

paper a very interesting account of the agricultural and industrial resources of the county of *Fermanagh*, which consists of 475,195 acres, 46,755 being under water. Population, in 1841, was 154,419 souls. The surface generally is undulating on the northern boundary—approaching the mountainous; subsoil porous—frequently requiring deep draining, which is but little attended to. Better cultivation, enlarging the fields, and straightening the fences, a larger culture of wheat and grain crops, and more attention to the breeding and management of live stock, with the preservation and proper application of manure, appear to be the principal desiderata to the advancement of the agricultural interest of this county, as well as the country generally. Public attention, however, is being directed to these matters in good earnest; so that a well-grounded hope may now be entertained for the amelioration of that unhappy but generous and warm-hearted people. The following extract from the Editor's preface is as correct as it is cheering:—

"Too true it is, the country has been, and still is, deeply afflicted; but in her fertile soil and genial climate; in her unappropriated water-power—more than equal in amount to the whole mill-power of England—in her mineral wealth, hitherto almost unsurpassed; in her fisheries, when by safety-harbours and curing-stations, they shall have been rendered available; and in the industry of her enduring children, when duly fostered; she possesses resources which, called into action, cannot fail to raise her from her present prostrate condition, and secure for her a degree of prosperity and happiness, to which she has unhappily been too long a stranger."

## ON THE DOMESTICATED ANIMALS OF THE FARM.

NO. I.

We propose devoting a series of papers to a popular and practical description of the various breeds of the domesticated animals. Our object will be to compress as much interesting and useful matter as possible within our necessarily restricted limits. Although the subject of improving the live stock of Canada has for some time occupied the attention of the more enterprising, and the result is our possession of some really fine specimens of the improved breeds; including horses, cattle, sheep and swine: yet it must be acknowledged that our farmers generally are much behind in these very important matters, and as a consequence, the real progress of the country in the acquisition of wealth becomes seriously impeded. If the farmers of Canada would turn their attention in right earnest to the improvement and better management of stock, instead of our being large and constant importers of tallow, hides, &c., this country would soon be in a condi-

tion to export these articles extensively; and they would always command a remunerating price in the British markets.

Before we proceed to a description of the different species and varieties of live stock belonging to the farm, it will be an advantage, in order to treat the subject somewhat systematically, to take a general view of the animal kingdom. In doing this we shall make frequent use of Professor Low's admirable introduction to his valuable work on "*The Domesticated Animals*;" to which, as well as other undoubted authorities, we shall frequently refer throughout this series of papers. Our object is not so much originality as practical utility; and while we hope to instruct our readers generally, by awakening a spirit of curiosity, and strengthening the habit of correct observation, we shall endeavor to keep in constant view the condition and practical wants of this country.

Life as it exists in connection with organic structure, admits of two grand divisions,—animal and vegetable. The distinction between a stone, a tree and a horse is obvious at once, even to a child.—The stone is a mass of mere inert matter, possessing no organs, therefore requiring no food; and it increases in size simply by the external deposition of fresh matter under the influence of mechanical or chemical forces. In short the stone is entirely destitute of the wonderful and mysterious principle denominated *life*; by the possession of which the plant and animal are mainly distinguished from the mineral. The tree is a living organised body, dependent on the soil and atmosphere for nutrition, fixed to one spot of earth, and unendowed with the faculty of sensation. The horse is a living organized body, but differs from the tree by possessing sensation and the power of locomotion. The scientific distinction between the highest forms of vegetable and the lowest of animal life, may not in some instances be very obvious; yet upon the whole the differences are so great and palpable between the two kingdoms, that we are in little danger of confounding them. In both, amidst the countless species, there appears a plan of progression from simpler to higher forms. As we ascend the scale to beings of higher organic structure, we meet with a more complicated organization; and with higher and increasing wants there are invariably found ample means arranged for their supply.

Confining our observations to the animal kingdom, the number of species it contains must be astonishingly great. Some thousands have been already described by scientific observers, while an extensive field for exploration yet remains. The microscope, with its modern improvements, has opened up a completely new world of animated