THE DEMOCRAT.

W. H. KITCHIN, OWNER

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THE FLOWERS COLL

BEFORE SAILING.

Lean closer, darling, let thy tender head
Rest against mine that aches with heavy woe,
Drop the quick woman's tears to soothe thy smart,
Ah me! that I could ease my step-sons so!
But men must work, sweetheart and women weep,
So says the song—so runs the world indeed;
Yet time will pass, and render comfort creep
With hope in company into thy breast.
Now ere we part, while yet on lip and cheek
Close kisses linger, clinging, passionate,
There is a farewell word love fain would speak,
A tender thought love labors to translate
In earnest words, whose memory through the years
Shall calm thy soul, and dry the dropping tears.

If in thy garden when thy roses blow,
Or by the shelter of thine evening fire,
In any winter gloom, or summer glow,
Thy soul floats seaward with a fond desire
Fonder and stronger, than thy tenderness,
Think thou, some longs for me across thy seas;
And oh, sweet talking like the evening dews,
A special peace enfolds thy heart and home.
Then say thou dear, with softly baited breath,
"In some lone wilderness beyond the sea,
Whether in light of Life, or gloom of death,
My lover's spirit speaks to God for me!"
Kiss me, believed, without doubt or dread
We are not murdered though fate well be said.

—All the Year Round.

Maj. Vaughan on Cutting and Housing Tobacco.

Do not be in a hurry to begin cutting your tobacco until it is ripe and enough fully and uniformly ripe to fill a barn. A thin butcher or shoe knife, well sharpened, and wrapped with a soft cloth around the handle and extending an inch along the blade will do the work effectually and be easy to the hand. Try it. Put knives into the hands of experienced cutters only—men who know ripe tobacco, and will select it by its uniform color and will cut no others. Have sticks already in the field and placed in piles convenient—sticking a stick vertically in the ground over crevices that they may be more easily found when wanted. Pine sticks, rived three-fourths of an inch by one and one-fourth inch, and two and one-half feet long are best.

Set together two cutters and one stick holder—the cutters carrying two rows each and the stick holder walking between them. The cutter takes hold of the plant with his left hand at the top near where the knife enters the stalk, with his right hand he splits the stalk down the centre observing to guide the knife so as not to sever the leaves to within three inches of the point he intends to sever the stalk from the hill; as the knife descends his left hand follows the slit or opening, and when the plant is severed from the hill, by a quick jerk movement of the left hand the plant is straddled across the stick in the hands of the holder. When the stick has received about six inches of plants, if intended for bright, it is ready to go to the barn, either carried by hand if near or hauled on a wagon if distant. If it is necessary to use a wagon, prepare a bed six feet to hold three cooped on piles, or which place the tobacco as cut, a few piercing twenty-five or thirty sticks of cut tobacco on each coop, drive to the barn to be unloaded.

Tobacco suitable for bright is lost handled in this way as it is bruised less than if handled by any other mode. Try it, planter, and know for yourselves. Very heavy tobacco will break less if, after being cut by the above mode, the sticks are placed gently on the ground and the plants allowed to wilt before removed to the barn. But houses of medium size I guess, must to handle it without wilting. Cutting and housing by this mode you never have one stalk more of tobacco. For bright, I have been found best to commence curing of on every soon as the barn is filled.—The Industrial South.

Sheltering Stock.

As the fall months approach with their chill rains, to be followed by the stiff severe weather of winter the farmer should see that comfortable shelter is provided for his horses, cattle, sheep and hogs. This has been entirely too much neglected in North Carolina, and our farmers are paying dearly for it. Reports carefully gathered from the counties of this State show that in some counties there is absolutely no shelter of any kind provided, the cattle being permitted to roam at large and feed on the reed and other ranges, whilst in other counties here and there rude shelters are found to protect them from falling rain but not from the driving storms that are severer than the rains. Here and there comfortable stables are found but so rare as to attract attention on account of their rarity. The reports go to show that not more than one-fourth of the stock in North Carolina, excepting work horses and mules, have shelter of any kind in the winter season. Aside from the cruelty of this lack of care it is a bad policy from a business standpoint. It does not take near as much feed to keep in a healthy thriving condition stock which are comfortably housed in bad weather as it does stock left to run at large and shift for themselves as best they can. The food they eat is required to keep heat in their bodies and none is left to put meat on their bones. Such stock although seasons all well fed rarely hold their own but gain nothing in the winter months, and enter the spring in no better, if not in a worse condition than they entered the winter, when they should, if well cared for, be gaining all the time. We remember hearing some time ago a traveller through a portion of Pennsylvania relate how surprised he was at seeing so many large and well appointed barns which contrasted strikingly with the rude and uncomfortable habitations of their owners. He thought it very strange that people should build such fine barns and be content to live in such shabby houses. Passing a farm house he said to the woman who lived there: "Madam, how is it that you have such splendid barns in this country and such poor houses?" Her reply was "Barns build horses. But houses do not build barns." Then he began to see through it and to understand that by and by the thrifty men who put their first earnings into barns, would, from the profits of these barns, lead to build good houses. Good barns are a grand stride in economical farming. They need not be colossal nor expensive. The more commodious and convenient, of course, the better, but every one should build according to his ability without undertaking too much. They are a good investment not only because they make it an easier matter to take care of stock and save a great deal of feed that is wasted and keep stock in better condition on less feed, and prevent diseases to which they are liable when exposed to severe and sudden changes in the weather, but because when housed stock become the farmer's assistants in providing an abundance of manure to enrich his fields and keep them so. The grain, hay, straw and fodder they eat is converted into a good fertilizer and left where the thrifty farmer can reach it and readily utilize it; whereas when stock roam at large and seek shelter in forests or clumps of woods or in fence corners they scatter what they eat in all directions, where it is of available for any service. This one reason alone, if no other, should be enough to persuade every farmer who thinks for a moment to use good sheltering for his stock, be they few or many. He would soon find that it paid well to do it, and for the labor of caring for his stock as they should be cared for.—Progressive Farmer.

ROTATION OF CROPS.

A subscriber asks us for information about the rotation of crops. This is one of the most important questions relating to farm work, and deserves especial consideration. It has long been considered as indispensible to good and successful farming and there is no reason to suppose under the light of all the latter knowledge derived from experiment and study, as well as improved practice, that the old farmers were mistaken. The old practice was to follow grain with a grass crop or with one which required frequent cultivation of the soil. This was so established that among the English farmers whose crops on the average have more than doubled ours, every tenant was bound by his lease to conform to it, and it was to follow a grain crop with another of the same kind. The reason for this was and is that the growth of consecutive crops of the same kind rapidly exhausts the soil, or encourages the growth of weeds. It is found in the natural growth of plants and forests that a certain growth is generally succeeded—after it has attained its maturity—by a different kind of vegetation. For instance, when a pine forest has been cut off, or has been destroyed by fire, hard woods succeed it, or when oaks or other hard woods have been cut off pines grow in their place. The old fields of the South are a standing example of this, and the "old field pine" covers the abandoned land from which a hard wood forest was cut off, to make room for tobacco and cotton. The explanation of this fact is, that hard woods are rich of potash and taking a large quantity of this element from the soil leaves the land deficient in it, and unable to produce another growth of hard woods, but as pine is rich in silica and poor of potash, and having an abundance of silica, produces the pine with ease, when it could not produce oaks, hickories and other hard woods. The same principle applies to farm crops and hence wheat is followed by grass or clover, and these with corn, and corn with oats or barley; and then the land is manured, and wheat is grown again. In practice we think this rotation is too short, and would be greatly improved by a root crop after corn, and oats and barley after the roots, with clover following and the second year's clover plowed in for wheat with which grass is sown, with clover added in the spring. But this, too, might be improved, perhaps, by sowing the grass and clover to themselves in the spring, and not with the wheat or early in the fall, as such as the wheat is removed, thus permitting the soil to be thoroughly prepared for the grass seeds, by which their success is greatly encouraged.—American Agriculturist.

THE LITTLE GRAY CABIN.

An English author lately in this country, while looking over a book of biographies of eminent Americans, remarked, "The little gray cabin appears to be the birthplace of all your great men," pointing to a picture of a four-roomed frame dwelling, such as may be seen in every village from Maine to California, and which is usually tenanted by the poorer class of mechanics and laborers. In such a dwelling Lincoln, Grant, Garfield, Blaine, Jeremiah Black, Webster, Andrew Jackson, Hawthorne, Emerson, Poe, and among men of affairs, Astor, Girard and Vanderbilt, were born. In fact, the great majority of our successful financiers, soldiers, jurists, or statesmen look back to the "little gray cabin," devoid of luxury or ease, as the home of their childhood, where their ambition and strength first had birth.

The ordinary significance and moral of this fact, which is preached every day to the boy-readers of the Companion who are born in straitened circumstances, is—imitate the purpose and energy of truly successful men. If you have energy, industry and courage, you too may be useful and influential. You have the same chance as these men.

Now no good, but much harm is done by false statements, however flattering. It is not true that the boy born now in the little gray cabin, without an extended education, without capital, or family or political influence, has the same chance as the successful men of past generations. The latter entered the race with few, if any, competitors. The boy of to-day finds trained athletes arrayed against him.

Astor and Girard, for instance, found their fortune was money to be made by dealing in furs. Their sixpences turned into pounds as by magic. But the poor boy now who goes into the fur trade finds the vast, long-established industry, in which enormous capital is invested, and thousands of experts are employed. He must begin by carrying home packages, and how long will he be before his energy and ambition will win him the race against countless other young men who also have energy and ambition, and with them the first essentials and prudence?

Poor lads push their way into the great cities, encouraged, from time to time, by remembering that "Ben Franklin" landed in Philadelphia with but a dollar in his pocket."

They forget that Philadelphia was then but a village, and soon after the field of them left most important events in the world. Every citizen who had any ability found the stage ready for him to play the part of a hero. Franklin with his little printing office, the first immediately found a clearing from the whole of the colonies, and was pushed to the front as director of [illegible]. But how soon would [illegible] printed sheet from a new [illegible] in the city of Philadelphia, be called to control her municipal council?

"There is always room on top," is a popular and true maxim. But there is a great difference in the routes to the top. Our advice to poor boys who think their place is "on top" is, keep out of the crowded roads. If you covet the phenomenal success of the Astors and the Lincolns, try for it under the same conditions that they did: in the rough, or more sparsely settled regions of the country, where competitors are few, and where a man of natural ability is soon noted. The South and West now offer these conditions, but they are hard to be found in our large cities.—Ex.

DEHORNING CATTLE IN THE WEST.

I like Mr. Hurd's plan of dehorning cattle, and like it very much. I have a thoroughbred Holstein bull, 4 years old next June. He was always very quiet until this spring. I let him run at large in small pastures with the cows, and he got to be dependent and threatened the passer-by, and would meet me half way when I went out with a bucket of water to feed him, and I had to drop the corn and give battle for him. So I concluded I had always been a boss, and I would just dehorn him. I put him in the barn and with the assistance of the ring in his nose, I tied him up to the post with a three-fourth inch rope about his head and neck, and then took an old gunny-sack and blinded his eyes so he could not see to fight me. I then took a fine tooth meat saw and sawed both horns off close to the head, or at the seam between the head and horn. He bled some three or four table-spoonfuls of blood in all. Then I turned him out and he ran two days; then took him up and used a small can of pine tar on the stumps to keep the flies off and a little sprinkle of spirits of turpentine. But it is all healed up now and well. He is as docile as a calf now, and my little boys 8 and 11 years old, drive him where they please. As to hooking and butting the other cattle, my three year old cow can eat corn from the same bucket with him. His head was so sore and tender he will remember it for six months before he can begin to learn to butt anything. The horses run in the same lot with him safely. I think it is the best way to keep control of the herd cattle, and does not hurt the looks of the animal half so much as I expected. He looks just as the Polled Angus cattle do, without horns. I believe I can save feed and much above the cattle and stable room by dehorning all of them, especially [illegible] cows, and fitting the [illegible] calves at three months old [illegible] of a sharp knife.

W. A. T.

Holstein Park, North Topeka.
—Kansas Farmer.

ON STILTS.

"I remember," said the doctor, "a fancy which raged among the boys of my time for walking on stilts. Whether we were sent to school, to the harvest field or to the village store, we must mount up on these high, unsteady steeds, and stagger along on them. It gave us a delicious feeling of superiority to look down on ordinary mortals and women until suddenly we tripped, and fell flat in the mud. I remember my father saw me tumble into the gutter one day, and said sternly:—

"Keep to your own legs, boy. Too many people in this world walk on stilts. Keep to your own legs."

I have never forgotten his warning. So many of us are on stilts!

Talking about lazy men who leave their homes early and get back after dark and never deliver a child, a man of that sort was hurrying away one morning when he found his little boy had got to the fare man and was playing on the sidewalk. He told the child to go in. Oh, I wouldn't go. Pa spanked him and went to business. Child went on howling. The mother said: "What's the matter?" "Man hit me," blubbered the young one. "What man?" "That man that stays here on Sundays!"—Progressive Farmer.

WHERE OUR SENATORS WERE BORN.

Out of a total of seventy-six senators thirty-four have been born in the states they represent. All the New England senators have been born in their respective states, with the exception of Chace, of Rhode Island, and Hawley, of Connecticut, the latter having made a jump from North Carolina. Only one New York senator, Miller, was born in the Empire State. Eaton having first seen light in Boston, Mass. Both of the senators from Maryland, from Pennsylvania, South Carolina, North Carolina, Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia and Tennessee were born in the states they represent. The remaining senators that are certified representatives of the states that gave them birth are: Blackburn, Cockrell, Colquitt, Black, Logan, Palmer and Sherman.—Philadelphia Times.

Dr. Holmes says that our horses lack a muscle that [illegible] clarinet, because his nose goes up and down like the handle of a churn." Dr. Holmes is half right—just about half right. If he should ever get on a mule he would quite likely find that he had a muscle that he would be surprised to find himself climbing up toward the same height of heaven which he had started to climb from. His liver, which used to be going on 4 wheels of the best he handle of a churn that will have to substitute a complete line of patent arms.—Texas Siftings.

The report of the United States commissioner of education for 1884 shows that the number of children of proper age to attend schools and about three-fourths of these in attendance upon either public or private schools. For the instruction of these children there are about 300,000 teachers employed. The total annual expenditure for education purposes is over $104,000,000, and the school property is nearly $250,000,000.—Progressive Farmer.

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Having secured the services of [illegible] for the season, we feel confident that we can give entire satisfaction to those who may favor us with their patronage. By the Courtesy of [illegible] I have removed from the town to [illegible] will be made to suit [illegible] all. A liberal patronage is solicited. [illegible] supply of tobacco Hogsheads and Segars kept on hand.

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Having taken the Agency for the sale of [illegible] of musical instruments [illegible] a [illegible] to the wants of many in need of [illegible] sound [illegible] goods we can keep [illegible] prices and patron [illegible] to call [illegible] examine [illegible] thereon.

[illegible] We MEAN [illegible] will have [illegible] any one [illegible] a fine piano or [illegible]

Every [illegible] and [illegible] piano, [illegible] perfect [illegible] instrument [illegible] [illegible] will be [illegible] satisfaction.

[illegible] time [illegible] a second-hand [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

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