

PLEASANT HOURS

PAPER FOR OUR YOUNG FOLK.

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LAKE COMO.

LAKE COMO is one of the mountain lakes of Italy, and is celebrated for its romantic beauty. It is a noted place of resort for tourists from all parts of the world. Beautiful villas have been built all along its shores, until it seems a veritable paradise, guarded by the enduring mountains, and

was a leader in the ordinary sports of boyhood, and whenever the farm or the pottery relaxed their hold upon him he would be found repairing some damaged article or devising a new implement.

His father was poor; the farm was small and could only be enlarged by clearing up the primeval forest. The boy was anxious to acquire knowledge, but his services were

When the boy was seventeen, the father's pottery business had so increased as to demand a more extensive factory. A carpenter was hired to build the new building, and the boy assisted him. So familiar did he become with the tools and the trade that he determined, with the aid of the younger brother, to erect a two storey frame dwelling-house for his father's family. The two

That boy was Ezra Cornell, the founder of Cornell University.

"Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men."

The meaning of this old proverb is that the man who has done well in little things shall be advanced so that he shall not waste himself on work to which obscure and un-



LAKE COMO.

encircled by a perfect bower of trees and shrubbery, that skirt the picturesque lawns and walks and drives.

A MARKED YOUTH.

YEARS ago there lived in the interior of New York a boy, the son of a farmer, who also worked at the trade of a potter. The boy was a marked youth, because he would do with might whatever he undertook. He

so necessary to his father that he could not be spared to attend the winter term of the common school.

But the boy was in earnest. With the aid of his brother, one year his junior, he chopped and cleared four acres of birch and maple woodland, ploughed it, planted it with corn, harvested the crops, and then asked, as his compensation, to be allowed to attend school during the winter. Of course the father granted his wish.

boys cut the timber from the forest, planned and framed the structure, and then invited the neighbours to assist at the "raising." They came from far and near to see what a lad of seventeen had done. When every mortise and tenon was found to fit its place, and the frame was seen to stand perfect and secure, the veterans cheered the young architect and builder. From that day he was in demand as a master-carpenter.

ambitious men are adequate. Ezra Cornell illustrated the truth of the Bible saying

"My husband is so peotic," said a gushing woman to an old lady. "Have you ever tried rubbin' his j'ints with hartshorn liniment?" asked the old lady. "That'll straighten him out as quick as anything I know of, if he ain't got it too bad."