

waste places, are preparing the way for the payment of her debt, and exciting the hope of future days of honorable prosperity. If there were more economy, there would be more honesty and less need of committees of investigation. We must be economical, or we cannot be rich; we must be economical, or we cannot be honest.

Before passing from this point, permit me, timidly, to suggest that it is in such unpretentious farmers' homes you will be most likely to find that healthy, modest, industrious fair one, who is to tread with you the pathway of life, and irradiate your heart and your home with peace, contentment, happiness.

A third thing we must do is to maintain a hopeful courage. There is nothing so paralyses the energies of a people as hopelessness. Let them be convinced that effort is vain and they will make no effort. He, then, is their best friend who will revive their hopes. The Roman Senate judged VARRO worthy of public thanks, because, after the disastrous defeat at Cannae, he did not despair of the republic. After the first successes at Chancellerville, a Confederate division, occupying an exposed position, was trembling in anticipation of an overwhelming attack. In their fear, they were a disorganized mass, having no confidence in themselves or in their officers. The first appearance of the enemy would have been a signal for flight. General Lee reinforced them by sending them one man, that man, the cool and fearless Rhodes. He inspired them with his own courage; breastworks arose, and in an hour they were invincible. Our people lack heart. We must feel ourselves, and make them feel, that there is nothing which patient and persistent labor may not accomplish. Our fathers dug their wealth from the soil. The same lands which they cultivated, are spread out before us, not encumbered, as then, with dark and tangled forests, but open and ready for the plough. Our difficulties are great, but not so great as theirs. They succeeded; they grow up, a people, independent, happy, of untarnished honor. Their scholars, statesmen, soldiers, and splendid achievements, are the admiration of the world. Have we inherited their names and their blood, but not their fearless spirit? We will not believe it. Our young men will rejoice in the difficulties, which will enable them to show that they are men. By courage and patience, by industry and economy, they will repair the ravages of war, and enable their stricken widowed mother to say: "These days are better than the past."

If insisting that the creation of wealth is our most pressing duty, I have seemed to speak in an earthly and worldly-

mindful way, I beg you to find an explanation in the peculiarities of the case. Our condition is altogether anomalous. The natural order is that there should be wealth, and then culture—a high civilization as the product of wealth. Wealth is the antecedent, the creator. With us there is culture and social elevation, while the wealth, upon which it rested, has been swept away. The flower, uprooted by the rushing torrent, although surrounded by the purest air, will perish, unless it can reach down and imbed its rootlets into the earth again. So all that is beautiful in our social fabric, will wither and die, unless we can find or make a material structure on which to base it. The task before us is a difficult one. We have to give chief attention to material things and yet not lower our moral and intellectual standard. This is difficult, but not impossible. We have only to remember that we seek the earth, not to lie prone upon it, but only to find a standing place for our feet."

COMFREY (*SYMPHYTUM ASPERRIMUM*) is exciting much attention. The following is from the *Southern Planter*:—

"Having heard and read much about *Symphytum asperum*, or Prickly Comfrey, we determined to see it, and judge for ourselves of its value as a fodder plant, that we might be able to give our readers a trustworthy account of it.

A visit which we paid on August 23rd to Mr. Ashburner's farm in Henrico county, seven and a half miles from Richmond, perfectly convinced us of the extreme worth of the plant which he has imported from England.

The Prickly Comfrey is a native of the Caucasus and Siberia, and is therefore fitted to stand both heat and cold.

As regards its power of enduring heat and drought, we were satisfied, by being shown a large number of plants, set out on the 1st, 4th, and 15th of April, which, notwithstanding a total want of rain for several weeks, to which withered corn and parched corn bore witness, showed a fine crop of fresh, green fodder, in many cases weighing from five to seven pounds to the plant. These leaves can be either cut or pulled for soiling purposes, and will be reproduced in about a month's time, and this process may be repeated without injury to the plant, until the first heavy frost, when it should be well dressed with manure, and it will be the first vegetation to show in the spring.

The Prickly Comfrey we found set out on different kinds of soil, and wherever it had been manured, it was growing luxuriantly.

An acre of ground, planted with sets two feet six inches apart, will take about 7000 roots. The first year as much as

twenty tons may be obtained; the second 50, and every year after, 80 to 100 tons or more; but to do this, it will be necessary to lay on a heavy amount of manure, as, in this respect, Comfrey is no exception to the rule which demands an equivalent being returned to the soil to keep up its fertility.

In England, good grass land yields about eight tons to the acre, cut green; Lucerne 40, Rye Grass 50, Vetches 20, Comfrey 80 to 100 tons."

We see sets advertised by C. E. Ashburner, P. O. Richmond, Virginia.

QUEEN MARY is the name of a Short-Horn Heifer raised by the Rev. R. B. Kennard, Blandford, who has distinguished herself greatly at the Royal Agricultural Society's Shows in England. She stood first as a yearling at Bedford in 1874. As a two-year-old she again took first prize at Taunton in 1875; and this year (1876) she has taken first at Birmingham as a Heifer not exceeding three years. This round of conquest has elicited the following lines, which the writer has published in the *Agricultural Gazette*; and a Short-Horn Breeder has considerably "done them into English verse":—

QUEEN MARY.

Hoc sibi grando decus triplici certamine victrix
Corpore præstanti pulchra juvenca tulit
Sic lo optaret mortalibus usque videri.
Sic regina bovum conspicienda fuit.
Sic latuit quondam, fama est, Saturnia Juno:
Sic fertur summo complacuisse Jovi.
Tu quoque nunc omnes superans, pulcherrima
vacca
Fies nobilium gloria magna bovum.
Cornigerum agresti quotquot spectantur arena
Gloria dicera præcipuumque decus.
Et precor ut possis, digno conjuncta marito
Egrogia dominum prole beare tuum.

TO MR. BRUCE KENNARD'S FAMOUS SHORT-HORN COW, QUEEN MARY.

In shape, hue, substance—all that charms the eye—

No question now of thy supremacy!
Three seasons, which in nothing else agree,
Unite at least in *all*, preferring thee.
Why need we dreaming artist to divine
Ideal models for our favorite kine?
THY form the modern breeder's aim can tell,
And classic legend illustrate as well.
Did I wish 'mid mortals to appear,
It is Queen Mary's form that she would wear!
Would Juno masquerade before High Jove,
Queen Mary's color she would most approve!
And, when recurring summer time shall bring
The best of fifty herds to pace the ring,
On recollection will the judge rely,
And take thy standard for to test them by,
And say, remembering thee, "this rival should
Show hair more silken; that a shapelier mould."
May'st thou not win pre-eminence by halves:
Yield not thy breeder merely cups, but calves!
May he select a consort worthy thee,
Thou fill his pastures with thy progeny!
May thy sons' offspring vindicate thy fame;
And daughters' daughters long transmit thy name!
G.