

for labor, he cannot afford to let his manures go to waste, or his fields to run to brambles and weeds, or his cultivated fields to produce less than half of what they are capable of producing. And from this cause, also, will arise a growing demand for machinery, which will excite an inventive genius and speculating disposition, flooding the country with implements of all kinds, good, bad, and indifferent. Now the more the farmer is driven into improved culture, and the employment of labor-saving machines, the more will he need, the counsel and assistance of agricultural societies, and of that kind of knowledge and experience which he can acquire better from them than from any other source that will be open to him. Farmers should, therefore take more interest in agricultural societies, as, *when properly managed*, they can promote his interests to a very great and profitable extent.

PREVENTION BETTER THAN CURE.

One of the best systems of medical practice ever known, and which will probably stand at the head of the list for all coming time, is *Nursing*. Good care will do more than all the medicine in the world without it. Medicine is sometimes very good, but the most skilful physicians have found they could do but little with serious cases without that intelligent and careful watching at all times required for the removal or prevention of irritating causes, and known as good nursing.

The writer once owned a horse suffering from an excessive cough. Numerous remedies were prescribed by kind neighbors, enough, doubtless to have killed him at once. It was concluded to discard all, to give the best attention to his wants, and avoid everything which causes or prolongs a cold. This was during the changeable weather of autumn—and he was blanketed whenever a chilly air was apprehended; he was worked very moderately, always avoiding perspiration, and he was fed on succulent food which was supposed to favor expectoration, and especially young clover. In a few weeks nature had performed a perfect cure; and if any one of the nostrums had accidentally been employed, and had not proved very prejudicial, it would unquestionably have received high praise for its efficacy. It is of the most importance to discriminate between a recovery *by virtue* of a medicine, and *in spite of it*.

To keep animals in health, is more important than to cure sick ones, and for this purpose a few leading rules should be always observed, and which cannot be out of place here.

1.—Always feed regularly, as to time and quantity. Many animals are made sick by starving at one time, and stuffing at another. Especially, never *overfeed*.

2.—The same rule must be observed with watering—and let the water be *pure*.

3.—Never *overwork* an animal—regular and moderate exercise will enable a working animal to do more the year through, by all odds, than any hurried driving at one time and resting and overfeeding at another; and be infinitely less liable to disease.

4.—Allow a regular supply of salt—it is useful, but an observance of the preceding rules without salt, will be incomparably better than their infraction with it.

5.—Never feed musty or bad food. If musty fodder must be used, pass it through a rapid cutter, and moisten, salt and meal it.

6.—Avoid unwholesome or poisonous plants in pastures and in hay.

7.—Guard all animals against cold rain and snow falling on them, and against lying on cold wet ground.

8.—All changes of food must be *gradual*. If from hay to grass, let the grazing be but an hour the first day, two hours the next, three the next, &c. The same caution must be carefully observed in beginning to feed with roots, grain, &c.

9.—Be careful that animals always have enough of exercise—and plenty of pure, fresh air. Stables must be well ventilated—animals often become sick from breathing foul air.

10.—Lastly, and by no means least, let strict cleanliness be observed. All animals, even pigs, kept clean and curried, are found to maintain their flesh better, or fatten faster, than when dirty and neglected—and cleanliness is more important to health than for flesh.