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The intelligence of the age we live in, and the rapid improvement perceptible in the sciences, arts and manufactures, compared with the present state of agricultural knowledge in Canada generally, presents a most extraordinary contrast. As men, farmers are not naturally more devoid of intellect than any other class of this community, yet, whilst every art and science has been rapidly advancing, by the attainment of useful and practical knowledge, Agriculture, that is of such vast importance to the whole population, has, generally speaking, made very little progress in improvement, and our agriculture is at this moment an exception on the list of improvements with which these times so fruitfully abound. There must be some cause for this, and there is no subject of more importance, or more deserving the serious consideration, not only of farmers, but of every class of the community. The country is in that particular state at present, that all the improvements that have been introduced in our cities, water communications, rail-roads, &c., will be valueless, or nearly so, unless our Agriculture is improved, and its products augmented, and this can only be accomplished by providing suitable means of education, and practical instruction, in the science and art of agriculture, and also, giving encouragement to the employment of sufficient capital in farming. We have no doubt, that if good husbandry was better understood, and generally introduced, farm labourers would understand their work, and be more efficient, and this would be some guarantee that capital

might be safely employed in our agriculture to produce profit. It is only a good and judicious system of farming that can give profitable results, and ensure the safety of capital employed in agriculture. Capital will be safely employed in the hands of the skilful agriculturist, but skill is useless without capital, as the latter will not be safely employed in unskilful hands. There may be some exceptions to this general rule, and capital may be acquired, and accumulated by skill and industry, but if we desire to see this country flourishing and prosperous, we shall have to apply skill and capital in something like the same proportion they do in Britain. We have the example of Ireland before us, where there has been a manifest deficiency of skill and capital employed in agriculture, and if we now compare the condition of that country with Britain, where there has been abundance of skill and capital employed in husbandry, the contrast is indeed most strikingly in favour of the latter country, and this is generally attributed to her successful agriculture, and the immense produce annually created by it, which puts into active and healthy motion her manufactures and commerce. We cannot expect to gather an abundant and valuable harvest, if we do not cultivate, sow, and plant in a proper manner. Hence it would appear, that our future prospects are, in a great measure, in our own hands. If we are resolved to provide no establishments for affording practical instruction in the science and art of agriculture, to our youth or to our farmers, and employ all our disposable capital