

only necessary so far as required to keep the meadows in good condition for producing good hay for the market. This is not a difficult mode of farming, where the land is suitable, and convenient to market. The chief requisite is, that all lands in meadows shall produce the best quality of hay, as this will make the acreable value much greater. It is as much expense to dispose of inferior hay as that which brings the highest price. The grand foundation of all Agricultural improvement in the British Isles, is considered to be the feeding of stock. We are convinced that in Canada, we shall never have any profitable improvement in our Agriculture where most required, without having more of good pasture and meadows. Without these we cannot have good cattle, and without cattle properly kept, we cannot have good manure or good crops. The manure of stock barely kept in existence, fed on straw in winter, and poor pasture in Summer, is not much value to the land. In England, farmers use a proportion of oil-cake to feed stock, with a view of improving the manure of cattle, and they find that feeding on a proportion of grain also improves the manure. How different it is in this country. Few farmers here think of improving the manure of stock, by making use of grain or oil-cake for feeding. It has been clearly proved in England, that, the manure of cattle or sheep fattened on roots, is not of much more than half the value of the manure of cattle and sheep that have a portion of grain or oil-cake given to them with the roots. Farmers may imagine their own farming very superior, who have never seen or read of any other, but this is a very injurious delusion and checks improvements.

We recommend to our readers the following speech of Professor Johnston. It will give an idea of his estimation of Agriculture in North America, and there are few gentlemen better qualified to make a correct esti-

mate on the subject. He has seen good farming, and he can understand the difference between what is a good and what is a defective system of agriculture, and we may take his word for it that our agriculture is far behind that of Britain, and the sooner we are able to lessen the distance the better it will be for us. There is nothing in the climate or soil of Canada to prevent our agriculture approaching very closely the most perfect system practiced in the British Isles :—

PROFESSOR JOHNSTON.

At a recent meeting of the East of Berwickshire Farmer's Club, Professor Johnston, returned from America, at the request of his friend Mr. Milne, of Milne-Garden, delivered the following address, which we have much pleasure in laying before our readers :—

I will briefly refer to some points which came under my observation in that part of the country which I visited. First of all, as to the state of agriculture in the northern parts of America, in our own provinces, and in New England, with which we are ourselves more familiar, when I tell you generally that the state of agriculture in those parts of America is what the state of agriculture in Scotland probably was 80 or 90 years ago ; and when I tell you that in some parts of New Brunswick they are very nearly in the precise condition in which Scotland was 120 years ago, you will have an idea of the state of agriculture in North America. The system of agriculture is no farther forward—it is exceedingly far behind. They are not even acquainted with the improved methods of farming, or the improved implements which are now in common use in this country ; while the increased facilities which Mr Milne would still further introduce have never even been heard of by them. Now, in regard to this state of things in the whole of the northern parts of America, so as far west as you like, and as far south as you like, the same general description applies to the whole. Now, the next question is, how has this state of things been brought about ? You are probably not all so well acquainted with the state of agriculture in this country 100 or 120 years ago as I have found it my duty to make myself, and at the time to which I refer, I allude not only to the state of great ignorance in regard to the cultivation of the soil, but the state of exhaustion in the soil itself. So in referring to the present state of agriculture in America, I refer to two considerations—the condition of mind brought to bear upon the cultivation of the land and the state of the land itself. In regard