

when the capsules are brownish and the leaves faded.

The foregoing is the proper mode of preparing the land, and sowing, and tilling, and harvesting the hemp. In our next we will treat of the proper method of preparing it for the market. Before we quit the subject for this number of our paper, permit us to say a word to our Canadian friends in the lower part of the Province.

It is notorious that in spite of all the efforts and precaution which have been used, wheat has proved, to a great extent, a failure in that part of Canada formerly called Lower Canada. Either from bad culture or from the ravages of insects, disastrous effects have been produced. The farmer then finds that his interests will be advanced by raising other crops—crops which may not be so liable to destruction by the flies and other insects. Allow us to ask, would not the introduction and extensive cultivation of hemp in your section of the Province be the most valuable crop you can raise? Hemp being a crop that may be sown late and gathered early, is well suited to the northern climate of Lower Canada, and is a crop which no insect will attack, nor is there any danger of a failure of a crop, if the land is properly prepared and timely sowed with good seed. A tolerable yield may be estimated at from thirty to forty stone of the rough fibre per acre. Of seed, there will be from ten to twelve bushels per acre.

While England remains a commercial nation, which she probably ever will, the supply of hemp for the manufacture of cordage and canvass for shipping will be immense; so that should you produce hemp in quantities, there will be no danger of overstocking the market, as with grain, but a fair price and ready sale will always be had at your own ports.

We are informed that the Government is so far favorable to the introduction of hemp into this Province that they have offered to erect a mill for the breaking and manufacturing hemp in this country, provided the farmers will go on to raise it. We hope the few remarks here made on this matter will cause some of the farmers in the lower part of Canada, specially in those districts where they cannot raise wheat, to take the subject into consideration, and they shall hear further from us at another time.

Remember,  the best seeds are brought from Riga.

One of the glaring faults in the farming of this portion of the province is, that almost every man undertakes the management of more land than he has the means of cultivating with advantage, either to himself or to the public. It is not to be understood from this that the farms are too large—by no means. When once a sufficient knowledge of their professed pursuit has been acquired by the country population to enable them to regulate on a system what is now guided by mere chance, or by the caprice of the wholly uninformed, a certain, and even a considerable breadth of land is requisite to do it to the best advantage. Looking therefore prospectively to the general introduction of some approved system of agriculture, we have no objection to make as to the size of the farms; but so long as any man has not the

requisite means of keeping in daily operation a proportionate establishment, and of commanding on the instant the additional help that shall enable him to mow, reap, harvest, and house his crop, he will better fulfil his duty as a member of the community, and will more surely advance his own interest, by cultivating as it ought to be five acres, than by destroying 50—Farming cannot, any more than any other business, be carried on to any advantage unless with a proportionate capital embarked—and in England no one would think of letting a farm to any man who, besides sundry implements and cattle, has not at his command, in money, three years rent. It is quite notorious that a farm which does not enrich a man will soon ruin him; and a bad farmer, besides ruining himself, spoils a farm, and entails a heavy drain on the capital of whoever succeeds him.

The doctrine then that we would inculcate is, possess as much as you will, but do not attempt to cultivate more than you can. We last autumn met, in the course of our agricultural reading, with the following instance recorded on indubitable authority, of what may be done with one acre of land, well attended to.

Mr. W. W. Bridgeman raised in the year 1810, one hundred and sixty bushels of Corn, each weighing 41 lbs. 2 oz., and twenty-four bushels of Potatoes, on one acre of land. Of the culture of this crop, Mr. B. says:—

"The manner in which I prepared my land for this abundant harvest was as follows: I put on it 22 loads of long manure, made in an unfloored stable. I planted the corn the first week in May, and hoed it the first time the last week of the same month, when I found that the wire worm was making great ravages among it. I slaked a bushel of stone lime and put on the corn. In a few days I perceived that it had changed its color. In ten days I put on six bushels of ashes, which is all the process which I pursued."

But of all the crops a farmer can raise, none will require such good protection as this same Indian Corn, for cattle will get at it wherever the fence will permit, and in some parts the article of fencing, that is the material for deal-fencing is become scarce, and without it is to be feared any serious consideration or practical experiment on the part of our farmers in regard to a living substitute.

In the neighbourhood of Montreal, some hedges have been planted, and a notion was at first imbibed that thorn plants must be procured from England. The national prejudice that first suggested this idea may be pardoned, but the wilful blindness of the man who shall persevere in it is without excuse. The native plants, besides being acclimated, are of much quicker growth, and the branch or shoot is individually stronger, besides being armed with the most powerful thorns, and when subjected to the process of trimming they thicken to the heart's content, and present a living wall. The Americans have been compelled in many districts to turn their serious attention to the cultivation of living fences. They seem to have ascertained that in raising thorns the seed should not be sown on the line of the fence, but in the seed beds, which is the prevalent practice in England, though we have seen the haws sown on the line of the intended fence, and do well. The Americans, however, do not seem to have discovered that when thorns might with difficulty be procured, Beech is a very good substitute. In France, generally, there are very few fences—but in that part of Normandy where they breed a great many horses, hedges are in plenty, and capital. These are all made of Beech, which when clipped, thickens quicker than almost any other plant, when not shooting we used to find them provokingly impervious.

It is long since men of reflection and calculation affirmed the truth that the productive industry of a country is the great source of

its wealth; but this axiom has, as long, been astonishingly disregarded, and has only latterly produced that general conviction which has elicited an almost common consent. Events of almost daily occurrence, and in our own time, have established in Europe, and in America too, that there is no branch of industry with which national prosperity is so intimately connected, or on which it can be said to be so dependent, as upon agriculture. The recent deficiency of one year's crop in Great Britain sufficed to hamper the money transactions and to alter the commercial relations between widely distant countries which were thought to be independent of each other, and has acted upon the condition of their inhabitants to an extent that equals the effect of several years actual warfare. It is clear then, that as the world advances in civilization with the rapid strides of these our days, agriculture must exercise an influence hitherto unknown and unsuspected, and which must prove beneficial or prejudicial according to the state of its interests, be they flourishing or depressed. Hence the earnestness with which the greatest minds are now-a-days applied to the study of those interests, and the reason why they are as duly appreciated by the Statesman and the Financier, as they are by the most intelligent men in the ordinary walks of life. Hence too the reason why here, in Canada, the recent measure of the Union which will give the long impetus towards civilization, should also be marked as the epoch of systematic cultivation, and agricultural improvement.

Circumstances, as it happens, are just now peculiarly favorable for the introduction of a system where none has hitherto been observed; and it remains to be seen whether these circumstances will be taken advantage of; a contingency which is neither dependent on the Governor General, nor on the British Government, nor yet on the Colonial Government—but on the unwearied and simultaneous exertion of every man of intelligence, property and influence throughout the country. For this cause let the bigotted partisan break the shackles of his political adhesion to men who are disappointed in ambitious speculations, and are the sworn and reckless opponents of every measure from which they cannot derive a disproportioned and unmerited advantage; let the mis-called patriot adjure his treason, and the demagogue his visionary delusion; and let them leave the government of the country to those able hands on which it may more safely as well as properly be dependent. If thus renouncing their errors and their crimes, and combining for a good object, they shall accomplish the reform which the writer is here contemplating they will have established a claim to honor and distinction which the whole world will cheerfully accord, and which can never, ought never, must never be attendant upon the prosecution of their present heartless course.

The unhappy introduction, and the awful multiplication of the insect which has for many years destroyed the wheat crops of Lower Canada, has inflicted upon the French population of that portion of the Province the severest privation to which they could well have been subjected—they can no longer eat wheaten bread. Had they been a people of a more energetic character we should long since have heard of parochial or sectional subscriptions for the purpose of procuring from the overflowing granaries of the Western States the perpetuation of a luxury which to them had become, from an uninterrupted use of more than seventy years, almost a necessary of life. But no—they bowed to this inscrutable dispensation, and set themselves to study and to cultivate substitutes. And if in the infliction, so in the submission, we see the finger of Providence, which has thus compelled a deviation from past practice founded in ignorance, and