

ervation of him who studies nature's process, will consider this an unimportant acquisition.

The common notion among men that stock-breeding is but a dull repetition of the most familiarly known events will not be shared by the genuine breeder who knows the number of curious, interesting, sometimes surprising and perplexing, incidents that enliven it. To obtain, before the completion of a life's work, something like a life's plenitude of knowledge, he must mix his life, to some extent, with the lives of other men. The breeding of the higher classes of farm stock is not a stationary, non-progressive business. These intricate details are not to be guessed at, neither learned by tradition. This is not an age when progress is made by groping, plodding, or guessing, but only by close study and active enterprise.

Those who rely upon tradition and hearsay influences are left far in the rear, and the breeder who justly comes under these criticisms may as well go back to the plow, and consider himself best employed, like Cain, in producing the fruits of the field, for he will not be likely to succeed in furnishing a perfect animal sufficient for a complete sacrifice.

HOW SUCCESS IS ACHIEVED.

By M. W. OLIVER, *Member from Crawford.*

[Read at the annual meeting.]

When Prof. Agassiz was asked to become a member of a firm, with the assurance that he could make "any amount of money," he replied: "I have no time to make money." The principle of this doctrine is the secret of success in life. It means, choose a calling and follow it. If a man had the power to multiply himself, to issue himself in many copies, and each copy to apply itself to some business, he might, if he were a capable man, succeed in all. But each man can apply himself only to his own business and succeed. This is the secret—concentration upon one business. Agassiz had no time to make money to be a statesman, lawyer, or mechanic; no time only to be what he was—a scientist—and he had a specialty in that. All his energy was devoted to this purpose, and he succeeded. We have here an example most conspicuous, conclusive, and encouraging. It only needs a relish or bent for the thing, and then careful, persistent application, being guided ever by facts. By taking this course, a person cannot fail being successful—it is simply the result of a cause. Hence so many succeed in this progressive age. Hence, also, for the lack of it so many more fail. Would you have success, then go regularly about it and secure it. It is like doing a "sum," it will always have the same and the correct answer if done right. It may be done in different ways, but the ways must always lead to the same thing, as different roads lead to the same place. It is discipline, generally, which develops men and women, and wins them success; accidents rarely. There must be, of course, natural capacity, and with this capital to start with, the mind that submits to discipline is ordinarily more than a match for those favored by the accidents of birth or fortune. Parents should seek to know the capacity and bent of the child's mind, that they may more intelligently give them opportuni-

ties which will fit them for the calling in which they will be most likely to succeed. That was a wise answer of the father's, who, when asked if he was going to give his son a college education: "No, sir," he replied, "I am not going to spend five thousand dollars on a ten-cent boy." His idea was to fit the boy for the calling he possessed capacity for. Discipline is only another word for training, and training is what gives efficiency. The soldier is trained; the clerk, the book-keeper, the mechanic, the teacher, and men of all other callings. Those trained to the highest point of efficiency, as a rule, succeed the best. All children, boys or girls, should be well educated. It is a mistake to suppose that because people are poor their children must grow up in ignorance. I have no sympathy with those who believe "there is a division in labor, and that Providence has ordained one class of men shall work with their heads and another with their hands. That the great mass of the people are to *be* hewers of wood and drawers of water." Such would fain tell you the farmer needs no education; needs to know nothing but how to plow and sow, reap and mow; needs not to understand the great laws which God has given nature; need but to live, die, and be forgotten. Such a one has not lived, he has only existed. Man's life is not to be measured by the number of years he has existed, but by the number of years he has lived. Moral training should begin in infancy, because then the first steps are most easily accomplished. And yet it is often neglected then from a mistaken sympathy with tender years. "Too young to discipline now," is the excuse. But waiting does no good; it only confirms wrong habits, and makes the task more difficult when it comes. Begin early—why not? The indulgent parent mistakes, indeed, shows the weakest kind of judgment, in supposing that crosses, disappointments, and heart-aches can be warded off from children by a uniform gratification of childish fancies, or that such indulgence will guarantee them happiness in future years. The world is full of trials; no fortune ever amassed could purchase exemption from them. Nor would we, for 'tis after the victory is won, the crown is given. Make your calculations sure before you go to work, and then work, work with vigor, work continuously, persistently. Every day, every hour of the day, will show some advance made. In a dozen years these what strides are made! How, then, in a life-time? It is this—all conditions together—that is required for the high success that see we in the comparatively few great men of the world. They first started right—first planning right; they then applied themselves unremittingly, not blindly, not at haphazard, not doubtingly; they knew what they were doing, and they knew success would attend them if they continued. Hence they had patience—a necessary, an important, an indispensable part. What was more, they loved to work; they were stimulated by the prospect of success—not the prospect, but the certainty, if life and health were spared and means permitted—but means were made if lacking. So much will resolution do. Perseverance and its success are applicable to all the departments of life—farming, the trades, the professions, science—any pursuit whatsoever. Simply start right and persevere. Do careless and negligent men ever amount to much? Do not the masses succeed in accomplishing just what they do, and no more? We have cause and effect in our hands to work with. Whatever we do, so it is, and no other way. Hence the man who does not rise in life is "looked down upon," because he let his opportunity go by. Industry is highly

lauded by the appreciative. It is known to be the great lever that lifts us to success, but it must be properly set and used. "To live well," says one, "is a greater blessing than life itself." It is a duty we owe the world, a duty we owe our Maker, to glean from each passing moment all we can. Duty should be the inspiring thought. Just before the battle opened in front of Fredericksburg, a captain said to his men: "Boys, *we* are to have the honor of opening the fight to-day." A brave and noble-looking soldier at the head of the company answered: "Captain, the word honor has no inspiration for me; it is *duty* only that gives me courage to brave the danger before me." It is he who sees the duties which surround him, and takes them up one by one and discharges them, who lives well, and makes life a blessing—a success. The boy who wills to study can make a man of himself, even though he is poor. Out of the twenty-one presidents who have ruled in our country, nine were the sons of poor farmers. It is not an absolute necessity to the boy who is determined to learn, that he shall enter college; it, of course, would be a great aid. If a little is read each day and properly digested, as a healthy stomach digests food, wonderful progress will be made towards fitting one's self for the sterner realities of life. It is not, however, in the multitude of books and papers that we are to look for success; it is in the mastering what is learned—digesting thoroughly and making use of what we get, making it our own, familiarizing ourselves with it. During the nullification times in South Carolina, when the tariff was the subject of unmeasured denunciation by all aspiring politicians, the first railroad from Charleston to Augusta was built. A squire with an honest farmer from the up-country, were driving quietly through the piny woods region, when they came upon the iron track. While they were stopping and wondering what was the purpose of so novel a thing, a train came thundering along, struck the buggy, knocking it into pieces, and hurling the occupants to the ground. Fortunately, the sandy soil saved them from broken bones, and, upon picking themselves up, the farmer exclaimed: "I say, Squire, what in thunder was that?" "I don't exactly know," replied the Squire thoughtfully, "but I've read lately a great deal about a tarnal critter they call the tariff, and if that isn't it I don't know what it is." Here is an example of reading without thought, a failing to comprehend in any sense the knowledge of the writer. Again we would repeat, thinking should always precede working in all things. Those who think the best succeed the best, if they carry out what they think. The winter is before us; let us learn our farming then, and apply it in the spring and summer. Here is a chance—a golden opportunity, especially for the young farmer, the beginner, who has all before him. Let it not be said that it is the old and best farmers that study the most. They have learned the importance of knowledge, particularly in this present progressive age, when it requires much time to keep up with the improvements that make the competition which is the test of our agricultural success. We *must* learn to keep up, or we shall necessarily go back. A clear, disciplined mind enlarges, increases its strength, and is at all times ready for action. Such a mind is a positive power, to be used at will and effectively. It is the only mind that does the business of the world, pushes on its progress, works out its problems. It is the only mind that has to do with the stars, the earth's crust, the passions and principles of the human heart, establishes science, works out inventions, and presents us with the intelligent and successful man.