

# Agricultural Journal

AND  
TRANSACTIONS  
OF THE  
LOWER CANADA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

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## EXPERIMENTAL AND MODEL FARMS.



WHAT is the difference between Experimental & Model Farms?

We shall leave the description of the former to be made by those who recommend them; while we shall endeavor to describe what we conceive the latter should be. In the first place, all experiments necessary to forward the profitable improvement of Canadian Agriculture, might be made on Model Farms. They would not be Model Farms if this could not be done upon them. Model Farms should be so conducted in every respect, as to be an example for ordinary farmers to follow. It is not the system of Mr. Mechi, or what is known as high farming in Britain, that would be suitable on a Model Farm in Canada; but such a plain system of husbandry as would be suitable to the situation and circumstances of the farmers of Canada, who it would be proposed to benefit by the example of Model Farms. A regular system of good and simple Agriculture in all its various branches; the careful attention to every description of domestic animals, in breeding, selecting, and feeding; the management of the dairy—all these matters should be properly carried into effect on a Model Farm, and, if possible, so as to pay all expenses. We may allow our richer brother farmers in Britain, or wealthy proprietors there, to make experiments for us, of which we shall hear the reports and

may adopt such plans as have succeeded and proved profitable. This mode of proceeding will be much the least expensive, and give us all the advantages of experiments. Model Farms should show the results obtained from land sufficiently drained, judiciously cultivated and manured—domestic animals under proper management—the dairy skillfully conducted, and in every case, visitors to such farms should be able to perceive that they could adopt a similar system of husbandry in its general features, upon their own farms with advantage.

We were glad to perceive in the January number of *the Agriculturist*, published in Toronto, that the Report of our visit to the Niagara Exhibition, has been favorably noticed by the Editor. We should be very sorry indeed, that our Report had given any—even the slightest offence. We undoubtedly saw a larger number of superior neat cattle and sheep at Niagara, than we ever saw at any Cattle Show in Lower Canada, and also superior samples of wheat, but we did not think that the climate or soil indicated any superiority for Agricultural purposes except for the production of Fall wheat. Lower Canada, is in our estimation, not inferior to any part of North America that we have seen, in the general quality of her soil, and the adaptation of her climate to her geographical situation and circumstances, and she has the further advantage of being more convenient to the only outlet we have to the Atlantic. This latter advantage alone gives a considerably increased value to her Agricultural products. We wish our Upper Canada friends all possible prosperity, and from what we have seen of them, we are convinced they will be prosperous and good farmers.

As Editor of this Journal, we feel it to be our duty as well as our inclination to make it as useful as we possibly can. We have for so many years advocated the cause of Agriculture, that we trust subscribers to