

AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL,

AND

TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

Lower Canada Agricultural Society.

VOL. 9.

MONTREAL, OCTOBER, 1850.

NO. 10.

We very willingly give insertion to a letter of Mr. Wm. Boa, and in reply to his enquiry beg to state, that in our Treatise on Agriculture, published under the heading, "Agricultural weights and measures," in 1835, we gave the various Land Measures, by which land is measured in England, Ireland, and Scotland, and in Lower Canada; and also, the various "Corn Measures," known in all these countries, and the proportions they bear to each other. We have at various times since that period, endeavoured to draw attention to the great inconvenience of having different weights and measures in this Province for selling grain, of all kinds. Our measure differs from Upper Canada, and both differ from the Standard measure of England, the Imperial bushel. But to proceed to reply to Mr. Boa. The English foot is 12 English inches. The French or Canadian foot is $12\frac{7}{100}$ English inches, 100 English feet is equal to $93\frac{9}{10}$ French or Canadian feet. The English acre is 4840 square yards. The French or Canadian arpent is 3600 square yards, French or Canadian measure, equal to about five-sixth of an English acre, or 100 English acres, make about 119 arpents, Canadian. This is as near the proportion as necessary.

As regards "corn measure," 25 minots Canadian, make 28 Winchester bushels all but 3 quarts, and about 27 Imperial bushels. Consequently, if one arpent produces 25 minots, an English acre should produce $29\frac{1}{2}$ minots, and hence one arpent producing 25 minots is equal to one English acre producing about 33 Winchester bushels, or about 32 Imperial bushels.

This calculation is as nearly correct as is necessary to give an idea of the proportions of each measure of land and grain. 300 minots of potatoes off an arpent, is equal to 400 bushels off an English acre in Upper Canada or the United States. This difference is a very material one in the produce of a 100 acres of grain in Upper Canada and the United States, and 100 arpents in Lower Canada. The land is nearly a fifth short of English measure in Lower Canada, while the grain measure is nearly a eighth more in quantity than the grain measure of Upper Canada or the United States. This difference is seldom duly considered in speaking of the produce of land in these countries, and when the difference is not understood, it gives an idea that is unfavourable to Lower Canada, compared with other countries. There are many other matters connected with Lower Canada that are not properly understood, and if they were, the country would be much more favourably appreciated.

To the Editor of the Agricultural Journal.

STR.—In a late number of the Journal, you have given a statement of the difference of the capacity of the minot and the Imperial and Winchester bushels. Now that we farmers and our farms in Eastern Canada may appear in a true light in the eyes of our neighbours at the approaching Exhibition that is to take place in Montreal, will you in the October number of the Journal show the difference of the extent of the French and English acre. There are many amongst us that do not know that there is any difference either in the acre or bushel that is in use amongst our neighbours and that in use amongst ourselves; this ignorance of ours causes us to think to much of our neighbours, and li-