

his countrymen and others residing in this hemisphere than any other man on the continent of North America.

Agricultural Societies, particularly this National Agricultural Association of Upper Canada, is destined to prove highly beneficial to the inhabitants of this Province; the advantages of an institution of this nature will be numerous; it may be considered as a Magazine for Agricultural knowledge: in bringing intelligent men together, and in explaining the art and means of cultivating and improving the earth, so as to render it the most fertile and productive.

Every fact connected with the improvement of the soil or the stock it will maintain, may be collected, and if well conducted, a spirit of experiment will soon be exerted and every Farmer in the country may contribute his mite to the general benefit of his profession.

The Board of Agriculture established by the Legislature of this Province at its last session, will, when organized and put into proper operation, be the means of collecting and preserving and again distributing all sorts of useful knowledge connected with the science of Agriculture, and for the internal improvement of the country.

That the power and prosperity of a country depend upon the diffusion of useful knowledge can hardly be questioned, and there is probably no art in which a variety of knowledge is of more extensive importance than in that of Agriculture.

The extent of information necessary to bring it to anything like perfection is far greater than is generally supposed. To preserve the fertility of the soil, to free it from superfluous moisture, to cultivate it to the greatest advantage, to raise its productions at the least expense, to procure the best instruments of husbandry, to select the stock likely to be the most profitable, to feed them in the most judicious manner and to bring them to the most advantageous markets, to secure the harvest in the most unpropitious seasons, to separate the grain from the straw with economy and success, and to perform all the other operations of Agriculture in the most judicious modes, require a greater extent and variety of knowledge than might at first view be judged requisite.

But though a general knowledge of Agriculture may be diffused over a great country, it is found by experience that it cannot be materially improved, unless by comparing the various practices which subsist in different parts of the country. One District has been led to pay a peculiar and successful attention to one branch of industry, while other Districts excel in other particulars of equal importance; mutual benefit is derived from the communication of such local practices. In this way matter of much importance and advantage to the country may be obtained by the General Board of Agriculture of the Province, and when a Professorship shall have been established by the Government, connected with the Board of Agriculture, the collecting and diffusing

of useful knowledge in the art will be rapid, beneficial to the growing generation, and be the means of promoting that science in all times to come.

The Board of Agriculture would also be enabled to collect the best information on the nature of soils, draining lands, manures, culture and management of grasses, the best implements to be used in husbandry and the price thereof, the cultivation of particular plants, rotation of crops, management of sheep, and various other statistical returns not otherwise easily obtained.

From the geographical situation of Upper Canada, rich in soil and favorable in climate, it may be asserted that none of the possessions of Great Britain can be considered so purely an agricultural country. Being thus favorably situated, and where the numerical proportion of the inhabitants are of the agricultural class—as must ever be the case in Upper Canada—that community have always the advantage, next to the legislative branches, of giving a tone of feeling to the public,—and this is the crisis where the members of this Association, and all conditions of men should endeavor to raise that tone and feeling, and also in declaring our attachment to the Crown, Government and connection with Great Britain, and of bringing under the consideration of the Home Government all beneficial measures for the advancement of the trade and commerce of the country, and press upon the local government of the colony the establishment of declaratory constitutional laws and regulations for the internal management of our social system, such as the climate, the genius of the people and the wants of the country demand.

Wise legislation will be the means of encouraging emigration to this country, and we may from time to time expect tens of thousands of useful settlers from the mother country, not merely consisting of poor laborers, poor mechanics, and needy persons, but men and families of property of the respectable and middling classes of society will be induced to make Upper Canada their home, bringing with them knowledge in the various arts, particularly in agriculture, and what is still more wanted, they will bring with them large sums of ready money, thereby increasing our national capital, for unless a capital be employed in creating produce to a certain degree of abundance, so that the surplus can be disposed of, neither manufactures of any kind, nor trade can exist, but with healthy emigration, and increasing wealth, from the mother country, our prosperity will quickly improve, and here the new comers will find among their fellow subjects institutions similar to their own, and a secure home, where they and all others, both natural born and naturalized, will enjoy, without control, that religious liberty, freedom, justice and protection, so justly considered the birthright of all British subjects.

Never was there a better opening for new settlers with small capitals than at the present; the farms on the whole line in the old settled Townships from Montreal to Hamilton, and round the