

and of course these things would require ample means for their general establishment, which this Society did not possess. We hope it is not assuming too much, to pretend that we have advocated in this Journal many useful measures that would be of vast benefit to Agriculture and to the country generally. We may not have advocated all that would be necessary, but we hope we have not suggested any that would be prejudicial to Agriculturists or to the community. There is another circumstance, which, we trust, we may be pardoned for adverting to—that is—our anxious desire that this Journal should be strictly Canadian, and that we should maintain the character of Lower Canada as not inferior in any respect to any part of North America, so far at least, as regards her natural capabilities and advantages. When this is the fact, the improvement of all those advantages is in our own power. These propositions we have constantly maintained. Would it then be too much to presume upon the zealous support to this Journal by all true friends of our beloved country? Would it be too much to expect that it would be supported in preference to any foreign Agricultural Journal, even though it should not have equal merit in every respect. The annual subscription is not much to every farmer, even though he should not read it, and subscribe to foreign Journals for reading and information. We have ever found farmers great advocates for the encouragement of home industry. They forget this principle when they encourage foreign Agricultural periodicals in preference to Canadian. In conclusion, foreign Agricultural periodicals are generally unsuitable for French Canadian farmers without revising and translating. This would be an expense equal to that of publishing this Journal in the English and French languages. What then is to be done? We do not pretend that every Canadian farmer who can read takes this Journal; but we do say, that a considerable number take it and read it, and that it is also taken by some of the country schools.

We can also say that the number of subscribers to the French Journal is larger than to the English. If it was not published, all those who take it would be deprived of what they must consider an advantage. On what grounds of patriotism or fairness then would it be expedient to discontinue the Journal, and deprive Canadian farmers of the opportunity of taking it and reading it—granted that foreign periodicals may possess as much merit in the estimation of some parties as this Journal, yet they are not in a language nor in other respects suitable for a vast majority of the farmers of Lower Canada, and last, but not least, they are not Canadian, nor are they by any means in Canadian interests, as they are opposed to reciprocal free trade between the United States and Canada. We advocate equal opportunities and equal advantages for every class of farmers in Canada as a common right, and this they could not have were not agricultural works accessible to all in a language they understood. A regular periodical has the advantage over books, as it constantly reminds farmers of what may be done, reports new experiments and their results, and may suggest many useful hints, for every day work, that might not be so attractive to the farmer in a book. Coming at stated periods, it creates an interest and desire for information. If a farmer finds even a few lines in one number that he considers useful, he is anxious to see the next number, expecting that it might also contain something interesting. Books do not have the same effect of creating a constant interest.

There cannot be any doubt that it would be highly advantageous to this country that manufactories should be established for supplying our own wants as far as possible, and thus raising up to a certain extent a class of customers for agricultural products at our own door. This home manufacture might, at all events, be introduced, so far as this country would yield the raw products for them. It would be a double advantage to manufacture the raw products of Canada for our own use