

TREES.—If now, in regard to any given tree, or kind of tree, it be asked, "How long does it naturally live?" the proper answer will be (contrary, however, to the common belief), that there is no set limit to the age it may attain, or the number of years it may live, and no actual limit other than that resulting from purely accidental or extraneous causes; because, according to the theory now advanced as to the nature of trees, there is no natural limit to the annual propagation from buds of the individual plants composing the tree. According to this view, the observation of Richard, to wit, that the cedars of Lebanon appears to be "indestructible," is perfectly intelligible, involves no violation of the principle that all living beings are subject to the law and the dominion of death, and is applicable, besides, to all trees. And if it be asked, in respect of any given tree, "What is the size to which it naturally grows?" the proper answer will be (contrary, again, to the popular belief,) that there is no determinate limit thereto, and no actual limit, except from such extrinsic causes as may prevent the formation of buds, or the evolution from them of new plants. If, however, the like questions be asked, not in respect of individual trees, but of individual tree plants (as these may well be called), of the oak, the elm, the fir, viewed simply as plants, and independently of their parasitic relations to others of their particular species and community, very different answers must be returned. The answer to the first question will be, that they live, one and all of them, only a single year; and that, as regards their longevity, they stand on precisely the same footing with confessedly annual plants. And in answer to the second question, it may always suffice to observe, that as they all attain their maturity within the year, so the natural size of any of them may be accurately determined by observation of the seedling plants of its kind in the forester's nursery, or of the yearly shoots issuing from the buds of any healthy tree of its kind; and, in general terms, that while subject to some variety, it does not in any species exceed a few inches, or at the utmost a very few feet, in length.—*Alexander Harvey.*

AGRICULTURAL ODE.

BY WM. C. BRYANT.

Far back in ages
 The plow with wreaths was crowned,
 The hand of kings and sages
 Entwined the chaplet round,
 Till men of spoil
 Disdained the toil
 By which the world was nourished,
 And blood and pillage were the soil
 In which their laurels flourished;
 Now the world her fault despairs—
 The guilt that stains her story,
 And weeps her crimes amid the cares
 That formed her earliest glory.

The throne shall crumble,
 The diadem shall wane,
 The tribes of earth shall humble
 The pride of those who reign,
 And war shall lay
 His pomp away;
 The fame that heroes cherish,
 The glory earned is deadly fray
 Shall fade, decay and perish.
 Honor waits o'er all the earth,
 Through endless generations—
 The art that calls the harvest forth,
 And feeds the expectant nations.

Mr. John Spencer, of Whitby, whose South Downs was so much admired at the Cobourg Fair, informs us that he has just received from England a supply of the latest improved breeds of Hampshire Down Sheep, selected with much care and expense by his son in England. They were purchased from the celebrated flock of William Taunton, Esq., who has gained many First Prizes at the Meetings of the Hampshire Agricultural Society, for five or six years past, and who offers to show 200 Hampshire Down Lambs, against any in England.

NOTICE.—We will send, during this month, accounts to the various Agricultural Societies who are indebted to us, and we hope they will meet with a ready response. The Government Grant has been paid to most of the County Societies; and there can be now no excuse for delay in liquidating the debts of the Societies. We have to pay cash for our paper and printing, and trust that our friends will see the necessity of promptly paying their accounts.

ERRATA.—We regretted to observe several typographical errors in the communication of the Hon. A. Ferguson published in our last. It was not seen by the Editor, and the writing of the hon. gentleman being a little affected by his age, the mistake was not detected by the proof-reader. The Kyloe breed of Cattle is, throughout, called *Kylos*, which those acquainted with the subject will at once see is an error of the press. The other mistakes are less important.