

T H E

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THE AGRICULTURIST FOR 1853.

The *Agriculturist* has felt, and expects to feel the "hard times," in common with every other "institution" in the country. But we shall continue to urge, and as far as possible aid our aid to effect improvement in agriculture,—increase of production, and decrease of cost,—as the chief, if not the only remedy, for the monetary evils that now afflict Canada. It is, perhaps, a good thing for agriculture, that the revulsion of prices occurred when it did. The minds of our farmers have been turned away from hazardous speculations, in which many of them had unwisely involved themselves, and they will now see that there is nothing so sure, so certain, so satisfactory in the end, as the *plough*. The profits of the farm are small, under ordinary circumstances, but where skill and industry have been moderately exercised, they are never converted into a *loss* that brings bankruptcy and ruin in a day. Not so with the merchant, the manufacturer, or the speculator. They may be wealthy, confident, flourishing to-day, and without a house or home that they can call their own to-morrow. A thousand cases could be cited in Canada alone, in which this sudden reverse has come upon persons belonging to the classes mentioned, within the last six months! Let us, then, "stick to the farm." Let us, instead of repining, take courage, and endeavour to *improve* the farm. Make it more productive; make it less expensive to work, by availing ourselves of every attainable improvement; and whether prices range high or low, we shall, at least, be tolerably free from the visits of the sheriff.

The *Agriculturist* will not, we think, prove less interesting or less useful this year than last. We have found it necessary to retrench a little, by reducing the number of pages, though the quantity of matter will be much the same. We have dropped the advertising pages, because we found they added considerably to the expense, without much profit. Many advertisers neither pay beforehand nor afterwards, and the amounts are too small to cover the cost of collection. A monthly paper cannot advertise profitably, without charging