

would be a very expensive machinery to provide for teaching the science and practice of agriculture; but those who think so, forget how much has been appropriated annually for many years past, for teaching other arts and sciences, that are not of anything like so much importance to the population of Canada, as that of Agriculture. The time is come, we hope, that justice will be done to this important branch of industry, and we trust that nothing will be left undone that would be calculated to promote its improvement, and secure its prosperity. No doubt there are many excellent farmers in the country capable of giving the best instruction in the practical art of agriculture, but are they prepared to come forward and do so, to the extent that is required to meet the wants of the country, and if they were, would they make it less expensive, and more complete to those to whom they would impart instruction, than they could obtain it at Agricultural Schools and Model Farms, under judicious regulations, and competent superintendence? We feel almost convinced that they would not. There are other grave objections to sending young men to farmers' houses for instruction, that could not be got over. There are not many of the French Canadian population that would consent to send their sons to farmers of British origin, and of different Religion from themselves, but this objection out of the question, how was youth to be instructed in other branches of education at a farmer's house? If agricultural education, and instruction in the science and practice of agriculture, are to be made accessible to those who may desire to become agriculturists, there is no means of doing so in this country, except by the establishment of public institutions for that purpose. It is quite a different matter to send a young man to be educated for the church, law, medicine, or as a merchant, to that of education as a practical farmer. There is ample opportunity for acquiring a practical knowledge of all these professions, except that of the farmer, without any difficulty; but for the farmer, if he cannot be instructed in his father's house,

how is he to obtain it? As we before remarked, there are unsurmountable objections to sending them to farmers here for instruction. Farmers who would be the best qualified to have young men put under their charge, might not be disposed to receive them, or incur the responsibility. Others might take them for sake of their work, and with that object alone, and would not be likely to pay much attention to anything else, except to see that they did work. We submit it, to those who would have young men to be instructed in the practice of husbandry, which mode of instruction would they prefer, that at Agricultural Schools and Model Farms, or in the establishment of a country farmer.

HEMP.

The following essay on the culture of hemp was originally published in the *Western Agriculturist*. It is a complete treatise on the best manner of raising and preparing an article which always commands cash sufficient to reward liberally the cultivator who proceeds correctly in obtaining this valuable product. The author of the essay is not less favorably known as a statesman than as a practical and scientific agriculturist, and the signature of Henry Clay will give it that weight and currency with American farmers which is due to its intrinsic excellence.

Sir,—Having promised you some account of the method of cultivating and preparing hemp in this State, I now proceed to redeem it; I shall endeavor to describe the general practice of the cultivators, without noticing all the deviations of particular individuals.

The district of country, in which the plant is most extensively cultivated, is the Elkhorn region, around and near Lexington, which derives its name from a stream discharging itself into the Kentucky river, whose branches are supposed to resemble the horns of the Elk. It is also produced in considerable quantities in the counties of Jefferson, Shelby, Mercer, Madison, Clarke, Bourbon, and Mason. The soil of that region is a rich, deep, vegetable loam, free from sand and with but little grit. It lies on a bed of clay, interspersed with small fragments of iron ore, and this clay in its turn reposes on a mass of limestone lying many feet in depth in horizontal strata. The surface of the country is generally undulating. The rich land (and there is but little that is not rich) in this whole region is well adapted to the growth of hemp, where it has not been too much exhausted by injurious tillage. The lands which produce it best are those which are fresh, or which have lain some time in grass or clover. Manuring is not much practised