

TO THE SUBSCRIBERS OF  
**The British American Cultivator**

THIS is the seventh monthly number that has been published of this Periodical since its commencement in January last, and it is for the Subscribers to judge how far we have fulfilled our engagement to them. It was certainly our earnest desire to make THE CULTIVATOR useful and interesting, but it will be for others to show by their future support and encouragement, if we have been successful in our endeavours. The most certain proof of our having given satisfaction will be a greatly increased number of Subscribers for the ensuing year. If we have not given the best practical information to farmers we are not altogether to blame. We offered the columns of THE CULTIVATOR to the communications of any farmer who might desire to instruct or enlighten his brother farmers on the science or practice of agriculture, or any subject connected with its improvement or prosperity. If they have not come forward, but rather concealed their light and knowledge for their individual benefit, it is not our fault. We again promise we shall do all in our power to submit the best information we can collect on the science and practice of husbandry, and always advocate in the best manner we are capable, the interests of agriculture. This publication will be the proper medium for communicating the wants and wishes of Canadian farmers, and we respectfully solicit for it the unanimous support of our agriculturists, and of all those who would wish to advance the improvement and prosperity of agriculture. If Canadian farmers will not support one publication that is exclusively devoted to their interests, at the annual cost of only One Dollar, we must suppose them careless about what should interest them, or that they consider this publication not calculated to forward their interests, or render them any service or entertainment whatever.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We have received from our respected Correspondent P. L. SIMMONDS, Esqr., of London, a valuable Essay on the Planting and Management of Timber and Ornamental Trees, from which we propose to make selections occasionally.—Though we have abundant forests in this country, we think, nevertheless, that on almost every farm that is cleared, some trees should be planted occasionally. It is not always possible in clearing forest land, to have trees exactly where they would be most useful and ornamental, and they are also very subject to be blown down or decay when the forest is cut down around them. We would, therefore, strongly recommend the planting of trees on cleared farms as opportunity would serve. The country is greatly injured and disfigured by the total destruction of all trees, and in very many farms scarcely a tree has been left. Trees are extremely useful as shade to animals, and where lands are destitute of the shade which they afford, we believe that animals pastured upon them are much more liable to disease and death in our hot summers.

We also received from Mr. Simmonds, a List of Members of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and the Rules and Regulations of the Farmers and General Fire and Life Insurance

Loan and Annuity Institution of London. From the latter we make the following selection:—

**FIRE DEPARTMENT.**—The charge for insuring against fire is so small as to admit of no excuse for persons omitting to avail themselves of the protection. The party who experiences loss by fire for want of being insured, whilst it is in his power to protect Farming Stock to the amount of one thousand pounds for 17s. 6d., and of common insurance one thousand pounds for £2. 5s.—including duty—deserves no compassion. In order to carry out effectually the objects of the Legislature in repealing the duties on Farming Stock and to induce farmers generally to insure, a charge of only 1s. 3d. per cent. with the Average Clause, and 1s. 9d. without the Average Clause, is made.

The charge for Thatched Farm Buildings is only 2s. 6d. per cent., and losses by fire from lightning is made good.

We give this selection to show the great and unaccountable difference between the amount of insurance paid here and in England. Farming Stock and Buildings in this country are charged 25s. per cent., or twenty fold as much as is paid in England, and we do not think the risk so great here as in that country. In towns the risk may be greater here, in consequence of the houses covered with wood, standing close together, they may be more liable to catch fire from each other, but in the country farm buildings stand alone, and if one farmer's place should take fire, there is no danger that it will fire any other building. We would strongly urge farmers to establish such an Institution as that which the English farmers have established for Fire and Life Insurance.

We have received a work on the Growth, Qualities, and Uses of the Acacia Tree, by Wm. Withers of Norfolk, England. This book contains most useful information in reference to the Acacia, or what is better known to us as the Locust Tree. This tree grows well in Canada, and if planted and attended to according to the instructions of Mr. Withers, it might be profitably grown on almost every farm. Its growth is very rapid, and it is both a useful and ornamental tree. We recommend Mr. Withers book to any farmer who would be disposed to plant and cultivate the Acacia, or Locust Tree, or any other trees. The success of planting depends upon the manner the work is executed, the natural quality and preparation of the soil, and the subsequent pruning and management of the trees. Mr. Withers Book, and Mr. Simmonds Essay, will afford the very best information on all these points. We beg to offer our acknowledgments to the latter gentleman in particular for the favours we have received from him, and for the lively interest he manifestly feels in the improvement and prosperity of Canadian agriculture.

According to a statement which appeared in one of our last file of English papers, the price of four pound of bread made of the best wheaten flour, should be at the rate of one penny for every shilling a bushel that would be paid for wheat. Hence if a bushel of wheat sold for 5s., the flour pound loaf should be sold for 5d., and that this price should leave the baker a handsome profit. By the same rule, the 6lb. loaf of brown bread should be sold here at 7½d., when wheat is at 5s. the bushel.

NEW-YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We received an invitation to the Cattle Show and Fair of the New-York State Agricultural Society, that was held at the city of Albany on the four last days of September, and should have most gladly availed ourselves of the invitation if we had not been prevented by circumstances. We are perfectly sensible how much we would have been gratified had we been able to attend; and with or without an invitation we hope we shall be at the next Cattle Show and Fair of the New-York State Agricultural Society. Agriculturists of all countries and nations should at all times be happy to meet on the most cordial and friendly terms, and be ready to impart information on all subjects connected with the cultivation of the soil, and the breeding and management of domestic animals, for the benefit of the human race. We may be advocates for agricultural protection, but in this we only follow the example of an elder brother of the same family, who should be wiser than we are. We conceive that if he has found protection necessary for his prosperity, it must be more necessary for ourselves who are younger, and less capable of successful competition with him. These matters, however, should never interrupt the friendly relations that should always exist between the agriculturists of the United States and of Canada; and when great annual Cattle Shows take place on either side of our boundaries, that are no longer in dispute, it would be highly conducive to agricultural improvement and to the establishment of general good feeling, that the farmers of both countries should meet and discuss subjects connected with agriculture at those places, to exchange ideas, and discuss in a friendly manner all subjects connected with the improvement of agriculture. The improvement of agriculture all over the world, will have a very great influence on the welfare and happiness of the human race, and, therefore, to promote this improvement it should be an object of solicitude, with the wise and good of all countries, to connect them together by the most commendable of all ties—the desire to promote the general good.

PROTECTION.

We suppose that nothing will be done this Session of the Legislature for the protection of Canadian agriculture, except the imposition of a small duty on wheat imported into this country from the United States. We have assurances, however, that agricultural protection will be taken into consideration immediately after the commencement of the next Session of the Legislature. Perhaps it will be best that some time for reflection should be given to our new Ministry, to prepare measures for the consideration of the Provincial Parliament. Hasty legislation is not always the best, particularly in matters of this nature. The farmers of Canada will not complain if their interests are attended to in the next Session. The longer their interests will be under consideration, the more perfect they will expect the measures to be that will be adopted to forward and secure these interests. Before the next Session, there will be ample time to understand perfectly what is necessary and ex-