

FARM AND FIELD.**"SUCCESS IN FARMING."**

The following is a synopsis of the able address before the Oshawa Farmers' Club, by Mr. John Dryden, M.P.P. for South Ontario, to which reference was made in our last issue. It is abbreviated from the *Globe's* report of the meeting at which the address was given:

Success in farming, he said, could not be attained in the highest degree except under the most favourable circumstances. In order to have success in farming, there were

THREE INDISPENSABLY NECESSARY CONDITIONS.

First, a good farm; second, the farm must be in a good locality; third, there must be sufficient capital to run it to advantage; and, having those conditions, there must be skilful and proper management. When they had the first three it would seem to be easy to add the latter, but they often saw a young man who, left in such circumstances, by-and-by became embarrassed, and was perhaps forced to leave the country as well. On the other hand, a man sometimes commenced farming in a poor location, and attained perhaps not the highest success, but the highest compatible with the circumstances, and purchased another farm, perhaps the one owned by the man first spoken of. As to the management, it was perhaps unfortunate that a rule could not be laid down which would suit every farmer, the reason being the differences in soil, climate, and other surroundings. It would be found that if a rule were laid down for one farmer it would be unsuitable for another; so a farmer must be a man of thought and judgment to make the best of his circumstances. Their fathers could scatter the seed in a rude manner upon the virgin soil and look forward to a good crop, but they could not do that now, the circumstances being changed, and they must adapt themselves to those circumstances if they would attain the highest success. The

FARMER MUST BE A MAN OF THOUGHT,

so as to lay his plans, and having laid his plans, he must work to them day by day if he would accomplish the best results. He had no sympathy with the man who would plod on and toil in the same paths in which his father had toiled, without stopping to consider whether he was taking the best course. It would be important to stop and consider whether some other plan would not be better. It had been said that there were ten ways of doing a thing—a right way and a wrong way, an easy way and a hard way, a skilful way and an awkward way, a neat way and a slovenly way, and a cheap way and an expensive way. He advised the farmer to stop and consider, and choose the first of each of the ways mentioned. Again, the

FARMER MUST BE A MAN OF LABOUR.

His business did not differ from any other business. The labouring man in every department of life was the man who succeeded. The man who would do great things must labour. He did not mean to say that in every case it would be to the advantage of the farmer to labour with his hands upon the farm. Perhaps it might not be expedient. But the farmer must have control of the labour.

He ought to have a practical knowledge of all its details. It would be better if he could handle the plough, and fork, and spade, so that he could the better direct his men. Again, the successful farmer should be a

MAN THAT IS NOT ABOVE HIS BUSINESS, nor ashamed to be found giving attention to it. He made a strong point of this. The man who was ashamed of being found in the shop or of soiling his hands had better turn his attention to something else, as he would never succeed. He would find that obstacles would present themselves, and that man would not succeed as a farmer. They could not expect to carry on farming in Canada as they did in England. There were three classes in England—first, the landlord; second, the farmer; and third, the labourer—all distinct. In Canada they found all these combined in one—the farmer, the proprietor of the land which he tilled, giving directions, and having to put himself alongside of the labourer in accomplishing the work to which he gave his attention. The farmer should be a man who could

MAKE THE BEST USE OF THE LABOUR

at his hand, and especially so if he were undertaking to manage a large farm. It was a very easy thing to accomplish as much work by proper manipulation with six men as another man would by improper manipulation with nine men. That was a point which needed some attention. Mr. Dryden here detailed a number of little instances in which the labour could be utilized to better advantage. Another element of success in farming was to

KEEP THE WORK WELL AHEAD.

There was an old adage which they had often heard, and which was perfectly true: "Drive the work, or the work will drive you." If they got behind they were working at a disadvantage, and the work was driving them. To be sure they laboured under disadvantages; for instance, they could not control the weather. That was the time when the farmer must use his best judgment, and bring the work into the position in which he desired it should be. The Canadian farmer could not go along in the way that farmers did in other countries. In other countries they had longer seasons, but the work in Canada had to be done in a limited period, or not done at all. They must be on the alert. He would not advise a man to crowd his workmen. The chances were, that on a well-regulated farm the men would be inspired with sufficient enthusiasm to make a "spurt" when it was required, but because they could do so occasionally, he would not ask them to do so every day; because the men would get disheartened and would not work as well. He condemned the practice of racing at work, as it formed a habit of working irregularly. He made a strong point of working regular hours on the farm, as he did not see why a man working on a farm should not have regular hours of labour as well as the man who worked in a manufacturing establishment. He was among the first in his own neighbourhood to commence the practice. They ought to follow the golden rule in this matter, and put themselves in the places of the servants, and consider how they would wish to be treated. He not only put the

matter on that ground, but he guaranteed that more work would be done in regular hours than when work was done irregularly. Mr. Dryden then proceeded to speak of the

MATTER OF DRAINAGE.

He knew of nothing that would pay better than the drainage. He wished he could impress upon farmers the importance of paying more attention to this matter. He saw farm after farm whose value could be doubled, and in some cases trebled, by a proper system of drainage. While he said this, he wished to impress upon them the necessity of doing it properly, as a great deal of money had been wasted in draining because the work had been improperly done. In draining he would advise them to have as few outlets as possible, but to pay strict attention to those outlets. The farmers had no settled purpose in this matter. The work also could not be done in a year. For twenty years he had been constructing drains on his own farm, and he had not got through yet. There was scarcely a field without a drain in it. No matter how skilfully a farm was managed, if the soil were wet the results would not be such as their skill and industry would achieve if the land were properly drained. The next point to which he referred was the necessity for a

THOROUGH TILLAGE OF THE SOIL.

Some farmers studied to see how little labour they could expend upon the land and get a crop, instead of studying how much labour they could bestow upon it with the certainty of getting an ample return. They required to plough and harrow and pulverize the land a great deal more, as they had not the same virgin soil to deal with as their fathers had fifty years ago. They should take an example from the gardener, who raked and pulverized the ground so that every seed he put down grew. By following the last two points they would be able to carry out what he considered another element of success in farming, viz.,

EARLY SOWING.

He knew that some would not agree with him, but he was very decided upon it. He did not care what kind of ground it was, he wanted it sown early—as early as they could get the seed into the ground. Of course if the land were not drained it could not be done. It also showed the necessity of more thorough tillage. But it might be said that they were afraid of the frosts, that in a certain year barley was nipped. He did not believe a word of it. Farmers would say that it was no use sowing early, as there was no growth in the ground, but he knew that that was not true. To bear out his contention Mr. Dryden cited a couple of instances in his own experience, in which, after sowing, the ground had been frozen, but the seed in both instances was uninjured, and yielded good crops. There was more risk run by sowing late than early. Early sowing was a decided element of success in farming. The next matter was

ROTATION OF CROPS.

The successful farmer would be able to tell not only what he would sow this year, but for several years to come, because he would have in his mind a regular rotation of crops. A great deal was said about this matter, but a cast-iron rule could not be laid down, be-