

A College Education for the Country Boy or Girl

President Wm. H. Harper, of Chicago University, when asked his opinion as to why rural boys and girls should have an education, expressed himself as follows:

"Rural boys and girls are of two kinds—those who expect to live always in the country and those who look forward to life in larger places, when they shall have grown up.

The problem of a college education presents itself in different ways to these types.

"Regret it as we may, there are many ambitious young men and women in the country who, for one reason or another, are dissatisfied with country life. A boy has an inclination to go into business. He is ambitious, intelligent, and he wants to succeed. He knows that the best opportunities in business lie in the city. Consequently he goes to the city and we could not hold him back without crushing the spirit of enterprise and self-initiative which is one of our most valued national traits. The same thing holds with his friend who looks forward to a profession. The same thing holds of girls who are interested in art, or letters, or education in many of its most interesting phases. The tendency toward the city, then, is not a theory, but a fact which we must recognize, and the needs of country boys and girls, looking forward to city life, must be met.

"For such persons the argument in favor of a college education is obvious. Business and the professions are making constantly severer demands upon the persons who go into them. It is more and more difficult for a man with only a quick wit and natural endowments to succeed. He needs thorough preparation and that preparation he can often get best through a college. Technical instruction he can obtain in other places—instruction in bookkeeping, stenography and kindred branches—and this technical instruction is highly valuable. But for the largest success, grasp of principles, trained methods of thought, he needs to supplement the mechanics of business and the professions with the mental discipline which a college can best give. Surely this point is too clear to need further elaboration.

"But let us look at the country boy who expects always to live in the country. Surely, it will be said, he does not need a college education. It is true that here a college education is not so essential for business success as in the case of the city man. Perhaps it is not necessary at all, and yet testimony is accumulating that in farming it is scientific methods which are yielding the best results. These methods are explained, the stimulus to them issues very largely from agricultural colleges scattered throughout the country. Is it too much then to conclude that whether or not a college course along the old lines is requisite, a course in an agricultural college is a profitable business investment?

"There is a finer side of college life and college influence than any which I have yet discussed, and with it I mean to close. That is, the help given by a college education to higher living and thinking. After all, life is not entirely made up of getting money. It is of no use to acquire wealth if we have not the capacity to enjoy it and to use it in noble ways. It is in giving this ability, in training mental and spiritual appreciation, in developing character, in making a man the master of the material side of life, that a college performs its highest function. And this is a service rendered equally to the country man and the city man. If we are to get the most out of life and make it mean the most to our fellow men, business must be

idealized. We must see the work of the merchant, of the lawyer, and equally of the farmer, in its relation to men, to thought, and to virtue. We must have the philosophic calm to endure reverses with fortitude and success without conceit. We must find sources of enjoyment in books, in nature, in music, in art. We must acquire a feeling for our fellowmen and we must keep our sympathies keen. These are the things that make life noble. And because a college, perhaps more than any other force except the church, cultivates these things, no boy or girl, either in the city or in the country, can afford, except under necessity, to leave it out of his or her plans."

Trapping Fur-Bearing Animals

There are many secrets in the trapper's art that laymen know nothing about. It is not an impossible trade to learn, however, and many a person could easily make a few dollars rapidly by trapping for the fur-bearing animals in his vicinity. Furs are high, and will certainly



Trap concealed by leaves. The coon is crossing a log and smells the bait. His attention is arrested, he turns back to investigate.

go higher. Small game like mink, coon, fox, martin, opossum, are best caught in the steel wire traps now in general use. They are so light that a trapper can take a dozen of them along with him. There being no jaws or saw-teeth the skin or fur is not injured. The whole



The result of his investigation. Mr. Coon is waiting for the trapper.

secret of success in trapping is to study the habits of the animal, and the places they frequent. As to bait, fish, bird or mink is the best for mink, though any fresh meat is good. Scatter dry leaves over the trap, but do not cover the hole. For scent to attract the animal, fish-oil or old mackerel are good. For coon, skunk, or opossum, find where they frequent, and set trap in the same way. Bait with bird, rabbit



Showing trap set, with mink approaching. For mink, the trap should be covered, as shown in Fig. 2, for coon. As illustration shows, trap is set at the edge of the water, over the hole in the bank.

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or chicken. Always fasten trap with wire to a stake or drag, if near water. In many localities boys could make lots of money at times trapping. To start them in this healthy, free and interesting work is the purpose of this illustrated article.

Hermanville, P.E.I.

Bill Nye, the humorist, once had a cow to sell, and advertised her as follows: "Owing to ill health I will sell at my residence, one plash raspberry cow aged 8 years. She is of undoubted courage and gives milk frequently. To a man who does not fear death in any form she would be a great boon. She is very much attached to her present home with a chain, but she will be sold to anyone who will treat her right. She is 1/2 shorthorn and 3/4 hyena. I will also throw in a double barrel shotgun, which goes with her. In May she usually goes away for a week or two and returns with a tall, red calf with wobbly legs. Her name is Rose. I would rather sell her to a non-resident."

"Talk about mosquitoes," said an American. "Why, when we were in latitude 30 degrees and longitude 75 degrees, a host of mosquitoes settled on our rigging, and when they left us there wasn't a stitch of canvas left on the boat." "That's said his friend," "that's strange, because when I was sailing in latitude 20 degrees and longitude 74 degrees, a swarm of mosquitoes settled on our rigging and every one of them had a pair of canvas breeches on. Same mosquitoes, no doubt!"

Farmer Corneob—"What did you do with the old hemlock?" "Squire Wayback—"Ground it up and served it to the city boarders as a new breakfast food, and they were all stuck on it."

An Irishman asked a Scottish man one day why a railway engine was called "she." Sandy replied: "Perhaps it's on account of the horrible noise it makes when it tries to whistle."