

The close of the year is a favorable season for reviewing the past. They who hope to profit by experience should be close observers and prompt actors; it will be of little use if we simply assent to truths which have been forced upon us, and continue as heretofore, in the old track, whilst a new and a better one is within our reach. It is to be presumed that, every man who aspires to the dignity and importance of a thorough bred Farmer, is an experimenter in his own way, and to the extent which circumstances admit; that he is in the habit of carefully testing the comparative effects and value of various manures and compounds of the same; new varieties of seeds and fruits, improved implements, modes of tillage, &c. The following remarks on this subject, from "Allen's Agriculture," is so appropriate that we copy the article entire, and commend the work as eminently entitled to a place in every library. "*Experiments among Farmers.*—A great advantage would result to Agriculture, if every intelligent farmer would pursue some systematic course of experiments, on such a scale and variety as his circumstances would justify, and give the results, if successful, to the community. It is with experiments in farming, as was said by Franklin, of a young man's owning wild lands; "It is well enough for every one to have some, *if he don't have too many.*" They should be his servants, not his masters; and if intelligently managed and kept within due bounds, they may be made greatly subservient to his own interest, and by their promulgation, eminently promotive of the general good. It is fully in accordance with another maxim of that wise-head, that when it is not within our power to return a favour to our benefactor, it is our duty to confer one on the first necessitous person we meet, and thus the circle of good offices will pass round. The mutual communication of improvements of any kind in agriculture, has the effect of benefiting not only the community generally, but even the authors themselves; as they frequently elicit corrections and modifications which materially enhance the value of the discovery. These experiments should embrace the whole subject of Agriculture; soils and their amelioration; manures of every kind, alkaline, vegetable and putrescent, and their effects on different soils and crops: plans of every variety, and their adaptation to different soils, under different circumstances, and with various manures; and their relation to each other, both as successors in rotation, their value for conversion into animals and other forms, and their comparative ultimate profit; the production of new varieties by hybridizing and otherwise; draining both surface and covered; the improvement of implements and mechanical operations, &c. They should also extend to the impartial and thorough trial of the different breeds of all domestic animals, making ultimate profit to the owner the sole test of their merits, crossing them in different ways and under such general rules as experience has determined as proper to be observed; their treatment, food, management, &c. Although much has been accomplished within the last few years, the science and practice of Agriculture may yet be considered almost in its infancy. There is an unbounded field still open for exploration and research, in which the efforts of persevering genius may hereafter discover mines of immense value to the human family.

Rules for ascertaining

simple rules, drawn from the experience of the most experienced tyro in meteorology, to ascertain the changes of the weather.

DEW.—If, after a clear sky, it is a sign of another clear day. A red sunset, without a red sunset in clouds, and diverging rays of light from the clouds, is indicative of a clear day.

CLOUDS.—When huge masses of vapour are seen, rain will follow. When the middle and bright tower of a sharp frost, with formed like feathers, and wind; when formed inwards, rain is prognosticated to precede fair weather, and small black clouds will follow, and probably always portend rain, and a storm.

PLANTS.—These are faithful in their indications. When the hours, and should it come on the farmer's day; when it is showery, but when with its green mantle, top-coat, for the rain at night, the following rule. If the African tulip, bindweed, scarlet soil, contract their leaves.

If the new moon do appear in troubled air for the whole month, it appears spotless, with but between both, it is a month. — An erect and short and blunted horn at her first appearance obscured and dusky, it will be so discovered about full; and if her upper

Pot Ash pounded and driven in driving them away.