

## DO THE PRODUCERS OR NON-PRODUCERS RULE?

We suppose that it is scarcely necessary to ask this question, as it is a well known fact that the producers of wealth have a very small share of influence in the management of the Government of this Province. This would be less a matter of regret, if those in whom is delegated the business of influencing the government, would evince an active interest in fostering every branch of productive industry, and especially that of Agriculture and Mechanism. We have no desire to accuse any one in power of neglect; but it is well known that in the former history of the country, these branches have been allowed to struggle in their infancy, without receiving much support or protection from any other source than their humble followers; and even the latter have been so regardless of union and patriotism, that they have been actuated more by a spirit of selfishness than from higher and nobler motives. If an improvement were introduced or discovered in any portion of the province, no trouble apparently has been taken to make it generally known; why should any wonder at the backward state of improvement, when this semi-barbarous principle has been so generally fostered and practiced in the country? The period has at last arrived, when, we trust, a better state of things will exist. The producers of wealth are held in much higher estimation by the non-producers than they were only a few years since; and may we not add, that they have a much more exalted opinion of themselves and their profession than they had formerly.

Before any great change can take place in the condition of the country, steps must be taken to elevate the stand-

ing of the productive classes. The people themselves as well as the Government should look to this matter.

The day may come when the people will sufficiently understand their true interests, to adopt energetic measures to secure the return of a majority of practical intelligent agriculturists and mechanics to the Legislative Councils of their country; but in the mean time we would urge them to educate their sons, and teach them the necessity of storing the mind with useful knowledge, so that they may aid in elevating themselves, their profession, and their country, to the exalted rank they so richly merit. We beg to direct the attention of our readers to the following very pertinent remarks upon this subject, which we copy from the *Maine Farmer and Mechanic* :—

It is a fact that the productive classes, which are the most numerous, are ruled by the non-producers! We so consider it, and they therefore present an exception to the good old rule that the majority should govern. We do not wish to array one class of the people against another,—nor to excite jealousies and heartburnings among the farmers and mechanics in regard to the professional classes; but we wish them to inquire into the causes of this state of things, and ascertain the remedy. Why is it so? Is it not because the non-producers, by which we mean the professional man, the merchant, &c., act more upon the principle that “knowledge is power”? Do they not owe their superiority in the government of the country, to the superior education that they have obtained—to the improvement of their minds? They think more—read more—are ever ready to catch every new fact, every new idea, and to act upon any suggestion which will elevate them and keep them in the ascendancy. If this be true, if this be the talisman by which they hold the control over others; by which they rule, the remedy clearly is, to follow, or rather *lead* in the same track. Rub up the dormant faculties—improve the mind—store up the knowledge necessary to elevate you to the same standing, or a little higher than they are. God has given more equality of talent and faculties, than people have been willing to acknowledge—but too many have suffered them to lie unimproved,—have hid them as it were “in a napkin,” have buried them in the earth, and then murmured because this one, or that one had got the start of them. Now this ought not to be. We would that the *Farmer*, and the *Mechanic*, and the *Mariner* should be as learned, as well