

we have consulted; the sympathy they have shown has given us a great encouragement in the arduous duties we have undertaken, but we know well their sympathy is not all: we want their co-operation, and they may rest assured that in us they will always find a champion of their wants and requirements.

#### VISIT TO THE FARM OF Mr. ADOLPHE STE. MARIE.

In our preceding numbers we have given an account of the plan of culture adopted in the neighbourhood of Montreal, Quebec, and Rivière du Loup. We have now visited the county of Laprairie, 9 miles from Montreal, and visited the farm of Mr. Ste. Marie, whose constant attention has been directed towards the amelioration of the actual system of agriculture. Guided by the knowledge derived from the perusal of agricultural journals, the originality displayed by Mr. Ste. Marie is deserving of all praise. For he has succeeded in showing the best results of a good system of culture, and after having obtained a small farm which was nearly worn out, he succeeded in acquiring a double quantity of land, in raising three times the amount per arpent, and paying off at the same time the price of purchase by the profits obtained from the improved system he has adopted. At the present time he has in his possession 200 arpents, which he has divided into 100 arpents of meadow, 40 arpents of pasture, 10 arpents of green crops, and 50 arpents of grain crops; this rotation has for its base the cultivation of hay, and within a circle of 18 miles from Montreal this production will always bring good profits. We have already shown, in our previous numbers, what ought to influence us, where the price of the labour is high, and the facility afforded to send on to our large cities products, the bulk of which is difficult of transport, but which establishes a species of monopoly, in favour of farmers who live in the vicinity of the large cities. Grain of all kinds can be sent from a distance to market at a price comparatively low, while hay and straw by reason of their bulk and the difficulties of carting, during our long winters and in the bad roads of autumn and spring, cannot be sent to market with the same facility, by those persons who live at any distance, while those persons in the proximity can send it to market with ease. It would be absurd for them to endeavour to raise grain in competition with farmers at a distance who are obliged to

raise this species of produce owing to the great distance from market. Beyond this it is shown by experience that the production of grain crops increases in quantity in a ratio as we put more of our land under hay, especially when the whole of this fodder is converted into manure: for thus a farm, half of which is in hay and the other half in grain, will give twice the amount of seed than when the same farm has only one fourth in meadow and the other three fourths in grain, provided that the whole of the fodder is converted on the farm into manure and applied to it. It is an axiom in agriculture which ought to be known, that the amount of the products is according to the amount manured and not to the amount sown.

In the case where the hay is sold, instead of being consumed on the farm, the influence thereof is not so much felt, but as long as the extent of the hay crop is more than half the extent of the farm we are led to believe that the production of grain will be still in proportion to the amount of fodder, for it is well known that meadow is in a great measure one of those ameliorating conditions of the land, and that the remains of the hay crop is in itself equal to a spread of manure. Here again the production of grain crops will follow in a like proportion the extent of meadow which furnishes decomposed vegetable matter.

Mr. Ste. Marie has with this view put his farm under the following rotation:—

1st year green crops.	Potatoes,.....	6 arpents.
	Indian corn,.....	2 "
	Mangel wurzel, ..	1½ "
	Carrots, .....	½ "

Extent of green crops,.....		10 arpents.
2nd year, Barley with Timothy and Clover,.....		10 "
3rd year, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th years, meadow.....		100 "
14th year, Pease,.....		10 "
15th year, Barley,.....		10 "
16th year, Oats,.....		10 "

Total extent sown,..... 160 arpents.

Thus the whole extent under culture is 160 arpents, the other 40 arpents not sown is of an inferior quality, being composed of sand principally, and very uneven, which Mr. Ste. Marie proposes to level as soon as opportunity offers. Until then he has adopted the following system: