

must not say a word more against that worthy, though sadly sluggish fraternity, as it may be advisable to beg the use of their waste Lecture Room to sow some agricultural seeds in; so it would not be right to put them too much out of humour.

Nor is this altogether a mere flourish of speech; for who knows but, for want of better, a friend of mine, who shall at present be nameless, may contribute his humble mite in some shape or other—whether as rake, grubbing hoe, or scarifier, it is hard to tell—rather than the thing should fall to the ground altogether. In the meantime, I beg to call your attention to the annexed article from a New Brunswick paper, indicative of their beginning to be “wide awake” there, as well as of the good likely to result from the scientific labours of our talented friend, Professor Johnston, in that quarter—and which, for certain reasons, ought to put us more favoured Canadians to the blush. And should that not be sufficient, though, God knows, no friend to *Annexation*, let me bring to the recollection of yourself and readers the following paragraph in a late Upper Canada paper, as a specimen of how they “learn” to go a-head in agricultural, as well as other matters in the neighbouring State of New York:—“Our countryman, Professor Johnston, of Durham, is engaged to deliver a *Course of Lectures on the general relations of Science and Agriculture, before the New York State Agricultural Society, commencing early in January.*” Alas! for our boasted Patriotism!

After so long and perhaps too prosy a sermon, you will, I suspect, be rather glad than otherwise at my at last coming to a conclusion, by subscribing myself, at all events, your sincere well-wisher, and

Very obedient servant,

AN UPPER CANADA FARMER.

Montreal, 11th January, 1850.

The article above alluded to is as follows:—

#### LOWER PROVINCES.

MR. JOHNSTON'S LECTURE UPON THE AGRICULTURE AND CAPABILITIES OF NEW BRUNSWICK.—Mr. Johnston confirmed the statements which we have frequently heard respecting the capabilities of this Province as a farming country, and although in the estimation of some people

his average of crops were rather high, still the conclusions were decidedly in favor of our neglected capabilities, and even calculated to stimulate the drooping hopes of our farmers; all we want is perseverance, industry, and information. Mr. Johnston directed attention to one of the prominent causes of failure, viz.; the waste of time, which drags in its train many other wastes. He gave a convincing illustration that a judicious farmer may hire labor advantageously, viz.: the sovereigns exhibited by one man is a proof that all other things being equal, similar profits may be realized by others.

Mr. J. commenced his lecture with a brief review of the importance of a knowledge of geology in determining the agricultural capabilities of a country, showing that the qualities of soils were dependent upon the character of the rocks from which those soils were originally formed by the process of crumbling, or decomposition, effected by the agency of natural causes. He then alluded to the qualities of the different soils, which he estimated by the quantity of hay they gave per acre, the probable population and stock they would support, the relative amount and value of crops in New Brunswick, Canada, New York, and Ohio, showing a conclusion decidedly in favor of this Province. He stated also that the wheat of this Province, if properly manufactured, was equal to the best Genesee. He considered oats the staple, and adverted to the importance of erecting proper mills for the manufacture of oatmeal. He stated that the prices of produce proved that there was no want of markets, and alluded to some suggestions in his report upon the subject. He observed that notwithstanding the length and severity of our winters, farming could be followed with advantage. He stated that lumbering had been prejudicial to our agriculture, but nevertheless that New Brunswick had been benefited by it, showing an obvious truth that agriculture and lumbering are distinct pursuits, that the lumber trade is good in its place, an auxiliary, but, not the principal, of our colonial prosperity.—*St. John paper.*

We have received from Professor Johnston a printed copy of “An address delivered at the annual exhibition of the New York State Agricultural Society, at Syracuse, September the 13th, 1849,” by that gentleman, for which we beg to return him thanks. This address refers chiefly to “The State of agriculture in Europe,” and appears to be an introduction to the Course of Lectures which he then proposed to deliver at Albany in the present month of January, and which we believe he is now