

L'ORIGINAL, 18 Sept., 1851.

JOHN B. MARKS, Esq, President of the Agricultural Association of Upper Canada.

SIR,—In attempting to make a report to the Provincial Agricultural Association, I fear that I shall fail in accomplishing the task, from circumstances beyond my control, as I have not been furnished with any report from the experts in reference to the condition of crops for the present season; and having been absent at Toronto, for the purpose of advocating the Northern Line of Railway from Montreal to Kingston, from the time of seed-sowing until a considerable part of the harvest was gathered in, I am unable to speak from my own observation. I have, nevertheless, received from one of our best farmers the following note which I here transcribe:—

CALEDONIA, 18 Sept., 1851.

SIR—I forward you a notice of the state of the crops in this locality. It is that of one whose time and opportunities of extended observation is very limited. Grass is a most abundant crop, but the early part of the hay harvest was very rainy and there is some bad hay. Wheat is a heavy crop. But the early-sown wheat is injured by the fly. The farmers here must, we apprehend, depend for some time upon Black sea wheat, sown about the 25th of May. Barley, oats, and peas are a most abundant crop, and have been saved in good condition. Potatoes were early rusted, and there are some indication of rot. At best they must be but a scanty crop and of inferior quality. The season was too wet and cold for Indian corn, and it is late; but, if the present favorable weather for ripening it continues, it may be nearly an average crop. Turnips are an exceedingly good crop, and it is a favorable indication of the progress of agriculture, that the cultivation of this most excellent root is on the increase. I enclose you a letter of excuse to Mr. Buckland—please deliver it. I am &c., signed, PETER STIRLING.

I owe Mr. Stirling an apology for making use of his name without his consent, but I feel that it is an act of justice to him that it should be known.

As I am about to retire from the Presidency of the Agricultural Society of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell, a situation which I have filled for the last twelve years, I think that it may not be improper to make some remarks that may be of service to Agricultural Societies generally. It is now twenty years since I first became connected with the Agricultural Society of the Ottawa District, since which period the limits which then comprised this District, includ-

ing the Townships of Gloucester and Osgoode only, numbered 4,180 inhabitants in 1831, and in 1850 the number had increased to 16,302, being four-fold; and I feel confident that our Agricultural improvements have advanced in an increased ratio. I am happy to learn that my expectations as expressed in a letter to the Editor of the *Canadian Agriculturalist*, dated 21st of May, 1850, and published in the July number of the same year, have been more than realized in reference to the World's Grand Industrial Exhibition; and that the minerals taken to London by Mr. Logan, the Provincial Geologist, have been of the greatest possible service in bringing Canada under the favorable notice of the British Public. The wheat, peas, oats, and other grains raised in this country must elevate the Agricultural character of the Province, and our fire engines, blankets, cloths, hardware &c., must satisfy the good people of Britain that we have among us both mechanics and manufacturers that will soon be able to satisfy our wants.

It is with no ordinary degree of satisfaction that I perceive that the views expressed in several of my letters, written on the subject of Railroads, within the last four years are being realized in less time and in a more efficient manner than I could possibly have anticipated. During my stay at Toronto I had the pleasure of seeing several gentlemen from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and other of the Eastern Provinces, and from them I learned that the same enterprising spirit that has been evinced in this Province, has been fully sustained in the other Provinces situated between us and the Ocean. In adverting to the city of Toronto, I feel confident that it will bear a favorable comparison with any city of the same population in America; its population in 1850 amounted to 25,166 souls. It can boast its University with its beautiful grounds, a part of which has been appropriated for an experimental farm, and a Professor of Agriculture is about to be appointed, and an Agricultural Board has recently been established, which will be of the highest possible service to this Province. Upper Canada College has been for many years in successful operation. Knox's College and Toronto Academy, in connexion with the Free Church of Scotland, are making great and successful exertions to educate the youth entrusted to their care. The Congregational Institute under the able and pious instruction of the Rev. Adam Lillie, and the Normal and Model Schools that are training teachers, and introducing a system that will bestow the highest benefits on the rising generation are situated at Toronto, and are but in their infancy. The amount of good that will arise