

most querulous objector to the present parsimonious system could desire. Assist, then, the Boards of Agriculture at Toronto and Montreal in commencing the formation of an extensive Agricultural Museum, worthy of the cause and the country (an object, by the by, contemplated in the present Agricultural Act) and let these bodies import, and carefully test, the most necessary and improved machinery and implements; a procedure that would not fail of promoting, in a high degree, the advancement of Improved Husbandry. Again, enable these Boards to import, on an extensive scale, *the various improved breeds of cattle, horses, sheep, swine, &c.*, with a view to their dissemination over the country. If a number of the *different* breeds of stock were introduced, and fairly tried, in various localities, under different circumstances, as they could not fail to be, the present much vexed questions as to the sorts best suited to this country—its climate, soils, and markets,—would be in a fair way of being set at rest in the most convincing and satisfactory manner. The carrying out of these objects, which, we think, come legitimately within the range of the Bureau and Agricultural Boards, would require a sum of money sufficiently large, we suspect, to satisfy the expectations of the most ardent admirers of doing these matters on a magnificent scale.

As the Bureau is but the erection of yesterday, if the Minister has erred in exercising caution and strict economy in commencing the Department, most people will feel inclined to regard it as a mistake on the right side. We recommended the Minister in this Journal, as soon as the Department was established, to exercise caution, and not attempt too much at first. The work was, and still is, an *experiment*, and if prudently carried out, we have no fear but the result will be satisfactory and beneficial to the country at large. It is dangerous and delusive in matters of this kind to confound mere haste with healthy progress. Whatever instrumentality is devised and set in motion for the benefit of Agriculture, or indeed any other great interest, must have sufficient time for effective operation. The Minister has already, we understand, collected a number of interesting and instructive

facts, relative to the actual progress made by individual settlers in different parts of the Province, which he intends using as materials for cheap tracts for circulating among the people of the United Kingdom and the Continent of Europe. Mr. Kirkwood, who is now in Europe, in connection with the Bureau, is, we see, publishing some interesting letters in the leading British journals, in which several of these facts are incorporated,—a proceeding that cannot fail to draw public attention to the capabilities and claims of this country. It is a notorious fact that the people at home know much less of Canada and the North American Provinces than of the more distant Southern Colonies. Now the Minister of Agriculture has already commenced a system of communication with Emigration Agents, &c., at home and abroad, which, if only followed up with energy, cannot fail to benefit this country very materially.

In dealing with so important an interest as Agriculture, in Parliament, all personal and party feeling ought to be buried in the patriotic desire to promote the welfare of the country,—a result, the benefits of which, are shared by all. Whoever puts forth an effort, whether with his head or his hands, to improve Agriculture, is a benefactor of his country, and a co-operator with his God;—who, in the administration of his natural government, has no respect of persons or parties, but causes his sun to shine and rain and dews to descend alike upon all,—the evil even as well as the good. Agriculture in Canada is steadily, if not rapidly improving, and there is no circumstance which the country would, in the end, more deeply deplore, than having any portion of our present improved system for aiding its progress, impaired or interfered with by a captious party spirit. Whatever difference of opinion may be conscientiously held respecting the general policy of our present Colonial Ministry, upon the principle of "*honor to whom honor is due*," we hesitate not to say, that if we thought that policy one unbroken series of unmitigated evil, we would place to their credit *the formation of a Government Department of Agriculture*. Whatever parties may be destined hereafter to occupy power, if only common prudence and energy—with a moderate