

free, unless our produce and British manufactures are admitted to the United States on the same terms. When a law of perfect reciprocity shall be established between both countries, the farmers of Canada will not desire any partial law of protection for themselves. They will stand or fall on that law.

We have not seen much summer fallow this year, though we believe, that a considerable quantity of land has been cultivated in that way, and the summer has been very favourable for it. 'This is a mode of improving land which we wish was generally introduced, and we know not of any means more easy. We know that summer fallowing is disapproved of by many. In the British Isles where green crops—turnips, in particular, may be grown to a great extent, the lands might be kept in a good state of fertility without much summer fallow, but even in these countries, there are some strong clay soils which require to be summer fallowed in order to clean them, and break up the soil properly. A large proportion of the Canadian lands are strong clay, and cannot be brought into a fit state of cultivation until summer fallowed. There is not a farm in the country that may not be greatly improved by this means judiciously executed—and we would strongly recommend its adoption. We cannot grow green crops here to the extent that would be required to keep the land in good order.

In England, at the present day, it is considered that only what we understand as "book-farmers" can practice agriculture to advantage. We do not, however, pretend to say, that the instruction contained in books would make up for the want of practical experience. What we contend for is—that the information which is at present in general circulation in agricultural publications in England and elsewhere, must be a great benefit and assistance to the practical working farmer—however skilful he may be—by long practice. Few farmers have it in their power to try new experiments, but in agricultural publications they can see the results of experiments made by men of wealth, and can adopt new improvements at much less expense and risk, than if they had to make the first experiments on their own account.

The farmer who may have the most confidence in his own skill, might find in agricultural publications useful suggestions which he had never previously thought of, and that farmer who could not collect from an agricultural paper during a whole year, more benefit than would compensate for a year's subscription, must indeed be a very selfish man, if he will not allow his brother farmers and the world to benefit by his superior skill, and judgment, that are of so high a character as to be incapable of further improvement. We would recommend most urgently that such men as have confidence in themselves that they cannot benefit by further instruction, would give some of the advantages of their skill and attainments to in-

struct others who have no such pretensions. There is a sort of obligation on all members of a community to act thus towards each other. We do not expect them to become schoolmasters, but we would propose to them to follow the example of our friends in the British Isles, and let them instruct the ignorant to practice the art of agriculture to the best advantage. We would offer one more observation. Perhaps in all cases where farming may be practised in the best manner, the results may not have greatly augmented the farmer's wealth. But in such cases we should see whether there has been a large produce raised. If there has—the distribution must have benefited others; and if so, the whole community. If a large produce is raised upon a farm, though most, or all, this produce would go to pay the labour and expenses, it would certainly be a greater benefit to the country, by affording means to employ labour, than if the farm was only to produce half or one fourth the quantity. The man who raises a large produce whether advantageously for himself or not, must be a more useful member of a community than he who allows his land to be unproductive. This a plain proposition, and is worthy of attention.

Having said so much in recommendation of our Public Works, in contemplation and in progress of construction, we may offer a few observations respecting the trespass to which farmers may be exposed on the line of these works during the progress of their construction. It is, we believe, considered by many, and by most persons not exposed to the trespass, that because the farmers are paid the value of the property actually necessary for the construction of Canals or Rail-roads, ascertained by arbitration, that they should make no complaints, whatever further trespass or damage they may sustain. This we conceive to be a very unjust opinion—particularly as regards farmers residing on the Island of Montreal, who never can profit by Canals as a means of transporting produce to market. One great cause of trespass on farmers is, that of collecting a large number of labourers along a line of works, without shelter or firewood being provided for them. These poor men are only able to put up a shed constructed of board, not good enough to shelter cattle, and they must, as a matter of necessity, have fire-wood to warm them and cook their provisions, wherever it can be had. In such cases it will not be very likely they will enquire much into the right of property of the most convenient wood they can find, being in America, where wood is considered so abundant. The consequence is that farmers must suffer damage in their woods or fences, and in the loss of their fences, the injury is often very great, exposing them to trespass in many ways. These are evils of public works which we conceive might be prevented in a great measure by providing suitable shelter and fire-wood for the labourers, and making it a part of the expenses of constructing public works. We