

paration for the Meeting and reception given to the great National Agricultural Society, was worthy of the people, and of the ancient city of Exeter, the capital of the beautiful County of Devon. It is encouraging to farmers even in this distant Province of the British Empire, to hear of the interest manifested for Agriculture at that great Meeting. All parties, and all classes, were unanimous in their exertions to prove their respect and regard for Agriculture, by doing all in their power to honour it. It is in England that Agriculture is estimated in proportion to its vast importance to that country, and to the world. In Canada, although our population are much more exclusively dependant upon our Agriculture, than the population of England are upon theirs—how is it estimated generally? What degree of interest would our principal cities and citizens manifest, and what sort of preparation would be made for, or reception given to a great Agricultural Exhibition? We are sorry to fear that it would be very different from what took place at Exeter. Agriculture with us, is undoubtedly of vast importance, but the fact is admitted in words, rather than by the adoption of measures calculated to encourage, and secure its prosperous condition. Is there any city or town in Lower Canada that would manifest such a deep interest, offer such a hearty welcome, and do so much honour to an Agricultural Exhibition, as it is our pleasure to report of the city of Exeter? We shall see, and it would afford us the greatest satisfaction to be able to report that there was. A prosperous condition of our Agriculture would prove the salvation of this country and it is impossible to secure its general prosperity by any other means. This is so manifest, that there cannot be any mistake. Agriculture must form the basis of our prosperity, and to expect to build it upon any other foundation will only bring disappointment. Manufactures and commerce,

growing out of, and supported by Agriculture are very desirable, but, both are undoubtedly second in importance to Agriculture. The richest mines of copper, silver, gold and precious stones, were they discovered in Canada to-morrow, and however successfully worked, could never produce the same or an equal degree of prosperity and happiness to our population, that the judicious cultivation of the soil, and management of our cattle, would afford them, and who is it that would not prefer the healthy, pleasing, and honourable employment of the husbandman, to searching after gold in the bowels of the earth, or the mud of the rivers. And what is the value of silver and gold after all, except to purchase the products of Agriculture and of the lands in their various forms, as necessaries of life? Had we ever any doubt of the cause, we humbly endeavoured to advocate for so many years, these doubts would be removed, by hearing that the great and the good of other lands express their high estimation of Agriculture, and regard it as the most important and honourable occupation of mankind. Agriculture is not estimated by the wealthy and educated, in proportion to the profits it may return to them, but by the pleasures and healthfulness of the occupation, a residence in the country, surrounded by all the beauties of nature—an opportunity of seeing the progress of vegetation from the beginning of the Spring, until trees and plants, mature their products, and yield an abundant harvest. The domestic animals of Agriculture, that produce so many of the necessaries of existence to mankind, afford also, very great enjoyment to a resident in the country who can appreciate these things. All these enjoyments are of inestimable value to those who love the country, though they may be very little prized by those who prefer the town, and who perhaps, have seldom witnessed the rising or setting sun in Summer. Farmers who have to make a living by their