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**THE NEUHOF EXPERIENCE.\***

The first period of Pestalozzi's active life opens with sunshine—the sunshine of courtship and marriage. Turning over in his mind the knowledge he had acquired during his sojourn in the country, with a mind brimming over with new ideas on the subject of farming, his eye at length fell upon a parcel of ground not far from the village of Birr, whereon he might begin operations. The land was as poor as any that had ever been turned with a Swiss plow. But this in Pestalozzi's eyes was only something in its favour. It could be had at a very low figure, and was capable of being improved. Besides, under a process of which he had certain knowledge, madder could be grown on land of this character as well as on the most fertile soil. At length he succeeded in inducing a Zurich firm to advance the money for the purchase of the place, and not long after, in his twenty-first year, he is found at work building a home for himself and her whom he proposed to take home as his wife. There is one of his letters still extant, in which the manner of his wooing is set forth in terms which would hardly be considered warm enough, perhaps, by the maidens of our times; yet it gives an insight into his early character and the honesty with which he understood it.

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\* Extract from a lecture on "Pestalozzi" by the Inspector of Superior Schools of the Province of Quebec.