

strates that men will go out from the cities and live on the land and make good citizens, when they are taught about the land after they get on it.

Agricultural Education Needed. Viewed from both standpoints, it is a demonstrated and unquestionable fact that American public schools need far more of practical agriculture, in their courses, than they now teach. In fact the majority of them do not teach agriculture, in any of its branches, at all. The teachers themselves, as they are graduated to-day, know nothing of the subject.

Their educational system is in a rut from which it cannot be moved except by a strong popular demand, which in itself must come from an intelligent comprehension of the weak points of the system. The problem is one of the serious consideration of our most far-seeing statesmen—the stemming of this centrifugal movement which is overcrowding our centers of industry where men work for day-wages, and which is steadily drawing from our rural com-

munities where men own the land they live upon and obtain their sustenance from the soil.

Yet there is an undercurrent of quiet force at work, year by year becoming better organized and with broader power, whose tendency is to overcome this hurtful condition and stem the tide of immigration away from the land and into the already overcrowded centers. Industrial and agricultural schemes of education are finding footholds here and there, and nature study courses and school gardens, where children are taught to know something of the soil and plants and the real wonders of nature, are no longer scoffed at or looked upon as fads.

To Fit for Real Life.

This movement embraces the demand for the teaching of domestic science and both agriculture and manual training in all the public schools, so that children shall be taught to work with their hands and to force from the soil the greatest possible production, as they to-day learn in the public schools of France, Denmark and other of the older countries. The new movement maintains that every school should have a school garden, where every child should be intelligently taught to be a lover of nature and of the country and trained toward the land as a source of honorable livelihood, rather than away from it.

Some of the work of the Department of Agriculture shows the tremendous need which exists for farm teaching.

Need for Farm Teaching. To be a successful farmer to-day means that a man must not be satisfied to plant and reap as his father did before him, but that he must study the conditions of his soil and climate, and if necessary discard an unprofitable crop unless he have been raised in his locality from time immemorial and substitute those which scientific experiments have demonstrated are the greatest money makers; he must study the breeding of plants as he would the breeding of animals; he must learn how to fight and overcome the many insects and other enemies of his crops and live stock; in a word, he must devote as much hard study and thought to farming as he would to any other chosen trade or profession which he might elect to engage in, if he moved into a city community. No young man would expect to pass from the farm into the city and make even a bare living unless he felt himself specially

OLD BRITISH FESTIVAL.

PLOW MONDAY, AS OBSERVED IN FOURTEENTH CENTURY AT GRIMSBY, ENGLAND.

Farmers and Townsmen Gathered to Celebrate a Bountiful Crop—Town Treasurer Paid Bills.

All old-time country people remember evenings at corn-husking, apple-paring and sugar-boiling. Not so long ago a husking bee was a great event, and boys and girls, old and young, gathered from far and near to sit on the floor of the barn, husk big ears of ripened corn for several hours, ending with a grand feast of pie, cake, hot coffee, cider, and all the other goodies of the farm cupboard. But in this country there are no definite and fixed festivals held in the fall of the year at harvest time. Thanksgiving is only a formal remembrance. In this we differ, and we have always dif-



The Hartford Farm School.

Their Own Crop.

ferred, from our cousins across the sea.

Five or six hundred years ago, the boys in the old town of Grimsby, Lincolnshire, Eng., looked forward to Plow-Monday as eagerly as those of today anticipate Christmas. This feast was never overlooked. It meant wild excitement, a procession, a theatrical entertainment, usually out of doors on the broad docks, a church service with sermon and a grand barbeque and feast extending far into the night. It was known as "Plough-Monday," or the giving of thanks for the harvest of crops. It came at the close of the Christmas holidays, was officially recognized, the Mayor of the town leading the procession, and his "brethren" following proudly. The day opened early and active. Crowds flocked into town. Shop-keepers opened wide and dispensed generous hospitality. Good cheer, good food, good ale, shone in all faces. The plough—a common farm implement—was decked with brilliant fabrics. The young people lined up along gaily colored ropes attached to the clevis. His Honor, the Mayor, at the handles like a steamboat pilot, for it was often a chase like the wind, up street and down, pell mell. His official subordinates followed; then the people of the town, young and old; and the farmers from the neighboring country.

Like the Circus Parade.

They dragged the plough and the Mayor and all the old folks through the streets, singing, shouting, and begging from door to door for clothes, food, or whatever else was to be given away. Alms and presents were given for distribution among the poor. The company was led by a fool, or clown, a witch, several dancers, a fiddler, or several, called minstrels, and a strong man with a cart to carry the presents gathered on the way. When the procession had covered every street the plough was dragged into the church and placed before an altar. All hands then withdrew to a broad, open space, near the docks, when a play was held on an improvised stage. This play was called "Creation," and the company of performers consisted of priests, clerks, and others, who took the parts of God the Father, God the Son, the first woman, the first man, the serpent, the devil, Noah, Adam, and other historical and scriptural characters. This play was regarded as most sacred, and the great crowds witnessing it, were duly impressed by its solemnity.

The details of the play are not given, but the idea of God's blessing in the shape of light, air, sun, water, earth,

and charged up to the municipal account that prices of labor and food are many times higher now than in that time when trusts and combines were unknown. Actors were rated exceedingly low, as appears by the following entries:—

To the Minstrels.....	£ 8 6
To Noah and his wife.....	0 6 6
To Robt. Brown, playing God.....	0 6 6
To Jenkin Smith, playing Noah.....	0 1 0
To Noah's wife.....	0 0 8
Mechanics came a little higher:	
To the carver, mending the Trinity, making his crown and painting him.....	0 8 0
To the carpenter for making Noah's ship.....	5 8 0
An address from the rector was not costly:	
To Mr. Lewis, for a sermon.....	0 10 0
And this miscellany of services, religious, mechanical and mortuary, came dirt cheap:	
To five priests, fix-penny bell by bell-man, and making a grave.....	0 1 0
Miscellaneous supplies were not costly:	
To straw for Noah and his children.....	0 0 2
A pound of wax to set before the Trinity.....	0 0 10
A peck of barley.....	0 0 3
To sugar, cakes, wine, ale, etc. with the Mayor and his brethren.....	0 4 0
To six stone (84 pounds) of cheese.....	0 6 0
To 2 leags of sturgeon.....	0 8 6
To four easons.....	0 8 6
To four geese.....	0 2 8
To four pigs.....	0 3 4
To three doz. and eight chickens.....	0 9 10
To a pound and a half of pepper.....	0 4 0
To 3 lambs with their appendances.....	0 10 0
To twenty-six stone (564 lbs.) of beef.....	14 8
To three quarters of mutton.....	0 4 6
They were not backward with the cup that cheers, as this will show:	
To six dozen of ale.....	2 0
To one kilderkin of beer.....	0 3 4
To one gallon of fine wine for the priests.....	0 4 6
To seven gallons and a bottle of claret.....	3 17 6
To 16 gallons of wine.....	0 18 8
And for one who would not waste his time on such flat mixtures:	
To one gallon of old rum.....	0 6 4

On the docks, where once the theatricals and the barbeque were held, now rises the great Tower of Grimsby, 200 feet high, serving as a landmark, and as a lighthouse to guide the storm-swept ships of Grimsby's great fishing fleets, into her safe harbor.

New Philippine Governor.

It is reported that James F. Smith, a member of the Philippine Commission, is slated by the Administration to become Governor-General of the Philippines.

Mr. Smith's career during the past four or five years has been remarkable in his extraordinary rise to occupy an important position under the Government. Before the Spanish-American War he was a young lawyer of no standing in San Francisco. It

THE MCKINLEY PORTRAIT.

PAINTING OF MARTYRED PRESIDENT HANGS IN THE WHITE HOUSE.

Artist Murphy, Hitherto Unknown, Paints This Portrait Without a Sitting and from Photographs Only.

By Francis B. Gosner.

It is somewhat remarkable that the portrait of President McKinley that now hangs in the White House was painted by an humble and hitherto unknown artist in New York to whom the President never accorded a sitting. The lamented McKinley did pose for famous artists of Europe and the best portrait painters of our own country, yet it remained for Mr. William D. Murphy, of New York, to produce with the aid only of photographs the one portrait of McKinley most acceptable to the family and friends. More than that, it was considered the most desirable one to be hung on the historic walls of the White House.

Mr. Murphy has a modest little studio at 17 East Sixteenth street, New York, just off Union Square. He had achieved some local fame as a painstaking portrait painter, but had never dreamed of having a picture hung in the White House along with portraits done by the most famous artists of several generations. After the terrible tragedy at Buffalo, Mr. Murphy made a collection of the President's photographs, together with information as to coloring and aided by Mrs. Murphy, who is also an artist, produced a picture in pastel. When the picture was finished Mr. Murphy made efforts to have Abner McKinley, the brother of the President, see and criticize the work. Finally the artist had an interview with Colonel Wilbur C. Brown, Abner's business partner and who had been very close to the beloved Chief Executive. It was after much pleading that Colonel Brown consented to bring Abner to the studio. Neither had ever heard of Murphy. They had seen a hundred portraits of McKinley, good, bad and indifferent, and were themselves indifferent, the more so because they knew that this unknown artist had never been given a sitting. However, his pleadings were so earnest that they finally went to the studio. The picture was unveiled and the brother stood amazed and startled, as if the dead had suddenly come to life. Tears came to the eyes of Abner and the eyes of Colonel Brown. They gazed in silence for a time, and then the brother said, "That is the best portrait of dear Will that I have ever seen." Colonel Brown said the same, and both advised the artist to put the conception in oil and compete for the honor of having it hung in the White House. Mr. Murphy did so, aided by his wife, and it was chosen in preference to the hundred or more paintings



THE CELEBRATED MCKINLEY PORTRAIT.

is believed that he hardly ever had a case worthy the name. When the war broke out he entered the volunteer army and rose rapidly to a high position. In August, 1898, when Manila fell, Mr. Smith was made Deputy Provost of the city. Then he became a member of the commission which met the agents of Aguinaldo at the beginning of the following year. Later he commanded the Island of Negros with much success, and ultimately the Department of the Visayas. This was but a stepping stone for him to a place on the bench, and later a promotion to a commissionership.

Mr. Smith has been successful as a member of the Philippine Commission, being in charge of the educational system now being established in the islands. He is close to Secretary Taft, understanding all of the Taft methods of dealing with Philippine problems. A rumor is current that were Secretary Taft to become President of the United States Smith would more than likely become Secretary of War.

West Point Religious.

The American Messenger, the organ of the Annual Tract Society, says, in an account of the annual presentation of Bibles to the graduating class at West Point, that there is a strong religious atmosphere there, that nearly all the cadets are members of the Young Men's Christian Association, and that about half of them attend some twenty Bible classes, conducted by leaders chosen from among themselves, who are in turn enrolled in a normal Bible class, taught by the chaplain.

Valuable Small Library.

Dr. Frederick Rowland Marvin in the one of the rarest libraries in the country. It contains only about 4,000 volumes, but many of them are first editions, and the manuscripts are memoranda of gifted men and women no longer living.

Linguistic Parrot.

A parrot which can talk in two languages, and which has seventeen phrases, has been added to the London Zoological Gardens. It is a native of Northern India.

REFORM IN LAW-MAKING.

Ex-Attorney General Griggs an Advocate of Deliberate Legislation.

John W. Griggs, at one time Attorney General during the McKinley administration, where he achieved fame for his ability as an exponent of the law, and later one of the strongest members of The Hague tribunal, has lately been expounding to the people of New Jersey a doctrine of real reform. It is believed that he knows whereof he speaks, for hardly any man in that State's political life should know either the need for reform or the difficulties of achieving it better than he. Before President McKinley induced him to become a member of his Cabinet Mr. Griggs had earned his way to the head of the New Jersey bar, served as member of the General Assembly and State Senator, been elected president of the latter body, and met the responsibilities of the governorship. He recently spoke at a celebration on Forefather's Day in Orange, and laid this law down mildly but clearly to the State politicians in the name of the decent men of the Commonwealth:

"Publicity, no backstair legislation; no passage of bills because some one has O'K'd them beforehand; discussion of measures on the floor of the House; real reasons to the public given why measures are favored or proposed, and a return of the days when legislative bodies were debating societies and the public favored as much with reason for voting as with eloquence."

Mr. Griggs advocates reform in the enactment of State legislation when he says:

"Rarely is a bill read each of the three constitutional times, except by title. It passes in accordance with a decision made previously somewhere else. I do not say that influence is an improper one, but that influence was felt in the side rooms or on the back stairs before the fate of a measure was decided. This method is a repression of individuality, sinking rights into a mere expression of some one else's views or wishes."

Reports from New Jersey seem to show that legislation at Trenton is practically in the same condition as that which existed at Jefferson City before Governor Folk washed the Missouri capital clean. The policy advocated by Mr. Griggs has a tendency to break up the State "organization" of the actual debate. The return of the legislatures to their old standing as deliberative bodies puts a premium on independent and personal individual strength—and these qualities are the death of "organization."

My Pipe.

"When love grows cold, thy fire still warms me.
When friends have fled, thy presence charms me.
If thou art full, though purse be bare,
I smoke and cast away all care."
German Smoking Song.

The Yellowstone trout has been caught in the very act of going over Two Ocean Pass from the Pacific into the Atlantic drainage.

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