

ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL CREDIT.

The establishment of these associations would be of great advantage to the rural population of Lower Canada, and enable them to obtain banking accommodation upon the security of their lands, and upon such favorable terms as would be suitable for agriculturalists, whose returns are only annually. The principle upon which these associations are established, we conceive to be unobjectionable; and in this new country it would be affording agriculturalists who most require it, the advantages which other classes always had. It would give them the means of improving their lands, and causing them to produce what they are capable of doing. We have seen numerous instances where the produce of a farm might be doubled, if not more, by the judicious expenditure in improvements, of what the increased produce would refund in one year, and the improvement would besides be permanently beneficial to the land. We also know many cases where farms require improvement, and would be improved if money accommodation could be obtained on such terms as are granted by Associations of Agricultural Credit, where they have been established in other countries. It would be imprudent for farmers to borrow money upon a short credit to make improvements on land, but obtaining a credit upon the terms it is given by these Associations, could scarcely fail to be successful in the hands of any prudent and industrious farmer. There would be an annual percentage to be paid for a certain number of years, and this would be easy to accomplish, if the money borrowed was employed in necessary and judicious improvements on the land. In the British Isles, several millions have been loaned to landed proprietors for draining and other improvements on land, and with the most favorable results. Associations of Agricultural Credit, established upon the security of all the lands of the country, would undoubt-

edly be as safe a Banking Association as any that exists in Lower Canada. We have already so often introduced this subject that it is not necessary for us on the present occasion, to do more than bring it again under the notice of the friends of Agricultural improvement.

THE MANUFACTURE OF SUGAR FROM THE BEET.

Canada, we have no doubt, would produce the sugar beet in great perfection, and we do not see why the farmers should not cultivate this plant for the manufacture of sugar. In France, this sugar is manufactured to a great extent, nearly sufficient to supply the country. We have seen very fine samples of beet sugar manufactured in France, equal to any sugar. The residue of the beet after the sugar is extracted is said to be excellent food for cattle, nearly as valuable as the raw beet would be previous to manufacture. The Silesian Beet is said to be the best for yielding sugar. It would be very desirable that we should cultivate any new plants, that would be likely to succeed here, and pay the farmer, and the beet would be cultivated as a green crop. We shall in the next number state the mode of cultivation adopted in France for this plant. Like the cultivation of flax, we need not expect to see much of this plant cultivated until we have manufactories for making sugar from it. They would be true benefactors of this country who would establish manufactories from our own products for the supply of our wants. This would be the proper course to adopt for the improvement of the country. The maple-tree produces sugar, but not in sufficient quantity for the wants of the country. A larger quantity might be made from it, but it is rather an uncertain supply—and would not have the same influence on agricultural improvement, as the cultivation of the beet as a green crop would have. We have seen a fine sample of maple sugar, made at Major Campbell's Seigniory at St. Hilaire, this