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THE PROGRESS

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OUR MAIN MISSION: THE UPBUILDING OF SHREVEPORT AND NORTH LOUISIANA.

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Hints for the Farmer.

What has become of "Jewella" and the other writers in this department? You are expected to keep up your part of the paper, gentlemen. It will be kept up, however, anyway, whether our farmer friends contribute or not, but communications such as we have been receiving are always acceptable, and will be expected, as this space is reserved for the discussion of such topics as may interest and benefit the farmer.

Diversified Farming.
 Kansas City Live Stock Journal: No golden rule can be had down for the guidance of the farmer, so that he can have assurance of success with any one special crop. As in any other business, risks must be taken into account. When the skillful mariner gets his ship ready for a voyage, weather, climate, and every minutia is fully taken into account. Last of all, the compasses are adjusted. It should be the same with every farmer. His particular environments should be well considered, possibilities and probabilities weighed in the balance of experience, and the compass adjusted accordingly. Wheat raising, corn raising, cattle raising, hogs, horses, sheep and poultry, all give a wide variation, yet how few farmers plan in such a way that each of these special industries are so planned that each of them assist the other, all the while tending to a surer and safer investment by a higher development of the productive powers of that homestead that every American farmer worthy of the name loves so well.

It does not matter to what we turn for immediate relief from real or apparent ills, real and lasting help must come from well directed efforts on the part of the farmer himself. The building up of the homestead may be the work of years, but it is an effort worth the making. The soil of the homestead is the farmer's factory. The preparation of the soil, whether it be for cereals or roots, should be on a basis that should make each crop conduce to the welfare of the other. When the fields are in pasture, the soil should be in such a condition that they will yield on that liberal basis on which Western fields would be expected to yield.

The question of diversity hinges on the farmer's knowledge of what he is well qualified to cultivate and handle to an advantage. Universal geniuses are somewhat scarce, and so are all-round farmers, yet there are more of them that could make a success of a specialty, yet the diversity suggested would seem to aid specialties rather than hamper general farming operations.

If, then, we take the whole ramifications of farm life into consideration, it is asking too much of our readers to intelligently consider what might be done under the system suggested. We do not advise a wholesale change—just enough to make the change interesting. When at it, make it of a nature that will bring in some ready money to pay grocery bills.

Covington Hawkeye: He told his son to milk the cows, feed the horses, slop the pigs, hunt the eggs, feed the calves, catch the colt and put him in the stable, cut plenty of wood, split the kindling, stir the milk, put fresh water in the creamery after supper, and to be sure to study his lessons before he went to bed. Then he hurried off to the club to take a leading part in the question, "How to keep boys on the farm."

The following paragraphs are taken from the Texas Farm and Ranch:
 Now that labor-saving implements are in such common use, it is no wonder the expectation of life of the farmer is increasing.
 Some men are so careless of business principles, so wasteful of

opportunities, that they cannot make a living at any other business except farming. This is why we have so many poor farmers.

Cow peas, raised especially for and fed to good milk cows, and the milk devoted to butter-making, and the butter properly made and handled, constitutes a profitable crop, and one that improves the soil it sprung from.

In every section of the country farmers who handle fine stock are the progressive and prosperous ones. Also, the prosperous and progressive farmers in almost every case handle fine stock. Scrub stock and scrub farmers make a slow team.

It is a fact not fully realized, that the average farmer permits enough leakage or waste on the farm to consume all the profits of the year's work. And if he is, at the end of the year, in a better condition than before, it is because of "natural increment" rather than earnings.

Texas Live Stock Journal: It is hard for some breeders to understand why farmers are so slow to realize the value of improved stock. To the breeder the superiority of purebreds is so plain that he is apt to become impatient with his neighbors who still stand by the scrub. He shows these neighbors his bull that weighs a ton and a quarter, and his bull calves that weigh one thousand pounds at twelve months old; his cows, great broad-backed ones that tip the beam at fifteen hundred and more; his grade steers that as two-year-olds will weigh twelve to fourteen hundred pounds directly off grass, and the neighbors go home and keep on using their scrub bulls and raise steers that bring only \$12 to \$14. It is strange that some people can be so blind to their own interest, and the breeder only shows a touch of human nature when he gives up trying to convince such skeptics and gets mad and says they have not sense enough to "pound sand into a rat hole," or words with much the same meaning.

The Cockney Teacher.
 When a cockney immigrates to America and gets a job at teaching school, then his troubles begin. There was one of the genus tried near Gambier, O., so the story runs, whether it be true or not.

"Arry Hadams, you spell saloon," he dictated to the spelling class.
 "I don't know how," said little Harry, frightened by the strange use of aspirates and "aitches."
 "Don't know 'ow? Why, young hignoramus; saloon is spelled with a 'hess' and a 'hay,' two 'hoes' and a 'hen.'"
 Harry was worse at sea than ever then; so one of the boys was sent to the board to write it plainly for the class to see. The lad could make his letters, but he did not know how to join them in regular running writing style, and left them unjoined, thus: s-a-l-o-o-n.

The teacher looked at it a moment, and then asked, with some asperity, "Why don't you put that 'hay' nearer the hell?"
 The boy's eyes snapped, and he answered like a flash, "'cause I was afraid it would burn up."
 The class was dismissed for the day. But the geography class proved another pitfall. One of the boys, while writing names of European cities, spelled Venice "V-e-n-n-i-c-e."
 "What?" cried the teacher on his rounds; "his that the way you spell Venice?"
 "Yes, sir," said the lad.
 "Suppose Hiw was to tell you that there was only one 'hen' in Venice, what would you say?"
 "I should say that the price of eggs would be pretty high sir."
 "Then there was an explosion."
 —Exchange.

Boarders Wanted.
 A few young men desiring board in private family, on Market street, convenient to business center, can obtain same by calling at THE PROGRESS office for further information.

Matters Religious.

HYMN.

1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
 All our sins and griefs to bear;
 What a privilege to carry
 Everything to God in prayer.
 Oh! what peace we often forfeit,
 Oh! what needless pain we bear—
 All because we do not carry
 Everything to God in prayer.
 2 Have we trials and temptations?
 Is there trouble anywhere?
 We should never be discouraged,
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 Can we find a friend so faithful,
 Who will all our sorrows share?
 Jesus knows our every weakness,
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.
 3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
 Cumbered with a load of care?
 Precious Saviour, still our refuge,
 Take it to the Lord in prayer:
 In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
 Thou wilt find a solace there.

To the human heart, for which the vicissitudes of life contains many darts, sharp pointed and dipped in venom, some, of them, the foregoing hymn has an entrancing sweetness. For he the will power never so strong and as subjective as it may, the pangs and heart aches of life cannot be softened or escaped by human agency. Man is the master of many thing and he may likewise govern his own emotions, but he is absolutely powerless in the grasp of those foes to mankind, sorrow, grief, disappointments, failures. Then when one feels himself in the unrelenting embrace of these powers and realizes that he is slowly succumbing to their attacks, how sweetly does the sentiment of this impress itself upon us and how readily does a superior power of a living God come to our rescue when, ceasing to depend upon our own strength we appeal to Him for help by prayer.

"Have we trials and temptations?"
 "Ay, who has not? Who has not felt their harrowing presence driving out the sunshine from our lives and even casting a somber shadow over the horizon of our future. But why the query? Why recall us to a sense of our misery, if perchance the excitement of a moment has enabled us to forget them? Because a loving Savior stands near with outstretched arms and eager men begging to be permitted to relieve us of all our sorrows, disappointments and sources of unhappiness.
 Thank God for a friend who is willing to rob life of many pangs and supplant them with pleasures that we know not of until we learn to know Him.

The Holy Ghost is the one all comprehending good that we need to further personal holiness or Church aggressiveness and power. His presence will remove every hinderance which can be removed, cure every form of every curable evil. He will appoint the sphere of work for the individual, and qualify him for that sphere. He will robe the Church with all the attractive beauty and aggressive power that God can give her.
 The Holy Ghost will give life to Church deadness, inspiration to its dullness, unity to its discord. Rivers of living water will flow out of the driest soul to refresh and bless when the Holy Ghost comes on that soul.—Nashville Christian Advocate.

"We believe the saying true that he who does not pray in secret does not pray at all. Our family and public praying receive their unction and their value from our closet praying. Praying that goes current with God must have the stamp of closet on it.—Parsonage Record, Colmesnel Tex.

Those who accomplish most as soul-winners, are they who are willing to work anywhere, either in a broad or narrow sphere, and who are willing to do little things and look after details, all from a pure motive to glorify God.—United Presbyterian.
 Kind looks, kind words, kind acts and warm hand-shakes—these are

secondary means of grace when men are in trouble, and fighting their unseen battles.—Dr. John Hall.

As the image is brought out of the block by the chisel in the hands of the sculptor, so man's true character is developed by the stern hand of adversity.

Beloved, God meets those who are in the way; Satan meets those who are out of it.—H. Evans.

"There are no 'little sins.' Wrong is wrong—the wages of 'sin' is death. Let us not deceive or be deceived with vain words. Let us not be betrayed into that fatal error of classing our sins.—Rev. Henry W. Little.

God's Regard for His Word.
 One of the most remarkable utterances of the Bible is found in the 13th Psalm: "Thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name." That God has the highest regard for his word is proved by the history of the results of the first transgression. The first precept was as simple as an injunction to little children. The results of its violation are complex enough to touch human nature at every point. The penalty for transgression has come with an impartiality and a certainty and a power appalling to human thought. The track of humanity along the ages is marked by black monuments of woe, and upon each one is written the terrible words: "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." What a vivid view this gives us of the honor in which God holds his law! The deep philosophy is in the fact that God's Word is not only the expression of his will, but it is the sublime revelation of his character embodied in human language. Hence he "magnifies his word above all his name."—New Orleans Christian Advocate.

How often are we admonished to watch as well as pray. As the sentinel watches for the expected foe, as the sailor watches for the threatening storm, as Satan himself watches to ensnare and destroy souls, so we would watch lest he take us unawares and destroy us without remedy.—Texas Christian Advocate.

A Story of Two Boys.
 The Raleigh State Chronicle tells a good story of the late ex-Governor W. W. Holden which is worth condensing and reproducing here.

Holden started in life a printer's devil. One cold morning the boy was delivering papers, and at a rich man's mansion he was invited into the dining room to warm himself by the fire. A handsome college boy on a visit to the family was sitting at the table, and when the little devil left, this comfortable and happy youth handed him a battered biscuit.

Young Holden walked off eating his biscuit, envying the college student and feeling very blue.
 Time brings wonderful changes. Thirty years later the boy that gave the biscuit was defeated for governor by the bare-footed lad who received it.

There is plenty of encouragement in this story for poor boys, and they will not stop to inquire whether the right man was elected or not.—Atlanta Constitution.

Even the fleet coward cannot outrun his shadow.

Justice holds the scales, and the jury does the rest.

Patience outlasts passion every time.

The baby act is supposed to be the first.

The tramp considers himself a great man in disguise.

The man who steals one's umbrella is a foeman worthy of his steel.
 "Love levels all things," but does not always make them smooth.—Exchange.
 The mill at Pittsfield, Mass., where was manufactured the distinctive paper used by the United States government in printing the paper currency, was totally destroyed by fire April 15.—Texas Christian Advocate.