

are branded with the Dutchman's one per cent. on every shaft and crossbar. He toils on disassociated—alone.

The combinations of others are against him. The manufacturer dares not recognize him, except through his agents. The railroad companies overburden him with taxes, oppressive rates and exactions. The legislature ignores him while voting subsidies, tariffs and corporation privileges. These are specimen chiefs, whose lieutenants, the middle men, the implement dealers, the railroad agents, the small politicians, command and lead him as they will. He is treated as so much gross material whose capabilities are calculated as men calculate the strength of a beam, the power and endurance of a horse, or the profit and productiveness of a cow or a sheep. He is neither made their social equal, nor regarded as in fact the source of the wealth of the world.

The chief seats in the synagogues are not for him. The possibilities, indeed, of rising to positions of eminent usefulness and wide influence in the pursuit of agriculture are so remote and uncertain that practically, the ambition to do this involves the necessity of choosing some other business in professional life. The thorough disintegration of the class and the difficulty of bringing any enlightening and benefitting influences to bear upon them, were aptly illustrated at the recent convention of representatives of agricultural schools at Chicago, where it was seriously discussed how it was possible to bring the results of the work of these institutions, especially in the agricultural field, to the knowledge of the agricultural masses, whom they were designed to benefit. And this is a real difficulty, and at present is not possible, except to a very imperfect degree. We ask, where is the remedy? The obvious answer, and the only answer, is in Organization; an Organization which shall embrace and touch the masses; an Organization on a plan so complete and comprehensive that its ramifications shall extend to remote neighborhoods, and include in its membership, the honest and moral husbandmen, of every degree of intelligence.

The order of "Patrons of Husbandry" is an organization whose plans and purposes are of this kind. These plans and purposes are not covert, but are open, to be read and known of all men. They can be easily examined and understood. What of good there is in them is laid open to inspection, and what of evil is not concealed.

Are the requisite elements for such an organization to be found in the agricultural class? Many farmers of the best intelligence, and of the most honest and upright position, if they organize. They have received the same education as the tables of the health—the only category of industry with surprising results, accepted extension and grain industry has been bestowed. Like it has been scant the interest or desire. The chief and it has not gone so that lays the farmer have than ennobling? diligent and enterprising as from a and respectability to it, at least who have come who have adopted a means of profit spending an element of wealth acquired

which any of the to it, and been down, has been deprivations, rather influences. How cases may be imitative phrases this is too palpably intelligent and farmer has little to low. He seldom to market or to d at the elevator, rep, and wool are rising speculatively to him for cash variable per cent. of a hieroglyphics do tuts of husbandry

Learn that happiness is not outside, but inside. A good heart and a clear conscience bring happiness, which no riches and no circumstances alone ever do.

Correspondence.

FARMER'S POSITION.

SIR,—In my letter on "Farmers' Clubs," printed in this month's paper, you make me say that the general quantity of seeds sowed to the acre was two bushels. It ought to have been two bushels of mixed seeds per ten acres. I have been quizzed about the quantity I sowed already, and expect to get a good deal more of it. I also did not wish my name to appear, and I think I signed myself "A Farmer." I do not care much whether my name appears or not; but as I am a young man, and a still younger farmer, I may be thought to be putting myself too forward among my neighbors. I wish you would remedy the mistake about the seeds.

In reference to the paragraph taken from the *Wisconsin Republican*. It says that "farmers have less amusements and fewer opportunities of social enjoyment than any other class." Now, if the gentleman who wrote this lived in our neighborhood I think he would soon change his opinion. I think farmers, as a class, have more social enjoyment than a great many other classes, especially those people who live in large cities. A person may live for years next door to another and never see them or visit them. I know this from experience; I lived once next door to a family in a large city for over seven months, and never knew one of the inmates by sight even. This I would not call much social intercourse. What would we say of a farmer who lived on an adjoining lot to another or seven months and never saw him or his family? Why, we would call him a very unneighborly fellow at least, if not something harder; but this case is not the exception, but the rule in large places. Again, if a farmer or any of his family are sick, he gets more attention paid to him than any other class of men either in city or country. Again, in the fall and winter months there are a great many pleasant parties, &c., &c., which you will rarely find equalled in towns. I also take exception to the *causes* he alleges for what he brings forward. What difference could it make to a farmer with a good team and a good road before him, whether the place he was going to was one mile or five distant? In fact, there are many winter evenings a person would rather drive the latter distance than the former, if for nothing else but to exercise his horses, which generally stand too much in the stable during the winter. Again, he says: "While they work harder than any other class, they enjoy less of the comforts and pleasures of life." Now, I quite disagree with him about the farmers working harder than any other class. I know we have to work hard during the busy season of the year, and make long hours in haying and harvesting; but, with the exception of about two months, I hardly think the farmers work on an average ten hours a day through the whole year; and if a farmer is pretty well off, he need do but little manual labor, if he looks after his business and uses his head a little. If this gentleman, who writes about the hard work of farmers, saw some of the work in mines and other places, he would be apt to change his opinion. I saw the work in a large ironworks once, and could hardly think it possible that men could stand the heat and labor I saw there. Indeed, if you take all, or nearly all, of the classes who make their living by manual labor, you will hardly find another class that take it as easy through the whole year as the farmers. Again, he says "we don't enjoy the comforts and pleasures of life." I have said something about the pleasures above, so I will not refer to them again. Now, what does comfort consist in? I should think in having plenty to eat, drink and wear, and having a good house to live in, warm in winter and cool in summer, and not being troubled about the changes and fluctuations of trade. I think most people will agree with me that the farmers, as a class, enjoy more of the above comforts than any other people in Canada. A tradesman is not sure of work from one day to another, and when out of work his means of living cease; if he gets sick, his wages are stopped, and everything is going out and nothing coming in. How different with a farmer! If he is unwell a day or two, or wishes to take a holiday, his wheat does not stop growing, or his cattle stand still, just because he is away from the farm.

Now, Mr. Editor, I think some one better qualified than myself had better take this question up, and give their ideas upon it. I hope to see a good article on this in your next number.—I remain, yours truly,
Brantford, April 1st, 1872. A FARMER.

We have examined the communication you refer to; you have written two bushels to ten acres: the mistake was made by the printer. We have been so overwhelmed with labour in regard to seeds and other things, that we did not read the proof-sheet. We are highly pleased that you should have taken the subject up and handled the question so ably. It is our impression the publication of your articles under your own signature would be rather advantageous to you than otherwise.

MACHINE ON THE BRAIN.

SIR,—All must admit that we live in an age of progress, and that the last half century stands marked in the world's history as the great progressive age. It is but natural to ask the cause of this progress. I think, sir, you will agree with me that it is the application of steam as a motive power which is the principal cause. For proof of this, we need but look at the carrying trade all over the world, by land and sea, and the various manufacturing establishments producing articles of utility and comfort at a rapid and cheap rate, and the printing press, the great civilizer of the world—all these derive their great impetus from steam. It is quite natural for us here to inquire if the application of steam power cannot be applied more directly to aid the agriculturist? If it is used as an economical power for the purposes before named, why not for agricultural purposes generally, teaming on our wagon roads, ploughing and cultivating our lands, moving, reaping, thrashing, &c.?

Now, sir, my opinion is, some simple application is needed, and we will do our farm labour much cheaper with steam than with animal force. If the various agricultural societies of our country would offer premiums sufficient to induce genius and talent in that direction, I have no doubt in a short time it would be accomplished. Our Provincial Agricultural Society for some years past offered \$100 premium for the best steam plough on exhibition. As yet none have been produced, and no great wonder, for talent and genius could not be expected to produce such an article as would be adapted to this country without expending ten times that amount in experimenting. It must be remembered also that men of genius are not generally rich, and cannot afford to spend money and time in experimenting without some prospect of an early remuneration.

I would suggest that the various Agricultural Societies combine in some way to offer, through the Provincial Society, inducements sufficient to engage inventors to try if possible to produce some simple and cheap locomotive to be propelled by steam, to be used for ploughing, teaming on wagon roads, reaping, mowing, thrashing, &c., &c. If it is produced, agriculturists will be the gainers, though they should offer a heavy premium; if not, they have nothing to pay towards it.—Yours for progress,
OLD SUBSCRIBER.

"Old Subscriber" may have some good object in view (and perhaps may have machine on the brain) that he would like to see perfected. Having heard more than is contained in his communication, we will tell you his hobby. He wishes to get up a steam engine to propel itself when necessary, to plough, drive the reaper, and do all that labor now does with a span of horses; and also to be used as a stationary engine when required. His plans are as yet in his cranium. The engine is to turn round on the ground it stands on, if required; it is to ascend any hill that horses can, and descend as steadily. The economy of its workings are estimated, and a farmer is to go to church on Sunday with his own steam engine, and do all kinds of work cheaper than is now done by horses; horses are to be displaced by it. There will probably be plenty of our readers who will scout this idea, as invariably every new invention or improvement is sure to be derided by the masses; and some one poor solitary individual has to labour and toil, often despised, ridiculed, and called crazy, a fool, an idiot, &c., while the results of his work are taken up and used by the very parties who have derided them! If a good premium was offered to aid such, we think the public money might be expended for less useful purposes.

SMUT IN WHEAT.

SIR,—In the January number of your paper a Scotch agriculturist describes the cause of ball smut in wheat, but he says nothing about the way of preventing it. Having had experience in this matter for several years, I send you my recipe:—Make a strong brine, and put it in a small pot on the fire; then put in blue vitriol; let it simmer till the vitriol is dissolved; then put the prepared brine on the wheat, and let it stand some time, not less than 24 hours. It will not injure the sound wheat; the damaged grains only will turn blue. Just cover the wheat with the brine. One pound of vitriol is enough for five bushels of wheat. I see but little smut in this country, compared to what we had in Ireland.—There we never sowed our wheat unless prepared as above, and I never saw one head of smut in wheat, the seed of which had been treated with this preparation. N. HUGHES.
Treadwell, April 10, 1872.

SMUT IN WHEAT.

SIR,—I send you the result of a trial I made to test a preventative of smut in wheat: I took some good, clean wheat and rubbed it well with smut; I then divided it into three portions. No. 1, I sowed dry; No. 2, I wet with water and dried with lime; No. 3, I soaked in vitriol (sulphate of copper). I sowed the three parcels, and the result was as follows:—No. 1, the half of the product was smut; No. 2, nearly one-third was smut; No. 3, there were only very few grains affected with smut. I also sowed in the same field dry, clean wheat, which produced no smut.
J. W. HALL.

S. Monaghan, April 12, 1872.

TESTING OF SEEDS.

SIR,—Please send me the McCulling wheat that you offer to present to your subscribers. I am a director of the Agricultural Society of this township. I enclose the necessary amount, and will carefully test the wheat and send you the report in the fall.

I am much pleased with your paper, more particularly with the prominence given in it to the testing and dissemination of seeds, a work calculated to benefit the country very largely. I believe if Agricultural Societies would devote a large portion of their funds to the purchase and distribution of seeds among the members, it would be infinitely of more advantage to them individually and to the country at large, than the present mode of frittering away the money on Exhibitions.—You have devised and you are carrying out the very best method of benefiting the agriculturists and the country generally. I hope you will carry out fully your great design of having farmers throughout the whole country supplied with genuine tested seeds. I got a small quantity of Crown Peas from you, which have done well with me. They required better cultivation and cleaner ground than the common peas.

My filly from "Anglo Saxon," is acknowledged by competent judges to be the best in the township. She is rising two years old.
F. MACDON.

Seymour, April 11, 1872.

AGRICULTURAL FAIR.

SIR,—The first fair held in this village, for the sale of agricultural stock, grain, &c., was held to-day. The weather was not favorable, and, consequently, there was not much business done. There were a good many cattle offered for sale, but, owing to the scarcity of feed this season, they were not in the best condition. However, several cattle changed hands at fair prices, and also some sheep and horses. There were several thorough-bred and grade bulls on the ground. There was not the same competition and business done that there would be at fairs longer established; but every undertaking has its first day, and success follows perseverance. We hope the Fair of Warkworth will yet stand a No. 1 in the county of Northumberland.
JAS. CARLON.

Warkworth, April 10, 1872.

RATHER ROUGH.

SIR,—Last summer here was so dry that the crops were next to a failure, and most of the farmers contracted debts. Hay could not be bought under \$35 per ton, and most farmers will not have seed enough to put in their spring crop. This season, I trust, will not be as bad as the last.
THOS. CUDDELL.

North Kepple, April 5, 1872.