

WHAT EDUCATION SHOULD FARMERS' DAUGHTERS RECEIVE?

Alice A. Ferguson, York Co., Ont.

THE pursuit of knowledge is elevating and refining. The earnest student soon forms ideals that lifts her life above the commonplace, and yet with all this, the sensible girl comes back from college to the farm to be a better help on the farm than before, because more intelligent.

Education does not unfit a girl for her duties at home. If it does, the fault lies in the girl herself, or in her training. It should develop abilities hitherto scarcely realized, and widen her sphere for usefulness. By being away from home—as is often the case when attending High School—she sees other women's methods of housekeeping, tests foods differently prepared, and comes home with fresh ideas for more variety in the daily menu, or for home furnishings.

Farmers' daughters should not be slaves, but free. Education should develop desires for reading and for arts. I have in mind a girl who attended High School for a term or two, having to give it up on account of her eyes. She became an excellent

housekeeper, and found time to paint some very creditable pictures, which afterwards adorned the walls of the manse, where she went after marriage. She became an expert at art needlework, as well as acquiring a good musical education. She was in every way suitable for the wife of an educated man.

PRACTICAL RESULTS OF EDUCATION
In another farm household where there are two daughters, they have taken training at Macdonald Institute, Guelph, also in learning the home sewing can be well done by them.

Farmers' daughters should receive the best education possible. They are usually as bright and capable as other students, and to town girls. In their earlier years, farmers' daughters are imbibing knowledge at first hand of sanitary science, household economics, and of outside life, which is denied to the town girl.

The farm is a university where nearly every known subject may be studied, and naturally at least a kind is obtained.

A COURSE AT HIGH SCHOOL.

The farmers' daughters should be given at least a short term at High School, longer if it can be given. Life on the farm is free, untrammelled, and unconventional. When the country girl mingles first with other society, she may feel awkward or ill at ease. Mingling with other kindred spirits at High School or college rids off the sharp corners, smooths the rough lines, and soon the peg fits comfortably in the hole.

Farmers' daughters should be worthy to be the wives of good, intelligent men, whether farmers, business men, or professional men. Men want in a wife not only a home maker, but a companion, who can understand and enter intelligently into their flights of thought. For this purpose, a farmer's daughter should be given an opportunity to develop her abilities, and should be encouraged to assist in public functions and become used to living in the public eye. This will give ease of manner, freedom from self-consciousness, and ability to assist gracefully when called upon to perform some public duty.

The farm is the best place in which to develop strong bodies, sound minds and healthy spirits. The variety of work, the freedom from irksome restraint, the happy, healthy environment, coupled with an educated intelligence and kind heart, should make the farmer's daughter not only a poor, but an expert, and not even do only the one thing of the girl in the city office, who knows how to do only the one thing, and not even that very well. The farmer's daughter should be worthy of any man, and is often too good for most men.

More Moisture for Living Rooms

"Too often we do not supply our living rooms with a sufficient amount of moisture to safeguard our health properly," says Laura M. Stewart, instructor in home economics in the University of Wisconsin.

"One reason for so much throat and nose trouble during the winter months is that the mucous lining is deprived of its necessary moisture, making it less resistant to germs. This lack of moisture also causes the furniture to crack and spread at the joints."

In country homes where neither hot water nor steam heat is used, the housewife may have the air sufficiently moist by keeping a small basin of water on the back of the stove.

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The New Dress and the Old

A. C. HELD

Yes been to town, hey ye, Mandy, an ye brought a brand new dress, an' yer goin' to hev it made up right in style jus' like the res'.

Made with all the bows an' flims that the dresses have this spring. An' I s'pose yer'll bet on Sunday yer in style an' let the thing.

Well, o' course I know it's a nat'ral fer dressed up like the other ones is, an' it's right, but ez fer me.

Jes' please leave out them 'flims' I'm old-fashioned as ye see. I like ye bet' as ye air now, jes' that way, jes' as ye be.

Yes, jes' as ye stan' there, Mandy, with yer gingham dress o' blue. An' the tear there on the shoulder an' your arm showin' through—

An' the faded o' sunbonnet that your Mother waster wear. An' the sunlight shinin' on ye an' a lightin' up yer hair.

Don't think for a minit, Mandy, I be proud, ye the one. An' I'll bet proud o' ye Sunday when I see ye with the res'.

But when agin on Monday you blow the horn for me.

I like ye dear old gingham dress, I like ye as ye be.

An' ye ask me, do ye, Mandy, why I like that o' worn dress.

I smile ez I tell the reason, fer it's one yer'd never dress.

When I met yer mother, Mandy, fer she'd a dress on 'bout like your's is, an' it come jes' to the knee—

An' a faded o' sunbonnet, she's a holdin' to one string.

An' I thought o' all Dad's treasures she's about the sweetest thing.

So ye see it's all God's weakness to cling to this memory

that, my girl, is the reason I like ye as ye be.