

business, takes his paper, reads it and thinks, don't kick at facts because they are printed, keeps his eyes open, and drinks in knowledge from men and books. He keeps learning and succeeds in business. There is still a large class of our farming population completely stereotyped. Many take no agricultural paper, attend no fairs, no farmers' club, try no experiments, have no faith in improved tools and stock, and are hardly able to tell at the end of the year whether they lose or gain in their business. Success in cultivating the soil is already, and is to be more and more, dependent upon brains. Men who read and think most, plan most wisely and execute most skilfully, will succeed best. We need all the help we can get from the teachings of science, from journals, from fairs and clubs, as well as from the daily experience from the fields.—*American Agriculturalist*.

4. FARM, GARDEN AND HOME.

DENMARK DAIRY SCHOOLS.

It appears that the manufacture of butter and cheese is a rapidly increasing business in Denmark. This is said to be largely owing to a system of dairy schools which is in vogue there, and which are liberally fostered by Government aid. The design of these institutions is to train the pupils in the several branches of dairy management. There is a school of this description on the Island of Iceland, under the direction of M. Svendeen. The following extract from the report of the Iceland establishment will give some idea of the course pursued :

"From the 1st of September to the 1st of November the establishment contains only girls, from the 15th of November to the 1st of August only lads, both classes entering the school at fifteen to eighteen years of age. They pay about £2 a month for their board and education. The instruction is both practical and theoretical. For two or three hours daily they receive lessons on the keeping of accounts, dairy management, and natural history; they are instructed in the physiology of milch cows, the action of the mammary glands, the food of cattle, etc.; and in the afternoon some time is given to music and singing. The greater part of the morning, however, is devoted to practical work in the dairy, where the students are distributed to their allotted tasks of milking, making butter, cleaning utensils, preparing rennet, etc. About three to four hundred quarts of milk are treated daily, all the operations are carefully explained, and the establishment is provided with the newest and best apparatus for dairy work. The students entering these schools (M. Svendeen has about forty yearly of either sex) are chiefly sons and daughters of farmers and proprietors. They come with a good previous education, and generally leave the school with a real enthusiasm for its pursuits. The success of the system is such that many applicants have to be refused admission every year. Norway and Sweden are following the example of Denmark."

We are apt to look upon such little kingdoms as that of Denmark in the light of old foggy nationalities, behind the times, and far inferior to the progressive people of the Western world. Yet we might learn much from them. Many Canadians regard a single School of Agriculture for a vast Province like Ontario as a superfluity, and are willing that farmers should go joggling along in the old rut of traditional custom and sleepy ignorance. Yet here is one of the smallest nations of Europe devoting public money to the encouragement of a number of schools, whose object is the development of a single branch of rural industry. In view of the magnitude of the dairy interest in this country, the almost unlimited scope for its expansion, the quantities of poor cheese and still poorer butter foisted on our markets, who will say it would not be wise to borrow an idea from the Danes and get up dairy schools? Suppose we were to try one by way of experiment. Our leading dairymen by this time feel the importance of some steps being devised to advance this great and important interest. Can they think of anything more likely to accomplish so desirable an end than the method hit upon by the prudent, thrifty Danes. We commend the matter to the consideration of those who are engaged in the dairy business.

5. WHY THEY LEAVE HOME.

A practical farmer says a few sensible things concerning the very general propensity on the part of farmers' sons to leave their homes. The fathers of these truants say their sons do not like the farm, and have gone into the cities. Any one who passed through the country can say this is true. But I think in nine cases out of ten the fault is with the farmers themselves. There are many men who own large farms, and have money at interest, who live in a very inferior style. Too many farmers' homes are large and cheerless inside, and the outside ditto. Now when a farmer's son does go out in the world, and has a chance to look around for himself, and into the extreme

difference in the appearance, manners, and customs prevalent in our large cities and towns, the contrast is so great that he imbibes a dislike for the old, cheerless home, and hard, close led life upon it. When a farmer owns a farm and has it paid for, and has money at interest, then I contend he should pay some attention to the inside comfort and adornment of his home. He should see to it that the social instincts of his family are cultivated by music, family reading, and discussions upon the general topics of the day. I think if such measures should be carried out, the great majority of farmers' sons would not be in such a hurry to leave home. Treat your sons kindly; remember that you were a boy yourself, and that you wanted a day for recreation, fishing, gunning, etc. They will work hard enough to make up for it. Above all, let them have plenty of reading matter; supply them with books and papers, and strive to have them spend their evenings at home. Make the old home so attractive that they will prefer it to lounging round in stores, hotels, and drinking saloons. With the farmer lies the responsibility of making the habits of his sons, deny it who may.

V.—Good Breeding and the Young.

1. THE GENERAL ABSENCE OF GOOD BREEDING.

During a recent tour through the sections of country resorted to in summer for health and recreation, we were struck with the very general evidences of ill-breeding which were visible almost everywhere. We were travelling solitary and alone, and therefore had abundant opportunity to observe and reflect.

It has been remarked that in no position in life are the evidences of good or bad "bringing-up" so apparent as at the table. At the table, in the act of partaking of food, men are either gentlemen or boors.

Nothing is easier than the acquisition of good table manners, and perhaps nothing is more rare. Of course manners of any sort, acquired late in life do not sit gracefully upon the wearer. To come naturally, and as a matter of course, good manners should be ingrained, as if it were inwrought, making a part of the daily life from childhood up. It is early association which, in nearly all cases, gives character to the subsequent life. If the father and mother eat like animals and talk like barbarians, the children cannot wholly escape contamination. A few generations of such people, unelevated by any refining intermixture, is sure to secure great degradation; and depravity is only a step lower down. Families and communities never remain long stationary: the tendency is either up or down. With Americans, the tendency is usually upward. Some son or daughter goes out from the rural home, knowing little of the unselfish amenities of refined and cultured life, but quick to see and apt to learn—and returns to infuse a new air over the rude circle. If he or she is wise and good, only excellent and valuable acquisitions are added to the family store; if weak and foolish, the worst attributes of the worst classes with which they have associated are liable to adhere to them. It is wonderful to notice how well-nigh universal all over the country is the use of the knife for conveying food to the mouth. The object of the knife is chiefly to cut. It has other uses; as, for example, to spread butter; but it never was designed to be thrust into the mouth. It is a very awkward instrument for this purpose, because its shape makes it necessary that the elbow should be elevated and protruded to keep the implement on a level. This use of the knife is not tolerated among cultivated people, and is especially to be deprecated at tables not supplied with a butter-knife, as is often the case in the country hotels. To take the knife out of the mouth and dip it into the common butter or salt-dish, is not by any means an uncommon occurrence, although a very disgusting one to the cleanly looker-on. The hotel-keeper who doesn't comprehend the ordinary decencies of life sufficiently to provide butter-knives and salt-spoons, and sugar-spoons, ought to abandon the traffic which he disgraces.

The noises made by mouths of eaters are marvellous and disheartening. The supreme height over the lower animals to which cultivated man attains, as indicated in noiseless mastication, is fallen far short of by the average hotel denizen in the country.

The habit of reaching over the plate and immediate surroundings of a neighbour is constant. It seems to be deemed improper to ask a fellow-guest to pass an article within his reach, but entirely decent to reach across his plate and seize it. This is a gross error. It is always polite to decorously ask for what is beyond our reach; it is always vastly ill-bred to pass hand and arm in front of our neighbour in order to secure it.

Nearly all the country hotels now-a-days place glasses of wooden tooth-picks on the table. These are eagerly seized upon by some and energetically used during any periods of waiting. The effect