

We are too much in cities pent, In crowds, we live in banishment; Of nature and her wondrous ways, Which should excite our eager praise, No more than mystic do we know, Such slaves are we to idle show.

Then mark the thrush, or the bee, The striped snake, or growing tree; These living works condescend, admire, And trace perfection in desire, For small as finished as the great, For faultless laws on nature wait.

Observe the boasted works of man, Where art reflects on nature's plan; A picture study, or a book, Or on some stately temple look, Perfection nowhere do we find, No thought so wistful as the wind.

Go, then, where fields or forests thrive, Learn wisdom from the busy hive; Approves the rose, or daffodil, Or look upon how false our boasted skill; And mourn the foolishness of pride, —Charles Lusted, in the Queen.

A BLESSED BLUNDER



THE Trio Reading Club met at Mabel's that afternoon, and Genevieve was the reader. Genevieve is the "pretty member," because she is pink and blossom-like and because that sunny hair which never will stay where she puts it makes her at once the envy and delight of both the other girls. Frances is the "stylish" and Mabel the "intellectual member."

Genevieve laid down the book she was reading aloud. "Girls, I wish we had called ourselves the Trio Talking Club," she exclaimed. "I must stop and say some things that are on my mind about our street. It's perfectly ruined, and it used to be so pretty, with its cozy home and nice lawns! I just think there ought to be a law against spoiling other people's places by sandwiching great, tall flat buildings in between them! We can't get a bit of light on that side of our house."

Frances was perched on the edge of a deep easy chair, with her black eyes glancing through little rimless eye-glases, as she turned her face first to one and then the other of the girls.

"I resent it as much as either of you, if I don't live next door to it," she declared. "It's the view from our front window that troubles us. By the way, some one told papa that the only reason Mr. Keith moved away was because that apartment building was put up opposite him. Those new people that have moved into Mr. Keith's house are named Kirkland—did you know it? The girl is Hazel. Sweet name, I think."

the "loveliest girls," as she afterward told her mother, all visiting like old friends with a little woman who sat in a shabby wheelchair and looked so happy as any queen in a fairy book.

Good times had begun for the lone little lady of the flat. From that afternoon the four girls seemed to be trying to see which could give her most joy. Flowers and fruit and magazines and books began to cover the tables in the plainly furnished little parlor. The Trio Reading Club expanded to the extent of two more members, and began meeting twice a week with Mrs. Hunter. Mothers began to take an interest in the girls' new friend and to call and sympathize and go again.

"The kindest, sweetest people I ever saw live in this block," said Mrs. Hunter to her husband one evening as they sat alone together.

"I don't care!" persisted Mabel, who generally grew stronger with opposition. "I guess that woman could enjoy a bunch of violets, even if she was going to move out next day. It isn't her fault the ugly old flats are built. We needn't punish her for that."

"Oh, well," said Genevieve, with a grand air of yielding something. "I'll tell mamma about her, and may be she'll send her some blanc mange or something."

"I'm going to see her to-morrow," announced Mabel, suddenly. "Perhaps I can lend her books."

"I'll go with you," volunteered Frances. And, to the surprise of all three, Genevieve added: "Why, so will I, then, if you really mean it. You two needn't think you are going to leave me out."

Meanwhile it happened oddly enough that, at the very time Hazel Kirkland's call was being discussed in Mabel's house, the same matter was being talked of in the large gray house across the way.

"The idea, mamma!" Hazel Kirkland was spluttering, "that any one should think I'd be calling on strangers over in those flats, when we've just moved in here ourselves. Of course it was different, going to see an old teacher of mine, Mrs. Germain. And how did that woman get my card, anyway? I put it right over Mrs. Germain's own speaking tube when I found that she was out. I didn't want to climb clear up to the top flat of course. It was just presumptuous in any one else to claim that card. There's no excuse for it. And then sending her maid over with a message of thanks! And you thought perhaps I really had called on her! Well, I don't intend to let her think I came to see her—would you?"

FARM AND GARDEN.

Having a Diversity of Crops. The farmer who diversifies his crops will not always be met by overproduction in the markets, as the seroproduction is not favorable to all crops at the same time, consequently if the market is well supplied with one article in abundance there may be a scarcity of something else.

Destroying the Cutworms. During the cool nights the cutworms are at work cutting down the newly transplanted cabbage, tomato and other plants. The cutworms eat only at night, going into the ground just before day, usually at the root of the plant that it has cut down.

To Plant Trees. As soon as the ground is dry enough to be in good working condition plow it deep and harrow. Then take a two-horse plow and a steady team, set a stake at the opposite end of the field where you want the first row and at the other end set the plow to where you want the row; measure off from the plow where you want the second row and set a stake to come back on. Then start the team and plow straight and deep to stake at opposite end of field, and so on until the field is marked out.

Door For a Hog House. A hog house door should be on every hog house in winter to keep animals warm. One can be easily made that opens and shuts at will. Make the doorway at least six inches higher than the pig. The door should be of matched flooring placed crosswise and nailed together with battens.



Getting Best Results From Small Area. Whatever may be the opinion of the village lot-owner as to the real profit of his garden plot, he is greater or less in size, there are few such in most country villages who do not take considerable pride in the cultivation of the same.

Practical Sheep Husbandry. Medicine should not be given to nursing ewes, as it mostly goes into the milk, and the young lamb may get too much of it and be lost.

Restoration is For Justice Only. The Justice of the Supreme Court have their own private restaurant in the basement of the Tweed building in City Hall Park.

There is no necessity to suddenly increase the food of the newly lambed ewe. This ewe has been supporting the lamb previously and now she is doing the same, but by milk instead of by her own blood directly.

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A Poultry House Device. In the summer season the fowls should have a chance to get out upon the ground by 5 or 5.30 o'clock in the morning. It is then light, and the birds are anxious to leave their roosts and get out into the fields, where their instinct tells them the insects are now most abundant and most easily captured.

One shall chase a thousand. Two shall put ten thousand to flight. The secret of strength is not in quantity, it is in quality. The man of courage is a man of power.

For many years past I have made a careful study of this question of economy of space in the garden, and the methods I have learned to adopt in rotation of crops—or perhaps I might more properly say the doubling-up of crops—in my little garden, may be a suggestion to others along the same line.

RAM'S HORN BLASTS. THERE is a great difference between a stiff will and a hard heart.

Look out for the man who looks out for himself. You cannot do God's work with the devil's weapons.

The man who is but a figure-head will not cut much figure. A Christian is like a bicycle, which must be kept going to be kept standing.

The love of man dies as the love of money grows in the church. A truly Christian life has greater power than all Christian literature.

As faith without works is dead faith, so work without faith is dead work.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR TOPICS.

July 14—"Individual Work for Christ." Acts viii, 20-40. Scripture Verses.—Matt. x, 7, 42; xx, 4; xli, 28; xlii, 9; xxviii, 19; Mark xlv, 15; Acts v, 19, 20; viii, 20, 31.

There may be good work for us to do in very unlikely places. No one who follows the lead of Providence will find himself useless.

Opportunities for Christian work need not be waited for; they can be made. Secretary Stanton once closed an untimely discussion on the respect of five minutes and he was ready to bring rifles by the remark: "Gentlemen, it's the man behind the gun makes all the difference worth talking about."

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COMMERCIAL REVIEW.

General Trade Conditions. New York (Special).—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: It does not follow because bad banking methods have caused one of the smaller New York banks to close its doors, with attendant circumstances that general business is in any way affected by or at all responsible for the trouble.

The fiscal year closes with conditions in the iron and coal industry in marked contrast to the situation at the corresponding date in 1900.

This year difficulty is experienced in stopping machinery long enough to make necessary repairs, prices are well maintained and steady without unreasonable inflation, while a successful season makes it possible for many concerns to avoid controversy by voluntarily reducing hours or advancing wages, and evidences of serious disagreement are the exception.

Flour.—Best Patent, \$4.60a4.85; High Grade Extra, \$4.10a4.35; Minnesota bakers, \$2.95a3.15.

Wheat.—New York, No. 2, red, 75 3/4c; 27 3/4c; Philadelphia, No. 2, red, 71 3/4c; 71 3/4c; Baltimore, 74 3/4c.

Green Fruits and Vegetables.—Onions, spring, per 100 bunches, 50a55c; do Egyptian, per sack, \$2.25a2.40.

Live Poultry.—Market is steady at the following quotations: Hens, 11c; old roosters, each, 25a30c; spring chickens, 14a19c; Ducks, 7a9c; Spring ducks, 10a12c.

East Liberty, Pa.—Cattle steady; prime, \$5.50a5.75; good, \$5.25a5.50; Hogs slow and lower; best light Yorkers and prime pigs, \$6.25a6.50.

LABOR AND INDUSTRY. Ireland exports meat. Canada has ten cotton mills. Trusts are meeting in Canada.