

tary relative to the reports which were printed from the minor societies. The produce of an acre, in some of these, was rated so extravagantly high as to exceed all belief. Such improbable accounts had a tendency to mar the ends of the institution, and make the world suspect that they were printed only to deceive. When these reports go abroad, mankind must either think them a species of quackery or deception; or else that Nova-Scotia is one of the most fertile spots, upon which the sun shone and the dew and rains descended.

Further it was his opinion that all the country societies should exact from every candidate the course of tillage by which the premiums were won. By thus compelling every one to tell how the work was done; others would be instructed and follow the example. The money should never be paid till all the circumstances connected with the method of cultivation were detailed for the general benefit.

Of the leading feature of the scheme he highly approved. Nothing was so necessary for us now, as to encourage the growth of wheat; and the premiums were very happily and wisely contrived to answer this purpose. It was his opinion, however, that the number of bushels for which the general prizes were to be bestowed ought to be fixed on a larger scale; and that the highest successful quantity should be quoted at 500, and the lowest 200 bushels.

But while he gave his hearty concurrence to the wheat premiums he as heartily condemned those for Indian corn. He saw a great variety of objections to this culture; although he was disposed to allow every man to follow his own taste. First of all, these premiums could not be general and were therefore not useful; for there were only a few counties that could contend for them. He felt inclined to substitute pease in room of Indian corn, as being a much preferable crop. Corn, it is true, was very fashionable in America; because their sterile and burnt nplands were fit for nothing else; and if we would confine the culture to the sandy plains of Aylsford, there could be much less said against the scheme. But by giving £50 to induce our farmers to plant Indian corn, we were just encouraging them to do the very thing, which in reality should be discountenanced. Pease improve the soil on which they grow, by rendering it black and mellow; whereas Indian