Christian Life Column.

THE NEW FASHIONED WAY.

When a young man starts out to get ahead of a man double his age, he sometimes finds he has met his

An old farmer was once invited to adinner, and, before sitting down, he reverently said grace, as was his invariable habit before every meal. One of the young men at the table noticed this, and said sneeringly to

the old farmer : "That's not the new fashion; but see you oling to the old fashioned ways. I suppose in your place every-

one says grace?" "No," said the old farmer gravely. pot everyone."

"How is that?" inquired the young man. "If you are master you ought to be able to have things as you order them."

"Well," explained the farmer, "I have some pigs in my sties. They never say grace before their meals. I suppose they do things in the newfashioned way."-Selected.

The leader at a prayer meeting a few nights ago said some good things shout Isaac and Jacob. We were deased at the outspoken way in shich he spoke of the sins of some i the patriarchs. The name of the people who look upon these characters as perfect is legion. In striving to reconcile the lapses of the patriarchs with perfection, these people stumble and often fall into skeptical gloom. It is the duty of all Christian teachers to teach that the Biblical characters were men and women like ourselves—who transgressed and were punished, and who finally ensted in God and were saved. The Bible is a history of life, not a photograph album of angels.—Raleigh Christian Advocate.

GOD'S PLANS.

God has his plans in providence ad grace. They do not develop in iday. They ripen by degrees. This ices not suit the human mind. Men all for the speedier processes. They become discouraged and doubting at seeming delays or slow movements. But this does not help matters. Our God takes his own time. He makes no mistakes. He will not be forced; neither will he force his creatures. a will not deviate from his ordained merations. He will not shorten the steps between the beginning and the ad of his purposes. Every man must live out his appointed life. Beween his birth and the grave lies an nterval of preparation, discipline, and development, and whether the period be long or short, there is no escaping it. The intervening process s as much decreed as are the beginning and the ending. It stands reated to the final outcome. It forms m important part in God's great wheme in regard to time and eter lity At times the experience may be very trying, but the Christian will recognize God's hand in it and abide the issue with patience, resignation, and hope, assured that "all things work together for good to them that love God, who are the called according to his purpose."-The Presbyterian.

ACTIVITY A BLESSING.

We may overcome depression by duty It is a blessed thing to have someting to do. Some disaster over takes us or a great sorrow swoops down on our spirit, and it seems as though life can have nothing in store that is desirable. But life still has daties, and we take them up, almost mechanically at first, but before long We find that they are medicinal hank God for something to do! The Epression of an active spirit frebently arises from enforced idle less. It was after John the Baptist was shut up in prison that he sent his disciples to say to Jesus: "Art then he that should come, or do we 100k for another?" Jesus did not reproach the prophet of the wilder hess for asking such a question. His lorerunner had not lost his faith, but his active spirit was depressed by confinement within the black wall of the mountain fortress of Machærus. -Advance.

The all-important thing is not to live apart from God, but as far as Possible to be consciously with him. It must needs be that those who look much into his face will become like him.—Charles H. Brent.

Angels from friendship gather half their joys.—Young.

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Children's Column.

A LITTLE BOY'S TROUBLE.

I thought when I'd learned my let-That all my troubles were done; But I find myself much mistaken-They have only just begun.

Learning to read was awful, But nothing like learning to write; I'd be sorry to have you tell it, But my copy-book is a sight.

The ink gets over my fingers, The pen cuts all sorts of shines: And won't do at all as I bid it, The letters won't stay on the lines, But go up and down and all over As though they were dancing a

They are there in all shapes and Medium, little and big.

There'd be some comfort in learning If one could get through; instead Of that there are books awaiting,... Quite enough to craze my head. There's the multiplication table, And grammar, and-oh, dear me

There's no good place for stopping

When one has begun, I see.

My teacher says, little by little, To the mountain top we climb. It isn't all done in a minute. But only a step at a time; She says that all the scholars, And all the wise and learned men, Had each to begin as I do;

If that's so—where's my pen?

—Selected.

THE BOY WITH THE HOE.

and the more we have seen of him to the plant in having dormant buds? the better we have liked him. His cheeks are as brown as a nut, his eyes bright, his manner full of

The boy with the hoe generally has plans which he will tell to one who takes a little pains to win his confidence. Sometimes he intends to be a farmer, but he does not fancy that in such a case brains and study and cultivation are of no consequence. Instead he has an idea that the more of a man he makes of himself, the more he learns, the better he keeps abreast of modern ideas, the more successful he will be in his chosen calling. And while he wields the hoe he is planning how he can take the agricultural course at the State University, and so get the benefit of the latest scientific investi-

Sometimes as the boy with the hoe plans for the future his thoughts lead him away from the farm. But if he is a sensible boy, he does not on that account work less faithfully and heartily. He is wise enough to know that farm life, bringing him into a nearness to nature which he is unlikely to find anywhere else, is the very best preparatory school a boy can ask for. He hoes away as patiently and perseveringly as if he meant to spend his life at that occupation, and his faithful work is fit ting him for successful work in another field.

There is another sort of a boy with the hoe,—the boy whose feet drag and who lifts his hoe as if it weighed at least a hundred pounds; the same boy who watches to see when his father's back will be turned, so he can take a recess from labor. But on the whole we would rather not say much about him. It is quite impossible to predict for his slack, shiftless self the pleasant things we prophesy so confidently for his brothits wants, it still has its humble ers in the hoe brigade -Young Peo ple's Weekly.

BEGIN AS YOU MEAN TO CONTINUE.

Begin as you mean to continue. Do not plan to go back over your life | you will note that the scales elongate some day, and make up for deficien | as the buds swells. You can see the cies. The end seems a long way from | white bases of the scales, marking the beginning, but there is a vital the new growth. Eventually these connection between the two. Some scales drop off but they cling much people always seem to think they longer than the scales of the peach can go back and fix up their record. bud.

What would you think of the builder who left big gaps in his foundation wall, with the intention of fill- very large. The terminal end is ing them in by and by when the much the larger and stronger. It is structure was near completion? If the one which will grow. The other you had a house to build, would you buds will remain dormant unless give such a man your patronage? forced into growth by the death of And yet perhaps some of you who the terminal bud. When the hickory read this are looking indulgently on bud expands some of the scales fall certain faults and failings, telling away; but some of the inner parts yourselves that there will be time to enlarge into leaf like bodies. The

correct them by and by. Life is all of a piece. To-day's fail same way. ure will influence us ten years from now. Do not think that you can come the pretty pussy willows. And start with carelessness or indifference and reach a satisfactory ending. little flower clusters so snugly

-Selected.

Nature Study.

MRS. STEVENS' NATURE STUDY LETTERS

XI .- The Opening of the Buds. Jorrespondence of The Progressive Farmer.

The breath of spring is in the air. The April showers "bring odorous responses from the roots and quickening seeds; the rocks and bark of trees have a breath and a perfume.' When the partridge drums, when the shad start up the rivers, when the grass grows green in the quiet pools, when the buds burst forth from their scaly coats, -these are tokens of spring.

THE BUDS WERE MADE LAST SEASON but so snugly were they packed away in their warm coats and so closely did they cling to the twig that they were passed by all un noticed. The bud was not only ready formed but ready fed. Starch was stored up in the twig enough to supply the buds for this spring time activity, but before the starch can nourish the bud, it is changed to sugar and passes as sap through the developing twig.

It is an excellent practice to collect winter twigs of different kinds of trees and bushes and to compare the form and color of the shoots, the size, shape, color and make-up of the buds. What part of the twig grew last year? Notice the ring at the base of last year's growth. Are all the buds equally advanced on the The man with the hoe has been twig? Are the buds all equally adthe subject of very varied criticism | vanced in all parts of the tree? Comduring the past two years, and it pare the opposite sides with the top seems to us that the boy with the and bottom of the tree. Do all of hoe is deserving of a word on his the buds of the tree develop? What own account. We have caught is the location of those that remain several glimpses of him this summer, dormant? Is there any advantage

> DIFFERENT CLASSES OF BUDS. As to position in the twig those buds at the end of the twig are called terminal buds, those arranged along the side are lateral. Axillary buds are those in the leaf axil that is in the upper angle between the leaf and the stem. Accessory buds are sometimes clustered about the axillary buds. Adventitious buds often develop when the regulary arranged

> buds are destroyed. As to activity buds are active and dormant. Active buds develop, dormant buds ordinarily do not. Destroy the active buds of a twig and note the effect upon the dormant buds.

> As to covering, buds are scaly when they are covered with dry, tough bark like layers. They are called naked buds when they are without this scaly covering. Some times buds are hidden under the bark, then they are hidden buds.

> As to arrangement when there are two buds at the same node and opposite they are called opposite. They are whorled when there are three or more arranged around the same node. Alternate buds are in ranks along the stem not being opposite or whorled.

AS THE BUDS UNFOLD The unfolding of the bud is not the same process in all trees. In the

peach for example, the bud begins to swell at the top, the scales open the white lining appears. Soon the lining opens. It may be a flower that we next see or it may be a green

There are, then two kinds of buds, the leaf bud and the flower bud. Can you tell them apart? The flower one flower bud stands on each side persisted. "Because you gave it to of the leaf bud. As the bud expands me, sah."-A. B Rheinstrom. the flower or leaf appears, the bud scales drop away. The scales leave scars and these scars standing together make a ring. Do you see that this ring marks the beginning of the new growth?

If you will observe the pear bud

The hickory twig is an interesting one to observe. The leaf scars are common maple behaves in much the

With the first breath of spring what are the "pussies?" They are wrapped in wool that the "pussies" [Route 4.] W. E. WEIHE, Raleigh, N. C.

are silken soft as they begin to unfold. Find one when the buds begin to grow. Note the large black ish scale that covers the bud as a shield and falls when the "pussy" first begins to appear.

Not only are the buds ready

THE BUD COVERING.

formed and ready fed but they are covered. Securely is the tender growing point protected. Pull away the scales of a winter bud one by one. Observe how closely they are placed. Often the little spaces are filled with a packing or wool, or are sealed with varnish. Dip the bud in water: then see if the water perme ates the covering. The chief value of the bud covering is not to protect from freezing as is commonly supposed, but to prevent the growing parts from drying out.

ADELINE CHAPMAN STEVENS. West Raleigh, N. C.

Miscellaneous.

WHEN THE GREEN GITS BACK IN THE TREES."

In the spring, when the green gits back in the trees, And the sun comes out and stays, And your boots pull on with a good

tight squeeze, And you think of your barefoot When you ort to work, and you want

to not. And you and yer wife agrees It's time to spade up the garden lot-When the green gits back in the

trees-Well, work is the least of all my When the green, you know, gits back in the trees.

When the green gits back in the trees, and bees Is a. buzzin' aroun' again, In that kind o' lazy "go as-you-

please" Old gait they hum roun' in; When the ground's all bald where the hayrick stood,

And the crick's riz, and the breeze Coaxes the bloom in the old dogwood, And the green gits back in the

I like, as I say, in sich scenes as The time when the green gits back in the trees.

When the whole tail feathers o' win-Is pulled out and gone,

And the sap it thaws and and begins to climb, And the sweat it starts out on

A feller's forrid, a-gittin' down At the old spring on his knee-I kind o' like jes' a-loaferin' roun' When the green git back in the

Jes' a-potterin' roun' as I-do-When the green, you know, gits

back in the trees. —James Whitcomb Riley.

RELATIVITY OF KNOWLEDGE

A friend of mine, a college profes sor, went into a crowded restaurant in New York City for luncheon. The negro in charge took my friend's hat and gave no check for it in return. An hour later, when the professor came out of the dining-room, the negro glanced at him in a comprehen sive way, turned to the shelves, and handed him his hat. The professor is a man that prides himself on his powers of observation, so the negro's ability to remember to whom each him as something very wonderful. "How did you know that was my hat?" he asked. "I didn't know it, bud is thicker and rounder. Usually did you give it to me?" the professor of the Farm and Fireside.

POLITICIANS RISING.

I believe that it was while William H. Seward was holding the position of Secretary of State that, as he saw the elevator going up to his office laden with citizens of diplomatic aspiration, he remarked: "This is the largest collection for foreign missions that I ever saw taken up."-Rev. Heman L. Wayland.



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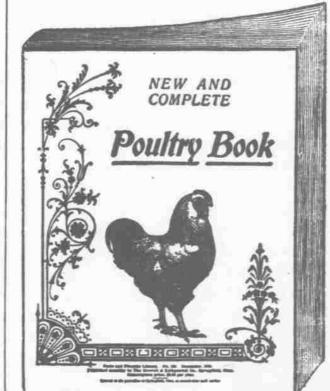
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