

roducing their trade into Lower Canada, found a difficulty in getting barley at the commencement, and no doubt, should an establishment for dressing flax be erected, a greater difficulty would be experienced in obtaining the necessary quantity of properly cultivated flax, to make it profitable.

I am therefore in expectation that the Farming Society and others having the welfare of the country at heart, will see that in this matter of dressing flax, the great difficulty the miller will experience, will be to get a sufficient quantity of flax to operate upon, so that his machinery and hands may be regularly employed throughout the year.

As for the explanations on the best method of cultivating, I leave that to the farmers themselves, being convinced that, generally speaking, good wheat or clover land, with which the neighbourhood of Montreal abounds, if deeply ploughed, well raised and well pulverized, and clean of weeds, is all the cultivation that is necessary. I merely suggest one thing, that is, that the Agricultural Society might lend their countenance to the Importation of £200 worth of Russian and Dutch Flax Seed, which could be done through some of the Montreal houses, if they had guarantee that the farmers would take it off their hands. The importation and selling of Flax Seed to the farmers is a regular trade in those countries where flax is cultivated for the sake of the fibre.

The great object to be desired in a flax crop is, fine quality of fibre, and the stalk as long as possible before branching or forking. Canadian and American flax seed grows too short, and branches too soon—though it might do if well cultivated, and no other seed could be got for the present season. But if the subject is taken up, more particular instructions for its cultivation in every stage, can be given by yourself, better than I can pretend to.

I have the honor to be,

Your most obedient servant,

W. J. KNOX.

The communication of a "Constant Reader" refers to subjects that have a great influence on the farmer's business, and profits. We were accustomed before we came to this country, to have the grain

and flour market opened at a regular hour, of which notice was given, by the ringing of the market bell, and if any produce was sold before that notice, the owner was liable to a fine; indeed, no sales were allowed of any article, until the ringing of the market bell. It might, however, be inconvenient to establish such a regulation in this country. Perhaps it would be sufficient that the markets should close at a given hour, and that all articles remaining unsold at that hour should be removed. There is a most injurious waste of time by the farmers, in consequence of the market continuing open from daylight in the morning until the night. If there was a limited time for buying and selling, parties who required to purchase would find it necessary to come within this time, and the farmers would find it their advantage to sell their goods within the time prescribed. This would be a much preferable mode of doing business for both buyer and seller, to the present system of the buyer endeavouring to tire out the seller, by keeping him in the market the whole day. This is more particularly the case in the hay market, where the sale of hay is generally delayed to a late hour, causing a waste of time to the farmer, and injury to his horses, which together is a serious drawback upon the price he receives for his hay. The hay, and other markets, we humbly conceive, should close at an early hour in the afternoon, and give the farmers an opportunity of returning to their homes in reasonable time. We do not see that such a regulation would be unjust to any party. If one party would have to buy in a given time, the other had to sell within the same time. Any regulations that would lessen the waste of time, without injury to any one concerned, must be beneficial in Canada, and we hope this subject will receive due consideration in the proper quarter, that can adopt a remedy. Let the markets open as early as possible, but let them close at two or three o'clock in the afternoon.

The next subject to which our cor-