

negligent not to add his testimony also to the vast and striking benefit which had accrued to the province. That was now so clear that no man in his senses could doubt it ; and instead therefore of limiting the operation of the societies by paltry sums, he expected to witness this year an uncommon liberality with respect to the grant, and that all branches would cooperate heartily in this business. The illustrious nobleman who founded this society had in view to bring all the branches of the Legislative Body into one point of action and union ; that in this Board the collective wisdom of the province might centre. It comprehended the Governor, his Majesty's Council, the members of the house of Assembly, and many respectable gentlemen in town who contributed their money and good wishes. It was painful to him to look around and see that several were not in their places ; although their official duties required their attendance ; and it was still more so to think that there were some who retained an hostility to this institution. He did not wish to point out by name those who were absent :—but they were easily discovered by noticing those who were present. He thought that all such opposition should be now laid aside ; because an improvement in the condition of the province was clear and manifest. He knew of no country that had made a like progress in so short a time ; and he was satisfied that the spirits of the farmers had revived with their improving prospects. Being a farmer himself he often conversed with his brother farmers, and could plainly perceive that their hopes were raised, because they now saw they could provide for themselves and their children. It was not long since agriculture was despised in this country ; but its reproach had been wiped off, and it was accounted both an honorable and an honest pursuit. It was the best way of rearing a family and providing for the children. This was one great advantage which had resulted from the establishment of societies ; inasmuch as it had corrected the opinions of men, and taught them to think more wisely and more according to truth.

Another great advantage which had accrued from the establishment of our agricultural institutions lay in opening the eyes of our farmers to the benefits of tillage. They had always been in the habit of raising too many cattle—a line into which they had been forced by the war, and the encouragement held out by the large