

150. AGGRESSION, Required. Romans. [After the recapture of Capua by Appius Claudius and Fulvius Flaccus,] when the Consuls returned home, they were refused a triumph. No Roman general, it was said, deserved a triumph for merely recovering what once belonged to the Republic.—LIDDELL'S *ROME*, p. 334.

151. AGRICULTURE, Ancient. Romans. In the early times of Rome the work of the farm was the only kind of manual labor deemed worthy of a free citizen. This feeling long survived, as may be seen from the praise bestowed on agriculture by Cicero, whose enthusiasm was caught from one of his favorite heroes, old Cato the Censor. The taste for books of farming continued. Varro the antiquarian, a friend of Cicero, has left an excellent treatise on the subject. A little later came the famous Georgics of Virgil, followed at no long interval by Pliny's notices, and then by the elaborate Dissertations of Columella, who refers to a great number of Roman writers on the same subject. It is manifest that the subject of agriculture possessed a strong and enduring charm for the Roman mind. But, from the times of the Hannibalic War, agriculture lost ground in Italy. When Cato was asked what was the most profitable kind of farming, he said, "Good grazing." What next? "Tolerable grazing." What next? "Bad grazing." What next? "Corn-growing." Later writers, with one accord, deplored the diminished productiveness of land.—LIDDELL'S *ROME*, p. 497.

152. AGRICULTURE, Anti-monopoly in. Romans. A high appreciation of agriculture appears to have been a fundamental idea among the early Romans. A tract of land was allotted to every citizen by the State itself, and each one was carefully restricted to the quantity granted. It was said by the orator Curius, that "he was not to be counted a good citizen, but rather a dangerous man to the State, who could not content himself with seven acres of land." The Roman acre being about one sixth less than ours, the law actually limited the possession to about six acres. As the nation became more powerful and extended its dominions by conquest, the citizen was allowed to hold fifty acres, and still later he could be the holder of five hundred.—AM. CYC., "AGRICULTURE."

153. AGRICULTURE, Attractions of. The Poet Horace. When cloyed with the pleasures of the imperial city, he had but to mount his mule and ride fifteen minutes, to reach his farm. His land, well covered with forest, and lying on both sides of a sparkling river, was tilled by five free families and eight slaves, and produced grain, wine, and olives. It abounded in pleasant, secluded scenes, fit for a poet's leisure; and there, too, he delighted to receive his friends from Rome; Mecenas himself being glad to repose there from the toils of government. To this day, Horace's farm is continually visited by travellers residing in Rome, especially by English and Americans.—CYCLOPEDIA OF BIOG., p. 376.

154. AGRICULTURE, Burdens of. By Artaxerxes, King of the Persians. Several of his sayings are preserved. One of them in particular discovers a deep insight into the consti-

tution of government. "The authority of the prince," said Artaxerxes, "must be defended by a military force; that force can only be maintained by taxes; all taxes must, at last, fall upon agriculture; and agriculture can never flourish except under the protection of justice and moderation."—GIBBON'S *ROME*, ch. 8.

155. AGRICULTURE burdened. Reign of Louis XIV. The progress of agriculture was still burdened by the servitudes of the soil. Each little farm was in bondage under a complicated system of irredeemable dues, to roads and canals; to the bakehouse and the brewery of the lord of the manor; to his winepress and his mill; to his tolls at the river, the market, or the fair; to ground rents and quit rents, and fines on alienation. The game laws let in the wild beasts and birds to fatten on the growth of the poor man's fields; and after his harvests provincial custom-houses blocked domestic commerce; the export of corn, and even its free circulation within the realm, was prohibited; so that one province might waste from famine and another want a market.—BANCROFT'S *U. S.*, vol. 7, ch. 7.

156. AGRICULTURE exalted. "Nearer Heaven." The great employment of France was the tillage of land, than which no method of gain is more grateful in itself or more worthy of freemen, or more happy in rendering service to the whole human race. No occupation is nearer heaven.—BANCROFT'S *U. S.*, vol. 5, ch. 2.

157. AGRICULTURE honored. Cincinnatus, Dictator of Rome. A successor was chosen to Valerius in the consulate, L. Quintus Cincinnatus, a man of great resolution and intrepidity, who, though himself so indigent as to cultivate with his own hands his paternal fields, and to be called from the plough to put on the robe of the consul, had yet the high spirit of an ancient patrician, which was ill-disposed to brook the insolence of the popular magistrates or acquiesce in the daily increasing pretensions of the inferior order.—TYTLEN'S *HIST.*, Book 3, ch. 5.

158. ———. Edmund Burke. [Edmund Burke] was an agricultural improver. Young saw him experimenting on carrots at his farm at Beaconsfield, and says, "Buckinghamshire will be much indebted to the attention this manly genius gives to husbandry."—KNIGHT'S *ENG.*, vol. 7, ch. 1.

159. AGRICULTURE, Pursuit of. Noblest Romans. The picture of the Roman people during the first five centuries is so perfectly distinct, so widely different from what we find it in the latter ages of the republic, that we might at first be induced to think that some very extraordinary causes must have co-operated to produce so total an alteration. Yet the transition was easy and natural, and was in the Roman people the necessary and inevitable consequence of that rich and luxurious situation in which the virtuous and heroic temper of the earlier times had conducted to place the republic. A spirit of temperance, of frugality, and of industry must be the characteristics of every infant colony. The poverty of the first Romans, the narrow territory to which they were limited, made it necessary for every citizen to labor for