

which would admit of retrenchment. He was highly pleased to hear the Attorney General advocate the agricultural interests of the country; and he himself was as anxious for its success as any man although he might adopt a different method of encouragement. He was therefore little inclined to substitute flax for Indian corn, notwithstanding the many plausible objections urged against the latter crop because he thought it our wisest policy to hold out the greatest possible inducement to the farmer to raise bread-corn; and after this was accomplished, we could with more propriety and effect turn his attention to clothing. Although he approved therefore highly of flax, he thought it subordinate to the culture of grain and was not disposed to interfere with the premiums offered for Indian corn. Every object now contemplated would, he trusted, be properly cherished and supported in the course of time, for he wished the society to last long, and that its plans should ultimately be matured. In the meantime if the legislature saw meet, he should be glad to get further aid.

WILLIAM LAWSON, Esq. wished to make only a few observations. He would like that some other gentlemen than those of the Bar would express their sentiments on this subject. The effects of this society have been praised by them on all hands, although he was satisfied that the money granted to the Central Board had done no good. Instead of considering it as a matter of exultation that native flour was exporting from the country, he viewed it with regret, because American flour must be substituted in its place. For his own part he was determined to eat the flour of the country, and therefore he wished it retained for our own consumption. All the good which has been done, let the gentlemen of the bar say what they please, has emanated from the secretary and his writings and not from the Board. This was not his own opinion alone, for when he conversed with country farmers they all agreed with him, although at present they were content to sit still in silence.

The honourable the ATTORNEY GENERAL conceived that although a member of the bar he certainly was entitled to speak, for he had paid well for his knowledge of farming; and when he looked around him to the other gentlemen of the bar, he saw a very great propriety in their taking a share of the debate, because they were all more or less engaged in rural pursuits. In consequence of the dignity which had been given to agriculture by the countenance and patronage of that Board, several of those gentlemen had retired from the bustle