

service, let them pay what is reasonable and proper, but no more. We have a great objection to taxation without representation, and this is strictly the fact, where taxes are levied upon farmers by corporations in whose election they have no vote. If there is a right to tax them to the amount of one penny, they can tax them by the same right to any amount they think proper. It is quite sufficient for farmers when expending the price of what they sell, to pay, as they always do, indirect taxation, without obliging them also to pay direct taxes towards the revenues of cities and towns. The charges for weighing hay and straw, and for weighing and marking the carriages that carry these articles to market, are more than double what they should be, no matter that similar charges are made in other cities and towns as well as in Montreal. The amount of taxes paid towards the General Revenue by the authority of Provincial Statutes, would be only trifling, compared to the constant contributions levied upon farmers who would attend the markets daily. There cannot be any objection to local taxation for local and useful purposes, and for the benefit of those who pay the taxes, but we protest against any taxes levied upon farmers, unless by direct authority of Parliament or of Municipal Councils, the members of which are elected by themselves. We feel it our duty to advocate what we conceive to be the rights of agriculturists as well as the improvement of husbandry.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

There was one portion of this able document which afforded us particular satisfaction, the President's recommendation for the establishment of an Agricultural Bureau. The following is a copy of the part we refer to, and we respectfully recommend it to the attention of our Legislators. The Lower Canada Agricultural Society have endeavored to perform most of the duties which the President assigns to the Bureau, by the publication of their Agricultural

Journals, and circulating them extensively, and by the appointment of a properly qualified seedsman, and there is no question that much good has resulted from those measures:—

"Agriculture may justly be regarded as the great interest of the people. Four-fifths of our active population are employed in the cultivation of the soil, and the rapid expansion of our settlements over new territory is daily adding to the number of those engaged in that vocation. Justice and sound policy, therefore, alike require that the Government should use all the means authorized by the Constitution to promote the interests and welfare of that important class of our fellow citizens. And yet it is a singular fact that, whilst the manufacturing and commercial interests have engaged the attention of Congress during a large portion of every session, and our statutes abound in provisions for their protection and encouragement, little has yet been done directly for the advancement of agriculture. It is time that this reproach to our legislation should be removed, and I sincerely hope that the present Congress will not close their labors without adopting efficient means to supply the omissions of those who have preceded them.

"An Agricultural Bureau, charged with the duty of connecting and disseminating correct information as to the best modes of cultivation, and of the most effectual means of preserving and restoring the fertility of the soil, and of procuring and distributing seeds and plants, and other vegetable productions, with instructions in regard to the soil, climate, and treatment, best adapted to their growth, could not fail to be, in the language of Washington, in his last annual message to Congress, a 'very cheap instrument of immense national benefit.'"

POTATOE ROT.

We perceive by late accounts from England that mixing peat or wood charcoal, with potatoes when storing them preserves them from the rot. A farmer put up potatoes taken from the same field, of the same variety, and in every respect the same, and divided them in three pits. With the potatoes put up in one pit, he mixed charcoal, and did not put any charcoal in the other two. On examining them lately he found a large proportion of the potatoes stored without charcoal rotten, but in the pit where charcoal was mixed with the potatoes, there was not one rotten. We believe there is not any doubt that wood