

THE BRITISH AMERICAN CULTIVATOR.

"AGRICULTURE NOT ONLY GIVES RICHES TO A NATION, BUT THE ONLY RICHES SHE CAN CALL HER OWN."—DR. JOHNSON.

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Engravings—Domestic Genius—The Genesee Farmer—Disappointment and Rivalry—Farmers should Encourage a Friend at Home—Generosity of Albany Cultivator.

We are determined to do our utmost in the way of obtaining engravings, of all descriptions, with which to illustrate the various subjects embraced in our columns. Our readers, however, will feel that we labour under many difficulties, in this respect, in Canada; simply, because there having heretofore been little demand for engravings or etchings in wood, no individual among us has deemed it worth his while to devote much of his attention to this branch of the arts.

We shall be able, no doubt, to overcome this difficulty more readily by making the city the seat of our exertions; for among the thousands who have come here to seek an honourable subsistence, we are apt to find some ingenious individuals willing to cultivate their taste for engraving, particularly when, by doing so, they can help themselves, as well as serve the great cause of agriculture.

We hope to be ably assisted by the friends of science, and if so, we shall have it in our power to give encouragement to the hand of genius, a matter, we assure our friends, which will prove of no little satisfaction to us.

We have been enabled to do as well, at least, did some of our now proud agricultural contemporaries in the neighbouring republic, when they first set their barks afloat upon the stormy sea of public opinion. Our friends, we feel assured, will be gratified to learn that we have been supplied with engravings, of which our present number presents a few specimens, by a young man, resident in our vicinity, and whom we may hereafter take occasion to recommend the favourable notice of the public. He has yet done little in this line, (the "Perfect Bee" being his second attempt), but we receive to say that little well.

We have one ground for rejoicing in his success, which we shall explain to our readers.—Desirous of doing all that we could to make our paper interesting, we lately applied, through a friend residing at Rochester, to the Proprietors of the *Genesee Farmer*, which has been so largely and liberally supported by our own farmers, the privilege of using their cuts, when applicable to the subjects in our columns. They of course have many which they could, without inconvenience, sell us; but we felt disappointed when we were informed that our journal was regarded upon as a rival, and that consequently had no reason to anticipate any favours from that quarter. We must say we fancied that we were engaged in the promotion of a great cause, one which had for its end the improvement of the condition of thousands of our fellow-citizens—and one which every intelligent mind, feeling to be as strongly devoted to it, as do the editors of the *Genesee Farmer*, would be likely to see flourishing throughout the wide world. We were not therefore prepared for selfish spirit which seems to actuate men, who are warmly patronized by Canadians.—We do not like the idea of being looked upon as rivals: but this being so, it becomes our duty to inform the Canadian public that such is the case; and to ask them if it be not advisable to en-

courage a friend at home, when they learn that those professing friendship abroad, are ready to turn aside the moment they find it their interest to do so?

We should have been most happy to have exhibited a friendly spirit towards the editors of the *Genesee Farmer*, to have spoken well of their exertions in a great cause; and had the request been made to us, which we made to them, to have rendered them every service in our power; and though we do not intend to depart from such a course, as being that most congenial to our feelings; yet we may esteem it a duty, to remember that we are in the estimation of our contemporaries "rivals;" and we call upon our farmers who have heretofore sought information abroad on this important subject, to remember this, and ask them to rally to the support of their cause in Canada; to uphold us in our undertaking, and not by any means let our journal suffer for want of attention.

We expect contributions from the pen as well as the purse.

Our journal will be a poor one indeed, if we fail to supply five shillings worth of information in a year. As we before intimated, we have men in our vicinity, whose genius and whose friendship we hope will render us, in some degree, independent of the assistance we had hoped to receive as above.

We cannot conclude without expressing our satisfaction with the generosity exhibited by the editors of the *Albany Cultivator*, who, in commenting upon an address delivered by Mr. Wm. O. BULL, in the Johnstown District, expressed their hearty concurrence in that gentleman's hope that there might soon be established in our Province, a CANADIAN CULTIVATOR. The editors of that journal, instead of exhibiting a spirit which breathed of the fear of rivalry, spoke in one of friendship towards an attempt, which it has been our lot to make, and in which, through the kindness of an intelligent and generous public, we hope it will be our lot to succeed.

Potatoe Planting.

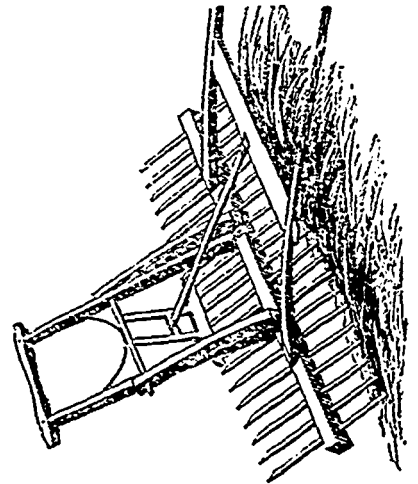
The Right Hon'ble Sir James Graham presented the Royal Agricultural Society of England, a communication he had received from Major Perceval, of Barntown House, county of Wexford, Ireland, on the subject of potatoe-planting; and in reference to that part of Sir James Graham's paper on the same subject, printed in the 3rd part of the Society's Journal, in the year 1840, referring to the failure of the crop arising from the circumstance of using cut-sets, Major Perceval gives a statement of a similar failure, to a considerable extent, experienced ten or twelve years ago in the district in which he resides, in the potatoe crop, from seed made of cut sets, the failure being attended, however, with great peculiarities. The cut seeds planted in the forenoon, were found to do well, and yield a good crop; while those planted in the afternoon were nearly a total failure; or, on the contrary, those planted the next day in the forenoon a failure, while the afternoon planting would be found to do well. These capricious results would be found to happen in the same field, all of a uniform quality; the same manure being used throughout, the same sets being cut at the same time as the others, and in every way treated similarly to obviate the serious evil.—Major Perceval then proceeds in an interesting account of the management of his potatoe crop, and states that he found the failure from cut seed

entirely prevented by selecting the largest potatoes, which he put into pits for seed, (a plan which prevented all chance of their heating), and in spring, two or three days before planting, he cut the potatoes into sets as often as possible, with one eye, or germinating principle in each, and immediately limed them, (drying up the cutting with air-lacked lime), keeping them spread on a floor. We have planted cut seed in Canada in the forenoon, that succeeded and was free from dry-rot, while the same seed, cut from the same pit of potatoes and planted in the same field, soil, and manure, in the afternoon, of the same day, was nearly a total failure. To cut sound potatoes, lime them after they are cut, and let them dry before planting, will, in a great measure, prevent dry-rot.

We intimated in our last that we had engaged the services of two suitable persons to make a tour through the country as TRAVELLING AGENTS. We have, however, sent out but one, as yet, Mr. WILLIAM McDUGALL. Those who are willing to become subscribers to the *British American Cultivator*, and are anxious to encourage the cause of Agriculture in this province, would do well to further our agent in his object.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We have received anonymous communications, which we cannot insert. We trust our correspondents will see the propriety of giving their names and place of residence.

Revolving Horse Rake.
Fig. 5.



This is one of the many labour saving machines invented, which has been found of great utility to the farmer. It may be wrought with one or two horses and does the work not only rapidly but well. The person working has full command over it so as to elevate or depress the teeth to unevenness on the ground, and when it is full can, by touching the lever in the centre release the loaded side, when by the draught forward it revolves, and the other side of the toothed frame is brought into its proper position to act without any stoppage. From the cut and description any ingenious farmer might be able to construct one for himself—and save the expense of one or two hands in the mowing season.