

study and thought. Collections of specimens may be made which will serve for many a thoughtful lesson before the next excursion is taken. As a result of one excursion, exercises in composition, written and oral, spelling, writing, arithmetic, may profitably follow in the schoolroom. Let no ratepayer begrudge the children's time thus spent an hour now and then. Let him not frown upon the skilled and conscientious teacher for a well-conducted effort of this kind. As an incentive to study, as a training for heart and hand, it will repay both principal and good interest.

The School Garden.

In the second place, the school garden is an adjunct to the pupils' work, which in countries of Europe and in the United States is proving of great benefit. In this province we have yet availed ourselves of it to a very limited extent. It is capable of the greatest usefulness and interest in country districts. In connection with this work, the recognition of weed and plant seeds, their germination, the study of insects destructive to cultivated plants, the soil, its preparation and fertilization, and kindred subjects claim attention. Training of this kind will soon be found reflected in a greater interest in country life and its pursuits. The knowledge thus acquired will be useful and practical, and, besides, a taste will be formed for country occupations. School garden work need occupy but little of the regular time of school sessions. A small plot of ground which can be increased, if found advisable, would at first suffice. It should be properly enclosed. Under a careful and industrious teacher the time the school is not engaged in actual school work will usually suffice to accomplish good results.

The Pupil's Garden at Home.

Again, plots of ground for children's use at home are of the greatest importance. In many sections of the United States farmers set off for their children plots of ground varying in size, which they are allowed to use for themselves. The children are to keep accurate accounts of expenditure and income. Each is encouraged to use a part of his plot for experimenting purposes, and to make accurate accountings of results, reporting the same to the teacher of the district school, and to the society or institute from which they obtain seeds. The parents, the teacher and the children are thus kept in touch with each other for mutual assistance and support. At the same time, through all the

grades, from primary to advanced, a spirit of country thought and sympathy pervades school work, a characteristic which, even though some of the pupils may, in after life, gravitate to the city, will always remain a lasting pleasure and benefit.

May we not hope that country people will look deeper than the surface of this question and give their adhesion to such a change in educational instruction as will eventually not only increase production at lessened expense, but will also make country homes more attractive, more cultured, and therefore more desirable?

Gems of Canadian Song.

No American or Canadian poet has sung the delights of faring on the King's highway so gleefully, so melodiously as Mr. Bliss Carman. His "Joys of the Road" is far too long to quote in its entirety. But here are a few selected couplets:

Now the joys of the road are chiefly these:
A crimson touch on the hardwood trees.

A vagrant's morning, wide and blue,
In early Fall, when the wind walks too;

The outward eye, the quiet will,
And the striding heart from hill to hill.

An open hand, an easy shoe,
And a hope to make the day go through.

The resonant far-listening morn
And the hoarse whisper of the corn.

A scrap of gossip at the ferry,
A comrade neither glum nor merry.

The racy smell of the forest loam,
When the stealthy, sad-heart leaves go home.

(O leaves, O leaves, I am one-with you,
Of the mould and the sun and the wind and the dew!)

The broad go'd wake of the afternoon;
The silent fleck of the cold new moon;

The sound of the hollow sea's release
With only another league to wend;

And two brown arms at the journey's end.
Those are the joys of the open road—
For him who travels without a load.

"The resonant far-listening morn" is a really great line, somewhat beyond the range of Wordsworth's thought. Those who know the cinematograph of Canada's scenery from the Atlantic to the Pacific will see that the journey described is along a road in New Brunswick.—Canada.