

portation to our wiser English brethren, persuaded Mr. COULSON of Albany, to establish his bone-mill. What, however, did the farmers then want of bone-dust? There was no demand, and we believe after its efforts the machinery lay a long time idle. But for a number of years past, it has been taxed to its utmost we are told, and all that it could turn out found a ready disposal, generally to dealers at wholesale.

Another important direction in which progress here occurs to us, is in the better tilth which land now receives. The sub-soil plow, and plows of other kinds, the more thorough use of the harrow, the roller, too, are every day effecting more and more in this respect. The depth and fineness of the soil, increased by these and other means, place within the reach of the growing plant, food which it could not otherwise obtain; and one of the great wants, perhaps the greatest of the present day, is for machinery still further to cheapen and perfect our present modes of reaching the requisites in question.

Farm buildings have shared the benefit of general improvement. Very few farms had more than a simple unplanned, unpainted, weather-beaten, "thirty by forty" barn, with perhaps a short cow-shed attached, except in the older regions along the sea-board; at the present moment, complete ranges of well built barns, stables, sheds and other convenient structures, are seen in every direction. The large, square, bleak two-story farm-houses, with their rows of numerous windows are now rapidly giving place to neater, more modest, and more home-like dwellings, and ornamental planting and the neat embellishment of door-yards, are every day becoming more justly appreciated—more nearly regarded as Heaven intended they should be, by intelligent beings placed upon a world full of natural beauty.

And if we go to these better out-buildings, of which we have spoken, or to the broad pastures beyond them, is there no amelioration to be seen in the domestic animals which form an item so important in the farmer's livelihood? Notwithstanding the celebrated achievements of the Oakes' cow, we should like to call some of the Dairymen of Lewis and Washington counties in this State, and of Ohio, as well as other states, to the witness stand on this point. We should like to have the testimony of the New-York butchers of 1858 and of 1881. We should like to hear what the pork-packers, the wool-growers and manufacturers, and farmers themselves, have to say on the subject. Because, if the Collings, and Bates, and Davy, and Jonas Webb, and many other similarly infatuated Englishmen, have really been the subjects of unfortunate delusion, we should be happy to communicate the fact to them or to their present representatives. And if the long line of those Americans whose names will be found recorded in tables of statistics of "live stock imported from foreign countries," have spent their thousands without benefit to the country, we desire to warn them at once against continuing such wasteful prodigality. Seriously however, what a change for the better have the past score and a half of years seen in the stock of our American farms—a change which cannot be estimated in money, and of which mere statistics of importation and private expenditure and public sales,—had we room to gather them here on record—would give but a faint idea.

The progress of *fruit-tree planting* has been not less rapid. Common orchards twenty years ago, would hardly satisfy present cultivators. Some of the best of our standard apples, were then found in the more improved orchards, or where the old natural cider apples had given way to "grafted fruit," but numbers of our more valuable market varieties were nearly or quite unknown—among which may be named the Red Astrachan, Gravenstein, Melon, Peck's Pleasant Jonathan, Northern Spy, and through most of the country, the Baldwin. A few good collections had the Mayduke and Black Tartarian cherries, but no one had heard of the Downer, Black Eagle, Belle Magnifique, Governor Wood, and others