

Our Women and Children

Conducted by
Lucille Skaggs Edwards

GO OUT THIS SPRING AND INCREASE YOUR SELF-RESPECT

In an editorial in "Every Week" on the above subject, Bruce Barton says in part:

"The spring term in the Greatest School is about to begin.

The catalogs are out: instruction is free: there is no age or wealth restriction.

The teacher is Nature herself: the school is wherever a few square yards of soil can be spaded and a few handfuls of seed hidden away.

And the rewards are better health, increased respect, a fuller measure of independence.

Who among men may be called most independent?

Rockefeller? Carnegie? Far from it. Thousands must labor that they may be fed: but for the service constantly lavished upon them, their lives would not last a single day.

The man who tastes real independence is he who has delved into the earth, and planted seeds, and tended the plants up through infancy into strength, battling with their enemies, until at last he has won, and has found his reward in their fruits.

There is the truly independent man. Life knows no firmer foundation for self-respect than his. Though all the world were to cease its labor, he and his would be fed.

He has made himself master of destiny: he has conquered circumstance: fate can not harm him. He can, if necessary, feed himself.

I ask you this Spring to enter the Greatest School. Know, for once in your life, the thrill that comes to him who has mastered the earth.

Let Nature take firm hold upon your self-respect and build you up into finer, more courageous manhood or womanhood.

"There is life in the ground," says Charles Dudley Warner. "It goes into the seeds: and it also, when it is stirred up, goes into the man who stirs it. The hot sun on his back as he bends to his shovel or hoe, or contemplatively rakes the warm, fragrant loam, is better than much medicine."

There is health for you in the Greatest School, as well as an increased self-respect.

And there is money also—if you are the sort who will not enter any road unless first he sees the dollar signpost beckoning.

Probably never in your life-time will the cost of vegetables be so high as this year. Never again will a little wholesome labor in your back yard be so munificently rewarded.

Health, self-respect, money—yes, and a deeper stirring of the imagination, a fresh impulse to reverence."

THE SOLE EDITION.

Did you ever stop to think that you are distinct from everyone who ever lived, or from anyone who shall ever live? That you are the one copy, the only edition of yourself? The one copy of mankind distinct, different in your characteristics, in your qualities of soul, mind and heart—a one personality. Never was there anyone who looked like you; felt like you; thought like you, or stood for all the things you stand for.

You have your own personal opportunities to do the things that are for

you to do, and if you leave this work undone, no one who ever lives can perform this task for you. You alone must accomplish this work or else it must go forever undone.

No one is ever in anyone else's way. We have each our own chance and opportunities to build up our own positions, our own careers. Nobody is ever the successor of any other person. The child cannot succeed either its father or mother; neither in business, nor in society, nor in any other respect.

With the great possibilities life offers and the consequent responsibilities thus incurred, let your sole edition be as entire, complete and perfect as your best effort can make it.—L. S. E.

THE COMPASSION OF THE SWALLOW

(A Galician Legend)

By Nora Archibald Smith

O happy house and fortunate, however poor it be,
Beneath whose eaves the swallows build and dwell there trustingly!
Those gracious birds, compassionate all other birds above,
Who learned to know the Master's face and sunned them in his love.

That day of dread on Calvary they lingered round the mount,
Each pitying heart aflame for Him whose heart was Pity's fount.
Naught might they comfort, naught avail, the woeful deed was done;
Yet, fleet of wing, they circled there, till, bleeding, set the sun.

Ere darkness fell upon the Cross and on the Crucified,

The swallows spied the crown of thorns that beauteous head beside;

Swift as the light they sped to aid, and till the Sabbath morn

With tender beak they plucked them forth, each sharp and piercing thorn.

Forget not, when the swallows dart across the twilight sky,

A flash of feathers down the dusk, a shadow passing by,

Forget not from whose wounded brow they caught the grievous thorn,
And bless them when they build their homes thy rooftree to adorn.

—Youth's Companion.

THE GET ONE CLUB.

Who will be the next member of The Get One Club? We want our subscribers to "Get One New Subscriber for The Monitor." Who will be the first?

All news must be in before Wednesday noon, in order to appear the following Saturday.

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