



"Agriculture not only gives Riches to a Nation, but the only Riches she can call her own."

New Series.

TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1846.

Vol. II. No. 12

Canadian Agricultural Societies.

ALTHOUGH much has been written upon a popular system of organizing Agricultural Societies, still, we apprehend, the subject is not well understood by the generality of the farmers of this province. As this number completes the current volume of the *Cultivator*, probably no topic could be discussed that would prove more generally interesting to the agricultural reader, than the one we have selected for our leader. The great object of Agricultural Societies is, to encourage the introduction of a better system of agriculture, and to promote such other objects only as have an influence in giving an increased production of wealth to the country. Agricultural Institutions, based upon sound principles, if generally established, might be made instrumental in adding *one million of pounds annually to the wealth* of Western Canada; and indeed it would be extremely difficult to define limits to the good that might be effected through the agency of such associations. Entertaining such exalted views of these modern Institutions, for the improvement of agriculture and the mechanical arts, no apology is necessary for so frequently recurring to this interesting theme.

The organization cannot be complete with-

out three distinct classes of Agricultural Societies. These should be styled **TOWNSHIP, DISTRICT, and PROVINCIAL.** The three grades already exist, but the machinery by which they are set in motion is very imperfect, and to remedy the evil is probably rather a difficult task, especially as those who may volunteer their services to aid in bringing about any change for the better, in any Public Institution, are oftentimes suspected for being actuated in their conduct by improper motives, and that too by the very parties who would in the end receive the most benefit.

Township Societies, in our opinion, should exist in every District in the Province;—and in the twenty Districts in Western Canada, not less than one hundred and twenty should be in being before the close of the present winter. One half of the government money granted to every District should be appropriated among the Township Societies, in proportion to the amount of subscription that they severally raise; and the remaining portion should be appropriated to the District Society. One representative chosen by every Township Society in the District, should take the entire controul of the District Society, by which means the friends of