

Rocky Mountain Husbandman.

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WHAT we had to say last week upon the subject of education seems to have awakened some interest in this locality. If it has met with corresponding good fortune throughout the Territory, then we have accomplished our purpose. We made no personal or local application; on the contrary, believe our remarks were applicable to every section of our Territory. We could not single out any particular, isolated case of failure in duty when we have the best reason to believe that a great evil exists throughout our entire Territory. This is nothing new. Every person that is acquainted with our public school system, will vouch for the truth of the assertion, that there is a great wrong being perpetrated upon the rising generation, by the indolence, inefficiency or incompetence of those whose duty it is to attend to these matters. We little hope to call these officers to a more punctual discharge of duty. They are all aware of the importance of education. They all understand their several duties as well as we do, and no doubt, many of them will coincide with us in our views. We did not refer to this subject with the hope of teaching what they should already know, and do know if they are qualified to hold such an important position. But we do hope to arouse the people to a sense of their duty. The simple fact that we pay a heavy tax into the treasury to be used as a school fund, is not sufficient guaranty that schools are just what they should be, and as citizens of a young and promising commonwealth, the paying of a certain amount of taxes is far from constituting our whole duty. Not only should those in office, who of course are first, but every one who pays a dollar taxes, should see and know where it goes to. It is nothing more or less than each man's duty to see that it is properly disposed of. If we succeed in arousing the people from their lethargy; if we can only make them to feel and realize the weight of responsibility that rests with them, we will have done a good work. We would regret to offend any one; it is not our object. But in the faithful discharge of what we conceive to be our office, we have made plain, blunt statements, which are solid but grievous facts, and the remedy of the same alone, can silence our pen; for above all things else, the cause of education shall find us alive to its interests.

WHAT CAN THE POOR FARMER DO?

Although agriculture is the first and most important of all callings, although it employs one-half of all the American people and is the source of supply for all the human family, not only in respect to the food it furnishes, but it is drawn upon to replenish all trades and professions with muscle and with brains; to repair the havoc that is constantly being made with morals in the cities; yet, notwithstanding this is the fountain from whence the waste, both of physical and intellectual energy, and of all the virtues is supplied, it never attains any prominence; it never receives any of the honors of position, nor does it claim, in its own behalf, any of the rewards due its importance.

What can the farmers do that will effect their elevation in the social scale? They are already superior in numbers; they have unbounded natural capacity, intellectually, and they immeasurably surpass all others in point of moral worth, and yet are left behind all others—away in the farthest background. There is only one answer to this question—they can be MEN; but one solution, and that is 'knowledge is power.'

The farmers lack only knowledge. They have resources, and they have strength, but it is the strength of a thousand horses turned loose, and of no use until subject to the will of some directing head. They have ready hands for work, but untrained heads; they doubt the capacity of their brain for planning, and have but little courage to execute. So they can only boast of their inefficiency—here alone they bear away the palm. Combination of numbers is nothing without energy and system; to be durable, wieldy and effective there must be a general and most implicit obedience to some fixed principle which has its foundation in knowledge as a rule both of faith and practice.

While farmers have little or no influence in legislation, they have still less to do with moulding public opinion. They have no settled policy based upon their views of what they need as a class, nor do they attempt to shape thoughts of their own and give expression to them. Always waiting to be led by some lawyer or politician, who, discovering the direction popular sentiment is taking, hastens to the front, shouting: "Behold! Here is the way, walk ye in it!" Then, not so far as his teachings are sound concerning public measures, but so far as he can arouse their prejudices do they become his enthusiastic followers.

The Grange, however, seems to promise the needed remedy for all these ills. Hitherto the attention of the Granges has been largely given to the work of organization, receiving new members, and arrangements for buying goods, etc., but now a spirit of inquiry seems to have broken out simultaneously in many of the subordinate Granges and a most determined and earnest disposition to investigate and learn, is manifesting itself. The means made use of for this purpose are discussions, both written and oral, and these take the different forms of inquiries, suggestions and instructions.

The above is from the *Dirigo Rural*. Our sober old cotemporary would have struck the key note had he asked, "What will the poor farmers do? But the question would have been far more difficult to answer. Their power, notwithstanding they are isolated from each other, and scattered over the whole face of the country, having no fixed or settled policy or understanding among themselves, is almost unlimited, in fact, it is difficult to say what they may not accomplish. First, they may, if they will exercise precaution and practice economy, gather enough of this world's goods to place themselves upon a footing secure from want. They may secure enough domain upon which to erect a beautiful home; they may make that home happy; they may surround themselves with the comforts of life; their board may be always running over with plenty. They may raise their children up in the path they should follow, and make them useful citizens. They may improve their own worth to the community, and thus united in the one endeavor to elevate the condition of their fellow men, to raise their calling to a higher standard of excellence, and thereby bring about a great reform in our national status.

The question is not so much what can they do a what will they do? Will they avail themselves of the independence naturally afforded by the position they occupy, or will they follow on in the same old way pursued by farmers of other ages? Do they not see the errors of their fathers? Will they not stretch forth the hand and help themselves? They have seen their dearest interests trampled in the dust; great commercial marts built at their expense; the speculator become a prince from the profit of their labor.

True monarch of the soil! the sceptre is in your hands, wield it if you will!

IN ORDER that we may be able to give the diversified views and experience of every section of the country, we extend an invitation to our friends and patrons to furnish us with information relative to crops, stock-growing, gardening, dairying, mining, schools, and in fact, anything of interest to the general reader. We would also invite communications to our Home Department, which we hope soon to make one of the most interesting features of our paper. Our farmers and stock-men, especially, should bear in mind that the system of agriculture and stock-raising of no other section is applicable to ours; therefore, if we would put forth every effort to advance our cause, we can only do it by a careful comparison of our experience, so we hope those interested in progress and improvement will come to our assistance.

A Federal grand jury in Texas reports that from Brownsville to the Pecos river, a distance of 600 miles in length, and 100 in width to the Nueces river, Mexican raiders are committing great depredations—numbers of our Federal officials have been assassinated, post offices burned, houses robbed, and mail carriers and inspectors of customs killed while in the discharge of their duties, and the perpetrators of these crimes have gone unpunished. The jury found eighty indictments, and urge decisive action on the part of the State and General Governments to punish the criminals and protect the inhabitants.

GENERAL NEWS.

A snake has been captured in Ireland. Messrs. Moody and Sankey have closed their services in Brooklyn.

Small-pox is raging in Cincinnati, Philadelphia and Brooklyn.

The State of Michigan has 3,314 miles of railroad.

It is reported that Messrs. Moody and Sankey will hold their next series of meetings in Philadelphia.

In Worcester, Mass., the police prohibit pool-selling upon the result of the election.

The entire expense of the Red Cloud investigation amounted to \$17,000.

The Commissioners of Education give the expenditures in 1874 for schools as \$74,000,000.

There are enrolled in the United States about 8,000,000 school children, the average daily attendance being only 4,500,000.

Mr. Charles Ross, of Terre Haute, Ind., within the past fifteen years has given \$2,000,000 for charitable and educational purposes.

Sir Anthony Rothchild, Baronet, is lying at the point of death in London.

Beecher advocates the political equality of the sexes.

It is again reported that the long lost Charley Ross has been discovered, but there is nothing definite.

Paul Morphy, the celebrated chess player of a few years ago, is now a hopeless maniac in New Orleans.

The treasurer of Arizona who turned out defaulter, has been found by the jury to have been insane at the time he appropriated the funds.

Three hundred thousand persons have settled in Texas in the last year.

"Leo," a celebrated model Newfoundland dog, was awarded the first prize of his class at the recent dog show, in Nottingham, England, which, we understand, comprised 619 entries.

The experiment of co-operative house-keeping is about to be tried in London, England.

William Penn's Bible is in the possession of a lineal descendant, a Mrs. Meylert, of Pennsylvania. It will be a part of the Centennial Exposition.

The King of Italy has issued a decree granting a subsidy of \$38,000 gold to the Italian Committee in connection with the United States Centennial Exhibition.

The superintendent of the ninth census says that enough is already known to indicate that the progress of our population has received a temporary check.

A Mr. Queen, of California, has purchased one hundred African ostriches. He has invested \$100,000 in the enterprise, principally to raise them for their plumage, each bird yielding over \$200 worth annually.

The collections for the Young Men's Christian Association, in the Moody and Sankey meetings amount to \$10,000.

Postmaster General Jewell's annual report, now made out, shows that the total cost of inland mail transportation for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1875, was \$15,353,360, there being an increase of 8,776 miles in the length of routes as compared with 1874, but a decrease of \$48,638 in the cost of maintaining the service.

The Indian Commissioners have made their full report with reference to the Black Hills. The report states the reasons for the failure of the negotiations, and makes many important recommendations. It recommends that every Indian be encouraged in the acquisition and protected in the possession of private property. Also that all the present agencies be abolished, and that the Indians be notified that such force as may be necessary will be used to enforce compliance with the policy of the Government, to the end that the Indians may become civilized and self-supporting. The Government to pay the Indians a fair equivalent for the Hills, and such sum to become a part of the fund required in the general plan to educate and civilize the Sioux.

More than four thousand specimens of ink have been tested by the U. S. Government to obtain one that cannot be obliterated from defaced stamps.

At a recent meeting of the directors of the Panama Railroad Company in New York, the report of the committee on a through route from New York to San Francisco was submitted which favored such a project.

DIAMOND SPRAY.

Snow ball—all dressed in white.

Diamond has a belle that is-a-bell.

If this world is all a stage—who collects the fair.

Our bachelor friends think that a rich and lovely widow is by no means a-miss.

Why did Othello live in Venice, and not in Rome? Because he was Moor at home.

Male population greatly in excess of females—no woman suffrage.

Sooner or later, our wheat goes to the hopper.

A stump-tail dog will never welcome you home with a "little waggin"—of his tail.

Lawyers are restless—they lie first on one side, then on the other.

Neptune's coat-of-arms—the crest of a wave.

A sixteen-year-old lad don't think it profitable to raise corn for "fodder."

The call of our city bell(s) are not always to church.

If a horse is not worth a shilling, he is worth—less.

The bonds of iniquity have no market value.

Lo! the poor Indian—We should see to his wants, for he is always ready to take hair of us.

When a man to whom you loan money says he will be indebted to you forever, you most likely find he was sincere.

Appleton's Journal has some curious instances of good things said at the right time. Here are some specimens:

A certain learned man, being congratulated on his talent for small talk, said: "It has cost me more effort and study to achieve small talk than to conquer the higher mathematics, but I felt the desperate want of it and went at it as a study."

Theodore Hook was an instance of the power of readiness. He had the talent of an improvisatore, and could make verses to order. He was asked what was the chief objection to dining alone.

"Why, the bottle comes round too often," said he.

On being told that he must write something for the *Englishman* on the death of the King and Queen of the Sandwich Islands, he immediately wrote:

"Waiter! two Sandwiches," said Death,
And their wild Majesties resigned their breath.

John Van Buren was a master of repartee.

In making a speech he drew a picture of the evil effects of a certain measure, which would be sure to defeat the candidate. Some antagonistic politician said: "Who did that in 1848?"

Van Buren remembered instantaneously that his illustrious father had done that very thing, but his quick wit saved him. "I don't remember the gentleman's name," said he; "but I think it lost him his election."

A gentleman who hated cold weather said: "It is one of the many inducements to lead a bad life, that the dreadful place is so comfortably heated."

Happy was that London gentleman into whose house Theodore Hook intruded with Mr. Terry on a wager, and, after dining and making the company ache with laughter, sat down and sang an improvised song, ending with the words:

We are very much pleased with our fare,
Your cellar is as good as your cook;
My friend is Mr. Terry, the player,
And I am Mr. Theodore Hook.

Accident sometimes brings about a very good pun. A lady was sitting in a drawing-room playing with a kitten, a gentleman entered with a print of Correggio's picture of the "Magdalen with the Skull." The lady says: "See, she has the same attitude as my kitten." "Yes," said he; "and like her, she is thinking over her fore paws (*fore paws*)." "Here is a story of Madame de Stael's large feet:

She went to a fancy ball as Minerva. "How shall you know your goddess?" said one of her admirers to another. "Par pied-de-Stael," was the response. Had she gone otherwise than as a goddess, she would not have needed a pedestal.

After General Scott's famous "plate of soup," some wit dubbed him "Marshal Tureen."