

for want of time and preparation. Nothing within the sphere of my knowledge is better calculated to produce a union of feeling and interest among farmers, and to subvert the old-fashion, know-little, laborious, and unprofitable system of farming, by combining and diffusing experimental and scientific knowledge,—nothing better calculated to arouse the farmers of Canada from ruinous apathy to a sense of the progressive improvements going on in Europe and America, and of the necessity of immediately enquiring after all the knowledge that observation and experience can furnish, and the light that science can bestow, to enable them to participate in the great agricultural reform about being effected through the instrumentality of agricultural societies, agricultural publications, and the science of chemistry. If farmers would avail themselves of the more approved and productive system of farming, it is to these sources we must look for information. The old practitioner must consider himself a pupil in the school of his profession, forego his traditional notions and practices, and with indefatigable zeal—which seldom fails to accomplish the desired object—apply and exert himself in the use of the means, so cheap and accessible, to stand in the front rank of eminence in his honorable calling.

As time and business admonishes me to conclude, I would just remark, Mr. Editor, that in the varied employments of life, men are generally found to set an ideal estimate upon their own character and worth, proportionate to the imbibed opinions of the respectability of their occupation, than which nothing can be more disastrous and absurd: every man's usefulness and respectability depends upon the talent he employs in his own particular avocation. The tinker, or the cobbler, who preserves moral rectitude, and stands pre-eminent in his necessary, though humble calling, is more useful to society and honourable in himself, than the grovelling quack or swindling pettifogger! There is an excellence in every occupation; the way lays open to the bold aspirer, whose reward is peace and plenty, eminence and respectability.

I believe it is a received opinion, that the smut in wheat is a disease, and that it is infectious.

In reply to "any gentleman that has made or shall make any discoveries relating to insects injurious to wheat," &c., I inform you, that at our autumnal exhibition held at Chatham, in the ear-

ly part of October last, a gentleman, Mr. Eberts, showed me, with other farmers, several smut heads securely corked in a transparent glass, in the bottom of which a great number of very small animalcule lay,—some of which were creeping, and appeared to have escaped by a visible puncture through the capsula of each diseased grain; those insects, of a dark colour, were too small to be seen in ordinary situations.

JOS. SMITH,
President Co. Kent Ag. Society.
Cloverdale, Raleigh, February 3rd, 1846.

Manufacture of Bone Buttons.

We had an opportunity the other day of looking into the Button Mill of Messrs Kelly & Spring at Brighton, and of examining the process by which they manufacture a very superior kind of bone button, much superior, we are told, to those which are imported from Britain. They manufacture some dozen different sizes, the aggregate quantity being about 5000 gross a year. Their buttons, we believe, have a high reputation in the market, and in respect to polish particularly, they certainly bear a very favourable comparison with any we have ever seen, whether of foreign or domestic manufacture.

The raw material for the manufacture of these buttons, is furnished by the numerous and extensive butcheries in Brighton. The leg bones of cattle are those which are used in the manufacture; and about 250,000 of these bones are annually converted into buttons at this establishment. After being boiled out, they are transferred to the button mill, where they are first sawed into convenient lengths, and then softened by steam; after which they are sawed lengthwise into slabs of the desired thickness. From these slabs the buttons are cut by drills, running by steam, one side being cut first, and afterwards the other. Next, the four holes of the button are made, which is done by an operation of four distinct drills. Then follow the different processes of smoothing, bleaching, colouring, and packing. Girls are employed in several of the departments. In this manufacture there is no waste of material. Such parts of the bones as are not actually converted into buttons, are used for manure. A striking instance of the efficacy of such manure was pointed out to us in a turnip field near by. Even the bone dust which falls from the saws and lathes, is carefully preserved, and sold to farmers as a luxurious article of fodder for their cattle.—*Boston Traveller.*