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When Writing Mention This Paper.

He began to speak to us, saying: "How many of the pupils that come to this school know my name?" None of us knew, but he told us his name was Mr. Hart, a man who was sent out by the Ontario Agricultural College to start up Rural-school Fairs.

He asked us how many of us knew what a potato bug was? We didn't all know, but most of us said "It was an insect," and he said we were right. He went on, little by little, till at last he said he had read a piece in "The Farmer's Advocate" about Rural-school Fairs. He thought it would be a fine plan to have three schools to have a fall fair.

We thought over it, and then we decided we would do it. When we went home that night we told our parents about the plan, and they said we could if we wished.

The next time he came around, he gave each pupil a leaflet, and on it were the different things I am going to mention. There was a list of flowers and vegetables, and we had the pick of three, or we could have two, or one. Then, below this, we read that we could make collections of butterflies, diseased leaves, wild flowers, weeds and weed seeds.

The next spring, about March, we gave him the list of things we were going to grow, and then he set out over the Province to get good seeds and vegetables.

My garden consisted of watermelons, sugar beets, and potatoes. These seeds were the best kind ever used. The name of the watermelons was "The Cole's Early"; they were certainly very good ones. The sugar beets were called the "Giant White Feeding." The potatoes were called the "Empire State."

On the third of May, 1909, I planted my potatoes in a plot, being of a certain size. It was fifteen feet long, and four rows. I was given twelve potatoes, mixed, large and small ones. I cut them up, and I had fourteen hills in one row, and fifty-six on the whole plot. About a week after I planted them, I saw them coming up.

I sowed the sugar beets in a plot the same size as my potato plot. I soaked the seed in water over a day in order to soften the hard seed around the black seeds in the center. When they came up, I thinned them out till I had seventy left. I only needed sixty-eight. The reason I did this was in fear of a plant or two dying, or a hen might take the pleasure to scratch one out.

I planted my watermelons in hills, after the manure was put in the bottom. I also soaked these seeds, so they would come up quicker. They came up about a week after they were planted. Then I took some of the plants out in order to let the rest have a good chance.

In May, the wild flowers began to come out one after the other. The first wild flowers I got was a Mayflower. I bought some blotters about a foot and a half long and a foot wide. Then I laid the flower between these two blotters particularly. I left a leaf turned upwards on the wrong side, and the other leaves pressed out on the right side; then I had the flowers laid out so that one might be able to count the petals. I also had a very nice root with it, but I washed the clay from its roots.

I laid a smooth board on top of the blotters to keep them even, and then I laid ninety-six pounds of flour on top to press it.

A day after this I changed the blotters, and I put dry ones on the plant, for if I didn't, my plant would have moulded with the juice out of the plant. Three days after I had the weight on them, I bought some mounting paper to mount the plant on. The sheets were about the same size as the blotters, and I placed the plant on the center of the page. I then bought a spool of transparent tape to keep the plant on the paper. I cut it up in strips, and I pasted it on to the stalks, and when I lifted it up it didn't drop off.

I then bought some labels, and I filled the blanks in. I put the English name, habitat, collector, school, county, and the date I found it on. I pressed wild flowers till I had forty-five pressed.

I pressed weeds the same way as the wild flowers. But on the farms in Southern Ontario there are a great many more weeds than wild flowers.

After the weeds were full-grown, and had flowered, the seeds began to come on

them. In gathering the weed seeds, I needed a number of bottles to put them in. I filled one bottle of a certain kind of seed, and then, when the cork was put in the bottle, I got a piece of paper and printed the name of the seed.

When I had my bottles filled, I bought a piece of black cardboard. I took a darning-needle and I sewed the bottles on, one by one after the other, on a line.

It was coming near the fair day, and people seemed to be troubled about a large patch of watermelons near by. So one moonlight night I carried them into the cellar. I weighed them, and then I chose two of the largest for the fair. I was given a label, and I put the total weight of one on it. Near the fair time, I pulled the weeds from my watermelons, and I watered them after the sun went down.

The next thing I was to do was to dig my potatoes and weigh twelve of them. I weighed them, and I put the total weight on a label.

I then had to weigh sixty-eight sugar beets, and I was to save six of the best for the fair. The day came along before we expected it, and I am sure we had a fine time.

On the first of October, the Rural-school Fall Fair was held at the Riverside school. There were two other schools who were in the business, and they all met at the school at about 9 o'clock; the people in the section came, too.

About 10 o'clock some men made three tables. The vegetables were placed on them, and the specimens. In the forenoon the people arranged the things. About 12 o'clock they served dinner, and I'm sure everyone enjoyed it. The ladies washed the dishes in cold water, and the judges judged the things.

Nearly every person won a prize. The prizes were given in money. I got \$3.50 in prizes. The Stone school won the sweepstake prize. But we'll try again. In the afternoon we had races, and about 4 o'clock I got Mr. Hart to sell my watermelons, 50c. each. This letter is getting long, so I must close, hoping this letter does not take up too much space in your valuable paper, or in the *Farmer's Advocate*. I am your new friend, BESSIE DEANS (Book III.).

Galt, Ont.

Whip-poor-will.

(Sent by "Whip-poor-will.")

When the evening shadows fall,
"Whip-poor-will,"
Comes the soft, sonorous call,
"Whip-poor-will!"

By the streamlet 'neath the moon,
When the cowslips are in bloom,
Faintly sounds the harp-like thrill,
"Whip-poor-will!"

Through the vale and by the mill,
"Whip-poor-will—Whip-poor-will!"

Like a tale that music tells,
"Whip-poor-will,"
Through the woodland's swampy dells,
"Whip-poor-will,"

Where the bluebell droops its head,
When the twilight sky is red,
Softly comes the mournful thrill,
"Whip-poor-will—Whip-poor-will!"

Kindly thoughts those voices bring,
"Whip-poor-will,"
Fondest memories round me cling,
"Whip-poor-will!"

Pictures of our childhood years,
While my eyes are filled with tears,
Thoughts of you my fancies fill,
"Whip-poor-will—Whip-poor-will!"

A Fairy Tale.

Dear Puck, As I have seen a few fairy stories in "The Farmer's Advocate," I thought I would write one too. If I see this in print, I might write another one some time. It is about a man whose first wife had died and left one daughter. So he married his second wife, who also had one daughter. This mother was very wicked to the step-daughter. So one very sticky day in winter she made the step-daughter a paper dress and had her go out and pick strawberries and give her a piece of dry bread to eat. So she walked a long distance and at last came to a house where there were many children living. They had her dress and bread for a piece of her bread. So she

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