

WEEKLY MONITOR.

Practical Talks and Plain Precepts for Farmers.

Edited for the farmer readers of the MONITOR by an Annapolis Valley Agriculturist

We invite contributions, criticism and questions bearing on agriculture or horticulture and will be glad to answer the latter, or will undertake to have them answered by experts. We want to make this a helpful corner of the Monitor and not only for the farmers but what will be of greater benefit, one by the farmers. (Ed.)

The City and the Country.

(By Wm. R. Miller in Mirror and Farmer)

Agriculture has suffered and has been given a low rank in the past by those engaged in other industries and the professions because judged by false standards which have been set in the minds of people in general on account of the inexcusable failure of indolent and unskilled men engaged in it. Of course it would be fair to judge other industries by the appearance of those who follow in them, and to judge agriculture by this false standard.

Everybody familiar with rural conditions who exist to-day, or have existed in the past, knows that there are earnest, industrious and energetic country boys for getting his quiet life and going forth to conquer the world. He has, as a rule, the American spirit somewhat more genuinely fixed in his bosom than any other youth of the general population.

Moreover, there are within him the reserve force, the physical freshness and neatness, the heart and the soul to take hold of the lowest, roughest, and most unattractive of jobs, and to do them steadily on the top.

His sense are not dulled by satiety; he has few appetitions, and at the age of twenty, his ambition, his eyesight, is trained for longer distances than the youth whose days have been spent between narrower walls.

And so he goes forth to seek and to conquer and he finds he wins. But what is to become of the country? Who are to work the farms if the population continues to fall?

Abandoned farms are found by the hundreds in New England. All along the hillsides are tens of thousands of acres which are not producing. They are the great waste lands of the country.

Another cause for the unpopulated condition of the country is the natural course of events in the development of the country, and is beyond the power of any individual to prevent.

It is not, as many suppose, a tendency that belongs only to the United States; the same drift is seen in England, in South America, in every part of the globe. It is a world movement.

What is to become of the farms? The cry goes up steadily. Every year millions are lost because they are not enough farmers to gather the crops.

In the face of these facts, it is easy to forget the tremendous importance of the agricultural interests. To have other great industries, other amazing statistics, but the farms still remain our most stupendous total; they are the basis on which all the rest of our life is built.

There are upwards of six millions of them in this country alone. Their value is over twenty billions. Their products approach five billions annually. They spend nearly four billions a year. Five millions of these farms are operated by white people, and nearly a million by negroes.

These numbers increase each year, and one says why the farmers are able to get along in that they have not begun that race outside about which President Roosevelt complained so much recently. A big factor in rural life is the city influence which cuts down the number of children.

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Advertisement for KUMFORT HEADACHE POWDERS. Includes an illustration of a man's face and text describing the product's benefits for various types of headaches.

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