

A man cannot be an expert ploughman in less than six or seven years, indeed it requires that time to make a man expert at the ordinary work upon a well managed farm. Persons who could not have experience upon their own small patches of land, cannot understand regular and constant work. These matters may not appear to be much considered, but they are of the utmost consequence on a well managed farm, or where it is desired to have it well managed. It is a constant torment, to have to look over and instruct every new hand that may be employed upon a farm.

Sufficient draining appears to be the principal improvement recommended at present in English Agriculture. Lord Stanley, and other landed proprietors, in their speeches to Agricultural meetings, have stated that capital judiciously applied in this way pays better than in any other, and would generally yield from five to ten per cent, and that it would be a better speculation than purchasing railroad shares. We are convinced that draining where required in Canada, would be one of the best improvements that could be adopted, and would also be a good investment of capital if our lands are to be worth cultivating. We are advocates for railroads and canals, and easy means of communications in every direction throughout the country, but in order to employ these means of easy communication, it will be necessary to raise a large produce. To cultivate and improve our lands so that they should produce abundant and excellent crops and cattle, butter and cheese, is the sure means to promote general prosperity, and for a period of nearly twenty years it has been our untiring endeavour to convince the Canadian people of this fact. There was no obligation upon us to do this, except a strong conviction (which those only who have experienced such impressions on the mind can understand) that we were bound in duty to our country, to suggest and recommend such measures as appeared to us would be for the general good. We had no other inducement, or promise of reward or even remuneration offered to us.

In a former number we submitted our opinion, that it was impossible to support Montreal in continued improvement, and prosperity, unless by the general improvement of the Province in valuable productions. A fine house, and costly furniture, however perfectly faultless both may be, will not support the inmates for a day unless there are other resources. The most valuable description of imported merchandise would be useless unless there is

a surplus produce raised here, annually created, that will afford the means of purchasing, and paying for this merchandise. It is from the profits of trade and commerce chiefly, that cities and towns can be supported, and it is only the production of our own country that can support trade and commerce. Trade and commerce cannot be carried on in a country that has not abundant productions of her own, and the success and profit will be in proportion to the amount and value of the productions created. Trade and commerce could have no existence if new productions from the earth were not constantly created. We would not offer those observations but to remind those engaged in other business and professions, that agricultural prosperity would be as much for their interest, as for those engaged in agriculture. We can tell other professions plainly that here, there is no other source from which the means for their support can be derived but from the productions of land. We conceive, therefore, when this fact is capable of demonstration, and not only this, but that all revenue must be indirectly derived from the same source, that it is most extraordinary, if not culpable, that the improvement of agriculture is not the great object of solicitude with the Government and all educated men in whatever business engaged. If agriculture was not of so much consequence we trust we have been endowed with a little more common sense, than to have given up our time and money for near twenty years to recommend it to the care and consideration of the Government, the Legislature, and to the Community generally—with very little success, we regret to state, though certainly with honesty of purpose on our part. When we find ourselves in possession of all we require, or at least a reasonable share of them, we never put ourselves to the trouble of inquiring from what source we derive these things. We generally place all the credit and comfort of having them to ourselves, and do not acknowledge that we owe them all to the labour and skill of man, applied to the cultivation of the earth, made fruitful by a wise and bountiful Creator. The production of the earth after all must be acknowledged the source of all our comforts and conveniences, however great our rank, power, or knowledge. A division of labour is best for the general advantage, but it is from the surplus productions of agriculture that those engaged in other professions and pursuits have to be supported. By the division of labour, each particular profession is able to attain a more perfect knowledge of the particular branch they study and practice, than if ev-