

**A Contract Job.**

"I was only ten years old when I secured my first contract," said the well-known contractor, who was in a talkative mood.

"My father was living on a farm at the time, and as winter drew nigh he conceived the plan of turning the little creek that ran through the farm into a hollow near by, thus forming a pond from which to cut ice during the winter.

"My father figured up the cost, and finding that it amounted to more than he had thought it would, was about to give it up, when I looked the situation over, and told him that I would take the contract for \$10. He laughed and told me to go ahead, not dreaming for an instant that I would have ambition enough to begin on the work, as up to that time I had not shown a liking for hard labor.

"I called the boys of the neighborhood together, and placed the situation before them. The nearest pond was a matter of ten miles away, and even a boy with a pair of brand-new skates did not thrill at the prospect of walking that far for a skate. I showed them how, with a little work, we could have a place to skate right at home. They fell in with the idea, and we went to work to carry out the plan.

"We were over a month working at it; that is, the other boys were, while I stood around and bossed the job.

"I was proud of the work when it was finished, and I think my father was, too, although he couldn't see for the life of him how I managed to secure so much help for nothing.

"With the first heavy freeze there was a rush for the pond by the boys that was only equalled by the rush away from it when father discovered them there and started after them with a horsewhip.

"He said that he wasn't goin' to have 'a lot of fine ice split by a pack of pesky boys skatin' on it.'

"I think the incident had a certain influence upon my choice of a profession, as it taught me that there was money in contracting."—*Detroit Free Press.*

A story is told among the country people hereabouts, that in the early days before railroads were known and when highways were few, the members of the legislature were compelled to travel to and from Raleigh on horseback or afoot. At the end of the session on their return journey the lawmakers were expected to stop at every collection of houses and tell the people all about the new laws enacted. It is said that one old legislator, in making his report to a group of people, said that the legislature had just made a law that every woman who had a big mouth should have two husbands, on hearing which every woman in the audience tried to make her mouth appear as large as she could. But, when he continued and told that the law also provided that women with small mouths should have three husbands the ladies all tried to compress their mouths to make them look as small possible.

Magistrate (to prisoner): "You say, Uncle 'Rastus, that you took the ham because you are out of work and your family are starving. And yet I understand that you have four dogs about the house." Uncle 'Rastus: "Yes, sah; but I wuddent arsk my family to eat dogs, yo' honah!"—*New York Sun.*

**Vegetable Sponges****LUFFAHS, DISH RAGS**

Are especially fine this year, 15 to 18 inches long. We will send them postpaid at 10 cents each, either prepared and ready for use, or in original shell and with seeds inside, to any address as long as they last.

**The Pinehurst Nurseries****PUNCENCIES.**

He—"Is this the first time you've ever been in love, darling?" She (thoughtlessly)—"Yes, but it's so nice that I hope it won't be the last."—*London Punch.*

Every woman who has nursed a cross husband through a sickness wonders how any nurse can fall in love with the man in her care, and marry him.—*Exchange.*

M. De France:—"You wind up ze clock to make him go?" English Tutor:—"Exactly!" M. De France:—"Zen what for you wind up ze beesiness to make him stop?"—*Jewelers' Weekly.*

"I told the editor I had some poetical ideas I wanted to carry out." "What did he say?" "He said he wished I would carry them out: it would save him the trouble of having to throw them out."

A woman was once heard to remark, "I am so glad I don't like cabbage, because, if I did like it, I should eat so much of it; and I do dislike it so!"—*Spectator.*

A clergyman, pleading earnestly with his parishioners for the construction of a cemetery for their parish, asked them to consider "the deplorable condition of thirty thousand Christian Englishmen living without Christian burial."—*Exchange.*

An Atchison woman recently cooked and fussed for three days preparing a big dinner for an out-of-town friend who was coming to spend the day with her. Judge of her horror when they sat down to the table, to see the guest open a small box she carried with her, and take health food crackers and bread from it, saying that she was taking a certain health treatment, and carried all her meals with her! All that she would take from her hostess was salt and boiled water.—*Exchange.*

Washington, hearing that the colored sentinels could not be trusted, went out one night to ascertain if the report was correct. The countersign was "Cambridge"; and the general, disguised, as he thought, by a large overcoat, approached a colored sentry. "Who goes there?" cried the sentinel. "A friend," replied Washington. "Friend, advance, unarmed, and give the countersign," said the colored man. Washington came up, and said, "Roxbury." "No sah!" was the response. "Medford," said Washington. "No sah!" returned the colored soldier. "Charleston," said Washington. The colored man immediately exclaimed, "I tell you, Massa Washington, no man go by here 'out he say 'Cambridge!'"—*Youth's Companion.*

**THE BERKSHIRE**  
PINEHURST, N. C.

TERMS: \$2 per day: \$10 to \$15 per week.

The Berkshire with its cottages is pleasantly located in the new and attractive town of Pinehurst. It has all modern conveniences for health and comfort, running spring water of exceptionally fine quality, bath rooms, steam heat, open fires and electric lights. Near the house are golf links covering sixty acres, tennis courts and croquet grounds. Horses can be hired at moderate prices for riding and driving. Passengers from New York via Penn. R. R. and Seaboard Air Line will find electric cars awaiting them at Southern Pines to convey them to Pinehurst, a distance of six miles.

W. B. PECK, Manager.

Proprietor of Mt. Everett House, situated among the Berkshire Hills at South Egremont, Mass.

**DEPARTMENT STORE,**  
PINEHURST, N. C.

DEPT.	DEPT.
A Drugs and Proprietary Medicines.	H Crockery and Glassware.
B Dry Goods and Notions.	J Furniture.
C Gents' Furnishings, Hats and Caps.	K Electric Supplies.
D Boots, Shoes and Rubber Goods.	L Plumbing Supplies.
E Fancy and Heavy Groceries.	M Grain, Hay and Feed Stuffs.
F Fresh Meats in Cold Storage.	N Paints, Oils and Varnishes.
G Hardware, Stoves and Tinware.	O Silverware, Souvenirs and Toys.

**GROCERIES.**

We carry full lines of Fancy and Heavy Groceries—such brands and assortments as are handled by New England grocers.

**Dry Goods and Shoes.**

The Dry Goods and Shoe departments are complete. Stock bought in Northern markets. Quality our standard for selection.

**Meat and Fish Market.**

Poultry, Game, Fish, Oysters and Meats of all kinds constantly in stock. Western Meats handled in cold storage.

**Hats, Caps and Gents' Furnishings.**

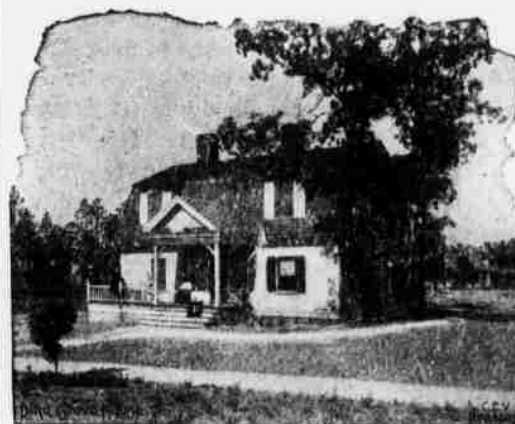
The latest styles of Hats, Caps and Gents' Furnishings carried in stock.

**Stationery.**

A full line of Stationery, both printed and plain, will be found in this department.

**The Pine Grove House**

PINEHURST, N. C.



WILL be open with home comforts such as New Englanders like for a limited number of people who are obliged by health or inclination to leave their homes for a salubrious climate such as PINEHURST, N. C., can claim.

For such, I. A. FLINT, of the Stone House Farm, N. READING, MASS., (known as a pleasant place to board during the heated term) will be at the Pine Grove House, to welcome.

TERMS, \$8.00 TO \$12.00 PER WEEK.

**The Outlook**

Will be sent postpaid to any address in the United States or Canada

THREE MONTHS FOR 25 CENTS.

Sample copies sent on receipt of address.

SUBSCRIBE NOW.

SEND IT TO YOUR FRIENDS.