

eeding to perfection in their business, and there is not yet any symptom of a disposition to provide a more suitable and useful education for the rural population. We can have no object in bringing this subject so often before our readers, but that we conceive it to be of such vial importance, not only to agriculturists but to the Canadian community of all classes, that we would not be doing our duty faithfully, were we to neglect to do this, until some action is taken in the matter. There is no useful purpose to be attained by allowing ourselves to be persuaded that the general agriculture of Lower Canada is in a state of progressive improvement, because there is no doubt that it is not so. There are improvements introduced in many instances undoubtedly, but not to the extent required to secure that degree of general prosperity, which the country is capable of attaining to. We cannot perform a greater service to our country than by endeavouring to understand what impediments exist to its prosperous condition, and then seeking to remove or remedy them, by every means within our power. "Knowledge is power;" but to make it power to the farmer, it must include the knowledge of his business. This matter is not, we conceive, duly considered. Youths, when they leave school, if intended for any profession, a merchant or mechanic, go at once as apprentices, to learn the business they are to follow, from parties who are competent to instruct them perfectly. Not so with the son of the farmer; on leaving school, where he has learned nothing of his profession, he does not go as an apprentice very probably to a person competent to instruct him, in the best manner, but he returns to his home to practice agriculture as his father does, perhaps, in a very imperfect manner. If it should be otherwise, and his father is competent to instruct him, very probably his teaching and reading at school have given him a distaste to the laborious work of the farmer, and he is more disposed to seek fortune by some other employment that will save

him from labour, and reward him with wealth and station, similar to what some party he has read of at school has attained to. We should not omit to mention that a very highly respectable Roman Catholic clergyman has informed us that he endeavours to give Lectures on Agriculture three times a week at his College. This is an example worthy of all commendation, and if followed up throughout the country would do immense good. We wish we had authority to name the gentleman who has commenced to do what is so much required for the advancement of agricultural improvement.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY.

The commencement of the month was excessively cold—the temperature falling to 22° below zero, and continuing at a low temperature for several days. Snow fell several times during the month, increasing considerably the quantity already on the ground. The temperature at Quebec was still lower than at Montreal, (28° below zero,) and the snow covers the ground to a greater depth, but this is not to be regretted, as it will be all the better for the land, and protect it from the extreme cold. Animals of all descriptions that are exposed to very great cold, will, undoubtedly, require more food to support them in good condition than they would in moderate weather, and this farmers should attend to, and not allow their cattle to fall off in their condition. If they have sufficient of good hay, nothing can be better, but if fed on straw, a small quantity of oats given to them daily would be a great means of maintaining their strength and condition. This grain is supposed to produce a great degree of warmth to the animals which take it as food, and is very fattening in its nature. If the oats is ground whole, and given in a warm mash, it would answer better than in raw grain; but in any way, it will answer a good purpose. In cutting straw or hay into chaff for neat cattle or sheep, we have been told that it has a tendency