

On this subject, as on almost every other, wild theories have been advanced. It has been imagined, for instance, that, by the application of Chemistry, manure might be so reduced in bulk, and applied in so concentrated a form, as, in effect, to save the whole expense of transport, and nearly the whole labour of spreading it on the land. The well known Lord Kames, (whose beautiful residence at Blairdrummond, in the neighbourhood of Stirling, I am sure Dr. Robb has often visited,) is said to have believed in the possibility of such a consummation; and to have said to a farmer upon his estate, that "the day might come, when he would be able to carry out in his snuff box, all that would be required to manure a field." The practical good sense of the farmer prompted the reply—"I am afraid, my lord, if you were to carry out the manure of a field in your snuff box, you might bring home the produce in your waistcoat pocket."

There is scarcely any country in which the study of Agriculture is not of the highest importance. It is peculiarly so in our father-land, and scarcely less so in the land in which we dwell. Hitherto, I am afraid we must acknowledge, that, in this Province, it has been sadly neglected. The very first principles of the science have, in the great majority of cases, been either unknown or disregarded. Little care has been taken to increase the quantity or improve the quality of manures; little attention has been paid to the rotation of crops, to draining, or to allowing land those periods of rest, which nature shows to be needful for every thing, after long-continued action. Experience, which is said to be the only teacher to which a certain class of persons will listen, does not seem as yet to have made much impression on the minds of our New Brunswick farmers. Though they have been driven to the conviction that there is something wrong, because they often behold their fairest hopes blasted; in too many cases they seek not to know what is amiss, and still hold on their former course. They lay the blame on any thing rather than themselves. They talk of the shortness of the season for farm-work, the expense of labour, and the unproductiveness of the land;

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