

selves of the leisure of winter to cart theirs to the river, whence it is carried down by the stream. The British, for the most part, seek only to convey it from the vicinity of the stable, or remove the stable itself, which, being generally of light and portable materials, is sometimes the easier task. Better notions, however, begin to be entertained. A zeal for improvement pervades many of the more intelligent inhabitants; and their views have been seconded by the legislature, who have, on certain conditions, appropriated small sums to defray the expense of agricultural societies in each district. The recent influx from this country of emigrants, possessed of intelligence and capital, can scarcely fail to enlighten the general body, at least as to errors so gross as those to which they are at present addicted.

After every improvement, however, it would appear that the agriculture of Canada must be carried on in a ruder manner, and by hastier and rougher processes than are practised in Britain. Hence farmers from the United Kingdom, being reluctant to conform to their looser system, are apt to bestow a disproportionate labour and capital on operations which will not repay them. It has even been asserted, that the emigrant thrives better who goes out without any acquaintance with agriculture at all. A knowledge, however, of its principles must undoubtedly be beneficial to the young settler; though, perhaps, the circumstance of being long accustomed to a particular mode may be a bad preparation for farming under circumstances so very different. The mode of reaping by cutting the grain with a species of scythe, so as to throw it into a kind of frame, called, from its form, a cradle, must appear to an Englishman very slovenly. But though this does not make such good work as the sickle, it is much more expeditious, as an expert cradler can clear from two to three acres in a day. The grain, when cut, is not arranged in sheaves or stooks, but, after drying on the ground, is carried direct into the barn,—a method which is probably necessary to preserve it from the severity of the winter-frosts.