

make a free and constant use of it:—such for example as the laboring classes of Scotland and Ireland, and the north of England.

There are upwards of 60 varieties of Oats known to botanists, of which about 30 are grown in Scotland. Of these, however, only a dozen are in general cultivation; viz., Potato, Hoptoun, Sandy, Early Angus, Late Angus, Grey Angus, Blainslie, Berlin, Dun, Friesland, Black Tartarian, and Barbachlaw. These are enumerated in the order of their general cultivation, and nearly to that of their economical value, as well as their fitness for soil and situation, in regard to shelter, ranging from the best to the worst. Several other varieties are cultivated in certain districts according to soil, elevation &c.:—some of them being merely experimental and limited to scientific farmers.

To obtain new varieties possessing qualities specially adapted to particular soils, altitudes, and climate, is a task of great difficulty, requiring correct knowledge and the exercise of great patience and perseverance. By such means much that is truly valuable has been, and may yet be accomplished.

The quantity and quality even of the Potato Oat may be advanced much nearer perfection, by selecting from the panicle, as the progenitor of an improved variety. Early ripening may be induced by selecting such grain for seed as comes earliest to maturity. By careful observation and experiment much yet remains to be accomplished in the improvement of our cereals as well as domestic animals.

"Agriculture is confessedly but yet in its infancy. Its exaltation to the class of science is comparatively recent. We should all, therefore, cheerfully lend a helping hand in solving this great problem which science has propounded, and by *experiment alone* can this be done. Experiments, as Von Thaer tells us, are not easy; still they are in the power of every thinking man. He who accomplishes but one, of however limited application, and takes care to report it faithfully, advances the science and consequently the practice of agriculture, and acquires thereby a right to the gratitude of his fellows, and of those who come after."

INDIVIDUAL ENTERPRISE.—*Lewis G. Morris, Esq.*, of Mount Fordham, Westchester Co., N. Y., is gone to England to attend the sale of short horned stock of that celebrated breeder, the late Thos. Bates, Esq., of Yorkshire. Mr. Morris's importations—if he makes any—may be seen at the second annual sale at Mount Fordham, in October next.

THE SEASON IN SCOTLAND.

Perhaps no season ever beamed more smilingly on our happy land than that which is now coming to a close; for assuredly the weather has throughout maintained a character so mild and so well fitted in every respect for the progress of spring operations in the garden, that a season

like this must be looked upon as a perfect wonder in this cloudy, rainy country. The bulk of garden seed crops have now been committed to the soil, and the dry and warm seed-beds in which they have been enfolded give every hope of a good return for spring labors. Let every one who has put his hand to the spade and plough now breathe the poet's prayer:

"Be gracious, Heaven! for now laborious man
Has done his part. Ye fostering breezes, blow!
Ye softening dews, ye tender showers, descend!
And temper all, thou world-reviving sun,
Into the perfect year!"

Scottish Agricultural Journal.

THE FARM AND THE DESK.

The *New York Sun* truly remarks, That the young man who leaves the farm-field for the merchant's desk, or the lawyer's or doctor's office, thinking to dignify or ennoble his toil, makes a sad mistake. He passes, by that step, from independence into vassalage. He barter a natural for an artificial profession, and he must be the slave of the caprice of customers and the chicanery of trade, either to support himself or to acquire a fortune. The more artificial a man's pursuit, the more debasing is it morally and physically. To test it, contrast the merchant's clerk with the plough boy. The former may have the most external polish, but the latter, under his rough outside, possesses the truer stamina. He is a freer, franker, happier and nobler man. Would that young men might judge of the dignity of labour more by its usefulness and manliness, than by the superficial glosses it wears. Therefore, we never see a man's nobility in his kid gloves, nor in his toilet adornments, but rather in that sinewy arm, whose outlines, browned by the sun, betoken a hardy and honest toiler, under whose farmer's or mechanic's vest a kingly heart may beat.

THE FARMER—A BEAUTIFUL PICTURE.

The man who stands upon his own soil, who feels that by the laws of the land in which he lives—by the law of civilized nations—he is the rightful and exclusive owner of the land which he tills, is, by the constitution of our nature, under a wholesome influence, not easily imbibed from any other source. He feels—other things being equal—more strongly than another the character of a man as the lord of the inanimate world. Of this great and wonderful sphere, which, fashioned by the hand of God, and upheld by his power, is rolling through the heavens, a portion is his; his from the centre to the sky. It is the space on which the generation before him moved in its round of duties; and he feels himself connected, by a visible link, with those who preceded him, as he is, also, with those to whom he is to transmit a home. Perhaps his farm has come down to him from his fathers. They have gone to their last home; but he can trace their footsteps over the scenes of their daily labours. The roof which shelters him was reared by those to whom he owes his being. Some interesting domestic tradition is connected with every enclosure. The favourite fruit tree was planted by his father's hand. He sported in his boyhood beside the brook, which still winds through the meadow. Through that field lies the path to the village school of earliest days. He still hears from his window the voice of the Sabbath bell, which called his fathers and forefathers to the house of God, and near at hand is the spot where his parents laid down to