

The young Von Berg, who already saw himself threatened with starvation, remembered that he knew perfectly the art of making shoe-nails. He offered to supply the shoemakers of the village with as large a quantity of nails as they required, if they would only establish a workshop, and to this they cheerfully consented. He began to work with enthusiasm, and soon found himself in easy circumstances.

"It is always good," he used often to say to himself, "to learn something, if it be only to make a shoe-nail. There are positions in life where head-learning cannot be called into play, and when want may threaten even those who have been wealthy. It is well to provide for such exigencies, by having some useful trade at our finger ends."

### THE RATIONALE OF LABOR.

By EDWARD S. FOSTER, the son of a Working Carter, Sheffield, aged 17 last March.

That this subject is of great importance to every man, but especially to the working man, will doubtless be admitted by all who are sufficiently alive to their interests to have given it even the most superficial consideration. We say this question is preeminently important to the workman—the man who procures his daily bread by daily labor—whether that labor is mental or physical; and, we think, it is a question about which a working man will be much more likely to have clear and correct ideas, than he who lives upon the product of the industry of others. These are the grounds upon which we think this subject has a particular title to the consideration of **THE WORKING MAN**.

In order properly to understand this subject, it is advisable that we should, in the first place, settle some points

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