

if large sums (such as is the instance of the Canada Company's Prize, or more,) were offered for the best 25 or 50, or even 100 bushels of our chief staple farm products, under the condition that the Provincial Association should retain, at a full rate, all the samples offered for competition, and offer them for sale by public auction for seed? 3. Would premiums for the best managed farms exercise a beneficial influence?

Question XI.

Would model farms, where agriculture and veterinary instruction could be obtained and where the best modes of agriculture, and the best breeds of stock, could be seen,

and where needful agricultural experiments could be conducted, be so sustained as to render them of public advantage?

Question XII.

Can you suggest any other direction in which the Government and Legislature of the Province can lend their aid towards the advancement of agriculture in the Province.

By order of the joint Committee,

GEORGE BROWN,

Chairman.

Answers to the foregoing queries to be addressed to the "Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Advancement of Agriculture, Quebec."

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT.

THE FARMING INTEREST OF CANADA.

THE official census taken in January, 1861, furnishes reliable data for arriving at the agricultural condition of the country, and an official Report from the Bureau of Agriculture, issued in 1863, provides estimates of two years' later date.

From these returns it appears that the number of persons in actual occupation of land in Upper Canada, in the year 1860, was not less than 131,983, and in Lower Canada 105,671. The quantity of land held was as follows:

	U. Canada.	L. Canada.
10 acres and under.....	4,424	6,822
10 acres to 20.....	2,075	3,183
20 acres to 50.....	23,430	20,074
50 acres to 100.....	64,891	44,041
100 acres to 200.....	28,335	21,739
Above 200 acres.....	5,027	6,840
Total occupiers.	131,983	105,671

It thus appears that there were, three years ago, not fewer than 237,654 persons in Canada who cultivate their own land; and if the army of farm servants, choppers, carpenters, blacksmiths, waggon-makers, harness-makers, &c., directly employed in farm-work, be added, it will be seen at once how vast a proportion of the half million of male adults in Canada are directly employed in the cultivation of the soil.

Then as to the capital employed. The estimated cash value of the farms and farming implements was, in January, 1861, as follows:—

In Upper Canada.....	\$306,442,663
In Lower Canada.....	178,870,271
Total value.....	\$485,312,933

And this enormous sum does not include the live stock on crops on hand. The last census showed the live stock to have been then as follows:—

	U. Canada.	L. Canada.
Milch cows, No. of head.....	461,640	328,870
Oxen and steers.....	93,605	200,031
Young cattle.....	404,033	287,611
Horses, of all kinds.....	377,631	248,415
Sheep.....	1,110,225	682,825
Pigs.....	776,001	286,400

At present prices, these cannot be valued at much under \$100,000,000; and the amazing rapidity with which the live stock of the country is increasing in number and value can readily be seen by a comparison of the census returns of 1851 and 1861.

But perhaps a more satisfactory idea of the agricultural industry of the Province can be gained from a statement of the annual product of our farms. In the year 1860 the crop was as follows:—

	U. Canada.	L. Canada.	Total.
Wheat, bushels.....	24,620,425	2,654,354	27,274,779
Barley, ".....	2,821,962	2,281,674	5,103,636
Rye, ".....	973,181	844,192	1,817,373
Peas, ".....	9,601,396	2,648,777	12,250,173
Oats, ".....	21,220,874	17,551,296	38,772,170
Buckwheat, ".....	1,248,537	1,250,025	2,498,562
Indian Corn, ".....	2,456,290	331,861	2,788,151
Potatoes, ".....	15,325,290	12,770,471	28,095,761
Turnips, ".....	18,206,959	892,434	19,099,393
Man. Wurz., ".....	546,971	207,266	754,237
Carrots, ".....	1,905,698	293,987	2,199,685
Beans, bushels.....	49,143	21,334	70,477
Clover and Timothy Seeds, bushels.....	61,818	33,954	95,772
Hay, tons.....	861,844	689,977	1,551,821
Hops, do.....	247,052	53,387	300,439
Maple Sugar, lbs.....	6,970,05	9,325,147	16,295,197
Cider, gallons.....	1,567,831	21,011	1,588,842
Wool, lbs.....	3,659,766	1,967,338	5,627,104
Butter, lbs.....	26,828,264	16,906,949	43,735,213
Cheese, lbs.....	2,687,172	686,297	3,373,469
Fax and tump, lbs.....	1,225,934	976,827	2,202,761
Tobacco.....	777,426		777,426

The total value of these products of the farm in 1860 was close upon one hundred millions of dollars! And if we add the in-