

# THE BRITISH AMERICAN



# CULTIVATOR.

"AGRICULTURE NOT ONLY GIVES RICHES TO A NATION, BUT THE ONLY RICHES SHE CAN CALL HER OWN."—*Dr. Johnson.*

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## THE CULTIVATOR.

"Agriculture is the great art which every government ought to protect, every proprietor of lands to practice, and every inquirer into nature improve."—*Dr. Johnson.*

TORONTO, MAY, 1843.

### TO OUR PATRONS.

SINCE the issue of the April number, we have come to the conclusion to resume the management of a very extensive farm, which is situated in the township of Whitchurch, in the neighbourhood of Newmarket, being about twenty-seven miles north of this city;—a course we have been led to pursue from the inadequacy of the patronage we have received at the hands of the Canadian farmers.

We feel no regret in exchanging a city, for a country life; on the contrary, we feel a pleasure in anticipating the prospect before us, in having an ample opportunity of testing many of the experiments we have recommended, especially the introduction of Hemp and Flax culture, in connexion with the Dairy business. In recommending improvements in agriculture, we trust we shall be guided by the invariable rule of first practising what we recommend to others, and secondly, only recommend such as are calculated to remunerate the producer. If this rule had been carried out by the many who have written on the subject of agriculture, the result would have been that valuable im-

provements in husbandry would have advanced with rapid strides, and the darkness which every where pervades this too much neglected, though respectable profession would have long since vanished from our land.

We know too well that a lamentable apathy exists, on the subject of improvements or change being effected in the agriculture of the Province, and notwithstanding, much has been said and written on the subject, yet the advancements made towards perfection are so slow, that they are scarcely perceptible in some of the oldest Districts of the Province. No one residing in the Home District would scarcely imagine that hundreds of farmers in the oldest settled townships on the Bay of Quinte, are still in the use of the one-handed, or bull-plough, and that it requires one man and two stout boys to manage a single plough,—the one to hold, and the other to drive the horses, and a third to turn the sward!!

The real object of a journal like ours is to have a cheap and familiar channel of communication for the farmers of every section of the Province, by which each may have the experience and wisdom of the best educated of his class, brought home to his own fireside in as free and communicative a style as though he was in actual converse with his neighbour. That our journal should be such a medium of communication, none would pretend to deny, but that it has heretofore failed in being such, all who have read it must acknowledge, and the reasons for such neglect on the part of the public is rather unaccountable, as full and pressing solicitations have been frequently made for all to favour us with their views and experience on this subject. We take this opportunity

of further pressing this matter, and urge upon each of our patrons the necessity of doing something to advance the prosperity of their calling. Nothing shall be left undone on our part to make the agriculture of this Province respectable, and, while engaged in the management of our farm, our constant study shall be to do every thing consistent in our power which will have for its end the welfare and interest of our brother farmers. Under these considerations, we appeal to the good sense of the intelligent farmers of British America, and urge at their hands a support which will at once place their medium of communication, and in fact the champion of their battles, in such a strong and enviable position, that every opposition, both as regards the ignorance of the people, and the FINANCIAL EMBARRASMENTS, to which we have been constantly subjected since the connexion we have formed with their *organ*, may melt as wax before the sun.

The distance which our farm lies from the city, and the close attention which we will necessarily have to devote to the practical branches of farming, will preclude the possibility of our journal reaching the destination of its different routes at such regular periods as it otherwise would; but we promise that a number shall be issued monthly, and that it shall be continued, at least, until the end of the present year.

For the character of the Colony, for the welfare of the class whose interests we advocate, and for the prosperity of thousands yet unborn, we respectfully appeal to the good sense of every intelligent man in the Province, for a support at least equivalent to the actual expenses incurred in the publication.

The June number will not be issued much before the first of July.