

every means of comfort and happiness around him, that a rational heart could desire. He is free from the excitement of the city—from the temptation of radicalism and infidelity;—and he is prepared to supply the cities of his country with new relays of health and strength—with robust and vigorous recruits—with a constant influx of fresh material:—for is it not well known that the very men who toil therein with the greatest energy owe much of their ability to do so to their early country training.

We wish to show our readers the mutual dependence existing between town and country. Can it be doubted that their true interests are and must continue to be reciprocal and in common. Whilst the Farmer lends his aid to beautify and adorn the earth, he is repaid by the return which his labours afford. And who becomes the purchaser of his surplus produce? Is it not his friend of the city, who supplies to him in exchange the many necessaries, comforts, and luxuries which a prudent expenditure can afford.

The cultivation of the farm is the natural employment of man. Perhaps virtue should thrive there best—the body and the mind should be developed most bountifully. There temptations are the weakest,—and social intercourse the simplest and the sweetest:—there life flows most tranquilly, runs its longest course,—and has usually the happiest passage and issues.

But though this *ought* to be strictly true, farming life, in its present stage of comparative social advancement on this continent, has still its drawbacks. How is it that so many are tempted away from these fabled shades of bliss—to mingle with the busy crowd and become forgetful of their fealty and devotion to nature and her enjoyments? Any one, who is acquainted with the style of living amongst the cultivators of our soil, knows well that there is hard work, as well as poetry, connected with the ancient and honourable calling. It is too often the case that, in rural districts, the *great* man is the individual who is most distinguished for his muscle and feats of physical strength, rather than for intellectual endowments. To fell huge trees—to mow acres of heavy grass in the quickest time—to raise enormous weights—to excel, when leisure affords, in athletic exercises,—these are the achievements which ensure applause, and place the youth foremost in the ranks of excellence.

Now a certain part, and most would unhesitatingly say, the better part of our humanity repudiates this award,—this glorification of brute strength over mind and heart. And the wife seconds her lord in his estimate, and begins to find the refinement of her womanhood rebel against a constant round of unvarying drudgery. She cannot abide that the *means* should be confounded with what ought to be regarded as the *end*. It is this feeling, so early developed, which makes the young of both sexes quit the farm in disgust; they become enchanted with the pictures of town life they eagerly devour in books, and of which they are permitted occasional glimpses at fairs and merry makings, and their youthful bosoms swell with the fond, and too often delusive hope, that by repairing to these elysian scenes; their labour may secure them higher rewards than the dull life of the country can afford; and they hope, besides, to revel in unknown bliss during the happy period of acquisition.