

In the preamble to the Agricultural Statute, among the objects stated for the Board to promote is the formation of an Agricultural and Horticultural Library and Museum. The nucleus of such a library has already been formed, and a number of the most approved and standard works in relation to farming, gardening, &c., has been got together. A museum, however, could not even be attempted, with the very restricted accommodation only which the Board has hitherto possessed. The want of adequate and permanent offices, with sufficient room for collecting and exhibiting agricultural and horticultural products, implements, tools, &c., has long been felt as an important desideratum; and much inconvenience, involving serious delays and impediments, was consequently experienced. These obstacles have now been happily removed, and sufficient accommodation of a permanent character has been provided by the erection of a building that is an ornament to the city, and highly creditable to the intelligence and enterprise of the agricultural community of Upper Canada.

The formation of an Agricultural Museum must necessarily be a progressive work, and will involve no inconsiderable amount both of labour and time. It is one of those things that will continue to increase and improve year by year. A beginning is now being made, and the active co-operation of the farmers, gardeners, and implement makers of the Province is earnestly desired to aid and carry out this useful and patriotic design. These classes are requested to render help both individually and in their collective capacity as societies. Without such assistance, promptly and generously afforded, it will take a long time for the Board unaided, to get a collection together that will adequately represent the agricultural state and progress of this rapidly advancing Province.

It is desired that the Museum should contain specimens of the best cereal productions of Canada, with the names and residences of their producers, and the principal facts in relation to the soil, cultivation, &c. Wheat, barley, oats, rye, maize, &c., should be exhibited in the straw, just as it grew in the field, as well as in the grain. By this means a much better idea can be had of the form

and growth of our various cultivated crops. The grasses too, whether wild or cultivated, should be fully represented and described in a collection of this nature; and we have very much yet to learn in Canada that will be of the greatest practical value and importance respecting this interesting department of husbandry. Characteristic specimens of the varied productions of the farm and the garden, with adequate descriptions, will always be thankfully received as contributions to the Museum.

With respect to implements and machines it has long been felt a desideratum that no depot of sufficient range existed in any one place, and people have often been perplexed and subjected to delay and inconvenience from not knowing where to apply for what they particularly needed. The proposed Museum, it is confidently hoped will, in a great measure, if not fully, meet this want. Of the more bulky machines, such as threshing mills, &c., only models would be adapted to the Museum proper, but arrangements will be made by Messrs. Fleming & Co. for keeping on hand the various implements and machines belonging to Agriculture and Horticulture that are produced in Canada, besides such as are suited to our wants of British and American manufacture. The Board is particularly desirous of having specimens of whatever our own manufacturers are in the habit of making, with full instructions as to price, and the advantages claimed for the respective articles, as ordinary merchandise. Practical utility, and not the gratification of a mechanical curiosity, is what is most desirable to attain in such an arrangement. Implement-makers, upon reflection, will perceive that this plan, although but imperfectly sketched, will, if properly carried out, be alike beneficial to themselves and the public. The improvement in our implements and machines has of late been of an exceedingly encouraging character; we now produce such articles equally good and cheap as do the Americans. The proof of this is to be seen at any of our recent Provincial Exhibitions; and we trust that the arrangements now about being made will tend to aid this most desirable and important object.

As the character of the proposed Museum