

First Principles of Agriculture.

CHAPTER I.

Definitions and Explanations.

1. Different kinds of Bodies.—As we look about us in the world, we see many different kinds of substances, or bodies, as we often call them. Some are hard and others soft; some light, others heavy, and so on. Take, for example, a piece of stone. It differs very much from water; and water is not at all like air. In fact you cannot find two bodies that are exactly alike. Some, however, resemble others in many ways.

2. Solids.—Bread, wood, and stone are examples of what we call solid bodies; and they are so called, because they remain in the same form or shape without being held together by bottles, pails, or other things outside of themselves. All such bodies are spoken of as *solids*, even though they differ from one another in color, weight, and other properties.

3. Liquids.—Water, as we have said, is quite different from bread, wood, and stone. It yields readily when you touch it; and it does not remain in the same form, but flows or runs off in different directions, unless it is held together by something outside of itself; such, for example, as a pail, a pitcher, or the banks of a river. Milk is like water in this respect. It also has a tendency to flow in different directions.

Substances which resemble milk and water in their general properties are called liquid bodies, or simply *liquids*.

4. Gases.—Air, again, is very different from solid bodies,