

lar, which has been entirely successful. My cellar is on a side-hill, one side of the wall entirely out of the ground. The floor let in the cold, which could not be kept out. I ceiled the lower part of the beams with common boards, took up the floor, and filled the place between the beams with leaves. I have had no frost in the cellar for two winters. It is light, cheap, and easily made.

A. B.

FISHKILL LANDING, N. Y.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

MR. EDITOR:—The writer of this article is a plain, home-spun farmer, and better qualified to guide the plow than wield an implement of such mighty influence as the pen. But although farmers are not proverbial as writers, they are sometimes out of courtesy allowed to think; and as we have of late years paid some attention to the practical working of Agricultural Societies, under the Act 16th Vict., Chap xi, we have come to the conclusion that said Act might be amended (in so far as County and Township Societies are interested), greatly to facilitate the object for which such societies are organized.

Perhaps we had better glance for a moment at the practical working of some of our Agricultural Societies, in order that any improvements that we may suggest may appear the more plausible. According to the present Act, fifty persons, all in or near the county town, may organize a County Society by subscribing fifty dollars, elect their officers from among themselves, and, although they cannot exclude any person within the county from becoming a member of said Society, yet the advantages of being convenient to the county town gives them a local influence, together with two-fifths of the government grant, (by-the-by, Mr. Editor, we have heard of societies in the eastern part of Canada West, possessing only a local interest, claiming the whole government grant, and dealing out such pittances to township societies as they, in their wisdom, saw fit); and although the presidents of township societies are ex-officio directors of county societies, their members are usually so few, and at such a distance from the county town, that their voice is seldom heard, certainly not sufficient to prevent the local interest of interested parties. It is not uncommon under the present act, to see township societies possessing a more extensive influence and holding better shows than their so-called parent society.

Now, sir, if the act might or could be so amended as to exclude all local interest, that incubus to general improvement, the object of our legislature might in some good degree be realized. As we have taken

the liberty to find fault with the present act, the same presumption, that farmers have a right to think, prompts us to offer a few suggestions, which if acted upon by our legislature, we think would remedy the evil complained of, and county societies might be re-organized so as to become the centralization society to the several township societies, by doing away with the membership in county societies by subscription; then make it imperative on each township society to appropriate a certain percentage of its subscription funds, and that, together with a certain percentage of the government grant, to form the fund of the county society. Let each member of the general township societies be a member of the county society by virtue of his subscription to the township society, and let certain officers of the township societies, say the presidents, secretaries, and treasurers, form the board of directors for the county society; such board to elect a president, vice presidents, secretary and treasurer from among their number, and transact all the business of the society.

Societies thus organized would work in harmony, and each township society would feel that they had an interest in their respective county societies, and would also feel that the county society was their own. Each township society would be fully represented, and would rest satisfied that no private or local interest would clash with the general good.

And to conclude, we would barely hint that as our government is becoming more wealthy, as our public improvements are becoming more extensive, as railroads are penetrating the heart of our country, thereby making the export of our produce more reasonable, as the mercantile and mechanical interest are identified with our own—in a word, as the interest of agriculture is the great interest of the Province, it would be well if government would increase its aid to our agricultural societies, that its resources might be the sooner developed.

A CANADIAN FARMER.

TO KEEP CIDER.

MR. EDITOR:—Having been a subscriber to your paper for some years, and not having seen in it any receipt for preserving or keeping cider sweet, I will give you one. Scald the barrel out with a decoction of sassafras; then fill the barrel with cider, and into it put twelve and a half cents worth of isinglass or fish-glue, and half a pound of mustard seed—if ground the better—then bung and put away for future use. It will keep as sweet as when first made.

S. D.

NEW BEDFORD, Lawrence Co., Pa.