



The Farmer's Journal,

AND

TRANSACTIONS

OF

THE LOWER CANADA BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

VOL. III, No. 10, MONTREAL, FEBRUARY, 1856.

POSTAGE FREE.

PRICE 2s 6d. PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.

The Farmer's Journal.

TO AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

We have taken the liberty of addressing to each Secretary of the different local societies several copies of the Journal, for the last and present months, and we shall feel obliged by their circulating them in their respective neighbourhoods, with the view of obtaining a large addition to the list. When the Publisher undertook to issue the *Farmer's Journal* at its present low rate he was induced to do so by the consideration that there was an extensive organization throughout the province, in the shape of Agricultural Societies, whose officers would doubtless use their best exertions to put it into extensive circulation, and who besides would furnish him with useful local intelligence respecting crops, mode of cultivation, proceedings at agricultural shows, &c. In both respects he has been much disappointed, for, with a few praiseworthy exceptions, he has met with no aid whatever from the local societies. Nor has the Publisher experienced more consideration in the matter of advertising. He was led to believe at the commencement of the undertaking that his main source of profit would be derived from the publication of the particulars of the local Shows, meetings of societies, &c.; but only a very few have advertised at full length, others have sent in short notices, the charge for which is so trifling as sometimes not to warrant the trouble and expense of collecting, while in the great majority of cases Shows were held without being adver-

tised in any form in the Journal, although the Act of Parliament directs that this should be done. To improve the position of the Journal, and render it a more useful organ of the agricultural body, the Publisher would respectfully suggest:—

1st. That the different local societies should subscribe for a certain number of copies, and distribute them among their members. Where 50 copies are subscribed and remitted for, the price will be £5, or at the rate of 2s each.

2nd. That full particulars of the different local shows should hereafter be advertised in the Journal in accordance with the Act of Parliament.

3rd. That the Presidents, Secretaries and other friends of agriculture should stately communicate information of interest to be published in the Journal. The great secret of the success which has attended similar publications in other countries, is to be found in the fact that the Editor is assisted by a numerous body of intelligent correspondents, whose communications, coming for the most part from those practically engaged in and conversant with agriculture, give interest and variety to the paper.

Unless the subscription list to the Journal is greatly increased during the months of February and March, the Publisher will be reluctantly compelled to discontinue it after the close of the current volume.

—:—

THE FRENCH EMPEROR—EXPERIMENTS WITH FLOUR.

The Emperor Napoleon the Third, who has shewn himself in many ways to be a very

uncommon man, conceived the idea that it would be practicable to compress flour so as to diminish its bulk, for convenience of transportation, without injuring its quality. In July, 1853, an experiment was tried at the suggestion of the Emperor, and with the object of testing his views. It was found that flour subjected to hydraulic pressure of three hundred tons, was reduced in volume nearly 25 per cent., and on examination and analysis it was found to possess all the alimentary properties it had before it lost its bulk. The flour subjected to hydraulic pressure was then put up in zinc boxes and hermetically sealed. At the same time other flour made from the same wheat, but not compressed, was packed in similar cases and sealed in the same way. In October following several of these packages, containing both kinds of flour, were opened and examined, and that which was compressed was pronounced to be the best. Again in October, 1854, another examination took place, and with the same result. The two kinds were then kneaded into separate loaves and baked. The pressed flour made the lightest and best bread. Again in March, 1855, more of the zinc boxes were opened, and on examination the loose flour shewed mouldiness, while the pressed flour was sweet and retained all its excellent qualities. Made into bread a very marked difference was discernible.

The Emperor has ordered experiments to be made at sea, as well as on land. Men-of-war are to take out both kinds of flour, and both are to be sent on sea voyages to hot and cold latitudes, and examinations are