

WANTED.

We want, we want a preacher for our church of Rumbletown. A noble saint, quite worthy of a halo or a crown; A man who will adorn the place where men of weight have stood, And fasten in a close embrace our divers brotherhood. We want a classic scholar, well learned in ancient lore— One who can quote the fathers, and count the ages o'er, One who keeps pace with modern thought with science and with art, And one who in the pulpit displays some depth of heart. We want a Bible student, mild, patient, apt to teach, One who'll compel the people to go and hear him preach; Above all vain ambition, above all greed of gain, With needs both few and simple, and style of living plain, We'd like to have a writer of essays and reviews, A man of some position, who'd turn it to our use. His wife must be a singer, able to speak and pray, Conduct the ladies' meetings, and visit by the day. We want a faithful pastor, who'll exercise his care Over the church and Sunday-school by calling everywhere. If any of his fold are sick, he must divine the fact. If any stray from duty's path, he must rebuke the act. Preaching three times on Sunday, two lectures in a week, A Bible-class, and meetings four-at which of course, he'll speak— Some weddings, and some funerals; engagements such as these, Might keep a man quite busy, nor leave him too much ease. As to his disposition, it must be the very best; To hospitality inclined, he'll ne'er refuse a guest; And if he suits in other things besides those mentioned here, We're ready to make out his call, with eighty pounds a-year!

HEALTH OF COUNTRY HOMES

The House.—The only probable source of danger to health in a farmhouse lies in the condition of the cellar, or of the space which separates the lowest floor from the ground. If there be a cellar, observe whether it is dry and free from standing water or decaying vegetable matter (allowed to accumulate there through the negligence of servants). If the house is built upon the ground, the lower floor should be at least 18 inches above the ground, and the sides should be so open that the air can circulate freely through the space.

The Well.—If the water is clear and sweet, and free from any unpleasant odor, one may pretty safely assume that no harm is to be anticipated from this source. Farmers are often in the habit, however, of hanging meat in the well for the purpose of keeping it cool. A pretty severe epidemic (in 1874) of diarrhoea, in a boarding-house at one of the healthiest Long Island summer resorts, was traced to the existence of a decomposing shoulder of mutton at the bottom of the well, into which it had accidentally fallen.

The Privy.—There is little or no danger from contamination of the air by the contents of the privy. The real danger lies in the diffusion of these contents through the soil and their contamination of the water of the well. To avoid such a possibility, the privy should be placed at least 60 or 70 feet from the well, and—if the direction of the natural drainage currents be known—in such a position that the contents of the privy will drain away from the well. Better yet, let the privy be so constructed that its offensive contents shall simply lie upon the surface of the ground, and let there be easy access to it from behind, so that fresh earth may be frequently added, and the entire accumulation removed, say once a week.

The Slops.—How common is it for the kitchen authorities in a farmhouse to throw the slops upon the ground, just outside the kitchen door, and perhaps within six feet of the well. I have known of a boarding-house epidemic of diarrhoea which could be traced to no other source than the contamination of the well-water by a shallow pool of sun-exposed, foul-smelling slops. A cemented cistern should be built about 75 or 100 feet from the house, and at a distance from the well, and to this all the kitchen slops, vegetable waste, &c., should be conducted through a suitable pipe or conduit. From the cistern these matters may be fed to the pigs, or thrown upon the ground at a proper distance from the house.

The Ice.—The ice may be so loaded with foul vegetable matter as to give rise to quite severe disturbances of the bowels and stomach. If it be found free from imbedded impurities, and if, when melted, it be free from an unpleasant odor, one may safely assume that no danger is to be anticipated from this source. An interesting epidemic of bowel troubles were traced to impure ice last summer at Rye Beach.

Drainage.—This is a more difficult subject to investigate, and one concerning which I hardly dare venture any remarks in this place. In a general way, however, the statement may be made that pools of stagnating water, or marshy flats near brooks or streams (except, perhaps, at the seaside), are not desirable neighbors. This is especially the case if the house in which you live is situated in a hollow (as in some mountain valleys, however elevated it may be above the sea), where the air does not freely circulate. The prevalence of typhoid fever in some of the Vermont and New York mountain valleys, especially in early Autumn, is probably to be explained by the existence of just such conditions. In the case of a large hotel, the investigation should be practically the same as in the case of a farm-house. The difficulties in the way of such an investigation will be found, however, to be much greater, and it would probably be better in such a case to secure the assistance of some physician or engineer, who is familiar with the subject.—New York Tribune.

PRAYER.

Among the forms of insect life there is a little creature known to naturalists which can gather around itself a sufficiency of atmospheric air, and so clothed, it descends into the bottom of the pool; and you may see the little diver moving about dry, and at his ease, protected by his crystal vesture, though the water all be stagnant and bitter. Prayer is such a protector; a transparent vesture—the world sees it not; a real defence, it keeps out the world. By means of it the believer can gather so much of heavenly atmosphere around him, and with it descend into the patrid depths of this contaminating world, that for a season no evil will touch him, and he knows when to ascend for a new supply. Communion with God kept Daniel pure in Babylon.—Dr James Hamilton.

A GREAT ERROR.—The error is great in supposing that the mind is making no progress and acquiring no knowledge when it is not conversing with books; and it is one of the errors of bookish men. There are pauses amid study, and even pauses of seeming idleness, in which a process goes on which may be likened to the digestion of food. In those seasons of repose the powers are gathering their strength for new efforts, as land which lies fallow, and recovers itself for tillage.—Dr. J. W. Alexander.

A GREAT FAITH.—Bishop Hall, commenting on the New Testament story of the Syrophenician woman, remarks: "O woman say I, great is thy humility, great is thy patience; but, O woman, says my Saviour, great is thy faith. He sees the root, we the stock. Nothing but faith could thus temper the heart, thus strengthen the soul, thus charm the tongue."

READ CAREFULLY.

SAMUEL OSBORN, Sophiasburg, says—"I was affected with Dyspepsia for nearly four years, my lungs becoming affected towards the last. I was induced to try the 'Shoshonees Remedy.' After using three or four bottles I felt much better, and gained strength rapidly, my health improved steadily and rapidly, and when I had taken three or four bottles more, I was quite restored to health and strength, and have experienced better health than for forty years before. I had been under the treatment of a number of physicians before, but never received any material aid until I used your remedy."

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