

and skill and diligence alone are required to make them a profitable branch of Canadian industry.

Our climate some have supposed to be prejudicial to agricultural pursuits ; but, on the contrary, the heavy snows and severe frosts of winter anticipate the labors of the plough, and by pulverizing the soil, prepare it for the various crops which our ardent summer sun brings in due time to perfection.

One cannot but regard with admiration the skill and science displayed so far in the varied improvements of Canadian husbandry, the greater part of which have been the work of scarce a decade. The waste places of our country, as a natural result of such healthy innovation, are being rapidly cleared, cultivated and transformed. Waving fields of golden grain are now to be seen, each year, where comparatively a short time ago the aboriginals of the forest waved their mighty heads as if in obdurate defiance of the onward march of civilization. We have experienced what important changes a few years of scientific farming, and even that on a very limited scale, are capable of unfolding. Canada promises by the industry and science of her sons to become one of the richest and most productive countries in the world. Let such bright indications animate us to continued exertion, and if the soil is the treasury from which the largest portion of our future wealth must flow, our material progress will greatly depend upon the skill of the husbandman. Agriculture may be followed as a simple rude art, yielding but a scant return, or it may be practised as one of the noblest sciences which can engage man's physical and mental energies, furnishing material wealth and abounding plenty. If the gods place labor before honor, and if there be dignity in human industry, then labor and industry become ennobled under the guidance of enlightened judgment, and bring in their train a thousand blessings. As the poet observes,

"Life without works is unenjoyed,
The happiest are the best employed,
Work moves and moulds the mightiest birth,
And groups the destinies of earth."

But while agriculture is and will continue to be our chief and leading interest, there are some other objects which must engage the enterprise of our people. The husbandman raises more than he can consume, while in this age of high civilization he is the creature of a thousand wants, which the land cannot directly supply. We must look to commerce and manufactures to supply these wants and to give a marketable value to all our surplus