



Transcription of *The Scholar's Magazine*, a manuscript newspaper, 1862.

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The Scholar's Magazine

"Nothing venture, nothing gain."

Vol. 3. No. 3. Jamestown. R.I. Friday. October. 10. 1862.

The Path-finder.

Behold the man whose hand surveyed
The prairie of the west;
Among the patriots of our land,
The foremost and the best.

Across the Rocky Mountains steeps,
And through the forest land,
Where wild men lurk upon his track,
He leads his chosen land.

They heed danger they whose hearts
Have braved the terrors deep,
Of hurricane and storm, which o'er
The Western Wilds doth sweep.

He guides them on o'er field & plain,
And by the murmuring rills,
And o'er Nevada's towering height,
To Eldorado's hills.

In battle, where the thunde'rous roar
Of cannon reuds the air,
His voice for freedom, his command,
Insures a victory there.

Then let us sing of him whose word
Has conquered for the free,
Who never sought a name to win,

But fights for liberty.
Septimus S. Regan

Country Life.

How pleasant it is to live in the country where we can see the large green fields and the lambs skipping & playing in them and every thing enjoying the beauties of nature. In the spring the farmers are all busy planting and sowing their seeds and the grass begins to look green, while in the city they hardly realize when spring has come for they cannot see the green grass.

Soon the farmer sees his & grain begin to ripen an then they are all busy mowing. I am always glad when it is time to mow so I can ride on the had and rake it. I once heard a girl from the city visiting in the country & she saw a man ploughing & she said to some one that was with her, "oh see him now." I would think that it would be very unpleasant to live in the city in the simmer where there is so much dust & noise but I suppose those that live there always do not notice it.

In the fall a large company get together and have what we call husking frolics, I suppose all of my readers have heard of the story, of the red car of the husking frolic. We also have much more fruit in the country than they do in the city. Sometimes a number of us get together & have apple parings which are quite pleasant amusements. We have some picnics which I like to attend very much these amusements are seldom known in the city. In the winter we can have skating parties, sliding down hill & sleigriding [i.e. sleigh riding] and great many other pleasures which cannot be had in the city. Y.M.A.

The Scholar's Magazine.
Jamestown. Friday Oct. 10.1862.
J.R. Douglass Editor.
October.

The harvest month has at length appeared, and, whilst the husbandman is buisly [i.e. busily] engaged in storing his crops for the cold winter, the school boy sits drooping over his studies, thinking, perhaps, (as does the farmer), the present season can not long

last, and that he must make haste to win the prize, — "Now or never" seems to be the motto, and whoever wins must of course, labor hard; for the closing of autumn is hard by, and the announcement will soon be made. There is much pleasure in the attainments of literature, but it is won, only by diligent study, and constant application. Let us see, then, that this month does not pass off without its share of our labors. As to the war news there does not seem to be anything of importance except the battle at Corinth between the rebel Gen. Price & the Union force of Gen. Rosecrans. Our forces conquered, and captured many prisoners; this is gratifying news after so many repulses; and we may hope that it will be speedily followed by other news equally welcome in Northern homes.

Decay.

We see on all things earthly the impress of the inevitable finger of decay and death its synonym.

The battle fields of Greece still remain, but where is her vast army; her unconquerable kings; persuasive orators, and revengeful allies? They are dead, and Greece is dead with them, and what remains is only a melancholy monument of former splendor.

How acutely we sometimes realize the feelings of a certain notorious [e.g. notorious] Theban general, who gazing on his army in a moment of reflection, wept as he remembered, that in a hundred years not one of them would remain.

But continually engaged in foreign [i.e. foreign] or civil war (and more frequently the latter) it is more astonishing that Greece existed as long as it did, than that it has now ceased to live. But the orators and kings of Greece, though occasionally saddened [i.e. saddened] by the death of some admired leader, seemed not to think of decay, or at least not in connection with their country.

It was concerning one of the petty disputes in which the Grecian provinces and cities were perpetually involved, that the orator Socrates said: "Then surely the Lacedaemonians, will the heavens sink beneath the earth, and the earth rise sublime in the air, men will inhabit the depths of the sea, and fishes will take possession of the

land, when you, formerly the bulwarks of liberty, shall give your sanction to their unjust cause."

How supposing strange it seems to is that a learned man should apply this sounding language to one little province: "Now, not only Lacedemon [i.e. Lacedaemon] but the whole of Greece has fallen, and yet have not the skies given place to the earth."

Decay surely cometh to the world, and all there on, and just so surely it cometh not to heaven and not to those therein. Let us live for the land that never decays, and for "the sweet blue eyes that loved us, though their lovelight long hath died." Ertha.

The Cork-Tree

Many persons who find cork stoppers very handy are ignorant of the place from which they come. The cork-tree grows in Spain. It attains the hight [i.e. height] of about twenty feet only. The trees are allowed to grow 8 or 10 years, before the bark (which is the cork) is stripped off. At the end of that time a very poor kind of cork is obtained. It is sold for fishermen for their nets. After 8 or 10 years more the trees are again stripped, and even this time an inferior article is produced, but however it is better than the first. The third time the bark is taken, it is of good quality, and is used for stoppers for bottles, and phials, and many other uses. The cork is cut in strips and dried; after that it is scorched. The first quality is a reddish color and is called in France "velvet cork." The lightest colored is the poorest kind. The cork is much lighter than wood, and although it is very porous, it is impervious to watter [i.e. water]. It is imported to the United States from France.

How common it is to see prices of cork and yet we do not trouble ourselves to inquire about them. If we do not think the commonest thing beneath our notice and try to learn all we can about the place from which it came and how it is prepared, we would find that there is much to be learned that we do not know. Desire.

Morning.

Aurora has thrown the curtains of night aside, and the god of day is peering above eastern hills smileing [i.e. smiling] upon all as he journeys westward. Shrub, tree and flower are vocal with the sweetened notes of the merry songsters, herbage and

plant are shrouded with sparkling dewdrops. For o'er then mountain lingering falls the silver moon.

The sleeping world rises refreshed and ready for the toils of the day. O'er the tops of the distant farmhouse may be seen the blue smoke curling up from the chimneys; the cows are gathered in the yard and the farmer boys are carrying the nice sweet milk into the dairy. The village bells are calling the mechanic to his work and they may be seen coming from every direction, each with his shining dinner-pail in hand as to labor he goeth [i.e. goes] forth. Volumes of black smoke are rising from the tall pipes of the factories and the streets are filled with the operatives whom the sharp ringing of the bells have called from their sweet slumbers; it has been intimated that this class of people of the north fare worse than the bondaged slave of the south but their casa hardly be credited for the love of liberty us so strongly implanted in the human breast that the hardest worker among freemen would not be willing to exchange places with the most indulged and petted of slaves.

To return to our subject from a slight digression, it is in the morning that we have our bes [i.e. best] thoughts and at this time too our resolution to do good & and be good are made, but we err & resolve err and resolve and still each night finds us no better than the preceeding [i.e. preceding] one. Rosalie.

A bad Boy.

As I was going along street the other day I saw a bad boy; he was thinking what he could do to plague poor girls I guess, for he said "that is it, that is it," he then took out his knife and going close up behind the poor girls who had a great pack of wood on their backs and were trying to get home with it, but they were very heavy packs. I do not think they could carry it very far but perhaps their home was not far off. Well, the bad boy stole close up behind them with his knife open; I stepped a little quicker and I saw that the wood was tied up with a string and the bad boy had gone up there to cut it; he cut it before I could stop him, and down came all the wood on the side-walk; the poor girls turned around just in time to see him run around the corner, the smallest began to cry, the older, tried all she could to comfort her saying we can soon pick it up; while this conversation was going on I stepped into a shop , bought a wheel-barrow and wheeled it to them and told them to pick it up and put in into that and wheel it

home; I also told them that I would give them the wheel-barrow; they thanked me kindly and were soon out of sight. I soon learned who they were, and went to see them and found that they lived in an old garret. I found out who the bad boy was and told his parents of him and he was severely punished. A.E.W.

City Life.

To live in the city is very pleasant, and one can enjoy it very much. Amusements are very numerous. The theatre, panorama, ball & opera are the principle amusements. Walking the streets is an amusement for all classes and sexes and from morning till night and from sunset to sunrise the streets are crowded all going in different direction and all things seem to be in complete confusion. In the principle [i.e. principal] streets stores & shops of all kinds are numerous. When we look in the doors we see the merchants and clerks busily [i.e. busily] engaged with their customers.

In the summer it is more busy than in the winter. It is warmer in the city than in the country and people from the country think it as warm in the fall and spring in the city as it is in the country in the summer [i.e. summer]. The streets are very unpleasant and dusty when there is a great stir of business. Frequently in the winter we are invited to skating parties at a neighboring pond to enjoy the ice (which we seldom do).

Sliding down hill in most cities is strictly prohibited, because a great many have been injured by it. The different trades of the city draw people of all classes more than it does in the country. The people of the country are mostly farmers. The houses of the city are mostly very handsome but in small streets they are not this is according to the wealth of the owners. The principle [i.e. principal] trades of business are harnessmakers [i.e. harness makers], blacksmith, silver & goldsmith, shipbuilder, lawyer, physician & merchant. E.C.H.

The Reading Circle.

The reading circle met last evening and a very pleasant evening was spent. The circle was quite well attended. The paper would have been much more interesting had it been longer but this was the fault of the members.

A few pieces were sung and the company dispersed to next meet at the house of Mr. J.E. Hammond. Mr. T. G. Carr president, Miss Susan Cottrell, and J.J. Watson readers. By a member.

Advertisements.

Coal! Coal! Coal! For sale cheap at Congdon's Westferry.

If you want anything in the shape of groceries and don't know just where to find them you will do well to call at the store at the Westferry, and you will be shure [i.e. sure] to find it there. J. Congdon.

Look! Look! Look! The Panphrosphrosium prize package only ten cents. It contains the following valuable articles

Six sheets note-paper.

" envelope to match.

1 sheet blotting paper.

General advice to letter writers.

Six ways for makeing [i.e. making] money.

General advise for ladies toilet.

1 design for boys gaiter.

1 " " for work basket.

Games for the social circle.

1 design for tuwave jacket.

1 " " ladies undersleave [i.e. undersleeve].

1 " " traveling dress.

1 " " for girls basque.

25 valuable recieps [i.e. recipes?].

1 calendar for 1862.

Also a valuable price of jewelry all for 10 cents. Persons will do well to call & examine before purching [i.e. purchasing] else where. For sale by A.W. Leather, General Agent Westferry.

The health of the Island.

We learn that there are some cases of mumps on the island, but we think that the general health is better since finding that there is no necessity for a draft on here.

We also learn that the surveying on the island has been finished we suppose, as neither of the vessels have been seen about here for several days. Nothing has been settled upon about the Navy yard yet.