

be able to make a profitable use of the grand water communications we shall soon have, and for the money expended upon which we have become accountable. It is much better that we shall have our own productions to transport upon these waters, than depend upon the carrying trade of foreign productions to pay the interest and capital that will be expended. We have no objection to the carrying trade, but we would regret that we should be altogether depending upon what is subject, at any time, to interruption. If the canals and railroads are not fully employed, the interest of the money expended will become a charge on the Provincial revenue, and it is to prevent this that we would strenuously urge the necessity of attention to the improvement of our country and resources as our first duty. If any better means for securing the prosperity of the population of Canada can be devised, we shall rejoice at it. Whatever is possible to be done, ought to be done, that we may be able to repay the large amount that has been loaned to us by the mother country, so that should we require another loan we may be able to obtain it. It will also be an encouragement to the investment of capital in Canada if we can prove it to be safe to do so. Much has been done for us by the mother country, and it now behoves us to do something for ourselves, possessed as we are of one of the finest countries on earth. To forward these objects, we humbly conceive, is not unworthy the attention of the government and legislature. At all events, we are certain, that if they could be accomplished, it would be conferring a greater general benefit upon the people than would be possible by any other means that could be devised. We submit the subject for consideration, and can do no more; and we have no object in doing this, but that the improvement and prosperity of Canada may be promoted and secured.

In our last we alluded to the New Municipal Law, and the benefits it was capable of producing, by acting judiciously under its provisions. We regret, however, that our experience of the working of that law has not confirmed the favourable opinion we first entertained of it. Were the law better understood, no doubt it would work more for the good of the public; but no sooner were Parish, Township, or Municipal Councils formed, than attempts were made to break them up into several small Municipal-

ities, so that every little village must have a Mayor, Council, and other officers of their own, which must incur considerable expenses, and would require all the Tavern Licenses, and much more, to pay them. Hence, revenues that might be applied most beneficially for the people, for the support of schools in particular, will be appropriated to the payment of officers and other expenses that would be unnecessary if each Parish, Township, and Municipality, would rest contented with one Mayor and Council, which we conceive would, in most cases, be amply sufficient for all useful purposes. We regret exceedingly that the people would not allow the law to have a fair trial before they would attempt to divide it into small parties, that never can do the same good as if acting together. It would also be desirable that no expenses, except such as were unavoidable, would be incurred, until the people would be more reconciled to assessment, and be convinced of the utility of it for local purposes. When they perceive, on the contrary, that numerous officers are imposed upon them who have to be paid, and who can render very trifling service in return, the people will be dissatisfied with the law, and the amount of good to be expected from it, under such circumstances, will not be much, and will not be very likely to help to reconcile our population to paying assessment. The benefit derived from assessment must be made clearly manifest before the people of Canada will be friendly to the payment of it. It is very well to have officers, paid and unpaid, provided they can render proportionate service for the honour and emolument they receive, but without this, the fewer we have in Canada the better it will be for us, particularly the paid portion of them.

We conceive that a council, chosen from a parish or township at large, would be much more likely to act for the general good than several chosen for several sections of a parish or township, who will feel interested only for these separate sections, and probably will not be persuaded that the general interest can be consistent with the particular interest of each separated section. We would not allude to this subject, only that we think it is one very interesting to the agricultural population of Canada.

#### AGRICULTURE IN CHINA.

By our intercourse with China, we discover