

What Makes a Man.

Not numerous years, nor lengthened life,
Not pretty children and a wife,
Not pins and chains and fancy rings,
Nor any such like trumpery things;
Not pipe, cigar, nor bottled wine,
Nor liberty with kings to dine;
Nor coat, nor boots, nor yet a hat,
A dandy vest, or trim cravat;
Nor all the world's wealth laid in store;
Nor Mister, Rev'rend, Sir, nor Squire,
With titles that the memory tire;
Not ancestry traced back to Will,
Who went from Normandy to kill;
Not Latin, Greek, nor Hebrew lore,
Nor thousand volumes rambled o'er;
Nor Judge's robe, nor Mayor's mace,
Nor crowns that deck the royal race:
These, all united, never can
Aval to make a single man.

A truthful soul, a loving mind,
Full of affection for its kind;
A helper of the human race,
A soul of beauty and of grace;
A spirit firm, erect and free,
That never basely bends the knee;
That will not bear a feather's weight
Of slavery's chain, for small or great;
That truly speaks of God within,
And never makes a league with sin;
That snaps the fetters despots make,
And loves the truth for its own sake;
That worships God, and Him alone;
That trembles at no tyrant's nod—
A soul that fears no one but God,
And thus can smile at curse and ban:
That is the soul that makes the man.

Communications.

Written for the Farmers' Advocate.

HOME.

By I. F. INCH.

Friends of happiness, young and old, I have a few words to say if you think it worth listening. I read in the *Advocate* a piece written by T.W.D. I am well pleased with T.W.D.'s idea of home joys on the farm. I am a farmer's daughter. We do not own a great amount of "shining stuff." Our house is only built of logs, and small at that, but notwithstanding, I think, without exception, we are the happiest family in Ontario Province. Some of you may contradict me, but I'd like you to prove to the contrary. I must tell you some of our plans for making home pleasant. We have our house built facing the south, with two large windows in front, through which the sun shines most deliciously. We have two small windows up stairs, one at each end, so that the sun can shine in every hour of the day if it likes. Then we have a fine large kitchen built behind the house, but I will not say anything about it as it is not finished yet.

It is now February, and we have lots of plants growing in the window, which look so fresh and summer-like it makes us wish to be at gardening again. We have a beautiful monthly rose, but just at present there are only buds on it, so we have a beautiful artificial rose placed among the green bushes. It gives a great laugh to some of our merry friends who find out the cheat, after having been bestowing their praises on its beauty; and even a sour old gentleman, who laughs once in seven years (less or more) broke his resolution the other day by laughing right hearty at our trickery. I think whatever gives a person a laugh, or causes them to smile, is a source of happiness. "Smiles are the essence of happiness."

We could not afford to buy pictures to decorate our walls as such commodities are pretty expensive in these regions. We could not, or would not tolerate the idea of bare logs to gaze upon. There was something wanting, something to refresh the mind and eye after our hard day's toil. The plan was contrived to construct picture frames of shells, cones and seeds. We formed the smaller ones of paste-board, and for the larger, we got the boys to make pine frames. These covered over with shells and cones, and then varnished look very pretty. One of my sisters draws very nicely, so we have some of her work framed. We get some pretty pictures out of the "Children's Paper," which, when colored tastefully, make a very pleasing contrast to the white-washed walls.

Three summers ago there was a great variety of beautiful winged insects sporting around the garden and fields, so we stretched a small net on a hoop, and set the children catching them. The little ones thought it fine fun. You should have seen how careful they were not to hurt or injure the beautiful gauze wings of the delicate creatures they were ensnaring into their

meshes. When the butterflies and moths were thus captured, we proceeded to preserve them. The boys tell the neighbour's children that we pickle them. We then fastened them into a case lined with pretty paper, and put a border of rice, colored to represent coral, around them. The whole affair only cost 7c. for a pane of glass, and about 40c. for the other ingredients. I will say I never saw a finer collection outside of a museum.

No person need say that they cannot improve the appearance of a poor home,—“for where there's a will there's a way.”

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

SIR,—I read your paper, the *Canada Farmer* and the *Ontario Farmer*. In my opinion the *Canada Farmer* ranks first. It contains the most reading, and the best written articles, and ventures upon the largest outlay for material and talent. It is, like the *Globe*, large, if not quite equal to every man's taste.

I like the moral tone of the *Ontario Farmer* but would prefer looking elsewhere for morality and religion; only, unfortunately, if such like matters are not presented unawares, so many of us avoid them altogether, and much credit is due to the editor for courage or other impelling motive. There seems to me, if not to the editor, a deficiency of information conducive to profitable farming, and that in a farmer's paper is “the one thing needful.” When farming can be made profitable at a smaller outlay of farming muscle, then farmers, as a rule, will become less uncouth in person and manner, and more like those who follow less laborious, and what are erroneously supposed to be, more intellectual pursuits. Till then it cannot be: all the fierce writing of agricultural literati to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Excuse my saying that in all my limited reading I do not find so many mistakes in spelling, &c., or ideas so hurriedly or inelegantly expressed as in the *FARMER'S ADVOCATE*. But then you claim to be a farmer and not a scholar. I, for one, pay for your paper, and think I get full value for my money. Your style of writing and speaking may be “desultory,” but practical men will excuse that so long as your matter is useful.

Do your part, and let Brown, Clarke, and the Yankees do theirs, only don't scold them for promoting American interests, and then advertise American lands as in your last number. The American agricultural papers bring ideas into the country—your big advertisement is likely to take men out of it.

I am, yours,

A CANADIAN FARMER.

[We willing insert the above strictures of our “Canadian Farmer,” and thank him for the free expression of his opinions.

That he gives the preference to the *Canada Farmer* over the others, he mentions, we can only say, “many men of many minds.” That there may be more money spent on it, we will not deny, but we have yet to learn that the want of that article can be put down as a fault or crime against paper or person.

“Canadian Farmer's” fastidiousness in taste regarding ideas being inelegantly expressed by us, we cannot help, but perhaps the fault may be as much in the palate as in the dish. We never pretended to belong to the literati of which he speaks, but only intend to present the plain and simple truth in homely garb.

We do our part to the best of our abilities, and regret more than “Canadian Farmer” can do that these are not of a higher order, and beg to refer him to an article in another page to see what style Brown does his.

Regarding the advertisement referred to, what would our correspondent's opinion be of any paper published on the other side that would refuse to insert an advertisement of lands in Canada, or what is his opinion of those who countenance to so large an extent the journals which come here from that quarter, and what are the ideas that the perusal of them are likely to create which meets his approval. We cannot yet live on the east wind, but keep our paper open for all business advertisements that are not of an objectionable character.

We insert with pleasure any remarks from farmers, no matter if they differ from us, and

have constantly offered our columns free for any farmer to refute our assertions, we care not how much it may be against us. Rykert, or Johnston, or any of their satellites, have the same opportunity. We will give either of them a column for their own explanations at the present time. Let them justify themselves if they can. We only ask for clear, plain facts, such as every farmer can understand. We respect the opinion of the above writer, and look upon him as a friend, although he may laud others to our detriment. But to show that all do not think alike, we will here quote the remarks of several prominent parties.—George Robson of Middlesex, who is the most extensive breeder of Durham cattle within 60 miles of London, says,—“The Farmer's Advocate is a better paper than the *Canada Farmer*.” Mr. Peters, the breeder of Durhams, Devons and Poultry, says,—“The Farmer's Advocate is doing far more good, and is a better paper for farmers than the *Canada Farmer*—and there is nothing in the *Ontario Farmer* worth reading.” Mr. Pincombe, the largest breeder of Devon cattle in Canada, says,—“the *Farmer's Advocate* is the best paper for farmers published in Canada.” No doubt there are many who prefer political-agricultural papers—papers that in time of need, and under peculiar circumstances, are ready to do anything for the service of a party. Farmers, do not deceive yourselves. You never had a non-party paper conducted in Canada to live one year. We are still alive, and the fault and loss will be yours if you do not keep your Advocate afloat, after an existence of five years untrammelled with party.

If you doubt these assertions, read your back numbers from the commencement, and compare any paper with it, for its no-party policy. Every one of you can aid us. There are tens of thousands of farmers who take no agricultural papers, and thousands take no paper whatever. Only 50 cents a year in clubs. Every one of you ought to be able to raise a club of four. Just try it. We promise to improve our paper as fast as we are justified in so doing. It will doubly pay every farmer to take his Advocate. Condemn us if we have not been true to the name.

Thamesford, March 18, 1870.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Sir,—I perceive by your remarks that you have great faith in the Crown Pea. I do not consider that you praised it too highly. I raised the Golden Vine, Crown and Excelsior Peas. The Golden Vine has done very well with me—I sowed 2 bushels and gathered 28 bushels per acre. I planted 3 bushels of the Crown Peas, and they yielded 32 bushels per acre. The Excelsior peas were dear, and I only sowed 2 bushels, but they gave 34 bushels to the acre. My soil is loamy, with a clay bottom. I have seen the Excelsior Pea grown on clay and sandy soils. They do well enough on clay, but on light sandy soil they will far surpass in yield any pea I have seen. I have every confidence in them, and feel confident that when better known they will be cultivated in preference to any other long-strawed variety. I do not write this because I have Peas to sell. I intend to sow mine, except what my neighbors take for seed.

I do not doubt but these Peas will yield 40 bushels per acre, in a good season. The past has not been a good season for Peas. Do not sow them on black muck, but on clay loam or sand, and the yield will surprise you.

I have tried the Black Marrowfat, but do not think they are so profitable to raise. They will not mill as well, consequently will not maintain the price. They may do for a start.

J. KING.

M. W. Egleton, of Cold Springs, a gentleman of experience in potatoe culture, writes, informing us that the Calico potatoes have yielded with him quite as well as the Harrison's, and that they are the best potatoe for Canada. From our own test we find them of superior quality to the Harrison, but they have not yielded so largely with us.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Surprise Oats.

SIR,—In 1868 I procured a small quantity of the Surprise Oats, and after they were reaped and thrashed thought them to be of very little account, and put them down as another humbug, to be ranked with the many others that have been floated off upon the public. I could not discern any difference in their appearance from my own White Poland. But last year they (the Surprise) surpassed my other Oats, both in quality and yield, and proved themselves to me to be altogether a different variety.

Yours truly,

N. CARRUTHERS.

Westminster, March 13, 1870.

We believe Mr. Carruthers to be as reliable and honorable a farmer as any in our County. We have been acquainted with him for many years.

EDITOR.

Editor Farmer's Advocate.

Norway Oats.

SIR,—I obtained half an ounce of the Norway Oats, and dibbled them in my garden in rows, four inches apart. After they were up I hoed them two or three times, and they were doing well, when unfortunately some of my hens got into the garden and injured them very much. After cutting and thrashing I had seven pounds of clean oats; and have no doubt, had they not been so much injured, as already stated, I would have had double that weight. They stood well in the straw, it being pretty stiff. I intend to try them again before giving a decided opinion upon their qualities, and will report to you.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

JOHN H. CHERRY.

Wyandotte, March 14, 1870.

The Tomato and its Culture.

BY J. P. LOWE, LITTLE FALLS, NEW JERSEY.

This delicious, delicately acid, cooling, healthful, and now almost indispensable fruit, whose hygienic qualities have been tested by the human system (that most perfect of laboratories,) is, by careful culture, being brought to perfection; and instead of coarse, unsightly, spongy, seedy, ill-flavoured tomatoes, the desirable qualities of earliness, productiveness, size, solidity, fewness of seeds, evenness of form, richness of flavour, and beauty of color may be secured.

HOW TO START THE PLANTS.—For family use to get early fruit, sow seed from the earliest ripened fruit (in a little box containing three or four inches of rich soil,) any time from the beginning of March till the opening of Spring, and for a late crop sow seed when the Spring opens, in the open ground; plants from the latter will fruit till frost comes, and longer if protected. Place the little box near the window, where the sun can shine on it, in a warm room of even temperature. Water (with tepid water) once a day. Let the plants have light and sunshine, and all the fresh air they can stand. Ill-grown plants, crowded to suffocation, such as are seen in most dealers' hot-beds, have little value.

TRANSPLANTING.—When the rough leaves come, transplant into pots, or a box, and do so three or four times, till open-ground culture. Water freely each time before transplanting, so that a ball of earth may be removed with each plant.

OPEN GROUND CULTURE.—Do not plant in the open ground, unless the plants are protected, till all danger of frost is over. They will flourish in a rather light than heavy, and rich but not over rich soil. Hoe early and often. Let no weeds grow. Keep the soil friable.

PRUNING.—The advantages of pruning have been questioned, but my tomatoes grow best when well pruned. Cut out all suckers, and non-bearing branches. Let in light, air and sunshine. Most of the fruit grows on the lower part of the vines, and there will be no loss by shortening them; for nutrition will then flow to fruit instead of making fibre.

SUPPORTING THE VINES—KEEPING THE FRUIT CLEAN—TRAINING.—It is sometimes thought well in garden culture, to support the vines by brush or other refuse material, or by training, which may be done by setting poles 12 feet apart, the tops five feet out of the ground. Attach wires to them horizontally. Thus the fruit may be exposed to the free action of sun and air.