

ferent finish. That these remarks on the plough makers and ploughs supplying this section of the country for some time back, may not appear unfounded, it may as well be stated that many farmers have, during the last season, made great exertion to find in Kingston or the surrounding townships, a plough capable of cutting a rectangular furrow slice, nearly 6x9 or 7x10 inches, and turning the same properly over close against the preceding one at the desired angle of 45 degrees, leaving each exposed face to measure nearly the same, say six or seven inches. Something near this is insisted on at ploughing matches, and should any vender of ploughs consider himself wronged by these remarks, or deem them untrue, he will be entitled to reasonable satisfaction, as well as an increased demand for his ploughs, or his giving proof that they are fit to do the work as required. The decision of judges in awarding premiums for the best ploughs at societies' exhibitions, without any trial of the work they are capable of performing, may sometimes happen to be right, and may also often happen to be wrong; the surest test of their goodness is a trial in the ground by a competent ploughman, and a steady team; and so often as mistakes of this kind are made, injustice is done to the more deserving mechanic, the sale of the inferior article is promoted, and that of the superior is discountenanced. And this injustice is not only the bad consequence of these erroneous decisions on ploughs—they also mislead farmers to purchase the worse instead of the better implement; and have a tendency to lessen the confidence of both mechanics and farmers in the proceedings of such societies. The ordering of ploughs from a great distance, although perhaps a better alternative than to continue the use of a bad one, is by no means so safe for the farmer as a home supply, if equally good, because where the mechanical skill is wanting to make a good plough, it may also be wanting to keep in order, should it happen to meet with an accident; from this want of mechanical skill, so much felt in this neighborhood, the utility of a society may be understood, as its exertions would be more efficacious to supply the want, than would in individual efforts. It may be remarked by some that as our societies have been for many years in operation, they should before now have supplied this want; but again, how can practical farmers expect to find their wants thus supplied unless they take some pains and contribute the needful means to keep such societies in successful operation; which as is stated in the out set, they are very apathetic in doing. Let this now be remedied as soon as we can, by each farmer contributing his dollar towards the society of the township to which he belongs, and another towards the County Society. Let all attend their meetings, elect officers and directors in whom they have confidence, and under the new act of Parliament, adopt such rules and regulations as to the majority may seem best suited to promote the great object, not only of agriculture but of general improvement; not narrowly looking for an immediate cash return in premium, but liberally contributing their mite to the support of an

association, which is designed to be instrumental in disseminating a spirit of improvement.

The meeting was very attentive during the delivery of the address, and the proceedings highly satisfactory to all present. Thanks were then voted unanimously to Mr. Cameron for the pains taken by him in visiting the meeting, and for the practical character of the lecture which he had delivered, and the meeting adjourned.

J. SPIKE, President.

A. SPIKE, Secretary.

CULTIVATION OF THE GRAPE.

In the last number of the *Plough*, an interesting description is given of Dr. Underhill's vineyard, the largest in the State of New York, near Sing Sing, on the Hudson. It consists of about 30 acres; three-fourths are planted with the *Isabella*, the remainder with *Catawba*, *Alexandria*, *Norton's Seedlings* or *Lady Grape*, *Early Black* or *York Madeira*, *Croton Cluster*, &c. The Doctor, after careful and numerous experiments, has arrived at the conclusion that the *Isabella* is the only kind admitting of safe and profitable cultivation in open vineyards in the northern States. The *Catawba* is an excellent variety, but it will not properly ripen in more than one year out of three. It is stated that the Doctor's vineyard, which is favorably situated as regards the New York market, is far more profitable than if planted with the best sorts of apples and other fruit; and the cultivation, manuring, gathering and marketing of the produce are conducted on strictly systematic principles. We have seen the *Isabella* grape flourish well in open ground, in several places of Upper Canada, and recommend it to the attention of such as feel interested in possessing a good garden.

The grape naturally covets a dry, warm soil, if a loose limestone all the better;—indeed lime in some form seems essential to the grape. It is a capital practice in planting to dig deep trenches, and fill in with fresh soil, all sorts of vegetable rubbish, mixed with stones, uncrushed bones, &c. The trellis system is the neatest and best, admitting of easy culture either by the plough or hoe, and exposing the leaves and fruit to the full action of sun, light, and air—points of indispensable importance. In both spring and summer pruning, "Spare the knife and spoil the grapes," is known by all practical cultivators to be a sound aphorism. The cutting away of leaves, however, for the purpose of admitting light and heat to the fruit, should be very cautiously performed; but in order to secure bunches of large size and of the finest flavor, it is of importance to keep down the number, by the early removal of such as are too thick and inferior. Large berries can be obtained by carefully removing by the fingers, early in the season, all the smaller ones found on the same bunch.