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THE
Canadian Agriculturist
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A PARTING ADDRESS.

It has become the task of the Editors to announce that the present number of the *Agriculturist* will close the series published under the direction of the Board of Agriculture of Upper Canada. When the Board assumed the responsibility of the publication, now some six years ago, it did so for the purpose of occupying a field which otherwise appeared likely to be left vacant. It is true that several excellent Agricultural periodicals, published in the adjoining States, had a considerable circulation in this Province, and doubtless conveyed much useful and interesting knowledge to their readers; but the *Agriculturist* was the only purely Agricultural Journal published in Upper Canada, specially designed for, and edited with a view to the wants of the Canadian farmer. But, from various causes, chief amongst which was the want of adequate support, the publication of the Journal by individual enterprise appeared likely to cease. The Board therefore believed that they should be doing good service to the cause of Agricultural progress in the Province by acquiring the right to continue the publication under their own control; especially as it was necessary that they should be possessed of some medium for communicating official and other information direct to the farmers and Agricultural Societies of the country.

The Editors have done their best to carry out the intentions of the Board, but, labouring under the disadvantage of having their time greatly occupied with other matters, and receiving little

extraneous assistance, they have felt that they could not, at all times, do that justice to the task which they could have wished. Besides, from not having the facilities of a printing office of its own at command, to ensure prompt and satisfactory execution of the mechanical work of getting out the numbers, and, from its official position, not being well able to avail itself of those resources of advertizing and canvassing which are at the command of private enterprise, the Board has not been able to obtain that wide distribution for the *Agriculturist* which was desirable. Still, notwithstanding these drawbacks, the Editors believe that their efforts have not been unattended with some good results.—Much sound and valuable information has been culled from various sources, and diffused throughout the country. The circulation of the Journal has steadily, although slowly, increased. A wider interest in the truths of Agricultural Science has been gradually awakened; and contributions to the pages of the Journal from the hands of the farmers themselves, which were at first few indeed and far between, have become of late more frequent and valuable. Progress has been slow, but on the whole not discouraging; and, had the Board been called upon to continue the publication, with the improvements which would from time to time have been effected, it would eventually, the Editors believe, have attained to the exercise of a widely extended and useful influence.

But an enterprising and well known publisher of this city, the Hon. G. Brown, who is besides