

Youths' Department.

For the VISITOR.

THE LITTLE PET.

I'm just a little lassie, with a lassie's winsome ways, And worth my weight in solid gold, my Uncle Johnny says...

The Benefits of Recreation.

Dear Aunt Nina and Cousins:—As Sweet Briar is so outspoken against aunts I will free my mind about uncles. They are good enough to buy our candies and take us to the shows...

A New Contributor.

Aunt Nina:—I wish to become a contributor to the Youth's Department. My opinion is the same as "Sweet Briar's," and think as our kind friends have given us a place in their paper, we should make good use of it.

Is Novel-Reading a Detriment to Scholarship?

In commencing this essay, the language of Horace, translated by Mr. Francis—Examine well, ye writers, weigh with care, What suits your genius, what your strength will bear.

The only disadvantage following the perusal of novels is that young people devote too much of their time to them, and thus neglect their prescribed studies. But we do not presume that any one eager for improvement would neglect their Virgil and devote all their time to a fascinating Trollope...

This sketch does not propose to laud all novels; there is a class of sentimental love stories which would be better to leave untouched. But it is improbable that one eager for improvement would leave that bright galaxy composed of such novelistic talent as Dickens, Thackeray, Goldsmith and our own mourned and accomplished composer, Holland, for the poor stories of a Benedict or a Brontë.

THE REAPER, DEATH.

CURTIS—Hamilton and Lafayette Grange, No. 529, has been called upon to mourn the loss of one of its charter members. Sister ELVIRA CURTIS died Feb. 25, of pulmonary disease.

Correspondence.

Enterprise in Livingston County.

Perhaps it would not be amiss to give the readers of the VISITOR an account of some of the fruits of Grange work in Livingston county. At our county meeting last November it was decided to secure, if possible the course of lectures established by the National Lecture Bureau, and also to hold a Farmers' Institute, and a State Institute...

In regard to Sister Bristol, I feel that I cannot speak too highly of her as a public speaker and a perfect lady. She held her audience as if spell-bound by her words of eloquence and instruction. Some of the citizens of Howell who heard her speak said if she ever came again there would be no hall large enough to hold her audience.

We failed to secure the appointment of a State Institute, having had one but three years ago, but immediately set to work planning one of our own, which was wholly a Grange affair, essayists, choir and all, and since it was such a grand success we will take all the credit. Brother Beal came and delivered one of his popular lectures; Brother Wing, of Ann Arbor, was also with us, and we feel that we are under infinite obligations to them for their assistance.

From Kentucky.

Mr. Editor:—Having lately received a sample copy of your valuable paper I was so well pleased with it that I have procured the enclosed list of three months subscribers. When these get their papers I shall be sure and get more.

Our Grange treasury is low but what funds we have we mean to use to the best possible advantage. Our young people here do not engage in this society work, much preferring frivolous amusements to genuine improvement.

Editor Grange Visitor:—I do not remember seeing any correspondence in your welcome VISITOR from Lent Grange, No. 590. Perhaps a short communication might interest and cheer some struggling Grange (as ours has been) to renewed effort.

and amusing illustrations. One is fully impressed that she is thoroughly in earnest, seeking to stimulate her hearers to higher and nobler aims in life, that they may "develop a better and higher manhood and womanhood."

The VISITOR comes regularly to gladden the homes of not a few of us, and we hope soon to double the numbers.

Trial by Jury.

Whether justice might be dealt out more promptly, with greater certainty and at less cost than is possible under the present cumbersome judicial machinery, is a question that concerns everybody. It is notorious that many business men prefer to compromise what are just claims for a few cents on the dollar, rather than incur the dangers, delays and expenses of a legal contest by enforcing such claims at law.

In the North American Review for February, Judge Edward A. Thomas of New York takes up the cause for the people, and points out that one cause of the trouble is to be found in the jury system. His arguments, if not new, at least show the drift of public opinion. He shows that the circumstances which called the jury system into existence in England and made it a great safeguard of justice, have wholly changed, and that the new conditions under which American justice must be dispensed require a different procedure.

Prompt and certain justice from a body of men selected and treated as juries usually are, Judge Thomas holds to be out of the question, and he believes the purposes of justice would be far better secured by submitting the cases to a court composed of one or three judges. Chancery and equity cases have always been tried by the court without a jury in a few States. And it has been found to work satisfactorily. In Wyoming Territory a law was enacted four years ago requiring a litigant who demanded a jury trial to deposit a considerable fee with the clerk to be applied in payment of jurors in case the depositor should win the suit.

WALL PAPER.—Sometimes spots will accidentally get upon papered walls that deface them badly. If it should be a grease spot, a paste of hot laundry starch, made very thick and spread on, while boiling hot, quite thickly over the surface of the spot and left till dry, then rubbed off with a soft cloth, will remove all the grease and not deface the paper.

The Elkhart Journal, in pleading for a more practical education, says: "Let it be remembered that education is not the chips of arithmetic and grammar—nouns, verbs, and the multiplication table; education is not Greek, Latin, and the air pump. While all these are useful, prudence and the respect for right, the power to earn your own bread is of more value, and the foundation of all these should be laid by the teachers in our common schools."

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