

and become wealthy, while the majority of farmers, if they do not amass riches, secure to themselves and families ease and comfort. But another boy is saying he would rather be a merchant; and think you is there no toil here? If your labour will not be so heavy, it will be monotonous, tedious and endless; you will never be free from anxiety either about purchasing or selling of goods, meeting of bank payments, or from fear of loss by water, by fire, by bad debts, and by thieves. Another young aspirant is heard to express his wish to be a doctor. Very good, the healing art is both useful and respectable, but not free from toil, very far from it; if you will be a doctor make up your mind to work hard, day and night, summer and winter, in the wet and in the dry, in the heat and in the cold, and often without remuneration, not even thanks, and worse than all, censure is often heaped on the wisest and best of physicians, who have been called up out of their midnight slumbers. Not so with the farmer, he rises at his pleasure, takes his meals regularly, has none to hurry him, and at evening retires to rest without a fear of being aroused by any midnight cries; if he has toiled through the day he can now repose unmolested. But other lads may be thinking of the mechanic, and coveting his position; but you need not, for with him it is all toil or no success, when he lays down his tools his work stops. Not so with the tiller of the soil, for while he reads, or visits, or sleeps, his grass and grain are all growing, and should he by sickness be unable to go into his field, his crops are maturing, and thus enriching him day by day.

Then there is no class of men so healthy and longlived as farmers, none who have more time for visiting with their friends, none suffer so little in times of epidemics or by failure of crops. The farmer secures a sufficiency for himself and family first, and if any be left then others may share with him. Then few farmers fail of success, and if they would economise or manage better their prosperity would be still greater.

From the foregoing remarks we may infer that there are none so happy, healthy and independant as farmers. Young men believe this, and make up your minds to be farmers.

Every thing that can be done ought to be done to encourage our sons to be agriculturists. Furnish your farms with good stock, such as fine well-bred cattle, sheep, and hogs; keep good horses, and teach the boys to feed, clean, and drive them.

It costs no more to keep good stock than to keep poor, and the good will always command a better price and ready sale. Let all your farm tools be of the most improved kind and in good order. Have all your outbuildings convenient and comfortable. Supply your family with good agricultural journals, so that they may learn what others are doing—fit something for the agricultural shows. All this will give a taste for farming, and there is little fear but the boys will like the calling.

Yours truly,

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MR. EDITOR,—I must add a few more thoughts; first on the subject of ploughing matches. These are of long standing—in England and Scotland they are numerous, and they generally excite a great deal of interest in the locality in which they are held, and cultivate a great fondness for plowing among the youth, and this is the effect they have had in this county. At the last match, held by the Pioneer Plowing Match of the South Riding of the County of Wentworth, which came off lately, there were over fifty entries, and several hundred spectators; the prizes were numerous and some of them very valuable. The first for iron ploughs was a splendid set of harness, valued at seventy dollars, and the gift of Z. Choate, Glanford, and James Jolley, Saddler, Hamilton; and the first prize for wooden ploughs was a handsome iron plough, valued at forty dollars, the gift of a gentleman here. I hope other public spirited gentlemen who are anxious to encourage and help on the farmers will go and do likewise. Why do not our agricultural societies give one prize to such matches? I think they ought to do so, and would it not be a wise outlay of a little money on the part of our Government. I fear a worse use is often made of the public funds. At these matches heretofore, we have had three classes, viz: Men with iron ploughs and men with wood ploughs, and the boys all under twenty-one years of age. For one, I would like to see some change in the management of these matches; that is, I would make four classes, two among the men and two among the boys. Another change that I would suggest is, the making of the prizes the same in all the classes; that is, the wood ploughs should have as good a prize as the iron ploughs, and the boys in both classes as good as the men. What is the object of these matches, but to encourage good ploughing, and to make farming a science, and to enlist the youth of our coun-