

up in BLANK POUNDS, SHILLINGS, AND PENCE.

The present Canadian Government have had no opportunity to develop their schemes and intentions regarding the great interest of agriculture, and therefore it would be rather premature to prejudge any features of the proposed bill they intend to pass into law the approaching session of Parliament. One thing, however, may be safely done by the press, viz:—suggestions may be made; and members of Parliament may or may not act upon them, as they choose. If no action whatever be taken upon the suggestions made by that portion of the Press whose opinions are supposed by good judges to be worthy of a favorable consideration, then it will be taken for granted that a better mode has been discovered by the friends of the measure, which will be embodied in a clear and comprehensive manner in the several clauses of the bill. Trifling with this important subject or interest, as has been heretofore the case, on the part of the legislators of Canada, will no longer be tolerated by the thinking portion of the community! The matter should be taken up and acted upon at once, in a manner that will satisfy the intelligent yeomanry of the colony, that the men they have chosen to represent their interests in Parliament, are prepared to go to any reasonable length in giving substantial encouragement to agricultural improvement, whereby the cultivators of the soil may confidently rely upon being able to successfully compete in the production of breadstuffs and other agricultural products for export to the markets of the mother country, with the United States and the grain-growing countries on the European continent.

To return to the Provincial Association. The wants of this important institution must not be overlooked. A grant of at least £300 is required to liquidate its present indebtedness, and an annual appropriation in its favor of at least £500 should be made from the consolidated revenue of the Province. It is

folly to expect that the District and other local societies will longer continue to give a portion of their funds to sustain the character of this, the only really national institution in Western Canada. District Societies, however, might be prevailed upon to do as has been so nobly done by the Canada Company, in awarding a large special premium for the encouragement of some specific object; and thus each district would receive any additional credit that might belong to the various respective portions of the exhibition, in the same manner that is due to the Canada Company, from the extra interest that is given to the show of wheat, through the influence of their large bounty. Patriotic individuals also may, when the objects of the institution become well understood by the great bulk of the people, be induced to award large premiums at the meetings of the Association, for such objects as may, in their judgement, require extra encouragement. The Governor-General's prize will also doubtless in future years accompany the premium list, and be ample to secure some improvement in agriculture, mechanics, or the arts. But although these marks of favor may, and doubtless will be meted out to the Association, together with a liberal patronage from a very large and respectable portion of the Canadian population, still it does not follow that a liberal annuity is not required from Government to aid the directors and managers of the Institution in accomplishing the great and patriotic end for which it has been established. With a liberal grant in its favor, public confidence will greatly be strengthened, and consequently a corresponding increase of revenue may be annually expected from subscriptions, receipts at gates, and other local means of raising funds, so that for the purposes of premiums, local expenses and a liberal salary to its secretary, the Association may be made, for the foregoing objects, entirely self-sustaining. The annual grant would there-