

the want of interest taken in agricultural pursuits, we firmly believe.

There is a spirit of novelism and restlessness abroad in the country; there is an eagerness to accumulate wealth in a hurry, and without putting the hand to the plough. There is an idea abroad, that a farmer's life is not a respectable one; hence farmers cannot be gentlemen, but slaves. There never was a greater mistake; for if there are grades in callings, the honest and intelligent farmer must stand at the top of the scale. Those young men who thus talk and act, entertain a very mistaken idea of the qualifications that constitute a gentleman; they seem to think, that because farmers generally do not wear broadcloth and starched collars every day, and sit in offices, where the sun will not shine on them by day nor the moon by night, that they cannot be gentlemen; they should remember that "it's not the coat that makes the man."

These mistaken notions, along with the wonderful dreams, of the gold of distant regions, which seem to rise in vision before the mind, impels many to leave their homes, the old farms on which their fathers lived comfortably, and their early associations, and undergo untold hardships, in order to secure a portion of that which not more than one in thirty or forty obtain; and what may be still worse, they may suffer the loss of health and character, and may be life itself.

As circumstances change, so should our education also. The dignity of labour should be taught in our schools and colleges, and in our domestic and rural avocations.

We have many other back-draws to agricultural advancement. This country is not sufficiently advanced to keep up a complete division of labour; hence, many of our mechanics, especially in rural districts, have to turn their attention to various pursuits, among which is agriculture. In addition, we have a large, comparatively considered, floating population, consisting of lumbermen, fishermen, ship

carpenters, railway navvies, and others, who at one time follow their favourite pursuits, and at other times farm a little, if farming it can be called.

In addition to these draw-backs, perhaps, there is no country where time is thought so little of, as in New Brunswick. Go where you will, and you see able bodied men lounging about, and not working half their time, be it shoals of boys running about the streets and public places chasing, one would suppose, the winds. In fact, it is very doubtful if one half the population is profitably employed.

In place of agriculture standing first among the pursuits in the scale of importance, it is generally considered secondary.

But the time is at hand when necessity will compel us to turn our attention to the cultivation of a portion of the vast tracts, millions of acres, of good land that still lie in a wilderness state in New Brunswick.

We have got to learn, that in order to farm well, we have got to give our youth a good agricultural education—such an education as will enable our farmers to stand on an equal footing with those of other professions. The loftiness and importance of a pursuit, is generally estimated by the dignity of those who follow it. Hence, it is said, "as the man, so is his farm."

To farm well and profitably, requires the expenditure of capital.—Here no one thinks of expending money in agricultural operations; while thousands of pounds are frequently expended in the construction of a single ship; but to expend a similar amount in agricultural operation, would be almost considered a waste of money. If a farmer lays up a few hundreds of pounds, which he may easily do without the expenditure of much means, he generally lets it out to interest, at six per cent, or locks it up in his chest, so that it may be at hand when his neighbour's farm is for sale. And when he adds "farm