

Youth's Department.

Written for the Farmer's Advocate.

BY T. W. D.

The Publisher of the *Advocate*, considering that there were more people in the farmer's family than the farmer himself, lays out this part of his paper as a place for the young people of that family, and warrants it safe from intrusion by seeds or implements, and even free from cattle: although now and then a stray "bull" may be let loose in it. Our Canadian winter evening has evidently been intended for enjoyment around the home circle. Its length is sufficient to give time for amusement, and its cold is such as to force, or, at least prevail upon the stragglers to stay at home. And now while we are upon this subject, we might as well speak a word to parents about what they consider "the foolish and useless way of spending evenings, included under the heading amusements." We know that as a general thing their children, old and young, ought, when they come in for the night, to set to work and do something which will be useful to them; and they impose this so thoroughly upon their children that the said children never think of having any amusement at home. What is the consequence? Toil is not loved by young people, neither is too much study nor a superabundance of reading. What then? There is a dance going on over at the village; there are amusements at the tavern, and there is no inducement to stay at home. Who, then, will wonder that farmers sons do not want to stay on the farm but desire to go at some other business, and that the daughters wish also to leave the farm and go to live in town? Farmers, let me advise you if you wish your son to be a farmer after you, to stay at home and aid and comfort you when you grow old, make home cheerful—make it cheerful for the young. What pleasures you may not quite suit them. Games and amusements generally are silly. We will acknowledge all that, but we were both young once and we were not perhaps any too wise then. We also loved to be silly at times, and for our part we don't think it hurt us; how is it with you? And mother's, a word with you. Do you wish your daughter to love her home, and in loving that home to love you, its centre piece? Then make that home pleasant for your daughter. She need not all the time be knitting, be darning, be sewing, be patching and be darning. Let some of her evenings be her own, and when you do give her evenings for her own, induce her to spend them at home by amusing her. Invite a few friends for company, a few whom you are intimate with. Let all the young people join in some innocent, laughter provoking game; don't shudder because they romp a little; go in and aid them, and be a child again for a time, and we guarantee you and your whole family will feel more happy and more united than you ever did before. But forgive us, young folks; we had intended to talk to you and we strayed off to your parents. However, read to your parents what we have said, and induce them to try our unpatented but nevertheless perfect cure for the leaving home mania.

And now a word to you, young people. When you do play a game, play it with all your heart. People, whether children, boys, girls, men or women who join in a game and let every one see that they take no pleasure in it, are *unmitigated nuisances*. We will give you plenty of games in this and future numbers, and we desire to make you all our friends. We love children and we love young people generally and specially, and we consider that when we help them to enjoy themselves, that we make ourselves happy by so doing. Let us hear from you often. Write answers to our puzzles; tell us about the games you know and play; cheer us in our work by telling us if we have added anything to your happiness. Fathers and Mothers, help us. It is a noble work we are engaged in. Young

people help us; it is for your benefit that we labor.

HOW, WHEN AND WHERE.—This is a capital game for a party of from five upwards, and affords great scope for wit and skill, both in the asking and answering of the questions. One of the company goes out of the room, and the rest fix upon a word, choosing one which has various meanings. The one who has been out then returns, and asks how they like it, then when they like it, and then where they like it. From these answers, he or she is to decide what word was chosen. The game will be better understood by giving an example. We were a jolly party of eight, and having met together for an evening's amusement, we determined not to stick ourselves down to cards or conversation; but do something in which we might let off some of our exuberant spirits. Old Mr. Poker, although he would have much preferred his quiet game of whist with some of the elders of our party, still he liked his young friends too well to interfere with their pleasure, but rather determined to aid them, Tom said let us play *How, When and Where*, and immediately we all chimed in with his idea. The next question was, who shall we send out? which was decided by Mr. Poker offering himself as a sacrifice. When left, the next thing was to choose the word. Charlie thought *box* would do splendidly, as there was a *box* to put things in, *box* a blow, *box* a kind of wood; but Mary suggested *Bill*, and we all agreed to it. *Bill* is a man's name; *Bill* is an account; *Bill* is the appendage to a goose's head. So Mr. Poker was called in and told to get to work—and these were the results:

He first asked us *How* we liked it? One said "Very small," (referring to *bill* on account); another said "when it did not quack too much." Mr. James said he did not like it at all; but when Mary said she liked it 5 feet six inches high, you ought to have seen *Bill* Poker blush, for that was just his height, and as all the others saw the allusion, they laughed and cheered too; so it was now Mary's time to become very red in the face. Mr. Poker, however, had not yet discovered the word. He at first supposed it must be a duck, because one had said he did not like it to quack too much; but then Mary had said she liked it 5 feet six inches long, and that would be a rather large duck, so he went on and asked "when we liked it?" Mr. James said he liked it when it was settled. John James who did believe in Miss Mary's affection for *Bill* Poker, said "he liked it when it knew how to behave itself." and we suggested to Mary, that she should like it when sleighing was good and "it" was in a cutter alongside her. Mr. Poker was now beginning to see what we were driving at, but continued his questions. "Where do you like it?" *Bill* Poker liked it at the front end of a duck; Mr. James liked lots of it in his pocket (evidently referring to bank bills); Mary being asked if she liked it, but not finding an answer ready, some one suggested "in her arms." This was too much for everybody's gravity, so in the general confusion that ensued, Mr. Poker discovered the word—The following words are very good for this game: *Box, Flower, Flows, Mat.*

LONDON MARKETS, LONDON, Jan. 26th, 1870

Fall Wheat, per bushel.....	70 to 75
Spring Wheat do.....	70 to 80
Barley do.....	40 to 52
Oats do.....	25 to 28
Peas do.....	40 to 42
Corn do.....	50 to 60
Hay, per ton.....	8.00 to 10.00
Butter, prime, per lb.....	15 to 16
Eggs, per dozen.....	18 to 20
Potatoes, per bushel.....	40 to 45
Flour, per 100 lbs.....	2.00 to 2.50
Mutton, per lb., by quarter.....	6 to 7
Beef, per pound.....	6 to 7½
Cows do.....	25.00 to 35.00
Hides.....	5½ to 6
Hops.....	8 to 13
Turkeys.....	50 to 1.00
Geese.....	30 to 50
Pork.....	8.00 to 8.25

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RAILWAY TIME TABLE.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

Trains leave London, going West, as follows: 8.40, a.m., 2.45 a.m., 6.50 a.m., 12.50 p.m., 5.50 p.m. Going East, 6 o'clock a.m., 8.35 a.m., 4.45 p.m., 1.45 p.m., 11.15 p.m.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Trains leave London as follows: 7 o'clock, a.m., 12.25 p.m., 4, p.m.

Communications.

To the Editor of the Farmer's Advocate.

The Advantages of Underdraining

There are scarcely any soils from the stiffest clays to the burning gravels, but what are benefitted, in some degree, by underdraining. It is now a well known fact, that the water rising from the earth below, is oftentimes as injurious to the growing crops, as the excess of moisture caused by the rains near the surface. It is on this account that many, even the most porous soils, stand in need of underdraining. It should always be borne in mind, that drains do not only act as channels for conveying off the superabundant moisture, but that they also freely admit the air into the subsoil, which increases the temperature of our cold, wet soils in no small degree. The advantages of underdraining are two-fold. It is not only in the increased crop and better quality of grain that the farmer becomes benefitted, but it is in the decrease of labor that is required to obtain the crop. Oftentimes the farmer is able to commence work upon a drained field, weeks before he dares venture to proceed upon one