

Agricultural Department

The Loneliness of Farm Life.

George E. Waring has a paper in *Scrubber* for April advocating an improved way of country living—namely, the grouping of farm houses into villages. He speaks as follows:

"It may seem a strange doctrine to be advanced by a somewhat enthusiastic farmer; but it is a doctrine that has been slowly accepted after many years' observation, a conviction that has taken possession of an unwilling mind, that the young man who takes his young wife to an isolated farm-house dooms her and himself to an existence which is an unwholesome, unsatisfactory, hideous life."

Communications may be sent to either of the above, or to the editor, and will appear in the issue of which he has charge.

E. E. QUINN,
J. A. WILK,
R. D. CHAPF,
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*Committee
of
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EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT: Not having noticed any solution of the problem stated in the educational column of *Scrubber* some time ago, I produce the following:

1. Three men, A, B and C, own a grindstone 40 inches in diameter. What part of the semi-diameter must each grind off to get his third, the diameter of the hole for the shaft being 5 inches?

40² × 7854 = 1236.04 sq. inches, area of one side of stone, plus hole.

32² × 7854 = 19.635 sq. inches, area of semi-diameter.

1236.04 - 19.635 = 1237.005 sq. inches, area of semi-diameter.

1237.005 ÷ 3 = 82.341.07 sq. inches.

32² × 40 = 7.14 inches, part of diameter A grinds off.

9.41 ÷ 2 = .475 inches, part of semi-diameter B grinds off.

32² × 40 = 7.14 inches, part of diameter A grinds off. 7.14 ÷ 2 = .357 inches, part of semi-diameter C grinds off.

1237.005 ÷ 3 = 40.635 sq. inches.

32² × 40 = 7.14 inches, part of diameter A grinds off. 7.14 ÷ 2 = .357 inches, part of semi-diameter B grinds off.

32² × 40 = 7.14 inches, part of diameter C grinds off.

1. The young couple start glassy with a determination to struggle against the habit of isolation which marks their class, but this habit has grown from the necessity of the situation, and the necessities of their own situation bring them sooner or later within its bonds.

During the first few years they adhere to their resolution, and go regularly to church, to the meetings, and to the social gatherings of their friends; but their duties increase rapidly, and the expenses for so many daily calls have started out with the first determination to avoid the farm.

"In saying all this—and I speak from experience, for I have led the dismal life myself—it is hardly necessary to disclaim the least want of appreciation of the sterling qualities which have been developed in the American farm household. But it may be safely insisted, that these qualities have been developed not because of the natural endowments of the husband, but in spite of it; and I think over the list of admirable men and women whose acquaintance I have formed on distant and solitary farms, I am more and more impressed with certain shortcomings which would have been avoided under better social conditions. If any of these are disposed to question the justice of this conclusion I am satisfied to leave the final decision with my own judgment, formed after a fair consideration of what is herein suggested.

"If American agriculture has an unsatisfied need, it is surely the need for more intelligent and more enterprising interest on the part of its whole population.

From the earliest of the other's early defects, recognized by all, is that its best blood—so, in other words, its best brains and its best energy—is leaving it, seek other fields of labor. The influences which lead these best of farmers' sons to other occupations is not so much the desire to make more money or to find a less laborious occupation, as it is the desire to lead a more satisfactory life, a life where that part of us which has been developed by the better education and better civilization for which in this century we have worked so hard and so well, many and responsive companionship and encouraging intercourse with others."

DAIRYING A BENEFIT TO LAND.—In most sections of the country, farms are much improved by dairying. Those that run down can be made to run up again, and those that can be kept upon them. For instance, take the fine dairy district of central New York, as Herkimer county, where the plowmen, but little used on many dairy farms, after becoming in good condition, their owners depending entirely on their butter and cheese to support their families. The great quantity of manure made on these farms enables their proprietors to heavily fertilize any field that they desire to plow up, on which they grow one or two crops, and reseed it; and a few years later they have their entire farms in splendid condition and worth double and triple what they were before.

My advice to farmers everywhere is, keep all the cows that you can possibly. Not to buy many at first; but to obtain a few choice ones, and raise your own dairy by degrees. Don't begrudge the original expense that superior stock may cost. It may make you feel that you have made a mistake in paying from \$70 to \$100 a head for a few cows that gave 20 quarts of milk a day; but with the right bull you will soon have all your money coming back to you in splendid young stock that you will soon have.

E. BAILETT, New Era, Pa.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT: A trial angular farm, measuring on the three sides 150, 200 and 225 rods, respectively, is to be divided equally between A and B by a line parallel to the longest side. Rejoined the sides of the remaining triangle.

SOLUTION.—The square of each side of the remaining triangle is equal to half the square of each side of the triangular farm, according to this principle: The area of similar figures is to each other as the squares of their like dimensions;

$\sqrt{200^2} = \sqrt{2-141.412}$; $\sqrt{225^2} = \sqrt{150^2-2-106.090}$; $\sqrt{225^2-2-150^2} = \sqrt{106.090}$.

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EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT: A triangular farm, measuring on the three sides 150, 200 and 225 rods, respectively, is to be divided equally between A and B by a line parallel to the longest side. Rejoined the sides of the remaining triangle.

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