

briefly endeavoured to point out, I feel satisfied that you will become gainers very soon to a considerable extent; for one thing, your land would not be exhausted as it now is, by constantly growing wheat; and by this course, and following a system of rotation of crops you would always have that portion of the farm which would be set apart for wheat, in good heart and condition for such a crop. If I have been somewhat severe upon some of our careless indifferent farmers, I assure you I meant nothing personal, and I wish to be understood that, I by no means consider it a crime for a man to set out as an indifferent farmer who has not been brought up a practical agriculturist, or who has not had an opportunity of acquiring that skill and knowledge, so requisite for carrying on successful farming operations; but I do contend that when such a one undertakes the cultivation of the soil, he is justly chargeable with culpable negligence, or criminal indifference to his material interests, and that of the community at large, if he does not endeavour to *learn from and imitate* those around him who are looked upon as practical and experienced farmers, and who would willingly and readily impart their knowledge to their less informed neighbours; and the farmer is widely different in this respect from men in most other professions, for while he imparts his skill and knowledge to his brother farmer, in order to improve his condition, and make him wiser and wealthier, he does not in any way abridge his own means, or injure his own interests. As I have observed; *systematic plans* are really requisite to success. Men who have not enterprize to *plan*, will have still less if possible to *execute*. Few men do more than they *intend* to do, and there ought to be few who have not ambition enough to rouse their energies to accomplish what they have once deliberately *planned* to do. That man who is the mere child of circumstances, acting only as he is acted upon by his necessities, may enjoy a kind of *Indian tranquility*; with such men only, the march of improvement must stop in its course, and society fall back into a species of barbarism. That man who aims at nothing will certainly accomplish nothing. He that is content with a *shanty* will not likely ever possess a neat, substantial, or comfortable *house*. The man who is content with a shabby, dilapidated house, roofless barn, broken down fences and ten bushels of wheat, and five hundred of hay to the acre, will seldom find himself in a better condition; while he who plans to possess good buildings, permanent fences, and to see his lands ornamented with fruit trees, and covered with forty bushels of wheat, and two or three tons of hay to the acre, with life and a common blessing, will certainly accomplish his plans. Another requisite for the improvement of our advantages, is *Industry*. It is often literally true, that "the hand of the diligent maketh rich," and it always in Canada enables the diligent to possess constantly and plentifully the necessaries and comforts of life. To no class of men does the necessity of industry apply more than the farmer. He turns his own wheel of fortune more emphatically than almost any other class; those great and sudden turns of fortune which sometimes raise or depress others, lay

quite out of his track. With firm foothold he climbs the *ascent* to competency; or with loosened energies he slides down the gradual *descent* to poverty. The *eyes* of the master or owner should pervade the whole establishment; his *mind* and his *hands* must be equally ready to do their appropriate work; his example should be such that no idler can feel easy on his premises; nothing more absolutely necessary than that the farmer's *mind* should be in his business. That man who is *above* his business is in danger of soon finding that he has got *below* it. The farmer who devotes his mind and his energies to his farm until it is so far improved, that it elevates him above the necessity of constant labour, is the most independent and enviable character in our country; free from the responsibility of office and the toils and cares of a profession, he eats the fruits he has reared with more zest than can be realized by any other class. A good farm covered with flocks and herds and fruits is a truly enviable possession, and like Robinson Crusoe, the farmer is often "Monarch of all he surveys." I have deemed it proper to mention on this occasion that it is my desire and intention to retire from the Presidency of your Society, so that you will soon be prepared and able to select from your officers, one better qualified to fill the post than myself. It has, I assure you, always been my desire to promote the interests of your society, but my occupation is such that I am frequently prevented from duly attending to the business and duties required of the President, and from performing it in an efficient manner; therefore I consider it an act of injustice towards you to remain in such a position longer; and it would be a further act of injustice, as well as ingratitude on my part, were I to omit on this occasion to testify to the forbearance and indulgence which you have always shewn to my many defects; and it is a sincere pleasure to me to say, that ever since you first called me to preside over the society, and to fill the responsible and honorable office of President of an Agricultural Association, I have always met with the greatest kindness from all the officers of the society, and for my own shortcomings I trust they will pardon me. It is certainly a fact worthy of notice, that the greatest harmony and good feeling have always prevailed at our meetings, and I assure you it will always be gratifying to my feelings to learn that the same degree of harmony and friendly feelings continue to characterize all the future proceedings of your society, and although I shall not be President, I intend to give it my support as a *member*.

Before concluding, I would beg to remark, that I do really believe the prospects for the farmers of Canada are now more cheering than at any previous period. There can be but one opinion that this our adopted country is fast improving in all the elements of comfort and wealth; our *exports* are increasing rapidly, and although our *imports* are greater than is to be desired, it is to be hoped that the day is not far distant when the amount of the latter will not approximate so near to that of the former as at present, but be much lessened. Our great aim should be to raise up manufactures in the Province for nume-