

THE HASTINGS ART STUDIO



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MANUFACTURES.

Again we would recur to the subject of manufactures, and would do little more than remark that the successes of those who have made the departure ought to encourage others to follow the examples which have been so well set. We do not think that we can urge this matter too strongly. Our conditions require a departure of some kind; we cannot all live directly off the land, though from it the greater part of our wants can be supplied. We must have a variety of avocations in the same way as the farmers cannot confine themselves to the one product. The community must be built up out of all sorts and conditions. We cannot live by dealing in real estate, by keeping store or by practising the learned professions. Some must actively illustrate the Divine mandate "By the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat bread," while it must also be by the sweat of the brains or of the trained hands of the skilled artisan that the general and individual wealth shall be augmented. But all tends to the one common object, the general well-being. Frequently, it would appear, take the matter of avocation too much as a matter of course, and it is in a haphazard sort of way that too many people settle down to their life's calling. As a rule, nature adjusts matters to a nicety, but, by our individual neglect, we have allowed things to get out of their courses and then have striven to regulate them by tariffs and drawbacks. But in this we cannot succeed, unless we get down to foundation work.

We have many people on the land who cultivate it in a shipshod sort of way, content, in many cases, if their own wants are met however inadequately, and utterly regardless of the fact that to a certain extent a man is his brother's keeper, and must act with this object in prominent view. It is not every one who can live on the farm and it is not every one who can live in the town to the best advantage. Indeed, there are many in the towns who have not yet found their vocation. Many of them are country-bred; but can find little to do, and either from sheer inability to make a move or disinclination to return to country life remain where they are—a useless element, and one which is a tax on the community. Had we more manufactures some of these would find employment and would become a purchasing power from which the country people would derive a benefit,

and would therefore be in a better position to reciprocate by purchasing the productions of the town folk. We want to make some sort of a beginning, small as it may be, and the good work would be sure to continue and increase.—*Commercial Journal.*

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