smells by dusting the floor daily with plaster, that if you are very careful to keep everything about the milk and cream perfectly sweet and clean; that you churn it as soon as it is perfectly sour and is of a proper temperature; that you stop churning as soon as the butter forms in small particles; that you wash thoroughly in strong brine, salt and work lightly and pack it in sightly, properly-prepared packages and keep milk, cream and butter away from the air as much as possible, you cannot fail to have butter of a high-priced flavor that will command creamery prices and may be termed “Dairy butter in a quality equal to creamery.”

The Farmer's True Vocation.
[An address of welcome by C. H. M. Peterson, delivered at New Holstein.]

I am very much pleased to see this hall filled by hard toiling men and women, by tillers of the soil, who came here to listen to the addresses of men well versed in the different branches of agriculture.

So should it ever be! Time spent in the effort to enlighten our mind is well spent; hence neglect no opportunity to improve your mind, to qualify yourself for your adopted vocation by listening to the teachings of others. Work while it is day—life is short, it is but a dream which paints in glowing colors to some a picturesque landscape, to others it presents a dreary barren desert.

Life has its charms and its woes. Some it blesses with exquisite pleasure, while it is dooming others to sigh, groan, struggle or sink beneath a load of pain and sorrow. To a great extent, however, men are the moulders of their own destiny; they form an essential part in the shaping of their own future.

Commence while young and vigorous to lay your plans for the future; adhere to them with dexterity; clear your way of obstacles by systematic and progressive work; let no opportunity pass during your struggle to improve your mind as well as your body; be ever ready to submit to the guidance of good and sound principles; let humanity lead you to assist in enobling mankind; and (I assure you) your life, your dream will present a picture, upon which your eyes still will rest with contentment and pleasure, when at last you are sinking into that ever dreamless slumber.

If your vocation is that of farming, study it. Farming, husbandry, or agriculture is a science; it is founded upon principles; it rests upon experiments and observation. It requires therefore not only physical labor, but also knowledge, wisdom, skill. Prosperity, success in our enterprise should be our aim.

In order to make farming a success, nothing is of more importance than a judicious application of our time, a devoting of a portion of it to mental labor.

Mental labor is an indispensable factor in our noble strife for success; and besides this, by the exercise of our intellectual faculties we are accumulating a treasure within, which no thoughtless fingers can touch, which will prove to be a permanent and paying investment and a continuous source of prosperity, contentment, peace and happiness. Cultivation of the mind is the fundament upon which rests civilization; it is the only real and imperishable jewel worth fighting for, it is the fountain of all positive enjoyment. Our present state of existence without spiritual exercise would be a life without life.

To accomplish our mission as farmers we should be faithful and diligent in our vocation, keep pace with the times, and study in particular the latest investigations in the theoretical and practical agriculture. No man ever attained to a state of perfection or the point of excellence in his chosen profession.

There is a chance for improving at any time during our lives. Even the successful farmer will at some time or other be forced to admit, that, had he been taught years ago certain principles, which only recently came to his knowledge, or had he adopted certain experimental results in agriculture in times past, he would have added materially to his wealth, comfort and happiness.

It is a matter of fact, that it requires more skill, more intelligence at the present time to manage a farm successfully, than it did a half century ago. Our virgin soil brought forth splendid crops without much exertions on the part of the farmer, while now its fertility is partly exhausted, it requires more work and our best efforts, it is more expensive to fertilize our soil and make her yield a profitable return. While of late the quantity of our yield diminished—the prices realized were very low, caus-
ed by over-production at home and competition abroad.

Old England has for years encouraged the raising of grain, particularly wheat in her Dominions—India and Australia—partly to develop the natural resources of those countries, partly to free herself from the dictates of a few short-sighted speculators on this side of the Atlantic, who ventured to monopolize the wheat trade of the world. The scheme of these "would-be" monopolizers met with a complete failure, while they succeeded most wonderfully in driving our best customers from our shores. England supplies her subjects with merchandise and receives in exchange their whole surplus of grain. We are compelled to dispose of our grain, not needed for home consumption, at prices far below the cost of production. Thus, what we do raise on our farms are sold at ruinous prices. Add to small crops and low prices the fact that men of genius contrived to imitate some of our productions and the cup of anxiety and grief is filled to overflowing. The manufacture of butter substitutes for instance has reached large proportions, is damaging the interest of those engaged in making genuine butter and it has already reduced the price of the article considerably. Though our prospects for success may be shrouded in darkness, take courage, night precedes the dawning day. Times like the present, which demand hard labor and in return allow but small profits (if any), are well adapted to set men of common sense to thinking of how to manage their business to increase their annual income, in order to meet the never ceasing but ever increasing demands made of them by family, town, county and state. They will haul with delight and make use of any opportunity offered, which might enable them to control their business in a more profitable manner. They know that method is indispensable in order to conduct farming to advantage, hence they will seek the advice of good farmers or men of learning, adopt their views, after being convinced that by so doing they would meet with better success.

It is the object of our present assembly, to give every attendant desirous of gaining in knowledge a chance to acquire it. These Farmers Institutes were created for the purpose of instructing the husbandman of this state in the various branches of agriculture, thereby elevating husbandry to a higher degree of perfection and laying the foundation to a more prosperous future.

The state has liberally donated to these Institutes and I have reasons to believe the present legislature will be even more generous.

Let us acknowledge our appreciation of this liberality by listening with the strictest attention to the lectures and debates, by interesting ourselves in the work, by taking an active part in the proceedings. Interchange of thoughts and ideas leads to a better understanding of the subject under consideration.

In conclusion let me extend a hearty welcome to you, gentlemen, who came here to impart knowledge, to take the part of teacher, as well as you, my friends and fellow-workmen, who came here to listen—to be taught. Our thanks are due to those ladies and gentlemen who assisted the committee in making this Institute a successful one so far as the number of attendants is concerned, and I think I am justified in the assertion, that not many will leave this hall at the close of the session without having derived some benefit from this Institute. It is but natural I should express the desire that a good seed may here be sown, that it germinate, grow and bear fruit, upon which in years to come your eyes and those of your descendants will rest with pleasure. Again, a hearty welcome to all of you!

The Farmer's Home. [Miss Annie Boie, New Holstein.]

The father of our country has truthfully said that "agriculture is the most noble, the most honorable, and the most healthful employment of man."

Agriculture is the greatest among arts, for it is first in supplying our necessities. It is the mother and nurse of all arts. It creates and maintains manufacturers, gives employment to navigation, and materials to commerce. It produces every species of industry, and opens to nations the surest channels of success. It is also the strongest bond of well regulated society and the surest foundation of internal peace.

Of all occupations, that of farming produces a love for the country and makes it dear to the heart. None is more honorable, and none produces that peace, tranquility and happiness which make life pleasant and beautiful. It is more independent than any other voca-