

SUCCESS OF THE FARMER.

The success of the farmer is in proportion to the amount of knowledge he brings to bear upon his profession, and not on the strong hands or capital employed, nor any other exterior advantage. Like most other undertakings, it depends on the *mind* of the man. The hands are the instruments by which the plough is guided, or a scythe or fork is wielded, and strong ones are necessary for the work; but they are only the instruments of the controlling intellect which plans, devises, arranges and controls the whole. Dolt do not make the best farmers, but the men who think are they who will succeed here just as they will anywhere else.

If this be true, we can see at a glance where improvement in agriculture is to commence. The farmer is required to be a thinking man, and he is the *best* farmer who brings the *best trained intellect* to the work—the soundest logic, the best judgment, and the purest heart. It is true that men acquire considerable skill in most pursuits by mere repetition of their processes; by habit a farmer may go through the yearly routine of sowing a crop, reaping and harvesting the same, just as his father had done, without ever thinking of the reasons which should decide his course. A certain degree of success will often attend such farming, but let any thing new occur to break in upon his habit or routine of things, and our imitator is at his wit's end at the first corner. *Mere instinct* never invented any thing new, but it may repeat old processes skillfully.

The farmer is styled the "Lord of the Soil," and certainly the appellation pertains to him, if he has the ability to appreciate the high station. This ability is the result of knowledge. This knowledge, too, enables him to unite science and art, which is necessary to constitute a good farmer. This union must be derived from book-learning, which, by too many, has been considered wholly superfluous and its teachings distasteful. What other art or science is supposed to be attainable in any considerable degree without reading or study? Why should the farmer alone rely on intuition, on instinct for his improvement, and be directed in his employment by habit? Why should he consider himself nothing more than the *head tool* of his implements and but the main-spring of their movements, while the mechanic and the artisan, by their science, seem to infuse intellect into them.

If knowledge be necessary in any occupation, it is preëminently so in that of the farmer. The mechanic has no call to investigate the elements which are the basis of the material of his handicraft. His stock is before him, and his tool, guided by the unerring hand and practical eye of professional skill, gives form and finish to his work. Not so with the business of the farmer; he may as readily learn its mechanical parts, but he has problems to solve and mysteries to investigate. He should be familiar with the component parts of the substance on which he bestows his labor—their relative proportions, their affinities, their separate and compound agencies, and the influence of other bodies in their adaptation to the results he is laboring to obtain. In short, he must know the necessary and intimate connection between cause and effect.

I have said that the profession of agriculture requires more study than that of the artisan. If this be true, it is fortunate for the farmer that he can command more time for its acquisition. Winter is comparatively, and to him more peculiarly, a season of leisure. Those who do not possess books on this subject, can readily borrow them. But a farmer is the last person who should live by borrowing. Let me recommend a better course. Let an agricultural library be established by an association in the town, consisting of a select number of standard works upon this subject, with the lighter productions and periodicals of the day. General knowledge, independent of mental enjoyment, is important in all occupations—not only as it may direct the hand, but as it calls into exercise other energies conducive to the common good.—H. G. EASTMAN, *Rural New-Yorker*.

ONE acre of
afterwards, will

HOW TO ENL
ing judiciously
Take, for insta
say half a doz
Sow it the next
following year,
will by this tim
and by these m
ent, have no co

FRUIT TREES
early in April i
a too luxurian
Pruning them
of the leaves, s
mation of fruit
is to the forma
the circulation
fulness until t
be trained and

There is alw
year when ro
work," which i

A GOOD CUS
other fruit, in
woods and roa
country. Can

"SCIENTIFIC
raise are made
will supply the

STRENGTH OF
that a horse, d
work for eight
quadrupled, h
measure a hor

TO FATTEN
of Indian mea