

Now, I will ask you, which of those three men would you believe, and place the greatest reliance on? Whether you would rather believe the man, who shewed you the money he had made by employed and paid labour; or the man who shewed you his empty pockets, and told you that paid labour was the cause of it? I think we cannot help arriving at the conclusion, that what one man does another can do. If A. can cultivate his farm to a good profit, by employing paid labour, and carefully looking after his own interests, surely B. can do the same to as good effect. Therefore I think, that those men who speak affirmatively on this question, and who shew me the sovereigns made by pursuing this system, are the men to be believed and relied on; and their evidence is better than any mere theoretical opinion. Then, as to the question, how far the winter interferes with the raising of stock and rendering them profitable: I speak now of oxen, cows, and such cattle: it has been by some supposed unprofitable to raise stock in the winter in this Province. I have gone the same way to work in treating this question; I have obtained the same kind of evidence, and have come to the same kind of conclusion, on the same principles of evidence. If a man tells me he has made money by the pursuit, and shews me the sovereigns so gained, I cannot resist that evidence; what he has done, others may do, if they pursue the same prudent system; and therefore the conclusion I arrive at, on the whole subject is, that it is profitable to carry on farming in this Province, and to raise and maintain stock in the winter. I have thus disposed of the two objections, relative to the climate and to paid labour; but there are other things that interfere with farming in this country. One is, the pursuit of the lumbering business; and no doubt that is a circumstance which has hitherto most materially interfered with the prosecution of agricultural industry in this Province. It is necessary therefore to consider, how far it is likely to interfere with the future condition of the Province, in relation to its agricultural prosperity; but it is only fair to acknowledge, that although evils have sprung from lumbering pursuits, yet that the Province owes a great deal of its prosperity to its lumbering operations. That pursuit was the natural trade of the country, before agriculture could possibly have been commenced at all, and it will continue to be so for a long time to come. There is a great difference between urging a thing too far, and conducting it in a skilful and prudent way. From the returns and papers I have received on this point, I have been compelled to come to the conclusion, that lumbering does not necessarily interfere with farming; but rather, if judiciously followed, each class of persons attending exclusively to their own peculiar business, that lumbering operations will promote the interests of the farmer in various ways. Then, again, as to the profits of farmers, and markets for their produce; I have made a com-

parison of the returns furnished to me, and have deduced the averages of the different prices obtained and profits gained. Now, if these profits and prices were obtained, there must have been some place where these articles were sold, and therefore there must be markets for the produce of the country; and these markets will not only continue, but will gradually increase. No doubt, the markets might in some respects be improved; and on this head, I have thrown out some suggestions in my Report, which may hereafter prove beneficial. I have also, in that Report, touched on the subject of Emigration, its causes and effects; and on the effects of blights or diseases on the agricultural products of the Province. The consideration of all these questions leads me to the general conclusion, that so far as I have been able to examine the condition of the Province personally, as well as from the study of the various points put to me by practical men belonging to the country, I conceive that there is nothing in the circumstances of this Province so different from those of other countries to which I have alluded, (and particularly as regards Canada and the Eastern States of the Union) which ought to diminish the profits of the farmer in comparison with those countries. In my Report, I have discussed the actual state of the tillage and agriculture of the Province, and have followed up this discussion with a series of recommendations for their improvement; which are partly such as can be carried out only by means of Legislative enactment and assistance, partly within the scope and capability of Agricultural Societies, and partly can be effected by the exertions of individual farmers. These topics are too extensive for me to discuss this evening; and indeed it would be improper for me to do so, because they will come before the Legislature for consideration, and any notice of them now would be premature.—I here briefly take my leave of you, by not giving any opinion of my own, further than I have given it as founded on the information afforded me. I mention this merely as a safeguard; that although the information contained in my Report may be imperfect information, and the results deduced may be merely imperfect results, yet they are such as have been obtained from the data furnished to me by the men and the documents I have met with in the Province. Probably, they are results which I might have reason to correct were I to reside longer in the Province; but at present they are such as I have been compelled to arrive at, from the materials and means of information possessed by me, or to which I have had access. How far they may prove useful, in making the farmers more contented, and the people more satisfied with the Province as to its agricultural capabilities, I leave you to judge, after perusing the Report at length: you are quite capable of judging on this question, and I am quite sure your judgment will be sound and impartial.