

TO OUR READERS.

It has frequently been recommended to the emigrant, as the best way to acquire a thorough knowledge of farming, to hire himself out to a practical farmer; and we would add, if his means should conveniently permit of it, to become a pupil to reside in the house of a good practical farmer. He can make choice of his locality and preceptor; and should his lines fall in pleasant places, he will live comfortably, while he will enjoy the supervision and teaching of an experienced Agriculturist, with every thing around him that can aid in his instruction both practical and economical. Here from association, and interchange of visits, and topics of conversation, and remarks illustrative of professional management and varied local practice, he will, if an attentive observer and listener—speedily derive much useful information. He will find, if he should persist in following out his studies, that he has selected a line of life which will permit of his living in peace, comfort and plenty—wherein he may be enabled to realize a competence—if indeed in this new country, some fortunate accident should not present the chance of realising a fortune.

The improvement of Agriculture is not only a good thing in itself, but does it not seem something like discharging a debt of duty, when opportunity offers, to repay our obligation to our common Mother: for dust we are, and to the dust we must return? We are here but in our *crysalis* state,—but we shall put in our wings in due season, and repair to the new heavens and the New-earth which await us. Then what more dignified or pious calling could be ours, than that of *collaborateur* with the Supreme Ruler of the Universe—he who dwells in the highest heaven working with us—of whom we may say with mingled awe and pride,—“Thou waterest her furrows; thou sendest rain into the little valleys thereof; thou makest soft with the drops of grain, and blessest the increase of it.”

There are some—the foolish and unthinking—who hold many pursuits more honourable than Agriculture:—but he, who is daily and hourly cheered with light and life flowing from the fountain of true happiness, can well afford to disregard such disparaging opinions, and forget their babbling,—whilst he listens with native rapture to the merry songsters around him—making the hills to rejoice, and gladdening the valley with their melody.

The farmer is placed beyond the vulgar temptations of the city. He lives frugally—it may be—but comfortably, and in independence. He does not expect to amass a fortune;—but if thrifty, his means go in increasing, without his being subjected to excitement. He cares for the well being of his dependants—for the education of his family—for the precious privileges of religion and neighbourhood, and he envies not the wealthy or the great—being contented with the assurance of enjoying moderate comfort while he lives; and when called on to bid adieu to the fields and scenes he so fondly loved, he rejoices in the prospect of rejoining his departed neighbours, who valued him while they lived as a friend and a brother. Who can deny that such a mode of life tends to make better men and women, and if so, better children likewise. He sees