The Boy and the Farm.

G. H. SWITZER.

The average farmer boy seems to think that he has a very disagreeable and monotonous life, and therefore envies the city boy of his own age his pleasures and pastimes. He considers farm life a drudgery, and sees no real pleasure in it. Consequently, many country boys early make up their minds to leave home and seek fortunes amid city life. This too often leads to their ruin. Why does a boy want to go to the city ? From careful observation we conclude, in a great many cases, it is the fault of the fathers. Many fathers forget that they were once boys themselves. Because they have no desire for amusements, they think their boys should take the same interest in the farm work they do, regarding amusements as fit only for lazy people or loafers. We know from actual experience that at no time is there no work to do on the farm. We also know that the farmer lives an independent life, and there is scarcely any time when he cannot lay aside the duties of the farm for a day or two, if he so desires.

Boys should be taught to love the farm, not by compelling them to work hard from early morning till late evening, week after week, without any time that they may call their own. Give them a day occasionally for a ramble in the woods, or for any harmless pastime. In this way the boys will be led to see for themselves that farming is an independent, lite and they will take an interest in the farm.

Every farmer should take one or more farm journals, read them, and encourage his boys to do the same. No farmer has "no time to read a paper." In this many farmers are in error. They work hard and wonder why they are not more successful, when often they are working in direct opposition to their own interest. Successful farming requires "head work." To give him a young colt, calf, or even a pig, and let him feel that he owns an interest in the farm. If the father gives his son a pig, let the boy do the best he can with it and have the money which it brings when marketed. He should never blast the hopes and cause him to despise the farm, and his father too, by pocketing the money himself, calling it "son's pig and father's hog." By allowing the boy to make a little money for himself, he can be taught the real value of money as well as the principles of liberality. who have ; and when he gets a little money he is almost afraid to part with it under any consideration, for fear that he will never get any more. Thus it establishes a miserly tendency. Fathers, study this subject carefully. Give the boys a day for themselves occasionally ; let them earn a little pocket money;

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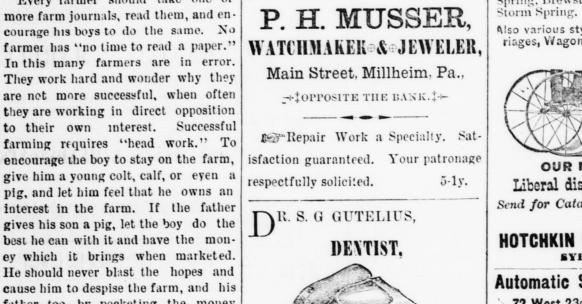
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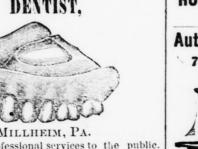
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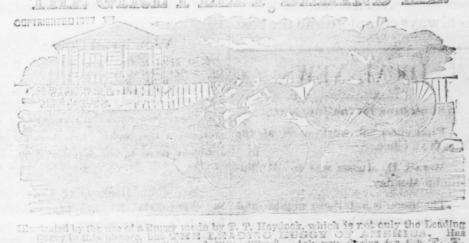
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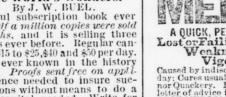
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