

hibitions, but by the very extraordinary specimens of grain, roots, and fruits produced at our County and Township Shows, held in almost every part of the upper Province. Does not also the fact of the success of Exhibitors from Canada at the "World's Fair" of other years in London, prove incontestably that we are progressing in our agricultural industry. We have taken there first-class prizes and medals for wheat, barley, oats and peas, and I believe for grass seeds as well, as also for cured meats, cheese and implements: and indeed many articles connected with agriculture. Does this say that we are either retrograding or standing still? Then with regard to the general stock of the country, can it well be faster improving than it is? thanks to our spirited importers for this, of which I am thankful to say we have many. We need only ask our (just now) unfortunate neighbors on the other side the lines, what they think of our progress; or hear the remarks of old and experienced landlords and tenants, farmers from Great Britain, regarding every class of animals they witnessed both at our Exhibitions, and at the shambles, during their transitory sojourn amongst us, to feel satisfied that we are steadily and substantially progressing in this particular.

Again, respecting the progress of our agricultural machinery, carriages and implements, no one can but allow that we are making great headway. It needs but, in case of any one doubting, to have witnessed the display in these departments at our last two or three provincial Shows, to be thoroughly convinced of the fact! There are I hear, two or three establishments in the province, at the present time, that cannot possibly meet the demand for improved machinery, ploughs, and other agricultural implements. Does this imply that we are unprogressive?

Would these implements, let me ask, be wanted, or would the demand for improved breeds of stock, throughout the province, be made if we were not steadily and surely progressing in our agriculture? Why then, if the spirit of agriculture is thus alive, should there not still be every facility and encouragement continued by the Government of the country to so important a branch of our industry? Will the fact of depriving us of our agricultural chair in the Toronto University, lessening the annual grants to our Societies, in any way affect aught to our advantage, or tend to improve our position, or encourage our future hopes? I trow not! Nor does it follow that, because there are to be found *drones* in the industrial hive, that the *workers* are to suffer from their supineness and indifference. I grieve as much as the writer of the article before alluded to can, that there should be any manifest lack of interest shewn that there is by *part* of the farming community in endeavouring to raise the profession to which

they belong, to a higher or more satisfactory standard.

But, Sir, this in my humble opinion, will be effected only by time. It cannot be effectually accomplished by the present generation, though yearly progress may and doubtless will be made.

The absence of sufficient education amongst the agricultural youth of our country, together with the lack of capital, will for years prove a bar to that progress we could all wish to see made. We need, however, only look back a comparatively few years, and call to mind the very crude state agriculture was in throughout the British Isles, to take courage and assure ourselves that we shall effect more towards the development of the soil in the next ten years, than was accomplished there some years back in thirty! Truly, however, may it be said, they have, of *late years*, made marvelous strides, with the aid of science and *well applied* capital, from which we also must in some measure, reap great benefits.

Why, Sir, it was but a very few years before I left the old country, some twenty years ago, that there were a very few Agricultural Societies existing in England. But the landed proprietors, both great and small, began to find that, not only were their barns and buildings going to waste and ruin, but that their rents were assuming a deficiency that became truly alarming, and then, and not till then was it that the great impetus was given to improve the agriculture of the country by the landowners, taking the bull by the horns in the determination to resuscitate the value of their estates, not only by draining, and sundry other improvements, but by the establishment of Agricultural Societies, thereby creating great emulation amongst the tillers of the soil, and by setting an example themselves, with a desire not only to better their own position, but with a laudable earnestness and zeal to add comfort and prosperity to their tenantry, by a system of improved agriculture.

It needs no argument of mine to point out the many phases under which all, and even more than all, has been accomplished in this respect, that they, the aristocracy of Great Britain, could at that time, in their most sanguine moments, have anticipated. I allude, Mr. Editor, to this fact, to show how much has been accomplished in so few years, and to hope that any one doubting what I have predicted regarding the steady progress we in this country are bound to make in agriculture, will take heart of grace, and put his shoulder to the wheel with a firm determination to master, in some measure, at least, the arts and mysteries of his profession; and thereby greatly add not only to his comfort and prosperity, but also to the material wealth and credit of the province.

This fact should never be lost sight of by the cultivator of the soil, that *capital well*