

One great obstacle to the advance of improvement in the Agriculture of Canada is, that it is not considered by the best educated or most wealthy classes a respectable business to be engaged in. Consequently those who would be best qualified to introduce the latest improvements, and possess the means to work them out to the greatest advantage, are altogether unconnected with agriculture. This fact will account at once for the backward state of our Agriculture compared with that of the British Isles. Even our farmers' sons here, if educated well, generally apply themselves to some other occupation rather than farming. Where the sons of farmers have a little education—they are anxious to appear like other young men of the mercantile classes, and as they find the profits of farming are not sufficient to furnish them with the means of appearing like others, they become dissatisfied, and give up farming for other occupations that afford them more cash to spend for the present moment, though much less of permanent property to depend upon. We do not envy the feelings of those who, brought up the sons of farmers in the country, would give it up for a town life. In our estimation a farmer's life in the country, residing upon his own property, surrounded with his green fields, his crops and cattle—and sufficient capital to carry on business properly, would be a much preferable mode of life, and more respectable, than any occupation which they would be likely to find in town. Until farming becomes a fashionable occupation, as in England, neither talent nor capital will be attracted to it, nor much of either employed in it. There is one thing certain, however, that it is by the produce of the country, chiefly, that the cities must be maintained. Yes, it is the agricultural productions which must furnish the principal means of paying town rents, and taxes, as well as the revenue for the support of our civil government. The productions of our lands alone, must be the chief basis of the wealth of towns, as well as of the country, and our residents in towns will soon discover this, if they do not already understand it. The thin attendance at the Cattle Show on the 26th of September, though held in the immediate vicinity of Montreal, and on a fine day, should be sufficient to show the estima-

tion in which our agriculture is held by other classes. If in any part of British America, fine horses, cattle, sheep, pigs, and other agricultural productions, could be expected to appear at a Cattle Show, and a numerous attendance of all classes to see them, it should be at Montreal, and the fact—we leave those who were at the last Agricultural Show to reply to. We introduce the subject only to show how little interest is felt in the advance of improvement, and the prosperous condition of our agriculture.

It is quite as necessary that attention should be given to the improvement of the country as of the city—as both must prosper together, to make the prosperity of either permanent. It is only by raising produce in this country, that we can pay for importations of whatever description,—so far as regards the agricultural class, they can have no other means paying for them, and they constitute nine-tenths of our population. Almost all the floating capital of this country is employed for the improvement of our cities, while the country is neglected. However wealthy a man may be, he builds houses with his capital rather than employ it in cultivating land, in such a manner as might be an example to others. It is by the exertions of wealthy men in England, that agriculture is so much improved, and improving there. They try experiments, and show examples to the practical farmers, whose experience enables them to adopt these plans at less expense.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE MANAGEMENT AND APPLICATION OF MANURES.

The importance of attending to the liquid matters of the manure of the farm-yard has been already incidentally mentioned, but before entering on the consideration of the portable manures, the subject will demand our special attention. This is the more necessary, as the practice of even our most enterprising farmers in the preservation and application of the liquid matters which are at certain times so abundant in the farm-yard, has hitherto been greatly defective. This department of rural economy is, perhaps, nowhere so well understood as in Flanders: there the liquid is prized still more highly than the solid portion of the manure, and it is applied at all seasons by these industrious cultivators of the soil with the best effects, their management in this respect in fact, forming one of the chief characteristics of their husbandry. With the Flemish farmer the liquid manure tank is considered to be an essential part of the arrangement of the farm-yard, in