

THE FORESTER SCIENTIST.

Has His Busy and Idle Seasons, But Is Philosophic in His Work.

Unlike his brother, the German professor, the forester in Germany is not a man of abstruse ideas, says the Chautauquan, but eminently practical and businesslike in all his ways, as is his preparation in the school and the woods. Often he spends all his life in the same forest district, growing old under the shade of the trees he has himself planted, and becoming familiar with his forest detail from beginning to end. He can tell almost at a glance the number of trees on any particular acre, the species, dimensions, the amount and grade of wood that it will yield, the yield in money, or the probable return of the present crop, the trees of one or another diameter. He watches his forest grow, he knows its needs and its enemies and by timely measures he frequently saves it from insect predation or other damage. As the farmer, he has his busy and comparatively idle seasons, the spring he sows and plants, the summer he weeds, he mends and about of stumps, in winter he harvests the crop; at any time he welcomes an opportunity to steal a few hours of ramble through the woods with his gun on his shoulder. He has his own surveying, he builds his own roads and bridges, and keeps his own books, together with so strict a record that if at any time he drops his work, his successor is able to continue it in accordance with the general plan laid out for several decades ahead.

The Way of the Lightning.
According to Prof. W. S. Frank, the most important things to consider in placing and adding a lightning rod are a good ground connection and a direct path to the ground. This matter of directness of path is so vitally important that in comparison with the insulation of the rod from the building, either by air spaces or glass supports, is of small importance. In fact, Prof. Frank holds that "if the path is direct there is no need of insulation, and the path is roundabout, objective insulation is not practically feasible."—Youth's Companion.

Altitude of Wood Growth.
Fir will grow at its great altitudes 5,700 feet above sea level, flow pine at 4,200 feet, ash at 3,000 feet and oak at 2,500 feet. The vine ceases to grow at about 10,000 feet.



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LEARNED NOT TO MEDDLE.

Workshop Teacher in a New York School Explains His Cure for Troublesome Habit.

"The boy was a slave to the fear of doing things the wrong way," said a workshop teacher in one of the city schools. "He showed that in so many ways that I classed him among the people who in their childhood want mamma to take them to school, the people who hesitate to think for themselves because they know the thinking will be done for them," relates the New York Sun.

"His dependence upon specific directions was a serious handicap to him in the workshop, and his helplessness when any work prevented me from answering his questions prompted me to plan a cure for this defect in his character. I tried to change him into a self-helper, but he preferred my help to learning his own master."

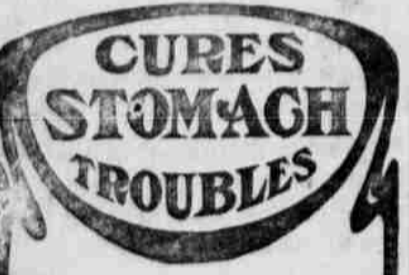
"One day, after he had put my patience to a particularly severe test, I called him to my office and asked him why he was so loath to develop his own judgment."

"Well," said he, "it is this way. When I was much younger than now no one could tell me anything. I was eternally finding out for myself."

"My father owned a stone quarry, and I had often followed him to see the men delimit the blocks of stone. The delimiting was a deep mystery to me."

"One day at noon, while the men were eating lunch, I took it upon myself to solve the mystery. Unseen, I went to one of the holes, pulled out what the men had put in and began to test it with my little hammer."

"When I woke a few days later I found myself in my bed, much bandaged and in charge of a nurse. I now prefer too much caution in experimental work, to extreme curiosity."



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