acres. The work once begun would demonstrate its economy and lead to the watering of all the available portions of the farm. Lands that are now an incumbrance, hardly paying taxes, might be brought into a high state of productiveness. We call the attention of our readers to this very important topic at this season, when the scythe sweeps so many acres. prolific in five-finger and briars, but poor in grass. Cheap and careless irrigation pays, and the more systematic and perfect it is the better it pays, as a general rule. Use our streams rightly, and we shall find them richer than Pactolus, plowing over golden sands.

What increases the Productiveness of our Fields.

1. Careful preparation of the ground. Draining when the soil is wet. Deep and careful plowing. The plowing of the Arabs in Palestine is not much better than our harrowing, and their crops are in proportion. A field near me was drained by tile, in the wet places, then well plowed, subsoiled, and manured, and in three or four years it produced a remarkable growth of trees, and gave abundance of fruit for the family.

2. Careful selection of seed. Poor seed, as a general rule, produces its like. A little pains in the selection of the best seed will often add materially to the amount of the produce.

3. Careful tillage. Hoeing, plowing, cultivating, all aid in the productiveness of the soil. "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread." Doubtless the more labor a man bestows in this way, the more he will be rewarded in the harvest.

4. Again, the amount of rain and heat from heaven has much to do with the productiveness of the ground. A cold and frosty season, or a wet and damp one, may take away much from the natural fruitfulness of the ground; or where the heat is abundant and the rain plenty, and all things favorable, they will sometimes add greatly to the yeld of harvests. In other words, there are causes beyond the reach of human ingenuity and skill which are affecting our crops. The best prepared ground and the most careful cultivation cannot always insure abundance. A frost, a drouth, or an unpropitious heaven may frustrate all one's labours. This leads to another cause, which enters largely into the productiveness of the ground, and which we are in danger of overlooking.

5. He that created the earth has a specific object for it to accomplish. Nothing was made in vain, or to be abused or misused. An all-wise God has a design for everything to accomplish. If men work in harmony with that design, they can of course produce larger results than if they work against it. If you plant and sow at the right seasons, you can do much better than if you run contrary to nature in that respect,—that is, contrary to the wishes of the Creator. If anyone undertakes to accomplish the same object which God has in view, it requires no proof to believe that he will be successful. When men work with the divine working, a better result is of course to be obtained. One cannot raise corn in winter, nor make ice in summer. To succeed, he must obey the laws of the Creator. And further, the more of these laws he takes into consideration, and the more of them he observes, the greater of course will be his chances of success. If in all things we could work with God, doubtless the divine blessing would work wonderfully in our favour. In a certain case. He told the Israelites, "I will command my blessing upon you in the sixth year, and it shall bring forth fruit for *three years*." Lev. xxv. 21. It were surely irrational to believe that He who created all things cannot, if He choose, make them produce more at one time than another. Cannot He show His divine pleasure in the productiveness of the fields as well as by His grace and spirit? He promised His people that if they would keep His commandments, He would bless the fruit of their land, their corn, their wine, and their oil, the increase of their kine, and the flocks of their sheep. Deut. vii. 13. And so, in certain seasons they had abundance; and again, when the people displeased Him, they had famine, bad harvests, and trouble. This is not an old and forgotten truth only. A slight effort to reason will convince any one that God has as specific a purpose to work out now as ever. He wants to use the creation and the works of His hands to accomplish His designs as much at the present moment as at the beginning. And He will accomplish those designs. If men will aid him in performing His will on earth, doubtless they will obtain much larger results than in any other way. God wants men to be social, benevolent, doing good to each other. He wants all His gifts to be used for the benefit of the world. But if men take and use them for selfish purposes, for sin, for crime and shame, can we expect things to go on as smoothly as when used for the good of men? If men pervert the productions of the harvest can they expect them to be as abundant as when they are made to benefit the people and cause of God? In other words, when we put goodness and righteousness and truth and benevolence and the kingdom of heaven first, then we may expect the blessing of heaven to abound in our harvests as well as in our hearts. Where the Creator of all things is pleased, all things will work well.

Here, then, are *five things* to be attended to by farmers and others, in connection with their labors in the field. May neither one of them be omitted.

Farmers and Farming.

Who are the farmer's servants? Chemistry; the pure air; the water brook; the lightning cloud; the winds that have blown an interminable succession of years before he was born; the sun which has for ages soaked the land with light and heat, melted the earth, decomposed the rocks and covered them with frost, and accumulated the stagnum which makes the heat of the meadow. The students of all nations have, in past ages, been dedicating their education to universal science, and they have reformed our school books and our terminology. The four quarters of the globe are no longer Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, but carbon, oxygen, hydrogen and nitrogen. The four seasons of the year are now gravitation, light, heat and electricity. Science