The Progressive Farmer, April 29, 1902.

## The Home Circle.

#### THE BAINY DAY.\*

The day is cold, and dark, and dreary ; It rains, and the wind is never weary ; The vine still clings to the mouldering wall, And at every gust the dead leaves fall, And the day is dark and dreary.

My life is cold, and dark, and dreary ; It rains and the wind is never weary My thoughts still cling to the mouldering Past, But the hopes of youth fall thick in the blast, And the days are dark and dreary.

Be still, sad heart ! and cease repining ; Behind the clouds is the sun still shining ; Thy fate is the common fate of all, Into each life some rain must fall, Some days be dark and dreary.

-Henry W. Longfellow.

#### THE CASTLE BUILDER.\*

A gentle boy, with soft and silken locks, A dreamy boy with brown and tender eyes, A castle builder with his wooden blocks, And towers that touch imaginary skies.

A fearless rider on his father's knee, An eager listener unto stories told At the Round Table of the nursery, Of heroes and adventures manifold

There will be other towers for thee to build ; There will be other steeds for thee to ride ; There will be other legends, and all filled With greater marvels and more glorified.

Build on, and make thy castles high and fair, Rising and reaching upward to the skies; Listen to voices in the upper air, Nor lose thy simple faith in mysteries.

-Henry W. Longfellow.

#### FOOTSTEPS OF ANGELS.\*

When the hours of day are num- | And with them the being beaute bered. OUS. Who unto my youth was given And the voices of the night More than all things else to love me, Wake the better soul, that slum-And is now a saint in heaven. bered. To a holy, calm delight; With a slow and noiseless footstep Ere the evening lamps are lighted, Comes that messenger divine,

Takes the vacant chair beside me.

A young man found that he could read with interest nothing but sen sational stories. The best books were placed in his hands, but they were not interesting. One day as he was reading a foolish story, he overheard some say, "That boy is a great reader ; does he read anything that is worth reading?"

TWO KINDS OF READING

"No," was the reply, "his mind will run out if he keeps on reading after his present fashion. He used to be a sensible boy till he took to reading nonsense and nothing else."

The boy sat still for a time, then rose, threw the book into the ditch, went up to the man who said his mind would run out, and asked him if he would let him have a good book to read.

"Will you read a good book if I will let you have one?"

"Yes, sir."

"It will he hard work for you." "I will do it."

"Well, come home with me, and I will lend you a good book."

He went with him and received the volume that the man selected. "There," said the man, "read that and come and tell me what you have

read."

The lad kept his promise. He found it hard work to read simple and wise sentences, but he perse vered. The more he read, and the more he talked with his friend about what he read, the more interested he became. Ere long he felt no desire to read the feeble and foolish books in which he had formerly de lighted. He derived a great deal more pleasure from reading good books than he ever derived from reading poor ones. Besides, his mind began to grow. He began to be spoken of as an intelligent, promising young man, and his prospects are bright for a successful career. He owes everything to the reading of good books, and to the kind gentleman who influenced him to read them .- Ex change.

# Our Social Chat.

\* EDITED BY AUNT JENNIE, BALEIGH, W. C. \*

AS CONTRIBUTORS to this department of The Progressive Farmer, we have some of the most wide-awake and progressive young ladies and young men and some of the most entertain-ing writers among the older people of this and other States, the ages of the members ranging from sixteen to more thon sixty.

YOU ARE REQUESTED to join by sending us a letter on some subject of general interest, and writing thereafter as often as possible. WHEN WRITING, give full name and post-office address for Aunt Jennie's information. If you do not wish your real name to appear in print, give name by which you wish to be known as a Chatterer. KNOWN as a Chatterer. TWO WEEKS OR MORE must, as a rule,

alapse between the time a letter is written and the date of its publication. ADDRESS all letters to Aunt Jennie, care of

The Progressive Farmer, Raleigh, N. C.

#### AUNT JENNIE'S LETTER.

"Why should we ever weary of this life? Our souls should widen ever, not contract;

Grow stronger, and not harder in the strife,

Filling each moment with a noble act. If we live thus, of vigor all compact, Doing our duty to our fellow-men And striving rather to exalt our race Than our poor selves, with earnest hand or pen,

We shall erect our names a dwelling place.

Which not all ages shall cast down again."

Crossus was the richest king men tioned in history. One day after showing his riches to Solon he asked him whom he thought the happiest man in the world, expecting of course that he would reply Crossus ; but not so. "The man whom heaven smiles on to the last," was what he really said; and how true it is. Happy indeed is the man who has the approval of his Maker in his every act. As Cordinal Newman has wisely said: "Whether a man be born in pagan darkness or in some corruption of revealed religions, whether he be the slave of some superstition or is

even to the present, is gladly wel- royal guest, if we choose. Indeed comed by all intelligent beings. But He will abide with us always, even such loving service as Sarah gave to unto the end, if we ask Him. W. Abraham, Rebecca to Isaac, glorifies must clear the hallway of con. a woman's life. A tender mother, a science and ask Him into it and pray devoted wife, is the noblest woman for His aid in cleansing, and purify. who lives.

ing more than music and embroid fishness, others filled with garbage ery. A young ladies finishing of unkind thoughts, and all filled school in Philadelphia in the 50's with the dark furnishings of sin, not mentioned only those two accom- until He has driven these out, with plishments in an advertisement, to- the whip-cord of eternal truth and gether with etiquette and good the sword of the spirit, can Ra manners. There were exceptions enter in. even then; some women of that Many believe they can give Christ time became deep thinkers, brilliant a small chamber of the soul and ra. writers, and were known to the serve the other rooms for theem. world. But the loud girls were few issaries of the world, the flesh and in those days.

liberty. Too much confidence is re- heart and renew a right spirit within posed in their ability to take care of me; enter into my soul, and dwel themselves. They are not capable forever." of proper prudence. The buoyancy of youth is likely to develop into (which temple ye are); let the earth loudness, if without the restraint of keep silence before him. Keep your older persons. It is wisdom to body a pure and living sacrifica guard our girls carefully until they holy and acceptable unto the Lord arrive at the age of discretion. We may perchance hide the defects Teach them that to talk loudly in and the shortcomings of our live public or seek to attract attention is from our friends, but we cannot a mark of ill-breeding almost always, hide them from the all-seeing eye of certainly lack of wise training. If a Jesus. man is attracted by the beauty of a girl who is not refined, his infatuation will be transient. He may think himself deeply in love for a time, but something she will do or say will shock and disgust him, and he will decide he has made a mistake. For no matter how imperfect a man is, his wife must be pure and womanly.

I have in mind an example of devoted constant love to a girl who was always gentle, refined, low- our mails regularly ! in possession of some portion of voiced, womanly in every respect. She won his love twelve years ago, but was not ready or willing to marry. Year after year passed. He saw her often, usually every week and grew more devoted and deter mined that of all women she was the only one who could make him happy. After an engagement of ten years they were married and, of course, with such a foundation hap piness is assured. Now had she been a thoughtless, self confident miss, of whom we see so many, his love would have stood a few months test perhaps; then his visits would have become fewer and at last ceased altogether, because man is not especially constant; it takes true worth to hold his affections. You may say to marry is not your goal, nor a man's heart the fortune you would win. If not that, the world's good opinion is worth much, and that is given to the gentle, prudent woman. I think the greatest compliment to a girl is to say that she would make a noble wife and devoted mother, for "the hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world." And there is no higher compliment to a mother than that her girls are truly refined and wo manly. RUTH. read and remember its contents. Jones Co., N. C. TWO GUESTS. this week as my contribution to our column. A certain woman expecting a very distinguished guest, made every arrangement for his comfort and convenience. The rooms he was to oc-AUNT JENNIE. cupy were swept and garnished, and made very beautiful. But the ones she did not intend for him to see were left in dust and disorder. "It is no use," she said, "to wear hesite to make the attempt, but one's life away doing things when something in Rebecca's letter in no one will ever know the difference

ing the rooms of the soul, for if one We know we are capable of learn room is full of lust and one of sel.

the devil. How vain is this hope Our girls are allowed too much Cry unto him, "Create in me a clean

> The Lord is in his holy templa SINCERE

Gaston Co., N. C.

#### ANOTHER NOTE FROM REBECCA.

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DEAR AUNT JENNIE :-- I will com. ply with your request for name and postoffice "that the readers of Tm PROGRESSIVE FARMER may know the real name of the successful competi. tor." I would have replied soonar. but was late getting our paper. Oh. for a rural free delivery route in our neighborhood, that we might get

Very truly yours, MRS. J. E. RHODES. Catherine Lake, N. C.

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And, like phantoms grim and tall, Shadows from the fitful firelight Dance upon the parlor wall,-

Then the forms of the departed Enter at the open door : The beloved, the true hearted, Come to visit me once more.

He, the young and strong, who cherished Noble longings for the strife.

By the roadside fell and perished, Weary with the march of life.

They, the holy ones and weakly, Who the cross of suffering bore, Folded their pale hands so meekly, Spake with us on earth no more.

Lays her gentle hand in mine. And she sits and gazes at me

With those deep and tender eyes Like the stars, so still and saint like,

Looking downward from the skies

Uttered not, yet comprehended, Is the spirit's voiceless prayer; Soft rebukes, in blessings ended, Breathing from her lips of air.

Oh! though oft depressed and

lonely, All my fears are laid aside

If I but remember only

Such as these have lived and died -Henry W. Longfellow.

### **INTELLECTUAL PROGRESS OR INTELLECTUAL DRY ROT?**

tion is a thing to acquire in a lump and double his usefulness and happiand have done with as soon as pos- ness. And that is the main thing : sible, as if it were measles. In nine to increase content. There is a mean pealed to the company, and particucases in ten the child leaves scholas- satisfaction in stagnation, but there tic associations on leaving school. is a high satisfaction in the knowl-When the graduates, in white dresses | edge that we are of use to our felor their best coats, are reading es- lows, and that onr lives are not in says on the art of government and vain. the relation of the passages in the been taught, for much that we go school. through in schools is for training, not remembrance, but he forgets the with him so long as he could read, influences that have surrounded him, and spoke of himself as a schoolboy. forgets the lessons of history he has Newton said that his great discovlearned, forgets to follow those subjects which have been to him sources of pure pleasure and profitable research.

One does not so when he enters the business with a fixed purpose. could not know all that is to be known of a subject if his lifetime were doubled. That man may well be alarmed who discovers that he has ceased to grow; that he no

It is a curious fancy that educa- | language, or a science, or an art,

We can then associate with our as thine "-Exchange. Pyramids to the astronomic theories | seniors when we are young, and with of the Chaldeans, it would seem to our juniors as our hair grows gray ; a sympathetic observer as if the work | for as we age our minds will broaden of the school has but just begun. instead of harden, our views and It is too bad that in many cases it sympaties will grow warmer and not only ceases but that the scholar | mellower, and our place in the world goes backward. This does not mean will be higher than if we had merely simply that he forgets what has dropped our books at the end of

> Michael Angelo carried his books ery was but as a single pebble on the shore of the ocean of truth. We who are not Angelos or Newtons can

at least copy their example, and at the end we may, through our humble, unwatched studies, give to the He knows that his preparation is world some fact, some thought, never complete ; that he must always some fancy that will fix itself in the study, examine and inquire ; that he memories of a generation to come, and will make us the happier that we have shown this result of living -Saturday Evening Post.

#### IT SILENCED HIM.

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SOFT HEADED.

A gay young spark, of a flippant turn, traveling in a stage-coach, forced his sentiment upon the company by attempting to ridicule the Scriptures, and among other topics, made himself merry with the story of David and Goliath, strongly ur ging the impossibility of a youth like David being able to throw a stone with sufficient force to sink it in a giant's forehead. On this he ap larly to a grave old gentleman, who sat silent in one corner of the carriage. "Indeed, friend," replied he, "I do not think it at all improbable understand more and more how if the Philistine's head was as soft many things he has to be forgiven.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR PLEASURES

There is a story told of an old gen tleman who never ate cherries without putting on his spectacles, so that each cherry should look as large and tempting as possible. If we are going to wear magnifying glasses at all, it is certainly sensible to use them on our pleasures, and make all we can of each one.

Some young folks act on just the opposite principle from this old philosopher. They save their magnifying glasses till there are difficul ties in the way. Every mole hill is made to appear a mountain Every burden looks as large as if only a giant could lift it. Troubles are big enough without any magnifying. Make as little as possible of them and the most possible of your pleas ures.-Selected.

#### SHE EXPLAINED THE MEANING.

One of the easiest ways for a law-

Scripture, in any case he has within his breast a certain commanding dictate-not a mere sentiment, not a mere opinion, or impression, or view of things, but a law-an authoritative voice, bidding him to do certain things and avoid others. It is more than a man's self. The man himself has not power over it, or only with extreme difficulty; he did not make it; he can not destroy it. He may silence it in particular cases or directions; he may distort its enunciation, but he cannot-or it is quite the exception if he can-emancipate himself from it. He can disobey it, he may refuse to use it, but

it remains." To those who use what they have more is given. At the same time the more a person tries to obey his con science the more he gets alarmed at himself for obeying it so imperfectly. His sense of duty will become more keen, and his perception of transgression more delicate, and he will And the voice of conscience has nothing gentle, nothing of mercy, in its tone. It is severe and even stern.

Ruth's letter was crowded out last week, but we publish it with pleaure this week and hope all our girls will

Sincere's letter is so good that we cannot pass it without a word of commendation. It contains a valuable lesson ably expressed.

Sister Kate joins us this week in a spicy letter competing for the tucker. And I am delighted to give to our readers this week the real name of the fortunate winner of Mr. Poe's book. Now let us hear from you all again soon

THE IDEAL GIRL.

DEAR AUNT JENNIE :- Never having written for publication. your columns calls to mind the if left alone." thought whether, as the American The guest arrived and was made girl has made such wonderful progress intellectually and become man's equal in everything except physical strength, has she not lost something of that finer instinct that goes to make up the perfect woman?

DEAR AUNT JENNIE :- I will send spring. you a parable, and its explanation

very welcome, and rejoiced to see the culture which makes one more the beauty and order of his friend's home and the sumptuousness of her ful to those about him. The followfare. But on coming down one day to the morning repast, he, by mis take, opened a wrong door from where: which escaped a very disagreeable odor. On looking in he was aston ished to see so untidy and stifling a

SAD END OF A COW.

A Larimer County farmer lost a cow in a queer manner. The animal in rummaging through a summer kitchen found and swallowed an old umbrella and a cake of yeast. The yeast, fermenting in the poor beast's stomach, raised the umbrella, and she died in great agony.-Ex.

EXCERPTS FROM CARNEGIE'S PHILOSO PHY.

A basketful of bonds is the heaviest basket a young man ever had to carry. I would almost as soon leave a young man a curse as burden him with the almighty dollar.

I attribute most of my success in life to the fact that trouble runs off my back like water from a duck.

Men who in old age strive only to increase their already great hoards are usually the slaves of the habit of hoarding formed in their youth. At first they own the money; later in life the money owns them.

College graduates will usually be found under salaries, trusted subordinates.

It is not from the sons of the millionaire or the noble that the world receives its teachers, its martyrs, its inventors, its statesmen, its poets, or even its men of affairs. It is from the cottage of the poor that all these

It will be a great mistake for the community to shoot the millionaires, for they are the bees that make the most honey, and contribute most to the hive after they have gorged themselves full.

Money is left by millionaires to public institutions when they must relax their grasp upon it. There is no grace, and can be no blessing, in giving what cannot be withheld .-From Carnegie's New Book, "The Empire of Business."

MAKE YOUR LEARNING USEFUL.

Booker T. Washington believes in

longer pronts by new experiences;	
that he can no longer address him-	
self with energy and interest to new	1
subjects; for such a man has come	I
to the end of his life, even though	2
the day of his death may be far dis-	d
ant.	2

) After falling into business habits not one person in a thousand tries to fall out of them. The casy way is the usual way, though it is not always the way of the higher profits. If one were to take but half an hour out of the twenty four-though a whole hour would be little enough for profitable reading-he would before long be master of a theme, and would be a man of note in his specialty. He could command a

\*Nos. 40, 41 and 42 of our series of the World's \*Nos. 40, 41 and 42 of our series of the world's Best Poems, arranged especially for THE PRO-BESSIVE FARMER by the editor. In this series selections from the following authors have already appeared: Burns, Bryant, Mr. and Mrs Browning, Lord Byron, Campbell, Eugene Field, Goldsmith, Leigh Hunt, Holmes, Omar Khayyam, Kipling, Lampman, Lanier

Michael J. Fleming, a prominent principal of the Donalson High School, related the following anec dote:

"One day at school I gave a very bright boy a sum in algebra, and, although the problem was comparatively easy, he couldn't do it. I remarked:

"'You should be ashamed of yourself. At your age George Washing ton was a surveyer.'

"The boy looked me straight in the eyes and replied :

"'Yes, sir, and at your age he was President of the United States." "-Philadelphia Times.

Brown-Oh yes, the world moves! Jones-Yes, and it has to hustle to keep up with the United States .-Puck.

yer to confuse a witness is to make him explain the meaning of a word. lawyer of Pottsville and formerly Few people can define a word satisfactorily, even if they know its mean ing. A Western lawyer was crossexamining a young woman who had a very haughty temper. According to the Los Angeles Herald, she had testified that she had seen the defend. ant "shy" a book at the plaintiff. The lawyer seized on the word. "'Shy?' Shy' a book? What do you mean by that? Will you explain

to the court what the word 'shy' means?"

The girl leaned over the desk be neath the witness box, picked up a law book, and threw it so accurately and so forcibly at the lawyer that he had hard work to dodge it.

"I think the court now understands the meaning of the word 'shy." said the judge, gravely. The girl

Of course, there are exceptions to all rules; but I fear that a certain modest, retiring manner, natural to the girl of long ago, has entirely disappeared, not giving place to boldness in a well-bred girl, but just an

independent manner that to the masculine mind at least detracts a little from her charm. A man admires an intellectual woman who combines gentleness with knowledge. But his ideal is a gentle, womanly, homeloving girl, one who loves flowers, music and children.

Of course, the emancipation from a kind of slavery to man which the women of other countries have had man. was allowed to finish her testimony. to endure in past ages, and in some

a model home. He said nothing of his mistake, however, and his hostess wondered at his departure at so much earlier date than she had expected. The good man left with his heart full of pity, somewhat tempered with disgust, however, for a woman who cared only for outward appearances, leaving the inner workings of her crop or do the milking." household to run riot. Indeed, he left that home a sadder but wiser

Now, each of us may entertain a People's Weekly.

useful in the world, and more help ing bit of advice which he often gives his own students, is worth the attention of young people every.

Learning is of no use to you unless it makes you better able to live. The knowledge you acquire from books is of use only when you apply room in what he had thought to be it. Young man, use your geometry in helping your father lay out his cotton rows, your chemistry in showing him how to raise better crops. Young woman use your chemistry in helping your mother to cook and wash, your skill in embroidery to assist her in the family mending. Young man, when you go home from school to night, put on your overalls and say, "Father, go sit in the shade and rest, while I hoe the

Young woman, tie on an apron and say : "Mother, you must be tired. Sit down and rest, while I wash and iron, or get the supper."-Young