

tury has now passed away, and in some places, no artificial means of regeneration has been adopted, for it must be kept in mind that the same sort of grain, such as wheat, barley, oats, &c., sown for any number of years on the same spot, tends to impoverish and render infertile the ground; and it is only by the study of Agriculture, as a science, that we can hope to furnish to the exhausted soil the elements necessary for a future and abundant crop.

A sufficient number of animals are required to furnish manure, which is one of the sources from whence Agricultural Chemistry shows us that our success is drawn. A short visit in the neighbourhood of Montreal as an example will convince any one of the truth of the foregoing remarks, and in some particular instances, we may say that, in reference to local circumstances, the system of Agriculture there adopted approaches near perfection, both in the culture of the land and in the beauty and utility of the stock, both of horses, cattle and sheep, as suited to our climate and to our peculiar wants, and it may be asked to what may our progress be attributed?

1st. To good examples,

2nd. To the fostering law of government in the establishment of Agricultural Societies, Annual Exhibitions, Boards of Agriculture, and in the circulation of Agricultural Journals.

3rd. To the distributing prizes of merit through the various County Agricultural Societies to the *progressive* farmer, to the encouragement of the importation of Foreign stock, and the consequent improvement in the breed of our native cattle.

4th. To the aid and establishment of Agricultural Schools and Colleges where our youth destined to *follow the plough* may imbibe the early truths of Agricultural science, and form a firm basis as in other countries, upon which to build our real prosperity and the only riches a country can call its own.

We have, during the past two months, made a personal visit to several farms both in the neighbourhood of Montreal and also of Quebec, and have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the progress that is shown generally, and more particularly in these quarters. Our first visit was to the farm of Mr. Wm. Boa, of St. Laurent, where we were gratified with our reception. He is proprietor of 135 arpents in an excellent state of cultivation, and we shall pro-

ceed to give to our readers the manner he adopts in the rotation of crops.

1st year. Potatoes, carrots, beets, turnips, or Indian corn. 2nd year. Wheat or barley. 3rd year. Meadow. 4th and 5th years. Pasture. 6th year. Oats or peas.

With this system of rotation the same grain is not sown upon the same land for a period of six years. He is of opinion that this system is the best suited for his locality.

The horned cattle shows a predominance of the Ayrshire breed; the sheep are crossed with the Leicester and Cheviot breed; the swine with those of Berkshire. He has also a very fine breed of Canadian horses, and if one might judge from the general appearance of the harvest, we should say that the system he has adopted seems unsurpassed.

For a long time our French Canadian farmers have been too prone to follow in the beaten track of their fathers and grandfathers, without any emulation to improve, and without any signs of amelioration in their system of agriculture; but only in the width of one farm from Mr. Boa we have a decided contradiction to this assertion, in the person of Mr. I. B. Lecourt. It is true he has, for a few years, followed the same system as his neighbour, Mr. Boa, and the results are too apparent to be passed over without giving our meed of praise to Mr. Lecourt, who has followed so well the steps of his instructor, and we ought not to forget to mention the gratitude that Mr. Lecourt evinces towards his neighbour. This is one of those instances where a good example has done much, and it ought to convince the careless and thoughtless farmer that a better system is required to make the soil productive. We cannot too strongly impress upon all, the following maxims:—1st. Plants require different elements of nutrition. 2nd. That these elements must be in sufficient quantities to furnish to the plant the greatest amount of nutrition. 3rd. That the same plant sown upon the same spot *especially* produces an exhaustion of the elements necessary for the nutrition and vigorous growth of the plant. 4th. That the system of *rotation* of crops is one that is intended to hinder that exhaustion and impoverishment of the soil so necessary for the healthy development of the plant. These, combined with a knowledge of the composition of the different soils and the artificial means (by manure) of furnishing an abundance of