

Ropework of the United States Navy-yard at Memphis, in a report of his department, further substantiates these views, concluding that, with proper care, "American hemp may (as experiment has proved) be made to equal, if not to excel, any foreign importation. The quantity of hemp and flax produced in Canada, taken together as officially returned, amounted, in 1852, to 1,917,666 lbs., being above 800 tons. The value placed upon this, by the Government Board of Registration and Statistics in Canada, is 3d. currency on £28 currency per ton, which, reduced to sterling, is £23 3s. The total value of the hemp and flax grown in Canada in 1852 was, therefore, according to his official valuation, £23,971 provincial currency, and very nearly the whole was the growth of Lower Canada.—From the article "Canada" in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*.

FARMING.

Among the most vigorous class of people the farmer may be found. There are many ways by which men of this present age procure the necessities of life, but no occupation is more conducive to health and happiness than farming. There are several ways by which this may be exemplified.

First.—In order to make the muscles of the human body rigid and strong, they should all receive their due proportion of exercise. Those trades and kinds of exercise that tend to give every muscle its proper share of action, both of the upper and lower extremities, are most salutary, as it tends to develope and strengthen them equally.

Second.—The purer the air we breathe, the longer the muscles can be employed in labor.—What department can be more thoroughly ventilated than the open fields?

Third.—Light has as great an influence upon man as it has upon the plant, particularly that of the sun. You have doubtless noticed a plant that grows in the shade is weak and pale. The same is true of man; both, in order to make them strong, require the stimulus of this great agent.

There might be numerous other reasons brought forward to show that farming is most conducive to health; but it is useless to multiply them. In regard to happiness, I would ask but one question to be resolved in your minds. What is health but happiness? Knowing that farming promotes the greatest blessing, let each and every one of us be engaged in this business; for shop work, (particularly shoe making) does not bring the lower limbs into any action while the upper limbs are constantly employed. The air in-doors, where laborers are employed, is not so healthy as it is in the great department or shop, owned by Uncle Sam, which was not planned by man, and needs no ventilation. In-door work is not exposed to solar light; hence let us devote ourselves to that which affords us the purest air, and which exercises the muscles in the right mode; and that, as we have already proved, is farming.—*Farmer and Mechanic*.

AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENTS.

Since the days of Sir John Sinclair—the esteemed friend and correspondent of Washington, and one of the great men of the earth—no science has received more general attention than that of agriculture. This, at least, is particularly true with respect to the past twenty years' agricultural experience of our own country. When we look back over that space of years, and contemplate the many improvements in farming which have been made, we have great reason to congratulate our farmers for the spirit, intelligence, and good sense which they have exhibited.

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE MAKING, CURING AND CASKING OF BUTTER.

We have been favored by the Hon. Adam Fergusson with a printed copy of the following directions for making and preserving Butter, as the result of numerous enquiries into the practices adopted in Ireland, and of the experience of several extensive curers in the county of Aberdeen, Scotland. Although printed several years ago, the observations will be found not devoid of interest at the present time, and in many respects applicable to this, or as it should be, very important department of Canadian farming.—Such as possess good soils for pasturage, will find it greatly to their advantage to pay stricter attention to the breeding and rearing of cattle and the improvement of dairy products.

1st. The milk-house or dairy should have no internal communication with any other building. It must be kept free from smoke, well aired, and clean; and no potatoes, fish, onions, cheese, or any thing likely to impart a strong or bad smell, should be kept therein. In short, nothing but the dairy utensils, which must also be kept sweet and clean.

2d. The milk, when brought in from the cows, should be strained through a fine hair strainer or strainer, and, when cool, put into sweet well-seasoned oaken cogs, keelers, or milk-pans—the latter to be preferred. A tin skimmer, with holes in it, is the best for taking off the cream, which should always be churned while the cream is fresh.

3d. The churns, whether plunge or barrel, should be made of the best well-seasoned white oak; and, as cleanliness is of the first importance, great attention should be paid to the washing, drying, and airing of the churns, immediately after use, otherwise they are sure to contract a sour and unwholesome smell, which must injure the quality of the Butter.

4th. The Butter, immediately after being churned, should be thrown into fresh spring water, where it should remain for one hour at least, that it may grow firm; and, at the end of