

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 match.

The leader at a prayer meeting a few nights ago said some good things about Isaac and Jacob.

GOD'S PLANS.

God has his plans in providence and grace. They do not develop in a day. They ripen by degrees.

ACTIVITY A BLESSING.

We may overcome depression by duty. It is a blessed thing to have something to do.

The all-important thing is not to live apart from God, but as far as possible to be consciously with him.

Angels from friendship gather half their joys.—Young.

Children's Column.

A LITTLE BOY'S TROUBLE.

I thought when I'd learned my letters That all my troubles were done;

There'd be some comfort in learning If one could get through; instead Of that there are books awaiting.

My teacher says, little by little, To the mountain top we climb. It isn't all done in a minute,

THE BOY WITH THE HOE.

The man with the hoe has been the subject of very varied criticism during the past two years, and it seems to us that the boy with the hoe is deserving of a word on his own account.

The boy with the hoe generally has plans which he will tell to one who takes a little pains to win his confidence.

Sometimes as the boy with the hoe plans for the future his thoughts lead him away from the farm.

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;

BEGIN AS YOU MEAN TO CONTINUE.

Begin as you mean to continue. Do not plan to go back over your life some day, and make up for deficiencies.

What would you think of the builder who left big gaps in his foundation wall, with the intention of filling them in by and by when the structure was near completion?

Life is all of a piece. To-day's failure will influence us ten years from now.

Nature Study.

MRS. STEVENS' NATURE STUDY LETTERS.

XI.—The Opening of the Buds.

Correspondence of The Progressive Farmer.

The breath of spring is in the air. The April showers "bring odoriferous responses from the roots and quickening seeds;

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 unnoticed.

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.

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.

As to activity buds are active and dormant. Active buds develop, dormant buds ordinarily do not.

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.

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.

There are, then two kinds of buds, the leaf bud and the flower bud. Can you tell them apart? The flower bud is thicker and rounder.

If you will observe the pear bud you will note that the scales elongate as the buds swells. You can see the white bases of the scales, marking the new growth.

The hickory twig is an interesting one to observe. The leaf scars are very large. The terminal end is much the larger and stronger.

With the first breath of spring come the pretty pussy willows. And what are the "pussies?" They are little flower clusters so snugly wrapped in wool that the "pussies"

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

THE BUD COVERING.

Not only are the buds ready formed and ready fed but they are covered. Securely is the tender growing point protected.

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,

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

When the whole tail feathers o' winter time Is pulled out and gone, And the sap it thaws and begins to climb,

RELATIVITY OF KNOWLEDGE

A friend of mine, a college professor, 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.

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:



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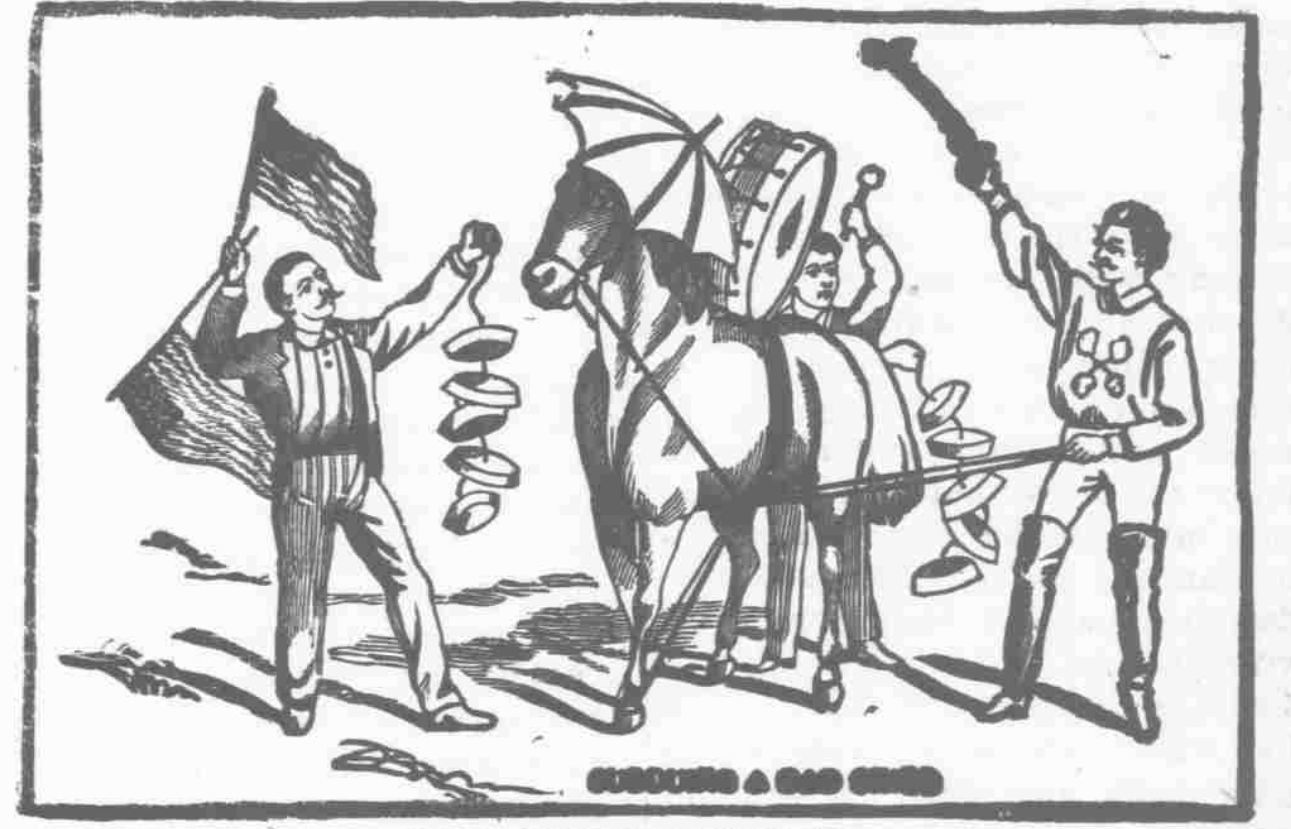
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