



## FACTS FOR THE FARMER.

It is far from our aim to assume a scientific portion in reference to Agriculture, or to attempt to supersede in any way those periodicals exclusively devoted to its interests. We do think, however, that the want of a column devoted to information on that subject in a publication that must look for its main support to a community almost wholly agricultural, would be a capital blunder, and by no means in accordance with that wisdom and prudence we fancy ourselves possessed of.

What we contemplate is to bring before our readers practical hints from the best authors, bearing upon the business of the farm, so as to impress them with the necessity of keeping pace with the discoveries and improvements of the day.

In one word, we would aspire to act as a pioneer, so to speak, to the agricultural press; and a stimulant to the young Colonial farmer to greater and more intelligent efforts in his noble profession.

## THE FARMER'S WIFE.

There is matter suggestive of serious consideration in the following paper which we derive from that excellent journal the *Albany Cultivator*. We recommend it to the thoughtful perusal of our unmarried agricultural clients.

THE FARMER'S WIFE should be an independent, healthy, and cultivated woman—one on whose culture, both physical and mental, the agriculturist has bestowed at least as much thought as he has upon that of his swine or his turnips—but is it so?

When a young farmer arrives at an age that he wishes to choose for himself a fitting wife, he naturally desires one whose intellect and taste has been enlarged and educated to an equal degree with his own, and generally he prefers one who has either been reared upon a farm, or has become

personally acquainted with rural pursuits; and his wishes are easily gratified, for girls who have been carefully trained and well educated, are happily, at this day, far from being rare, or difficult to find. A genuine love of good books, skill and taste in music, and the arts, combined with depth and strength of intellect, are possessed by many of the young girls who have enjoyed the privilege of a country birth and residence.

Such a person, not unfrequently unites her fate with that of a farmer, thinking no doubt, from what she has read in agricultural periodicals, that thus she can more certainly gratify her taste for horticulture and the embellishment of her home and at the same time fulfil a more exalted destiny than she could expect, if she was to become a part of the fashionable circle of the city or village. Yet she is ambitious to perform as much labor as her neighbor, who has for years been engaged in household labor, and therefore assumes the duties of house-wife, and maid-of-all-work, and her husband, who has been accustomed to see his neighbor's wives toiling from morning until night, in the cook and dairy-room, thinks it all right, with as little reflection as the peasant of Europe bestows upon the coupling his wife and mule together at the plough or cart; and thus from mere custom, and want of thought, he allows the woman of his love to become his most devoted slave.

From this time forth, the life of the farmer's wife is one of confinement and unrelenting toil. From early dawn until late at night, it is nothing but mend and patch, cook and bake, wash and sweep, churn and make cheese, wait upon her husband and his band of laborers, bear children and nurse them. No time for relaxation or enjoyment, or the improvement of her mental or social faculties is found. As the means of the farmer and his family increase, the husband becomes more noticed, and his circle of acquaintances and friends enlarges; he daily meets his associates and mingles with the world, but his wife toils on in the old dull routine, with nothing to break in upon the monotony of her existence, except perhaps the advent of another child, or the death of one to whom her heart is bound in the strongest ties.

The husband, it may be, is engaged in some public business, or drives frequently to town for a market or for his pleasure, but he never thinks of his martyr wife, and the necessity there is in her nature, that she should share with him his pleasures and relaxations. Her labors are never