

who, as soon as their children were capable of learning, have sent them to school, and kept them at school till they were marriageable. They were instructed in all those branches of education generally taught in schools for young females. Those mothers, meanwhile, working themselves out of health and life at home, have taught their daughters no domestic employment. These daughters have left school, very delicate, slender-waisted, lily-fingered young ladies, and said to be well educated, whereas if a young farmer should choose such a one for a wife, he would find to his dismay, that for all the purposes of house-keeping she is utterly worthless, and if he wants his shirt washed, or his cow milked, or his butter churned, or his cheese made, he must hire some person to do it.

* Let none of your readers suppose, from these remarks, that I am indifferent to school education. I hold that "for the soul to be without knowledge is not good," that the mind cannot be too well furnished with substantial and useful information, that, if it were possible, with a due regard to other interests, it would be well for the female mind to embrace the entire circle of all the sciences; but I hold that there are interests, involving duties to ourselves, to our country, and to our God, which must be neglected if mere mental cultivation be carried too far.

The other error to which I referred above, is the neglect of school education altogether, or nearly so, which prevails to a great and lamentable extent. Both these errors should, if possible, be avoided. The following considerations seem to recommend themselves to the common sense of all who think seriously on the subject:—

1st. Education should be so conducted as to preserve, in their full vigor, the physical energies, and not to impair the health of the pupil.

2nd. School education should not be allowed to interfere with the urgent claims of humanity.

3rd. Education should be so conducted as not to foster habits of indolence.

4th. School education should not be allowed to clash with the claims of justice and honesty.

5th. School education should be so conducted as to cultivate the moral and religious feelings in conjunction with the mental faculties.

First, then, we hold that health should not, on any account, be sacrificed to mere mental cultivation. We often read of young men who "Over books consume the midnight oil" till their bodily energies lie prostrate on the altar of ambition, and health is murdered by devotion to study. Now, with all due respect for education, we think such learning bought too dear. No earthly good can compensate the loss of health. No amount of prosperity, no increase of wealth, no extent of mental cultivation, can possibly repay the loss of health; and it is a fact to be deplored, that, generally speaking, those young females who have had what is called "a good bringing up," who have been "nursed on the downy lap of ease," have had but little exercise, and have devoted most of their time to study, are slender in constitution, delicate in health, and unable to endure fatigue:—while other young females, less favorably circumstanced, who have been obliged to

assist their parents to earn a subsistence, who have had much exercise and but little learning, are robust in constitution and blessed with good health. These considerations suggest the following thoughts:—

1st. School-houses should be roomy and well ventilated.

2nd. Girls should be encouraged to play and romp in the open air, during intermissions and at noon.

3rd. The further girls have to walk to and from school, in reason, the better.

4th. Mothers should see that their daughters take sufficient exercise in domestic employments, both before and after school.

AN OLD FARMER.

Yarmouth, Feb. 15, 1854.

To be continued.

BLIGHT, MILDEW, AND RUST IN GRAIN.

For the *Agriculturist*.

Blight according to our ideas, originates from moist foggy weather, and hoar frost. The effect of which when expelled by a hot sun, are first discernible on the straw, afterwards on the ear, in a greater or lesser degree according to local circumstances. Let a field be examined in a day or two after such weather, and a careful observer will soon be satisfied in consequence of what may be called a stoppage of perspiration. This disorder may take place either earlier or later but is most fatal when it appears at an earlier state, and though the productive powers of the plant will thereby be lessened, yet if circumstances are afterwards favourable, the quality of the grain produced may not be much impaired, or it may appear after the grain is fully formed and very little damage except to the straw shall then be sustained. Mildew, again, strictly speaking, may be ranked as a disease which affects the ear, and may be brought on by causes somewhat similar to those which occasion blight, though at a more advanced period of the season; if this disorder come on inmediately after the first appearance of the ear the straw will also be affected, but if the grain is nearly fully formed, the injury on the straw is not much discernible.

Another disorder which affects wheat, and by several farmers denominated the real rust, is brought on by excessive heat, which occasions the plant to suffer from a privation of nourishment, and become sickly and feeble. In this atrophical state a kind of dust gathers on the stalk and leaves, which increases with the disease till the plant is in a great measure worn out and exhausted. The only remedy in this case, and it is one that cannot easily be administered by the hand of man, is a plentiful supply of moisture.

All these different disorders are generally accompanied by insects although not the cause of the disease.

Thin chaffed wheats are thought the only preventive of mildew.

B.