

Sunday Reading.

From the New England Farmer.
"Let the fields be joyful, and all that is therein."
—PSALM.

Far as the eye stretches over hill and meadow there is verdure and bloom, and every where bright birds are flitting on impatient wing, and pouring out their free, glad life in song. All peaks of life, and hope, and joy, and there is nought to suggest to the heart thoughts of decay and sadness.

The blossoms have fallen from the boughs, to be replaced by thickly clustering leaves whose shadows play among the long grass, and with the white and red flowers of the sweet scented clover; and the birds dart in and out with the breezes that play all day amid the interlacing branches.

And Oh! how exquisitely beautiful are the clouds that float languidly through the sea of summer blue, impelled by the softest breathings from the South, and adding the charm of their presence to the great carnival of nature. They come and go, trailing light shadows over the hills and fields, sometimes melting away as we gaze, sometimes troping off to gladden the sailor upon the shadowless sea, and always beautiful in their form and color and noiseless motion. If "the undercut astronomer be mad," what shall be said of him who revels among this abundant beauty, this excess of melody, who inhales daily and nightly this perfume, that, like incense, rises towards heaven, and feels not his whole soul penetrated with gratitude towards Him from whose hand comes every good gift? For the observing eye and nicely strung ear, for the appreciating soul, what offering meet for His acceptance shall we present?

We do not understand God's purposes in creation, if we make not His works a means, and not an end; if they form not a strong tie between our spirits and His; and much as we may rejoice in them, if they help not to purify and exalt our natures and to prepare us for His presence in the land of perpetual bloom.

He speaks to us in His most persuasive accents, when earth puts on her beautiful garment. We surely recognize His voice in the low-toned murmur of the waves, in the gliding of the willow-fringed river, in the rippling of the meadow stream, in the clashing of the pendulous leaves, in the hum of the insects throng, in the declining moods of the prolonged twilight; we surely see His everywhere, from the blue dome, studded with night's canopy of stars, to the dim recesses of earth's most sheltered vale.

And in our own hearts shall we not look for His presence? shall we not hear His voice? Surely there is He present with us daily and hourly. By our hopes and fears, by our joys and sorrows, by our careful disappointments and abundant blessings. He speaks to us as a father in his children, and beseeches us to be reconciled to Him, to bear unrepentantly our lot, to be grateful even when denied, to bless Him alike amid the storms and sunshine of life, since He rules all.

Though the bright hours of our existence be many, we know that for all are reserved some that are dark and dreary, and for those let the soul fortify herself in the day of its happiness and strength. There is nothing abiding on the earth, change is written everywhere, from the vanishing stars of heaven to the decaying leaf, and crushing rock; and if we regard ourselves and our friends, we and they are subject to the same untimely decree.

We need something on which to depend that is not like all else that we survey, "passing away." We find this only in the invisible One, the Immortal, who stands revealed to us in His works and word, and if we look elsewhere, we shall find our broken and crumbling beneath our weight.

Let us use the beauty and glory of the earth, so profusely shed around us, as sides to the better understanding of Him who is alone our hope, our strength, our consolation. He brings the healing balm of nature to soothe our wounded hearts. He brings her music and her bloom to render our happiness more complete; and in all, and through all, let us endeavor to read His purposes, and to follow the paths of peace towards which they tend. Let us go outwardly and commun with Him, in His temple not made with hands, and meditate upon that other temple, where we hope to worship Him when the title of earthly life has abdicated its place.

Thus shall we use wisely and well these brief, beautiful days, that come with bethedean, and depart bearing such burden as we please to lay on them, bearing such record as eternity cannot efface.

H. J. L.

Agricultural.

THE EFTUSION OF THE YELLOW BUG FROM PUMPKIN VINES, &c.

Mr. T. T. TUCKER and Son.—The class of vegetables liable to the attack of the yellow bug, though not staples, are yet important. The pumpkin, as ordinarily cultivated by the farmer, in the corn-field, is valuable in connection with the fall feeding of beef and pork, and the production of milk. It is the more valuable to the farmer because, when cultivated in connection with corn, it is produced so cheaply. The winter squash is a valuable item in the stores of the family. The cucumber in July and August, are melons of all sorts in August and September, become cheap luxuries wherever there is a light soil and a sufficiency of heat to ripen them. The greatest obstacle often to their production is the attack of the yellow bug. And yet his repulsion is readily and cheaply overcome.

1. Cover the hill, just as the plant begins to appear, with thin bats of cotton or flax tow, securing them against the wind by earth placed on the edge. The rising plants will lift up this covering. It may be removed altogether when the plants make the fourth leaf. Such a covering excludes a portion of the light and air from the plant while, on the other hand, it secures it from harsh winds and light pests. On a small scale in a private garden, I used this mode with great success in my boyhood.

2. MILLINET COVERED BOXES.—These are made about 12 or 15 inches square, and about 6 or 8 high, of this boards, the top being covered with Millinet, put on with carpet tacks. A light breeze ought to be led into the top of the box, across one course, to prevent the box from working out of shape, before the covering is put on. This box is also a protection against wind and light pests, though, by shutting off a portion of light, it hinders the growth somewhat. I recommend it for the situation for which it was offered, and will be free from contumacious insects. Any directions, post paid, will receive attention.

3. DIRT MOUNDS.—In light, sandy soils, and for field or market garden use, this mode is much more ready and cheap than the preceding. Prepare yourself, first making a mound frame. This is done by taking good pine boards about 8 inches wide sawed into four pieces so as to make a leveling box about one foot square at the bottom, and fifteen inches at the top. A brace should be let in and nailed firmly across one of the corners, the whole thing being made like the box in No. 2 above, except that it is made leveling and much stronger.

Place this box around your hill of melons or cucumbers. Then let the earth be firmly banked around the outside up to the top of the box. Then strike the box a slight blow on one side to loosen it a little, when it may be lifted out, leaving a deep, sloping bank around your hill. Two men should always work together in making them standing on opposite sides. I used such banks many years in a market garden. They may be made probably for one half a cent a piece. When properly made they will stand a heavy rain unjured. The second time of working among your plants they may be removed readily with the box. Occasionally the bugs will get into these earth boxes; but, all things considered, I prefer them to any mode I protect the young plant from the cold winds.

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5. LUMBER YARD.—In town, where the lumber is kept in large stacks, it is best to have a LUMBER YARD in town, where the wood, keeping a supply of all kinds of LUMBER for building and other purposes. Mr. JAMES RITCHARD is their agent in town. Application can be made to him or to either of the undersigned.

MILLER & PORTER, Oct. 13, 1858.

6. Tannery.—Wanted, 1,000 GALLONS OF TAN BARK, for TANNING, &c. H. M. PRITCHARD, Dec. 1, 1858.

7. Tannery, or Train Oil.—WANTED, 1,000 LEAVES OF STARCH, FOR CONCENTRATED LEAVY.—Wanted to make soap without lime, and with little trouble. The bark-tannin must be used. Price 25 and 50 cents a can. H. M. PRITCHARD, Dec. 1, 1858.

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