

completed. At the same time we informed those subscribers that the remaining nine numbers of the *Agriculturist* would be sent for 3s. 9d., in the hope that the great majority of them, seeing the improved and more costly character of the publication, would at once order the remainder of the volume. We confess that we felt a good deal discouraged, and lost much of our confidence in the progress of intelligence and desire for improvement among the farmers of Canada, when we saw that fully 3000 of those who received our first 3 numbers neglected to send their paltry 3s. 9d. to secure nearly 350 pages of practical and scientific information on agriculture, and to sustain the only publication in Western Canada entirely devoted to, and identified with their class and interests! Of the remaining 3000, a large majority are members of Agricultural Societies, and obtained the paper through their Society. The reduced rates at which we supplied Societies, and the loss of three numbers of the volume to the extent of 6000 copies, have left us something less than half a dollar for each subscriber this year. When we assert that less than 6000 subscribers (allowing for the usual losses and delinquencies) at half-a-dollar, will not pay for the paper and printing of a work so large as the *Agriculturist*, our readers may easily ascertain how much we have made by our enterprize this year! We have not yet obtained half the amount subscribed by Societies, owing probably to the delay in the payment of the usual government grant. Our paper makers and printers nevertheless had to be paid. We hope this hint will be sufficient to induce those who are in arrear to forward us our due.

We have made up our minds to discard the advertising sheet and reduce the number of pages to 24. Advertisements in a monthly paper do not pay for setting the type. Our paper will then be as large as the *Genesee Farmer*, and we shall be able to furnish it to Societies for half-a-dollar. At the present size it could not possibly be afforded at that price. The price to single subscribers will remain the same as at present, and by excluding long articles, which very few take the trouble to read, and by taking more pains in the selection of matter, obtaining wood-cut illustrations, &c., we believe we can make a more readable paper, and an equally useful one. We have already obtained several interesting cuts for the next volume, for some of which we are indebted to the polite attention of Mr. Moore of the *Genesee Farmer*. In this manner we shall reduce very considerably the expense of getting out the paper, without impairing its efficiency as an agricultural journal.

We have further to say, that if the *Agricultural Association* accept our offer to print their Report, which is in course of preparation, the probability is, that we should be able to give our subscribers, at the above reduced price to Societies, more reading matter than is contained in the present volume. The proposal we intend to make is simply this—to print a portion of the Report along with each number of the *Agriculturist* (but over and above the twenty-four pages), using the same type to

strike off as many copies of the Report as may be required, in a separate form, for the Association. We shall ask merely to be reimbursed the actual cost of the paper and printing, which will be no more, but probably much less, than it will cost the Association to print the Report in any other way; and the country will derive the advantage of a more general circulation of the statistical and other information which will be embodied in it, than could be obtained in any other mode. We presume the chief object of publishing the Report, or "transactions" of the Provincial Society—which may be made to embrace the proceedings of the District Societies also—will be to lay the information therein contained before the farmers of Canada. If so, the publication of these "transactions" along with the *Agriculturist*, will be the best way to attain it. The publication of such reports by the Legislature in the Appendix to their Journals, or even in a separate form, as has been recommended by some persons, would be an utter farce—nay, worse—it would be a useless waste of public money. The farmers of the country would never see them. We happened the other day, while in the office of an Honourable member, to get a hasty glance at the Appendix of the last session; and there we discovered, among a wilderness of public documents, reports of agricultural societies in Upper and Lower Canada, furnished under the acts by authority of which public grants are made to these societies. Some of the reports were quite lengthy, and contained matter of great interest. Judging from the number of pages occupied, and the enormous prices paid for the public printing, we have no doubt it has cost the province two or three hundred pounds to print these reports—which none but members of parliament ever read! The majority of these gentlemen being lawyers, and having an eye to other things than the improvement of agriculture, we strongly suspect even they do not read them! We would willingly have copied some of the facts from the reports in this formidable Appendix, but the honourable gentleman had but the one copy, and not wishing to borrow it for fear of accident, we left them buried in their present obscurity. Now, we ask our readers if such an expenditure of the public money be not a useless—a shameful waste? Three hundred pounds, properly applied, would spread all the information in these Appendices, and a great deal more which could be embodied in the report of the Provincial Society, before eight or ten thousand of the farmers of the country—the very class for whose benefit it is or ought to be collected and disseminated. We shall be prepared to submit a better mode to the Directors of the Association, and if necessary to the Legislature, the result of which we shall explain to our readers.

We shall make every effort to sustain the *Agriculturist* for another year; and if, under the arrangements we have mentioned, it fails to pay expenses, it must be abandoned.

BEAUTY is as summer fruits, which are easy to corrupt, and cannot last.—*Lord Bacon*.