

THE HERALD.

FARM-VILLAGES.

God wade the country and man made the town.

Cowper's view of the charm of country life as compared with life in the town is a very natural one.

The cultivated countryman, too, one who has learned to use his eyes and to see what nature has to offer him.

There is another class, and a very large one, whose opinion concerning the gold-like character of the country, it is our special purpose to consider here.

Just as the citizens feel the attractions of the country, which are so novel to his tastes, so the countryman finds a charm in the novelty of the town.

As a rule, at least in America, where the facilities for pleasant country living are far less than in England, the countryman who goes to town is more likely to wish himself back on the farm than is the town-bred farmer to long for the comforts and conveniences of his former condition.

There is a certain amount of truth on both sides of every question, and the one which we are now considering is not to be answered by a decision in favor of the heart of a great city, or of the entire solitude of an out-living farm.

Devising no modern Sybaris, where all possible good of life may follow from the unaided operation of a perfect social and industrial organization, I propose to confine myself to the simple question of the best practical development of village life for farmers.

tractiveness in agricultural life: this latter leading to the improvement of our farming by a solution of that long mooted problem:—"How to keep the boys on the farm."

Nearly everywhere on the continent of Europe those who are engaged in the cultivation of the land live in villages. An observation of the modes of life and industry of these villages has led me to consider whether some similar system might not tend to the improvement of the conditions of our own farmers, and to the amelioration of some hardships to which their families are subjected.

In Europe, as here, the methods of living have grown from natural causes. There, it was a necessary condition of agricultural industry that those who tilled the soil should be protected by the military power of their lord or chief, and their houses were clustered under the shadow of his castle wall.

The country of living, which grew from necessity, having proved its fitness by long trial, is still maintained; but there seems to have been no general tendency toward the formation of such little communities here. Save in a few exceptional cases, as in the old villages of the Connecticut Valley, where protection against Indians, or safety from inundation, compelled the original settlers to gather into communities,—the pioneer built his cabin in his new clearing, and as his circumstances improved, changed his cabin for a house, and his small house for a larger one, and finally established his comfortable home in connection with his fertile fields.

To this end are added the following examples, both of which are of course purely imaginary. The first is a tract of land, where, by the Government's system of division, the boundaries are rectangular, and where the political subdivisions are uniform in measure.

The Government division is into townships, six miles square. It is proposed to divide each township into nine settlements, giving to each a square of 120 acres.

Each of these settlements should have its whole population concentrated in a village at its center. A suitable method of division would be that indicated in figure 1, where a public road crosses the middle of the tract north and south, and east and west. The outside of the tract, for the width of half a mile all around, is laid off in farms of 80 acres and 100 acres. These are bounded on the inner sides by a road.

Inside of this road again is series of these a tier of still smaller places (10 acres), separated from the central village itself by a narrow road. The village itself occupies forty acres.

What is attempted is chiefly to show how four square miles of land may be divided so that its occupants may be conveniently gathered into a village, and it may fairly be assumed that, except in the more remote grazing and grain-growing regions, the population (including laborers) would generally be about one household for each sixty acres. In the more thickly settled regions, this limit is exceeded, and as population increases, this condition will extend. In any case, the principle advanced remains the same whether there be thirty households or sixty.

wheel-wright, and the builder would occupy these outlying places, with an 'annex' of farming, to supplement their trades.

The village lots proper all are large enough for a kitchen-garden, barn-yard, etc., and all have means of access from the rear, so that their street fronts may be kept for ornamental purposes.

It would be a good rule that no house should stand nearer to the street line than thirty feet, and that no fence should be made nearer to the street than sixty feet. This would result in much to the largeness of appearance of the whole village; would decorate every street with the ornamental fronts of the houses, and with their plants and shrubbery, and would, at the same time, shut off from the ornamental parts everything belonging to the working department of the village life.

The larger farmers, having the most cattle, would occupy the largest lots, which would readily accommodate their larger needs. The more ambitious of them would probably buy land for night pasture or for cultivation, from a ten-acre neighborhood opposite their rear line.

The village population would be somewhat as follows: 2 clergymen, 1 doctor, 1 teacher, 1 baker, 1 shoe-maker, 1 tailor, 2 store-keepers, 1 carpenter, 1 wheelwright, 1 blacksmith, 1 dressmaker, 1 inn-keeper, 41 farmers,—total, 58 heads of families. Probably, including hired laborers and servants, the average would be six persons to each household. This would make the population of the village about 350. No part of the village, however, is more than 100 yards from the center of its human element; and no part of it would be more modified in different cases by the element of human nature. Still, the sketch of the industrial division of the community would probably be approximated in any purely agricultural village of this size,—with such changes in the details as would come from individual enterprise or indolence.

Taking the whole area at 2,500 acres, and the population at 350 persons, we have an area of about 7 1/2 acres to furnish the support and home of each member of the community,—an am' ample for the purpose.

Figure 3 suggests the arrangement of the central open space of the village,—all of which should be in well-kept grass, except where roads and paths are needed. Paths should be retained to the least amount that will furnish the necessary accompaniment, and they should be kept in neat condition. If no provision can be made for this, it will be better to leave the people to beat their own tracks across the grass, as they do in the country. These beaten foot-paths are never unsightly (in small villages), for the reason that they are never large, and that they are only of such width as their regular use will keep clean,—the grass maintains its effort to spread, and grow always close up to the necessary foot-way.

Even in Hyde Park (London), where the people have made short cuts through the broad lawns, the paths thus marked out, and receiving no attention, are not only unobjectionable, but are a charming feature of that beautiful pleasure-ground.

The foot-path indicated for the village green will be demanded by the more ambitious village improvers; but were I making an ideal village for moderate and useful people, the road surrounding the green should inclose only a level close-cropped lawn, neatly trimmed at its edges, surrounded by a simple tree- and shrub-bordered walk, and there with the foot-paths that honest use had marked out and made, and by the suggestive diamond-shaped track and bases of the village green club. It should be perfect in grade, in outline, in regularity of planting, and in mowing; but it should be a perfect lawn, plus the wear of constant use and frequent pleasure.

For the next 60 days we sell Fall and Winter goods at greatly reduced prices, to make room for a large invoice of Spring Goods.

SCHNASSE & GRAMBERG'S

We have opened our New Stock of

Dry & Fancy DRESS GOODS, BLANKETS, COMFORTS, GROCERIES,

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NOTIONS

The most Complete Stock of EVER BROUGHT TO PLATTSMOUTH.

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Our Stock was bought under extremely favorable circumstances and we are able to sell at the very bottom prices, and will give the best bargains to be had in Cass County.

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Don't Forget the Place, ONE DOOR EAST OF THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK, Plattsmouth, Neb.

BOOT AND SHOE

Advertisement for HOME MANUFACTORY! featuring a large illustration of a boot and the text 'Removed to Vivian's Old Stand. MANUFACTORY.'

MANUFACTORY.

F. S. White will fill this space with Dry Goods and Notions on his return from the East for which market he will start next week. Look out for Bargains.

Forest Tar, Forest Tar Solution, Forest Tar Troches, Forest Tar Salve, Forest Tar Soap, Forest Tar Inhalers.

GOODS SOLD WITHOUT ARBITRATION! 7 to 8 or 8 to 7, just as you like, and The cash is always counted out for there is no Intimidation at the

'Philadelphia Store!'

As it is generally our custom to give you our prices for goods, so that you can calculate at home what you can buy for your money, we will give you prices below which will be lower than ever and 10 per cent. cheaper than you can anywhere in this City or State.

LOOK AT OUR PRICE LIST. Summer Shawls, 75c up. Handkerchiefs, 3 for 25c. Ladies Silk Handkercher, 55c each. Ladies Hosiery, 3 pair for 25c. Men's Socks 5c up. Cuffs and Collars, 25c a set, and up. Bed Spreads, one dollar up. Corsets, good, 50c up.

As it is impossible to give the prices of our enormous Dress Goods Department

we will only state that it is the largest and finest stock ever brought to this city and consisting of the following new styles: Poplins, Double Silk Pongees Japanese Silks, Matelasse-Zephyr Suitings, Lawns, Grenadines, and Percales, at prices ranging from 12 1/2 cts. up; also a fine line of HAMBURG EMBROIDERIES from 5 cents up.

LINEN EMBROIDERIES to match our LINEN DRESS GOODS. A full assortment of BUNDLE PRINTS and everything belonging to

A FIRST CLASS Staple & Fancy Dry Goods Establishment.

We also keep a full line of Ready-made Men and Boys' Clothing,

from \$4.50 up for whole suits. Jeans Pants from \$1.00 up. An unexcelled line GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS, fine White Shirts \$1 up; Calico Shirts, 40 cts. up; Cheviot Shirts, 50 cts. up; Overalls, 60 cts. up; Paper Collars 10c. MEN AND BOYS' HATS AND CAPS.

Hats, 75c up; Caps, 10c up; Boots, \$2 per pair up; Shoes, \$1 per pair up; TRUNKS and VALISES, a good assortment. We do not keep a little of everything, from an Axe Handle to a barrel of salt, but what we do carry we have in full and complete stock. JEWELRY, PLATED WARE, CLOCKS, TABLE and POCKET CUTLERY, etc.

Our Millinery Department.

We would inform the ladies of Plattsmouth and vicinity that we are in receipt of the finest Pattern Heads and Bonnets Direct from Paris.

We have an Accomplished, Fashionable Lady Trimmer who understands the business thoroughly and can suit all your tastes; also a full line of SILK TRIMMINGS, Ribbons, Flowers and Ornaments. Sash Ribbons from 50c up; Ladies' Trimmings, \$1 and up. We have a large and complete stock Canvas, Perforated Card Board, Zephyrs, Zephyr Needles, Motives, and SILK Floss of all shades.

CARPETS.

An immense stock of Carpets, Oil Cloth, Rugs and Mats. Hemp Carpets 25c per yard; Ingrain Carpets, 50c per yard. Standard Carpet Chain, 5 lb bundles only \$1.25.

We have also, for the accommodation of our friends, added to our already extensive assortment a large stock of Oil Window Shades in all colors. Lace Window Curtains 25 cts per yard.

We present our annual price list satisfied that our customers will see that we can do better for them than ever before and thankfull for past patronage we most respectfully ask a continuance of the same.

Plattsmouth, Nebraska, March 23d, 1877. SOLOMON & NATHAN.

Advertisement for RUFFNER & BLACK, Farming Implements, featuring illustrations of various agricultural machinery like plows, harrows, and mowers.

John Deere & Co.'s Silky and Gang Plows, DAVENPORT CO.'S PLOWS, Weir Cultivators, Check Rows, And everything that a Farmer may need. Repairs on hand for all Machinery sold by us.

HENRY BOECK, DEALER IN Furniture, SAFES, CHAIRS, Lounges, Tables, Bedsteads, ETC., ETC., ETC., Of All Descriptions.

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