

the discussion of those subjects that will more particularly be interesting to mechanics and manufacturers in general, we shall not fail to show, in the clearest light possible, the benefits that would accrue to the country, provided that a portion of the public funds were set aside for the better encouragement of improvements in those branches of mechanics and manufactures, in which, by the proper application of science and skill, the artizan of this country may reasonably hope to compete with the neighboring and other countries from which our imports are supplied.

It is obvious to all who have given the matter their serious consideration, that the artizans of Canada, in many very important particulars, are inferior to those in the Eastern and Northern States of the Union. Of course there are honorable exceptions to this, as in all general rules, but in the main the above opinion will be found correct. Now, it is not because the Mechanics of Canada are less industrious, or are endowed with intellectual powers of an inferior description to those in the United States, that they will not favorably compare with them in point of efficiency, both in practical and scientific attainments, but it is because no fostering care has been extended to the mechanical branches of industry and manufacturing enterprises in the Province, that we are obliged to draw the unfavorable comparison. Much will have to be done before the products of our workshops will equal in style and quality, goods of a similar description manufactured in the United States. The scarcity of capital to be employed in manufacturing, the comparatively small field, and the number of population to vend the products of those manufactures, the absence of a spirit of manufacturing enterprise on the part of our population, and withal, an almost total want of patriotism in supporting the few useful enterprises of this kind that have sprung up in the colony, are among the most substantial reasons for our people not having made greater progress in developing the mechanical resources of the country. We do not pretend to urge any claims of a superior order, which would lead the reader to suppose that Canada will, for a long time to come, become a great manufacturing country; our object is simply to favor the opinion that many of the substantial comforts and luxuries of life, for which we are indebted to other countries, may be manufactured as cheaply, and equal, if not superior in quality, to the imported article.

That powerful engine, the press, has yet never been properly brought to bear upon those subjects, and whilst we intend to honestly chronicle every improvement that comes under our observation and knowledge, in those mechanical branches adapted to the wants and condition of this country, we shall, at the same time, urge certain amendments in those laws that affect the condition of our artizans, and likewise shall press upon the attention of all classes, the claims that manufacturing enterprises demand at their hands. Indeed we do not believe it is possible that Canada can be prosperous, and her people contented and happy, unless she becomes more independent of other countries, for the supply of the real necessities and comforts of life. Entertaining these views, and believing that they are not susceptible of being controverted, we shall most cordially enter into a full and thorough discussion of those points that will have for their object a tendency to awaken, within the breasts of all classes of our population, a desire to encourage domestic genius, and manufacturing enterprise.

HORTICULTURE.

When we take into account that only about half a century ago the white man first set foot upon Western Canada, with the view of becoming a cultivator of the soil, it will not appear strange that so little progress should have been made among our farmers, in the