

Implements that are Wanted.

Wonders have been wrought during recent years in the line of agricultural invention, but we have not yet got near the end of our necessities. We want several implements before we can feel that our list is complete. But probably it will never be complete.

We want another harrow. We will not take it upon ourselves to say all that that harrow should be. But we will mention some of the things that it should do. It should move on wheels. It should have many and fine teeth, so that weeds could be put in tribulation all over the surface covered by the harrow. The teeth should be readily adjustable. They should be so arranged that they could be raised or lowered at the will of the driver. The harrow should be capable of only stirring the surface of the ground to an inch in depth, and it should also be capable of going down three inches into the soil, as may be wanted. Such a harrow would manifestly answer for a great variety of uses. It would harrow over ground in fine form after corn had appeared above the surface of the ground, or even sooner. It would stir surfaces that had been sown to grain when there was occasion for it. It would harrow crops that had been eaten off by sheep and were of a character that would grow up again, and it would also do for ordinary harrowing.

A machine is wanted that will sow several drills of such seeds as mangels, turnips, carrots, and rape in rows on the level. It should sow several rows at a time. This want does not arise because of the fact that it is more convenient to cultivate those crops when thus grown, for it is not, but for the reason that in some soils we are more sure of a stand when they are sown on the level. The idea of sowing any larger area of them is simply absurd if they have to be put in by hand, or with a drill that will sow but one row at a time.

We want a machine that will sow all kinds of grain, and that will sow all kinds of grass seeds at the same time. We have machines that will sow the ordinary kinds of grain and also grass seeds, such as timothy, clover, and alfalfa, but these machines will not sow such large seeds as those of blue grass, orchard grass, or the fescues. If such machines are in existence, their introduction has been but recent. In the western country we shall want machines that will sow sorghum and rape in various combinations.

And we want a machine that will cut corn

and bind it any form in which it may be grown. Such a machine is coming, but it may be some time before it will do all kinds of corn reaping, and in a manner that will prove quite satisfactory. Such a machine will have to be strong, if it is to do its work well, and we must not expect it to be too light of draught. And, if it can elevate the corn into a wagon at the same time, the advantage will be so much the greater when the corn is to be put into the silo. The wagon, of course, would have to be driven alongside of the binder when at work.

These implements do not by any means exhaust the list. Others could be named, but those mentioned will suffice to illustrate our meaning. It is evident, therefore, that fresh laurels may be reaped by other inventors in the lines of tillage. Who will be foremost to occupy the ground? Who will be the first to win the honors?

To the Boys of the Farm.

We take it for granted, boys, that you are going to remain on the farm. No course can be wiser with the average young lad who begins life under conditions so favorable. It is a fact which cannot be gainsaid that for every ten men who go to the wall in merchandise, there is not one who goes to the wall in farming. The difference is even greater, but we desire to be moderate. Since it is so, think twice, then, boys, before you determine to leave the farm.

Taking it for granted that you are going to follow the calling of your fathers, we urge you to prepare yourselves for the work. Some persons think that the only preparation necessary is to do as father has done. That sounds very well, but it may not be enough. If father has been a very superior farmer, it may do very well; but if he has been only an average one, or even less than average, it does not sound so well. We do well to remember that this is an age of progress, and it is progress which applies to farming as well as to other things.

Be anxious, boys, to so fit yourselves for your work that you will lead in farming, rather than follow. It is a grand business, viewed in the light of the opportunity which it brings for discovery. We have not got nearly to the bottom of this great, grand science; hence, every one who engages in farming may become a discoverer. No oppor-