

or another who win to higher ideals of life, of government and of conduct, as it is whether they are to escape the shock of an awakening that must leave them face to face with the old struggle for existence, with weakened moral fibre and submerged in profound discouragement. Certain it is that the time has come for setting our household in order, and creating a serious study of national activity and economy according to a truer insight and a more rational mood.

The first step is to realize our dependence upon the cultivation of the soil. To this end all that has been said thus far is contributory. The next will be to concentrate popular interest and invention and hope upon that neglected occupation. We are still clinging to the skirts of a civilization born of great cities. We at this very moment use a slang which calls the stupid man a "farmer." Genius has shunned the farm and expended itself upon mechanical appliances and commerce and the manifold activities whose favourable reactions filter back but slowly to the plot of ground on which stands solidly the real master of himself and of his destiny. If we comprehend our problem aright, all this will change; and a larger comprehension of agriculture as our main resource and our most dignified and independent occupation, will for the future direct to their just aim, in the improvement of methods and the increase of yield, the wisdom and the science and the willing labour of the millions who thus may transmit to posterity an unimpaired inheritance.

Agriculture, in the most intelligent meaning of the