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The dignity of a calling is its utility.

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Some Points in which Agriculture has been Aided by Chemistry,



THE advancement made in the study of chemistry has rendered possible the wonderful progress of agriculture during the past century. Today, as a result of the work of such men as Lavoisier, Priestley, Davy, De Saussure, Boussingault, Leibig, Laws, Gilbert, Warrington, Atwater and a host of others, the science of chemistry has opened up many of the secrets of nature. The practice of agriculture is not now a groping in the dark but is placed upon a scientific basis, facts taking the place of mere conjecture.

While it is not claimed that the fullest possible information has been obtained on many points, yet we have a fairly definite knowledge of the true composition of soils and their relation to plant growth. The methods of utilizing plant food and conserving it for use in coming years have been established. The principles of plant growth, and some of the chemical changes attending it, are understood. The laws of animal nutrition have been experimentally explained, and by their application great economy