

## Agricultural Department.

CONDUCTED BY JONATHAN SIMMONS.

**A Boy's Advice to Old Men.**  
I cannot pick up a newspaper without "Advice to Boys" stares me in the face. Old men write it, I suppose. No boy else is capable of giving advice to boys, of course not! They know all about us, they do, 'cause they have been there. Advice is a good thing to have, no doubt, and no family should be without it, but a fellow don't want to be crammed with it all the time to the exclusion of all other diet.

Now, old men need advice occasionally, but in looking through the newspaper I don't see that they get it. So I just thought I would write a little "Advice to Old Men" myself, if I am not presuming too much, as Aunt Chloe says, and I presume I am.

In the first place, old chaps ought to get over telling how much smart boys were when they were boys, boys are now. You believe it yourselves, of course, because you've told it so many times, but we boys can't see it. We have a notion that boys will be boys any way you can fix it, pretty much (except some that are girls) the world over, and one generation of them don't lay over another generation to any alarming extent.

Only let you tell it, and you could out run, out jump, out wrestle, and outdo every other of the rising generation of boys. You are the author of the author, who has the gout and half a dozen different kinds of rheumatism, is always saying that. I heard him singing the other day: "I would that I were a boy again!" I would be too. If I could not beat him running, and flop him on his back side, I don't want a cent.

I wouldn't go so far as to say, "Parents, obey your children," but I would suggest to fathers that they give us a hearing, occasionally, on matters in which we are the ones most interested. Don't run, go and slide down the hill when we want to, and don't try to make preachers of us when we much prefer to run a saw-mill. This is figurative, but I guess you know what I mean.

After giving us boys sage advice about our conduct, and how to behave, you old men ought to be careful how you get to relating your boyish scrapes to each other and laughing over them before we are out of ear-shot. The other day grandfather read me a long lecture about the rights of property, temperature, and sabbath-break. I am sure he had an old crony of his come to visit him, and the boy glass of punch together. Then he went to asleep on the sofa, and the way they run on about the fun they had when they were boys together! They told all about robbing Captain Lyman's melon patch, and it turned out it was a Sunday night, too. When I went to bed they were taking their third glass of punch, and I don't know how many they had after that. I know grandfather's rheumatism was a great deal worse the next day, and he complained of his liver. Old men ought to be careful about taking too much punch.

I have noticed old men late to give up that they can't stand up when they use to, or as young men can. They get up if a fellow like me hints that they can't. But what's the use of fooling yourselves? We've all got to play out some day, and when a man feels that he is losing his grip, why not come down and acknowledge the corn?

Now, in the above remarks I don't mean any disrespect. I like old men in their place, but don't want much of their advice. Give the boys a chance.

### Selling Stock.

I am, Mr. Editor, one of those who believe that our farms are not cultivated enough. There is my neighbor A. ponder who has 50 of his 125 acres in pasture. If I ask him what he will take for his farm, he will be likely to tell me \$75 or \$100 per acre. If I wanted to buy that portion of his farm in pasture, he would ask me \$50 per acre for it; and yet there is at least half of it that does not pay him annually seven per cent, interest of \$25 per acre. It is good land, enough, but it grows little or nothing in the shape of grain, or of his sheep and cows. Why, sir, I can select a scrub tree which, if fenced off from a piece of bottom land, has in the same field, and it will keep his sheep silvile through the summer. And yet that land will pay 20 per cent, interest on \$100 per acre, in its location, if properly managed.

Yes, sir, soiling cattle will do it. Let that land be plowed, manured, sowed in clover, and the clover cut and fed direct to the stock, and it will keep five times the amount of stock that it does now, and keep the animals better—yield the farmer more profits from each animal. "Labin is the mother," said my friend Jones, the other day. "But it is not a brother that is instrumental, it is the good sense to know how to treat and pay his laborers. Where lands are high and valuable soiling has got to be adopted—every inch of land must be cultivated—every inch of land must be cultivated. My friend could profitably sell half his land at \$50 per acre, till the other half as it should be, keep more stock on it, and derive more profit therefrom than he does now from the whole. And the half of the farm would, in five years, be worth more money, absolutely, than the whole is now.

Do you say this is dogmatic assertion, unsupported by facts? I say no. I have seen it, and agricultural papers have furnished facts to prove it. There are men in New England and New York getting rich at farming, who never made a dollar at the business until they began to cultivate every inch of ground they own, and to carry a heavy stock of cattle, sheep and swine upon it by soiling, to make manure with which to enrich their land. Their farms have grown better and their bank deposits larger ever since. I will produce some of them to give facts and figures (to which I have not access now) through your columns to prove what I have through your columns to prove what I have. I hope they will do so. —*Rural New Yorker.*

### Gleanings.

Surface manuring and cultivation are for grain, and in particular, for fruit-buried manure and deep culture, for veg. creation.

Cows and sheep should not be pastured together. Horses and sheep form a more suitable partnership, as their grazing habits are similar.

It is said that one of the most powerful remedies for borts in horses is a strong decoction of sage tea, made very sweet. It dislodges the borts easily.

"Every cow should fatten one pig" is an old rule and a good one; that is, the daily product of one good cow should be in buttermilk and whey enough to feed one pig, after the cream and cheese are extracted.

The potato delights in a rich, loamy soil, rather moist, and a cool, equable climate; for these reasons, the crop is liable to frost, and when planted late, so as to subject it to the summer drought before the haulms are sufficiently abundant to shade the ground.

Carpets shaking is at hand. Here is a bit of advice that it would be well for housekeepers to heed. When a carpet is taken up to be cleaned the floor beneath is generally covered with dust. This dust is very fine and dry and poisonous to the lungs. Before removing it, sprinkle the floor with dilute carbolic acid, to kill any poisonous germs that may be present, and thoroughly disinfect the floor and make it sweet.

A FAIRLY SURVEY OF THE WATER-POWER THAT CAN BE OBTAINED BY MEANS OF THE TIDE. The river has been made, and competent persons pronounce it excellent, and far superior to that of Goshen. —*Wards Indian.*

**The Importance of Cleaning Up.**  
Under this caption, the Crawfordville Journal offers some wholesome advice. We fully subscribe to all that is said below and commend the same to the earnest consideration of our patrons:

Every particle of decaying matter should be removed. The decomposition of potato or apple parings, and other refuse from the kitchen, which generally find their way to the alleys, breeds disease as rapidly as the malaria of the swamp. While it may be the duty of each individual house keeper to thoroughly cleanse his premises and the alleys which he borders, yet it should be the duty of the authorities to see to it. If the house keeper has not his own, his family's, and his neighbors' health and welfare at heart, he should be compelled by law to make a thorough cleansing of not only the streets and alleys on which he lives, but the back yards, and every place about his premises where filth is permitted or liable to accumulate. The semi annual season of house-cleaning is here, and many people imagine that if the several apartments of the house are thoroughly invaded with soap and water, here their duty ends. We have a notion that boys will be boys any way you can fix it, pretty much (except some that are girls) the world over, and one generation of them don't lay over another generation to any alarming extent.

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