

DOMESTIC MANUFACTURES

The manufacturing interests have been much neglected in the British North American Provinces, which has, to a considerable extent, injured the agricultural interests, and the general prosperity of these Colonies. Every description of articles or goods that can be successfully manufactured in the United States, can unquestionably be manufactured in the Provinces, and afforded for as low prices as in the neighbouring country, providing that capital and labour be as judiciously expended in their production. The amount of goods, of almost every description, that is imported from the States, would appear incredible to a person who understood the relative capabilities of both countries for the manufacturing of the coarser descriptions of fabrics, hollow-ware, and the various other classification of goods that are crowded upon the shelves in our large mercantile establishments, which are imported from that country.

The wholesale merchants and large dealers are opposed to encouraging manufactures in every possible shape. Indeed very many of them are so hostile to the principle that they will not only not purchase the goods, but endeavour to influence all with whom they have any influence, to the prejudice of the domestic manufactures. It is not our province to find fault with the avariciousness of the large dealers, in the case before us, but we really think that they would do themselves and the country at large a great service, if they would take a more patriotic and extended view of this important subject. We shall endeavour, by our future exertions for the cause of our country's welfare, to dissipate the many absurd notions that are entertained regarding this subject. We shall also recommend, in as practical a manner as possible, the erection of, and the proper encouragement to be given to, such manufacturing establishments as may be profitably worked in British America; without, in the slightest degree, injuring any branch of industry in the parent land. It is very clear that efficient means must be taken to lessen our imports and increase our exports. Our attention will be assiduously devoted to this branch of the subject, and we feel satisfied that public attention will also be very shortly directed most powerfully to this matter. The intelligent and thinking portion of the population, will, we trust, begin the good work, and, by their united efforts, a healthy state of things will, no doubt, be brought about. In order to make this a prosperous and happy country, native industry and talent must be encouraged and supported in preference to that of foreigners, whose avariciousness is unbounded, and who take nothing in exchange for their productions but gold and silver. We fancy that the evil has nearly worked its own cure. Our reason for forming this opinion, is founded on the fact, that the most intelligent men in the country are of the opinion that high-handed measures must be taken to elevate the character of these Colonies. The course to be pursued to consummate the desirable benefit, will be found to consist in encouraging a better system

of agriculture in all its branches, in the efficient encouragement to be given to domestic manufactures, and the development of the mineral and other natural resources, which abound in almost every section of these Provinces. So far as our individual influence and exertions are concerned, they shall be zealously devoted to the promotion of the several objects contemplated in the foregoing remarks.

The extent of the manufacturing establishments in the Eastern States are comparatively unknown in this country. To give our readers some idea of the magnitude of the manufacturing firms of our neighbours, we would mention the following:

The town of LOWELL, in Massachusetts, contains a population of 23,000 inhabitants, and nine-tenths of whom are engaged in manufacturing. In ten manufactories there are engaged 9,000 persons, 7,000 of whom are females. The capital invested in these ten establishments is \$10,700,000. The number of yards manufactured per annum is 70,275,400—consumption of flour for starch 4,000 bbls., and the amount of wages paid, per month, is \$150,000. The population of LOWELL, in 1820, was about 2000; in 1840, 21,000, and, in 1843, 25,000. The surrounding country, when compared to the fertile lands of this country, might, with propriety, be styled a barren waste.

The only thing that LOWELL has to recommend it, is its vast water privileges. Scores of privileges, of equal merit, are to be met with in various portions of Canada, and labour and provisions are equally as cheap in Eastern Canada as in the Eastern States. When will the Canadian's eyes be opened to these facts?

The manufacture of Connecticut clocks is carried on in an extensive scale. They not only stock the market of the whole Union, but they have actually shipped 40,000 clocks to Europe since 1841. The number of these clocks manufactured annually in Connecticut is 300,000. We have mentioned these few facts to show the extent and proficiency that the manufactories of the United States have attained to.

We know of but few manufacturing establishments in this Province worthy of being cited. Probably the most extensive is the Port Newf Paper Manufactory, which supplies the Printing Offices of Canada East, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick with the article of paper, at a much cheaper rate than could be imported from the United States. We also know of a few woollen cloth manufactories, but the amount of business is so inconsiderable, and so imperfectly done, that we have never deemed it a subject worthy of attention to make the inquiry relative to the extent of their average business.

The subject under consideration is of such vast importance to this Colony, that we will, no doubt, be tempted to advert to it very frequently.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—During the past twelve months, a great number of anonymous communications have been received, which have met with no attention from us. We are happy in being favoured with valuable contributions from practical Farmers, and we would recommend them to observe common courtesy at least, by making known their proper signatures to the Editor.

TOWNSHIP OF YORK AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The enterprising farmers of the Township of York have lately formed themselves into an Association, for the general advancement of agricultural knowledge and skill, and for their mutual benefit. The officers for the present year consist of Wm. Girdlestone, Esq., President; Mr. Jacob Snider, Treasurer; Mr. John Bull, Secretary; and a Board of Directors, composed of twenty of the leading farmers in the Township. The officers and members of the Society have made such arrangements as will most assuredly be conducive to effect the great object of the formation of Agricultural Associations. They have determined to have a social meeting once per month, for the discussion of agricultural subjects, and arranging plans for engaging in the cultivation of new plants, and other important branches connected with agricultural improvement. It is also the intention of the officers of the Society to publish each and every month a brief practical agricultural report, which will make its appearance regularly in the columns of the *Cultivator*, which will contain a summary of the improvements effected in the agriculture of the Township. The above Society is called the Township of York Auxiliary Agricultural Society, being a branch of the Home District Agricultural Society.

TOWNSHIP OF SCARBORO' AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The intelligent agriculturists of the Township of Scarboro' have followed the noble example set them by their neighbours in the Township of York, and have resolved to be not one whit behind them in their endeavours to promote the general prosperity of the cultivators of the soil. We anticipate that in less than three months a list of not less than four hundred subscribers will be had to this Society, and also that the intelligence of the people will be strikingly demonstrated at the social meetings which will be held monthly in some central portion of the Township, for the discussion of agricultural topics. Scarboro' can boast of a very considerable number of superior farmers, and we are of opinion that they cannot be surpassed in point of enterprise, by the farmers in any other portion of the Province. As an evidence of their intelligence and practical patriotism, our readers will shortly be favoured with the perusal of a monthly report, emanating from their body, which, we venture to promise, will be arranged in a style admirably calculated to benefit every practical farmer who reads it.

The officers of the Scarboro' Agricultural Society for the present year consist of Colonel McLean, President; Mr. John Terrance, Secretary; Mr. Gates, Treasurer, and a Board of Directors, composed of twenty-four intelligent farmers of the Township.

The agriculturists of the Townships of Scarborough and York have organized the above Societies, in unison with the scheme which may be seen on another part of this number, which not only embraces the Home District, but is intended to be carried into operation in every portion of the Province.