

Ladies' Department.

A SONG OF THANKSGIVING.

Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving! Of yore,
In the youth of the nation,
When the harvest had yielded its store
There was feast and oblation.

CLINTON SCOLLARD IN The Ladies' Home Journal

BOOKS AND READING.

What Twenty Books outside the Bible,
Dictionary and spelling book ought
one to Study in order to obtain
the Highest Degree of
Culture?

Read by Frank Eddy, Charlotte, at Eaton
Pomona.

The subject assigned me might
well perplex an abler brain than
mine. In the first place the ob-
ject to be attained by our reading—
culture—is a term broad enough to
deserve an essay of itself.

In this paper we can only look
upon one phase of culture, namely,
that culture derived from books.

Here we are met with another
difficulty. It is a safe assertion
that no two persons are affected in
the same way by the same book.

Were I to commence at the be-
ginning of culture I should say
that culture began with baby talk.

But there comes a time at an
earlier period in the life of some
than of others, when the mind ex-
periences an awakening. Then is

the time when the mind will form
its great life theories out of the
chaos of facts and ideas hitherto
jumbled together in confusion.

Taking these three steps in
human life as a rough outline, let
us see how the reading of good
literature will affect the life.

But if good literature has so
much influence on the young and
more rapidly developing mind it
has scarcely less effect on more ma-
ture minds.

The books from which we can
obtain the most culture will natu-
rally be those that stir us most
deeply, so what books any one
should read is largely a matter of
personal choice.

Bear in mind one point. In
order to obtain culture from these
books or any others they must be
mastered, not merely read.

One more suggestion and then I
will submit my list of books to you.

But it is high time this paper
came to an end so here is the list:

SUGGESTIONS FOR COUNTRY
SCHOOLS.

Paper read by Mrs. H. G. Holt, at the Kent
County Grange held at Whitneyville Oct. 12, 1892.

The Worthy Lecturer has asked
me to make some suggestions for
Country Schools. I therefore sub-
mit the following for your consid-
eration.

It has been often stated that the
bone and sinew of this republic,
and the new life of the great cities,
come from the agricultural districts.

Education, in its truest and
broadest sense, is the greatest safe-
guard against evil. The child
should be trained morally, phys-
ically and mentally.

I believe that in most cases, no
child should be in school under six
years of age, except where Kinder-
garten methods are used.

Lessons of truth, virtue and kind-
ness of heart should be instilled in-
to the tender mind, by precept and
example, and a few simple rules of
health thoroughly taught, so as to
secure if possible, a sound mind in
a sound body, which is very essen-
tial in acquiring an education.

Our legislators should exercise
the greatest care in providing for
the promotion and advancement of
education in our rural districts.

It ought to be the duty of the
more favored ones to see that wise
and proper methods are taken to
insure a reasonable amount of
education to all the children grow-
ing up in our land.

I welcome the movement that is
being made to classify and grade to
some extent, the pupils in our dis-
trict schools.

We are all ready to acknowledge
the importance of our schools; in
fact many would argue that they
are the most important institutions
that we have, for, what is more
dear to us than the welfare of our
children? But do we prove it by
the attention we give, and the in-
terest we take in our schools?

Allow me to make a few other
suggestions for the benefit of our
schools. In electing the school
officers or district board, choose
some of the best qualified men or
women in the district, those who
will be sure to attend to the duties,

Pay a sufficient salary to insure
the services of a teacher well fitted
for the work. Frequent change of
teachers is a detriment to the school.

The district board should adopt
some kind of text books, and see
that these are used in the school,

The teacher should begin and
close school promptly on time, and
have a carefully prepared program
for study and recitations.

If parents would visit the schools
occasionally in a friendly way,
showing an interest in what their
children are doing, the teacher and
pupils would be encouraged to do
better work, and the results, I am
sure, would be very gratifying.

Can't you get 5 new subscribers in
your neighborhood and thus get your
paper another year free?
Teachers can get the VISITOR and
MODERATOR for \$1.50.

WHAT SHALL A GIRL READ.

With many girls reading is large-
ly a matter of opportunity; some
lack the means of procuring many
books, or more frequently still, the
time necessary for the mastery or
enjoyment of the helpful volume;

Bear in mind that there are pass-
ing books and lasting books, books
of the day and books for all time.

NOTICE that all yearly subscrib-
ers sent before Jan. 1, '93, will be
credited to Jan. 1, '94, thus getting
the paper free for the rest of this year.

SUNDAY AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

(Editorial article in the November Century.)

The day of rest is too important
an institution in its relation to the
physical, moral, industrial, and
spiritual interests of the nation to
be subjected to any supposed finan-
cial necessity.

If the gates are to be opened
during any part of Sunday, it
should be for a silent exhibition;
no hum of machinery; no confound-
ing of the day of rest with the
days of labor.

Don't fail to read our premium
offers.

MERELY SUGGESTIVE.

"Please won't you suggest some
topics for programs? I am Lect-
urer and too busy to study for
them just now," writes a brave
little woman of the Grange.

As I bring together a variety of
subjects to send her, it occurs to
me the list may be useful to some
other worker whose time is over-
drawn, and I will copy it for the
VISITOR.

A meeting confined to one main
topic no doubt gives the best re-
sults as bringing out all sides of
the subject. For instance, I re-
call a "Geological Evening" as one
of the most interesting and profit-
able of any of a society for educa-
tional improvement. Each member

brought a stone, a shell or a mineral
and gave, as far as he could, an ac-
count of its formation and where
found. Several brought specimens
they had long had as curiosities
and came now to learn their history
for the first. Try it. Dictionaries,
cyclopedias, geographies, geologies
and imaginative speculation will
be freely drawn upon.

On the same plan a "botanical"
or an "insect" meeting would callout
much new knowledge and many
shrewd observations.

Just now a "Whittier Memorial"
is more than appropriate; it is a
duty we owe ourselves to keep his
example fresh in mind. A bio-
graphical sketch, a talk on "Whit-
tier as an Abolitionist," a paper on
his poetry, the reading of one of
his poems of freedom, an extract
from Snow Bound describing farm
life, the reciting of one or two of
his ballads, a few decorations and
fitting songs and you have the out-
line of a program that every Amer-
ican, young or old, will be bettered
by listening to.

Let me recommend, too, a "Vol-
unteer Program" as a refreshing
change now and then to both the
Lecturer and members. Announce
that everyone will be called on to
contribute something, a paper, a
talk, a reading, recitation, conun-
drum, story, song, impersonation,
charade, or anything he chooses,
toward the entertainment or in-
struction of the others. Accept no
excuses. I insist on brevity before
hand, and see if the "recipe" is not
a good one.

Below are general topics culled
from a variety of sources:

- 1. Methods in Marketing Farm
Products.
2. Woman's Work in the Grange.
3. Our Feathered Friends.
4. New Brooms.
5. What has the Grange accom-
plished? (a) At large. (b) At
home. (c) For me.
6. How and what to see.
7. "The common things of the
common day are ringing bells in
the far away."
8. A Workshop on the Farm.
9. Winter Care of Vegetables.
10. Winter Care of Fruit.
11. Plans.
12. Natural History on the
Farm.
13. The Needs and Benefits of
House Plants.
14. Sand.
15. Horse-back Riding.
16. Home Gymnastics.
17. The Mending Baskets.
18. Hints on Nursing.
19. What are the Experiment
Stations doing for us?
20. Incidental Profits on the
Farm.
21. That Hen. Is she worth her
keep?
22. Has Beauty a Money Value?
23. Hot Water.
24. Our Winter Term of School.
What are the Boys and Girls
learning?
25. What Shall we Drink?
26. "God means every man to be
happy," be sure; we meet with no
evil that has not some cure.
—Meredith.
27. "Home's not merely four
square walls."
28. Conversation. Its Prime fac-
tors.
29. Are Old People Growing
young?
30. "It chanced—eternal God that
chance did guide"!
31. "Thy friend hath a friend and
his friend hath a friend."
—Arab Adage.
32. Eyes that see not—Ears that
hear not.
33. Benefits of Association.
34. How may the Agricultural
College help those who cannot
enter its classes?
35. The Farmers' Institute,—our
part in its success or failure.
36. "Because it sometimes rains,
shall we carry umbrellas in sunny
weather?"
37. "A single conversation across
a table with a wise man is better
than ten years of mere study of
books."—Chinese Proverb.
38. What is the Talent of Suc-
cess?
39. "The wise for cure on exer-
cise depend."—Dryden.
40. The Beam and the Mote.
41. Little Kindnesses.
42. How is Good Taste Acquired?
43. Sheep.

JENNIE BUELL.

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advertisers.)

