

MARKHAM'S FAREWELL TO HUSBANDRY.

We give below two or three extracts from an old book call'd *Markham's Farewell to Husbandry*. The part of the work from which we quote treats of the orchard and garden, and is printed in the old English black letter. The first extract we make is of the "distance of trees," and the second, from the poetry of the work, in relation to the honey bee.

DISTANCE OF TREES.

I know not to what end you should provide good ground, well fenced, and plant good sets; and when your trees should come to profit, have all your labours lost, for want of due regard to the distance of placing your trees. I have seen many trees stand so thicke, that one could not thrive for the throng of his neighbours. If you doe make it, you shall see the tops of trees rubb off, their sides galled like a galled horse's backe, and many trees have more stump than boughs, and most trees no well thriving, but short, stumpeish, and evil thriving boughs: like a corne field over-fedded, or a towne over-peopled, or a pasture over-laid, which the gardiner must either let grow, or leave the tree very few boughs to beare fruit. Hence small thrills, galls, wounds, diseases, and short life to the trees: and while they live greene, little, hard, worme-eaten, and evil thriving fruit arise, to the discomfort of the owners.

To prevent which discommoditie, one of the best remedies is, the sufficient and fit distance of trees. Therefore at the setting of your plants you must have such a respee, that the distance of them be such that every tree be not annoiance, but an helpe to his fellows: for trees (as all other things of the same kinde) should shrowd, and not hurt one another. And assure your selfe that every touch of trees (as well under as above the earthe) is hurtfull. Therefore this must be a general rule in this art: That no tree in an Orchard well ordered, nor bough, nor Cyon, drop upon, or touch his fellowes. Let no man thinke this impossible, but looke into eleventh chapter of dressing of trees. If they touch, the winds will cause a forcible rub. Young twigs are tender, if boughs or armes touch and rub, if they are strong, they make great galls. No kinde of touch therefore in trees can be good.

COMMONWEALTH OF BEES.

When I had view'd this Common wealth of Bees,
Observ'd their Lines, their Art, and their Degrees:
As; how, beside their painefull Vulgar ones,
They haue their Prince, their Capitaines, and their Drones:

How they Agree; how temp'rately they Feed;
How curiously they Build; how chastly Breed;
How seriously their Busnesse they intend;
How stoutly they their Common-good defend;
How timely their Prouision are provided;
How orderly their Labors are diuided;
What Vertues patterns, and what grounds of Art,
What Pleasures, and what Profits they impart:
When these, with all those other things I munde
Which in this Booke, concerning Bees, I finde:
Me thinks, there is not h-lfe that worth in Mee,
Which I haue apprehended in a Bee,
And that the Pismere, and these Honey-flies,
Instruct vs better to Philo-sophize,
Than all those tedious Volumes, which, as yet,
Are leaft vnto vs by mere Humane-wit.
For, whereas those but only Rules doe giue:
These by Examples teach vs how to liue.

FARMING.

If one half the zeal energy and expense that blots so many gazettes with low and coarse abuse, setting the whole community by the ears for the vain and paltry purpose of a few demagogues and office-seekers, were bestowed on the advancement of agriculture; if the people were half as ambitious to improve and beautify their fields, as they are to settle the affairs of the nation; and half as angry with thistles, thorns and poor fences, as they are with their political opponents, who probably wish as well to the country as they, we should have more productive fields, less complaints of poverty, more ability to be charitable and munificent, and abundantly more good feelings. From Pittsburg to New Orleans the son plows as his father did before him, and the great mass of farmers are as stationary in theory as they are in practice. Nine in ten believe at this moment, that book farming is the mere useless, visionary dreaming of men that know nothing about practical agriculture.

We would tell them that England is the garden of Europe simply because almost every acre of the ground is cultivated scientifically and on principles which have been brought to the test of the most rigid and exact experiment. We would tell them that New England, of whose soil and climate they are accustomed to think as consigned, by Providence, to sterility and inclemency, is the garden of the United States, only because the industrious and calculating people do not throw away their efforts in the exertion of mere brute strength—but bring, mind, brain, system and experience to bear upon their naturally hard and thankless soil.

On every side the passing traveller sees verdure, grass and orchards in the small and frequent enclosures of imperishable rock, and remarks fertility won from the opposition of the elements and nature. After an absence of ten years, on our return to our country, we were struck with this proud and noble triumph conspicuous over the whole region.

The real benefactors of mankind, as St. Pierre so beautifully said, are those who cause two blades of wheat to mature where one did before. The fields ought to be the morning and evening theme of Americans that love their country. To fertilize and improve his farm, ought to be the main object of the owner of the substantial soil. All national aggrandizement, power and wealth may be traced to agriculture, as its ultimate source. Commerce and manufactures are only subordinate results of this main spring.

We consider agriculture as very subsidiary not only to abundance, industry, comfort and health, but to good morals and ultimately even to religion. We shall always say and sing, "Speed the plow."—*Rev. T. Flint.*

BEAUTY—HOW OBTAINED AND HOW PRESERVED—
The true foundation of beauty in woman is exercise in the fresh air. No cosmetic is equal to this. English ladies of rank are celebrated all over the world, for their splendid persons and their brilliant complexions; and they are proverbial for their attention to walking and riding. The sallow cheeks, stooping figures, susceptibility to cold, and almost constant ill-health, which prevail among the American wives generally, are to be attributed almost entirely to their sedentary life. A woman can no more become beautiful, or remain so without healthful exercise in the open air, than a plant can thrive without light.