

Of all the sciences, Chemistry has ever stood foremost in meliorating the condition of the human race. It has been to the body almost what Christianity has been to the soul of man. Other sciences are partial, this is universal; other sciences benefit the few, this blesses the many; other sciences are of use to but one particular class, this embraces all. The highest, and the lowest, are equally its debtors. Applied to mechanics, it gives one the strength of thousands;—to medicine, and, in disease, it lulls the infant as calmly to sleep, as when in health it rests on its mother's breast. It frequently snatches one from death, when it impends, and softens its pangs when inevitable. Let it then be applied to furnish the "staff of life."

But it is not enough to make mere scientific researches. After being made, their results should be carried to the doors of the people.

THEY SHOULD BE DIFFUSED THROUGH THE LAND.

The experience of all should serve to guide each one that tills the soil, and to all should be given the benefit of whatever knowledge is otherwise beyond their reach. To effect this diffusion, agricultural societies, or clubs of practical farmers, are of great use. In their meetings, the knowledge of one becomes the property of all, each adds something to the general stock and receives something beneficial in return.

By the very act of communicating knowledge once acquired, we *improve* our minds, cultivate our understandings, enlarge our capacity for the observation of new facts, and increase our ability to investigate them correctly, when observed. But the benefit is not merely one of a mental or pecuniary nature, the social good accomplished is of vast consequence. Farmers would think favorably of each other, as they become better acquainted. They would be more united to resist aggression, more united in all efforts to promote their common welfare, and ever "in union there is strength." Frequent association and the habit of free discussion, do much to promote the intelligence and good feeling of every class. This is especially remarkable in the legal profession. Though often adversaries, they are always united in whatever concerns the best interests of their pursuit. We can easily see what excellent results would follow from a more intimate union of those, who have a common interest to advance and who meet not to confute, but to aid and assist each other. I have witnessed the great good done by associations of *practical farmers*, with frequent meetings for the discussion of Agricultural subjects, and as great aids to improvement, would recommend their formation in every neighborhood of our State.

The Press, too, is all powerful in the diffusion of Agricultural information.

This great instrument of human knowledge, speaking a language whose utterance can be recalled at pleasure, has done much and can do more to spread the amount of existing knowledge, and by inducing investigations to increase it.