

beef and pork, the produce of these Provinces, admitted into the British markets, on the same terms that British manufactures are admitted here. If these regulations were established, a very great change for the better would soon be perceptible in the agriculture of British America. The country is not worth retaining, if, under judicious management, it is not able to supply all the wants of our population, for food of every description, and a surplus produce annually, larger than has ever yet been exported from our sea-ports in a year, including foreign wheat and flour.

Farmers are accused of a desire to obtain a monopoly in order to raise their produce to exorbitantly high prices. If they can effect such a result by any protective laws that would be possible to introduce, we are strangely in error. There is, already, in British America, near four acres of land in cultivation for each inhabitant, besides two hundred millions of acres uncultivated. With such means at our disposal for raising food, it is most preposterous to apprehend high prices for food, or that immigrants coming to the country, who are chiefly employed and fed by farmers, would have to pay exorbitant prices for their food, unless in extremely adverse seasons, such as have not occurred during our residence in Canada, a period of near twenty-four years. For ourselves, we never would desire exorbitantly high prices for any description of agricultural produce; but we would anxiously wish to see this fine country improving to the full extent it is capable of. And, in order to insure this, we think it would be necessary that capital could be safely and profitably invested in land, and employed in agriculture. We also wish to see immigration of the industrious and labouring classes induced to settle in this country, by a sure prospect of their being thereby able to better their condition. We have no manufactures to employ them, and, therefore, to land their attention must be directed, as they will have no other resources from which they can obtain their subsistence. We have always entertained the opinion, that an able-bodied labourer coming to this country, though not possessed of one shilling, on landing on our shores, would be worth to this country, from fifty to one hundred pounds, or would be equal to a capital of that amount brought into it, provided we employed him profitably, as it is in our power to do. Every man coming here must add to the general capital all that he is able to create, over what he consumes. It is a considerable expense to every country, to raise a man from infancy to the period that he is able to work for his support, and for such a country as British America to get full grown men, without the expense of rearing them to maturity, is a very great advantage; if it is not our own fault by neglecting those advantages that are at our disposal. We wish to see more permanent means for the employment of this useful class, on their arrival here, than the public works will afford—as they cannot be always sufficient to employ the emigrants arriving in British America, however extensive they may be. Doubtless the useful public works extensively progressing in these provinces, must prove to be a vast benefit, not only to emigrants as they arrive here, but to every class of our community. A considerable portion of the expenditure will come to us in one shape or other, and augment our capital. Hence it is that money expended on public works is not lost, whether the works are actually useful or necessary, or not. Every shilling of this expenditure is paid for some commodity, either the produce of our lands, or manufactures, and thus again circulates in the most useful channels, to employ labour, and encourage industry, and the fine arts. We, therefore, most heartily wish, that public and useful works may go on extensively and prosperously in these provinces, and that when they are completed, they may yield ample returns for the expenditure. We are happy to have it in our power to state, that the Turnpike Roads in the neighbourhood of Montreal, have succeeded to admiration, and the entire satisfaction of all classes, some of whom, were first, much opposed to their introduction.

We beg to observe further, that we do not at present offer any objection to the importation

of foreign wheat into British America, to be manufactured into flour here for exportation, and for our own consumption if necessary.—But we conceive that even this concession to a foreign state, ought to be reciprocated by a corresponding concession on their part in favour of British produce or manufactures. By admitting their wheat, they find a good and convenient market, and our own merchants will be able to procure all they will require to be manufactured into flour, so that the export trade of flour will not experience any check, and these Provinces will gain all the advantages and profits of manufacturing. By employing more capital in agriculture in Upper Canada, and adopting a better system of husbandry, the produce of wheat might be augmented three or four-fold. And if new lands were brought into cultivation by numerous settlers, the produce of wheat might be increased to almost any required extent. The lands of Upper Canada are as well adapted to the production of abundant crops of wheat as any on earth, provided they are judiciously cultivated.

We have now, submitted for consideration, some of the measures which we conceive necessary to be adopted, in order to insure the improvement and prosperity of our agriculture, and the general improvement of British America. We may be mistaken in our views, and if demonstrated to us that we are so, we shall readily and candidly acknowledge our error. We very respectfully, but earnestly solicit the attention of the government and legislature to the actual state of our agriculture. If it is found, on a full consideration of our condition, that we have no reasonable cause to complain, and no just grounds to ask for any encouragement or protection, we shall endeavour to submit to things as they are. We ask not for the smallest advantage over other classes. We are anxious that our agriculture should improve, and that our vast wilderness should be gradually converted into corn fields and pastures, affording employment and food to our unemployed and burdensome fellow-subjects of the British Isles.—All channels of industry are so completely filled up in the mother country, and capital is still so abundant there, that no doubt can exist that it would be invested here to any amount required, if there was a prospect of safety and remuneration. Both may be assured to capitalists, we maintain respectfully, if we only adopt measures that are possible and expedient. Hitherto capital has not been extensively invested in land or agriculture in British America, although offices of registry have long been established, we believe, in all the Provinces, with the exception of Lower Canada. What can be the cause of this, except the want of assurance of safety and profit? The whole amount of our proposition is this:—that we wish to see British capital employed to encourage industry in our own country, rather than in foreign states, and that it is not likely to be so employed here to any considerable amount under existing circumstances. We therefore propose measures of encouragement and protection, to preserve us from foreign competition, and make it safe for capitalists to invest their money in land and agriculture in these Provinces.

There are many other subjects interesting to agriculturists which we propose to notice in future numbers, but the introduction of capital being the grand requisite to effect improvement in our agriculture, and in the country generally, we thought it best to discuss the subject first, and submit what we conceive to have been the cause that more capital was not invested in land and farming in British America up to this period.

The useful education of the agricultural class is a measure we shall earnestly recommend, but from what we have learned of the result of a general system of education in other countries, we shall feel it our duty to suggest, a careful religious instruction in connection with education. This religious instruction, however, to be in strict conformity with the several religious creeds professed by the parties instructed. When we again refer to this subject, we shall respectfully submit our views, and it will be for our readers to judge of their reasonableness and practicability.

To the several Agricultural Societies established in British America, we beg to suggest the utility of occasionally communicating with this Publication. Communications coming from them on any subject connected with agriculture, will meet with the most prompt attention from us. Societies of this nature are instituted ostensibly to forward the improvement of agriculture—this Publication has avowedly the same object, let them then act in concert, and support each other. If this Publication will be worthy of encouragement it should obtain the patronage of Agricultural Societies by procuring subscribers to it, without which it cannot exist or be useful. We also expect that experienced agriculturists will communicate with us on useful and interesting subjects, and on the results of experiments made by them on either crops or stock. We again assure subscribers that we shall use all diligence to make *The Cultivator* useful to them. We shall not pretend to instruct farmers that are more competent than ourselves, but we would hope, that even those would subscribe to a Publication that will be exclusively devoted to advocating their interests, and to the instruction of those who will receive it. We may often be in error, but we shall willingly be corrected.—We shall never intentionally mislead the public to forward our own views, or the interests of our class, by injustice to others. We wish that the occupied lands of British America should be judiciously cultivated, yielding an abundant and excellent produce in corn and cattle, and rendering to the agriculturist a reasonable remuneration for his skill and labour, and for the amount of capital invested in land, stock, and implements, and by every means that may be in our power, we shall endeavour that those desirable and reasonable results may be attainable by the intelligent and industrious farmer. We further state, that the interests of the class who labour for their daily wages, shall not be overlooked or neglected by us. We know too well their usefulness, whether employed in agriculture or in public works, to forget them.

The Dairy.

The Professor Low, in the last number of his "Domestic Animals of Britain and Ireland," sums up as follows a carefully digested treatise on the importance of the dairy:—"The dairy is a branch of rural industry, deserving of attention in the highest degree. There are no other means known to us by which so great a quantity of animal food derived for human support from the same space of ground. In the British Islands, the production of this kind of aliment in summer, and its entire value forms no inconsiderable proportion of the yearly created produce of the land. There is no class of persons by whom milk, in one or more of its forms, is not used. Cheese may seem to be a mere superfluity to those who feed largely on other animal food, yet, even amongst this class, the consumption, from its regularity, is considerable; but amongst the far more numerous classes to whom cheese is a part of their customary diet, the consumption of this substance is very great. Butter is used by almost every family above the poorest, and to an enormous extent, as a substitute for oil in culinary preparations. Simple milk, too, enters into the diet of every class, with this peculiarity, that it is consumed in a larger quantity in the rural districts than in the towns. It may be difficult to make an approximate calculation of the quantity and value of the milk consumed by the twenty-five millions of the inhabitants of the British Islands. It is, perhaps, a reasonable calculation, that each individual consumes half a pint of milk in a day in its different forms, which would produce 570,212,500 gallons, and at 8d. the gallon £19,010,416, besides more than 200,000,000 gallons employed in the raising and fattening of calves. Great as the production is, it is not sufficient for the supply of the inhabitants; and an importation takes place of butter and cheese, which an extension of the native dairy would enable the country to dispense with."—*London M. L. Express.*

Idleness is the bane of every thing; it is like the barren soil on which all labour and cultivation are thrown away.