

won't kare nuthin about heerin thet i hev fur years bin a prize-winur with my poltrie an honie. I am knon purty near al ovur this part uv the kuntry fur my skill in keepin beez an chikins, an i wood like to hev a lad like Benny to wurk with me, fur i think he wood be az kareful az if things wuz hiz own.

Sum Sekruts About Benny.

Since i met this Benjamin Bright an got acquaint-ud with him i hev had a talk with hiz boss Mister Smith at hiz office. Mister Smith iz a buzy man an haz no time fur foolin, but he tole me thet he nevur had a bettur boy workin fur him than Benny. He sez Benny iz alweys up early an haz things in shape in the shop, an iz a bizness chap frum the wurd go. He needs no koaxin, an vury little tellin az to what's to do. An i found out thet Benny haz idees thet he don't let evurysone know. Ther iz mor in hiz head than you ken see, ur thet he ken explane. He seemz to bee like them grate men you reed about in the noospapurs, who wurks away at sum plans uv there own, dey an nite, frum week to week, until the hul world iz woke up suddinly to lern thet a noo inven-shun iz unkoeverd, by which industrys are maid better, an labur an time iz saved, an muneys inkreased. That iz what they sey at leest about theese patints an things, altho i don't seem to bee gettin much richur myself ur to hev eny les wurk to do, an neethur do eny uv my nayburs, but i spose that iz kause the wimin folkes ar so much mor deer these dayz then what they wur afore stiles waz inventud. However, this Benny they tel me iz goin in on the inventun line, fur in hiz room he haz hamurs an sawz an plains, an all sortz uv fancy tools, an he haz maid a horse-powur out uv a match-box. He iz jest now studyin lektricity, an reeds al he ken find about it, an i beelieve frum what i am tole that ole Silas Henskratch wil soon bee abul to rais chickens an pumpkens by lektricity, an our horses' won't need to kare about there shoein fur the waguns an bugies wil run thereself. I don't meen to make fun uv these noo idees that i heer Ben haz got into hiz head, fur evun if they do soun queer Ben iz a klevur lad an he wil make sumthin out uv it al. An what pleased me most waz to lern thet Benny don't neglekt hiz dooties in the shop but payz strikt at-tenshun to evurysing, an bends hiz mind at nites an off times to wurkin out hiz hobbies. You mey no he iz vury kareful, without eny wurd uv mine, when i tel you thet hiz bos wuldn't part with him fur a good deel. I wantud fur to hire him to kum out to help me fur a while at Pumpkenvil but mister smith said he kuldn't think uv sparin him. He iz alrite, iz Benny, an that's what evurysone sez. A klevur, cleen, an manurly fellur, who knows hiz bizness an wurks at it with a wil.

An now you wil think i ain't a goin to quit talkin about this lad i met at the fal fair, kause i wuz so takin with him. I submit it iz a grate pleasur to

speek about such a boy, specially when most boys now-a-days iz to smart to take the truble to lern eny manurs ur to do enything wel. But afore i quit i want to tel you what iz part uv the sekret uv Bennys' gettin on wel. Hiz bos one dey tole me thet Bennys' fathur, who died three years ago, wuz hisself a hard wurkin man an alwayz had good strait wayz which hiz granfathur showed him, an shortly afore he died he had a talk with Ben about gettin on in life an tole him thet he bein the oldust uv the famuly wuld hev to luk out fur hiz mothur an the little ones az best he kuld. It does seem strange sumtimes how a famuly iz left without a head to it, when ther ar little ones to feed an help along the road, but our parsun here wuz speekin about trials last sundie an we must not loze hert about things we kant know about in this wurd. So hiz fathur afore he died tole Benny to do hiz best, an gave him sum rules which aint vury fine to reed i supose but i wil give them to you enyhow, kause you mey bee able to give them to sum one else who needs spurin up a bit an kause Benny haz nevur furgot them but haz them writ up on a papur in hiz room. These rules run sumthin like this az neer az i ken rekolekt them frum what hiz bos tole me:—

- I. Don't do nuthin in a half wey, Do evurysing good.
- II. Luk aftur anuthur's kumfurt fore yurs own.
3. Larn al you ken about evurysing ecksept what's bad.
4. Giv evury tenshun to what ar kaled little things.
- V. Keep stedly an hev good habbits.
6. Save al you ken fur a wet dey.

I must leeve o here fur this time, an i hope you wil git a chants to kome out to see us at Pumpkenvil. We ar al purty wel ecksept the little gurl az i tole you about an she iz gettin aroun az fast az our home remedies ken help hur. Evurysing iz beginnin to look green an nise agen, an we hev dun quite a lot uv our planten already.

I wil bring my writin to a klose, an hope i hev not rote to much so az to weery you. You mey eckspekt to heer agen frum me if i don't see you in the meen-time ur kome in to town az i hardly think i wil bee able fur ther iz so meny things to do i nevur hev a minute to reed the nooz in the papurs. I hope yure folks iz al wel an thet the season wil kontinue warm an fine.

Yurs vury trooly,
SILAS HENSKRATCH.

Pumpkenvil.