

youthful fair, who listen devoutly to a great quantity of nonsense, vouching for the strict equality of the sexes by male and female orators.

How far all this may hold good of the families of the very few retired from trade on large fortunes, the "upper ten," I know not; of course they are more retired, more select, more prudent, but then, it must be added, that they do not lead the fashion of the day, either in thought, dress, or equipage; their only distinction lies in a larger house, situate in the most fashionable quarter; but let me turn to the woods and fields. The general face of the country here, and all around, even close to Philadelphia, is peculiar, and much like what it is along the older cultivated parts of the seaboard from Maine to Carolina, where the sands and swamps, rice-fields and cotton, pine forests and lagoons, give it a new feature down to the Floridas. This northern aspect is the raw look of the lands near the Eye, the fields divided by post and rail fences, with patches of wood here and there, carefully preserved as parts of the once forest, now most valuable. Though, it must be confessed, in their ploughing they beat us; discarding, as they always have, the slow lumber of three or four horses in a string, with a man or boy driver, where the horse's strength is one-half thrown away tugging at the one behind him, in our clumsy fashion.

They plough as quick again, two horses abreast, guided by light twine reins led through the plough handles, the horses stepping out smartly; old turf or sod rarely has to be broke up, and the soil is light; but if to go deeper, or in stiffer land, they put on four horses; but the expedition and neat economy of the thing it is which makes one wish our farmers would adopt it, instead of the sluggish plan they still stick to, when the work of one hand and one horse, at least, is completely thrown away, besides double the time into the bargain. Their "cradling," too, is very cleverly done (the scythe with fingers), followed by a raker and binder. The famous reaping machines, so vaunted and so uselessly expensive, will never be tried here. The sensation and *furor* created in England won't go down in America, though they are fond of the *éclat* it gave, to help their few hits at the Great Exhibition; but the Americans are pre-eminently a practical people, and won't encourage lumbering, expensive machinery for the sake of a very doubtful time saved! Again, they wisely keep up their "harvest homes," and help each other as the corn-fields ripen, so that they throw thirty or forty men into a field, down with it, shock it, and all complete in a day; making a frolic of it, the evening finished by an excellent supper, and, if they can get a fiddle, a dance. In all America I do not think so much damaged corn could be found (from