

mers keep far too much of their land under tillage, and sure we are if they would keep but one half of the quantity, and bestow upon it double tillage, their profits at the year's end would show much better.

### IMPORTED STOCK.

In noticing in our first number the Jacques Cartier Agricultural Show, we made particular reference to Mr. Thomas Dawes' imported boar, shown on the ground, but not entered for competition. We have since obtained the pedigree both of the boar and the sow, and now insert it for the information of our readers. The boar pig was farrowed 15th January, 1851; sire, "Voltigeur," dam, "Perfection," 2nd. The sow, farrowed 8th June, 1860; sire, "Cato," dam, "Polyanthus," now in young, was served by "Voltigeur," 29th June, 1861. The animals were purchased through the medium of John Bell, Esq., of 22 Brownlow Hill, Liverpool, and arrived here in August last, per steamship *North American*. The sow had nine young pigs the last litter, and reared them all. They were sold at eight weeks old for £4 10s. sterling, each. And the purchaser writes to Mr. Dawes, "the cross that she has now, you may rely upon having a fine belly of pigs." Another sow, also imported by Mr. Dawes, had her pigs sold at five guineas each, when six weeks old. Respecting the anticipated farrowing of the sows, Mr. Bell writes; "it will be necessary for a man to be with them during the time, and attend to them until after they have partly got clear of the farrowing pains, as the best and kindest of sows are sometimes very peevish and restless while pigging." Mr. Dawes deserves very great credit for thus adding to our fine breeds of stock, and setting an example to other, perhaps more wealthy, but certainly less energetic farmers, to follow.

Since the publication of our last No., we have heard some little difference of opinion respecting the claims of certain parties connected with the Agricultural Societies, as to the origin of the importation of improved breeds of stock into the country. Now it is but fair to give honour to those to whom it is due, and we have accordingly taken some little pains to make inquiry into the matter. Thus we find that, for very many years, superior stock have been occasionally imported into the country

by private enterprise, and much was done in the right direction by this means. The great expense of importing animals, placed such an undertaking far beyond the means of most of those engaged in agricultural operations, and at the same time gave the few who could afford it, such a decided advantage at the annual exhibitions, over the other competitors, that, in effect, it tended to discourage the large majority of our farmers from entering into the Society. And it was only by allowing two separate classes of premiums for all other kinds of stock, except horses, that a few of the French Canadians were induced to continue members. Feuds and heart-burnings were consequently frequent at the Society's meetings, as to the justice or wisdom of giving premiums to things of acknowledged inferiority. And although the remedy for all this was sufficiently obvious, it was found difficult to apply it; so much so, indeed, that when the measure was proposed at a meeting of the directors, its best friends took alarm, believing the matter premature, and therefore at the time impossible. The directors of the Society consisted of four French Canadians and three British. It was proposed to devote one hundred pounds stg., of the funds of the Society, to import one or more bulls of superior breed for the general use of the Society. It was feared that the French members who had the majority, would vote the thing down, and so put an end to it for many years to come. The result, however, proved very different. Mr. J. Deschamps, who had been a very energetic director for many years, not only seconded the motion, but spoke to it with effect and intelligence, and we are assured, that it is to this timely and important service on the part of Mr. Deschamps, we are indebted for the first importation of improved stock by any Society in Lower, and we believe we might also add in Upper Canada. The result of this public spirited move is now happily its best commendation. But it was so unpopular at the time that three of the directors threatened to withdraw from the Society. The present active and deservedly popular Secretary-Treasurer of the Society being then in the same office, lost no time in sending forward; and Mr. Morris of Ste. Thérèse being then in Europe, kindly undertook to make the selections and ship the stock, and we are assured that his valuable services gave the very highest satisfaction. Since that time, other Societies throughout the Pro-