

AGRICULTURAL REVIEW.

APRIL.

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Official Dep't.

Montreal, 1st April, 1864.

SIR,—I have the honor to call your attention to the following section of the consolidated Statutes of Canada, and trust that you will comply with its requirements.

"The Secretary and Treasurer of every Agricultural Society shall be bound to furnish security to the said Agricultural Society of which he is the Secretary and Treasurer, to the amount of Eight Hundred dollars, to the satisfaction of the President and Vice President of the said Society; and it shall not be lawful

"for him to receive any money from the Board or Bureau of Agriculture, without having first furnished a copy of such security to the Board of Agriculture."

You will therefore have the kindness to send to the office of this Board, and at your earliest convenience, an act of security for the sum of Eight Hundred Dollars approved by the President and Vice-President of your Society.

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE LECLERE,

Sec. B. A. L. C.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

SMALL vs. LARGE FARMS.

FARMING operations, like many others, are often attempted on too large a scale for the means of the operator. There is no fault more common than this. Our farms are almost all too large, and yet it is useless, perhaps, to speak of it, except to remind those who have small farms of the fact, and that they can, if they manage their business well, make more clear profit than is made by those who own too much land. It is all idle to pretend to lay down exact rules for the number of acres in each farm; but this may be assumed, that no farmer should occupy more land than he can cultivate thoroughly, and these kept in a constant state of improvement, as to capacity for crops. Its extent will then depend on the ability of each occupant, not only as to physical force, but this combined with other considerations, such as every farmer can estimate for himself. In other cases he would do this safely; but as to quantity of

land, each one desires more! We have known many a farmer made absolutely poor by owning too much land, or too large a farm; and others become rich by owning too small a farm!

In proof of the above we will state that we once knew the owner of a very large farm in this State, of excellent land, embracing a village. He was a man of substance—one of our great farmers in the early part of the present century, having houses full of working people, and, as usual in those days, abundance of horses for teams, and plenty of negroes (slaves) to drive them. They used to summer fallow and sow with winter grain, one hundred or more acres, besides having immense fields of corn, oats, barley, buckwheat, and meadow, with pastures and great stock of cattle.

Some fifty years ago, an Englishman, a farmer, rented a small piece of ground near the village, say of forty or fifty acres, and had the audacity to call it a farm, and to tell the owner that he thought it such, and