

and cities; we must have agricultural implements, and the various articles of commerce. The prosecution of the various trades that come under the head of mechanical are necessary to a healthy state of commerce and agricultural prosperity. But the economization of time, in the industrial pursuits, and the expenditure of labour to the best advantage, are matters of primary importance.

There is a large class of persons in these provinces, consisting of lumbermen, and manufacturers of lumber, whipbuilders and fishermen, who are not profitably employed more than half of their time; consequently a disproportion of the population is engaged at these pursuits, to the neglect of agriculture; and a large portion of those engaged in agriculture do not work over two-thirds of their time, and those who do till the soil have little or no system,—still agriculture pays. If the agriculturist experiences seasons of failures in his crops, which are sometimes succeeded by financial difficulties; he still has his farm, on which he again sows and plants, when a year or two of good crops places him in a prosperous state.

The farmer has a decided advantage—he not only makes up in years of prosperity what he may have lost in years of adversity, but he adds by way of improvements to the worth of his farm; while the humble artisan has little left but his tools, which are generally the worse of wear; and while the products of our forests have been floated to other countries, and the manufacturers, as is too often the case, deprived of their earnings.

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have millions of acres of excellent land still uncultivated, and what is cultivated is but partially improved. Necessity will compel us to adopt a better system of agriculture; it will compel us to economise time to better advantage; it will compel us to cultivate more land and make every acre we do cultivate tell to better advantage. Some kinds of crops, such as potatoes and wheat, in some places and in some seasons fail to a limited extent; but there is no season or place but what some of the numerous products of the country yield abundantly; consequently every farmer should sow and plant variety, and at various seasons.

Many of our lumberers, shipcarpenters, etc., in seasons of commercial reverses fly to the farm, believing it to be the safest and most profitable business; but when "good times" return—when lumber and ships are in good demand at remunerative prices, these lumbering and shipbuilding farmers forsake the farms through the desire to make "large fortunes in a day," by some lucky stroke, and are again into manufacturing operations. Not content with the slow but sure and more certain process of accumulating wealth, the farms are deserted and left to produce weeds, and not unfrequently to be reclaimed by the forest; such is the case in hundreds of instances in the lumbering districts of these provinces, while the intelligent and industrious farmer remains where he is and when the golden days of harvest come, finds that he has acted wisely.

Another drawback to our agricultural interests is instability. Some farmers are always on the wing—roving about from place to place, in the vain hope of finding a better location. Now while this migratory idea floats in the brain, it is