

present Farmers' Alliance movement is responsible for some vagaries through the influence of unscrupulous political aspirants and on account of untrained judgment in public affairs, but whether its greatest ends are accomplished or not it has at least given to the farmers a political and social importance they never possessed before and of which they should be proud. The farm home is the one most sacredly bound to the fundamental ideas of liberty. Just as health

is most vigorous and life is most prolonged in rural America, so patriotism is more deeply rooted and more enduring in the homes of several generations than in the ever changing abodes of the metropolis. There never has been a time in the history of the nation when the farmer could be so justly proud of his estates as at present, nor when he could do so much for his sons, his daughters and his country.—*The Kansas City Times.*

THE VALUE OF ACCURACY.

IN a general sense every one knows the value of accuracy, but men have very different ideas of what constitutes accuracy. One mechanic will be satisfied with a fit which another will not pass. Engineering instruments that were prized one hundred years ago for their accuracy would not be tolerated to-day. Even in ordinary machine shops a degree of accuracy is insisted upon to-day in common constructions that was scarcely attainable, in a commercial sense at least, at a period within the memory of living workmen. There has not been as much advance in the arts as in mechanical work; indeed, the ancient sculptors reproduced the human form with such a degree of accuracy that their products are still the wonder and admiration of the world. Fragments of these statues impress one by their truth even more than the finished works of modern sculptors, and every one recognizes that it is because not only of their grace, but of their exactness. It does not require an art education to appreciate the difference between accuracy and a near approach to it either in statuary or in portraiture. Even bad portraits are usually sufficiently like the

original to enable one to recognize the subject; another, more accurate in its representation of form, is a better likeness, but it is only the rare portrait known as a "speaking likeness" that is exact. The difference between such a portrait and one that in the absence of a better might be acceptable is sometimes so slight that it could not be measured, yet that difference in degree of accuracy seems to measure the difference between great talent and genius. Accuracy in speaking or in writing is also a most valuable quality. Ideas are to be represented in words, and only the great masters of the art make a near approach to accuracy. Yet it is most desirable that men should be able to convey to others exactly what they mean. This is most strongly felt in business because mistakes entail losses that are sometimes very heavy, and the limited vocabulary required for the transaction of ordinary business enables men to attain a degree of accuracy in this field that saves them from misunderstandings. And just as the salesman or correspondent attains skill in giving exact expression to his thoughts, desires or orders he is valued in his calling because he is