

### THE MAN GRANT WANTED.

When General Grant was in command of the army, before Vicksburg, a number of officers were gathered at his headquarters. One of them invited the party to join in a social glass; all but one accepted. He asked to be excused, saying he never drank. The hour passed, and each went his way to his respective command. A few days after this, the officer who declined the drink received a note from General Grant to report at headquarters. He obeyed the order, and Grant said to him:

"You are the officer, I believe, who remarked the other day that you never drank." The officer modestly answered that he was.

"Then," continued the general, "you are the man I have been looking for to take charge of the Commissary Department, and I order that you be detailed to that duty."

He served all through the war in that responsible department, and afterward, when General Grant became president, the officer who never drank was again in request. The president, needing a man on whom he could rely for some important business, gave him the appointment.

The man who never drinks is likely to be wanted in many important positions. The man who does drink is wanted in the rum-shop—till his money is gone!—*Safeguard.*

### COUNTRY CHILDREN.

There is a compensation for the little folks who live in the country, which atones largely for what they might enjoy did they live in the cities.

Their wholesome daily life, with their experience in the care and repair of the houses, barns and fences, and the endless variety of equipment; their acquaintance with the habits, use, and care, of the different kinds of domestic animals; clean, wholesome habits and pure recreations, and, in short, the rare privilege of being an active part of the grandest all-around school for a child—that of a well-managed country home—these are what cause the students from the country to distance their city brothers and sisters in all that per-

tains to quickness of observation, accuracy of judgment, and strength of character.

With the population flocking to the cities, this wholesome, healthful country training is lost; yet in many places in the cities the kindergarten and manual training are beginning to take its place. However, the opportunities in this direction are altogether too small. No boy or girl should ever undervalue the privilege of a youth spent in the country.—*Sel.*

### "I CAN AND I WILL!"

I know a boy who was preparing to enter the Junior class of the New York University. He was studying trigonometry, and I gave him three examples for his next lesson. The following day he came into my room to demonstrate his problems. Two of them he understood, but the third—a very difficult one—he had not performed. I said to him: "Shall I help you?"

"No, sir. I can and I will do it if you give me time."

I said: "I will give you all the time you wish."

The next day he came into my room to recite another lesson in the same study.

"Well, Simon, have you worked that example?"

"No, sir, he answered; "but I can and I will do it if you give me a little more time."

"Certainly; you shall have all the time you desire."

I always like those boys who are determined to do their own work, for they make our best scholars and men, too. The third morning you should have seen Simon enter my room. I knew he had it, for his whole face told the story of his success.

Yes, he had it, notwithstanding it had cost him many hours of hard work. Not only had he solved the problem, but, what was of much greater importance to him, he had begun to develop mathematical power which, under the inspiration of "I can and I will," he has continued to cultivate, until to-day he is professor of mathematics in one of our largest colleges, and one of the ablest mathematicians of his years in our country.—*Fx.*