

living beset with anxiety and temptation, and only better than law or physic because less mischievous to those who keep it going. The farm and the workshop offer the only certainties. The farmer or the mechanic, if intelligent, industrious, and thrifty, may always secure independence on this continent; and this is a privilege of which no other vocation can boast. The fact cannot be too strongly, too constantly, pressed upon the attention of our young men. If they would escape the perils of panics, and cultivate the self-reliance which is the truest attribute of manhood, let them devote themselves to some handicraft, or learn to hold the plough and ply the flail. The hands will be less velvety, and the dress less fine; but there will be an ample substitute, a conscious ability to meet the vicissitudes of commerce and seasons without apprehension, and to turn to the best account the opportunities which a young country and an expanding territory will ever present."

There can be no doubt about the fact that the professions are overcrowded, and the mercantile business is overdone—but the farming business can never be overcrowded or overdone. Let young men then turn their attention to farming, instead of to law, physic or storekeeping. The farmer is, without exception, the most independent man in the community. He produces what must be consumed, and what there is always certain to be a demand for, and he has the means of living within the limits of his own productive resources. His occupation gives him health of body and vigor of mind, and he is free from all those numberless harassing cares and annoyances which are inseparably connected with professional and mercantile pursuits. His body is strong and healthy—his mind is vigorous and clear. He works hard—he sleeps sound—and has an easy conscience. It is of no consequence to him whether the Banks are "discounting" or not—he has no "bills" or "acceptances" maturing every two or three months, and he is not obliged to go down on his "marrow-bones" to get "accommodation" to meet them. Let young men then turn their attention to farming, or some handicraft, by which they are certain to attain competency and independence, as free from "care" as it is possible to be in a world where "man is born to trouble as the sparks fly upwards."—*Perth (U. C.) Courier.*

## 2. OUR UNEMPLOYED YOUTH.

It is painful, even to an ordinary observer, to see the number of youths, from fourteen and upwards, prowling about our city in idleness. It is true, times are anything but cheering—that our manufacturers are, comparatively speaking, doing nothing, and our merchants not over crowded. Nevertheless, opportunities not unfrequently occur, wherein many of these youths could make themselves useful. We were taken aback a few months since at the remarks of a poor widow, applying at a grocer's in this city for a vacant situation for her son, a fine healthy lad of seventeen. What is it to do, sir? said she. Work, was the reply. Grind coffee, carry a basket, lend a hand anywhere and everywhere; in short, work. The poor woman paused a few moments, evidently meditating on what course to adopt, and with mother's love, perhaps thinking she would rather endure any hardship herself, than impose any arduous duties on her boy, she replied, "he has never been accustomed to work, and I fear can't do it," and thanking the grocer, she retired. That lad might have obtained this situation, and by ordinary perseverance might have placed himself soon in a better position; but soon after, the result of idleness, he found himself in the city jail! Pride has been the beggary of hundreds and thousands. This lad, we will suppose, has been well brought up; but what folly was it, what ruin to his prospects has not befallen him, by that mother's reply? This is not a country where young men should be pampered, taught to look for easy berths, and turn up their noses at honest labor. On the contrary, it is infinitely more honorable to be a menial, than an idler, whose end is not unfrequently similar to the one just related. There is a good deal too much of this sort of thing, for a new country—too many scented fops a drag on their friends, instead of being made to work for a living—too many useless parsons, and too many lawyers—too many note shavers at forty per cent, with the view of ultimately owning a poor man's property—and all this is the result of people looking down upon honest labor. It is difficult to find our youth willing to learn a business now-a-days—even if they are in want of a good dinner. They all want something easy. For a government office some have waited years, to be disappointed at last: whilst for an office with nothing to do, and consequently little pay, there are scores of applications. Not long since a circumstance came to our knowledge of a family in a very distressed condition, and who wanted a situation for their son, a fine, healthy looking young man. He was employed by a gentleman of this city, to do anything that was wanted, but his friends were horrified to think that he carried a bucket of water; it was such a disgrace? and although his wages were to be four dollars a week to commence with, he never returned to his employer, or sent any other reason than the above. Ever since he has been idle, and the hand of the stranger has since supplied him

with bread. Being employed by an excellent firm, this youth had every prospect of a speedy and honorable advancement. A youth of promise must rise in the social scale. Often then is it we hear complaints of nothing to do; but we fear they go upon the old adage—when looking for work, praying they may never find it.

There is plenty employment for these useless idlers. Let them turn farmers, carpenters, blacksmiths, tailors, anything rather than idleness. The history of every country is rich with the biographies of illustrious men, who have struggled with the world in every kind of calling, and advanced themselves by honest labor, from the humblest positions to the highest pinnacle of success. Some of the richest men in Canada are those who have risen from poverty and obscurity by their perseverance. These are facts which those who look down upon the sons of toil would do well to remember.—*London, (U. C.) Prototype.*

## 3. FARMING—THE BEST PURSUIT.

In the history of the world, it will invariably appear that seasons of panic and financial difficulty have been followed by seasons of great prosperity for the farmer. To trace the causes of this would be an interesting and profitable employment, and to draw lessons of instruction therefrom, would show some wisdom.

Perhaps these commercial troubles show the necessity of making the most of every thing, and induce the tiller of the soil to "make every acre tell;" and thus, when the better days come, he finds that he has a large crop, which commands a ready sale at good prices.

Again, many persons, in seasons of commercial reverses, fly to the farm, knowing it to be the safest and most profitable business; and thus by the multitude who, with little means, commence farming, everything in the shape of produce is reduced in price, as such must sell to get money necessary to carry on the farm, and such a state of things will, without doubt, reduce the profit of the farm, and tend to poverty. Now, when good times return, such will be drawn, through the desire to make "large fortunes in a day" by some lucky stroke, into the vortex of city business, leaving their farms for others to till; while the man of sense, who is content to do well, and make a fortune by the slower but more certain process, remains where he is, and, when the golden days of harvest come, finds that he has acted wisely and well.

Another reason is, that many farmers have had a little of their instability removed. It is a lamentable fact, that some farmers are always on the wing—roving about from place to place, in the vain hope of finding a better location. Now, while this foolish idea floats in a man's brain, how is he likely to succeed? A man who is always thinking about "selling out," is not so likely to cultivate his land as he who intends to remain, hence the following query: "What is the use of doing this or that, when, perhaps, before another year, I shall sell out?" Now, in seasons of commercial trouble, a man sees no prospect of selling, and, for this reason, cultivates his soil with a will: the result is, he will receive a greater return, and even the farm itself will increase in cash value. We have seen a great deal of selling and changing and dissatisfaction among farmers, but we have very seldom known a man to prosper until he had learned to settle down and thoroughly cultivate his land.

Stick, then, to the farm. Farming is honorable. Farming is healthful. Thorough farming is profitable. If one-half of the mechanics who now starve in our cities, would go on to a farm, it would be better for their families and far better for the nation.—*Western Journal.*

## 4. TAKE CARE OF THE YOUNG MUSCLES.

At this season it seems to me it were well to utter a word of caution to farmers, be they masters or servants, who have the care of boys. Many a boy is ruined for life in harvesting or chopping. Boys are generally ambitious to become men and do "men's work:" the father is glad to see so much "grit" and the lad of fourteen perhaps is allowed to scythe or cradle, and go into the field with full grown men and see how near he can keep up. With what result? His "grit" keeps him along for a while, but the muscles of his arms, and far worse than this, those of his chest soon become strained by what is to him unnatural labour, and he "gives out." Yet the vital energies of youth are strong and he soon seems to recover his exhausted strength, and again he repeats his efforts. But the forces of nature each time rally more feebly, he becomes weak in the chest his joints become enlarged, the action of the whole system becomes dull, the animus of youth is gone, in too many cases never to return. He enters manhood, not with the spirit that goes to daily toil with a song, and returns at evening with a shout, but with a spiritless step as if it were a hateful drudgery, and such to him it is. Farm