

The work which earthworms do is carried on, not only in our own and in European countries, but in many other parts of the world as well. The plow, one of the oldest inventions of man, has done much in preparing the soil for the sustenance of vegetable life, but long before its existence the land was, in a measure, tilled by earthworms and this same action is going on to-day under the proper conditions for the existence and action of earthworms.

Thus earthworms, though very insignificant creatures, may possibly have accomplished as much in the grand, old workshop of nature, as many of her more highly and delicately organized artizans.

The study and observation of these small creatures, and their habits, is not only of interest to the scientist, but also of great value to the agriculturist. The coming agriculturist, he who shall combine the scientific with the practical, will not think any object beneath his notice, which bears directly or indirectly upon his calling. The environments of the agriculturist of the present are such that he cannot become a mere theorist, captivated by some startling discovery, which when completed, is to be the greatest boon of the age. He will be intensely practical, owing to the solidity acquired by research and investigation in the microscopic world.

In the grand old economy of nature nothing is ever lost. Hence the relation of cause and effect must ever be one of absorbing interest to him who seeks to penetrate the wondrous harmony of the whole.

RESURGAM, O. A. C.

A Report of the Farmers' Institutes Needed.

During the past month, through the instrumentality of the Farmers' Institutes, the good work of spreading information, relative to Agricultural and Horticultural pursuits, has been going on throughout the Province. If enlarged attendance and increased interest at these meetings is an indication of success, certainly those engaged in the work should feel encouraged. Great, however, as has been the success in the past, let progress ever be the watchword, and let nothing be left undone that will increase success in the future. One step in advance, we think might be made, by publishing an annual re-

port of the meetings held during the year, containing the addresses made, papers read, and the important discussion on these.

Some idea of the valuable contents of such a report may be had, when we consider, that besides the numerous local speakers who took part in the meetings during the last month, there were twenty-five specialists in the different branches of agriculture, who gave their whole time to this work. Each of these had prepared at least three or four different subjects for discussion, and nearly one hundred meetings were held at which these and other subjects were discussed, many new and valuable ideas being brought out. Would not a report containing all these be of no small value to farmers?

As yet there is no record of these, other than the imperfect, occasional account in the newspapers. Some of the local papers have certainly given very good reports of the meetings held in their own locality. But as few farmers take more than their own local paper, it is plainly to be seen, that to the majority, the greater part of these valuable addresses, papers and discussions are lost.

A compiled report distributed to each member of the Institutes, would enable him to reap the benefits, not only of his own local meeting, but of all the other meetings in the Province.

The compilation of such a report would entail, no doubt, some additional expense, but this would be a small item in comparison with the increased benefit derived from the Institutes. That so much has been expended already, to make each meeting beneficial to the farmers of a particular district, seems in itself a reason why a little additional should be expended to carry the benefits of every meeting to all.

This method of widening the work of the Institutes has been adopted already in some of the States with marked success, and we hope before another year arrangements will be completed, whereby the work may thus be made more effective in Ontario.

The Qualities of a Good Dairy Cow.

She's long in her face, she's fine in her horn,
She'll quickly get fat, without cake or corn;
She's clean in her jaws, she's full in her
chine.