

fore be principally required for special purposes; such as awarding liberal premiums for prize essays on a great variety of subjects, and the printing of the same, together with other important transactions of the Association; the establishment of an agricultural and mechanical museum, such as has been so successfully founded by the American Institute in the city of New York; the annual importation of some of the most important models of labour-saving machines invented and in use in other countries; and likewise of some of the choicest specimens of seeds and grains, of which this country is not yet in possession.

In addition to the foregoing objects that should be kept in view by the managers of the Institution, many others of equal importance will present themselves to notice from time to time, as the wants of the country, and the condition of the financial resources of the Association would seem to warrant. It must be clear to every reflective mind, that a public grant of at least £500 per annum is required, and that too before any steps are taken to make arrangements for another exhibition, and therefore every friend of the Institution should lose no time in urging upon their friends in Parliament the importance, and in fact, necessity, of granting, at the approaching session, at least the amount suggested in the foregoing remarks, and more, if a greater sum can be had.

DISTRICT SOCIETIES.

These societies have doubtless done much good in promoting substantial improvements in agriculture, but the good that has been, is of a comparatively trifling amount to what yet remains to be done by them. Heretofore there has not been an uniform system of managing those societies observed, nor has the original intentions embodied in the Act of Parliament for their encouragement been enforced or carried out in practice in any instance. By reading the Act, the inference may be fairly

drawn, that those societies, with their branches in the townships, were intended to be ostensibly importing societies of live stock, improved grains, or any thing else that would conduce to promote agricultural improvement. How far this has been done will be left for those who have interested themselves in the management of agricultural societies to determine. One thing, however, appears now certain: the time has arrived when the farmers are sufficiently intelligent to manage those important institutions with greater ability than has yet been done; and in those respects where an improved system can be instituted with advantage, it will be seized upon and adopted with a laudable spirit, worthy of so great and important an interest as that of agricultural improvement.

The whole machinery constituting and governing district agricultural societies will require to undergo an important change before a great degree of benefit to the country can be expected. What those changes will be, remain yet to be seen; and as it is a matter that belongs to agricultural associations, it may be thought quite in character to here point out some features of amendment, which may form a guide for legislation upon the subject.

The Government grant in favor of agricultural societies as now given, appears quite unequal, as a district containing 15,000 souls receives as large an apportionment as one that contain three times that population. To divide it strictly upon the basis of population, would probably create much dissatisfaction among the agriculturists of the thinly populated districts, and rather than give discouragement to any district when so valuable an interest is at stake, it would be well to continue the grant to all as at present, and a few of the very largest and most populous districts might have an additional amount added to the present grant. For instance, the Home and Niagara Districts, with their twenty odd townships each, might be con-