

above extract from the Message of President Taylor; but, as good counsels are apt to be soon forgotten, I take the liberty of again calling their attention to the same important topic.

The so-called doctrine of annexation recently promulgated, has naturally directed our attention to the sayings and doings—be they for good or for evil—of our Republican neighbours. These words of the chief magistrate of the great Republic, merit the most serious attention of every man having the real interests of his country sincerely at heart.

Agriculture, so important a branch of American industry, has not hitherto been directly represented in any of the principal government departments; hence, the President recommends the utility of immediately establishing an Agricultural Bureau. Nothing impedes the "Annexation" of Canada to so useful a reform, and certain I am that every true friend of Canada will cheerfully "annex" and co-operate in carrying it out. In the true sense of the term, Canada is even a more agricultural country than the United States. Why, then, should not agriculture have its representative in our great public departments?

We have Attorneys General, Solicitors General, a Receiver General, an Inspector General, Adjutant General, Commissioners of Public Works and Crown Lands; and why should we not have an Agricultural Minister?

Are judicial formulas, Public Works, Crown Lands, or Militia Statistics, of higher consideration, of greater importance to the inhabitants of Canada, than the interests of agriculture? This is a hypothesis which none, I presume, will venture to advance.

Have not Prussia, France and Belgium their Agricultural Ministers?

Perhaps it may be alleged, that our administrative machinery is already sufficiently cumbersome and complicated without the inconvenience of an additional cog. But I should reply, that we can easily have an Agricultural Minister without either complexity or inconvenience—whose office may be in connexion with or attached to that of the Public Works or Crown Lands.

To discharge its duties properly, and in a

manner commensurate with so momentous an institution, this office would be no sinecure.

To prepare agricultural statistics, to encourage the establishment of model-farms and agricultural societies in every county, to receive annual reports and embody the same in one general report to be submitted to the Legislature, to foster and promote home manufactures—so far as to fabricate for our own markets articles, the produce of the soil, viz: Iron, Glass, Paper, Flax, Wool, Leather, &c., which are now sold—in a raw state—to foreign manufacturers by whom they are returned to us when prepared for use, and disposed of at an immense profit—to advocate the home manufacture of these productions by calling on the administration for sufficient protection in the regulations of the tariff. Such are the points to which the attention of the new minister would necessarily be directed.

The establishment of such a Bureau would, furthermore, have a moral effect on the mind of the cultivator; his interests being directly represented in high quarters, he would naturally entertain a more exalted idea of his position in society, and consequently become more attached to his condition of agriculturist. The young man, on quitting school or college, would not then despise the parental plough; nor would he barter his inheritance for the taylor's spigot, or the mercer's yard-stick. He would not then abandon his aged parents, to immure himself behind the counter in some of our commercial cities—to the risk of his time, his health, his repose—and what is infinitely more valuable.

A. B. C.

March 27th, 1850.

We have constantly advocated the expediency of improving a native breed of neat cattle, rather than introducing a new breed altogether, whose suitableness to every situation and circumstance had not been proved. The present breed of Ayrshire cattle are in very good repute as regards their suitableness for the dairy, and we have heard of a cow of that breed, not supposed to weigh over 400 lbs. sold for £50, and obtaining a first prize at a cattle show, in the class of milch cows. The native breed of