Young Folks Corner

MY FIRST CIGAR.

'Twas just behind the woodshed,
One glorious summer day,
Far o'er the hills the sinking sun
Purpled its westward way.

Safely removed afar,
From all of earth's confusion,
I smoked my first cigar.

Ah, bright ran I boyish fancies
Wingéd as they swept by me,
My eyes grew hot, my head was light,
The woodshed round me flew.

Brim death I thought had found me,
And spoiled my first cigar.

My startled mother cried, in fear,
My child, what have you ate?
I heard my father's smothered laugh,
It seemed so strange and far,
I knew he knew, I knew he knew
I'd smoked my first cigar.

My Spare Moments.

A poor country lad came one morning to the door of the head master of a celebrated school, and asked to see him. The servant eyed his scanty clothes, and thinking he looked more like a beggar than anything else, told him to go round to the kitchen. The boy did as he was desired, and soon appeared at the back door.

'I should like to see Mr——,' said he.

'You want a breakfast, most likely,' said the servant, 'and I can give you that without troubling him.'

'Thank you,' said the boy; 'I'm no objector to a bit of bread, but I should like to see Mr.——, if he can see me.'

'Some old clothes maybe you want,' remarked the servant, again eyeing the boy's patched clothes.

'I think he has none to spare;' and without at all minding the boy's request she went about her work.

'Can I see Mr.——?' again asked the boy, after eating his bread and butter.

'Well he's in the library; if he must be interrupted he must, but he does like to be alone sometimes,' said the girl in a peevish tone. Opening the library door, she said, 'Here's somebody, sir, as he is very anxious to see you, and so I let him in.'

I do not know how the boy introduced himself, or how he opened his business, but I know that after talking a while, the Principal put aside the paper he was studying and took up a latin book and began to examine the new-comer. The examination lasted some time. Every question which the principal asked, the boy answered as readily as could be.

'Well!' exclaimed the Principal, 'You certainly do well!' looking at the boy from head to foot, over his spectacles.

'Why, my boy, where did you pick up so much?'

'In my spare moments,' answered the boy.

Here he was, poor and hard-working, with but few opportunities for schooling, and yet almost fitted for college, by simply improving his spare moments! Truly, are not spare moments the gold dust of time? How apt we are to waste them!

What account can you give of your spare moments? What can you show for them? Look and see. Time boys can tell you how very much you can be laid up by wisely improving them; and there are many, many other boys, I am afraid, in the gaol, in the house of correction, in the forecastle of a whale-ship, in the gambling houses or the taverns, who, if we could ask them when they began their sinful courses, might answer 'In my spare moments.' 'In my spare moments I gambled for marbles.' 'In my spare moments I began to smoke and drink.' 'It was in my spare moments that I first began to steal chestnuts from the old woman's stand.' 'It was in my spare moments that I got acquainted with wicked associates.' Take care of your spare moments.

Wanted—An Easy Place.

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher some time since received a letter from a young man, who recommended himself very highly as being honest, and closed with the request, 'Get me an easy situation, that honestly may be rewarded.' To which Mr. Beecher replied: 'Don't be an editor, if you would be easy. Do not try the law. Avoid school keeping. Keep out of the pulpit. Let alone all ships, stores, shops, and merchandise. Abhor politics. Keep away from lawyers. Don't practice medicine. Be not a farmer nor a mechanic; neither a soldier nor a sailor. Don't study. Don't think. Don't work. None of them are easy. O, my honest friend, you are in a very hard world! I know of but one real 'easy' place in it. That is the grave.'

Do as your conscience dictates and you will not go far astray.

Narrow not your mind to your own selfishness, but give it a broad field for your fellow men to work in.

The chief art of attaining is to learn but little at a time. The widest excursions of the mind are made by short flights, frequently repeated.

Duty, though set about by thorns, may be made a staff, supporting even while it tortures. Cast it away, and, like the prophet's wand, it changes to a snake.

Greatness stands upon a precipice, and if prosperity, unbalanced by moral suasion, carries a man ever so little beyond his poise, it overbears and dashes him to pieces.

A man who can give up dreaming and go to his daily realities; who can smother down his heart, its love or woe, and take to the hard work of his hand; who defies fate; and, if he must die, dies fighting to the last—that man is life's best hero.

Truth is always consistent with itself, and needs nothing to help it out. It is always near at hand, and sits upon our lips, and is ready to drop out before we are aware, whereas a lie is trouble-some, and needs a great many more of the same kind to make it good.

TWO OF THEM.

In the farmhouse porch the farmer sat
With his daughter, having a cosy chat,
And he said to the girl, and he said it —
Thought he was as fair as a girl could be.

Then he praised the old man's flock,
His one pet lamb and her loving care
He wished with nobody else to share.
'There should be two to welcome me
There should be two to welcome me
When I come home from the field at night—
Two would make the old homestead bright.'

There's neighbor Gray with his children four
To be glad together. Had I one more
A proud old father I'd be, my dear,
With two good children to greet me here.'
He's by the gate 'neath the old elm tree'
Donald waited alone; said she
For whom he waited his love-call heard
And on her cheek the blushes stirred.

'Father,' she said, and knelt her down
And kissed the hand that was old and brown—
'Father there may be two if you will,
And I—your only daughter still.
Wish to welcome you home at night:
Two to make the old homestead bright;
I—and somebody else.' 'I see,'
Said the farmer, 'and who may that somebody be?'

Oh the dimples in Bessie's cheek,
That played with the blushes a hide-and-seek—
Away from his gaze she turned her head,
'One of neighbor Gray's children,' she said.

'H'm!' said the farmer, 'make it plain;
Is it Susan, Alice, or Mary Jane?'
Another kiss on the aged face
To help the farmer to understand.
'H'm,' said the farmer; 'yes I see.
It is two for yourself and one for me.'
But Bess's said, 'There can be but one
For me and my heart till life is done.'

Comforts and Luxuries of the Farm.

There is a class of farmers who are living only to grasp more acres. Their farms can never be large enough, nor can their workmen or themselves do quite enough work. They cannot be satisfied with the income of a farm, nor could they be satisfied with any other business. But those who understand that the highest object of labor is not to make money, but to provide the largest amount of means of innocent enjoyment the world affords, can make the pursuits of agriculture furnish more luxuries that really contribute to our well being than any enjoyment requiring the same amount of capital. Their farms are not so large as to make slaves of themselves and their sons, and their wives and daughters are not worn out with constant drudgery. Their door yards blossom with flowers, their tables are supplied with many varieties of well grown delicious fruit, their houses are made cheerful by the influence of books and music, and a taste for the pure innocent enjoyment of life is developed in their children. Here and there a farmers home exemplifies all the contentment and happiness to a race doomed to labor and disappointment.

Farm Notes.

The last thing to be done before going to bed, is to go out to the barn and give a good look at the cattle and horses, and they will be likely to have a good look in the morning.

For roses in pots, and almost any house plants, a good liquid fertilizer may be prepared by dissolving soot in warm water. Bone ground fine makes an excellent fertilizer for plants.

A London exchange says earthing up potatoes diminishes the produce, and retards the ripening of the tubers. Long experiments in England have proved this fact—that hilling up the potato will reduce the crop about one-fourth.

Rubbing Posts.—A few rubbing posts set up in pastures will save injury to the fences. Cattle will use these conveniencies very often; and it is worth the trouble, says an agricultural writer, to witness the enjoyment of the animals in the use of them.

The croup in fowls has been cured with sulphur applied as follows: Open the bill of the fowl, and with a tube, which may be formed of paper, blow half a teaspoonful of sulphur down the throat. Three applications have been known to cure.

All tools and machinery not to be used any more this season, should be put away in good condition; any repairs required should be made before storing for the winter that they may be ready for use when wanted next season. They should be well cleaned and put away bright, and carefully stored, so that cattle and other stock will not get on them and hurt themselves and break the machinery.

Horses should be watered in the morning before they are fed. A full drink of water immediately after being fed is a sure way of producing indigestion, if not inflammation. When water is drank by horses, the bulk of it goes directly to the large intestines, and little of it is retained in the stomach. Some old and worthless horses, by way of experiment, were fed with split peas, and then supplied with water immediately before being killed. It was found that the water had carried the peas from fifty to sixty feet into the intestines where no digestion took place at all.

BEFORE THE ARRIVAL OF THE NEW FALL GOODS

AT THE "RIGHT HOUSE," HAMILTON,

[illegible] be prices of nearly all kinds of Dry Goods, Carpets and House Furnishings, and the great Clearing Sale of these goods will last for two weeks longer. Come and make your purchases now, and at the Right House. Ladies, remember that the 2 buttoned Kid Gloves which are selling flat 50c. were marked down from 87½c. The 3 button Kid Gloves in colored, black and evening shades at 50c. are surprising good value. 2 buttoned Kid Gloves at 25c per pair. 5 buttoned Kid Gloves in green and evening shades at 75c per pair. Kid Gloves, [illegible] reduced from $1.25 to $1. 2 buttoned Kid Gloves in all the new laced Kid Gloves. Fancy Ribbons and Ladies' Silk Ties marked down to very low prices. An immense assortment of Kid Gloves in the best French makes. See the new laced Kid Gloves. The best Corsets and Corset Jeans are selling off very fast, they were never Ladies' and Children's Hosiery marked down in price. Gentlemen's Hosiery very cheap. Gentlemen's Heavy Factory Shirtings at 12½c. will worth 20c. cheap before. White cottons are having a great run. Be sure and see the 10c. Bleached Cotton. See the 10 lb. Heavy Factory Shirtings at 12½c. will worth [illegible] Heavy and White Cotton by the piece at wholesale prices. The Silks are going off at a great rate. Only a few more dress lengths left of those beautiful colored Silks at 75c. Black Silks at different reduction in price. Striped Silks very cheap. The silk velvet Canadian Tweeds at 45c. are going off well. The 60c. and 80c. Canadian Tweeds are decided bargains. Cotton Tweeds, good patterns, only 12½c. Plain and striped Linen Drill for children's wear very cheap. White Dress Shirts from 75c. Unlaundried White Shirts in all sizes. By all means see these shirts, you will be surprised at their good value. Ladies' Jersey Jackets, Boys' Clothing, Men's Scarfs from 25c. Men's Socks from 5c. to 25c. A beautiful assortment of fine socks in [illegible] Men's White Undershirts at 25c., worth 37½c. Boys' Undershirts in all sizes. To make sure of getting the very best value in Dry Goods to be bought in the Dominion, come to the RIGHT HOUSE, Nos. 30 and 32 King st. east, near Hughson st.

Hamilton, July 15th, 1880.

THOMAS C. WATKINS.

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☞ The public are cautioned against a custom which is growing quite common of late among a certain class of medicine dealers, and which is this: When asked for a bottle of Pain-Killer, they suddenly discover that they are "sold out," "but have another article just as good, if not better," which they will supply at the same price. The object of this deception is transparent. These substitutes are made up to sell on the great reputation of the Pain-Killer, and being compounded of the vilest and cheapest drugs, are bought by the dealer at about half what he pays for the genuine Pain-Killer, which enables him therefore to realize a few cents more profit per bottle upon the imitation article than he can on the genuine.

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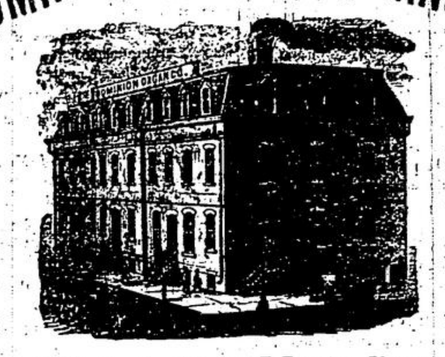

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