

2. That drawings, specimens, or models, shall accompany writings requiring them.

3. That all competitors shall transmit a sealed note, containing their names and addresses, with a motto on it to correspond with the one inscribed on the essay.

4. That the Society shall have the power to publish the whole or any part of the Essays which gain the prizes: and the other Essays will be returned on application of the writers.

5. That the Society is not bound to give an award, unless they consider one of the Essays worthy of a prize.

6. That, in all reports of experiments, the expenses shall be accurately detailed; that only the imperial weights and measures are those by which calculations are to be made. That prizes may be taken either in money or plate, at the option of the successful candidates; and that no prize be given for any Essay which has already appeared in print.

NOTICE.

It is requested that all communications addressed to the Society, of experiments on land—whether of draining, liming, manuring, or other operation—be accompanied with the cost of such operation, with the value of the land to rent previous and subsequent thereto, and analysis of the soil upon which such experiments have taken place; or a specimen of the Soil to be analysed, by persons employed by the Society: it is also further requested that, in communications relative to experiments on land in foreign countries, the measures be stated in English values.

Those members who have tried subsoil-ploughing, whether successfully or otherwise, are requested to communicate the result to the Secretary, in the hope that, by comparison of the statements, some judgment may be arrived at as to the soils and situations which are, or are not, suited for this operation.

By order of the Council,

JAMES HEDSON,
Secretary.

We copy the following article from a most excellent journal, the *Marine Farmer*. Though it was intended to apply to the citizens of the United States, it contains useful hints to the people of every country.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE.—"The time, faith, and energy." Perhaps there never was a period in our history, when greater necessity existed for the recuperative energies of the people, and of the country, than at the present moment. Thousands have been injured by the vicissitudes of trade and the changes of fortune. The rich have become poor, and the independent have lost their means of support. Many under such circumstances are disposed to despond. They fear that their chances have gone by, that the tide of their affairs has been at its flood and is subsiding, that the future has little hope or no encouragement for them. Not so, however, in a country like ours, if they possess health and energy, and are on the sunny side of fifty. Ingenuity, industry, and perseverance, "time, faith and energy" will accomplish much.—Some of the most eminent men that ever lived were comparatively obscured in early life.—Adversity not only tested their energies, but it roused and excited their minds. They saw the necessity of an extraordinary struggle; and nerving themselves to the trials and temptations of life, they rushed on boldly, and in most cases with success. The truth is, that experience, although a severe, is a most excellent task-master. No one knows better how to enjoy wealth than the individual who has acquired it through the sweat of the brow. Few understand the real mutations and the true philosophy of life, who have not seen the air-blown bubbles of youth and hope fade away as they attempted to clasp them, who have not realized much of the disappointment and vexation to which flesh is heir. It is only by trial that we feel the spirit of manhood within us, and with a moral courage, worthy a lofty and intellectual nature, determine not to be intimidated by a single blow of misfortune, or be disheartened because clouds and darkness occasionally obscure the prospect. This at least is the true policy. The Deity has given us many noble attri-

butes. We live in a world which presents many means of sustenance. Our country is rich in soil, fertility, in health and in enterprise. Millions yet unborn may grow up and prosper upon her bosom, while new sources of industry, of wealth, and of prosperity, are developed with every year of our national existence. Again, then, we say to those who have suffered, or are suffering from the mutations of fortune, be not cast down, do not despair. Gather a lesson from some of the frail, but green and glorious vines, which, born in darkness and obscurity, spring forward and court the sunshine and the light, as essential to their existence. The gloom of to-day may serve but to prelude the glory of tomorrow. The thick cloud which hovers above, and darkens our path, may soon pass away, and give place to the blue skies and the golden sunshine. "Nature," observes an eloquent writer, "scatters the seeds of genius to the winds, and though some may be choked by the thorns and brambles of early adversity, yet others will now and then strike root; even in the clefts of the rock, struggle bravely up into sunshine, and spread over their birth-place all the beauties of vegetation." So with the ways of fortune. It is a cherished theory of ours, that sooner or later, even in this life, the beings who cling to truth, virtue, and integrity, who have hope in heaven, and make proper use of the faculties and energies with which they are blessed by Providence, will ultimately succeed, and may, in the true spirit of philosophy, smile upon the storms and tempests, by which, for a time, they may be surrounded. "Time, faith, and energy," are especially essential after such a convulsion as has been experienced in the monetary and commercial world of this Union. The worst, we feel satisfied, has gone by. The *Future* should not be disregarded, for in that future, with the proper faculties, animated by the proper motives, and pursuing steadily and vigilantly, laudable objects, contentment, peace and prosperity will assuredly be found. .

ROBERT MORRIS.

GOOD FELLOWSHIP OF ROOKS.—There is one trait in the character of the rook which I believe peculiar to that bird, and which does him no little credit—it is the distress which is exhibited when one of his fellows had been killed or wounded by a gun, while they have been feeding in a field or flying over it. Instead of being scared away by the report of the gun, leaving their wounded or dead companions to his fate, they show the greatest anxiety and sympathy for him, uttering cries of distress, and plainly proving that they wish to render him assistance, by hovering over him, or sometimes making a dart from the air close up to him, apparently to try and find out the reason why he did not follow them,

"While circling round and round

They call their lifeless comrade from the ground."

If he is wounded and can flutter along the ground the rooks appear to animate him to make fresh exertions, by incessant cries, flying a little distance before him, and calling to him to follow them. I have seen one of my labourers pick up a rook which he had shot at for the purpose of putting him up as a scarecrow in a field of wheat, and, while the poor wounded bird was still fluttering in his hand, I have observed one of his companions make a wheel round in the air, and suddenly dart past him, so as almost to touch him, perhaps with the last hope that he might still afford assistance to his unfortunate mate or companion. Even when the dead bird has been hung in *terrorem* to a stake in the field he has been visited by some of his former friends, but as soon as they have found that the case was hopeless they have generally abandoned that field altogether.—*Jesse's Gleaning's in Natural History.*

POVERTY.—At a late celebration, a poor man who was present offered the following toast: "Here is a health to *Poverty*—it sticks by you when all other friends forsake you."

In 1272 a man was paid but about four cents a day for labor. At that time a Bible with marginal references cost \$133, requiring the entire wages of thirteen years labor.