

with silent indifference ; yet, it can scarcely be expected otherwise, so long as the leading and most intelligent farmers themselves do evince so great an amount of apathy in matters pertaining to their best interests. In another portion of this paper, favourable mention was made of the plan of constituting District Councils into Boards of Agriculture. These Boards of Agriculture, by a little aid from the General Government, might, without much difficulty, establish each an experimental farm, on which the various experiments requisite to prove to the farmers of Canada the advantages to be derived from the adoption of a scientific rotation of crops could be made ; and their results published, with other equally interesting and valuable experiments, would form respectable appendages to the literature of the country, and would thus bring within the reach of all a thorough knowledge of the most recent improvements made in agriculture. The farmers of this country do not feel disposed to make experiments, although they be even on a small scale, and those that are made, are rarely, if ever, reported for the benefit of the public. This is decidedly an evil of great magnitude, and one which should be remedied, if possible, with the least delay. When the present circumstances of the country are duly considered, it is pretty clear that large expectations of this kind from Government will not for some time to come be realised. It would be well, however, that a start in the right direction should be made ; and to do this on an efficient scale, a small appropriation might be made to each District, for the purpose of establishing experimental farms. The small sum of £150 to each District would secure this object, upon the condition that an equal amount be paid for a like purpose by the District Councils of the country. For the sum of £300 per annum an arrangement might be made with an intelligent farmer, in a central and commanding portion of the District, by which a certain annual scale of experiments should be made in the practice of husbandry, in the management of stock, &c. ; the results of each, with a report of the farm management in all its details, to be annually furnished to the Council, or Board of Agriculture. In addition to this, for the foregoing sum, a very respectable school for the

training of farmers' sons in the higher branches of education, adapted, of course, to the profession of Agriculture, might be sustained in connection with the experimental farm, in each of the districts of the country. Mention is made of this subject, in this place, simply to prepare the mind of the reader for a more clear exposition of the whole matter in detail, which will probably appear in the March number of this Magazine.

By the foregoing introductory remarks, the reader, at a single glance, will perceive that the subject under discussion is one which, in point of comparison, is second to no other, to the practical agriculturist, who is anxious to be made acquainted with the causes that produce the effects which develop themselves during the various stages in the growth and maturity of plants and vegetables. It may, indeed, be styled the subject of subjects, if the term is admissible, to the practical farmer ; and hence the necessity of illustrating it in all its bearings and ramifications, in a clear and conspicuous manner, so that those who read may understand the views and principles expounded by the writer. This mode of treating the subject will be practiced in the hope that it will lead to a more perfect and complete method of illustrating subjects of this kind, partaking somewhat of the nature and principles of the one described to be under the patronage and control of District Councils. As there are an almost endless variety of influences that bear to a greater or less extent upon the style of conducting a rotation of crops suited to the soil, distance from market, character of climate, and the circumstances of the farmer, an elaborate description of each can scarcely be expected within the narrow limits given to articles of this kind, in Agricultural Journals. But, as a series of papers will appear, embracing the various features of this subject, in the succeeding numbers of this volume, the matter will be elucidated with as much clearness as the space allotted for this purpose will allow. For convenience sake, the order of the rotation shall be numerically divided, and remarks appropriate to each will be given.

TWO COURSE, OR SHIFT SYSTEM OF ROTATION OF CROPS.—On soils that contain a very liberal supply of phosphate of lime and potash, wheat