

generally practiced we should have more good farmers, and less broken-down merchants, or loafing hanging-on, time-serving clerks, ready for anything except honorable labor and usefulness."

The girls, too, may not be confined to housework and plain or fancy sewing. We know of no better way to encourage them, too, than by giving the care of a good flock of poultry. It will please them immensely, and very few have any adequate idea of the large profit that will accrue from a small flock well kept. Here is a story of the way in which a Vermont girl regained her health and made money:

"A farmer's daughter, in delicate health, living on the Vermont side of the Connecticut River, took charge of twelve hens in February, 1867. Part of the hens were set with turkeys' eggs. The flock of chickens and turkeys was quite numerous and well fattened by Thanksgiving. Seventy eggs were used in the family during the first year, and seven turkeys (the best ones) given away at Thanksgiving. Much the same liberality was used each year. The total cash received for eggs and poultry during the three years was three hundred and thirty four dollars and fifty cents. The cost of keeping was fully met by the eggs used in the family so the above amount is clear profit. In addition to this, the invalid is much improved in health. The food for the fowls was mainly corn and cobmeal given warm in cold weather; boiled potatoes and hog-scraps, an excellent addition, given occasionally. Few know the real profit of keeping hens. So many think "they don't pay" that little care is given them. Let them have good, comfortable quarters, and food properly prepared, and they are the most profitable investment a farmer can make requiring so little capital."

Another one tried hens and chickens on a large scale, and here is the report:

1869.	POULTRY.	Dr.
October 10	—To stock on hand, 98 to 75....	\$73 50
	Cost of feed one year....	119 36
		\$192 86
1870.	POTLTRY	Cr.
October 10.	—By eggs sold.....	\$118 86
	Chickens sold.....	91 10
	Poultry (hens) sold....	19 94
	Stock on hand, 76 to 75c	57 00
		\$287 00
	Profit.....	94 14
Besides, they used all the eggs and poul-		

try they wanted in the family, and had a fine pile of manure.

In this way it will be seen that the farmer is paid himself for all the food taken from the farm for the food of the poultry; has had many a nice chicken, and so saved a butcher's bill; has got left a valuable pile of manure; and still his daughter makes nearly \$100 for her trouble. Think how far this will go in making home and inmates happy.

THE FARM AND THE CITY.

There is a host of young men in Canada, farmers' sons, weary of country life, and aching to try their luck in the city, who might read and ponder to advantage the following communication and the reply to it, which appeared in a recent number of *The Advance*, a religious paper published weekly in Chicago. The counsel tendered to John—and the half-million young men who like him are anxious to escape from the farm to the city, is eminently judicious, and we commend it most heartily to the restless, aspiring youth of our own land.

To the Commercial Editor of the *Advance*:

I am a farmers boy, eighteen years old, have good health and a common school education. Father offers me a fair chance if I stay on the farm, but I have a taste for life in the city. What do you advise me to do.

JOHN—.

Probably "John" is but one of half a million young men in the United States who, like him, are longing to escape from the imagined dullness of the farm to the apparent gayety of the city. What counsel should be given them? The importance to themselves and society of a right decision is incalculable. It will not do to pretend that the subject is disposed of in a lump by the four words, "Stick to the farm." It is sometimes best that the farmer's boy should *not* follow his father's calling. The cities must annually draw fresh blood, muscle and brain from the meadows and the hills, or burn themselves out by the intensity of their own existence. Statistics would probably show that a vast majority of the men who are to-day successful and prominent in the professions and business life were reared in agricultural homes. The rugged strength that is born of the country, supplemented by the after culture