

We always had a great large Christmas tree. One year Santa brought me a nice rocking chair and a lovely large doll sitting in it; I thought my doll was great, and even yet I make dresses for my dolls and I also have my chair.

We have two farms, and one day we moved to the other farm I thought it was great. I went over on a large load of chairs and stuff. I had never seen this place before, and there was a great deal of fun running through the house and seeing what kind of a place it was, and trying to see where all the doors led to. Shortly after this I started to school and have gone ever since. I have gone to four teachers and liked them all. I have noticed that Alberta Allison is also the same age as I am and in the same class, I have never heard of a girl named Alberta before but myself. As I was named after my uncle Albert with the (a) put on. Wishing every success to Alberta and the Beaver Circle.

ALBERTA THACKER.

(Age 12, Sr. III.)

R. R. No. 1. Ariss.

Dear Puck and Beavers,—I have been a silent reader of the circle, but have written an essay on "Sir Walter Raleigh." We have taken "The Farmer's Advocate" for a number of years. I am going to describe a trip out West which I had four years ago.

My father, mother and I started for North Dakota on the fourteenth of August. It was a beautiful morning as we drove along the road to the station, the sun was just rising in the eastern sky. The train was to leave Walkerton at a quarter after seven, but did not do so till after eight because it was an excursion. At last we started with a nice long train full, but nearly at every station there were more people getting in. It was very nice to look over the country when the sun was shining so brightly on everything, and the time went very quickly. We stopped at Muskoka for about ten minutes. It was quite rocky and so many little lakes would show up here and there. At last we came to Lake Superior and the North Shore. Isn't that lovely to go round? Lake Superior has such lovely scenery. We would stop many times through the woods to get water, to let a train pass, etc., and a number of the people would go out and pick blueberries and raspberries, chase a rabbit or play a game. We stopped for quite a while at Fort William and Port Arthur, and saw the large grain elevators. We then came to Winnipeg and we stayed at my cousin's for a few days, then we started for North Dakota. We arrived at "Minot" at a little after ten so we stayed at a friend's till the afternoon, and then started for Voltaire where my sister lives. My sister lives six miles from Voltaire. We then went out to her place. I certainly enjoyed myself out there. We stayed there for ten weeks, then came to Winnipeg and on to Brandon. We stayed there for a few days and then went out to the country and stayed there for a few days, then came back to Winnipeg and stayed there for a few days, and then started for home. When we were near Hawke a train had run into another one, and we were delayed for nine hours. A large car with high planks came and took the cars to one side to let us pass. Nearly every person in our train went out and watched them take the cars away. It happened to be a few minutes before we came along or we would have been wrecked. I took a piece of one of the damaged cars, but I lost it on the train. We were supposed to be in Toronto at three, but did not get there till after eight so we were too late for the Walkerton train, so had to stay in Toronto over night. We came home the next day after having three months of pleasure.

Would some of the Beavers please write to me?

VIOLA W. CUNNINGHAM.

(Age 13, Sr. IV. Class.)

Greenock, Ont.

Dear Puck and Beavers,—My father has taken "The Farmer's Advocate" for as long as I can remember. This is the second time I have written, but my first

one was not in print, so I thought I would try my luck again.

My grandfather has a sawmill, but it did not run much more than two weeks after it started, on account of the overflowing of the creek which runs between the house and mill. It ran in the fireplace and they had to stop. Then there was a strong wind and they stopped to sharpen a saw, and when they were about ready papa filled up the fireplace and had a big fire on, and just as they were putting the saw on the wind blew the smokestack over and they had to stop, the wind blew the door off the mill. It took the roof off two churches, and the roof off quite a few barns and blew down fences, but we live in the hollow so we are shaded and most of the wind goes over.

I wonder how many birds the leaves have seen this spring. I have seen some robins, blackbirds, and some crows and some blue-jays, which you can see anytime in winter too.

Say Puck, if I were going to write a story could I read one and then write it in my own words or would I have to make one up?

MAURICE READHEAD.

(Age 10, Book Jr. IV.)

Lowville, Ont.

It would be better for you to make the story up, Maurice, or, at least, to write one about something that happened in your locality.

Dear Puck and Beavers,—I hope this poem I made will do to put in your "Senior Beaver Circle," it is called:

NIGHTFALL.

The summer sky was tinted gold and red,
All the trees were of their coolest green,
The sun, last rays of brightest beauty shed,
Slipped behind its fleecy, clouded screen.

Down the slope the cows came one by one,
The horses homeward quietly were led,
The birdies weary of their long day's fun,
In cool and shady treetops went to bed.

The friendly stars came twinkling in the sky,
Upon the earth the moon shed silvery beams,
The fleecy cloudlets gently glided by,
And all beneath was wrapt in happy dreams.

MARJORIE L. RILEY.

(Age 11, Jr. IV.)

Millford Bay, Ont.

Dear Puck and Beavers,—A whole year and a half has slipped by since I last wrote you a story on "The frog and its surroundings." Since that time I am older and have met with some great experiences. For instance, one day a friend and I were out rolling the land with the roller with an old but rather frisky pair of horses. They took a notion to run and, as some people express it, "they were really running some." It smashed the top of the roller and I went down between a scantling and the roller, and luckily got off with a pretty badly scraped head. My partner, who was some years my senior, grabbed the horses by the bits and hung on till they stopped. I knew nothing more, nor do I now even remember what happened next. All I knew last was I was picked up and carried to the house. My head pained me for a while, but afterwards I went to sleep. Day by day I gradually got better, till at last I was able to get into the fresh, pure air of the country of Ontario.

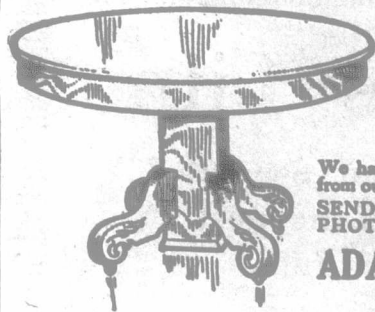
I love our country as every Canadian should and live in the Province of Ontario. I notice that everyone praises his own province, and why should he not? Turn to "My Native Land" in fourth reader and you will find it appropriate.

I am a poor writer and hope this will escape the waste-paper basket. I should like one of your little badges. Wishing your society all the success that could be desired, yours truly,

HAMILTON CLUTTON.

Dunlop, Ont. (Age 12, Jr. IV.)

We have not decided to have Beaver Circle badges yet, Hamilton.



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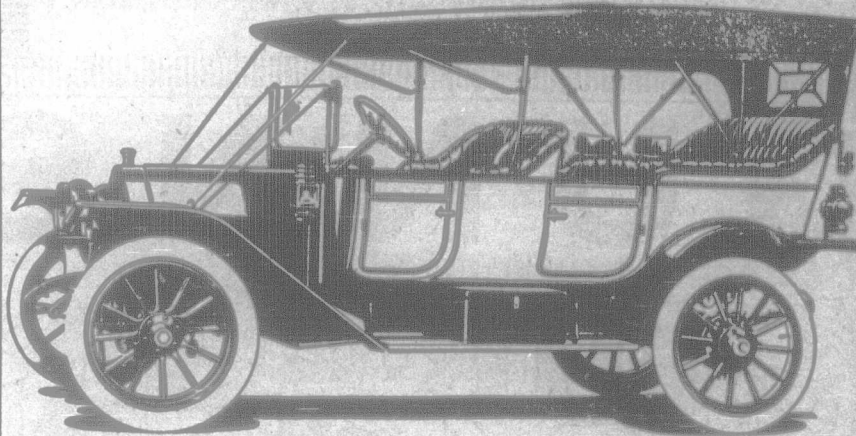
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