

Farmer's sons are generally kept at some useful employment or at school, and should they have a disposition for crime the temptations are not so frequent.

The sobriety of the father, the economy of the mother, the devoted labour of the son, the chastity of the daughter, these, these are the fruits of glorious agriculture. Our mental acquirements are obtained by action, and those who are shut up in their studies from month to month and almost excluded from the pure air which is so necessary to life, cannot succeed in any great object as well as he whose occupation is often in the open field, where the face of nature is arrayed in beauty and splendour. In the cultivation of the soil he sees many objects calculated to increase the understanding and expand the mind. Labour in the open air operates favourably in promoting health, and is an auxiliary to vigor and strength of body. Tenth,

IT IS THE MOST INDEPENDENT AND USEFUL PURSUIT.

That pursuit which gives the greatest amount of enjoyment together with the ease with which it is attended, to make it profitable and a means of preserving health, should be acknowledged to be the best adapted to the pursuits of life, and it is generally admitted that agriculture embraces all the advantages above enumerated.

Who possesses as great an amount of the solid comforts of life as the farmer? No fears of broken banks or failures in business disturb his mind, he fears not the change of foreign or domestic markets: while the merchant or manufacturer may be ruined in the reward of his labor, and the mechanic may be essentially injured by the failure of those manufacturing or commercial interests on which his whole livelihood depends. The farmer has nothing to fear from such a source, his capital is invested in that which is more permanent, in the solid earth; he draws on a fund which seldom fails to pay his just demands, providing he is industrious and economical, though his profits may be lessened by the failure of crops and other causes, yet they will never be wholly suspended, for he remembers the promises made that seed time and harvest should continue.

Although all farmers are not equally prosperous, it must not be inferred that agriculture should be lessened in public estimation. If a person does not succeed well in this pursuit it is generally owing to himself.

It is a rare occurrence to see an intelligent, industrious farmer, who tills the soil wholly for a livelihood, who is not only in good circumstances but gaining in property. There is no profession or trade but what at certain times is not as encouraging as at others, but the least so with the

farmer. He has the means of living within himself in a greater degree than any other class of the community, as he wants fewer articles from other sources, and in such proportion is the more independent. It is to the farmer all other classes look for their bread. Upon this depends every other pursuit; it is the mainspring of every nation and gives character to any country. It is confined to no party and benefits the whole human race. Although the merchant, manufacturer, and mechanic are necessary in their several occupations and callings to complete the order of nature, yet the farmer stands high over all these, he is lord of the soil, he can look to his grain loaded with its golden burden, and his orchard bending with fruit, and exclaim, these are mine, the result of my labour and care, a degree of satisfaction is enjoyed by him which the professional man seldom knows.

In conclusion I would say I hope soon to see Agricultural Schools established in suitable places, where physical exercise may be united with mental culture, where farmer's sons may gain a knowledge of the various soils which produce the means of subsistence, for if we expect the rising generation who are destined to be agriculturists to acquire a thorough knowledge of practical agriculture, the best plan ought to be devised in that which is most applicable for agricultural practice.

May our Agricultural Societies, yearly exhibitions and premiums awarded, all tend to call forth talent and invite industry, and give us renewed courage to persevere in so honourable a cause, and may it be said that the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville have not been outdone in other parts of the world, in agricultural improvements, thus elevating our position as farmers, and becoming what is within our power to be, an intelligent, wealthy, and free people.

SINGULAR PHENOMENA.—A very curious incident took place in the vicinity of Lyons, France, which is worth being noticed. A regiment of lancers were returning to their barracks during the rain, when the Colonel, looking at his soldiers, remarked, amidst the fog, that all the faces of his men were surmounted with a light of a blue color. It was electricity, and an immense danger threatened the whole regiment, when, with remarkable presence of mind, he suddenly ordered all his soldiers to point their lances in the ground, and immediately, as if by enchantment, a terrible detonation took place—the electric fluid had disappeared into the ground. Fortunately, the wood of the handle was not a conductor of electricity.

Promises made in time of affliction require a better memory than people commonly possess when they reach prosperity.

Slanderers are like flies that leap over all a man's good parts, to light upon his sores.