

THE DEMOCRAT.

HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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LET THERE BE LIGHT.

BY JOHN G. SCHILLEMAN.

"Let there be light," through dread,
 chaos there rolled
 A word brief in majesty hurled;
 From star unto star as a banner unfolds,
 Swept the light that envelopes the
 world.

"Let there be light;" more pregnant the
 tones,
 To a world that is lurid in sin;
 And swift from the stable in Bethle-
 hem runs
 The message of light born within.

"Let there be light;" in the heart of a
 Saul
 Breaks a vision so sweet, so sublime,
 That eyes, flashing vengeance in evil's
 harsh thrall
 Ne'er again own the passions of time.

"Let there be light;" how it swells o'er
 the plain,
 Through India's pitiless night,
 While angels' hosannas await the ec-
 sion
 That welcomes the breaking of light.

"Let there be light;" to the wretched,
 the lost;
 To the struggling in night's weary fen,
 Lol' myriads come thronging, a jubilant
 host,
 Sons of God in the light, though but
 men.

—Young People's Union.

A Childless Home.

Smith and his wife have every lux-
 ury that money can buy, but there
 is one thing lacking to their hap-
 piness. Both are fond of children,
 but no little voices prattle, no little
 feet patter in their beautiful home.
 "I would give ten years of my life if
 I could have one healthy, living
 child of my own," Smith often says
 to himself. No woman can be the
 mother of healthy offspring unless
 she is herself in good health. If she
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 ical condition is such that she can-
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FARM VILLAGES.

PLANS MUST CHANGE.

AND THEN WE PROSPER.

(W. J. Northen in Southern Cultivator.)
 Some little time since I wrote an article for *The Southern Cultivator* about farm villages. The article has been very generally copied and approved by the press at the South. Indeed, the plans submitted have met with such general favor and the demands for such change seem so imperative, that I feel inclined to discuss the subject a little more at length.

I call attention to the following ends to be met:

1. Intelligent, cultured farmers are not willing to isolate themselves in the seclusion of the country, and such farmers will abandon their farms before they will consent to rear their families in localities without social, educational and religious advantages. If this be true agriculture at the South, will be finally abandoned to such farmers as are compelled, from necessity and not induced by choice, to remain on the farm.

2. The peculiar conditions of our society demand some security and protection from the lawless and violent not found in sparsely settled rural districts.

3. Our farms at the South are entirely too large to induce intensive farming, and this condition keeps our system under expensive, wasteful and ruinous methods. I know of no better plan to get our farmers down to intensive methods than under the plan proposed in my suggestions about farm villages. These are the main points to be met, and they are, in my judgment, imperative.

It is quite evident that educated young men are abandoning the farms, and this tendency will continue to increase as the conditions grow gradually worse. A greater necessity for some such change as that suggested will be found in the absence of protection for farmers' families as they now live. No man who properly cares for the weaker people of his home is content to leave them without protection, exposed to the peculiar dangers that surround them under our present farm conditions.

These troubles can be met and the further advantages of intensive farming can be secured by gathering the farmers into localities easily accessible to their farms, and at the same time, furnishing them such social, educational and religious advantages, under proper protection, as are absolutely necessary for the advancement of the people and the prosperity of the section.

Farm villages are not an experiment. All the farming in Europe is done by people who live in communities contiguous to their farms. The scheme is far beyond an experiment, and it is settled by years of approved success as the best solution of agricultural difficulties.

The main question after having accepted the idea as practical is how is the matter to be put into shape? This question I discussed in former article, but to be a little more specific, I would advise the project as a business enterprise.

A company of citizens unite and subscribe to a capital stock of one hundred thousand dollars to build and equip a cotton factory. After constructing the building and setting up proper machinery, the company will erect forty or fifty nice, attractive cottages as homes for the operatives. This makes a manufacturing village run by a corporation.

Now apply the same methods, purchase 5000 acres of land and suitably lay it off into one hundred acre lots, all touching upon some central point at which the employees with their families can occupy the homes and the corporation, if you please, can run the farms as the corporation runs the factories, making the tenants or employees participants in the results with the prospect of eventual purchase.

If some such plan should be adopted in the Southern States and the farms run on shares by the companies establishing them, or sold outright to the colonies settling upon them, there is hope of building up our rural districts. If, on the other hand, we leave these interests to take care of themselves it is only a question of limited time, in my candid judgment, before the rural districts at the South will be abandoned to the thriftless, indolent population who have but little care for their own development or the good of the State.

If we prosper we must make many radical changes in our plans.

A Charm of Youth.

If young people only knew it, nothing renders them so charming as a beautiful deference to their elders. The girl who as naturally as a flower to the sun, turns to her father and mother, anticipating their wishes and yielding her own desires in ready consent to their will, is simply irresistible. The stronger the nature the finer and sweeter it becomes if this grace of obedience give it its final and crowning charm.

Foreigners understand this as our American girls do not, or shall we say as American mothers fail to do? The pretty English girl looks up to mamma for direction and accepts mamma's guidance in perfect docility until her wedding day. The German, the Swiss, the French, the Italian girl of good family, is solicitous to please her mother, and wears the grace of filial courtesy as if it were a decoration. The manners of our young country women are often at fault in this regard.

"How unsuitable, crude and unimproved is the younger Miss Ransom," said a dignified Dutch matron to the writer, in criticism of a young lady born with the traditional silver spoon and educated in one of our best seminaries. "Her tone of patronage, and her supercilious air in addressing her mother, mark her as insufferably illbred."

Girls little know, when they snub their mothers or assert their independence of these older, wiser heads, how disagreeable an impression their conduct makes. The young man looking for a wife will do well to avoid the pert, flippant young woman in her teens or her twenties who fancies that she is sufficient in herself and scorns the advice of her mother.

Character is often indicated by apparent trifles. The girl who brings a shawl to wrap around her mother's shoulders, who slips a cushion in the precise angle to relieve a tired back, or remembers a haddock for her mother's feet, will one day make a loving wife to the man whose heart shall safely trust in her. She will do you good, and not evil all the days of her life. For true wearing qualities, warranted to last through all stress of weather, we recommend the girl who is the tender, thoughtful and deferential daughter at home.—Mrs. Margaret E. Sangster.

The Reason Why.

(Durham Sun.)
 One reason why women are continually overdoing their strength, and, in consequence, becoming confirmed invalids, is that they will not save themselves work in many ways when just as well as not the same effect would be gained with half the physical and mental labor.

For instance, so many housekeepers imagine that in order to have their home sparkling and span each week every room must be given over to a thorough sweeping and overhauling, that means the entire disarrangement of every article of furniture, every scrap of bric-a-brac or fancy dresper, and a going over that leaves a worn-out woman, if an exceptionally clean house, to greet the bread-winner on his return at night.

I do not advocate untidiness; for be it from us to instill the ideas that a pile of litter, dust and a confused melange of furniture is comfort; but even that would be better than the wearing out process that so many women think essential to thorough housekeeping.

I know a home the very pink of neatness, that is not swept once a month.

Do not raise your hands in holy horror, ye tidy army of women, but wait until you hear how it is done, and then do thou go and do likewise.

In an ordinary dust pan is fitted a handle long enough to permit of its use without stooping. A little broom, such as your children play house with, yet possessing the ease-giving length of handle, is the side partner of the dust pan. These two are used every morning, and in connection with a large square of soft flannel to wipe away the layer of dust that accumulates daily, the rooms are kept in apple order. By 11 o'clock everything is as tidy as any housekeeper could desire, and a bright, fresh active little woman makes and receives calls, sees or shops in the afternoon and at night is in the humor to be a gay, interesting companion, instead of a wearied, heavy-eyed, sleepy creature, whose strength is exhausted and, as she herself says, "is too tired to talk."

CARRYING MAILS

IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

A POSTAL MUSEUM.

(Golden Days.)
 A space has been cleared in the building of the postoffice department in Washington for a postal museum, which is intended to show how different nations carry the mails. Many foreign governments have already forwarded to Washington exhibits of their methods, which consist of letter carriers, which in Europe are very gorgeous and military, specimen letter boxes, miniature mail vehicles, superb photographs of foreign postoffices, statuettes representing people engaged in transporting mail after various fashions, and many other interesting things.

From India comes a set of finely executed figures in papier mache. One of them shows a postal runner in British India carrying a bag of letters, and with a long spear in his hand; from which little bells dangle. The weapon is for his defense against the wild animals that infest the jungle through which he is obliged to pass, though one would think it a poor tool for coping with a striped tiger of Bengal, while the bells are intended to frighten cobras and other venomous serpents.

Another statuette represents the same runner in the act of paddling across a stream in his customary manner, on a raft made simply of four big corked jars of earthenware fastened together.

Other mail carriers are seen riding on camels, which easily travel eighty miles a day, or in light carts drawn by Indian buffaloes over rough roads where horses could not go.

Austria has sent an exhibit comprising everything imaginable that has to do with the business of carrying the mails, even to post-mark stamps, ink pads, and written music of the bugle call by which the postmen in that country announce their arrival.

Canada has sent a set of mail-carriers' uniforms, with winter caps and collars of real Arctikan fur, leather leggings, scarlet chamois skin under waistcoats for cold weather, and gold buttons.

Italy, Spain, Germany, France and Switzerland have sent contributions for the museum. So have Russia, Turkey and Persia, and others are expected from elsewhere.

In the museum will be illustrated various primitive methods of carrying the mails now and in ancient times. One model will show the native postal runner of South Africa, who bears the letter intrusted to his care in a splint, which he plants up right in the ground when he pauses to rest. He consumes little food, but much tobacco; and his endurance is wonderful. He wears no clothes, but covers his naked body with oil, afterwards rolling in the dust, so that the flies will find him too unpleasant to bite. He carries the letter in the manner described, so that it will not get greasy; and, while swimming with one hand across the stream, holds the missive out of water with the other.

Another type shown will be the messenger of Scriptural times frequently referred to in the Bible, who conveyed royal messages by word of mouth. It is incredible how swiftly information or orders could be transmitted in this way across the country, every man being obliged by law to immediately forsake his occupation and run and tell the next person along the line of communication.

The Bedouins practice this method of conveying intelligence at the present day. If there is news for an individual, each one who hears it communicates it to all his neighbors; and they spread it in every direction until the man is found for whom it is meant.

Other models in the new museum will represent the wonderful postal couriers who carry royal messages in China. They are the most rapid runners in the world, and have been known to make the entire distance of three thousand miles from Lassa, the capital of Tibet, to Peking, in twenty-five days.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—U. S. Govt Report, Aug. 17, 1889.



ONE WORD.

I come to you with a small affair that you may need. In England, the Continent and many foreign countries, myself and wares are well known. Many American families on their return from abroad bring my articles with them, for they know them pretty well, but you may not be one of these.

Confidence between man and man is slow of growth, and when found, its rarity makes it valuable. I ask your confidence to this Journal to endorse that confidence. I do not think it will be misplaced.

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