

The Demon on the Roof.

BY JOSEPHINE POLLARD.

'Twas an ancient legend they used to tell
Within the glow of the kitchen hearth,
When a sudden silence upon them fell,
And quenched the laughter and noisy mirth;
That whenever a dwelling was building new,
There were demons ready to curse or bless
The noble structure, that daily grew
Perfect in shape and comeliness.

And when the sound of the tools had ceased,
Hammer and nails, and plane and saw,
Ere yet the dwelling could be released
From the evil spirits, — there was a law —
No master mechanic could be found
Able or willing to disobey —
That a ladder be left upon the ground
For their enjoyment, a night and a day.

And when the chimneys begin to roar,
And voices harsh as the wintry wind
Howl and mock at the outer door,
The ancient legend is brought to mind.
And we think, perhaps, that a careless loon
Not fearing the master's stern reproof,
Has taken the ladder away too soon
And left a demon upon the roof.

And in every dwelling where joy comes not,
And the buds of promise forget to bloom,
Be it a palace, or be it a cot,
Amplly splendid or scant of room,
We may be sure that a demon elf,
Fiendishly cruel and full of spite,
Is sitting and grinning away to himself
Up on the ridge-pole, out of sight.

But let it ever be borne in mind
By those who often this legend quoth,
That with every evil, some good we find,
For every ill, there's an antidote.
And if we use but the magic spell,
And hearts draw near that were kept aloof,
Good angels then in our homes will dwell,
Despite the demon upon the roof.

How to Drive the Boys from the Farm.

If you wish to drive boys from the farm, send them out to cut green wood at the back door and tell them they must get up at five o'clock and make a fire from it. Send them to milk by lantern light, in the dead of winter, when the cold winds are blowing through the cracks of the barn. Have them drive the cattle to water and be obliged to chop a hole through the ice in order to let them drink. Let them carry water the year round up hill from a spring. Have them turn the grindstone for hours. Send them out to pull wool from the dead carcass of a sheep, when they have to hold the nose with one hand and pull with the other. Make them do all the drudgery and disagreeable work found to be done on the farm. Tell them there is no time to go fishing or hunting. And when you come to your meals, when everything should be pleasant, and you should have a smile on your face, cry out and say: "We are going to have a drouth, and we will have to go to the poor-house," and "The season is so wet there will be a failure of crops, and I will not be able to pay my taxes." Fret and scold about everything that does not go just right. These, and many other things that could be mentioned, are driving the boys from the farm.

"Now, Willie, dear," says Fanny. "do have a little courage; when I have a powder to take I don't like it any more than you do; but I made up my mind to take it, and I do." "And when I have a powder to take," replied Willie, "I make up my mind not to take it, and I don't."

OUR USEFUL PREMIUMS for 1885.**For One New Subscriber:**

YOUR CHOICE OF THE FOLLOWING

Trees especially adapted to the Northwest.

The **Crab Apple**.—Two plants by mail, of what is said by Mr. Leslie to be the best in the world. These useful and valuable trees should be planted by all farmers, particularly in the Northwest.

The **Ash Leaf Maple**.—One packet of seed or six plants of this ornamental and hardy tree. For description and illustration see page 297 of October number.

The **Silver Poplar**.—One packet of cuttings or six plants. This tree is of very rapid growth and when dry makes good fire wood. See articles on page 297, October number.

The **Norway Maple**.—One packet of seed or six plants of this beautiful and hardy variety of the maple, a description of which appears on page 297, October number.

Adapted to Southern Ontario.

The **Horse Chestnut** is one of the most beautiful and useful trees grown, of very rapid growth, and for shade or ornament cannot be excelled. One packet of seed from a grand tree owned by the proprietor of this journal, and can be seen from the study window, see page 264 of September issue; or six young plants.

The **Black Walnut**.—Of all timber for making furniture or other useful purposes this is considered the most valuable, and is now very scarce. This excellent timber will pay for cultivation. One package of seed from trees growing on the old homestead of the editor of this paper, or six young trees.

—OR THIS—

CHROMOS

Chromo "**Life's Voyage**."—Or Lithograph "**Yes or No**." Beautiful pictures, and highly prized by those who have received them.

SEEDS.

A useful collection of **Vegetable Seeds**, ten varieties, and one packet novelties for 1885.

A choice collection of **Flower Seeds**, ten varieties.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

Two plants, **Prince of Berries**, said to be the latest and best of the many excellent varieties, and is of the finest flavor lately introduced.

Two plants, **Daniel Boone**.—This plant has grown in favorably during the past season, and bids fair to be in great demand, both as to flavor, productiveness and keeping qualities.

Three plants of **James Vick Strawberry**.—In addition to the already favorable opinions expressed about this berry, it has this season averaged fully as large berries as the Wilson, and produced more fruit. One large grower states that he could fill a basket sooner from the James Vick than from any other strawberry.

Two plants of the **Dwarf Juneberry**.—These plants should be in every garden. The plant is very hardy. The fruit ripens early, and in enormous quantities.

Six plants of the **Russian Mulberry**.—The popularity of this plant still continues, and we have decided to give it again for another year.

ROSES.

So very few really good roses are to be found in the country gardens of Canada that we have decided to offer two of the best varieties grown, one a dark crimson and the other a deep yellow. The ordinary price for these roses if bought from florists is 50 cts. to \$1, but we offer your choice of either of the following for one new subscriber:

One plant of the **General Jacqueminot**.—This rose is one of the finest and prettiest; in color it is a rich velvety scarlet, changing to brilliant crimson. The buds of this variety are magnificent, rendering them of especial value for bouquets, and for wearing in the button hole. It is also a good rose for forcing. See issue for April, 1884.

One plant of the **Isabella Sprunt**.—In color is sulphur-yellow. It is a very free bloomer, and is one of the most beautiful of the yellow roses, and in the bud state can scarcely be surpassed. It is of especial value for bouquets, and makes an excellent potting plant.

The **Lady's Manual of Fancy Work**.—Four hundred illustrations, paper cover, containing a great variety of excellent designs for dress or household decorations. It is a book which will please, and should be in the hands of every lady.

For Two New Subscribers:

YOUR CHOICE OF THE FOLLOWING

Large and beautifully finished

CHROMOS

"**Windsor Castle**," or "**Balmoral Castle**."—These fine pictures are 30x24 inches, and form a pretty ornament to any home.

Or Lithograph of **Lorne and Louise**. The picture contains a puzzle which few are able to solve.

The **Novelty Rug Machine**.—Makes rugs, tidies, door mats, etc. Is an entirely new invention. Performs its work satisfactorily, is simple of construction, and can

be worked by a child. This little machine not only saves much time and labor, but much of the material used by the use of the ordinary mat hooks. For making Turkish rugs it cannot be excelled. Every housekeeper should have one. See page 307 of October issue.

For Three New Subscribers:

YOUR CHOICE OF THE FOLLOWING:

The **World's Cyclopaedia and Library of Useful Knowledge**.—Giving concise information on nearly every subject. Contains 800 pages, 50,000 references, and 1,200 illustrations, and is an indispensable library of universal knowledge.

The **White Mountain Apple Parer**.—This machine does its work economically and quickly, leaving the fruit ready for drying, &c. This parer is the best and most serviceable one which we know of, and can strongly recommend it to every person. Per express at receiver's charges.

The **White Mountain Potato Parer**—is said to be not only the best one made, but the only one manufactured which will pare a potato better than it can be done by hand, taking off a thinner paring from every shape or kind of potato, but will go into and clean out the eyes. Per express at receiver's charges.

The "**Household**" Special Premium, the new **American Dictionary**.—Contains 1,000 engravings, and more pages than any similar work. No house should be without one.

OUR RULES.

Each new name must be accompanied with \$1 for the annual subscription.

The premium is for the person who secures the new name, and does not in any way belong to the new subscriber.

All plants, seeds, &c., will be sent free by mail early next spring. Books, chromos, &c., will be mailed free as early as possible after receipt of name. The apple and potato parers will be forwarded by express at cost of receiver.

Send for sample and commence your canvas at once. Sample copies sent free.

Address.

The FARMER'S ADVOCATE, London, Ont.

Commercial.

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE OFFICE,
London, Ont., Jan. 1, 1885.

Christmas week in Ontario was most seasonable and enjoyable, and must have been enjoyed by all who love to keep up the good old customs of our fathers and grandfathers. The grocers have been very busy selling fruits and all the other good things that load the Xmas tables; the hardware dealers, skates and plated goods; the dry goods men, fancy goods; the provision dealers, hams, turkeys and fowls, while the jewellers, the confectioners and stationers, have been as busy as they very well could be. Trade in these lines has been good, and dealers and merchants have no reason to complain.

WHEAT.

There is no change to note, nor does there seem any prospect of any for some months to come at least. The New York Produce Exchange makes the following remarks:

"The 1883 Wheat crop of the United States was reported to be 421,000,000 bushels measure by the Agricultural Department, and later 398,500,000 bushels of 60 lbs., or upwards of 20,000,000 bushels difference. The crop of 1883 was poor in quality, both Winter and Spring Wheat.

"The Wheat crop of the United States in 1884, per preliminary report, is placed at 500,000,000 bushels measure, or thereabouts. The Spring Wheat crop in quality in 1884 is superior to that of 1883. The Winter Wheat crop of 1884 at the harvest was believed to be superior in quality to the crop of 1883; but later, the quality of the crop of 1884 is not so very much