

the true mode of making them loyal, contented, and happy. The laws we most require are such as will judiciously provide for instructing and encouraging the people in all that may be useful and profitable to them. It is unjust to accuse the Canadian farmers of French origin, with being opposed to the introduction of an improved system of husbandry until we have done all that is possible to instruct and encourage them to do so. They were very much opposed to the law regulating the construction of winter carriages, (a law which we most strenuously advocated, believing that it would prove a good law) and now the Canadian farmers are generally as much in favour of double sleighs as the old country farmers, except on roads back in the country where the law does not provide that they should be made sufficiently wide. They were also opposed to turnpike tolls, but we are satisfied, they would now wish them to be generally introduced on equitable principles. In the British Isles, it is found necessary to circulate Agricultural Journals, and use all other possible means to encourage and instruct farmers in the art of husbandry; in fact, in the mother countries, farming is made an honorable, and hence a fashionable profession,—here, on the contrary, agriculture is left to itself, and no means adopted to encourage and instruct, and the profession appears to be regarded with contempt, and undeserving any attention, by the best educated classes. We took upon ourselves to supply, in the best manner we were capable, a part of what was wanted, a Journal in the French language, solely devoted to Agriculture, which we distributed to every parish in eastern Canada. It was not our own opinions altogether which we circulated, but the best information on Agricultural improvement, upon authority that could not be questioned; and we now appeal to what we have published, whether it was calculated to be useful or not. We would further observe, that our Journal was constantly offered to any farmer better informed than ourselves, who might have been disposed to convey useful instruction or information to his brother farmers. We only endeavoured to fill up, in the best manner we could, the space in our columns that was offered to others, without any charge, who might be desirous to promote the improvement of the country. We would not have published in English had we been sufficiently acquainted with the French to publish directly in that language, because it was the farmers of French origin whom we thought most required instruction. We are not anxious to be the only medium of conveying instruction in the art of Agriculture to those who require it; we only wish that it should be conveyed through some channel that would be successful. The whole matter is now before the public, and we have no doubt they will decide correctly whether or not we have constantly endeavoured to excite an interest for Agricultural improvement, and have advocated the protection and encouragement of Canadian Agriculture as forcibly as we could. We did not expect by this course to obtain any particular advantages for ourselves that would not be participated in by others, nor did we dread that by augmenting production generally the value of our own produce would be diminished. Our aim was, that the produce of Agriculture should be increased as much as possible, and that the capital, skill, and industry of our farmers should have reasonable protection from foreign competition, and to public opinion we again refer how far we were able to forward these objects by our publications. We regret we did not succeed as we expected, but the fault was not with us, but with those who withheld their countenance and support when they might have given both with a certainty of success. We petitioned the Legislature for an aid to enable us to do what no other individual has attempted here; and considering that this country is altogether dependant upon her agriculture, and nine-tenths of our Representatives elected by the agricultural class, we did not anticipate the slightest opposition from any quarter to the prayer of our petition. Had objections been made upon the principle of want of merit in our publications, and their unfitness to produce the benefit which we proposed by their extensive circulation, we should make no complaint, only regret our presumption in undertaking a task we were not equal to. Under all the circumstances we cannot help coming to the conclusion, that the great majority of the House of Assembly do not think that there is any necessity to offer any instruction or encouragement to promote the improvement of Canadian Agriculture; and we feel this as a sentence of condemnation on all we have ever done to promote the interest of the class to which we belong, and our time and money actually thrown away. The objection that may be offered, that our Journal does not contain so much of useful and practical information as it might do, can easily be mended by those who have skill in agriculture, and really wish to see the country generally improving and prosperous. Our paper is also offered to the Agricultural Societies who have any information to offer that would have a tendency to advance the interests of agriculture,—and this is the chief u