

The PRESIDENT solicited their attention for the Sheriff.

W B Jarvis, Esquire, Sheriff of the Home District, and vice-president of the Home District Agricultural Society, rose. He was obliged to the President for the kind manner in which he had mentioned his name. They had now, for sixteen years, struggled on together in the work he loved—the promotion of agricultural studies, and whatever they might hitherto have had to dishearten them, he has now encouraged, by the very numerous attendance, to look forward with confidence to their labors having their reward—success. He recollected that their first meetings were composed of a few individuals, who felt warmly on these subjects, and, by their continued exertions, they had secured the gratifying results of this meeting. None acquainted with the state of agriculture in this province in 1830, could, for a moment, doubt the good wrought by the society's operations. The speeches that had fallen from the gentlemen who preceded him had been most gratifying; he trusted to make his so also, by making it short. He would conclude by proposing the toast, "*Immigration from the British Isles.*"

The PRESIDENT said he should call upon one not unknown to the society to return thanks; it was the gentleman to whom the gold medal had been awarded by the Home District Agricultural Society, last year, for the best essay on agriculture—Mr. Cooper.

Mr. ROBERT COOPER rose to respond. He felt highly honoured by having been requested to appear among those who were to address the company, but it was only justice to the society and himself to say, that he should not have occupied such a position, had it not been for the unavoidable absence of a learned gentleman who was to have responded to this toast—one whose eloquence would have adorned the subject. Though not a farmer, he did not, on that ground, think of declining to act as he had been requested to, for he held that none of any trade or profession should keep aloof from this association. He contended that the agricultural interest was no class interest in this province, but embraced within it all others; the advancement of agriculture and of Canada must go together—the prosperity of the farmers and of the colony were one and identical. His emigrant experience had not been so long as that of many present, but during the fifteen years he had been in Canada, he had seen one of our best districts changed from a state of wilderness to a well-cultivated producing country, and that by the exertions and hard labour of immigrants from the British Isles. He meant the district of Huron,—which was rapidly becoming, from its natural advantages, and the exertions of its sturdy inhabitants, a most important agricultural portion of the province. It was among these men that he had seen something of the practice of agriculture, and learnt to consider its importance in the growth of the country. He trusted that at future meetings, that district would be fully represented. He had lately visited his native land, and was still of opinion that for thousands of his countrymen nothing could be so advantageous as emigration to Canada. They

must emigrate, and where else could they turn, and yet be so completely at home? Under their own government—among their countrymen and kindred. It was to this colony that the British people could come, and scarcely feel that they had left the British Isles. While in England, he had witnessed the annual meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society, and at the time thought how advantageous it would be for Canada if it boasted a body formed and acting for similar good purposes. On his return he was much gratified to find that the attempt had been made, and this was the result. At that meeting he had seen much more than we could display for a long time to come, but not more than we shall in proportion to our country and means. It might be said that in Canada we were under disadvantages, in comparison to the old countries—he doubted it. Our farmers have neither ruinous rents, nor heavy poor rates to pay. They are so many, tilling their own soil, and determined to till it better, independent men, and can let who drop a penny or two without being ruined. The people who met at Newcastle were from all parts of the kingdom, and the representatives of distinct and opposite interests, but they allowed no feelings of opposition to interfere with their good purposes. There was no clashing of feeling; all joined for the purposes that brought them together, namely, to advance and improve the agriculture of the country, and disseminate useful knowledge on the subject; from the mouths of learned, scientific and practical men. It would be out of place, to speak at length on this interesting subject, as he might be tempted to do, but begged to return thanks for the toast, wishing that this colony might remain for many long years, eye for centuries! a country to which a Briton might emigrate without changing his creed or nation.

The PRESIDENT would now call on a gentleman, long known to all Canadians, and whose best exertions have ever been given to advance the interests of his country.

W. HAMILTON MERRITT, Esq., M. P. P., in obedience to the call, rose, and (addressing the President and gentlemen present) said, it afforded him much gratification that the resolution committed to his hands, was one entirely in accordance with his feelings, and which in his every act of political and social life, he had sought to carry out. He would propose, "*Great Britain and the United States. May that friendly intercourse which now subsists between the two countries be perpetuated, and may there be no rivalry between them, other than a desire to promote to the fullest extent the prosperity and welfare of the citizens and subjects of their respective countries.*" There was no man of feeling or judgment, none possessing love for his country and mankind, who would not desire to carry this out—none whose heartiest aspirations would not be breathed, that this friendly intercourse might be perpetuated. He might remind them of what fell from Sir Robert Peel, when a rupture between the countries seemed likely, "say nothing" said he, "except as to the——?" All must be proud of the courtesy and forbearance shown by British statesmen on the occasion, and who among all her Majesty's subjects, whether Imperial or Colonial, does not feel