

We have received the first number of the "Central New York Farmer," a very neat monthly paper issued at Rome, and from its cheapness, (being only two shillings and sixpence, Halifax currency, per annum, exclusive of postage,) it will, in our opinion, be an efficient channel for the enterprising farmers of that portion of the Empire State, to communicate the result of their experience; and will no doubt, from the ability of its Editor, be a precursor of much good to central New York. We wish it success.

May we not be allowed to make a few reflections relative to the enterprise of our neighbors, which may tend to arouse us from our lethargy. The state of New York alone, containing an agricultural population similar in extent to the province of United Canada, has at this time not less than four exclusively Agricultural papers, two of which has a circulation of not less than twenty-two thousand copies. On the other hand we have barely one, and that too in its infancy, we may almost say, struggling for its existence. By making the analogy of the population directly interested in the cultivation of the soil, and the difference exerted in the support of an agricultural press, we by no means wish it to be understood that the same difference exists between the practice of husbandry in the two places; on the contrary, we are of opinion that the Canadians, and especially in those sections where we have been favoured with emigrants from Europe, are better practical farmers than the New Yorkers, and we think those who have travelled through both countries will bear us out in that opinion. In establishing an agricultural periodical in this province, we do not presume that we could instruct some of those excellent farmers that are interspersed through our fine and flourishing province, who have had more experience in the practice of husbandry than we have had; yet, at the same time, we can open a field through which our men of science and ability can communicate freely, to their brother farmers, the true principles which govern and direct their profession. We are happy to have it our power to state, that there is a favourable spirit daily increasing upon that so long despised and neglected subject AGRICULTURE. Despised by those who are unacquainted with the advantages arising from it,—neglected and unimproved by the vast majority of those already engaged in it, from the want of a proper appreciation of the benefits which would result to them from a more thorough knowledge of their business. Men are beginning to open their eyes to their true interest, and by reflection are constrained to acknowledge that Agriculture is a science; the operations of which are not to be entrusted to manual labour alone; but the mind is also called into action; it is likewise a field, than which there is none, wherein the acquisition of a practical and scientific knowledge, and a good

judgment, can have a wider scope for their exertions. In this, as in all other sciences, perfection as yet has not been attained; and there will continually be new inventions and discoveries that will tend to advance it.

The Agriculturists of this naturally and artificially fine country are more favourably situated than those of any other land on this continent. In a natural point of view we have an excellent and healthy climate, and the quality of our soil, timber, lakes, and rivers cannot be surpassed by any in the world. In an artificial point of view, our taxes are comparatively light at present to what they are in other countries; ready markets, and most generally remunerating prices are always to be found for the surplus produce of our farms. We must admit, however, for the last few years, occasionally our markets have been glutted by an ungenerous and unwarranted competition; but we have reason to believe that this subject will be attended to by our Legislature, when a proper demonstration will be made from one end of the province to the other, and that something effectual will be done to obviate that so frequently complained of evil. But let us not be content with merely receiving the favours which the Hand of an All-bountiful Providence showers upon us; let us show by our actions that we rightly estimate them. Although we are in a comparative state of prosperity, there is much needed to be done yet; let us not be backward as a people in the improvements of the age. Nothing will tend more towards the advancement of this great community, as a body, than the diffusion of useful knowledge to all its classes—the successful carrying out of those newly enacted systems of education, by which, with a little amendment, all may have the opportunity to drink at the fount of knowledge; but this, although the great hope upon which we may base our rise in the scale of mankind, will require time. There are, also, other means by which the interests of the great subject of agriculture may be fostered—by individual exertion—by respectfully soliciting the aid of legislative enactments for its encouragement—by the promotion of Agricultural Societies. But in our humble and disinterested opinion, there is none more simple or efficacious, at the present time, than the disseminating the experience and views of practical farmers through the medium of a well conducted agricultural paper.

There is no way by which a farmer may benefit his coadjutors more, than by making experiments; and bringing the results of his trials into notice, through some such channel as here presented to the Canadian public. To be serviceable these should be told in a plain manner, so as to be easily understood. Agricultural papers should not be established and supported, as merely channels for displaying the bright points and features of a system which would inculcate in the mind of a superficial reader false ideas

of its capabilities; but that the faults of it may be held up to view, measures should be taken to remove the stumbling-blocks which impede its progress. Let not selfish motives actuate our farmers, but let each be willing to contribute his portion towards the arduous enterprise we have undertaken, which is calculated for the benefit of all. Remember upon the prosperity of the agricultural classes of British America depends, in a great measure, the prosperity of our whole country.

If the farmers of the United States can support upwards of thirty exclusively agricultural papers, and the states of Maine and New York, can each efficiently support four of those papers, certainly the people of this flourishing province, containing upwards of a million of souls nine-tenths of whom are employed in cultivating the soil, as a source of subsistence, can and will efficiently and creditably support one.

We have been induced to afford our paper as cheap as the cheapest of theirs, in order to give our farmers a fair trial, which we believe was never properly presented to them before.

We were lately presented with the following resolutions and by-laws of a society of gentlemen, organised for the purpose of advancing the interests of the agricultural and commercial classes of this province at its primitive settlement. The patriotism shown by our forefathers on that occasion is highly complimentary. We hope the sons and grandsons of those venerable and respected pioneers will not be backward in advancing those interests. The want of union on the part of our agriculturists in the formation of respectable and efficient societies is truly lamentable. We attribute the cause in a great measure, to the want of a proper medium, or channel, to interchange their opinions, and advocate their rights. Such a one is now presented to them, and it is for them to patronise or refuse, we hope, however, that our efforts will be worthy of the former;—

YORK, UPPER CANADA.

At a meeting of Gentlemen from different parts of this Province, held at COOPER'S TAVERN, on Saturday, the 22nd of February, 1806; it was

RESOLVED, That from the industry of the people, the power of the State and the wealth of the Subject is derived; and Agriculture being the happiest mode in which industry can be applied, we feel it our duty to unite, for the purpose of promoting its advancement and accelerating its perfection.

RESOLVED, Therefore that we, (for the purposes aforesaid), do now form ourselves into a Society, to be termed, THE UPPER CANADA AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL SOCIETY.

RESOLVED, That for the various uses of this Society, each member shall pay one dollar on being admitted, and two dollars annually.

RESOLVED, That the Honourable Mr. Justice Thorpe be Chairman, John Small, Esquire, Secretary, and Charles B. Wyatt, Esquire, Treasurer.

RESOLVED, That to promote the design of this Society fully, and to obtain general information on the Agriculture and Commerce of this Province, a division of this Society shall be formed