THE FARMER.

Agriculture the most Honorable Pursuit.

It is too generally the case that agriculture is looked upon as a low pursuit. It is directly the reverse of this. It is the highest, the noblest, the most honorable pursuit in which man can engage. It is the pursuit which the first man followed when he was placed in the garden of Eden and commanded to 'dress it and to keep it.' It is the pursuit which the best men of all ages have followed—which has numbered Socrates and Cincinnatus, and Burns and Lafayette and Jefferson and Washington.

What pursuit can be more honorable than that of cultivating the soil, and drawing from nature's vast resources, those productions which support and sustain life? What vocation in life can compare with it? Who need be ashamed or disgraced in pursuing Agriculture? unless he does it so imperfectly and improperly as to bring disgrace upon himself, not upon his pursuit.

One cause undoubtedly which has a tendency to place a low estimate upon the profession of Agriculture, is the low standard of intelligence which too frequently is the case, is considered necessary to pursue it successfully. But every year this standard is being elevated, and it will not be long before a thorough education will be considered as indispensable to the farmer as it is to any of the learned professions. When this is the case, when the pursuit of Agriculture is properly appreciated, when intelligence is considered an indispensable requisite to the pursuit we shall not have that vast train of young men annually leaving farm life and embarking in the learned professions, or in commercial pursuits, there to lead lives harrassed by the most perplexing cares where failure is too often the result.—[Valley Farmer.

The Vegetable Garden.

Every part of the farm has its peculiar value, but we place the highest estimate upon the vegetable garden, especially so in proportion to its size and the amount of money and labor invested in it. It is most important because it produces most, most nutriment, most money, most profit, most of everything for which the farmer labors. It is in truth the most productive part of a well arranged farm. It is nothing strange for a good vegetable garden near a city, carried on by a small family, to support the family and yield $1000 a year clear profit. Let any one calculate the profit of a good garden from a single bed sowed to beets, onions, parsnips, or planted with tomatoes or cabbages, or any other productive vegetable and he will see at once how great is the profit. The amount of food thus produced on a small piece of ground is very great. And on a farm it can be done at odd jobs, in moments that would otherwise be idle, by old people, children and women, whose labor in the garden would be a real benefit to them, so as not to interfere with the labors of the farm. As a general rule the products of a vegetable garden on a farm may be considered as a clear gain.

It is important because the food raised in a garden is not second to any raised elsewhere; is, we believe, better on the whole, than bread and meat, at any rate, should be largely mixed with the bread and meat of our meals. Bread and meat alone are too nutritious tax too severely the powers of the stomach. What we mean by too nutritious, is, that they contain too much nutriment for the bulk, the nutriment is too concentrated. The most of the vegetables of the garden are less nutritious. Turnips, tomatoes, potatoes, cabbages, squashes and even onions, beets and parsnips are less nutritious than bread and meat of the same bulk or weight.—They are agreeable to the stomach and make its work easy. Few people are, or ever would be troubled with the dispepsia, weak or bad stomachs, or bowel complaints whose food is largely composed of garden vegetables properly cooked.—We think a tomatoe, potato, beet or turnip, better than a pill or a vomit for the health, hence, the vegetable garden diminishes the doctors bill, the bread bill, the meat bill and increases the health, strength and vivacity of spirits.

The vegetable garden is important because it adds to the beauty and hence value of the farm, makes it look and feel more home-like and comfortable, fills the cellar and larder with means of comfort. It moreover cultivates the tastes and appetites of the farmer and his family in the right direction, and inspires a cultivating disposition in them. It has a refining and informing tendency, is an evidence of intelligence and culture. As the traveller passes along the road he makes his estimate of the people by the evidences of culture and refinement he sees in and about their homes. Perhaps nothing is a stronger evidence to his mind than a well made and well filled garden. Then let gardens be as plenty as farms.—[Ibid.

Onion, Beets, Carrots, &c.

There is little difference in the yellow and red onions—the latter is, however, the best keeper. The Bossano and Turnip Beet early varieties; the Long Blood the best for winter. The Orange Carrot is the richest, and best for the table; the long white the most convenient for harvesting large crops. The Oval is the best radish, the long Scarlet the best of the more common sorts—the short or turnip radish is good for early crops. Much depends on the seed of the radish, large quantities being sold that produce only hard, stringy roots.

The best soils are medium loamy, made rich by well rotted compost, made from yard manure—which is the best fertilizer for general use. The carrot needs especially a deep soil. The radish does best when grown in nearly clear sand, kept quite moist by frequent and copious waterings.—[Country Gentleman.

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NEW FIRM,
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PROSPECTUS FOR 1857.

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Established August 4th, 1821.

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The Quaker's Protege.—Original Novelet, by Mrs. Mary Denison, author of "Mark, the Sexton," "Home Pictures," &c.

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We have also the promise of a Short and Condensed Novelet, by Mrs. Southworth, to run through about six or eight numbers of the Post.

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PROSPECTUS OF THE

NEBRASKA FARMER,

A JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL AFFAIRS.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED MONTHLY
BY R. W. FURNAS,
BROWNVILLE, NEMAHA COUNTY, NEBRASKA TERRITORY.

"To Improve the Soil and Mind."

THE object of the 'Farmer' is proclaimed in its motto; faithful to this end, it will aim to take rank with the Agricultural periodicals of the day, and pursue such a course as will render it a welcome visitor to every Farmer in Nebraska. The Publisher deems it unnecessary to enter into an argument to convince the farming community in this Territory of the importance of such a work. The natural adaptation of our soil and climate to Agricultural pursuits, known to all who have examined, is thought to be a sufficient apology for entering upon this enterprise. We have made arrangements for regular contributions from a number of practical Farmers and Horticulturists, in Nebraska, and will continue to secure others to such an extent as warrants us in saying that the 'Farmer' will prove a depository of a mass of important facts in relation to agriculture, rarely to be met with, and at a cost which places it within the reach of all.

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☞ Persons in the States who are "looking Westward" and desire agricultural information from Nebraska, could find nothing better than the "Farmer" to "post them up."

Address "Nebraska Farmer," Brownville, Nemaha County, Nebraska Territory.

Brownville, N. T., December 1st, 1856.

NOTE.—It is hoped every person to whom this Prospectus is sent, will feel the importance of the establishment of an Agricultural paper in Nebraska, and make an effort to obtain as many subscribers as possible, and forward their names to the Publisher. A slight effort only, on the part of every one, will accomplish the object. If time or inclination will not permit you to act as desired, please hand this to some one who will act energetically in the matter. As fast as you procure a number of names forward to me. Let no Prospectus be later than February 1st, in reaching the Publication Office.

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AMERICAN AND ORIGINAL.

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WASHINGTON, November 5, 1856.

Prairie Farmer

FOR 1857—VOL. 17.
A WEEKLY FAMILY JOURNAL.
DEVOTED TO
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JOHN A. KENNICOTT, Corres'ing Editor
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