

times, however, she seems to be infuriated, and heedless of all that passes around her. If the calf has been once fastened upon, the mother will never leave it. The whalers assert that the young cows have less affection for their offspring than the old ones, and will desert them at the appearance of the least danger. It is, however, the affection of the whale for her young which becomes the principal means of her destruction. The calf, inexperienced and slow, is easily killed, and the cow is afterwards a sure prey.—*Dieffenbach's Travels in New Zealand.*

## The Canadian Agricultural Journal.

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At the commencement of a new year, is a very suitable time to examine into the true state of our affairs, and if we find them not satisfactory, we should ascertain to what cause it is to be attributed that they are so—and whether there is any possibility of remedy; or of improving this state of our affairs. There cannot exist a doubt, that for the last few years, that we have been unable to grow wheat in Canada East, the circumstances of farmers generally, (with a few exceptions of those in favourable situations, and from some other causes,) have been very much altered for the worse. Wheat was the staple produce of Canadian agriculture up to 1835—and when it failed, from that time, farmers had no other resource to fall back upon. No other produce was raised, suitable for a foreign market—and, until last year, the duty was too high in England to allow the exportation from this country of salted meat, butter, or cheese. It requires some time to introduce an entire change in the produce of a country, and also instruction how it may be effected. Before we can fatten cattle properly, we must provide good pastures, and this requires instruction and time. We may have as good beef, pork, mutton, butter, and cheese here, as in the British Isles, but we must first adopt the same system of careful management they have in those countries, as regards pastures—suitable breeds of cattle, sheep, and swine, their feeding—and care in making good butter and cheese. It would be unreasonable to expect that with our stock, pastures, and careless management, we could have a produce equal to that of England, where so much attention is paid to all these matters. When, however, we choose to adopt the English system of husbandry, as closely as circumstances will admit, we shall have as favourable results, and not before. There never was a time more propitious than the present for introducing a new and better system of agriculture in this Province, and we recommend it most urgently. We have British markets open to us now, on favourable terms, and if we do not choose to supply them, foreigners will, and the trade will be lost to us. The means are in our power, if we make a judicious use of them. We have excellent land in abundance, that only requires to be cultivated, and managed properly, to make them as productive and profitable as land in the British Isles. It is useless to write on this subject, unless we have the

support and countenance of the educated and wealthy classes to recommend what we do submit to the attention of the people. If what we may happen to propose from time to time, is not worthy of attention, we cannot, of course, expect it to produce any good. It is unjust to accuse the inhabitants of this country with the backward state of their agriculture, when there never have been any measures adopted to instruct or encourage a better system. Very few private individuals are disposed, or can afford to devote their time and money to the instruction of the people, and few private individuals have sufficient capital to have their farms so managed, in every department, as to be fit to show as an example farm. A very considerable capital would be required to carry on, and manage a farm perfectly in every respect, as would regard draining, fencing, manuring; cattle, horses, sheep, swine, dairy, farming implements, &c., to have them all in perfection. We are of opinion, that it would be profitable to do so, where the means would be ample, and all under skilful management. The want of a sufficient capital is a great drawback to a farmer, and acts as a check to improvement, and obstructs his operations in a thousand ways. Capital may soon be lost in farming under unskilful management, but the want of it is fatal to the very best practical skill. In Canada very few farms have sufficient capital employed upon them to admit of their being managed properly, or to the best advantage, and this is one cause that prevents agriculture from being in a more improving and flourishing condition. Capital, however, might be increased by introducing a better system of husbandry; but this will not be done, unless all who have the real interest of the country at heart, endeavour to understand how that interest can be most effectually and certainly promoted, and then unite to effect this desirable good. We must apply all our energies, and both by precept and example urge the people to adopt what will be for their advantage. Let a commencement now be made, and send instruction and encouragement to the most remote farmer's cottage in Canada. Not for once only, but let it be regular and constant. Men will not always close their eyes and understanding against light and reason, or reject what will be for their own benefit. If some men do reject all attempts made to induce them to adopt what is to be for their advantage, other men will not do so, and those that will profit by instruction, will soon induce the obstinate to follow their example. We have no right to suppose that men will reject and refuse all instruction until we have first offered it to them. If we were anxious to send political information to the people, we would soon find the means, and we would also discover that however uneducated are the great mass of the people, political information may be conveyed to them. The expense would be amply repaid, that might be incurred in the instruction of the people in good husbandry. The Agricultural Societies in Ireland have sent young men to the Netherlands, to acquire a pro-