

eagerly to gaze at this intruder, and one drily said to the machine-man, "Then you mean to hunger us up, and with that thing to set aside fifty of us." It may indeed set aside the street sweeper and his broom, by changing his drudgery to the more useful and economical application of his labor by collecting and removing the sweepings, and more constantly keeping our streets and roads not only free from muddy accumulations, but really clean and dry, without either decreasing the number of men, or at all increasing the expense; the public will then derive the benefit of the invention.—*Eastern Counties Herald*.

SUPERIORITY OF JERSEY COWS.

SIR,—In my correspondence, under the head "Butter Making," I think I proved, to the satisfaction of your readers, that, as dairy cows, those of these islands were the best in the world, inasmuch as the pound of butter was produced from 16½ pints of new milk the year round, on our average dairies; whereas it requires 25 or 26 pints of the milk of your cows to produce the same quantity. We as well as you have individual instances of greater produce. But this is not all the superiority of our cows; for whilst they give almost the same quantity of milk, they do not consume so much food. The difference is as three to two—that is, three of our cows consume the same quantity as two of yours; and, hence, two of our breed are, for a dairyman, equal to four of yours.—Yours, &c., THOMAS HAYLEY, Jersey, April 8, 1852.

RICH AND POOR.—It is very easy for you, O respectable citizen, seated in your easy chair, with your feet on the fender, to hold forth on the misconduct of the people—very easy for you to censure their extravagant and vicious habits—very easy for you to be a pattern of frugality, of rectitude, of sobriety. What else should you be? Here are you, surrounded by comforts, possessing multiplied sources of lawful happiness, with a reputation to maintain, an ambition to fulfil, and the prospect of a competency for your old age. A shame indeed would it be, if with these advantages you were not well regulated in your behaviour; you have a cheerful home, are warmly and cleanly clad, and fare, if not sumptuously every day, at any rate abundantly. For your hours of relaxation there are amusements; a newspaper arrives regularly to satisfy your curiosity. If your tastes are literary, books may be had in plenty; and there is a piano if you like music. You can afford to entertain your friends, and are entertained in return. There are lectures, and concerts, and exhibitions accessible if you incline to them. You may have a holiday when you choose to take one, and can spare money for an annual trip to the sea side. And, enjoying all these privileges, you take credit to yourself for being a well-conducted man: large praise to you for it!—if you do not contract dissipated habits, where is the merit? you have few incentives to do so. It is no honor to you that you do not spend your savings in sensual gratification; you have pleasures enough without. But what would you do if placed in

the position of the laborer?—how would these virtues of yours stand the wear and tear of poverty?—where would your prudence and self-denial be if you were deprived of all the hopes that now stimulate you?—if you had no better prospect than that of the Dorsetshire farm servant with his seven shillings a week, or that of the perpetually-strained stocking weaver, or that of the mill-hand with his periodical suspensions of work? Let us see you tied to an irksome employment from dawn till dusk; fed on meagre food, and scarcely enough of that; married to a factory girl ignorant of domestic management; deprived of the enjoyments which education opens up; with no place of recreation but the pot-house—and then let us see whether you would be as steady as you are. Suppose your savings had to be made, not, as now, out of surplus income, but out of wages already insufficient for necessities, and then consider whether to be provident would be as easy as you at present find it. Conceive yourself one of a despised class, contemptuously termed "the great unwashed," stigmatized as brutish, stolid, vicious—suspected of harbouring wicked designs, excluded from the dignity of citizenship, and then say whether the desire to be respectable would be as practically operative on you as now. Lastly, imagine that, seeing your capacities were but ordinary, your education next to nothing, and your competitors innumerable, you despaired of ever attaining to a higher station, and then think whether the incentives to perseverance and forethought would be as strong as your existing ones. Realize these circumstances, O comfortable citizen! and then answer whether the reckless, disorderly habits of the people are so inexcusable.—*Spencer's Social Statics*.

AGRICULTURAL LECTURE.—Mr. W. W. Fyfe continued his Normal lecture in the hall of the Normal Society, Moray House, on the 14th ult., by treating of the vital functions of plants. He defended the attempt in which he is engaged of seeking to diffuse through the common schools a general knowledge of the scientific truths and principles of agriculture amongst the great body of the population. Having described the structure of the seed, and the diseases to which it is incident, with their remedies, the lecturer proceeded to illustrate, by entering at large on the characteristics and varieties of seed wheat, and minutely describing thirty individual grains of white and twelve of red qualities in common cultivation, what might be done in the way of imparting this important but neglected kind of knowledge to agricultural pupils. For this and similar purposes he suggested the formation of small school collections or museums, and the familiarising the pupil with the best forms of seed, &c., by that means. He then successively discussed the different conditions required in germination, viz., moisture, temperature, the action of oxygen, and the exclusion of light, and the relative agricultural operations to which they respectively give rise; illustrating by rapidly drawn figures the forms and contents of seeds, and the development of their radicles and plumules—dwelling throughout the entire lecture on the subject of germination, because in getting the productions of the farm over this first critical