

# THE MARITIME PATRON, AND ORGAN OF THE Maritime Provincial Grange—Patrons of Husbandry.

"In Essentials Unity - In Non-essentials Liberty - In All Things Charity."

[All communications intended for this column should be sent to the editor of the Maritime Patron, EDWIN S. CREED, M. D., Newport.]

Individual Patrons of Husbandry, and Patrons collectively in the Maritime Provincial Grange, and in the Division Granges under its jurisdiction, have been foremost, and most faithful and zealous in their advocacy of, and demand for, agricultural education of a practical character.

It cannot be too often repeated, for there is no truth more persistently ignored in practice, that education should be regarded, not as an end, but as a means to an end. The object of agricultural education is not to furnish knowledge of theories, facts, or methods applicable to farming as an accomplishment, or the mere pleasure that knowledge affords, but to furnish such knowledge that it may get back to the soil, the plant, and the animal.

The aim and object of agricultural education should be economy and increase of agricultural production.

We are much pleased to receive from our worthy brother, A. McN. Patterson, proprietor of Acacia Villa Seminary, located at Lower Horton, a brief account of facilities and plans for the theory and practice of agriculture, which will give to his academy the proud distinction of being the first practical agricultural school in the Maritime Provinces, and we bespeak for this new departure the patronage it richly deserves.

Acacia Villa Seminary has for many years enjoyed a reputation second to none as an institution where youths would get a good sound academic and commercial education, under exceptionally good moral and physical influences, to say nothing of surroundings rendered classical by the sad history of an exiled race and a poet's genius.

Mr. Patterson writes concerning the practical instruction in which his agricultural class are now engaged, and what is planned for it during the autumn.

"At present the professor takes his class after school into the field, where he is preparing the strawberry beds for next season. Last Saturday they set out 1000 new plants, and this work will continue till about 3000 are set out. They will next undertake the picking and sorting of the apples. The boys will learn the names of the different sorts, what is a number one and what a number two apple, and how to handle and pack them. The orchard in connection with the school is supposed to contain this year about 500 barrels. After the fruit is gathered will come the gathering in of the vegetables, comprising about 500 bushels potatoes, 500 bushels mangelwurzels, 100 bushels carrots, 100 bushels parsnips, 50 bushels beets, 20 bushels beans, 20 bushels Indian corn, etc. Then there will be some under-draining, and hot-beds to be fitted up for early spring use, as a large amount of early cabbages, cauliflowers, and tomatoes, are to be raised next year for the Halifax market. Of course the boys are not expected to do all this work, but they will be at the work every day when not at school work. This we consider is the way to make scientific farmers, by illustrating in the field the chemistry, the botany, the physiology, etc., of the schoolroom.

What is now wanted is for our people to take an interest in this enterprise. If some young man with plenty of capital would start a model dairy in connection with the school it would add greatly to its practical efficiency."

*A model dairy!* Underneath these words as a title we are tempted to write a great deal more than we have room for at present. Certainly there is much room for improvement in all departments of our farm work, but in no department more than in dairying.

Appropos to the subject of agricultural education we notice on our table the Register No. 1 for 1885-6, of the embryo "School of Agriculture in connection with the Provincial Normal School at Truro." The "course of study" is sufficiently comprehensive, and is illustrated, as thoroughly as the facilities at the command of the institution will permit, in the field, in the laboratory, in the stable, and by dissections. The "catalogue of students" gives the names and addresses of two "teachers," three "farmers," and two "special students." One of the teachers is from Clementsport, Annapolis Co., the other students hail from Colchester. This is certainly a small beginning, but if there be any truth in an old proverb, or any hope that history will repeat itself in this institution, we may hope for great things, great usefulness from our school of agriculture.

If those two teachers are zealous and faithful, if they realize the responsibility which the cost to the country of the knowledge they have gained, entails upon them—or even the responsibility that knowledge always entails upon its possessor—their knowledge will reach many farms through their pupils, and recoup the original expenditure.

These farmers too will illustrate on their farms the practical value of our school of agriculture, and other farmers will send their sons to gain the coveted knowledge.

We hope that an opportunity will be afforded the Executive Committee of the Maritime Provincial Grange of visiting this institution during their session in Truro, and that their opinion of the school will be embodied in their report to the order in this jurisdiction.

We again appeal to Patrons to furnish contributions for the columns of THE CRITIC. Reports of grange sessions and discussions, essays on grange or agricultural subjects, or on household matters from our sisters, will be gratefully received. More than six months have passed since THE CRITIC

commenced the publication of the Maritime Patron, and during this time we have labored and hoped almost alone. This is not fair to us, it is not fair to the publishers of this journal, nor to the Order, nor to this experiment. If a farmer decides to try any new method of cultivation, any new system, or breed, or implement, anything in fact worth trying, he will not condemn without having given a fair trial, or if he has left anything untried or attempted, that might possibly be essential, or that might contribute to success. We have yet six months in which to win success that will be creditable to our Order, or to passively permit failure that will be injurious and disgraceful.

## SLEEP HABITS OF CHILDREN.

Many habits and customs, the deleterious effects of which are recognized, would become things of the past if a practical and simple remedy could be devised. I have never met with any plainly written advisory articles on the training of children in proper sleep habits, except as to time. A recent experience has led me to "study up" on the subject, in the most practical way, by asking questions of mothers and nurses. My little patient, whose habits and conditions led to this investigation, is ten years old. A serious and chronic affection of the kidneys has resulted from the excessive use of sweets, and consequently lack of appetite for, and assimilation of, nutritious food. She persistently sleeps prone on the back with the arms flexed above her head; watching results in seeing her turn on one side from eight to ten times every night, but, of course, a farther result is diminished sleep, although it is not more restless than usual. Whether the habit can be permanently broken up is difficult to say. From her birth she exhibited a preference for that position, and had been indulged in it, with the inevitable results of catarrhal affections, dry throat, enervating, restless sleep; and aggravation of the kidney difficulty, as the spine was unduly heated by constant contact with the bed. From the hour of birth a babe should be laid down to sleep with great care, never should it be permitted to lie on the back while sleeping; after it begins to play, the restless limbs are very beneficially exercised while lying so, but so soon as sleep comes the little one should be gently lifted and placed on the side, with the head raised only sufficiently to insure the spine from any curvature, seeing that there are no folds in the clothing to torture the tender flesh, especial care being taken to lay the ear smoothly back. Alternate the sides, or there will be an unnecessary unevenness of contour when the child is grown; do not permit the knees to be so flexed as to crowd the viscera. Lying on the stomach occasionally is not injurious if the arms lie at the side and the face is free to the air. Frequently that proves to be a very restful position to a playful child. It is not a difficult matter to teach a child to sleep with the mouth closed and without snoring or "gritting the teeth." A lady of thirty-five, who had habitually gritted her teeth from their first possession was cured of the habit in a fortnight by persistent waking at the first indication of the sound; the habit has not been resumed during the five years since passed. If mothers could realize how many people suffer from bad sleep habits contracted in childhood, they would pay a little attention to their children at night time, beyond the "hustling off to bed, out of the way," and the "keeping covered" which is a sort of "dim religious duty" by sight of out of fear of the doctor's bill, rather than of any other consideration.—*Phrenological Journal* (New York).

## AN OLD CALIFORNIAN.

Dr. Schliemann is sixty-seven years old, short and stout. He wears spectacles and a moustache, is a German by birth, but is so enthusiastic on the subject of Greece—ancient Greece—that he has adopted the language of Socrates as the language of his house, and requires his servants to talk classic names. His butler is called Pelops, and his cook Jocaste. The doctor married a Greek lady, who charmed him as much by her remarkable intelligence as by her extraordinary personal attractions. They have five children. The boy is named Agamemnon, and the girl Andromache. The latter is just sixteen years old, and so exquisitely lovely that, as I saw her glide across the marble hall, I fancied one of the Graces had been released from her marble imprisonment, and, like Pygmalion's statue of ivory, had assumed the human form. The beautiful girl has her mother's Grecian features and graceful figure. Besides her native tongue, she speaks French, German, and a little English. Notwithstanding the doctor's classic surroundings, he is proud of the fact that he is an American citizen. Here a resident of California at the time that State was admitted into the Union, and he thus became an American citizen. Dr. Schliemann's taste for classical antiquities commenced when a schoolboy, by reading of the deeds of the Grecian heroes at Troy. Leaving school at an early age, he entered a counting room in Germany, where the labors were heavy and the salary small, but he saved all the money he could and bought books, which he read in moments snatched from sleep. In this way he studied Greek. In the course of time he was promoted, and finally became a partner in an indigo business. Having amassed a large fortune in trade, he determined to carry out his cherished design of exploring the ruins of Troy, with what success the whole world is familiar through his works on the subject. During his excavations at Troy he had 300 men employed, and at the Mycenae 100. The ruins have been a mine of wealth to Dr. Schliemann, both in a literary and pecuniary sense. The articles dug up are of great value, both to the historian and the archaeologist, and have commanded high prices from the libraries and museums of Europe and America. Dr. Schliemann's income is \$50,000 a year, and he spends it with princely liberality. He is at the head of the society of Athens, and he entertains a great deal. There are no kings in Europe more royally housed than Dr. Schliemann. There is a classical aroma about the whole spot which is particularly agreeable to those who are interested in Grecian history or literature.—*San Francisco Alta*