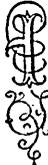


his lawns or "architectural dove-cots," or other "fancy" operations, he does not tell us, and expenses of that kind have nothing to do with the farm management.

Such figures as these will strike readers very differently, according to the various circumstances in which they are placed. What seems large to a New-Englander (outside of the most fertile valleys,) may have quite another look on the rich grain farms of Western New-York, and perhaps no meaning at all to the wholesale Prairie farmer. But taking an old farm, improving it as has been done, and adapting the products obtained to the nearest market—the example is a fair illustration of the idea with which we set out, that capital and foresight for the future are essential elements in profitable farming. To answer a parallel objection to that already noticed—"but we can't all of us live by selling milk, and if we tried to, who would buy it?"—we may add that the great problem for every wide awake man is to choose his own department and *excel in it*; if there is eager competition, to out-run his competitors, but of course to let the competition he is likely to meet have its due weight, with other considerations, in deciding the end he is to seek. And every such contribution as this to the recorded statistics of farm management, we would have studied and "inwardly digested," although we may be incurring the danger to which Mr. Mitchell alludes in speaking of the accounts that are published of many a prominent farm—that the neighbors of its proprietor, "when they read of him in their agricultural journal—if they take one—as a progressive and successful agriculturist, may laugh a little in their sleeves in a quiet way, and conceive, I am afraid, the same unfortunate distrust of the farm journal, which we all entertain—of the political ones."

HINTS TO THRIFTLESS FARMERS.

N almost every agricultural community are to be found men calling themselves farmers, who, to say the least of them, are not as thriving and prosperous as others would like to see them. For no well-wisher of his race desires to see his neighbors unthrifty. No one who cares for the reputation of his neighborhood, or the reputed value of his own property, wishes to see the property or the condition of those around him deteriorating. No lover of his country and of a sound political economy, likes to

see the resources of his town or of the country unproductive from mismanagement. We are aware that many in all classes of business, meet with ill success and discouragements from ill health, from sickness or death in families, or from other unavoidable misfortunes. But we have no reference to these. We allude only to those whose ill success arises from causes within their own control.

Permit us just to allude to some of these causes in the form of a few practical hints. Perhaps it may help us

"To see ourselves as ithers see us,
And thus *fræ many a blunder fræe us.*"

1. Live largely by borrowing, sagely concluding that you cannot afford to buy or make your own tools, till you get a little more "forehanded."

2. After years of experience in borrowing of accommodating neighbors, convince yourself that it is cheaper to borrow than to buy, and *keep on borrowing*. Never keep a supply of such common tools as harrows, plows, manure forks, and hoes, as long as you can get them by going after them; and if you chance to *break* one, return it in that condition, and say you think it must have been *cracked* when you borrowed it.

3. Attend all the *farm auctions* you can hear of, and "bid off" all the old waggons and worn out implements that you think are "going" cheap, including "any quantity of old "trumpery" that the owners have long thrown by as useless. Should your new purchases need repairs, or break down soon, leave them in the roadside for future repairs; but do not disturb them again till they are rotten, scattered, and gone.

4. When any vehicle or tool *partially* fails, or shows signs of weakness, keep on using it thus, (thinking it will hold this time,) till it comes to a general "smash-up;" then throw it by till you can get it repaired, (which you should mind never to do,) and borrow your neighbor's till the next auction.

5. Never think of mending a tool till you want to use it. As you cannot stop to mend it then, leave it unmended till you are otherwise provided, and conclude not to mend it at all.

6. Keep the waysides along your premises filled up with pieces of waggons, carts, sleds, coal boxes, hay riggings, superannuated harrows, old boards, rotten logs, rails, and lumber.