

read, and as familiar with the principles of philosophy, both moral and natural, as the Divine, the Physician or the Lawyer. We do not mean that they should be so well versed in the particular professions as each of these, but they should be versed in *general principles*, in the application of the laws deduced therefrom to the practical duties of the several stations in life. Nothing more is necessary than a *desire* to do it. The avenues of knowledge, in this country, are open to all. Books can be had in abundance, which will guide, —instruction lies in your daily path, all that is to keep the eyes open and the mind active. Improve the mind and you elevate yourselves. Elevate yourselves and you take an equal rank with those of the same grade, and have an equal command as those, who now, perhaps, rule you. A most pernicious opinion has been heretofore prevalent in regard to the knowledge requisite for a farmer or a mechanic. Indeed we have heard some gravely argue, that the less of book *larning* he had the better he "was off," because he would be "more contented and less aspiring." Aspiring, forsooth! as if because a man holds a plough, or pushes a foreplane, he should be an ignorant Ass all his days. This is sheer nonsense. There is no pursuit which can expand the mind more than the Agricultural or Mechanical Arts. They are the very demonstrations of science in every particular.

The practical operator in either of these grand divisions of labor, cannot make a single movement in his occupation, without putting into practice and illustration, some one of the laws of mechanical or chemical philosophy. Why should he not understand, then, what he is about? Why should he not be able to look as far into the mysteries of the natural world as any other man? Nay, why should he not be a pioneer, and lead others, instead of being an humble follower, treading with faltering, doubtful footsteps, far in the rear of the professional man? Who is to blame for his not being first and foremost? Who is to blame if the Non-producers take the lead and rule, and govern and dictate to the producer? Who but the Producer himself, who has suffered his talent to lie unimproved—his intellect to be unenlightened, and his mind to be undisciplined in the very things so essential to his success, his prosperity and his happiness.

"The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our STARS,  
But IN OURSELVES, that we are underlings."

#### THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Our printer neglected to give credit to the *American Agriculturist* for the article upon "Artificial Oysters," on the 135th page; upon "Batter-making," on the 138th page; and upon "Too much Land," on the 142d page of the 3d volume of the *Cultivator*, for which we beg to offer an apology. We trust that in future the like will not occur, and that none will have reason to complain on the score of our not giving credit where credit is due.

#### FARMERS' CLUBS AND LIBRARIES.

If any class of the community would be benefitted more than another from clubs or associations based upon the sound and philanthropic principle of mutual benefit, it is the agriculturists; entertaining this view, we feel it an incumbent duty as a journalist, to point out a few of the benefits that would result to our brother farmers were they to take the necessary steps to establish within their several circles of influence, or even within the limits of each township; a Farmers' Club and Library. The isolated residence of the rural classes, their limited means of obtaining information, and the very imperfect system of educational institutions heretofore in operation in the country; all clearly point out the necessity of something being done, by which the independent yeomanry of the province may be made better acquainted with the various influences that affect their noble calling—skill in agriculture can be obtained by practical experience, by acute and extended observations, by reading the best treatises written upon agriculture, by mutual communications, by conversation with intelligent farmers, and by comparing the result of experiments. With the exception of the first means pointed out to obtain instruction, it is to be feared that but a small proportion of the Canadian farmers will give themselves any trouble or anxiety in the matter. It is a fact, no less strange than true, that the experience of the Canadian farmers are confined to their respective districts or neighbourhoods, and they have given themselves no concern in comparing their own methods of agriculture with the methods practiced in other districts. No man should take it for granted that because he has been thirty or forty years employed as a far-