

If subscriptions and Government grant were receivable in January and February, the societies would know during winter what would be the amount they would have at their disposal for the current year, and would be able to apportion it (at a time when the members could best meet together to talk these matters over,) either for giving premiums, purchase of stock, or other matters connected with the Society.

The subscriptions being payable in January, would enable societies to send the money for their agricultural papers at once, and would help you in several ways, one of which would be saving you from the risk of printing a great number of extra files, without being certain of there being required by subscribers during the year.

But I have digressed greatly from the subject of your paper with which I commenced. I am much pleased with your prospectus—you must take care, however, to keep the subject of Agriculture and its handmaid Horticulture most prominently in the foreground, being by far the most important object for which your paper is established. At the rate you propose furnishing it to Societies, taking into consideration that it is to be published twice a month, it will be a very cheap paper, and well worthy the support of every person, whether an agriculturist or not, and if a proper spirit and knowledge of their own interests were shown by the inhabitants of the province, its circulation might be easily trebled. There are no doubt 30,000 families in Western Canada who are directly or indirectly depending on Agriculture for their support, every one of which should have a copy of your paper on their table.

But it is not pecuniary support alone that will cause your efforts to succeed, you must be supported by original communications from practical men; the principal source of interest in all agricultural papers being the original articles they contain, this is what causes the English and some of the American Agricultural papers to be so interesting, and however good the selected articles may be, they are never read with the same interest as original ones; besides, whoever writes now and then for a paper will naturally take an interest in it, and wish it as great a circulation as possible, that others may benefit by his lucubrations.

Now, to the shame, be it spoken, of our farmers and others, well able to send you communications of great interest, you are starved, if I may use the expression, for the want of them, and are forced to depend too much on selections from other papers and your own editorial efforts, which I will acknowledge have been great; you have also done your best to urge farmers and other practical men to communicate with you, but hitherto, except in a few instances, without effect. It might be well for you once more to urge them to write; and as they are apt to be diffident, fearing they cannot do it well enough, explain to them that you will polish up, or reduce any redundances in composition for them, as what you want is plain short articles upon one particular subject; not learned essays, or long theoretical disquisitions, which one half of your readers have neither time to read nor education sufficient to understand.

There is not an intelligent farmer in the country, (and there are thousands of this class,) who could not communicate something from his experience, to the general stock, that would be both useful and new; or if he felt diffident at instructing others, he might ask for information on subjects with which he was unacquainted, through your paper, which would elicit answers from others.

I trust a new era will now dawn upon Canada, and that, commensurate with your efforts, you will be supported, both with pen and purse, by the intelligent yeomanry of this fertile Province; and as a beginning, I have to inform you, that at the last meeting of the Malden and Anderdon Agricultural Society, they passed a unanimous resolution that each of the Office-bearers, in turn, should send an article to your paper. You will therefore have to consider this as the first of the series, so that you need not thank me for it, it being written on compulsion. I, however, hope to be able, now and again, to send you an article of my own free will and accord, on my favourite subject—*Horticulture*.

If the different Societies in the Province would adopt a similar rule, you would soon have more communications than you could dispose of.

Wishing you every success in your renewed efforts,

I remain, yours sincerely,

Rosebank, near Amherstburgh, } JAMES DOUGALL.
Feb. 20, 1848.

The suggestions of Mr. Dougall, with reference to the amendments so much needed in the present law for the encouragement of Agriculture, come to us just when they are wanted. Mr. D. will see by our last number that we have taken up the subject, and solicited an expression of opinion from intelligent farmers like himself. We are much pleased to find ourselves anticipated, and to receive our first help from one so extensively engaged in agriculture, and so well able from experience, to give sound advice. We may remark that our opinion as to the particulars mentioned coincides with that of our correspondent. The views and opinions of other experienced and influential men will, we hope, be elicited as soon

as possible, in order to have the outlines of a new law drawn up, and forwarded to Montreal for the information of our Legislators.

Mr. Dougall's remarks in commendation of our humble efforts are, we confess, agreeable to our feelings, and stimulate us to further exertions. The Resolution of the Malden Society is an excellent one, and we hope the office-bearers will carry it out, and that other Societies will "go and do likewise."

To the Editors of the *Agriculturist*.

GENTLEMEN,—

In the last number of your excellent journal I find a communication from Mr. Buckland, stating his expectations and intentions in coming to Canada, and sketching the plan of an Institution, which every intelligent farmer must acknowledge would be highly advantageous in promoting the advancement of agriculture in this colony. A Model Farm is undoubtedly much wanted, where experiments could be made with a sufficient degree of exactness, and conclusions arrived at with a sufficient degree of certainty, to obtain the confidence of the public; where the best system, or systems of rotation, and the best description of farm management might be practiced, and to which the farming community could look for instruction and example.

The Representatives in Parliament of an agricultural population will surely remember their speeches and pledges at the hustings, and not refuse to liberally endow an Institution, which cannot fail to be productive of the greatest good to Canada, and which is certainly as worthy the consideration of our Legislators, as any of the numerous subjects which occupy their attention,—the production of the agriculturist being the main-spring that keeps all the machinery of business in operation, the speed of which is regulated by the produce of the farm. And, notwithstanding the apathy and want of public spirit so manifest in the bulk of Canadian farmers, I cannot but think, that such an Institution would be duly appreciated and extensively supported were it once established.

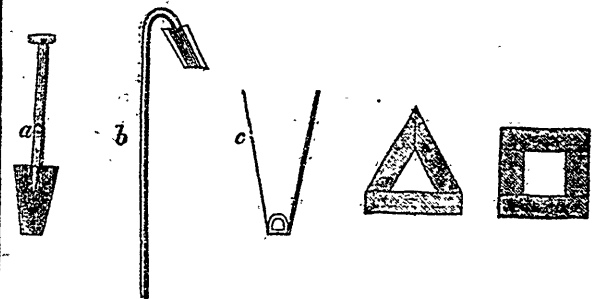
Whether it would be desirable to connect the enterprise with any Collegiate Institution now existing, or to establish an Agricultural School in connection with the Farm to be endowed, and governed separate from every other seminary of learning, I will leave for those better acquainted with public affairs than myself to determine; my object is simply to express my opinion of the very great advantages which the scheme contemplated by Mr. Buckland, is calculated to confer on the class to which I belong, and also to induce others abler and more influential than myself, to come forward and use their pens and their influence in advocating so good and patriotic a cause—to elevate our standing as a profession—to raise us from that state of half civilization in which many of us remain—to improve the mind as well as the soil—to purify and refine the feelings and the taste, these are the high objects which every patriotic and philanthropic agriculturist should constantly keep in view, and to promote which his most strenuous exertions should be used. I hope Mr. Buckland will not hastily make up his mind to leave us, for although the great mass of Canadian farmers are not alive to their own interests, there are some enthusiastic spirits amongst us who, I trust, will ere long, give such an impetus to the agriculture of this province, as will leave us (in the knowledge and practice of our noble profession,) inferior to none of the nations of the earth.

M. S.

Chinguacousy, Feb. 24th, 1848.

UNDER DRAINING.

[Concluded from page 40.]



[Professor Norton here introduces drawings of the various tools used in draining. We omit the common spade, pick, and two or three scoop shovels; the narrow pointed spade, *a*, and the flat-scoop with turned up edge, *b*, are all we have thought worth representing by a cut. The latter is used for cleaning out the bottom; *c*, is an end view of the *drain*, with the *tile* at the bottom. The other cuts repre-