

will always ensure them a pure and unvitiated element of respiration."—  
[Scientific American.]

## AGRICULTURAL.

To the Editor of the Instructor.

SIR:—Nothing will perhaps render your publication more generally useful than the insertion of such information as may tend to advance the agricultural science among your readers.—One mode of effecting this object will be the abstracting or abridging some of the most approved works on this subject, and amongst these a small pamphlet published some years since by Judge Peters, of Prince Edward Island, will be found to convey many practical hints well worth the attention of the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia farmers. As a preliminary to as brief an epitome of this work as may be consistent with utility, I will copy the concluding paragraphs of his preface:—

"In freely condemning general faults, I feel sure no offence will be given to the many skilful farmers scattered over the Island, whose practice forms an exception to the bad system I, in common with others, condemn. Although I cannot write for the benefit of such men, I may solicit their assistance. Their example has already done much; let their influence be used to encourage agricultural Societies, farmers clubs, and meetings for the discussion of agricultural topics; let them add precept to example; and they will become their country's greatest benefactors.

But let none think they know enough, 'The art of farming is progressive; it can exercise the most intelligent mind; one successful experiment leads to another; the most experienced may discover something new, and the most skilful may improve.

The volume which tells what science has done for the farmer will repay perusal; and by watching her rapid march he may avail himself of new discoveries to lighten his toils, increase his profits, and improve his mind."

Hearily commending these remarks to the consideration of your agricultural readers, and trusting that they will be induced to act on the hints therein pointed out by the learned Judge,

I remain Sir,  
yours, &c., NEMO.

### Soils.

Among the many departments composing an agricultural education, or in other words, a farmer's profession, a knowledge of the classification of soils is very important.

In selecting a farm the first thing to be done is, to investigate the various soils of which it is composed. The soils of a country form the base work of its agricultural operations; and success will depend in no small degree upon the skill with which our agricultural population avails themselves of the capabilities and adaptations of the various soils forming the surface of the country. Every farmer, in order to make proper advances in his vocation, should be familiar with their several peculiarities, and the various methods employed of improving them, so that he may know to what kind of crops each soil is best adapted.

PROFESSOR JOHNSTON lays it down as a principle, that "the agricultural capabilities of a country depend essentially upon its geological structure."

After removing the loose covering of the earth, the underlying soils will