

eminence in his profession, or to plod on in the barren and unfruitful footsteps of his unenlightened predecessors. To dwell on these gloomy facts, is superfluous. What is the remedy? Although many schemes might be proposed, and though much may and ought to be done, to change the aspect of affairs, still there is one plan of paramount importance which stands out and demands our serious consideration. It is this, there should be a *model farm* in every district, where the student of agriculture might avail himself of the knowledge, the experience, and the scientific acquirements of a thoroughly educated practical farmer. There should also be attached to the said farm a competent teacher, who would impart the common branches of elementary knowledge, with agricultural chemistry, animal physiology, and at least the rudiments of natural philosophy. With such an establishment in each district, it would be next to impossible that either the intellectual standard of our rural population, the financial affairs of our country, or the moral character of our people, would long remain so low as they now are. It will be said, that there is now a model farm at Toronto,* why not reap instruction from that establishment? The distance alone prevents many from availing themselves of its advantages; the expense of going is a drawback on others, and it may be truly said, that to overcome the distance and expense, is with many, if not impossible, at least a great inconvenience. But establish a model farm and school in every district, and many young men would pursue their studies there, who are now fruitlessly sighing for the *time* and the *means* to carry them to Toronto; and further, it may be urged, if a model farm is necessary at Toronto, it is of equal importance in every other district in the province—if it is of essential service to the young men of the western part of Canada, it would confer equal benefits on those of the eastern—if the agriculturists around the western metropolis *should* understand their business, so should every man to the farthest verge of our settlements, and thus would our resources be developed, our prosperity extended, and the circumstances of our young and hopeful country expanded and improved. It is necessary in a communication of this kind to be brief. Much might be said, and arguments adduced, which the writer cannot now enter upon, but he is convinced nevertheless, that as soon as public attention is directed to this most important subject, there will be a correspondent movement in the right direction, that must be ultimately crowned with success, and every lover of his country, every friend to humanity, prays for its consummation.

It will be enquired, where are the means to come from, to purchase a farm, stock and implements in every district? The writer is convinced, that if half the money that has been granted to agricultural societies had been expended in this way, it would have produced a richer harvest and

better fruit. But independent of this, now, when part of the endowment of King's College has been diverted from its original purpose, let it be applied to the object above stated, and although we may have fewer classical scholars, we will have a much more respectable, aye, and profitable body of *practical farmers*; not quite so much metaphysical disputation, but a much more general amount of useful knowledge and common sense.

To promote this great object, let the district councils, the township council, the agricultural societies, and farmers generally, petition the legislature to *establish a model farm in every district*, and let us seek the improvement of that long neglected part of the community on whose intelligence and well-being the prosperity of the country depends.

Yours, &c., T. H.

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ON THE IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

There is an excellent paper in the second number of the *Irish Agricultural Journal** on the above named subject; a few extracts from which we have no doubt will be read with interest by many of our subscribers. The writer commences by observing that one of the principal causes of the depressed condition of Ireland, has been the absence of proper means of education in those practical arts, which must ever form the staple of the occupation, and supply the means of living, of the people. It is not enough to be convinced that the country possesses immense sources of latent wealth, but the great work to be performed is so to educate the *heads and hands* of the people, that those sources of national wealth may be practically developed.

"Feeling thus we have placed it before us as one of the most valuable uses to which this journal can be applied, to fix the attention of the people of all ranks on the absolute necessity of thoroughly learning the business by which they are to live. Labour, whether by mind or body, is the lot of the human race. From the statesman whose business it is to govern, to the peasant whose business it is to dig, every man who fulfils his duty to society should have an occupation, and should understand it. This truth, palpable as it appears when thus roughly announced, is however by no means of general recognition. We have in Ireland a large community who, unfortunately for themselves, thought they had no business, and acted under that delusion, and thereby have been the sources of the social gangrene and paralysis which has revealed itself by general pauperism and ruin.

* This is a mistake; there is no model or experimental farm at Toronto. The thing has only been talked of. In the Normal School, instruction is given in the science of agriculture, and something has been said about establishing a chair or lectureship of Agriculture in the University of King's College.—EDITOR OF AGRICULTURIST.

* This is a quarterly publication of great promise and merit, issued under the direction of the "Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland." We have just received a complete set, and shall avail ourselves of the opportunity thus afforded of occasionally submitting such extracts and information as we hope will prove interesting and useful to our readers.