

by them—wherefore the times and seasons of disposing of the fruits of their own labour to advantage, and how and when to provide for it—what and wherefore the principles of trade—and how to make the requisite calculations, and keep the needful accounts to effect the advantageous disposal of agricultural productions and ascertain the results—and how the proceeds of these might be applied for the promotion of personal, domestic and social enjoyment,—all these branches of knowledge were scarcely less within the conceptions of the labouring farmer than within those of the labouring ox. The approbation of his master was the height of his ambition, as it was of the dog which accompanied him : and a coarse supply against hunger and cold was the *beau-ideal* of his domestic comfort and independence. Thus the proprietorship of the soil made a lord ; while the cultivation of it constituted a slave ; or, as he was legally designated for many ages, “ a villein.” The profession of arms—which in former times was but another name for rapine, bloodshed and murder—held the pre-eminence for ages in dignity and power ; the profession of the Priesthood subsequently reduced the representative of Mars to a second rank in the State ; at length, the profession of law fairly disputed pre-eminence with that of the priest and the soldier ; but the profession of the farmer, though respected in Egypt, Greece and Rome from the earliest ages, was viewed as a servile employment, appropriate only to serfs and slaves, until since the periods of the American and French Revolutions, and especially in Europe since the NAPOLEON conquests and overthrow. These great and fearful catastrophes have been over-ruled by Providential wisdom and goodness for the promotion of human happiness. The old foundations of feudalism were shaken ; and, in some instances, broken up ; the lands of a country began to be distributed among the inhabitants of it ; rulers began to learn that they must henceforth govern through the understanding and affections of their subjects, rather than by the sword and bayonet, and hence they began to cultivate those understandings and affections ; the tillers of the soil began to rise into proprietors, and as they commanded attention and soliditude by their numbers, they now began to command respect by their position. In Germany and France the public systems of Education have respect to Agriculture, as well as to the Professions and Trades. Patriotism and the progress of popular principles of government are doing in England what revolutions have prompted on the Continent, and what experience is creating in the United States of America ; and the proposition recently introduced into our Legislature to establish an Agricultural School and Model Farm in connexion with the improved Grammar School of each District, is an important step in the same direction.

In Canada, proprietorship in the soil is almost co-extensive with its culture ; and every farmer should embody in his own person the practical knowledge possessed in Europe by the proprietors, their agents or middlemen, their overseers and labourers—for he performs the offices of all these, though on a limited scale, in his own little domain. In the temperate climate and appropriate seasons, the varied and fertile soil, the undulating or level surface, if not in its geographical position, Divine Providence has especially marked out Upper Canada for Agriculture, and has destined the mass of its inhabitants to be “ tillers of the ground.” We have not the cotton fields of the Southern States, or the vineyards of France, or the foreign inland trade of Germany, or the mineral treasures of England—though in some of these we are not altogether deficient, and we may yet be found to abound in others ;—but we have