welcoming worthy immigrants who come here of their own free will, and going after them in order to secure a supply of cheap and servile labor.

The nations which figure largest to-day in industrial competition are not those with abundance of cheap labor, but those having the best trained, best directed and most highly-paid agricultural and mechanical skill.

4

THE SERVANT GIRL

To the Editor Farming World :

The writer noticed lately in The Farmer's Advocate an editorial on the "servant girl problem," in which the premises seem so incorrect and the general teaching so improper that I crave sufficient space in your growing and aggressive journal to make answer. The writer argues :- "That because it is well nigh impossible to obtain good Canadian servant girls, the situation is a most fortunate one, and that we are making rapid strides under such circumstances towards etc." God save us Democracy, from such Democracy as The Advocate editorial outlines. The writer is evidently without experience or he would know that it is absolutely impossible to arrange every home so as to eliminate the need of servants.

We cannot all be masters or mistresses, and therefore many apply for work. When we enter into em-ployment we become servants, but we do not by that act demean ourselves. It is possible to achieve as great edit as a servant as a mistree But yet the position is dif-ferent, and we must be willing to admit it, just as the position of scholar is different from that of a teacher. The one commands, the other obeys. Does the Advocate writer want the scholars to formulate rules for the government of the school. This would be democratic, but not best for the school. What about the army? It is the glory of the true soldier to obey. So long as he is in the ranks he honors and obeys his commander always, but the soldier does not dine with the commander. He cheerfully takes his proper place. Neither in a well regulated home will the true servant ever expect to spend her time playing the piano while her mistress scrubs the floor. She is engaged for a different purpose, and she does not disgrace herself by taking her proper place. The mistress commands, while she obevs. It is just as honorable to make a good record as a servant as that of mistress. There are many very poor servants, and The Advocate Editor is not likely to improve them by his method of dealing with the question. So there are poor specimens of those occupying the position of mistress. But all this does not alter the lact that so long as the world stands there will be need of servants ; those willing to do the work and obey others for the pay they receive. They may be better every

way in character or even in ability, but they best serve and honor themselves by cheerfully doing their duty and cheerfully obeying those who employ them. They are not slaves -they make half the bargain, but they are engaged to render efficient service, and they should be taught to be willing to do so. If the mistress looks down upon them when they do their duty, then she is no lady and may be left to take care of herself.

There are hundreds of noble women to-day who find their condition almost unbearable for the lack of o e to take the place of servant. Has The Advocate writer no mercy on such ? Does he not see that by his teaching he would prevent the farmers who are his main support from securing for their homes the help which is an absolute necessity? Few farmers who have 150 acres or more are so situated that they do not need servant girls, and many whose farms are smaller need them also. If The Advocate is seeking to proclaim socialism to us the sooner we withdraw our patronage the better. Since the world began to be inhabited there has always been need of servants. The noblest and best man who ever trod the earth was himself a servant. It is an honor to serve others well.

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Where have the servant girls gone? They are more than ever before, congregationg in towns and citics, not in their proper place-the home-but working in departmental stores, telephone offices, at the typewriter desk, etc. Does the Advocate think this employment more elevating or noble than service in the ordinary farm home? Does he suppose the morality of the average girl by going to labor during the day and walking the streets by night or attending cheap theatres, is increased or retained. It may be, but experience proves that it does not tend towards that which is best in the girl's life in any particular, neither bodily, mentally, morally, or in any other sense. I should be sorry to see a daughter or sister undertake any of these duties. There is no better place than some respectable home where, though the girl is a servant, she may be respected as such, and where it is possible to win approval and honor by the performance of the duties imposed upon her.

It may be that in these days when families spring up in a night from comparative poverty to affluence, there are some who manifest pride and are overbearing and cruel with those who seek to serve them. Let the Advocate berate these and give them no mercy. Few will attempt their defence. But pray do not forget the needs of the country housekeeper and do not advise the young girls to flee housekeeping and home making for the shop or the desk. It leads to restlessness and immorality, and will not increase the moral tone of our fair country.

> A FARMER WHO NEEDS A SERVANT

THE FARMING WORLD Devoted to Canadian Country Life

Published on the

1st and 15th of sace month

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