

suitable for Canada. We have seen a cross between the Leicester and Canadian sheep of excellent quality, large carcass, well woolled, and suitable for our climate. Of course, in breeding sheep, selections of the best ewes should be made, and all the inferior sold to the butcher. We never can have choice flocks of sheep or herds of cattle, unless we adopt this plan. The Chinese and Berkshire breed of pigs make a very good cross, and we have many fine pigs in the country to breed from, but the native Canadian breeds of swine are a very inferior race and we would by all means recommend better breeds to Canadian farmers, which can readily be had about Montreal, and other places. We shall refer to this subject again.

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*To Wm. Evans Esq., Editor of the Agricultural Journal.*

Sir,—You will no doubt learn with pleasure, that at the suggestion, and by the exertions of the Curé of our parish, a Society for "Agricultural discussions," has been formed in the parish. The Society is composed of all the educated persons in the place, and also, of all the farmers who may be willing to unite in it. There is no exclusion, as the only ticket of admission is ability, and inclination to be useful in discussing Agricultural subjects. We have a President, (the parish Curé has done us the favor of accepting the charge,) a Vice-President, a Secretary, and assistant Secretary—and a Committee of twelve members, chosen in the different sections of the parish. This Committee have the charge of preparing in advance, the various subjects to be discussed at the meetings, and each member is expected to bring before the Society the exact state of Agriculture in his locality.

In some instances, we have had as many as 125 persons present, some of them coming more than six miles to the meeting, which takes place in the evening. I think this is an excellent means of spreading Agricultural science, and of promoting Agricultural improvement. I would like to see such Societies in every parish—and it could not fail to induce the Canadian farmer to consider his condition, and adopt a mode of cultivation more in harmony with his wants, and more suitable for this soil and climate. A great number of the most assiduous of our members, are determined to put in practice many improve-

ments which have been suggested to them. Those changes and ameliorations will not fail to be followed by others; for, as you said in a late number of your Journal, the Canadians are imitators, and thus from neighbor to neighbor those improvements will spread all over the parish, and would all over the country, if similar Societies were established in every parish. The Societies are the more easy to be formed as they do not require any money. Good-will and the assistance of those who are the best educated, is what is required, to encourage all farmers to unite and become members of the Societies.

We have first taken care to apprise our farmers of the necessity and utility of extracting from their farms all that is required for the comfortable maintenance of themselves and their families, and that they should rather encourage domestic manufactures for their own use, than expend the means of improving their farms on the purchase of foreign productions. The advantages of draining, manuring, and cultivating root crops have been discussed, also improving the breed of sheep, and we are now commenting upon the pamphlet of His Excellency the Governor General. Practical men have assured us they have found a sure means of raising sound potatoes, and in a greater quantity, others have suggested the means of preserving them sound in the cellars by sprinkling powdered lime or charcoal over them.

If you ask me from what source we draw these notions on these particular subjects—my answer is, that it is from your treatise on Agriculture and your Journal, which is received by about twenty persons here. As to your Journal, I hope I may be permitted to suggest to you to put at the head of each member, a summary of the different subjects treated of in it, and also an alphabetical table at the end of each year. That would give the reader the facility of referring to any article at once which he might require to peruse for information or instruction.

Could you give me any information in your Journal, where the Leicester and Chiviot breed of sheep can be got, and what might be the price? Would it be better, from the principles expressed in page 118 of your treatise on Agriculture, (French copy,) to purchase a male or a female of these breeds? I beg to make the same enquiry respecting the breed of Swine, known as the Berkshire, and Chinese, which would you recommend?

Yours, &c.

UN AMI DU PROGRÈS AGRICOLE.

L'Islet, February 1851,

The preceding communication was translated from the French.