

change, at such a time, will be seriously felt from one end of the Province to the other, and will cripple the energies of societies which are now doing much good, by causing the introduction of the improved breeds of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, and improved varieties of all kinds of farm produce, and stimulating the inventive genius of our implement manufacturers.

Besides all this, I should think the reduction of funds will be much felt by the Agricultural Association, as they are entitled, by statute, to one-tenth of the Government grant to the County Societies, and which, I believe, is all the Government support they receive.

It was chiefly on this account I took up my pen to write this letter to your very excellent paper, and which I hope to see published, more especially after the many invitations you have given to farmers to commit to writing any thing which attracts their attention, bearing upon their profession; and conceiving this to be of vital importance to farmers, I have accepted your invitation.

This proposed reduction is most certainly beginning at the wrong end, and cutting off revenue as fast as reducing expenditure; for instance, just look at the state of the country for the past three years. When little else had befallen us but deficiency in our crop, every one was crying out the country is ruined, and will never recover. How very soon that tune was changed, when, last year, we had a better crop, thereby bringing into the country, from the sale of our wheat, beef, pork, and butter, millions of dollars, besides feeding our own population well, and keeping over a large quantity of stock. I might have added to the list of exportations, horses, hundreds of which I know have found a market in the United States within the last twelve months. Without all this, what indeed would become of the country, and how should we pay the extravagant debts brought upon us by over-anxious-to-trade merchants, not to mention feeding and supporting our needy Railroads. I know Messrs. Editors that you eschew politics, or I should feel more than half inclined to pitch into the ruling powers, for contemplating such a reckless reduction.

If a single case could be made out where the Government Grant was foolishly spent, or wantonly wasted, there might be some excuse, but, on the contrary, wherever Agricultural Societies exist a marked change for the better is per-

ceptible. As a Canadian agriculturist, I call upon you, gentlemen, and upon the Board of Agriculture, to use your and their influence in our behalf, both on account of the Local Societies, and the Provincial Agricultural Associations, of which we are justly proud.

I am, Messrs. Editors,

Your obedient servant,

THE PRESIDENT OF A COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

[The subject of our correspondent's letter is an important one, but we are inclined to think that he is somewhat premature in assuming that the public grant to Agricultural Societies will be reduced to the extent that he mentions. There were certainly some remarks reported in Parliament in regard to the proportion the grant should bear to the subscriptions of societies, but they did not seem to us to bear the construction our correspondent puts upon them.—Eds.]

EX-OFFICIO DIRECTORS OF COUNTY SOCIETIES.

CANNATA COTTAGE,

Near Chatham, Feb. 28, 1860.

To the Editor of the Agriculturist.

DEAR SIR,—I hope you will be so obliging as to answer the following questions in the next issue of your valuable journal. Can a President of a Township Agricultural Society take his seat and vote at meetings of the Directors of the County Society, by his Township Society having had ten subscribers to the County Society from among their number for the year previous, or must the money be paid in advance to give them a right to vote? At the last meeting of this County Board, I was denied the right to vote as a Director, being but a President of a Township Society; but of one which had subscribed by ten members \$10 to the County Society in 1859. I was told that would not do—that unless I advanced the money, or gave my note, I should not have the right to vote at the meeting—neither of which I would do, but claimed my right to vote under the 28th Clause of the Act to provide for the establishment of a Bureau of Agriculture, but that right was denied. I hope you will