

unhallowed divisions the Shorthorn breeders signed what we shall fondly hope is a truce that shall always remain unbroken. The seasons shall come and go in their usual way, and each succeeding spring will bring its wonderful resurrection of life and growth, but we do earnestly trust that no spring-time of the future shall ever call into new life the regretful differences that have so rent the Canadian Shorthorn world.

The parties who were so largely in the minority on the 24th February accepted the situation like men; there was no murmur of discontent from any one of them, and they bore a decision which meant in the meantime severe loss to them, with the fortitude of the stoics of olden time. We were going to proffer our sympathies to them again, when we are reminded that we are in the same condemnation. We have eight head of the condemned cattle (soon to be ten) in our own stables, so taking our stand along with them, we exhort them to submit to the inevitable for the general good, and to make it our ambition in all future time to breed cattle that will beat those of the herds that remain unscathed. In a matter like this where some must suffer wherever the line may be drawn, true charity reminds us that it should be our own rather than others. Nay, reader, do not smile, you may laugh at the sentiment expressed above, but you cannot overthrow the philosophy which gave it birth.

We see nothing now that should hinder the rapid recovery of the Shorthorn tree. Its roots may strike deeply in the prairies of the Northwest and the reclaimed sea-meadows of Nova Scotia, and beneath the shadow of its extending branches the breeders of all the provinces may find repose. It will surely be the pride of Shorthorn breeders in coming time to promote the vigor of this tree by the careful production of a type of cattle that will do honor to the business, now that the Shorthorn ship has cast anchor in a haven where the troubled billows of storms are not likely to come. If, with a divided register, we wrenched the respect of the outer world, so far as to induce it to seek prize-winners in our midst, how much more shall we not command it now when we are making common cause?

### Working vs. Thinking.

Prof. Roberts, of Cornell University, Ithica, New York, when addressing the eastern dairymen of Ontario, while in convention at Belleville, January, 1886, made the following quaint remark: "I had been working busily for some time when the thought occurred to me that I should sit upon the fence and work awhile." Beneath this expression of sly humor so characteristic of the man, there is a strata of valuable wisdom. The idea of sitting on the fence and working sounds very odd, almost startling at first, but there is a great deal in it.

In no calling, perhaps, is the tendency so strong to work with the body only as in farming. The reason is, perhaps, that it is easier to work with the body than the mind, notwithstanding the popular opinion to the contrary. This very largely accounts for the fact that farm servants are very much less useful, as a class, than they would otherwise be; they work almost always with the body, while the mind is at rest, because it is easy to do so.

The number of farmers is, no doubt, quite too large already who sit upon the fence in the busy season, but not with the object the professor had in view. They sit there and do nothing. Although a busy time is not just the best time for work of this kind, it is better to do it than not at all.

The winter season is the best time to plan the outlines of the summer's work, but there are numberless details which cannot be so well thought out so far ahead. They arise oftentimes from the exigencies of each day's work, and must be provided for just at the time.

It is singular the number of lessons contained in the great volume of the book of nature if we could but read them. Throughout every page of this peerless book we find the most beautiful analogies, and this is one. The temperate regions produce the finest specimens of the human race. So those temperate both in work physical and mental make as a whole the most progressive class of farmers. The one who works only with his brains often dwindles into a tawdry theorist, and he who works only with his body becomes a fossilized machine; while the man who temperately yet persistently uses both in equilibrium grows up into a healthy, vigorous, progressive farmer—a noble in his calling.

The capacity to work with muscle leverage on the farm is a valuable acquisition, but less so than the power to work to good advantage with the mind. The disposition to work with the body is of great moment, but less so than the disposition to work with the mind. But happy is he in whom we find the capacity and disposition for both kinds of labor liberally bestowed by nature, and diligently cultivated.

The person who is managing a farm with others under him is recreant to his duty if he does not work vigorously with his mind. Indeed, this is the great matter in such a case. So situated, he has to do the larger share of the thinking for every man under his charge, hence if his time is largely taken up with oppressive bodily labor, which will in a measure unfit him for the work he has in hand, he cannot prove a complete success as a director of labor.

To say that a director of farm labor should not labor himself at all would be taking high ground. The amount of physical labor that he will be justified in doing will be in proportion to the extent of the labor he is directing, and in an inverse ratio—that is, the greater the extent of his charge the less time should be spent by him in doing hand work.

There may be seasons when, with a heavy charge on hand, it may be wise for a director of farm labor to throw his energies into the work, and lead the van on the principle that an officer in the day of battle may sometimes gain by throwing himself into the thickest of the fray; but usually he deems it his duty simply to direct the movements of his men.

The farmer who labors only or even mainly with his hands, does himself a wrong, as he strengthens muscle at the sacrifice of brain power. He does his family a wrong, as he is setting them an example that should not be imitated, and very probably by his exacting the same thing of them is giving them a distaste to his calling; and he is doing his country a wrong, as he cannot but be, under the circumstances, less progressive than he would otherwise be.

We do not deny that some men, who have not exercised the mind very much, have grown rich by farming, but it will be found that this has arisen from favorable attendant circumstances of location, and otherwise. They have settled down quietly upon some rich virgin lands, and drawn from the almost spontaneous production of these the elements of wealth, which, having been well cared for, along with the advancement in value of their real estate, has placed them in a position of comparative affluence. But this will be less and less the case in coming time, now that the race must be commenced in circumstances very different. The older a country becomes the more diffi-

cult is it for a person to elbow his way to the front, and elbowing of this nature is more and more being allocated to the mind, as is quite evident from the results of the experience of older countries. One hundred men starting evenly in a new country, at the bottom of the hill, may nearly all become independent, but such is not the case with them in older lands where the grade is steeper; but a small number of them will reach the front, and these will be that portion of them which have used their minds as well as their bodies.

A farmer who works only with his muscle is not usually a reader. Indeed, under the circumstances he cannot be, weariness of muscle reacts upon mind, so that the disposition to read is taken away, and his field for picking up useful truths becomes narrowed down to the little boundary line of his own experience and that of his neighbors.

It should not be forgotten, at the same time, that laboring only with the mind has a tendency to create a distaste for physical labor, and the expansion of the mind may easily take place by shrivelling of the muscles, and their premature decay. This should not be permitted, as a certain amount of good muscle is as essential to successful brainwork, as a certain amount of brain work is essential to more successful results obtained from muscle labor. Indeed, it is when these are happily blended that work is most effectively done, as in the proper blending of the colors the beauty of the painting largely consists. It is the undue proportion of the one that has brought farming so very largely into disrepute as a suitable calling for young men of superior capabilities. It is this that has placed it away down below zero in the thermometer of public opinion, and when it rises in the graduating scale of public opinion, as rise it must, it will be because those following agriculture make a better use of their minds.

Farmers who make the equilibrium of the use of all their powers a study, will be well repaid for doing so. In addition to other blessings, it will add to their comfort, to the depth of their pockets, and to the length of their days.

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