

Society, and paid to them by the District Society in proportion to the money that each County, Riding, or Township Society, shall have subscribed." 8 Vic., cap. 57, sec. 11. According to our legal reading the word "shall" in a Statute is imperative, and an action would lie to compel the District Society to apportion the grant. The proposed Bill did not alter the law as to the mode of division, not because those who drafted the Bill thought no improvement could be made in it, but because objections and difficulty might have sprung up in the minds of some whose cordial co-operation it is most desirable to secure. The only new provision affecting the amount of the grant to any Society was this, "that not more than three-fifths of the sum granted to any County Society shall be subject to division among township or Branch Societies."

The object of this proviso was merely to prevent difficulty between the Township and County Societies which has arisen in several instances, by enabling the County Society to retain, *if it choose to do so*, two-fifths of the grant for its own use. It was intended to *benefit* the County Societies, which as we think, and we believe, as is generally thought, it is desirable to encourage in a higher degree than others. Yet, it is a County Society, viz., that of the Wellington District, which through Mr. Fergusson, as he stated, opposed this liberal Bill! A Society be it remembered that *has never contributed a sixpence* towards the Provincial Association, in the success of which, the honor of the whole country is involved! We leave any further remarks to a future occasion, merely observing, that those gentlemen who gave their time and thought to the subject of improving and reducing to a system the present absurd and contradictory law of which we have heard constant complaints for the last three years, did so with the sincere desire to promote the agricultural interests of the Province and not of any *section*. The bill was printed a month before it was brought up in the House and no complaint was made against it; very many persons besides those concerned in its preparation who understood the subject, highly approved of it; a similar system is in successful operation in one of the lower Provinces and in several of the neighboring States; and we think that those persons who wished to defeat it for some reason of their own, were bound to point out a better plan.—[Assistant Ed.]

**KILLING SORREL.**—According to the *Michigan Farmer*, plowing sorrel, with a shallow furrow, late in the fall, leaving the roots exposed to the action of the frost through the winter, has been found effectual in destroying that pernicious plant.

## HOME THE BEST "LOCATION."

Mr. Solon Robinson, the celebrated American agricultural traveller and writer, made a flying visit to this part of Canada a few weeks since on business. He honored us with a call and we endeavored to show him what attention we could during his stay. As Mr. Robinson has visited and examined leisurely with the eye of a shrewd, practical agriculturist every state of the Union, we of course improved the opportunity of increasing our stock of information from one so well qualified to give it. In the course of a ride a few miles north from this city, we put the question mentioned below, and received our answer very much as we expected. We stopped at the house of a friend who owns 200 acres of good land within 10 miles of Toronto, lives in a substantial brick house and enjoys every comfort that the farmer can reasonably wish, but still as we passed along we noticed a board with these words "This Farm for Sale." While seated at the tea-table which smoked with buckwheat pan-cakes, and new made bread, studded round with delicious honey, excellent butter, two or three kinds of preserves, pies and sweet cakes, our conversation turned upon the painted board and the "best location" for the farmer. Mr. R. detailed some interesting facts without giving a very decided opinion. In the following letter he seems to have made up his mind after having seen and learnt more of Canada. We trust those of our readers who have allowed themselves to become discontented with their "home," will consider well Mr. R.'s remarks before they determine to change it.

### To the Editor of the *Agriculturist*.

While with you the other day in a pleasant ride you were kind enough to give me up Yonge Street, you made the inquiry "after having as you have, travelled all over the United States as an agricultural traveller and writer, and having also seen somewhat of Canada, where would you choose a location to carry on farming, if now about to make a settlement for life?"

I then told you that you had put a very difficult question, but I would endeavour to answer it