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THE AGRICULTURIST FOR 1863.

In commencing a new Volume of the *Agriculturist*, its Conductors may be allowed a few words in reference to the state and prospects of the publication.

During the past year a reference to the pages of this periodical will show that the great agricultural movements and discoveries of the period have been faithfully chronicled. In doing this, we have not confined ourselves to what has been going on in Canada, or the great American continent, but have availed ourselves of the vast fund of information that is to be found in European publications, particularly those of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to which, as members of the great British Empire, we look in this as in many other respects, for light, guidance, and encouragement. We could have desired a larger amount of original contributions from a Canadian source, a want that has long been felt and deplored. From some cause or other our farmers evince a lamentable apathy in communicating to each other through the press the suggestions and results of their experience and observation; herein unfavourably comparing with their brethren on the other side of the lakes, as the American agricultural papers plainly show. The conductors of several of their journals not infrequently experience much difficulty in finding space for their contributed articles, while the labour has too often devolved on the conductors of the *Agriculturist* of supplying the al-

most entire material of each successive number. With a fortnightly publication, and numerous pressing duties of another kind, we are obliged to confess that for want of time and opportunity, more than will or desire, our periodical has not reached the high standing which we wish and trust it is destined to attain.

As the *Agriculturist* is the only paper of its kind published in Upper Canada, and the accredited organ of the Board of Agriculture for this section of the Province, one would naturally imagine that its pages would be largely enriched by original contributions, both from individuals and societies throughout the country; a country, too, be it remembered, that is pre-eminently agricultural, and each county and almost each township having a regularly organized society liberally aided by the government. Now we ask the officers of these societies, and enterprising farmers generally, to send us occasionally an account of whatever is important, novel, or interesting that comes within the range of their own local observation or experience. In this way only can our paper properly represent the state and progress of agriculture throughout the country. It is not long, laboured articles that we require, but a simple statement of facts, and anything that is doing that will prove interesting and suggestive. *Farmers of Canada we again ask, will you not contribute material for your own paper?* We are far more in want of contributions than subscribers, though of the latter we can do with any amount of increase.

In order to afford more time in procuring