

sions when brought within his reach and his means, will be hailed by the farmer with pleasure.

CANNOT.

We very much question whether there is a word in the English language productive of as much mischief as the one placed at the head of this article. Indeed it has no business where it is so frequently found; for it is an intruder on our forms of speech, and deemed unworthy of notice by the lexicographer; yet there are some men who are always using it, and find it always at their tongue's end. The man who admits this word into his vocabulary is regularly done up; henceforth he is good for nothing, because he will perform nothing. We like a man, and so do you, who at proper times can utter a plain plump No; for that little word may be their salvation; but if they meet you with a canting cannot, depend upon it, they will—"for a consideration."

Ask your friend why he runs in debt for things for which he has no possible earthly use; and he will tell you he cannot avoid purchasing things when offered at a bargain, even if he has no present use for them. The time, however, will come, when there will be a cannot of another nature to arrest him; and that will be when his foolish purchases have so exhausted his finances, and reduced his credit, that no one will trust him.

Ask that farmer why he allows that bottle of spirits to be carried into his harvest field; and as the ill cut and scattered grain attests, to his manifest loss, and he replies that he has been so long in the habit of doing it, that he cannot do without it when working hard. All nonsense. Thousands, if not millions, have demonstrated the contrary before his face the present year. The truth is, the farmer loves the "good creature," and his cannot is the partial opiate he forces upon his conscience to disguise the fact.

Ask that farmer why he allows his fields to be overrun with thistles, johnswort, daisies; his crops choked with stein kroat, chess, and cockle; his corn overtopped by pigweeds; and his garden by chickweed, purslane, &c.; and he answers he cannot attend to them all; he has so much work to do, that some must be neglected. Such an answer only makes a bad matter worse. It proves that he is a bad calculator as well as a bad worker. The farmer has no business to plan so much work, as to be unable to perform every part well; and the cannot in the case, can deceive no one.

"Neighbor, the bars to your cornfield are very defective, and the gate to your wheat field is so insecure, that I wonder at your leaving them in such a condition, when there are so many unruly cattle running at large." Ah, he answers, I knew it well enough. I intended this week to have made some new bars, and had a new gate hung; but have lost so much time in attending that lawsuit, that I cannot do it now, and must put it off till next week. The next sunny morning, he finds a whole herd of unruly animals in his fields, his crops half destroyed, and a beautiful foundation for another lawsuit laid.

See that poor man, once rich and talented, reeling through the street! He is a sacrifice to this accursed cannot. A beautiful wife has wept tears of intreaty; friends have uttered words of remonstrance; reformed inebriates have taken him by the hand, and pointed out the way by which he may be again a man; but to all the reply, a reply fatal to hope, he been, I cannot. It is a lie. He can. He can forsake his cups; he can again bring joy and gladness to his family; he can again rejoice his friends; but he must first renounce and repudiate this soul and body destroying cannot.

Young man, whatever may be your profession or pursuit, if you would hope for success, never use the word cannot. You may as well attempt to swim with a Scylla grindstone at your neck, and a Pegasus shot at your heels, as to expect to accomplish anything worthy of a man while this word is in your vocabulary. When the gallant Miller, at the battle of Niagara, was asked by Scott if he could carry the enemy's batteries; suppose, instead of the determined, "I'll try," he had whined out—"I cannot" where would have been his fame, and what the result of that day? Cannot accomplishes nothing but the ruin of him who uses it.

Farmer, keep shy of cannots. Use not the word yourself, and be careful how you employ those that do. Napoleon never allowed the use of the word, impossible; and in the management of a farm there should be no place for cannot. You can do all that is necessary to be done, if you set about it in the right way, and at the right time. If you do not, your labour will be like that of

Sisyphus; over beginning, never ending. Neglect nothing; keep a watchful eye over everything; see that every part moves in harmony and together; and you will have no cause for cannot.—*A bany Cultivator.*

SPRING CARRIAGES.

The great advantage of springs in lessening the labour of draught has been ably illustrated by Edgeworth, who thus explains the action in this respect.—"Theory shows," he observes, "that whilst the wheels of a carriage pass over an obstacle, the load on the carriage must rise along with the wheels, unless it be supported by springs; but that if the load be hung upon springs whilst the carriage wheels tend to throw the load upwards, as the suddenly rise over an obstacle, the springs will bend, because they are opposed not only by the weight, but by the load acting downwards; and the load will consequently not be thrown up *so high* as if there were no springs." But the advantage does not rest on theory alone. Among the interesting experiments on carriages, of which the results are recorded in Edgeworth's treatise, are some which are very decisive as to the saving of labour occasioned by them. In one experiment with two-wheeled carriages, a gross load of 8 cwt. 2 quarters, was drawn with rather greater ease with springs, than a gross load of 5 cwt. 2 quarters, and *without* them. In another trial with four-wheeled carriages, the gross weight drawn with and without springs were respectively about 17 cwt. and 15 cwt.; but in this case, it is stated, the carriages were not loaded sufficiently, to bend the springs with facility, so that their full extent was not ascertained. Some of those experiments were directed to the effect of wooden springs, and the results were sufficient to show how much might be gained by their general adoption in such carriages, as are generally constructed without any springs whatever. In one of the cases related, a man was found capable of drawing in a two-wheeled carriage with wooden springs blocked, to prevent them from acting, a load of 2 cwt.; but when the springs were allowed to play, he drew a load of 3 cwt. 2 quarters, with equal ease. Edgeworth states that he had employed carts with wooden springs for nearly ten years, and had used both straight and elliptic wooden springs successfully. He recommends as cheap and durable, a piece of common tough ash, five inches and a half deep in the middle, two inches at each end, and three inches broad, mounted on steel shackles at one end, and with linking plates at the other. The iron work of the shackles will last for many years, and the wooden springs may be renewed at a very trifling cost. Three wooden springs, connected in a similar manner to distinct springs, may be used conveniently for common carts.—*Penny Cyclopaedia.*

We have no doubt, that the adoption of wooden springs in constructing common carts, would enable a horse to draw a load on our uneven roads, with much greater ease, than in a cart without springs.—*British American Cultivator.*

From the Southern (Va.) Planter,

BLACK SHEEP.—A neighbor selected a very likely young ram which he designed "turning out" and at an early time made known such intention to his "headman," Peter. The shearing being over, Peter came to his master and said the lamb he had selected would not do to "turn out" unless he wished to have black sheep in his flock. How do you make that out, Pete? said his master; the lamb is the whitest in the flock. That may be, replied Peter, but I tell you half his lambs will be black, for he has a black streak under his tongue. The master and myself in talking upon the subject came to the conclusion that a greater man than Pete had surveyed the same opinion, and accordingly we picked up an old Virgil and commended the search. After no little trouble, we found the following:—(Geo. 3—387.)

"Mnem uteris, quamvis artem sit candidus ipso
Nigra abest udo tantum cul lingua patato,
Rejice ad maculis infuset vbera pills,
Nabectum."

The English of which, I presume is, but, though the ram himself may be white, reject him, under whose moist palate there is a black tongue, that he may not darken the fibres of the lambs with blackish spots.

Whether Pete borrowed the idea from the Mantuan Bard is not, is a matter of no consequence. The question for you, Mr. Bots, or some of your correspondents, is—is the idea correct. We have, you see, the opinion of a "book farmer" and a practical one—of an ancient and a modern—a great man and a little one.