

ENCOURAGING PROSPECTS.

In the April number of this Journal, an appeal to the sympathies of the various Agricultural Societies was made, being confident that it was only necessary, on our part, to press the matter, in order to have a liberal share of patronage from such associations. We are happy to have it in our power to state that the suggestion has taken much better than we anticipated, and we have every reason to expect from the great interest lately expressed by friends from every point of the compass, that our sphere of usefulness will be speedily augmented, especially from Societies.

As an evidence of what may be expected from such societies, we give the following specimens: The Niagara District Agricultural Society, one of the most wealthy and respectable in the Province, passed a resolution at their last meeting, that a copy of *The British American Cultivator* should be subscribed for, for the benefit of each member, at the expense of the society. The Midland District Society have done the same; so also, have a branch society in the Johnstown District. While penning this article, we notice in *The Sherbrooke Gazette*, of the 18th instant, that the Drummond Agricultural Society have passed a resolution at a recent meeting, that ONE HUNDRED COPIES OF THE CULTIVATOR shall be procured for the benefit of the members of that association.

It would require but little exertion on the part of the FOUR HUNDRED AGENTS who act for this work, together with the aid anticipated from other Agricultural Societies, to augment the circulation within a few months, sufficient to exhaust the whole of the present edition. The quantity of back numbers on hand at present are twenty-two hundred, which if disposed of on the very liberal terms that we allow to agents and others, would cover all expenses and leave a small balance in our favour.—If this point was once gained, we would be encouraged to launch out and make improvements, for instance, if the encouragement we receive between this and the end of the present volume, be sufficient to warrant a continuance of the work, a new series of volumes would be commenced with the number for January next, which would be printed on a larger sheet than the one we use at present, and each number would contain thirty-two large pages, in suitable form for binding—and all this too, without any addition to the price. But, we would ask, how can this be done, unless the public show a disposition to support the enterprise to an extent, at least, equivalent to the actual expenses? The whole matter stands thus; if the farmers creditably sustain the work during the present year, it may be continued for many years to come, if they refuse that support, duty to ourself and our family will require us to relinquish an occupation which has already been a source of entailing a loss so large that but few would encounter it, with the energy and fortitude we have heretofore manifested.—Although on the one hand, we have grounds to be discouraged, owing to embarrassments which we have subjected ourselves to, in embarking so much time and capital in a business, which nine out of ten from whom we have counselled on the subject,

have predicted an ultimate failure; yet, on the other hand, we have substantial reason to be buoyed up with the hope of finally succeeding in establishing a Journal which will ultimately be a credit to our native country,

Let us for a moment examine some of the evidences for grounding such a pleasing prospect.—There can be no question but Agricultural Societies and Clubs without exception, will give every encouragement in their power to sustain the respectability of the work by subscribing liberally for it, and by recommending it to the farmers, within their respective spheres of influence; and besides, there are between three and four hundred Post Masters, who take an active interest already in procuring subscribers, and we flatter ourselves that there are but few Post Masters in the Province, but would feel pleasure in promoting the Agriculture of these Provinces. We trust the Cultivator will prove a most efficient agent in bringing about the amelioration of the Agricultural interests by the introduction of a better system of farming in British America. There are many country merchants, and even private gentlemen who, also, have taken up the matter with consideration, warmth, and from whom we have had sufficient testimony of their good wishes,

It may not be amiss to mention, for the satisfaction of all, that upwards of 400 Copies of the Cultivator are sent to Montreal,—125 do, to London,—90 to Kingston,—70 to Port Hope,—65 to St. Catharines,—76 to Nelson,—50 to Niagara,—30 to Hamilton,—40 to Smiths Falls,—and 250 in the City of Toronto. In addition to the above, there are many places to which we send packages containing from fifteen to thirty Copies each.

These are the principle grounds for flattering ourselves with the prospect of ultimate and triumphant success.

British American farmers should bear in mind that only a portion of the burdens of conducting this Journal, involves on an Editor, and that portion by no means the most important.

The mere filling the office of an hireling Editor is a trifling task, when compared to the responsibility connected with the publishing department. If the expenses of our Magazine were fairly met by the public, so that it would be morally certain that our property would not suffer, or be sacrificed at the shrine of public apathy, we would feel under these circumstances, a warm and hearty zeal in filling the columns with matter, which would not only be original but would be practical and profitably useful.

As a means of continuing the British American Cultivator, we have resolved to adopt a regular course of retrenchment, by which the expenses will be considerably curtailed.—The work itself will be differently conducted from what it has been, in as much as it our is fixed and determined resolution to make it a plain common sense agent to canvass the Provinces for the ostensible purpose of disseminating useful information on a subject, which, above all others, we feel ourselves qualified to express our views practically and intelligently—viz:—Agricultural improvement in all its branches.

In order to carry out our design, we want support, and we can recommend no better plan than a learned Doctor practised for the

Albany Cultivator, some three years since.—He always carried a specimen or two in his pocket which he introduced to every farmer within the reach of his influence, the result was, that he very soon obtained a list of sixty-five subscribers, who paid their dollar in advance. This occurrence took place at the head of the Bay of Quinte, and, we trust that this praiseworthy example will be followed up by a corresponding result in favour of a home-spun production by the same individual, and by as many more of his profession and others, as think proper to encourage the enterprise.

Elsewhere, we have mentioned that we have entered into such arrangements that most of our time will be required in the laborious operations of the farm—we say laborious, from that term we wish to be understood, to mean ploughing, sowing, mowing, cradling, stacking, threshing, and in fact, every other branch of industry connected with an extensive and well cultivated arable farm. This being the employment which we have constantly practised for many years past, excepting the last two, we will feel ourselves not at a loss to engage our hands at even the most intricate.

Many have supposed that 'gentleman, farming,' could be carried out to the same extent that is practised in Great Britain, but, from this opinion we beg to dissent, and consider it dangerous doctrine to promulgate in this country. This being the case, we will not consider ourselves in that light; although we are possessed of a free and unencumbered estate, which as it regards size, quality, and cultivation, will bear comparison with any in the Province.

In our last, we mentioned, that we ranked ourselves with the homespun farmers of the Province, by this we wish to be understood, that we not only wear, but intend to wear, cloth made from the wool of our own country, and we also intend to encourage the talent and industry of Canadian residents,

The only part which we intend to perform in the future conduct of this Journal, is to supply original and selected matter, which will be done principally at the close of each day, as a source of amusement, after performing the diversified, and toilsome duties incumbent more or less, on every Canadian farmer. As it regards writing editorial articles, we would at all times feel it a source of pleasure and delight in communicating our views and experience, through the Cultivator, (providing such exertions were appreciated by our readers.)

We assure our friends that no expense or trouble have been spared to make our work as respectable as those published in the neighbouring country; but we are sorry to have it in our power to say, that notwithstanding this expenditure, very many have made choice of foreign publications, which even come twenty-five per cent dearer than the work published in their own country—whenever we meet with an instance of this sort, (and we are sorry to say there have been many,) our pride is so humbled at the thought, that a fellow countryman could be found so void of a spark of patriotism, that we were almost ready to wish ourselves engaged in the occupation of a day labourer, breaking stones on the road, rather than be serving the public at an immense loss and risk, and after all discountenanced because, (as they say,) that Canada is too young a country to sustain a work of