

Ryerson, the founder of the public school system, of Ontario, who, in his introduction to his text-book on agriculture, for use in the Ontario public schools, as far back as 1870, wrote as follows:—

"Identified, as I am, by birth and early education, with the agricultural publication of this country, I regret to see so many of our agricultural youth leave the noblest of earthly employments, and the most independent of social pursuits, for the professions, the counting-room, the warehouse, and even for petty clerkships and little shops. I know that persons in public offices, and inhabitants of cities and towns, who have no farms, must, for the most part, bring up their sons to other employments than that of agriculture. Personal peculiarities and relations may prompt to the same course, in regard to some farmers' sons, and a divine call may select from the farm, as well as from the shop and the college, for a divine vocation; but that, as a general rule, the sons of farmers, as soon as they begin to be educated, leave the farm, is a misfortune to the parties themselves,—a loss to agriculture and the country. A boy's leaving the farm because he has, or is acquiring, a good education, is an assumption or admission, by all consenting parties, that a farmer does not need such an education; and as long as this error is admitted, by farmers not being educated, agriculture will be looked down upon, instead of being looked up to, as a pursuit for educated men.

"Educated farmers, educated merchants and educated manufacturers and mechanics will not only develop and advance the material interests of the country, but its civil and social interests, by enabling the people to select, chiefly, intelligent and well-to-do men from these classes, as their representatives,—men not needing an office for support, or making politics a trade,—affording the best chance of practical wisdom, and honesty in legislation and government, and the hope of producing the great public desideratum,—a generation of honest politicians and patriotic statesmen."

TO BE CONTINUED.

Life.

The grass is springing fresh and green,
 The buds are bursting from their bed,
 Bright Earth has doffed cold Winter's screen,—
 The sky is blue o'erhead.
 On through many a long, long day
 The growth keeps on; in wealth, at length,
 The blossom to the fruit gives way;
 Each weakness turns to strength.
 Soon Autumn, in a sterner mood,
 With chilling breath and clouded brow,
 Plucks fruit and leaf, with finger rude,
 From ev'ry branch and bough.
 Down leaf, down fruit,—no thing he spares,
 Down, surely, ev'rything must go;