphatically stating them in the face. In order that our periodical might be brought into notice, ever as great an extent of country as possible, we forwarded it to many on the credit system, we would therefore request them to forward their subscriptions at their earliest convenience, through our Agents, and beg that they will bear in mind that our *Practiser's* back paper, and wood engravings have to be paid for monthly, to meet which, not only requires a numerous list of subscribers, but a prompt, energetic, and liberal support.

Subscribers of the *Farmer* and *Mechanic*.

The July number closed our engagement with the *Subscribers* of that journal, and we send them the August number gratuitously. If they wish the remainder of the volume of *THE BRITISH AMERICAN CULTIVATOR* sent them, they would do well to forward the subscription for the ensuing four numbers with-