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STATIONERS  
63 FEDERAL ST.  
BOSTON





## Thompson's Island

# Beacon

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Vol. 5. No. 1.

PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS.

May, 1901.

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### School Life

The following is an extract from a letter written by one of the boys. It shows what are to him the conspicuous features of the School and the life here,

There are about one hundred and fifty-seven acres in this Island and it is very nearly one mile long and averages three-eighths of a mile wide. The highest elevation is about seventy-two feet. In winter waves sometimes break in at the lowest places so we have to build dikes to keep them out. One noon we went down on the beach road to watch the waves. They break over the wharf and up against the road. We have a steamer and five row boats, two sail boats and a freight barge. We have a boat crew consisting of twenty-five boys at the head of which is a captain and two lieutenants.

The chief buildings are the Main Building where we go to school, eat, sleep and most of the boys work. Also there is a Farm House, Gardner Hall, two barns, a corn barn and poultry house. The house-boys include those who work in the dining room, kitchen, laundry, sewing room, dormitory, office, shop and printing office. We assist in the washing, making beds and getting dinner ready. Each boy before he leaves has his turn to work in the different places.

There are six classes in our school. The first is the highest. The boys who go to school in the morning, work in the afternoon, and reverse. We have new school-rooms now and they are much better than the old ones. On Sundays, Sunday School is held in the morning, service in the afternoon, and Chapel in the evening. We also have Chapel on Wednesday nights.

We have the school during the year divided into four terms. After the last term we have a vacation of four weeks and the other three terms a vacation of one week. The boys that are above the fourth class have the chance to go to Sloyd, different classes of which are held morning and afternoon except on Saturday. There are thirty-two models in the Sloyd course.

At one end of our playground you can see our Cottage Row, which with ourselves makes Cottage Row Government. This is, as much as can be made so, in the form of a regular city government. Every boy who has been at the School a year is a citizen and is under the government. These cottages were built by us and each one has twelve shares and we are allowed to buy and sell as we please.

In respect to conduct we are divided into four grades. If a boy does wrong or anything out of the way he is checked for it. That is, the instructor under whose charge he is, hands in a memorandum to the superintendent, marking him as disrespectful, careless, disobedient, and so forth. A boy who does not get checked at all is in the first grade and has more privileges than the other boys. From one to fifteen marks will put one in the second grade, fifteen to thirty-five in the third grade and more than that in the fourth grade. Fortunately few boys are in the fourth grade. A boy can drop from the first to the third or fourth grade in a week, but he has to work his way up one grade in a single week, each time not having any marks against him. At the end of every six months there are ten cash prizes, five book prizes, and five honorable mentions awarded in order to the boys who received the least number of marks. CHARLES W. JORGENSEN.

### Raising Calves

About a month ago, two little red and white heifers were born and I was detailed to take care of them. At first for about a week, we had them get their milk from their mothers. Then we took one cow away so we could have her milk, and put her calf in with the other calf and her mother. We let them stay this way until later, when two feeders were bought for them. The feeders are made of heavy tin. They are about thirteen inches high, ten inches wide and six inches through, with a large rubber nipple at the bottom. They are not square, but are half round and the flat side goes against the wall. They are hung on heavy wires and are fixed so they will slide up and down on the the wires when the calves butt. They hold about six quarts or twelve pounds. I fed the calves twice a day on new milk until they began to grow stronger, then I gave them warm skimmed milk at noon, heated to a hundred degrees Fahrenheit, and then later I fed them three times a day. Now they eat bran and hay and chew their cuds. They each weigh over a hundred pounds now. We are in hopes they will grow up to be good cows. We keep them in the barn, one in a pen and the other in a corner near the pen. When I take them out for exercise they run and kick like everything.

DON C. CLARK.

### The Torpedo Boats

The torpedo boats DeLong and Blakeley were built by George Lawley & Son Corporation and as their works are in South Boston some of the boys have had an opportunity to see them. They are built of three-sixteenths inches nickel steel; under this steel there is a thin layer of fire-proof wood. The boats are very long and narrow and, when a person is looking at them, their lines show him that they were built for speed. The sterns of these boats extend out over the propeller quite a ways and are flat underneath so that when the engines are run at full speed they will not drag the stern under. The boats seem to draw but very little water for boats of their size. The engines of these boats are of the quadruple expansion type. The cylinders are all piston valved, and the

valves are operated by the link-bar motion. The steam chests are inclined so that they will fit the shape of the boat. Each boat is twin screw and has one engine for each screw. The engines are supplied with steam from three water-tube boilers. Each boiler is tested to 500 pounds and is allowed half of that pressure.

CHARLES W. RUSSELL.

### Curious Animals

One day Mr. Bradley brought into school some little animals that came from a long ways off. Their names are the horned toad, scorpion, tarantula, trap-door spider and centipede. The horned toad has a very hard shell and around its neck are horns but they are not very sharp. It does not hop like the toads we see. It runs and is pretty tame and can go a long time without eating. The scorpion is a very funny thing. It looks just like a lobster only a good deal smaller. The tarantula is like a very large spider and it is very poisonous. It has a kind of furry cover. The centipede is very long and slender and has a great many legs. The trap-door spider is a dark color. It makes itself a house down in the ground and puts a trap-door on it. That is why it is called a trap-door spider.

GEORGE A. C. MCKENZIE.

### Stone Cutting

To complete part of our repairs, we had to have some steps made to lead down from outside into the new cellar, so a stone cutter came from the city. He first measured the granite and marked out where he was going to cut. He had some tools which he called points which he used to take it down nearly level. He would have one sharpened every few minutes, as they would get dull very quickly. He had chisels which he used to make sharp edges, and drills for drilling holes to break off a piece. He also had a tool that looked like two blades of an axe put together with a hole in the centre for a handle; this is to smooth it with. The granite is very hard.

JOHN W. ROBBLEE.

### Logs for the Dike

A short time ago we went around the south end and north end beaches with the two-horse wagon to get the logs that came ashore. We use two long planks about three inches thick and six inches wide as skids, so as to haul the logs up onto the wagon. We have three chains to fasten the logs on the wagon with. If the logs are too long, we have to let out the wagon quite a distance so as to get them on. Most of the logs are of spruce from thirty-five to fifty feet long. We take three logs at a time usually; they are taken to the east dike.

CHARLES A. BLATCHFORD.

### A Trip to Hear Sousa's Band

Some of the larger boys were taken to Symphony Hall by Mr. Vaughan to hear Sousa's Band. We reached the hall about ten minutes before the concert began. The Band musicians were all in their seats ready to play. As soon as Sousa came in himself, the audience all began clapping. He then bowed and started up the band. The music was beautiful. He used his own pieces as encores. There were also three solos; one fluglehorn, a soprano, and a violin, all of which were beautifully played. We all enjoyed the time very much.

GEORGE E. HART.

### Playing Chase

We have lately begun to play chase and I enjoy it very much. The way we play chase is this. We give a boy something to hit us with. But first he must promise not to hit a fellow so it will hurt him in any way. He then takes the thing he is to hit us with, and we run away from him leaving him by himself. Then we hide in the handiest places we can find and he goes hunting for us. If he can't find us, we pop right in plain sight and then turn and run and he runs after us. If the boy who is chasing us is able to touch any one that is playing, with what he has to hit us with, that one has to chase the others. Sometimes a fellow says he wants to chase all the time so we let him because it is more fun.

CLARENCE TAYLOR.

### Blacksmithing

I was given the work of blacksmithing

March fifth. My first job was to make three whiffle-trees. Since then I've been making brackets, hooks, wagon axles, repairing wheels, etc. We had a stone cutter here for awhile making stone steps and I had his tools to temper and keep in repair. I keep track of all our iron and steel, keep all our scraps of lead melted into pigs, and inspect the junk so that nothing good for forging will go to waste. I use a Buffalo forge which will give about two thousand degrees of heat. We have a movable tool-table which is very handy. We have a barrel of brine one side of the forge for tempering stone-cutting tools, a tank of water at the foot of the forge for ordinary tempering and cooling purposes, plenty of oil handy for tempering jackknife blades, etc. I like all the work but I like making tools best. We use Norwegian and Swedish iron and steel. When the horses wear out their shoes, we have a man come from the city who shoes them. He does that part of the work, while I watch how he does it.

FREDERICK F. BURCHSTED.

### My First Experience in Pruning

A few weeks ago Mr. Vaughan called me down to the orchard to help him prune. He gave me a saw and a pair of clippers which are the tools all the farmers and other people use when pruning. At first he told me the dead limbs to take off; after I got those off, he told me to take off the suckers. These suckers are small slender twigs growing from the trunk which suck the sap from the tree. I then thinned out the branches so as to give the sun and air a chance to do their work. I kept on taking harder trees each morning till one morning he made me take a tree and do it myself without his help. I asked him some questions as to what branches to take out, but the only answer he would give me was, "That's for you to decide." Where two branches cross each other, we leave the best and cut off the one that is growing the wrong way. We prune the trees to keep them in good condition and make them grow in better shape and bear better fruit. We won't have so many apples this year, but they will be larger and better.

ALFRED LANAGAN.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

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FARM SCHOOL

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For many years we have been known as the Farm School and nearly all of our boys have in turn worked upon the farm and received instruction in a simple way in the sowing of seed, care of crops, harvesting, etc; this in the field, and in the class room talks have been given upon various farm subjects; and while our sloyd,

carpentry, blacksmithing, printing and other lines have been advancing, the farm has not kept pace nor been given the consideration and dignity which undoubtedly it deserves.

For two years and more we have been considering a course in agriculture which would be practical and adapted to the grammar school grade. We have been in correspondence with the U. S. Department of Agriculture and with various agricultural schools, colleges and experiment stations, and with individuals, and have visited some of the leading schools teaching this subject; and now, after deliberate consideration, we have secured the services of a trained agriculturist as instructor and foreman, formulated a course of study, and while in many details it is yet to be perfected, it may be said we have launched the scheme and the work is under way.

The subject, agriculture, is an old one and interesting because through it we are brought closer to nature, important in that the whole world is dependent upon it. Introducing it into schools of our grade is new; there is no course of agriculture of the grammar school grade in operation in this country. In making it the basis of our instruction and correlating all other studies with it, we hope to develop that early, natural love for all living things which most children have; add to this a knowledge of the same and stimulate a permanent interest in agriculture and intensify a love for the calling; teach in a practical way that which is sometimes lost sight of in the business world, but nevertheless true, the dependence of all branches of trade and industry upon agriculture or the farm and its products. If we can lead more of our pupils to a happy rural life as producers we shall be pleased, and the scheme may be a suggestion for stemming the tide from the farm and turning it back to the farm.



On April 22 we received a subscription card with money enclosed and no address. Can the sender identify this?

**Notes**

March 30. Sowed cabbage, lettuce, radish and tomato seed.

April 1. Spring term of school began. Dana Currier left the School to work for Blodgett Bros, 301 Congress St., Boston.

Former assistant superintendent Mr. John C. Anthony and family visited here.

Pruning.

April 2. Graduate John F. Peterson passed the night at the School.

Received from Mr. Charles S. Pierce "Famous Men and Women" in four volumes for the library.

Ernest Curley left the School to take the position vacated by William Pedgrift with Dr. Albert N. Blodgett, 51 Massachusetts Avenue.

April 3. Blacksmith shod all the horses.

Walter L. Carpenter left the School to live with Mr. W. S. Parker of Reading.

April 6. Put radish, cabbage, lettuce, turnip, cauliflower, egg plant and celery seed in hot bed.

April 7. Sunday. Mr. Macnair finished his labors as Sunday Assistant.

Easter concert at 3 P. M.

April 8. Printers finished the School report for 1900.

April 10. Graduate James H. Fisher visited the School.

Received for the library from Manager Mr. Eben Bacon, "The End of an Era" by John S. Wise.

April 12. Steamer took a load of vegetables to market.

April 13. Mr. Bennett succeeded Mr. Macnair as Sunday Assistant.

April 14. Sunday. Instructors and a few boys attended church in town.

April 15. Mr. Vaughan began to give lectures in agriculture to the whole school.

April 16. A very heavy storm.

April 17. First plowing.

April 18. Sowed peas.

April 19. First dandelion blossom found. Scrap books received from Miss C. I.

Crosby.

April 22. Sowed barley.

Manager Mr. Francis Shaw visited the School.

April 24. Planted onion sets.

April 26. Sowed onion seeds.

April 27. Arbor day. Exercises at 10.30 at the new grove at the north end.

Steamer towed a car load of hay from the city in the barge.

April 29. Sowed beet seed.

Planted early potatoes.

April 30. Graduate Frank G. Burgess here for a few days.

**Farm School Bank**

Cash on hand Mar. 1st, 1901,	\$327.61
Deposited during the month:	4.50
	<u>\$332.11</u>
Withdrawn during the month,	26.10
Balance April 1st, 1901,	<u>\$306.01</u>

**Improvements in the Shop**

During last winter there were many changes and improvements made in the shop. As there has been an engine put in the shop, it is better to have a grind-stone going by power than it is by foot as the old one did, so there has been a new one put in which makes sixty revolutions a minute and is much larger than the other. The old one has been put down cellar. At the back windows of the shop there have been curtains put up to keep the sun off the sloyd benches when the classes are at work. There has also been a new clock put in the shop in place of the smaller one that used to be in there. On the doors of the lockers there have been brass knobs and spring locks added so it will not take so long to open them. In the cellar the paint shop has been set farther back in one corner beside the lumber-rack to give more room. A bench, which used to be on one side of the paint shop and was used by the blacksmith, is set against the side of the cellar by the blacksmith shop. LEUIS E. MEANS.

### **Easter Flowers**

Our Easter shone bright with many different flowers. At our dining table beside each boy's place there was a fine large, carnation pink, either pink or white. In the chapel for our concert, we had geraniums on the window sills and also a bank of geraniums in the front of the room. Arranged on stands were callas, Easter lilies, tulips, daffodils, pinks, and a number of other different flowers and each boy had his pink pinned on his coat. After Easter we had some of the callas, an Easter lily plant with its blooms and some tulips given us for our school room. Many different places around were given flowers. Our teacher gave us a drawing lesson on the calla which is fine for a model. In botany, the third class studied about the different parts of the flowers. They lasted several days.

CLARENCE W. BARR.

### **Grafting**

A little while ago we had a lesson on grafting. Two ways of grafting are the cleft graft and the root graft. A cleft graft is made by taking a stock, about one inch thick, and splitting it down a little and putting little pieces two or three inches long in the split place slanting them a little to one side so that the inner bark of the stock and that of the little piece of branch, which is called a scion, will match and combine so that the place will heal. The branch is called the scion and the root the stock. They usually cut these scions early in the winter and keep them in damp sand. The root graft is made by taking a root and making a slanting cut, then making a cut downwards a little. Then take a branch and do the same and fix these two pieces together and wrap a string soaked in hot wax around them.

FRANK S. MILEY.

### **Fixing Gardens**

We have been fixing our gardens and getting them ready for the seeds. We dig up the soil, take all the large stones out and smooth the top off, then we stone the garden. Stoning them is placing the stones neatly around the border to help keep the dirt from the path and to make them look well. We also use

dressing to fertilize the soil. Some plants can live through the winter and grow the next year, such as pansies, hollyhock, rose bushes, monkshood, pinks and all of the hardy plants. Some of the boys keep their plants wherever they can get permission to, in the house for the winter, such as carnation-pinks, geraniums and plants that can not stand the cold weather. Boys' friends sometimes bring them plants on Visiting Days. When the gardens are ready for planting, Mr. Bradley gives enough seeds of each kind we want, so as to have the gardens look well during the summer. On Visiting Days in the blooming season the friends that come to see the boys are given flowers. The different flowers especially are asters, zinnias, balsams, phlox, pansies, mignonette and candy-tuft. All the rest are mostly seen when the boys' friends bring the seeds or plants to them. The different shapes of the gardens are square, triangle, oblong with the sides curving with the path, and one star and one circle. None of the gardens are straight on all sides, except the square and star shape, but they are so nearly the shapes, that they are called so. There are about seventy gardens in all. Sometimes one boy owns alone; and other boys own by two's. I have one of the smallest gardens and I own with my brother.

WILLARD H. ROWELL.

### **Claying the Area**

About a month ago, which was the twenty-second of April, we started claying the area, the object being to gradually slant the clay from the house to the center of the area so that when it rains the water will not go down into the cellar. The soil was taken out of the area and put in a pile near the shop. The clay was brought in and water put on to make it soft, then it was patted down with shovel and tamper. When one side was almost finished, it rained and the work was stopped for a day or two. When it stopped raining the work was completed by finishing the other side and putting on gravel. The boys usually got their shoes so clogged up with clay and mud that it was hard work to clean them.

HAROLD S. TAYLOR.

### **The New Hymn Books**

About a month ago we received some new Gospel hymn books. The title of them is "Nos. 1 to 6." Before, the choir used to have "Nos. 1 to 4," and the rest of the School had copies of them without the music. Now each boy has the same kind and he has his name and number on it so that he is responsible for the book. When they first came they had a cheap brown paper cover, but now they have a black paper cover which looks very well with the red edges of the leaves. Each has the boy's name and number on the cover, and the number on the first page and on the back of the book. We have also got some new anthem books and the old ones have been rebound. They have the same kind of a cover. The choir boys are responsible for these, as they have the user's name on them.

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

### **The Trap-door Spider**

One day Miss Winslow showed the boys in the second school a trap-door spider and its home. It lives in California and the warm climates. It makes its home in the ground about a foot deep, and lines it with a kind of silk it spins from its body. Then it makes a door on top. It is fixed with a kind of hinge so that when the spider goes out, the door will close after him. If anyone should step on it, he would make another one. Its bite is very poisonous. Its size is about as large as a full-grown black spider.

ALBERT W. HINCKLEY.

### **Cutting Trees**

Some of the trees on our front lawn are arranged in circular rows. There are horse-chestnut, acacia, linden, elm, maple, birch and many others. They were too thick for their good growth and also that of the grass on the lawn. There was hardly any view, whereas, when the trees were small it was possible to see the planted fields of the Island, the water, the Blue Hills beyond, and many other things. The linden has a soft wood and is not as shapely as the other trees, so we took them out when it

was possible. Three or four of us farm boys took axes, a hatchet, a saw and a coil of rope. One of us climbed each tree and tied a rope pretty near the top, so we could pull it the way we wanted to. Mr. Mason and Mr. McLeod cut down the trees. After the trees fell, the branches were cut off and the large ones were put in one pile and the small ones in another; then we piled up the chips. We cut some trees on the front lawn, on the east side bank, in the grove, north end, Spruce Ridge, and in the orchard. I helped Mr. Vaughan cut down one. Some times I had to take the hatchet and cut the branches off the smallest trees which was not very hard to do. There were about thirty or thirty-five cut in all. There were some cut because they were dead. They were all used in building the east dike to make it stronger. The brush was used for the same purpose.

EDWIN W. GOODNOUGH.

### **Cleaning Plants**

There are twelve boxes of plants in the boys' dining-room. Six of the boxes are brought over to the sink and the plants taken out and put into the sink where they are sprinkled, the boxes and saucers are then put into the other sink and washed and set on the table to dry while the outside of the pots are scrubbed with a scrub brush. After this they are arranged and put back in the boxes and set back in the windows. The same process is repeated with the others.

CHARLES A. TAYLOR.

### **Rebuilding the Paint-Shop**

The paint-shop, which was in the shop cellar, has been moved from its old place in the middle of the cellar, back to where the coal bin used to be. I tore down the back of the shop and made three shelves and put them up. I also made a cupboard to keep paint in that has been opened. After I finished the shelves and cupboard, I took all the paint from the old paint-shop and put it on them. I then took down the sheathing from the old paint-shop and sheathed up the space I was to have for the new one. Before I sheathed up the front, I took in the table and oil and the rest of the things.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

## THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

### Alumni

HAROLD E. BRENTON, '90, of whom note was made in last month's BEACON has just received the appointment of Trustee of the Musical Commission of the city of Boston, taking the place of the late J. Thomas Baldwin of the famous Baldwin's Cadet Band. He is to be congratulated, for the position is one much desired among musicians and has been held by some distinguished men. The place is one solely of honor.

The following was received from William G. Cummings, secretary of the Alumni Association.

"With this issue of the BEACON begins the fifth volume. During the four years that it has been published, the following objects at least have been kept in mind.

First, it is a source of encouragement and an item in the education of the pupils at the School which is highly improving in its influence on the boys.

Secondly, it is the connecting link between the School and the graduates. Not only is it the organ of the Alumni Association, but each alumnus finds a personal and special interest in this little sheet.

Thirdly, it is a means of information to friends of the School, and to that part of the general public with which it comes in contact it brings a realization of the fact that the School is progressing, and the paper shows what the work at the School is.

Looking at the BEACON from the standpoint of a graduate, it is most satisfactory; and one wonders how we ever managed to get along without it prior to five years ago. The opinions of a few of the other graduates will doubtless be of interest.

"I can only compare the BEACON to letters from a life long friend; they are anxiously looked for, every word read with interest, while through the mind slowly passes, as in a panorama, scenes of boyhood days; over all is the thought of what a great friend the School has been to us all. If the BEACON didn't arrive at our house the sun might just as well stay behind a cloud."

HAROLD E. BRENTON.

In a letter addressed to the Editor of the Beacon, President French of the Farm School Alumni Association says:

"Kindly allow me to extend congratulations on this the fifth anniversary of your paper. It is a voice from home. It cheers us, it recalls to mind the happy days of youth and keeps us in touch with our old Island Home so dear to us all. May coming years only serve to crown it with greater success."

HERBERT WARD FRENCH.

"I have every BEACON that has been issued and prize them highly. They come every month as a ray of sunshine upon the daily routine of life and it is one of the greatest pleasures I enjoy to sit down and read the BEACON and to let my mind wander over pleasant recollections of the past. It is my most earnest wish that continued success attend the BEACON."

JOHN F. PETERSON.

"It gives me great pleasure to add my mite of testimony in appreciation of the BEACON. I would not be without it as it brings me in close touch with the old School. May its light grow more and more powerful with each issue."

ALDEN B. HEFLER.

An ex-President of the Alumni Association says;—

"If 'twill interest you to know what I think of the BEACON let me say that I look for its arrival at my office each month with equal interest and pleasure as do the mariners who watch for the lighted beacons on the islands beyond you. So here are all good wishes for its continued success."

JOHN P. ACKERS.

"I think the BEACON is a very bright paper and I look for its coming every month with a great deal of pleasure. It not only keeps me posted about what is going on at the School but tells me of the fellows who call at different times in whom I take a deep interest."

WALTER HERMANN.

"I look forward with great pleasure to receiving each number of the BEACON. Every graduate should be a regular and permanent subscriber."

WILLIAM L. SNOW.

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### Ladd vs McKay & Hill

On April 26 the case of Ladd against McKay and Hill was tried in the Cottage Row Court. Albert Ladd charged Robert McKay and Barney Hill with defacing a box of his which contained carving tools, and sued for damages. The court opened with the reading of the warrant by the clerk. There was considerable difficulty in getting jurors, as each side challenged about every boy that was proposed, and any that were not objected to by one side would be challenged by the other on general principles. Finally the full jury of nine was impaneled and sworn in. After this the witnesses took the oath to tell the truth. The defendant pleaded not guilty.

Ladd did not have a lawyer but took charge of his own case. He took the witness stand and told his story of the case. He testified that the box was in good condition before the defendants had it in their possession and said that McKay had admitted to him and to other boys that he had cut the box. The defendant's lawyers, Frederick Hill and Alfred Malm, pointed out that Ladd had not been sworn and so his testimony was of no value. So the Judge, George Hart, had him take the oath, and then he repeated what he had said before. In the cross-examination, he held to his story. James Edson, as witness for the plaintiff, next took the stand. He told how the defendants happened to get the box. He said that he noticed the box in his cottage and thought it belonged to William Flynn, who had a box like it. So he took it to return it to him. He went into Hill's cottage and laid it on the table. In talking, he forgot about it and went away. He said the box was in good condition when he left it in

the cottage. He also said that a number of boys had heard the defendants admit doing the damage.

The box was on exhibition and it was attempted to show that the cuts did not injure the box very much and so the damage was slight. In his plea Ladd claimed that it was proved that the defendants had damaged the box, and so he should recover. The lawyers for the defence said that it was not actually proved that their clients were guilty because no one had testified to seeing them do the cutting. They also made a point that the damage to Ladd was nothing. The Judge charged the jury and sent them out. After a long wait of three quarters of an hour they returned and the foreman announced they could not agree. The Judge then said the case would have to be tried again.

The second trial was on the evening of May 9, George Hart presiding. The court was called to order at 7.30 P. M. An entirely new jury was selected and sworn in. For this trial Ladd engaged George Thomas as his lawyer. For the defendants Alfred Malm was sole lawyer, Fred Hill becoming a witness for the same side. On the witness stand Ladd and Edson repeated the stories they had told in the first trial. William Flynn told of the resemblance of Ladd's and his boxes and testified that Ladd did not care about the damage.

Fred Hill next took the stand. He said that once at dinner table he was looking at the box and had asked Ladd if he cared if he carved it, and he said he did not. Hill did cut it and so it was not certain whether the marking was done by him or the defendants. The lawyers closed the case with their pleas which were

## THOMPSON'S ISLAND BEACON

long and took up every point. The jury then went out. In about an hour they returned with the verdict that the defendants were guilty of the offence. The judge directed them to pay ten cents to Ladd as damages and five cents to Cottage Row as costs. The court adjourned at 9.45 P. M. DANIEL W. LAUGHTON.

### Repainting the Chapel

After the new schoolrooms were finished, we had no more use for the blackboards that were in the chapel which had been used as a schoolroom; so they were torn down, and wainscoting was put up even with that in other parts of the room. When that was done, the walls were painted a light buff. A little while ago, Mr. Bradley had a painter come from the city to grain the new sheathing. He mixed up a dark yellow color and we went over the new boards with that and let it dry. Then we put a thin coat of dark brown paint over that. When he started to grain, he used the comb on the boards except the ones he was to make the "growth grain" on. When finished with the combing, he put a cloth over his thumb and wiped off the paint so as to represent the grain of natural wood. After it was all dry, we gave all the woodwork in the room a coat of varnish.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

### The Wharf

People on approaching the wharf, whether in a row-boat or the steamer, would probably see the telephone-house and notice how wide the wharf seemed. To the left they would see the breakwater. As they neared the wharf they would notice on the other side the dolphin. The end of the wharf is T shaped. There are two floats, one on each side. The one on the north side is the steamer's float where the steamer's berth is. At night she is strung out with cables. There is a gang-plank leading down to the float. We keep a row-boat on the float for the steamer's tender. At night this is tied down also. Up on the wharf are the derrick and three row-boats. They are covered with canvas covers. The derrick is used for hoisting the boats and other heavy things. The wharf is four hundred feet long. At the upper end

there is quite a piece of gravel which is raked when the weather is good. Beside the wharf is the Chilton's boat house where the MARY CHILTON is kept. She is our largest row-boat and is a ten-oared double-banked boat. To the south of the wharf is the knockabout, WINSLOW. In the spring she is launched, used during the summer and in the fall hauled up again. About one hundred and fifty feet from the water are the boat house and coal shed. In the coal shed is kept the steamer's coal. In the boat house are kept all the oars, oar-locks, rudders, anchors, etc. All the rope is kept here and all the extra oars picked up on the beach. There is also our staunch scow, the JOHN ALDEN. She lays off the south side.

FREDERICK L. WALKER.

### The New Grindstone

Lately there has been put in the shop a new grindstone run by power from the gasoline engine. It is much stronger and better than the old grindstone. The frame and end pieces are of iron. There is a can of water at the top, which is fixed so it can be turned when the grindstone is in use. The whole thing is fastened to the floor with lag screws. The wheels are so arranged that it will not go as fast as the main shaft which would be liable to heat the steel and draw its temper. The old grindstone has been removed to the shop cellar to be used for rough work.

FRANK C. SIMPSON.

### Playing Tag on the Rings

We have some new ropes for the travelling rings in the gymnasium. The old ones were worn, and so unsafe. We have started some new games on them, one of them being tag. There is one boy on each ring and the boy that has the middle ring is "it." A boy gets up on the end of the platform and before he knows it he is shoved off. He then throws the ring so that some one else will get it and he won't be "it," but if he is tagged whether he is on the ring or not, he is "it." One has to keep his wits about him. Some fellows just think of throwing the ring and go too near the one that is "it;" he then gets tagged. RALPH HOLMES.

### Memorial Service

On May 26, we had our Memorial Service at the cemetery at the south end of the Island. This is the second time that we have had this kind of a service and it was very interesting. It originated and was carried through by the boys. The boys who got it up were in two different clubs. The day before they went through the programme so as to have it down all right for the next day. At half past nine on Memorial Sunday we started in three divisions, the two clubs, and the rest of the boys in another division, for the cemetery. The programme was short but appropriate for the occasion. There were two songs by the School, an address by Alfred Malm, two recitations by Horace P. Thrasher and Albert W. Hinckley, decorating of graves; then a prayer by Mr. Bennett. Taps were then sounded by the bugler followed by the roll and the service was ended.

C. ALFRED H. MALM.

### Setting Glass

Most of the glass is broken down in the barns and in our gymnasium, but once in awhile there is some broken around through the main building. We get most of our glass already cut out the right size for some of the sashes. After the old glass, which was broken, is taken out, it leaves the old putty on the sashes. This is so hard sometimes that it takes a good sharp chisel to get it off without cutting or splitting the sash. After the putty is taken off, some new is made the color of the inside of the sash. It is white putty colored with burnt sienna. Then comes the pane of glass. It is set tight on the sash and glazer-points are put in so the glass will not fall out. The putty comes next; it comes in large fifty pound packages, and is white. The putty is colored black for the outside of the sash. The putty leaves an oil stain on the glass where it has been sitting. To get that off, we put some whiting on the spots and then take a brush and brush it off. This makes the glass look as clean as if it had been washed.

JOSEPH E. K. ROBBLEE.

### The Pictures of my Schoolroom

We have several pictures in our new

schoolroom. One is Classification of the Clouds. It contains twelve small views about five inches long and four in width. By this beautiful picture we can learn the different kinds of clouds. They are all seen from some shore or boat. All of these pictures are colored naturally. There are also some of Audubon's Birds. One is the Columbian Humming Bird. One is in its nest and the others are flying around the flowers. The other half of the plate is the Mango Humming Bird. These seem to be eating. Another picture is the Towhe Bunting. They look as if they were about to fly. The male has his mouth open so as to let a spider go in. The female is singing her sweetest song. Two others are the Forked Tail Fly Catcher and the Tyrant Fly Catcher. The latter is standing on a cotton-wood twig. There is a copy of the famous picture by Rosa Bonheur, "Ploughing." This gives a good idea of a farmer's life in the spring, about this time. There are two old-fashioned plows and twelve oxen and four men. Two men are keeping the oxen moving. Near by is a house and a large body of trees, which looks to me as if it might be the farmer's home. I think the oxen are doing good work by the looks of the furrows.

RALPH O. ANDERSON.

### Fishing

May 11, Mr. Wardwell let as many boys as wanted to go fishing. As this was the first time this year, about all of us got the "fishing craze." At noon the boys that wanted to and could afford it went up and bought fish-lines at the Trading Co., and at one o'clock we went down to the wharf to fish. Some had better luck than others, but all together we had pretty good luck. There were about forty-five fellows that went, and there were seventy-five eatable fish caught. I caught eleven. The fish that were caught were flounders, and scullies or sculpins. A few fish were almost caught, but dropped off before they were landed. There were also a number of crabs caught. We go fishing whenever there is a chance. For bait we use clams, seaworms, and periwinkle. Seaworms are the best. CHARLES W. JORGENSEN.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the  
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL

DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

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Visitors who have come to the Farm School have always taken interest in Cottage Row. Few go away without seeing and inspecting the cottages; the duties of the officers and the workings of the government are explained, oftentimes, by the boy-officers themselves. The judicial branch of the government is less understood and often over-

looked. As a means of education and training it is most valuable. At the outset it should be held in mind that Cottage Row court is not a joke to the boys; the trials are not mock trials; they are not primarily to furnish practice in argument as in debates; but they are serious; the trials are held to try cases. No court that has the authority to and does impose fines and sustains its authority is a mere play affair. Before Cottage Row court are brought cases of damage, trespass, breach of peace, etc; each side has one or more attorneys, witnesses are examined, and the arguments are long and earnest. The judge is one of the older boys. Section ten of the Charter recently adopted states his duties. "The judicial power shall be vested in a judge who shall be elected by the citizens of Cottage Row and who shall be a share-holder in said Cottage Row. He shall hold office during good behavior or until he ceases to be a citizen. He shall preside at all trials, issue warrants for arrests, impose sentences and administer all oaths not otherwise provided for. The judge shall take his oath of office before the mayor. The judge shall compile rules for the government of trials, etc."

All trials are by jury. The jury is of nine and is impaneled for each case, from all the non-office holding citizens. The city clerk acts as clerk of the court. It is his duty to keep a docket of all trials with the names of the parties and to record the verdicts or punishments.

Cottage Row court is the safety valve of the government. All the grievances and differences have here a chance to adjust themselves. Most valuable to the boys is the habit of reasoning—of not depending on one point of view or looking at one side—but of finding out all there is to know on any matter; and then make the decision according to the evidence.



## Notes

May 1. Steamer PILGRIM towed a load of dressing from Walworth's.

Entertainment in the evening given by the members of Company M, Phillips Chapel, in which graduate Howard B. Ellis took part, and of which he was the manager.

May 2. Semi-annual election of officers of Company X which resulted as follows,—Seniors: president, William Austin; vice-president, George Thomas; secretary, George E. Hart; treasurer, Charles F. Spear; color bearer, Charles Hill; captain, George E. Hicks. Juniors: president, Ralph Holmes; vice-president, Willard H. Rowell; secretary, George A. C. McKenzie; treasurer, Frank S. Miley; color bearer, William Frueh.

May 3. Sowed peas and oats.

An engine lathe with necessary shafting, etc. came. This is the gift of Dr. Charles G. Weld.

May 4. New granite curbing placed at the front entrance.

May 7. First Visiting Day. One hundred and sixty-three present among whom were Vice President Mr. Eben Bacon, Secretary Mr. Tucker Daland, Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams, and Managers Mr. Charles T. Gallagher, and Mr. Francis Shaw, also graduates William Davis Warren, E. Carl Crowell, Walter L. Carpenter, Orra H. Becker, Albert E. Pratt, and Edward Steinbrick.

May 8. Sowed more peas and oats.

Assigned the boys' gardens.

Steamer towed a load of dressing from Walworth's.

Hoisted the gaff on the flagstaff and raised the topmast.

May 9. Finished planting potatoes.

PILGRIM taken to Lawley's for her semi-annual overhauling.

Cottage Row court in session on the case of Albert Ladd vs. Robert McKay & Barney Hill, a suit to recover for damage to a box.

May 10. WINSLOW launched.

Three Indian Runner ducks and Grey Call duck's eggs came from Mr. Charles M. Bryant.

May 11. Blacksmith shod the horses all around.

Graduate Clarence W. Loud called.

May 14. First asparagus.

May 15. Saw the first strawberry blossom.

May 16. Sprayed the orchard.

Meeting of Company X.

PILGRIM in commission again.

Cows out to pasture for the first time.

Put gas oil on ditches and marshes to kill mosquitoes.

May 17. Planted fodder corn.

Emery wheel came, also the gift of Dr. Charles G. Weld.

Planted sunflower and sowed spinach seed.

May 21. Planted sweet corn and string beans.

Six boys with Miss Wright attended a medal contest in South Boston.

May 22. Steamer towed a load of dressing from Walworth's, also granite from Deer Island for the south basement steps.

May 23. Mr. Charles H. Currier here to take some views.

Harold Burnes left the School.

Graduates Harold E. Brenton and LeRoy S. Kenfield visited the School.

Cottage Row court in session on the case of Carl Wittig vs. William Frueh for breaking a jack-in-the-box.

Mr. Gustaf Larsson, principal of the Sloyd Training School, and his class visited the School.

Planted mangels.

May 24. Planted field corn.

Changed exhaust on the gasoline engine.

May 26. Sunday. Memorial services at the cemetery at 10 A. M. conducted by the boys.

"Fannie" the greyhound, on account of advancing years and disease, was humanely killed and buried near the cemetery.

Rev. Mr. Huxtable conducted afternoon service.

May 28. The lathe and new machinery in the basement of Gardner Hall was set in motion for the first time.

May 29. Five framed pictures representing some of the best known poems by Longfellow were received from Manager Mr. Charles T. Gallagher.

May 30. Holiday.

Forty-five boys attended Memorial Services in Tremont Temple.

Cottage Row court in session on case of George Hicks vs. Albert Ladd. This was a suit for the value of a book which Hicks claimed was wrongfully converted by Ladd.

May 31. Planted sweet corn and beans.

### **Farm School Bank**

Cash on hand May 1st, 1901,	\$306.01
Deposited during the month,	29.68
	\$335.69
Withdrawn during the month,	16.36
Balance, June 1st, 1901,	\$319.33

### **Cage for the Wild Geese**

A cage was made by the shop boys for the wild geese. It was made of two by three joist with cross pieces and braces. The cage when finished was about fifteen feet three inches long, six feet high and ten feet wide. After the frame work was done I painted it, and it was covered with wire netting stapled down. When the cage was finished, it was taken down to the orchard by four boys. After it was placed in position, Mr. Wardwell fastened the four corners so it would stand, while the boys went after the geese. When they caught the geese they put them in the cage, and put in a box for shelter.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

### **Salsify**

In spring we plant the salsify seed. It comes up and it looks like coarse grass blades. It is well taken care of through the summer and is not taken in with the other vegetables but is left out all winter. The first of the next spring we dig it up and get it ready for market, which, this season, was done April eleventh. We dug it up, put it in the team and carried it up to the barn where it was sorted over and some gotten ready. We took off the leaves two inches from the top and took off the roots;

then we washed the vegetables, tied them up into bunches and sent them to market.

ALBERT H. LADD.

### **Our Schoolroom**

Our schoolroom was formerly used as the upper shed or play room. It is thirty-five feet three inches long, seventeen feet eleven inches wide, and eleven feet one fourth of an inch high to the moulding. The floor is made of hard pine and waxed. There is a door in the front of the room leading to the second schoolroom over which is a large clock; also in front is a rack on which are kept all the books that there is not room enough for in the desks; a small table on which is kept paper for use, also note books, the dictionary, etc.; a large desk which is occupied by the teacher, and four blackboards. There are three windows on each side of the room which have curtains. Overhead in the middle are two dormer windows. About half way between these are two doors which lead to where we keep our theatre staging and scenery for different entertainments. There are four rows of desks with eight desks in a row. The last two desks in each row have adjustable tops. These are given to the boys who have the best conduct. On a stand we have a silk American flag which was given us quite a while ago when we were in the other room. There are two doors in the back of the room, one opening into the stairway and the other into the chapel. Through the middle of the room are three hanging lamps which light the room when it is used in the evening. On one side on the wall is a frame where different kinds of wood are exhibited. The walls are cream colored and the ceiling is plastered white. On the side opposite the wood is kept our scholarship and conduct lists on a hanging rack. In the rear of the room on another hanging rack are all the neat papers we make and the decent drawings. For heating the room, we have two radiators. This schoolroom is quite an improvement on the last one. We are going to have some pictures for our schoolroom which will add to its beauty.

DANIEL W. MURRAY.

### Stamp Collections

A good many of the boys have stamp collections which most of them value very much. When a boy has duplicates he makes bargains with other boys for ones that he has not got. I have a pretty fair collection. They number four hundred and fourteen. George Burke and Samuel Waycott have the best collection in the School. Their collection numbers about twelve hundred. There is another boy whose name is Joe Robblee who is not very far behind. HARRY H. TODD.

### The New Brooms

Mr. Bradley got a few brooms for the washroom and the assembly room. When the broom is pushed carefully it will not make any dust. It is a push broom and we have to oil it every little while so as to keep the dust from flying up and choking us. It takes the dust very clean and easily. The hair is stiff and snappy. I put the oil on the little hairs between the wooden parts and the end of the broom. FRANK E. WELCH.

### A Bird's Nest

One day I saw two birds building their nest up in a corner of the house. The mother stayed there until the father bird went for some straw for the nest. Then she took it and put it in a place where it would do some good. Then the father stayed in the nest and she went for some more to put on the nest. When she came back she had some string for the nest. CHESTER W. HAMLIN.

### A New Coal Bin

In one corner of the new cellar which recently has been dug out, there has been a coal bin built. It was dug four feet below the rest of the cellar so as to make it even with the boiler-room floor. A wall of stone was built up even with the cellar floor. There are two piers built to help support the dining room which is above. The wall is built just so as to touch their outer side, making them on the inside. On the side opposite to the boiler-room, planks have been nailed extending from the wall even with the boiler-room door; in front there is to be a pair of stairs leading to the door. The

planking in front is made to come out, so the bin can be filled easily. The coal is shovelled out through a hole at the bottom of the stairs. The stairs are not facing the door, but the bin on the side where the door is. GEORGE E. HART.

### Raising Poultry

In the month of April we began to set a quantity of eggs for our year's supply of poultry. Some hens go off and make their own nests and hatch their chickens without our knowing it and come back to the poultry house with a brood of chickens following. We set some in barrels in out of the way places near by, and the others set in the poultry house in the regular nests to lay in. The chickens are put in a separate yard with their mothers and part of the soil is turned up so they can scratch and get worms. They are fed with crumbs, bran and corn meal mixed in water and worms are dug for them. All the turkeys are setting and so the gobbler walks around solemn and sad. Some of the turkeys are up near the main building; one was even ready to set in a pocket near a window and two others are setting near a small hedge on the front lawn. Two are in the storage barn and so we hope for a large number. Two ducks are setting in the orchard and, if anyone goes near enough, they stretch their necks, snap and hiss, then prepare to defend their eggs. Hens do not appear to set well on duck's eggs. At the last account there were sixty-six chickens from two weeks to one month old, and thirteen were hatched this last week. This account was taken on June 1, 1901. Watch is being kept for the lice which are the worst enemies of young chickens, especially the large lice which live on the head and neck. The nests are changed often and insect powder is used, so we hope to kill the lice before they kill the chickens. CLARENCE W. BARR.

“To plough and sow, to reap and mow,  
My father bred me early, O;  
For one, he said, to labour bred,  
Was a match for Fortune fairly, O.”

*Burns.*

**Alumni**

JAMES H. FISHER, '89, recently visited the School and passed the night. He was on to consult medical specialists about his foot which he injured some time ago and which has been giving him much trouble. Fortunately, hopes were given him of speedy recovery. He lives in Petersham, Mass., and is employed on the farm of Miss Sarah H. Blanchard, having been there since leaving the School. He has charge of and does all the farm work. This is responsible work and requires plenty of energy, for there are 180 acres of land, and there are 14 head of cattle on the place and two horses. But James is tall and sturdy and at any rate looks equal to it. He does much outside work with his camera to his profit as well as pleasure.

GEORGE J. HARVEY, '93, at first worked on the farm of his uncle in Nova Scotia. Lately he has been employed by the B. F. Sturtevant Co. at their factory in Jamaica Plain until the fire two months ago, which partially destroyed it. He has now obtained a place at the Walter M. Lowney Co., candy manufacturers.

JOHN F. PETERSON, '95, sent Mr. Bradley an attractive pamphlet programme of the Prize Drill of the English High School Battalion of Lynn, which was held on May third. It contained a good picture of him in uniform. He is major and commander of the battalion and had charge of all arrangements, and personally saw to their carrying out. He secured, from the Adjutant General, the use of the state armory. Mr. Shaw and Ernest Curley went down to see the prize drill. The affair was a great success and was much to "Peter's" credit.

FRANK BURGESS, '96, recently spent a few days of his vacation here. He works in the greenhouses of Mr. Frank Jones at Newington, N. H. His extra time is well filled with outside interests, in which he combines self-improvement and social pleasure. He is studying stenography. He sings tenor in the choir of the Newington Congregational Church, and has been a member from the beginning of the Literary club.

WILLIAM J. PEDGRIFT, '98, has left Dr. Blodgett of Massachusetts Avenue, and has gone to Marion, Mass., to work on the farm of Mr. C. S. Converse, under the direction of his brother-in-law, who is foreman.

**Farming Tools**

All the broken farm tools and those that need painting are sent up to the shop and looked over carefully. If it is a wagon, the loose nuts are tightened, lost washers replaced, new irons made and put on where old ones have worn out or broken, such as king bolts, common bolts, and staples. After everything is tight, the wagon is cleaned thoroughly and painted blue. Some tools are changed over, making them stronger and more easily handled. Some new tools have been made and a lot of new tools have been bought, such as wheel-barrows, hoes, rakes, etc.

FREDERICK F. BURCHSTED.

**Cleaning Lawns**

As the winter is gone and the snow is off the ground, the boys go to work cleaning the lawns. This is done by the boys first going over the lawns and picking up the limbs and twigs and other large things which are too large to rake up. Then they are raked with lawn rakes and the leaves and other things which are raked up are put in piles and carted off. The leaves are generally put down in the pig-pen for bedding for the pigs, the limbs and twigs are put in the dump and burned up. After this is done the lawns are mowed, and are rolled with the large iron roller.

JOHN TIERNEY.

**Our New Horse**

One morning one of the farmers went over to Chestnut Hill to get a horse which Mr. Dupee gave the School. He got it and rode around to Squantum and at low tide a boat carried a long rope across from the south end bar. The rope was tied on the halter and the horse was made to swim the channel. At first it did not want to go but after a while it came. It was ridden up to the barn and put in its stall. They use it for the tip-cart. Its name is, "Barbara," and it is a mare.

ALBERT W. HINCKLEY.

## Thompson's Island

# Beacon

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August, 1901.

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### Fourth of July

The one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the birth of our nation was celebrated in the usual manner at the Farm School, by races, out-door sports and fireworks.

The day started with the raising of the flag and the salute of twenty-one guns. Reveille sounded at five o'clock. It was a fair day as all hands had hoped for. The horrors were provided for by the Farm School Naval Militia, Co. G. At breakfast flags and programs were distributed after which followed the usual cheers. The first of the races were the jumps, standing and running broad. All watched with interest for the winners.

Putting the shot came next with the record of thirty-two feet four and one half inches. The three-legged race was exciting for the boys as it is hard work to keep your feet in this contest. The small boys entered the sack race and made it very amusing. The crab race was among the hardest and all but three dropped out.

The potato race was new to most of the boys and it gave them a chance to show their activity. The backward race came next on the program and was equally interesting.

While dinner was being made ready the boys were setting off their supply of fireworks given out in the morning. Directly after dinner came the salute to the flag.

The first of the aquatic sports was the miniature yacht race. It was pretty hard to make the boats go in the right direction. The winning boat passed the line far ahead of the rest.

Then came the swimming races for boys over and under fourteen, which were watched with interest. A leader was then chosen for

"follow the leader," or fancy swimming. A number of hard and risky tricks were performed. The race proved worthy of the occasion.

The tight rope did not prove as easy as some had expected. It took some time before anyone could walk out on the rope far enough to reach any of the flags which were fastened to it, and thus secure a prize. This ended the aquatic sports.

The barrel race was the first on the Beach Road and made great sport for the spectators. As there were so many in the wheelbarrow race the smaller boys were given a little start. The race was a good one. The hundred yard dash over thirteen and the fifty yard dash under thirteen came next. Good time was made in both. The hurdle race was next. The hurdles were well cleared by the racers. The half-mile was given to the small boys this year. The prizes in the mile run were given to the only three who finished. After supper the boys again displayed their fireworks.

A band concert was given to entertain us while preparations were being made for our evening display of fireworks. The flag was lowered to the sound of three bugles instead of but one.

The display of fireworks surpassed that of former years, and was much appreciated by us all. An interesting sight from a distance is the battle with fire-balls. These are made of cotton balls soaked in turpentine. After they are lighted they are thrown from one line to the other high in the air, and look like meteors, as they leave a long trail of fire behind them. They must be handled quickly or they will burn.

A number of balloons were sent up during the day, some with an American flag attached

to them.

It was a very pleasant day for us all. No one of the boys was injured in any way as we are always very careful to avoid accidents. Taps were sounded at 10 o'clock and all were glad to be in bed, for we were very tired although very happy. GEORGE E. HART.

The program in detail, with the names of the winners in order, was as follows:

- 4.12 A. M. FLAG RAISING AND SALUTE  
Reveille
- 6.30 BREAKFAST
- 7.30 Parade of Horribles
- 8.00 Distribution of Supplies
- 9.30 SPORTS AND RACES ON THE CAMPUS
- Standing Broad Jump, Hinckley H., Hart, Holmes W.
- Running Broad Jump, Hart, Austin, Hinckley H.
- Putting Shot, Austin, Hart, Lanagan.
- Three Legged Race, Spear & Holmes W., Murray & Tierney T., Simpson & Anderson.
- Sack Race, Leighton G., Taylor A., Tierney J.
- Crab Race, Dean, Leighton G., Spear.
- Potato Race, Hill C., Tierney T., Jorgensen C.
- Backward Race, Malm, Murray, Thayer.

#### DAY FIREWORKS

- 11.30 DINNER
- 12.00 SALUTE
- 2.00 P. M. AQUATIC SPORTS BY THE LANDING
- Miniature Yacht Race, Hill C. & Simpson, Means & Renquist, Conklin.
- Swimming Race under 14, Probert, Pratt J., Dean.
- Swimming Race over 14, Hill C., Lanagan, Thomas.
- Following the Leader, Hart, Dean, Hinckley H.
- Tight Rope over the Water, Austin, Ladd.
- 4.00 RACES ON THE BEACH ROAD
- Barrel Race, Spear, Clark, Taylor A.
- Wheelbarrow Race, Graves L., Hill F., Taylor E.
- 100 Yard Dash over 13, Austin, Davis, Hill F.

50 Yard Dash under 13, Clifford, Rowell W., McKenzie.

45 Yard Hurdle Race, Austin, Ladd, Davis.

Half Mile Race, Flynn, Leighton G., Tierney J.

Mile Race, Conklin, Hinckley H., Hill F.

#### 5.30 SUPPER

#### ON THE CAMPUS

- 6.30 Band Concert
- 7.24 SALUTE AND FLAG LOWERING
- 8.00 Fire Works
- 9.00 Battle with Fire Balls
- 10.00 TAPS.

### A Trip to Gloucester

On July 10, about half the boys with Mr. Bradley and six instructors, went on a trip from Boston to Gloucester, on the steamboat Cape Ann. We started a little past ten o'clock A. M. and arrived there after twelve o'clock. On the way it was foggy and we could not see much outside of the harbor, but on our return we could see the coastline all the way. On the way over we all had a drink of tonic, and ate dinner before we reached the wharf. We saw Gloucester quite a little before we landed. When we arrived we were given the privilege of walking around and seeing the places of interest. We went to City Hall where we saw the first American flag that was hoisted at Porto Rico in the Spanish-American War. We went up in the cupola where we saw a huge bell that strikes every hour. We also saw a gun on the grounds, which was captured by the Americans from a Spanish war vessel during the Spanish-American War. We went to the fire-engine houses of Gloucester and the man who was in charge kindly showed us what the fire-horses could do. He struck a gong in front of the hose-carriage and the horses, who were ready to come out, as soon as the doors were opened trotted out to their places and were harnessed immediately. We were then shown the sleeping apartments. There were four beds, one in each corner. When the men awake there is a trap which opens when a foot is pressed upon a catch and they slide down a pole to the floor below. We went to see a large schooner that was

being built and it was interesting to see the men bore holes and drive in plugs to make the timbers tight. We then went to see the fish packing houses which were very interesting. We first saw where the fish were being skinned and cut, ready to be put into the press. Some fish is put into an iron box and a heavy lever is pulled back and presses the fish into different sizes. We also saw where the fish were being dried, and packed in boxes. We then went to see the Police Station and when we got there we were shown around and what interested most of us were the articles which had been taken from prisoners. There were jack-knives, butcher-knives, sand-bags, chloroform bottles and almost anything you could imagine a thief or burglar might have. We then started for the boat and started for home about half-past two P. M. On the way back a man who was on the boat bought each boy a stick of candy, and Mr. Bradley gave each boy a banana. We met the steamboat Gloucester and saluted with three whistles and were saluted in return. We passed a great many boats of different kinds and the swell of our boat made the schooners and sail-boats rock a great deal. We got home just in time for supper and all were glad of such an excursion, and all thanked Mr. Bradley. The rest of the boys went the following Friday and enjoyed the trip in the same way we did.

WILLARD H. ROWELL.

### **Machinery of the Steamer Cape Ann**

During the vacation the boys made a trip to Gloucester on the steamer Cape Ann. The officers allowed us to go almost anywhere on the boat and were very willing to explain things to us. The engine of this boat is a large compound, built by Neafie & Levy. The high pressure cylinder is fitted with a piston valve and the low pressure cylinder with a slide valve. The high pressure cylinder has relief safety valves. The low pressure steam chest has a four inch safety valve on it which blows off into the engine room in case of over pressure to the chest. The other safety valves blow off into the exhaust from the engine. The valve stems have a special metal on them for

bearing. All the shaft-bearings have cold water running over them while the engine is in motion. The engine is reversed by steam and has a separate cylinder for that purpose. The valves of this cylinder are controlled by a lever. The piston rod is connected to the links in such a way that during either stroke the links are shifted from "Go ahead" motion to "Astern." When the lever is moved it moves the valve in the cylinder and admits the steam to one side of the cylinder. This causes the piston to move and the piston as before explained moves the links. The throttle valve is connected to a lever also. Both the throttle lever and the reversing lever are placed side by side on the engine frame at a convenient height for a man to handle them. The steam passes through a separator and the water from it is separated and trapped off before the water reaches the engine. The exhaust steam from the engine is condensed by a surface condenser and the feed water heated and pumped into the boilers. The boat is equipped with a centrifugal circulating pump driven by a special engine. The air pump is a vertical one also driven by a special engine. The boiler feed pump is a duplex and the steam is admitted to it by means of a float placed in the hot-well and connected to a governor valve by a lever. As the water in the hot-well rises the float rises and opens the governor valve and starts the pump. Bags filled with excelsior are used as filtering material in the hot-well. A pump is also used for sanitary purposes. A donkey pump runs the ship's ash ejector and is used for other purposes. Two large Hancock Inspirators are placed in the engine room for filling the boilers. A Sturtevant engine and fan supply the boilers with forced draft, an electric light engine and dynamo supply the ship with light. The steering engine is placed in the engine room and is operated by cables. Steam is supplied to all the machinery by three horizontal return tubular boilers and a small donkey boiler. The feed water for these boilers is heated in the hot-well by having the exhaust steam from the pumps run into the hot-well.

CHARLES W. RUSSELL.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL

DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 5. No. 4. August, 1901.

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According to the last census the population of the cities and large towns in the United States is rapidly increasing. The percentage over the census of 1890 shows how strongly the tide is setting from the farm to the city. The question of stemming this tide and setting it back toward the rural districts is occupying the

minds of many thoughtful people, and many plans, more or less practical, are under discussion.

It is understood in this, as in all movements where social tendencies are to be checked or directed, that the only hopeful and permanent work must be done with the young. It is here that the country school must justify its existence by taking a different position and by wielding a different influence in the rural community from what it has in the past. It has raised high the general standard of intelligence and it has accomplished much in the uplift of the race as a whole, but in so doing it has broadened the horizon of the country boy without any commensurate improvement in his immediate surroundings to keep him contented with his present life. It is here that it has failed in its ultimate mission. The country school is more and more adopting the ideals of the city instead of adapting them to rural conditions. It is training our boys and girls for failure in the city rather than for success on the farm.

It is not necessary to force every boy to lead a farmer's life, but the country would be more prosperous, happier and better if every boy had some elementary but definite knowledge of the processes of Nature; if he appreciated the dignity and beauty of a life spent in close contact with the soil, and if he realized the importance of that calling and the superior opportunities it presents for final and permanent success.

Beyond this the country school, through hitherto untried channels, can so direct the current of its influence that the community will demand and will obtain those conditions which make city life attractive, such as good roads, rural mail delivery, easy transit and a flourishing



money market. These mean companionship instead of loneliness, comfort and beauty of surroundings instead of slovenly farms and wretched farmhouses.

The course in agriculture at the Farm School gives a definite technical and practical knowledge of the subject to every boy in the School. In the case of boys who go to the city, in offices, machine shops, or other pursuits, we believe that this course not only will broaden their outlook upon life but will be of actual value in whatever occupation they may follow. On the other hand, those who go to farms should be well prepared to take up the work with understanding, and to advance rapidly because of this training.

So long as rural conditions continue as they are, a majority of our boys undoubtedly will continue to remain in or about the city, as they have in the past, but we can fairly say that a large percentage of our boys who have taken up agriculture as a life work have met with assured success and are contented in their calling.

### Notes

July 1. Rev. W. J. Batt of Concord Junction, and former Sunday Assistant, Mr. L. F. Reed with friends visited the School.

July 2. Visiting Day. 178 present, among whom were Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams, Manager Mr. I. Tucker Burr, Jr., and graduates Thomas U. Follansbee, Arthur D. Fearing, Edward Palmer, Woodman C. Hill and Walter Lanagan.

In the afternoon a severe storm, accompanied by a high wind did considerable damage about the Island. Part of the roof of the storage barn was torn off, the fence along Highland Road blown down, and many fruit and shade trees destroyed or badly damaged.

Charles A. Edwards left the School having enlisted as musician in the regular army.

July 4. Independence Day.

Usual program of races, sports, music and fireworks.

July 5. William Austin left the School to work for the Riverside Press of Cambridge.

July 8. Barge load of lumber from Stetson's for barn and other repairs.

July 10. Half the boys and six instructors went to Gloucester by boat by courtesy of Mr. E. S. Merchant of the Boston and Gloucester Steamboat Co. Everything possible was done for our pleasure, and our party had the freedom of the boat. All the boys were allowed to visit the engine room. They will long remember the kindness of Mr. Merchant and the officers of the boat.

Alfred H. Malm left the School to work in the office of Manager Mr. Alfred Bowditch.

July 12. 2nd half of boys, with the band and several instructors, made a trip to Gloucester.

July 13. First string beans from the garden.

July 15. Steamer PILGRIM given a coat of paint on the outside.

July 18. President Richard M. Saltonstall furnished two cars in which all the boys took a trolley ride to Arlington Heights and through the Subway.

July 22. Frederick W. Thompson left the School to live with his mother in East Boston.

July 23. Five new books for the library received from Miss Julia Bacon.

Set of new maps received for the school-rooms.

July 24. Graduate Henry Chickering called.

July 26. Mr. Baldwin, principal of the State Normal School at Hyannis spent the day at the School.

July 27. Graduate Carl Steinbrick called.

Mrs. Oliver Ames, Sr., with the Oliver Ames High School Band of North Easton and its leader Harold E. Brenton and LeRoy S. Kenfield, graduates, spent the day at the School. There was a concert and games of base ball, basket ball, etc.

July 29. Vice-President Mr. Eben Bacon, Miss N. Bacon and Dr. Charles Harrington and Mrs. Harrington from Jamaica Plain visited the School.

July 30. Annual Government inspection of Steamer PILGRIM.

### Cottage Row Election

July 2 the Cottage Row citizens had their regular quarterly election of officers which resulted as follows: —

Mayor, Howard L. Hinckley; aldermen, Daniel W. Loughton, Frederic F. Burchsted, Charles F. Spear, Clarence W. Barr, Charles A. Blatchford; assessor, Frank C. Simpson; street commissioner, Lester H. Witt; chief of police, Edward B. Taylor. The mayor appointed as clerk, Charles W. Jorgensen; curator, Edwin W. Goodnough; librarian, Carl L. Wittig; treasurer, Henry Bradley; janitor, George A. C. McKenzie. The chief of police appointed as his patrolmen, John J. Conklin, Charles Hill, Edward L. Davis and Andrew W. Dean.

### Farm School Bank

Cash on hand July 1st., 1901.	\$350.67
Deposited during the month.	117.95
	<hr/>
	\$468.62
Withdrawn during the month.	56.64
Balance August 1st., 1901.	<hr/>
	\$411.98

### Conduct Prizes

The semi-annual award of the Shaw Prizes, the Temple Consolation Prizes and Honorable Mention for the first half of the year is given below. The award of these prizes is based upon our grade system of marking. The visiting friends had the pleasure of witnessing the presentation which took place on the lawn directly after their arrival on July 2nd.

#### Shaw Prizes

- 1, Horace P. Thrasher
- 2, Frederick Hill
- 3, William Austin
- 4, Clarence DeMar
- 5, Frederic Burchsted
- 6, George F. Burke
- 7, Andrew W. Dean
- 8, John F. Nelson
- 9, George Thomas
- 10, Frank S. Miley

#### Temple Consolation Prizes

- 11, Albert W. Hinckley
- 12, Daniel W. Loughton

- 13, Ralph P. Ingalls
- 14, Barney Hill
- 15, Edward L. Davis

#### Honorable Mention

- 16, C. Alfred H. Malm
- 17, Willard H. Rowell
- 18, William C. Frueh
- 19, Howard Hinckley
- 20, C. James Pratt

### Our First Swim

The time has come when our swims begin again. All of us were wondering when the first swim would be. The second Visiting Day, June fifth, was a good day and a hot one so it was thought we would enjoy a swim. After the boys got through with their dinner the whistle was blown and we lined up and marched down to the south side of the wharf. Two of the boat crew fellows are always sent out in the boat so as to be in readiness if any accident should occur. When the rules of swimming were told us, about how far we were allowed to go out, what the different whistles meant, the boat was ready and the command "clothes off" was given and obeyed. Some of the fellows went down to the shore while others went to the wharf. Some fellows asked how the water was. The answers were, "The best water this year," "It's wet," "It's fine," "It's pretty good." The whistle blew and you could see the fellows running in, while on shore were seen some of the timid ones who didn't want to get their feet wet. Most of us can swim. The winter storms have washed the sand over the pebbles and mud so it makes it better. A new dolphin has been put up and a life line extending from it to the wharf. This is also a boundary line. A skiff is down there and as many boys as can get in it go out and dive off. It sinks and is then hauled up to the raft, the water is tipped out and we are off again. Most of us take a swim when we can get it.

WARREN HOLMES.

"By the mastery of a tool a good deal is meant. The forms of tools are not caprice or accident. They have been evolved from the brains of the most skilful users, and no one can use an important tool correctly without teaching and practice, any more than he can a sword, or a rifle, or a tennis racket." Woodward.

### **New Farming Implements**

This spring we have a new weeder and a cornplanter that are drawn by a horse and also a small seeder and weeder that are pushed along by some person. The weeder that is drawn by a horse is shaped something like a wedge and can be regulated to the width of a row of corn, potatoes, or any kind of vegetables. It has teeth slanting back and they are near together so they will pull the weeds out. The weeder that is pushed along has two knives, as they are called, and a set of cultivating teeth that pull the weeds out after the knives loosen them. The cornplanter, besides sowing the seed distributes fertilizer also.

CHARLES N. ROWELL.

### **Going out Sailing**

July 31, Mr. Bradley took fourteen boys out for a sail in the *TREVORE*. He took with him most of the boys that could not swim and the boys that could swim went with Fred Hill in the *WINSLOW*. Fred is my brother and I went with him. We sailed around between the wharf and the pumping-station and the other boat went over to the city. We were told to be back in time for our swim. When we saw the *TREVORE* coming back we started for the wharf where we arrived at about three o'clock and then we had a swim. We thanked Mr. Bradley for our pleasant sail then we had the rest of the day to ourselves to play cricket, practice on our instruments and do what we pleased.

BARNEY HILL, JR.

### **The New Puppy**

A few months ago Henry Bradley got a St. Bernard puppy three months old. It is a very cunning one. It does lots of tricks, as barking for a bone and when you ask for his paw he will lift it up. He has lots of hair on his body and has long legs. When he came he ran round in the hall near the office as though that was his real home. When he wants anything he barks. Around his eyes and down around his ears it is black. His ears are soft and long. He comes into the dining room sometimes and sleeps about three or four minutes and then goes off and looks around. When he first came

here he wouldn't come down stairs so Henry had to take a bone and coax him. But after he was here a few days Henry didn't need a bone or anything because he would go down without being coaxed. He has half a cake of dog-bread a day and lots of bones, besides other food.

LESLIE R. JONES.

### **Trip to the Old State House**

In the afternoon of June twenty-seventh ten boys went to the Old State House, and had a ride on the Elevated Railroad. We started from the Island at two o'clock and reached Central Wharf at about quarter of three. From the wharf we went up State Street to the State House. Among the things we saw was an old cannon which was used in the Revolutionary War. There was a silk suit which was worn by John Hancock, an old pair of scales which were used for weighing money and a suit which was worn by an officer in the Civil War. There was a glass case in which were some small houses made out of wood from celebrated houses and trees. In one room were models of two ships that had their masts and rigging up and on the walls of the room were the models of the hulls of different merchant ships. There were about a hundred different models on the walls. In the Council Chamber there was a notice telling what important events had occurred in the room and pointing out the place from which former governors read notices and proclamations. In the upper room was an old printing press and the pictures of all the Mayors of Boston. When we were through looking around we went in and registered our names in the book in the Council Chamber. From the State House we went to the Subway and got on the Elevated Railroad train. From the Subway we went to the Sullivan Square Station and back to the Subway again. There were three cars on our train and they went like a railroad train, which they somewhat resemble, only they have no engine. From the Subway we went down to the wharf. We reached the Island about six o'clock and had a swim and then went to supper.

EDWARD L. DAVIS.

### Alumni

CHARLES BRANTING, '37, writes from Ballou, Wash., and gives a brief account of his long and eventful life. He tells of his experiences in camps in the West and rafting on the Mississippi River, and of his adventures with wild animals and reptiles throughout the country. He has been in Washington for six years and tells in a most interesting way of the fruit and vegetable products of the Pacific coast, and of the different conditions under which agriculture is carried on. The seasons vary much from ours, and it is too cold for some produce that we can raise in New England. However the climate is more even, with the nights nearly as cool in summer as in winter, which is the wet season. Mr. Branting mentions a section of a big tree which is to be sent to Buffalo. This tree measures fifteen feet, six inches in diameter. We are sorry that space does not allow us to print the whole of this interesting letter.

FRANK P. WILCOX, '92, who had to leave the Mass. Institute of Technology before graduation on account of his health, is now employed as civil engineer by the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe R. R., and is engaged in the laying out of a new line in New Mexico. He reports that his health is greatly improved and that he is much interested in his work.

WILLIAM C. CARR, '00, is with Mr. Charles M. Sawyer, horticulturist, Berlin, Mass. He has received the fine new Baritone recently selected for him by Mr. Bradley, and is much pleased with it. William has worked hard to earn this instrument and expects to have many opportunities to use it.

CHARLES A. EDWARDS, '01, reports his arrival at the barracks of the 27th. U. S. Infantry, Plattsburgh, N. Y. He has enlisted as a musician, and is much pleased with his surroundings.



"Not how much talent have I, but how much will to use the talent I have, is the main question. Not how much do I know, but how much do I do with what I know."

### Crip to Arlington Heights

During vacation the whole School took a trip to Arlington Heights. We started from the Island about one o'clock. On arriving at City Point we took two special cars. While we were riding all the places of interest were pointed out to us. While we were passing through Arlington Heights the well laid out farms were very noticeable. When the cars stopped we all got off and lined up, then we went up on one of the heights the top of which was covered with wild blackberry bushes which were not passed unnoticed or unmolested. At the top a fine view of the country around could be seen. We did not have much time so we came down quickly. On arriving at the foot of the hill each boy was given a bottle of tonic. Peanuts were served on the cars both going and coming. On the return trip the boys who had the front car going up had the last coming home. Coming back we passed through the subway. We arrived at the Island about half past six and we all felt it was a well spent and interesting trip.

FRANK C. SIMPSON.

### Dining Room Work

In the morning Ralph Holmes and I get the dishes for the food up to the kitchen for the instructors who have an early breakfast. When the dishes are up I get the milk and butter and clear off the dishes which the watchman left after his midnight meal. Five minutes before the boys leave their dining room each meal we go out and wash carefully, put on our white suits, get the food to the instructors' dining room and wait on them. After breakfast I do the work about the dining rooms and at half-past eleven I eat my dinner, then wait on the table until a quarter of one. Ralph does the work in the afternoon and he gets through about three o'clock. After we get through waiting at night we clear off the tables, wash and wipe the dishes, put them away and set the tables for the next meal the same as in the morning and afternoon, always with the assistance of an instructor.

SAMUEL A. WAYCOTT.

# Beacon

## Toads

There are not many toads on this Island, probably because they cannot breed where there are not many pools of fresh water, and that is the way it is here. About two and a half months ago, Mr. Bradley, thinking it would be a good thing to have some toads down here, asked Mr. Hart, the Deputy Superintendent of the Concord Reformatory, to send us some. Mr. Hart got fifty toads and put them in a box about two feet long, one and a half feet wide, and six inches deep, half full of moist loam, with a wire screening stretched over the top. They came one night and they were taken up to the boys' flower gardens where thirty were let out. Every boy was anxious to get one for his garden. There were not enough to go around and so Mr. Bradley let the toads choose which boy should own them. He drew a large circle around the box and had the boys line up to it. Then he let the toads out one by one. As soon as one hopped out to the circle, the boy in front of whom it was could have it. As soon as a boy got one he put it in his garden. The next morning when they were looked for only four were to be found; but it was soon discovered where they went. They bury themselves in the earth and come out to feed or when it is going to rain. The remaining twenty were let loose in the flower beds on the lawns. Later on another box of seventy toads came from Mr. W. G. Fancher, Superintendent of the Stanwood School at Topsfield, Mass. These were put into the different vegetable gardens on the farm. These animals were got down here because they are so very useful in killing and preventing the increase of obnoxious insects and worms. Especially we hope they will eat up the cabbage

worms that destroy many cabbages every year. Toads also eat grubs and mosquitoes.

The form of a toad closely resembles that of a frog but it is built heavier and clumsier. Its hind legs are generally short so that the toad rather crawls than leaps. It is seldom that you see them leap unless they are frightened. The skin is very warty and they have no teeth. They mostly inhabit shady places avoiding the sun, either crawling among the stems and leaves of plants or among stones in search of food. Toads are abundant. They spend the winter dormant and reappear from their retreats on the returning of spring. They are perfectly harmless and are very useful as they eat insects and worms that are destructive to vegetation. They breed from April to June. The toad sheds its skin every year. After it has drawn itself out of its old skin it rolls it up in a ball and eats it. After the skin is shed the toad is very tender.

They show quite a lot of intelligence. An interesting fact is that on a quiet night they will sit down beneath a lamp on the street and wait for the insects which are attracted by the light and come so near as to get scorched and fall to the ground where the waiting toads swallow them instantly. This shows patience and a kind of knowledge. They come out on rainy nights and also on other nights in places where there are not many people. When they are feeding they sit quietly, but when an insect comes by, they will suddenly give a snap with their mouths and the insect has disappeared. We hope that before next summer the toads will have increased and there will be a large number to help drive the insects and harmful bugs away.

GEORGE G. NOREN.

### A Parrot

One morning some of the boys saw a strange parrot in a tree near the house. He was singing in the tree at a great rate. He saw the boys and was frightened and flew away into the grove. He stayed around all day. The boys tried to catch him but did not succeed in doing it. The boys scared him so that he flew to the north end. Then they went over there and he flew right up into the trees and then turned around and flew towards the city. I do not think he liked his treatment for he did not come back again. WILLIAM T. WALBERT.

### New Maps

In the first schoolroom we have got some new maps. They are of the United States, Asia, Africa, Europe, North & South America, and the territories. They hang on slats made for the purpose, one above the other, which are placed on the left hand side of the door as you come in at the front of the room. Their backs are covered with red enamel cloth. The four lower ones are about four feet long, the two above those are about three feet long, and the one above those is about six feet long. There is a round stick about four and one half feet long with a hook on the end to pull them down with when you want to use them. When they are not in use they are rolled up on a stick like curtains. EDWIN W. GOODNOUGH.

### Sunday Walks

On Sundays, only the necessary work is done, and for this reason we have several hours that on other days would be play-time. During this time some of the boys read, but all except the larger boys like best to take a walk around the Island. On most pleasant Sundays ten or twelve of us are allowed to take a walk with the Sunday Assistant. We go over to Lyman Grove at the south end and sometimes to the north end. We usually stay over there about an hour and come back a different way from what we went. The boys who work in the house especially like to go because they do not have much chance to see what is going on on the farm. CLARENCE DEMAR.

### Sifting Gravel

For the last two weeks for an hour and a half before school time in the afternoon, except on Wednesday and Friday, when I go to sloyd, I have been going down to the beach on the right hand side of the boat house to sift gravel. I gather the best gravel I can find into a wheelbarrow and carry it to the sieve where I sift it. All the large gravel and stones that do not go through the sieve I leave in a pile by itself. After I have taken up all the best gravel within twenty-five or thirty feet from the sieve I move it to another place where the gravel is thicker. When a two-horse cart full is sifted it is taken up to the house where it is used on the avenues and paths. After I am through screening gravel at school time I pull the sieve up on the bank so that the tide will not wash it away.

EDWARD B. TAYLOR.

### Bees

We have bees here on the Island, as well as the people in the country do. They like this place because they have a right to all the flowers here. They never do us any harm so we don't mean to harm them in return. One day when I was looking at my garden I saw some bees getting honey. There were some large ones and one or two smaller ones; even if these were just a little smaller they could work just as fast, if not faster. There was one little one that attracted my attention very much. So I watched him as he went from one flower to the other. He would crawl into the flower and get his legs and feet all pollen and rub them in a little box that seemed to be built on his head for that purpose only, I think. He doesn't get all of it off his feet into the box. Some falls on the flower again, and the next bee does the same and so on. Bees will never harm you if you never harm them. But they are very interesting to study. CLARENCE TAYLOR.



"Every man who means to be successful must single out from a vast number of possible employments some specialty, and to that devote himself thoroughly." Garfield.

### **A Clam Bake**

On September 7, all the boys and instructors had a clam bake in place of supper down on the beach just north of the boat house. In the forenoon a hearth was built of very large stones. It was about five feet in diameter and had a good smooth surface. Just before and after dinner, while the tide was low, some of the boys dug four bushels of clams. A number also gathered a large pile of rockweed. A fire was kept burning all over the hearth during the afternoon, because the stones had to be red hot. At five o'clock the fire had burned three hours and two thirds of a cord of wood had been used up. The hearth was swept clean of ashes and coals with long boughs. These were used because it was so hot that no one could work near enough to use a hoe or rake. It was necessary to get the hearth good and clean because any coals or wood would give a smoky taste to the food. When this was done some boys carried rockweed to Mr. Bradley and he laid it on the hot stones until they were all covered up. Then he put on four bushels of clams in an even layer. On top of them were piled over two hundred ears of corn and a bushel of sweet potatoes. Three pans of apples were put around the edge. On top of all were some lobsters and sausages. Then everything was covered with a large piece of canvas and the whole covered with rockweed. The canvas and rockweed were put on to keep in the steam that the hot stones and rockweed made, and so the food would cook more quickly. It took an hour and a half for it to cook. While we were waiting we had a swim of half an hour. By the time we were dressed the pile was done. We sat around on the bank when the food was served out. Everything was well cooked and tasted fine. Beside what was cooked we had crackers, pickles and cakes. We stayed down on the beach till half past seven.

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

### **Washing Dishes**

At twelve o'clock I begin to wash dishes and when I get some washed another boy wipes them. There are a lot of dishes that are used

for cooking and getting meals ready. At two o'clock we sometimes wash those that Miss Balch used for her cake and cookies, and if she gives me a cooky I don't say anything. I wash the dishes that are used in the kitchen or bakery, then I wait till five o'clock before I wash any more. I wash some before supper and some after. I wash milk pails and milk cans also. There are three milk strainers on strainer pails, in which they put the milk first and then they put it through a cloth strainer.

CARL L. WITTIG.

### **Playing Cricket**

As it is too hot to play ball the fellows have got up the game of cricket which we like as well as base ball. Most every noon and night the fellows run out there on the play grounds and hollo for the position which is nearest in at the bat. We have the wickets about thirty feet apart and a foot above the ground. The hole in front of the wicket is about four feet away which the batter has to keep his bat in, in order to stay in a little while. If the bowler knocks the wicket off when the batter's bat is out of that hole, he is out.

LOUIS E. MEANS.

### **Changing Work**

At the beginning of school each year after vacation the work which the boys are to have during the year is arranged. Some of the boys stay in one place in the house more than one year but usually a boy does not have to stay in one place in the house more than one year. The place which the majority of the boys like best is the farm; very seldom a boy who has been in the School very long will want to be in the house to work. Usually one boy in each place is kept in that place sufficient time over one year to teach the new boys who get in the same place the work. The boys who have been in the house for a year or two usually feel quite gay when they know that they are going to the farm, but the boys who have been on the farm ever since they have been at the School, as a usual thing, do not like the idea of working in the house; however, there is very little kicking and what there is is of no use.

FREDERICK P. THAYER.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the  
FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL

DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 6. No. 5. September, 1901.

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## BOARD OF MANAGERS

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A timid mind is the enemy of good resolutions. Almost everybody thinks he is able to make good plans and can, and usually will, tell you what he will do under all circumstances. It is not hard to form and give opinions that are not put into practice. But when it becomes necessary to actually set about doing the things thought about, we suddenly find that there are

difficulties that had not occurred to us before, and we become not so sure of being right. Some men are so taken up with thinking of the obstacles and hindrances that they do not consider how they may overcome them. Even a sensible person may form an excellent plan of something to be done. He will probably realize its good points; and yet when he comes to carry out his scheme, he does not dare and does not make even a start. Or if he pulls himself together and brings himself to a resolve of going ahead in spite of the difficulty, he has to struggle with timidity that still hinders him. What do you think of the boy who stands trembling on the edge of the wharf wanting to make a dive and yet not daring? He looks with fascination at the water and thinks how far off it seems. He makes two or three false starts and if he does finally take the plunge it does not redeem his reputation. He is considered a coward by his companions. It is no better nor much different in other or more important things. An abandoned resolution, known to others, makes us lightly esteemed; while if the resolve is private we lose in self-respect.

An attack of ridicule is perhaps the greatest trial of courage. Many good intentions are abandoned from fear of being laughed at. He shows a strong character who, knowing himself in the right and not held to his course through stupidity or obstinacy, nevertheless is able to withstand scorn and jeers without giving any sign that they affect him. Columbus was the most laughed at man in Europe when he first advanced his ideas of geography. Yet he persisted in the face of ridicule and succeeded.

Too long hesitating deliberation on any matter often is more wearing to the feelings than the action itself. When the thing is done we wonder at our former hesitation. If you are about to start on a journey you do not let your



thoughts dwell so much on the dangers you may encounter that you can not think of anything else; you pack your trunk, buy the ticket and see to it that you do not miss the train. So it is in all our affairs. With a courageous character we can consider calmly the objections that are raised by fear. We shall have firmness to overcome the obstacles that arise in our course. The showy forms of courage do not win the largest number of battles. It is the courage of the mind that enables us to carry out our best resolves, that is of the most value in day to day life.

**Notes**

- Aug. 1. Painting and varnishing the inside of the steamer.
- Graduate Chester O. Sanborn called.
- Aug. 2. Visiting Day. 204 present.
- Washington Irving's works in five volumes received from Charles and Ernest Jorgensen.
- Aug. 3. First sweet corn from the garden.
- Aug. 4. Graduates Dana Currier and Ernest Curley spent the day at the School.
- Aug. 5. One car load grain towed from New England Docks.
- Aug. 7. New hard-pine floor laid in room No. 1.
- Finished repairs on storage barn.
- Aug. 10. Graduate George B. Fenner called.
- Aug. 11. Graduates Ernest W. Austin and William Austin called.
- Aug. 12. Pilgrim towed a load of lumber and grain from Stetson's wharf.
- Aug. 18. Graduates Joseph Clark and George Bieck with their wives called.
- Aug. 20. New surface drain to carry off rain water from the area connected with the main drain.
- Aug. 21. Graduate Silas Snow called.
- Received an invoice of new books for the library.
- Aug. 22. The baseball team received a set of caps from Mrs. Oliver Ames, Sr.
- Aug. 23. Blacksmith shod all the horses.

Aug. 24. Former Sunday Assistant, Mr. Wm. M. Macnair spent Sunday with us.

A clam bake on the beach.

Aug. 25. Sunday. Mr. Macnair addressed the boys at 3.00 P. M.

Aug. 28. Macauley's miscellaneous essays and poems in three volumes received from A. H. Howard, Esq.

New hard-pine floor laid in room No. 7.

Aug. 30. Visiting Day. 194 present among whom were Treasurer Mr. Arthur Adams and Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew.

In the evening we were entertained by a medal contest by members of Company M, Phillips Chapel, South Boston.

**Farm School Bank**

Cash on hand August 1st., 1901,	\$411.98
Deposited during the month,	27.23
	\$439.21
Withdrawn during the month,	44.95
Balance September 1st., 1901,	\$394.26

**William McKinley**

Our late President, William McKinley, who passed away September 14, was born in Niles, Ohio, January 29, 1843. He attended the public schools in Niles and then moved to Poland and studied at the Union Seminary until he was seventeen. He then became a clerk and in 1860 entered the junior class of Allegheny College, but he could not finish his course on account of his poor health. When the civil war broke out in 1861 and Lincoln called for 75,000 volunteers, William McKinley enlisted as a private in Co. E, of the twenty-third Ohio regiment. His ability was soon recognized and he was made Commissary Sergeant April 15, 1862. At the battle of Antietam by his valuable services he won the high esteem of his colonel, Rutherford B. Hayes, and he was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant. During the rest of the war he rose from position to position by his bravery and valuable services and on March 13, 1865, President Lincoln promoted him to Major. He was mustered out with his regiment on July 26, 1865. He cast his first vote for

president on October 11, 1864, for Lincoln while on the march. After the war, in 1866 he began the study of law and the following year he was admitted to the bar. He then began the practice of law in Canton, and he made this place his home. Four years later he married Miss Ida Saxton and they had two children but both died while young. In 1875 he was elected to congress; he was re-elected seven times. He was elected Governor of Ohio in 1891 receiving the largest number of votes ever cast for Governor of Ohio. In 1896 he was re-elected. In the same year he was nominated for president on the republican ticket. November 3, he was elected president, and on March 4, 1897, he was inaugurated. When he became president he said he was for sound money, strict economy in the management of the government, for the advancement of Civil Service Reform and for the maintenance of peace with all nations of the earth. In May '97, President McKinley demanded that Spain should put a stop to the Cuban troubles. In April 1898 the President in a message said that, in the name of humanity, in the name of civilization and in behalf of the endangered American interests, the war in Cuba must stop. On April 21, 1898, the Spanish Government sent Minister Woodford his passports, thus beginning the war, and on the same day President McKinley called for 125,000 volunteers. April 24, war was formally declared. May 25, '98, he issued a call for 75,000 additional volunteers. On August 12, '98, the president signed the treaty of peace. On July 7, '98, he approved the annexation of Hawaii. At the national convention in 1900 he was unanimously renominated for the presidency. On November 6, he was elected for a second term carrying twenty-eight states against Bryan. President McKinley made a speech at Buffalo at the Pan American Exposition on September 5, 1901 and the key note was prosperity. On the following day he was shot by an assassin while holding a public reception, and died on September 14. When President McKinley was inaugurated the United States had no colonies or foreign possessions,

with the exception of Alaska. Now we have Porto Rico, the Philippine Islands, Hawaii, the Island of Guam and the control of Cuba. Our commerce and business has greatly increased and everything is going smoothly. At the death of President McKinley the nation lost one of its best citizens, one of the most clear-headed statesmen, one of the most honest, fatherly and beloved presidents we ever had.

GEORGE THOMAS.

### **New Hand Cart**

The shop fellows have been working on a hand cart, to take the place of the old green one that was used for carting off leaves, sticks, and other rubbish. We first started on the frame-work, getting out the two side pieces and handle, then the upright pieces on the sides for the boards, and two top pieces. Then we made the bottom of the cart with the boards from the old one, and screwed these boards down, then we put on the side boards, and screwed them on. Next we went on to the front boards and screwed them on. This new cart is better than the old one, the other one was too clumsy.

AXEL E. RENQUIST.

### **Mrs. Ames' Visit to the School**

On Saturday July 27, Mrs. Oliver Ames, Sr. came to visit the School and she brought with her the Oliver Ames High School Band. They brought their instruments. There were about thirty-five boys in the band and all the instruments were new. They played quite a lot of pieces. Mr. Brenton was the leader of their band and after they were through playing, the boys of the Farm School Band played. Mr. Kenfield was the leader of our band. Then both bands played two or three pieces together. Then the boys put on their base ball suits and went out for a game of ball. The score was thirty to thirteen in favor of the Ames High School. Some of those boys showed us how to play basket ball. The boys played croquet and other games. Mrs. Ames gave the boys of the Farm School ice cream. At five o'clock the Ames High School left.

Leslie R. Jones.

### **A Young Bull**

A short time ago we received a young Jersey bull. He is nine months old and is tame enough so that he may be lead by a rope. In the morning I let him out into the cow yard with two calves, the cows being out to pasture; he is also let out in the afternoon. When he first came he was put in a box-stall and later into the cow yard with the cows and from there to a stanchion along side of our two heifers. When he was in the cow yard with the cows, they would chase him all around and hook him so he could not have any peace. He was put in the barn.

CLARENCE W. BARR.

### **Picking Potato Bugs**

In picking potato bugs enough basins are needed so that each person who is going to pick the bugs can have one. The basin is held in one hand under the leaves and a stick or shingle is used to knock off the bugs. After the bugs are put into the basin they try to crawl out. In order to keep these bugs in the basin it has to be hit every once in a while so as to knock them off the sides. After a number of these bugs have been gathered so that it is quite hard to keep them, they are taken to a barrel or hogshead or whatever they are going to be put into and dumped in. After they are dumped some oil is put on them so as to kill them. If oil is put on right after they are put into the barrel or hogshead they will crawl up the side and escape. They are then stirred up so as to kill the whole of them. They have a very musty smell after they have been in the barrel for a short time.

CHESTER F. WELCH.

### **Basket Ball**

This summer the game of basket ball has been very popular among us. The apparatus was presented to the School by Mrs. Oliver Ames, Sr. The goals are two baskets each eighteen inches in diameter, fastened ten feet from the ground to a framework. Each has a wire net behind it. There are five in a team. The game is to get the ball into the basket of the other side as many times as you can and to

prevent them from putting it into your goal. The five in a team are Right and Left Forwards, Centers and Right and Left Backs. One fellow from each team gets in the centre of the field and two fellows from each side are goal tenders. The two in the centre get ready to throw the ball to the opposite goal from their own. There is a fellow that is not on any side who throws the ball into the centre of the field to begin the game and the fellows there each make a hit at the ball with the palm of their hands and the game is on. If a fellow should kick or hold the ball over five seconds or hold another fellow or trip another fellow it is called a foul, and the side on which the fellow was who did it has to give the other side fifteen feet from their goal and let the other side have a chance to make a goal. Each goal counts two points. When it is foul the boy who knocks it foul has to throw the ball into the centre of the field and then it is in play again.

JOSEPH E. K. ROBBLEE.

### **My Date Plant**

One day I was working down behind the hall, wheeling clay up to the area. As I went down to get a load with my pick I found a little date plant there. I brought the load of clay up and asked permission to carry this date plant to my teacher. It was the first date plant I ever saw. The way I can tell it is a date is because I saw the date stone. It has a long stem and root. The way it grows is the date stone gets covered with a little dirt and after a short time throws out its root and a long white stem comes up from the root. Then a green leaf unfolds from the white stem and root. I put it in my garden.

ALBERT PROBERT.

### **Seals**

One morning before breakfast when I was working in a field, I heard some yells and I turned and about six hundred feet from where I stood I saw six small seals. On the south-east side of our Island is about a fourth of an acre of eel grass quite thick and green. The seals wiggled all around and flapped their tails and seemed to play tag. They looked black and glossy. When they hear any noise they will swim off.

RALPH O. ANDERSON.

### Alumni

WILLIAM H. GOODWIN, '65, has just returned from the Philippines. He served in the 26th Volunteer Infantry, Company I, during its entire term of service. The regiment was for two years almost continuously on the firing line and so he took part in all principal skirmishes and engagements, among them being Teainto and Rio Leantio. This was not his first army experience. He was for the five years, 1872 to 1877, in Company D, 8th U. S. Cavalry stationed at Fort Selden, New Mexico on the Rio Grande.

TAFLEY MAUCH, '80, plays the cornet in the Fitchburg Band and has been a member of that organization for eighteen years. He was one of the musicians who came down to the Island and gave us a concert on June 3. He played a cornet solo, the "Cornet Polka" by Arban. Mrs. Mauch also was here. They have one son.

SILAS SNOW, '94, made the School a call about a month ago. He had two weeks' vacation and was spending the most of it with his brother, William L. Snow, '90, in Dorchester. He visited a number of his old friends among the graduates in this vicinity and was going down to Lynn to see Peterson. He is on the farm of Mr. Dwight E. Clary at Williamsburg, Mass.

LAURENCE F. ALLEN, '98, recently sent the "Opie" March to our band. He is in the band of the 7th Cavalry and is stationed in Havana. He plays the Saxophone. He wrote interestingly about his work and told about the musical part of army life. He says he likes the climate of Cuba.

### Alumni Notice

A meeting of the members of the Farm School Alumni Association will be held at Thompson's Island, Tuesday, October 1, 1901. The Nantasket boat will leave Rowe's Wharf at 10.20 A. M. Those desiring to do so can return in the same way at about 12.20, or at 4.30.

The above date is the last Visiting Day of the season, and all graduates are invited to be present.

WILLIAM G. CUMMINGS,

Secretary.

### Killing Mosquitoes

In the marshy places a great many mosquitoes breed. As mosquitoes are not very pleasant things to have about, means have been taken to get rid of them. The mosquitoes lay their eggs on the water and from them come the wigglers. It is necessary for these wigglers to come to the surface every two minutes for breath. If a thin coating of oil is put on the surface it renders it impossible for the wigglers to come to the surface, so they suffocate. A barrel of gas oil is kept at the south end for that purpose. The oil is put on with sprinkling cans and this operation needs only to be done once in about three weeks as the oil will remain on the surface quite a while. Mosquitoes will not breed in running water but prefer standing water, hence that aids in keeping the oil in place and a greater number are killed. It is noticeable after the oil is put on, that the surface will soon be covered with dead mosquitoes which come to lay their eggs, and get caught in the oil. White-washed laths are provided to put at standing pools where they breed so it will be easy to find them when they have to be oiled.

FRANK C. SIMPSON.

### A Phonograph Entertainment

On Wednesday evening, August 14, we had a phonograph entertainment in the chapel. The phonograph was Edison's Standard, one of the latest and best, which Mr. Bradley had just gotten. There were nineteen pieces in all and the first one was a band piece by the name of "The Mosquito's Parade." Some of the other pieces were, "Dancing on the Housetop," "The Virginia Skedaddle," and the "Lancers' Medley." The Banjo solos were the loudest and plainest. We had only one violin solo among them, as it is very hard for a phonograph to reproduce them. The pieces that seemed to be liked best were "The Tail of a Kangaroo," "Liberty Bell March," and "When Reuben Comes to Town." When we went to bed, at half past nine, we marched out of the Chapel with the phonograph playing "Liberty Bell March." We had to take rather short steps, but that didn't matter as it was quite a novelty.

CLARENCE H. DEMAR.

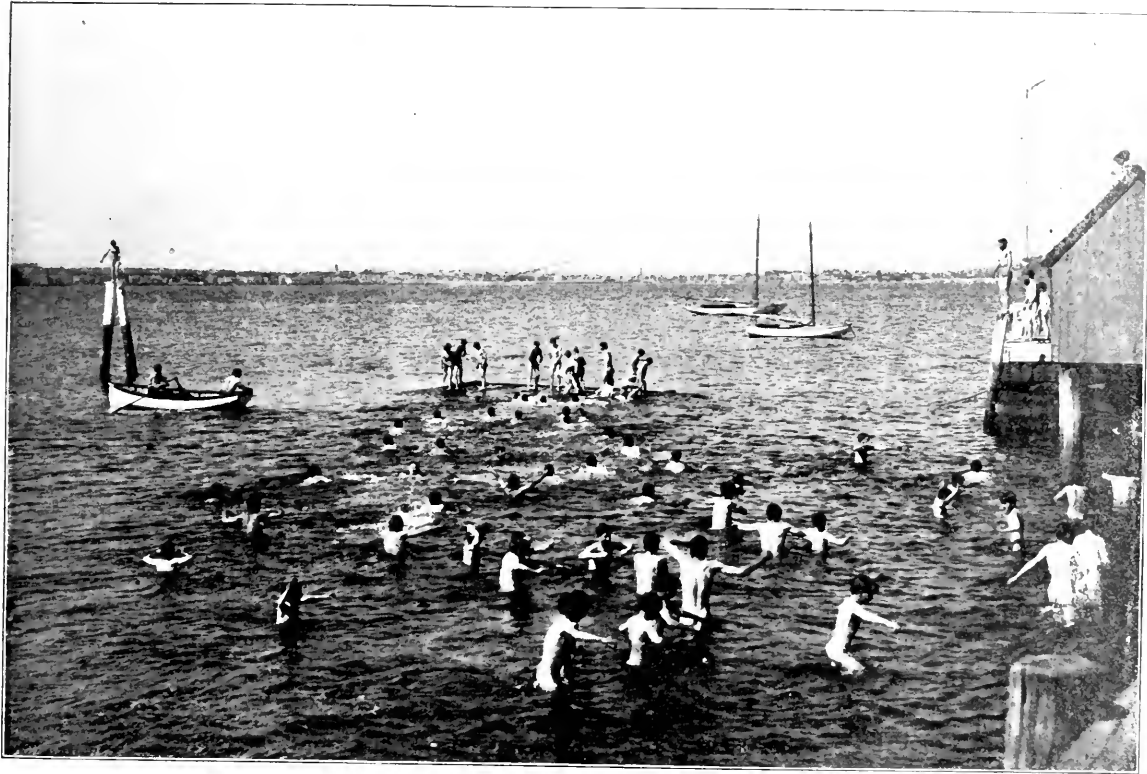
Thompson's Island

# Beacon

Vol. 5. No. 6. \*

PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS.

October, 1901.



Above is a picture of the last swim of the season at the Farm School on September 25. The whistle has blown and the boys have all dashed into the water. Most of the boys are making for the float. It is the common objective point and it is large enough to support twenty or thirty. The boys on the wharf intend to dive, as also do those on the CHILTON'S boat house and the one on the dolphin. The latter are good divers. At the edge of the group of swimmers is the row boat BRADFORD with two boys, both on the lookout. A little

way off are the School's two sail-boats, the nearer one, the WINSLOW, the farther, the TREVORE. On the wharf, though not in the picture are two instructors, one at the end of the boat house, the other to the right of the picture, who are in charge.

Swimming is the sport most enjoyed by the boys of the Farm School, and it is an animated sight to watch from fifty to a hundred boys in the water, swimming, diving, and all having a thoroughly good time. The season lasted this year from June 5 to September 25. All the

swimming is done on the south side of the wharf and is kept within limits. A life line is extended from a dolphin to the wharf. A boat manned by two older boys, both good swimmers, is always present ready for an emergency and two instructors oversee from different positions on the wharf.

During the year all boys who can not swim are encouraged and taught. Getting much practice as they do the boys soon gain power to swim well, and many of them are good divers and fancy swimmers. At the end of the season all the boys are tried in ability to swim. The results help in selecting members for the boat crew, and in determining who shall be permitted to go out in the sail boats. This year at the trial swim forty-one boys swam four hundred feet and over; forty-three were ordinary swimmers; and eleven new boys could not swim at all.

The privilege of swimming is given according to conduct. If their conduct is good the boys participate in all the pleasures; if it is poor they are curtailed in proportion to the degree of the case. In this as in other ways the pleasures of the boys depend upon their own efforts.

### Swallows

Swallows are very intelligent birds. They fly around barns, over water, over the fields, make nests in barns and such places. If their nests get blown down they are not afraid to build them up again. Down in the stock barn cellar two birds were building a nest. They would take turns in getting things for their nest. When they brought anything one would put hers in first and then the other would go out and get some, while the first one would guard the nest. When the outside was all finished they got mud and put it around the inner side and let it dry and then lined it with feathers. Pretty soon there were four eggs in the nest. The next time I looked at it there were two little ones hatched out. By and by their mother brought some thing to eat, and at night kept them warm. It took three or four days to build their nest.

CHARLES WARNER.

### Our Sun Dial

We have a sun dial here. It is on the playground lawn. It is made of bronze. The rim and the numbers are polished. It sets on a small white stand with these words on it, "TEMPUS EST EDAX RERUM." These words mean, "Time is the destroyer of everything." At first the boys could not tell where the shadow fell and said, "That sun dial is no good." They couldn't see the shadow well because the sun was not out. But the next morning they went to see if they could see what time it was by it. The sun was out then so that they could see the shadow. They found that it was only fifteen minutes fast. The time varies according to the place of the sun in the heavens. The boys began to talk how they could make one of wood. But Mr. Wardwell explained it to them. There has not been any made yet.

CLARENCE TAYLOR.

### Music

In school the boys have singing lessons. We learn to open our mouths and let our voices out. We have quite a number of songs. Among them are "God's Love," "The Little Dustman," and "Lead Us." These three are in the first music reader. We have two books to read by sight, that is, we sing music that we never saw before.

WALTER L. BUTLER.

### Stripping Posts

Down on the beach near the boathouse there are about one hundred posts that have had the bark stripped off of them. Some of them are eight feet long; they are for the clothes yard. The remainder are six feet long. These are for the fence along the Highland Road. During vacation some of the boys went down to strip them. Now when school is going on the boy that works on the wharf in the morning, after he has all of his other work done, goes up to the shop and gets a draw-shave and hatchet and goes down and uses them. When the boy goes down in the afternoon he does the same thing. After there is enough bark in a pile it is burnt up.

ANDREW W. DEAN.

### **Agricultural Lessons**

Every Tuesday and Thursday the boys of both schoolrooms go into the chapel and Mr. Vaughan gives us agricultural lessons for twenty minutes. In the spring we learned the time to plant the different seeds and amount of fertilizer to put on. We had lessons about the preparation of potato seed for the ground. We also had about the grafting and pruning of trees, and about the spraying of trees. Sometimes we went down to the farm to see the trees sprayed. This summer we have had about the different insects that destroy vegetation and how to kill them. Then about grass. Now we are studying about the soil. We have studied about the moisture in the soil, how the soil is formed and the texture of the soil. The other day we went down to the farm to see how much better the corn grew where the peas had been planted and left nitrogen, than where not.

CLARENCE H. DEMAR.

### **The Corn**

We have a very large corn crop this year including all the pieces. We have started to harvest it. The piece we started on is about 425 ft. long and 390 ft. wide. This piece is over at the south end of our Island. There is one just to the north of the one I have just described; this is just a little smaller. On the west of the Island there is a corn piece about the same size as the other two. This piece was planted in July. It came up very suddenly and grew rapidly. Near this grows a corn piece about 150 ft. long and 100 ft. wide. All these other pieces have grown where there wasn't corn last year, but this one grows where there was corn for two or three years in succession, so this piece has not done so well. Behind Cottage Row there is a fine piece of corn of about two acres and a half. Besides these I have mentioned, are several sweet-corn pieces. The average height of our corn is about six feet. On stormy days in winter the corn is husked and stored in the corn barn and finally it is shelled by a machine run by hand-power and it is stored away. The stalks are ground up for cut-feed for cattle by horse-power.

WILLIAM J. FLYNN.

### **Field Weeds**

Lately the farm boys have been pulling weeds from the fields, and boys around the house pulling them on the lawns. On the farm we pull chickory, a large blue weed and any other kind of weed that is growing in the field. Around the house, plantain and dandelion are what is generally pulled up to make the lawns look neat. It is very hard to pull the blue weed up by the root, for unless it is small it will break off just below the surface. When we have pulled a lot, the cart comes around and takes them away. If they are left long enough to wither up and go to seed they will be worse for us the next time we pull them, because the wind will blow them around and the seeds fall off. Then the next spring they come up worse than before and it will take us a longer time to pull them.

WILLARD H. ROWELL.

### **My Garden**

We have had lots of rainy weather to help our flowers to grow in our gardens. We have not had to water our gardens very much, because the rain waters them. William Dinsmore and I own a garden together. We have some sweet peas and some four-o'clocks. All our flowers have bloomed. It is a large one about twelve feet long and three feet wide. We have to have nice rich soil for the flowers to grow well. We have to keep our garden stoned to prevent the soil from falling out of it.

WARREN H. BRYANT.

### **Garden Weeds**

We are getting out the weeds in the vegetable garden, and as they are thick it takes a long time to get them out. We have been carting off a great many weeds lately. The farm boys hoe them up and put them in piles. Then the teamster comes around with the wagon, gathers them all up and carries them to the dump where they can not grow, or puts them into the stagnant water. There are several kinds of weeds and they do a lot of damage to the vegetables and we take them out so the vegetables can grow better. The corn when grown up stops the weeds from growing by shading the ground.

ALBERT H. LADD.

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CHARLES H. BRADLEY Superintendent

When we read a book or an article by a good writer, our attention is without effort fixed upon the subject and we are afforded pleasure. If we stop to consider what qualities make up good writing we shall find that the subject was well chosen, that the writer had a good knowledge of it, and that his words were clear and

well selected. All three of these qualities are necessary in good composition. If one of them is lacking the work will be rough, obscure or tiresome. We should not try to write on matters which we can not or do not understand or which we are not fitted to treat. It is best in choosing a subject to take something that is to us interesting; such a matter we write about with more enthusiasm and on that account it is more readable and has more interest to others. Such subjects are usually the most familiar, something one is accustomed to see, converse about or study. The rarest objects or happenings are not always the most interesting. That a thing is common or homely does not necessarily make it ordinary. We too often neglect that which is near at hand. We search long and far for the great or important matter, only to find at last it has always been before our eyes. Whether one is trying to picture some scene or happening, to teach or persuade, it is well to make a good choice of the circumstances to be enumerated. It is better to choose a few prominent traits or characteristics, or confine one's self to the most prominent line of argument, than to go through all the particulars and so become tiresome. Some writers are too minute. They mention every little circumstance and put in unnecessary details. When we look at a field of grain we do not see every stalk. To describe a house we do not have to mention every nail. There is much that can be left to the reader; we must give him the credit of having some knowledge.

If a writer does not understand his subject his production will be indistinct and confused. To try to tell another about something you do not yourself know, is an insult to them and can only result in attracting ridicule. Study and observe before you write about anything. If



writing is to be smooth, correctness must be observed. Inaccuracy in the use of words and sentences is like a blunder in pronunciation, a mark of carelessness and ignorance. These faults are always the most conspicuous and the first observed.

Ability to write, at any rate passably well, is obtained like skill in any labor. First find out how it is done. Read and study the best authors. Second, write often and with care. Every good writer has made himself such.

**Notes**

- Sept. 2. First ripe tomatoes.  
Graduate Horace F. Edmands here.
- Sept. 4. Miss Wright and seven boys made a trip to Crescent Beach.
- Sept. 5. Boys re-arranged according to size.  
Graduate William H. Goodwin here.
- Sept. 7. Every one took supper on the beach where a huge clam bake was enjoyed.
- Sept. 9. Finished dining-room floor at Farm House.
- Sept. 12. Pianos tuned.
- Sept. 16. Began cutting corn.  
Graduate Edward D. Bennett and daughter from Waterbury, Conn., spent the afternoon at the School.
- Sept. 19. McKinley Memorial Day.  
No school.  
Most of the boys and a few instructors attended services at Phillips Church, South Boston.
- Sept. 21. Thirteen boys from the first grade with an instructor out sailing in the TREVORE in the afternoon.
- Sept. 22. Sunday. Chapel services took the form of a memorial for the late president, for the benefit of those who did not attend on Thursday.
- Sept. 23. Samuel W. Webber left the School to work for Mrs. VanNess, East Lexington, Mass.  
Pulled the onions.

Sept. 24. Robert H. Bogue entered the School.

Blacksmith here to shoe horses.

Heavy wind in the evening; four row boats blown ashore from City Point.

Sept. 25. Last swim of the season; all the boys tried in ability to swim.

Mr. Charles H. Currier, the photographer, took some views of the School and farm.

Cottage Row caucus.

Field corn all cut.

Sept. 26. Mr. David H. Holmes, former assistant, here.

Dr. Samuel A. Green, secretary of the Mass. Historical Society, spent the afternoon at the School.

Sept. 27. Circular saw for the carpenter shop received.

Alfred Lanagan left the School to work for Dr. Joseph R. Draper of Westford, Mass., in place of Frank Harris who has work in town.

Sept. 28. Ten boys from the first grade with an instructor out sailing in the TREVORE in the afternoon.

Finished boat covering at the wharf.

**Farm School Bank**

Cash on hand September 1st., 1901,	\$394.23
Deposited during the month,	21.88
	\$416.11
Withdrawn during the month,	5.91
Balance October 1st., 1901,	\$410.20

**Filling Our Requisitions**

When the instructors send in a requisition for things in their respective departments and after Mr. Bradley has signed it, Miss Wright tells me to fill it out. I read the requisitions over and, if the things that are wanted are up in the east loft or in the medicine closet, I get them and then mark it off on the requisition. Then I take the requisition down to the kitchen and Miss Balch gets the things that I can't get and marks them off and then sends the requisition up to the office to be filed away. When there are things we have not got in stock for the departments, I make out a slip and give it to Miss Wright.

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

### **A Lesson in Agriculture**

On Tuesdays our regular agriculture lessons are given, also on Thursdays. The first Thursday of the month of September the classes were taken over by the farm-house to see the growth of some corn, barley, etc. After which we went to a long row of trees, consisting of plum trees, apple, cherry and pear. The instructor had in one of his hands a bunch of grass which he used for string, in the other some bud sticks. After telling us about them he took a very sharp knife and cut one of these buds off as smooth as possible. He then made a slit in one of these trees which was a cherry tree and slipped the bud right down the slit. This bud when cut off from the twig has got to be cut with a very sharp knife or it will not make a smooth connection but will split the bark from the tree. After that he took the bunch of string or grass and cut it in halves as it was too long. He then tied a piece of this grass around the bud so as to keep it there. After this string has been on for two weeks it should be taken off because it will girdle the tree. After this connection has joined together, the top part is cut off and thrown away because it is of no use. In three or four years this tree will yield a large amount of fruit.

CHESTER F. WELCH.

### **Shining the Instruments**

Before Visiting Days and times when the band has to play, we put an extra polish on our instruments because by practicing and playing on them they get soiled. The boys take off all the detachable parts, as crooks, valves, and setpieces and that leaves the instruments smaller and gives a better chance to get around the smaller parts. We cover the instruments all over with polish and we usually have a boy hold the instrument while we shine it with a dry cloth. The instruments are brass and show up well when shined.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.



"Pure thoughts are to the body what the sun is to the earth."

*P. D. Snell.*

### **McKinley Memorial Service**

On September 19, the band and the first graders, forty-eight in all, went up to Phillips Church to attend the McKinley Memorial Services which were being held there. A gentleman read a proclamation of President Roosevelt's, setting aside Thursday as a day of general mourning for the late President. After that our band played a selection. Then Mr. J. Payson Bradley spoke on "McKinley as a Soldier." He told several little anecdotes which showed his heroism and cool headedness. One of them was this. His company had been on the firing line all day and were very tired, hungry and thirsty. McKinley was then Commissary Sergeant, and he, knowing how the soldiers felt, left them and went back and filled two six-mule wagons full of bread and hot coffee and started back. The soldiers saw him coming and praise was in every mouth, but of a sudden he was hidden from their view by a dense cloud of smoke and they thought one more brave soul had gone to meet its maker, when, lo! from out of that cloud they saw him coming at top speed. The officers ordered him back and although he always obeyed orders he thought this was more important, so he came on through shot and shell liable at any moment to be struck down but at last he arrived safe and unhurt amid the cheers of his comrades who did not have to go supperless that night. After that Mr. Bradley made a few more remarks and then Mr. Charles Gallagher, one of our managers, spoke on the public life of McKinley. He said, that when McKinley took the presidential chair he found it in anything but a peaceful condition and when he died the country was very prosperous and at peace with all the other great powers. He made it all very interesting and closed with, "The flag floats at half mast but it still floats." Our band then played America, after which Mr. Huxtable gave an address, "McKinley as a Man," in which he told of the true christian manhood of McKinley. He told how faithfully he had tended his wife in her sickness. It was very interesting and we are glad we went.

HAROLD S. TAYLOR.

### The Yachts

We have two sail-boats named, Winslow and Trevore. The Trevore is a fine 21 foot center-board knockabout. She has a fin keel made of bronze with half a ton of lead on the bottom; there is a slot in the keel through which the center-board works. She draws four and a half feet of water and draws nine feet with the center-board down. There is a hatchway and two doors through which you can get into the cabin. The center-board's covering is made of mahogany and so is all the wood-work inside of the standing-room. The wash board rises about ten inches and is double thickness, mahogany on the inside and pine on the outside with a strip of mahogany running along the top. She is a self-bailer; this is done by raising the floor above the level of the water and running two scuppers down through the bottom. These are closed by rubber stoppers which are drawn when there is water on the floor. This does not let the water out that has leaked in; that has to be pumped out. She carries a main-sail and jib. The jib is kept in a bag in the cabin when not in use. The main-sail is quite large and was new last year, the jib also. The mainsheet is cotton rope and the jib sheets also. The jib sheets are rigged in a funny way but it is a good way too, for you can tighten up the sheets without coming up into the wind. They are first fastened on a swivel which looks like a piece of tubing about an inch and one-half long and three-quarters of an inch in diameter with a hole drilled through one side and this is put on a piece of brass with a round piece sticking up. Then it is rove through a pulley which is fixed onto a brass fixture with a thumb screw which is unfastened and is screwed up with the thumb screw put through a trundle in the jib; then after the sheet goes through the pulley it goes through a brass fixture on the standing-room's rail. Each sheet is fixed the same. There is a strong oak bit and there are two brass chocks with a lever over them to keep the cable in place. The mooring is a large block of granite with a heavy chain and a good heavy rope. There is a bridle made of three-fourth rope and goes through

each chock and each end is spliced into a loop and is fastened over the bit. The edges of the hatch-cover are bound in brass which makes it a good deal better. Each boat carries an anchor and line and oars and oar-locks in case of need. The Winslow is an 18 foot center-board knockabout. She carries eight blocks of lead which weight about 100 lbs. for ballast. She carries a jib and main-sail. She has a larger jib and a bow sprit. But she does not use these much. She has a stern like a row boat and generally has the rudder inside when not in use. She has a wash-board about six inches high made of half-inch oak. She has a wide seat all around except on the front where you crawl up in under the deck. Her flooring can be taken out and this gives you a good chance to wash the bottom so it will not get slimy. There are five copper air tanks in the Winslow so if she gets full she will not sink while the other will stand a great deal more but if it gets full it would sink at once. There is a pennant of the School's colors attached to the top of the mast. She has two chocks on the bow to hold a rope in. They are made of brass with two knobs sticking up about two inches apart. The mooring is the same as the Trevore's except that the line is spliced to a sister-hook and this is fastened to a loop riveted to the bow. In the fall they are hauled up on our beach and covered with canvas.

FREDERICK L. WALKER.

### Going after the Cows

At one o'clock when the farm boys go down to the farm some boys ask if they can go after the cows at half past four, and are told that the one who works the best can go. A few afternoons I worked hard and fast and so I was let go. Sometimes the cows are over at the north end of the Island and sometimes at the south end. The afternoons that I went after the cows they were over at the south end. I whistled to the cow-boys so as to let them know it was time to drive up to the barn. By the time I got over there the cows were in a bunch, and then we drove them up and shut the cow-yard door.

GEORGE I. LEIGHTON.

### Alumni

EDWARD D. BENNETT, '71, is with the New England Watch Company of Waterbury, Conn., as inspector and repairer in their finishing room. Ever since leaving the School he has been in the same business and has been with his present company for twenty years. He has a son and a daughter; the latter was with him when he spent the afternoon here. His address is 480 South Main St., Waterbury, Conn.

Mr. Bennett left here an old worn slip of paper on one side of which was printed a collection of moral maxims; on the other was written, "Edward D. Blaisdell from his mother, November 9, 1870," and also the following advice, such as a loving mother would give her absent son. "I hope my son you will read these often for they are good and will help you to be good. My son, goodness is to be valued before riches or anything else in this world and a good man is the noblest work of God." For some reason Blaisdell asked young Bennett to keep this for him. When the latter went away he forgot to return it, but he did not fail to keep it and it is remarkable that so frail an article should have been so well preserved. We desire to communicate with Edward D. Blaisdell, and we ask any one knowing his address or about him to give us the information.

ERNEST E. CLATTENBERG, '90, is job foreman in the planer room of the John T. Robinson Machine Co., Hyde Park. Since he began to work he has kept steadily at it and deserves his good position and the confidence of his employers. He is Treasurer of the Alumni Association and was one of the committee that arranged for the visit of the graduates on last Visiting Day.

FRANCIS G. BRYANT, '94, is with Charles H. Gilman, manufacturer of paint and varnish, 103 Merrimac St., Boston. Beside this he does printing of all kinds as a side business, under the name of The Ad-Age Printing Co. He gets up advertising novelties and various unique ideas in printing, that can not fail to attract attention. He has a good sized boy two years old. His home is in East Weymouth.

HARRY A. ENGLISH, '96, is working for B. F. Sturtevant Co., of Jamaica Plain. Harry is ambitious and is giving his spare time to educate himself. He has already gone over the studies required for college preliminary examinations and is now attending the Boston English High night school.

JOHN E. BETE, '96, is shipper for George E. Belcher, last manufacturer, Stoughton, Mass. He says that for some weeks he has been working evenings in addition to his regular hours. His home is with his mother in Stoughton.

WILLIAM DAVIS, '99, has a good position with Partridge and Macullar, Fire Insurance Agents, Boston. During the summer he has been doing the regular work of those on their vacations, thus gaining valuable experience.



#### Graduates here on last Visiting Day.

Austin, Ernest W.	Fisher, James H.
Balentine, Herbert E.	Follansbee, Thomas U.
Barr, John F.	Fox, Henry A.
Bennett, George A.	Gerry, Albert E.
Bete, John E.	Gerry, Benjamin F.
Bryant, Francis G.	Harris, Frank W.
Buchan, George	Hermann, Walter
Butler, Samuel F.	Horsfall, William A.
Clattenberg, Ernest E.	Lawton, Edward B.
Clemmenson, Ove W.	Lombard, Frank I.
Curley, Ernest	Mayott, George
Currier, Dana	McCabe, James T.
Davis, George E.	Oakes, Ernest E.
Davis, William	Peterson, John F.
Dutton, Almond H.	Pratt, Albert E.
Ellwood, William I.	Punchard, Thomas
English, Harry A.	Snow, William L.
Fairbairn, Thomas J.	Tinkham, Selwyn G.
	Winters, William B.



Folks that worked thorough  
wuz the ones thet thrive:  
Bad work 'il foller you ez long  
ez you live:  
You can't git red ont: jest  
ez sure ez sin,  
It's allers askin' to be done  
agin.

*James Russell Lowell.*

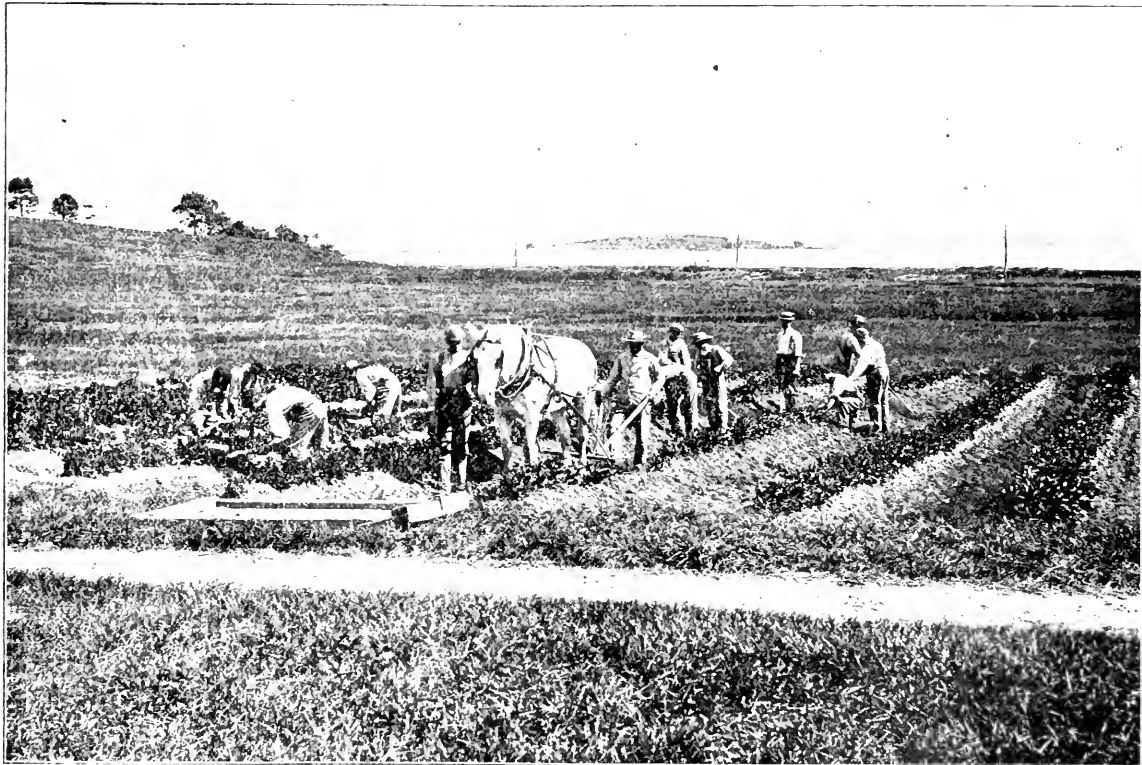
Thompson's Island

# Beacon

Vol. 5. No. 7.

PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS.

November, 1901.



This picture illustrates the process of banking celery. The soil is first wholly pulverized by running a harrow between the rows. The soil is thrown up on each side with a one-horse plough; at the same time a boy holds the plants together so that the dirt will not rattle down into the heart. Then the earth is tamped hard to hold the plants together. A boy follows and smooths the rows with a shovel. This process we repeated twice, the first time the middle of September, the second, when this picture was taken, the last of September. Each time it is banked up to the leaves.

The celery seed is sown the last of March

in hot beds and is transplanted when about an inch high. It is set out the middle of July, when the plants have grown to a height of four or five inches. The soil must be moist and rather heavy. It is necessary to use a large amount of fertilizer. The rows are cultivated once in ten days, and are kept free from weeds.

The plants will now be taken up, roots and all, and packed in the celery cellar in sand, as close as they can be put, the roots being kept moist. The cellar is kept perfectly dark so the stalks will continue to bleach. We raise three kinds of celery, Paris Golden, Giant Pascal and Boston Market.

### Going for Oil

On October 17, the scow went over for our year's supply of oil. Before we started the empty oil barrels were loaded onto the scow. Then we started for City Point. The first thing we did was to unload barrels. Three boys stayed in the scow and rolled the barrels over to the gangplank and the other boys rolled them up the gangplank. After the barrels were all off we started to load on the barrels of oil. The men with the teams unloaded on the wharf and two boys took a barrel and rolled it down the gangplank onto a pair of skids in the scow. Two boys took them and placed them in the scow so as to make it trim evenly. After the barrels were all on, the gangplank was swept and things put in order around the Landing. There were fifty-seven empty barrels and thirty-seven full barrels. We were away about two hours. The scow was unloaded in the afternoon.

EDWARD L. DAVIS.

### Three Italian Musicians

One of the last days of vacation, October 11, was enjoyed by our hearing three street musicians, two violin players and one player on the harp. We didn't know they were coming until they landed on our Island. They started playing between the house and Gardner Hall. They played "Mosquito's Parade," "Frangesa" and a number of pieces and then went in for lunch. When they came out after having played a few more pieces, among them "Dolly Gray," they went around to the tennis lawn where other persons could enjoy it. They played all their pieces by heart. We asked them to play a couple of other pieces which they did. Some we asked for they did not know by heart. They had written music and the reason they did not play it was that the wind blew pretty hard and besides they had no pins to hold their music. The music must have been written differently because it was not played as it is written in our band books. We have about four pieces that they played. It was enjoyed by me and most of us but some fellows don't care much for music and wanted to be doing something else.

WARREN HOLMES.

### New Posts

A little while ago we got some new posts for the clothes yard because the old ones were getting too old. They were cleaned and the tops of them rounded. One boy put some tar on their lower ends so when they were put into the ground they would not rot for a long while. Then there were some holes made through the top of the posts. The boys dug some holes in the ground in the clothes yard, set the posts into the holes and packed the dirt around them tight. Then they were painted white and the wire was put on better than before. They are now in use.

SAMUEL A. WESTON.

### Picking Beans

One afternoon four or five of us boys went picking beans. One boy would take a row and another boy would take a row next to him. I was one of them. When we got through we had five bushels. The kinds of beans that we picked were green Lima beans and dry Lima beans. We picked them in half-bushel baskets but there was one peck basket. The dry beans that we picked were on low bushes. The green beans were on poles. It was quite a chilly afternoon because of the cold wind. After we got the beans all picked we carried them up to the house and put them in the cellar. It took two hours and twenty minutes to pick them. Mr. Anderson helped us pick part of them. We had just started to go up to the barn when we met a team and so got a ride. We got up to the house just as the bell rang and we were just in time for supper.

I. BANKS QUIMBY.

### Two Small Rats

A little while ago Miss Galer put a rat trap under the boys' sink in the dining-room to catch some rats that were eating some things out of the waste pail. We looked under the sink every morning for a week and found nothing in the trap so we got sick of it and did not look again. One morning Newton Rowell called to us; we ran over and saw two rats. They were put one side until after dinner when one was let go and Bernard caught and killed him. The other was also killed.

RALPH HOLMES.

### The Rugby Game

On Friday October 25, we had our first rugby game of the season, with the Somerville Y. M. C. A. Jr. rugby team. We tossed up for the ball and the other side got it and took the first kick off. Davis caught the ball and took it a little past the twenty-five yard line and by centre and tackle plays we put it almost down to the goal line. There we lost the ball on downs; the other side, having gained nothing in the first two downs, punted it the third. In the middle of the field we got the ball again and took it, after several downs, across the goal line scoring the first touch down. We missed the goal kick and they kicked off. Near the other twenty-five yard line they got the ball again and rushed it a few times and then punted it; we got it and in a short time put it across the goal line a second time and made the goal kick. They kicked it off again and we got another goal in three minutes and put it across just as the time was up. We tried to kick the goal but missed and that ended the first half of twenty minutes. The next half of twenty minutes we kicked off and they got the ball and rushed down for about twenty-five yards and then were downed. After that the ball went from side to side. In this half the other side had the ball to rush down but we held them until the twenty minutes were over and the game ended in our favor. Farm School 16, Somerville 0.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

### Digging Stumps

At different times during the summer we have had a number of stumps which have had to be dug and we boys have been set to work digging them up and getting them out of the way. The boys who go to sloyd Tuesday and Thursday, worked on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and on Saturday between one and half past two before school. The boys who go to sloyd Wednesday and Friday worked on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. We used the pick, shovel and axe. The axe was used in chopping the roots. When the stumps were loose enough for us to move we got the tackle, rope and chain and hitched them on to the stumps and pulled them out.

FREDERICK P. THAYER.

### Uncle Tom's Cabin

On Saturday October 26, Mr. Thomas F. Temple, one of our Managers, gave Mr. Bradley one hundred tickets for the boys to go to Uncle Tom's Cabin. On Wednesday, October 30, all the boys, except a few who had been before, went with some instructors. We went over in our scow to the public landing and took a special car to the Boston Theatre. We had good seats. At two o'clock the curtain was raised upon the scene of Uncle Tom in his cabin. It was very nice. I think all the acts were very nice and looked real, just like the slave times before Lincoln freed the slaves. The acts I liked best were; the people crossing on the ice cakes, where George Harris standing on some rocks says he will be free, and the last one where Eva is welcoming Uncle Tom in Heaven. About 4.30 we came out. We shook hands with Mr. Temple and gave him three cheers for being so kind as to let us go to such a good theatre.

LESLIE R. JONES.

### Going for Flour

On the eleventh of October the scow and steamer went over to the New England Docks for a load of flour. The scow left the Island about half past nine in the morning. After we had landed we made fast the scow alongside of the wharf where there was a car load of flour waiting for us. The first thing we did was to lay some pieces of joist across the track to roll the barrels of flour on. There were two boys on the deck of the scow to take the barrels from the boys that were rolling them from the car. Two boys and myself had to unload the car. There were in the car for us one hundred and fifty barrels of Washburn and Crosby's Gold Medal and twenty-five barrels of pastry flour. The scow reached the Island about quarter of two. When we got back we beached the scow, and in the afternoon when the tide went out, the teams drove down and commenced unloading. There were three teams working. The flour was taken up to the house where it was packed away in the flour room. The scow was unloaded by four o'clock.

CHARLES A. BLATCHFORD.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL

DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

Vol. 5. No. 7. November, 1901

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE 50 cents per year.

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CHARLES H. BRADLEY, Superintendent.

That the Farm School is moving along the lines pursued by the public schools is evident not only by the flag-staff with the colors flying, but by the earnest yet national patriotism of the pupils; a patriotism founded not on sentiment merely, but rooted in a knowledge of those principles of government on which our whole social

fabric rests. That instruction in the history, institutions and laws of our country is necessary has been emphasized by recent events. A government resting as ours does on popular suffrage, pre-supposes intelligence, a good character and judgment on the part of the voter, as well as a knowledge of the fundamental principles of government.

The tragedy at Buffalo is a topic worthy of review by every instructor of the young, and fruitful in the many lessons it affords. The character of the man so suddenly removed from the earth, the dignity of his position, what he had achieved through life-long purposes and a pure and symmetrical manhood, invite deep interest and careful study. No greater dignity and honor can man on earth attain than to be president of the United States. He was of humble origin and had no training or other privilege not within the reach of every earnest, intelligent boy. For him to rise step by step, to go before the people twice for their suffrages, winning them not by party achievements in the past, but by personal merit, by inspiring confidence in good yet to come, by firm faith in his country's institutions, his gradual yet irresistible progress toward the achievement of his own ideals, pre-supposes not only great persuasive power over men, but a character having the Divine as a model.

What a contrast between this character and that of the assassin. The latter had not learned obedience and therefore was unfit to command. He had not the ability nor the disposition to win honorable fame, nor the patience of mind to toil in respectable obscurity.

We shall greatly err if we think the assassin's bullet brought our flags to half mast. It was the occasion but not the great, the real cause. Against the will of the people it would not have gone there; and when the people will it, it ascends again to the mast-head, in its brightness



and freshness, quivering neither with dread nor fear, but rather nerved for greater progress and grander achievements.

We as a nation should live largely in the future. What we receive today comes as the the reward, the fruitage of past effort. The flag that floats over us is the flag of the future. The principles that gave it birth are the God-given heritage of mankind. It is the flag in which every citizen, native or naturalized, has, to use a commercial phrase, "taken stock." Our system of government is a product of Christianity. It is a practical application to civil life of the common brotherhood of man taught in Holy Writ. As Christianity is a leaven that will eventually leaven the whole lump so will the example of our government work to the political improvement of all mankind.

### Notes

Oct. 1. Last Visiting Day of the season. 300 present among whom were Managers, Mr. Francis Shaw, Mr. Henry S. Grew, Mr. Walter Hunnewell and thirty-seven graduates.

A huge clam bake for the graduates on the beach in the afternoon.

A number of J. Fenimore Cooper's books received for the library from Charles and Ernest Jorgensen.

Oct. 2. The Cottage Row citizens had their regular quarterly election of officers which resulted as follows;—

Mayor, Charles W. Jorgensen; aldermen, Frank C. Simpson, Daniel W. Lighton, Charles F. Spear, Daniel W. Murray, Louis E. Means; assessor, George E. Hicks; street commissioner, William C. J. Frueh; chief of police, Edward B. Taylor. The mayor appointed as clerk, Willard H. Rowell; curator, Edwin W. Goodnough; librarian, Lester H. Witt; treasurer, Samuel A. Waycott; janitor, Carl L. Wittig. The chief of police appointed as his patrolmen, Edward L. Davis, Charles Hill, and Andrew W. Dean.

Oct. 3. Mr. J. Henry Dow, Assistant Superintendent of the Maine Reform School.

Portland, Maine, spent the afternoon here.

Oct. 4. Summer term of school closed.

Oct. 5. Graduates John P. Ackers and William G. Cummings spent the afternoon at the School.

Mr. John H. Dale from the Andover Theological Seminary began his labors here as Sunday Assistant.

Oct. 8. Ivory Banks Quimby entered the School.

Oct. 9. Plumber finished three days' work repairing and overhauling the plumbing about the building.

New posts and wires set in the clothes-yard.

Oct. 11. The year's supply of flour towed by the PILGRIM from the N. E. Docks.

Oct. 12. Began laying new floor in the assembly room.

Pulling stumps in the grove at the west of the building.

Oct. 13. Former Sunday Assistant, Mr. L. F. Reed, passed the day here and addressed the boys in the evening.

Started furnace fires.

Oct. 14. Mrs. Frank Buxton spent the night at the School.

Fall term of school began.

Oct. 16. Graduate William N. Phillips visited the School.

Oct. 17. Year's supply of oil came from the Jenney Mfg. Co.

Managers Charles T. Gallagher, Esq., and Melvin O. Adams, Esq., with Lieut. Ross of U. S. Life Saving Service, John H. Holmes, U. S. Supervising Architect, Mr. George W. Perkins and Postmaster George A. Hibbard spent several hours at the School.

Secretary, Mr. Tucker Daland, sent us a horse, "Max."

Oct. 18. Mr. Wardwell and six boys saw "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

A heavy wind all day blew off many apples. Mr. and Mrs. H. Day of Jericho, Vt. spent the morning looking about the Island. Mr. Day was farm-foreman twenty-two years ago.

Oct. 19. Miss Wright and ten boys attended the L. T. L. Convention in Dorchester.

Oct. 20. Manager Mr. Thomas F.

Temple with friends and Rev. Dr. Cutter here in the afternoon.

Dr. Cutter addressed the boys at 3 P. M.

Oct. 21. Telephone inspector here.

Took down the fence along Highland Road.

Thomas Tierney left the School to live with Mr. L. N. Sawyer, Salisbury Heights, N. H.

Repairing and painting horse rake, harrows, ploughs and other farm implements.

Oct. 23. Severe squall in the evening blew off a large quantity of apples.

Oct. 24. Harvested carrots.

\*Manager Mr. Francis Shaw spent the day at the School.

Oct. 25. Somerville Y. M. C. A. Junior foot ball team was defeated by our team. The score was 16 to 0.

Oct. 26. First frost.

Manager Mr. Thomas F. Temple with a party of seventy here. Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew was present. Mr. Temple furnished refreshments for all and presented the boys with badges, and tickets for all of them to see "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

Oct. 28. Extreme low tides hinder trips of the steamer.

Norway pines on the front avenue thinned out. The logs will be used in the east dike.

Oct. 29. Heavy frost.

Several of the instructors heard Mr. Jacob Riis speak in the Winthrop Church, Charlestown.

Oct. 30. Finished getting in the corn.

Through the kindness of Manager Mr. Thomas F. Temple all the boys saw "Uncle Tom's Cabin" played at the Boston Theatre.

Oct. 31. Graduate Walter McKeever here in the afternoon.

### Farm School Bank

Cash on hand October 1st., 1901.	\$410.20
Deposited during the month.	41.09
	<hr/> \$451.29
Withdrawn during the month.	7.46
Balance November 1st., 1901.	<hr/> \$443.83

### Rank in Classes

Boys having first and second rank in their classes appear below:

#### FIRST CLASS

Harold S. Taylor Samuel A. Waycott

#### SECOND CLASS

Clarence DeMar Frank C. Simpson

#### THIRD CLASS

Frank S. Miley Joseph E. K. Robblee

#### FOURTH CLASS

Albert L. Sawyer Clarence Taylor

#### FIFTH CLASS

Charles W. Watson Robert E. Miley

#### SIXTH CLASS

George A. Maguire Charles H. Whitney

### Garden Prizes

The annual award of the Grew Garden Prizes is given below. The award is determined by care during the season, general appearance during the season, appearance at the time of judging, and the use to which the flowers were put. The prizes were presented to the winners by Mr. Grew personally in the presence of the visiting friends, on last Visiting Day, October 1.

1. Leslie R. Jones
2. Charles and Ernest Jorgensen
3. Charles Warner
4. Newton and Willard Rowell
5. John and Joseph Robblee.

### Notice

Company X wish to express their thanks to all graduates who have paid their dues during the last three years and helped to win the beautiful prize banner which is now their own. This banner was given by the Suffolk Division L. T. L. to the Company which for three years in succession paid into the county treasury the largest amount of dues each year.

### Thanksgiving

Graduates are cordially invited to spend Thanksgiving at the School. The steamer will leave the Public Landing at Marine Park at 10 o'clock. As it is presumed that quite a number will be present, only graduates or graduates with their wives and children will be expected. Those accepting this invitation will please inform Mr. Bradley by card or letter on or before

Saturday, November 23, that ample arrangements may be made for the pleasure of all.

### Foot Ball

In order that both sides in the foot ball game on Thanksgiving be evenly matched the graduates' team must not average over 135 pounds, that being the average weight of our team.

### Thrashing Beans

We are thrashing beans now days. When the beans are ripe in the field we pull the beans and stack them around poles with the roots toward the poles and the pods outside so that the beans will dry; then we take the two-horse wagon and go to get them. We pull from the ground the poles which have the beans on them and take the beans to the barn to be thrashed. We take the beanpods from the poles and spread them out on the barn floor. Then we get several flails and thrash them. First one boy hits the pods and then the other does and so on until they are done on that side. Then we take a hay fork and turn them over and thrash that side until that is done. Then we take a fork and throw off the bean stalks. Then we push them down a scuttle and they go for bedding for the cows and horses. We sweep the beans up in a pile and leave them until we get more thrashed and then we get a shovel and take them up and put them into the fanning machine and separate the dust and pods from the beans. One boy runs the machine, and a boy with a shovel fills the machine. We have a box at the mouth of the machine to catch the beans. When we get that done we put them into bags and store them up for seeds for next spring.

HERBERT J. PHILLIPS.

### Temple Day

On Saturday, October 26, Mr. Temple with a party of about seventy of his friends visited the School. The visitors were escorted to the house by the band. They were shown over the house, gardens and Cottage Row. Each boy was provided with a bouquet and as soon as the visitors came around the house they were all presented with one; they all seemed pleased, especially the ladies. Then they returned to the house and

had refreshments in the chapel. At the same time we had ice cream and cake in our dining room. After all were through eating, the band and the boys assembled in the chapel. The band played and then there were speeches by Mr. Temple and many others. Many funny stories were told. Then Mr. Temple presented to Edward Taylor, the chief of police, three gilt stars, a large one for his cap, the two smaller ones for the lapels of his coat. These were badges of office. Then to George Hart, leader of the band, he gave three gilt bugles as insignia of his office. Next he called up Charles W. Jorgensen, mayor of Cottage Row. He made a few remarks and then gave him a gold watch and chain with a compass for the charm. On the inside of the back cover of the watch is "Mayor of Cottage Row, Thompson's Island, Boston, Mass." These articles are to be handed down to the successive officers. It will make the offices more valued and harder to secure. Then after some speaking Mr. Temple distributed to each boy a badge with the School colors, yellow and blue, and a picture of Mr. Bradley. Mr. Temple closed by announcing that he had bought a hundred tickets to Uncle Tom's Cabin so all the boys could go. We all thoroughly enjoyed the good time Mr. Temple gave us and tried to let him see it in the loudness of our cheers.

FRANK C. SIMPSON.

### Agricultural Books

Lately there have been quite a number of books added to our library. Among them are twenty-three books about trees, shrubs, principles of agriculture, soil, milk and its products, horticulture, etc. They are on all branches of agriculture. They have gray-colored covers with the word "Reference" printed on a slip of paper stuck to the cover. Any boy who hasn't lost his library card can take one into the reading-room to find out things he wishes to know. There are enough agricultural books to make a successful farmer of any fellow who wishes to be one. I do. These books are written by men who know by experience what they are saying.

RALPH O. ANDERSON.

### Alumni

EDWARD STEINBRICK, '95, is now in business for himself as an upholsterer at 85 O St., South Boston, he having succeeded to the business of Charles H. Carr.

CHARLES H. MCKAY, '00, writes that he is getting along well and enjoys his work. He does cabinet work in the repair shop of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. He is a member of the Y. M. C. A. and uses the gymnasium as often as he can get the opportunity. His address is 82 Cedar St., New Haven, Conn.

### Alumni Notice

A meeting of the Farm School Alumni Association will be held at the School on Thanksgiving Day. The boat will leave the Public Landing at City Point, South Boston, at 10 o'clock A. M. Immediately upon the arrival of the boat at the Island the meeting will be held in Gardner Hall, and the proper business transacted.

A Rugby Game will be played in the afternoon at 3 o'clock between the School and Alumni teams. The boat will leave the Island to return at about 4.30 P. M.

At this time it may not be out of place to request that the graduates of the School give their attention to the Farm School Alumni Association, and consider again the matter of becoming members thereof. It will be remembered that the objects of the Association at the time of its organization over two years ago were stated to be the establishment and maintenance of friendships and social relations which exist and should exist among the graduates and between the graduate body and the School.

The Association, of course, is entirely in the hands of the graduates who are members, and its objects must necessarily be such as they desire. The older men among the alumni should feel that this is an organization of the graduates of the School, and that their names are desired on the roll of members. In fact the organization needs their support and their attendance at its meetings, to give dignity to its deliberations and the benefit of their experience in its debates. The younger graduates also

should become members, for the objects of the Association must appeal to them more forcibly now than they will at any future time. Their interest in the School and one another is still fresh and strong, and they should see that it is preserved so.

The meetings and reunions of the Association are always pleasant affairs. The clam-bake at the Island in October was a particularly enjoyable occasion, and the annual meeting and reunion held on Thanksgiving Day is always all that can be desired. Mr. Bradley and the Managers of the School have always given their support in these matters and in co-operation with the organization in a manner which has always assured success to the undertaking. A larger membership is desired, and every alumnus should become a member. The larger the membership of the Association, the more efficient will be its work. The initiation fee is fifty cents and the dues one dollar a year. Applications should be sent to

William G. Cummings, Sec.,

19 Milk Street, Boston.

### Carrots

October 23, we began to get in the carrots. Two boys had spades and dug them, while others followed and piled them up. Some more boys came along and topped them, that is, broke off the leaves and stems. The carrots were put in one pile and the tops in another. Then they were put in boxes and taken up to the stock barn and put into the root-cellar in a bin. There were about seventy-five bushels.

LESTER H. WITT.

### Waxing the Schoolroom Floors

A few days ago all of us painters waxed the schoolroom floors. First we swept and dusted them and then we rubbed the wax with cloths on one of the floors in all of the corners and under all of the desks and chairs. It was allowed fifteen minutes to dry and then one of us polished it with a weighted brush while the other two were waxing the other floor. After that was waxed we allowed it fifteen minutes to dry and then at first we polished it with just the weighted brush and then with cloths under the brush.

DON C. CLARK.

## Thompson's Island

# Beacon

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### Audubon's Birds

The School has twenty of the plates of the original folio edition of Audubon's "Birds of America." These are large, thirty-nine by twenty-six inches, and are framed and hung in the chapel, schoolrooms and the dining room. They all represent the birds as life size. The birds are shown in action and among the trees and plants that are common to their habits. In some of the pictures the birds are sitting on branches of trees, often with their nests. In others they can be seen flying or searching for food among leaves and vegetation. Ducks and similar birds are pictured on or near the water. This makes the pictures more natural and gives a better idea of the habits of the birds and we can learn not only their form and color, but also their manner of life. This is the reason why Audubon's pictures of birds are considered so superior to those of others. Audubon Hall in Cottage Row, where the pet stock is kept, was named in his honor.

Some of the best and most conspicuous of our pictures are the Black Vulture, Red Headed Duck, Wild Turkey, and Night Heron. A night heron was shot last spring and has been mounted and the picture is exactly like it.

John James Audubon was born in Louisiana in 1780 of French parents. His father was a great lover of nature and early he taught his son to study nature's objects. Audubon's childhood was spent at his father's home in France. Among his studies there were drawing and painting. He was fond not only of birds but also of all kinds of animals, especially dogs and cats.

When he was grown up he came back to

America and set up in business but made a complete failure of it. About this time the passion for the study of birds had grown so strong that he made many solitary expeditions for that purpose. At these times he was completely absorbed; on one occasion he spent three weeks in the study of one small bird. In this way he got the knowledge and accuracy which gives so much value to his works. He finally collected two hundred sheets filled with about one thousand colored pictures of birds. Being compelled to leave Philadelphia where he was staying, he placed them in a warehouse. When he returned he found that these precious fruits of his labor had been used as a nest by rats and almost destroyed. The shock threw him into a fever and he came very near dying.

As his health returned he resumed his gun, pencil and drawing book and made other excursions and in eighteen months he had refilled his portfolio. He set out for Europe to exhibit them. He arrived in Liverpool with but one sovereign in his pocket. His works were greatly admired and so he published them in book form, which brought him enough to pay him for his labors. They were considered the most beautiful work of the kind ever given to the world. In 1839 Audubon left the Old World for the last time and returned to America and there published in better form his "Birds of America" in seven large volumes. His love for nature still led him to take fresh excursions as long as his health permitted. He finally settled on what is now known as Audubon Park on the banks of the Hudson River where he died in 1851.

CHARLES A. TAYLOR.

### Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is one of our best holidays. After breakfast all the boys who were not working in the house, helped get things ready outside. The work was done quickly. Before the graduates arrived the boys who had bundles sent them went up to the reading-room and opened them. There were twenty-seven who had bundles then and three more were received during the morning. At half past ten the Harbor Master's boat, Guardian, arrived with the graduates. There were seventy and nine were accompanied by their wives and children. In about an hour we all went to dinner, the graduates in the chapel and the boys in their own dining-room. The dinner consisted of roast turkey with dressing and cranberry sauce, celery, vegetables, pies and cheese, ice cream, fruit and coffee. Afterward the Alumni Association held their annual meeting in Gardner Hall and elected officers for the year. Soon after the foot ball game started. There was considerable wind and so little kicking was done. The first half the graduates had the slope of the field with them and scored one touchdown. Our team held them well. The second half the team-work of our fellows showed up and we made a safety and a touchdown, making the final score seven to five in favor of the Farm School team. At half past four the Guardian came. As the tide was low she had to lay off in the channel and the graduates were taken off to her in our boats, manned by the larger members of the boat crew. It was rough but they seemed to enjoy the experience. The women and children went in the CHILTON. All of us had a very pleasant time.

CHESTER F. WELCH.

### Foot Ball

The line up of the Alumni and School teams on Thanksgiving was as follows:—

ALUMNI		SCHOOL
Currier	l e	Conklin
H. Hart	l t	E. Taylor
W. Davis	l g	Blatchford
Buchan	c	Lundquist
Bartlett	r g	Burchsted

H. Pulson	r t	F. Hill
T. Brown	r e	Means
W. Austin	q b	Thomas
W. Hart	l h b	Ladd
C. Pulson	r h b	Davis
Curley	f b	H. Hinckley

### Making Scrub-Pads

When our pants, shirts and stockings are all mended and there is no spare work for us sewing-room boys to do, Mrs. Elwood, or the instructor that has charge of us, tells us that we may make scrub-pads. Then she tells us how she wants them made. We cut the scrub-pads out of a piece of old oil-cloth eight inches wide and one foot long. The next thing to do is to cut out a piece of comforter twice as large as the piece of oil-cloth. We cut the piece of comforter in halves and put both halves between the pieces of oil-cloth, turn the edges of the oil-cloth in about a half inch and sew the edges over and over with black or white linen thread. When we have the edges of the scrub-pad all sewed over and over, we do what we call tacking it down. This is putting your thread through six times in five places. When we have the pads all made they are about one inch thick. They are for the boys to kneel on when they are scrubbing floors. Then the knees of their pants will not get worn out so quickly. I like to make them and so do the other three sewing-room boys. A. LEROY SAWYER.

### Hauling Dressing

One morning another boy and myself were told to harness up a horse and get some dressing. We took Jane. We thought she was a good one to haul the load. We harnessed her into the blue cart and got our tools and went over to the dressing pile and loaded up our cart. As soon as we were loaded we drove into the garden and made little piles of the dressing. We thought it was great fun to have the team. Some of the other boys think it is hard work to haul dressing but I don't think it is. When we were done we took our tools down to the water, washed them off clean, then took them up to the barn and put them away. MILO THURSTON.

**Harvest Concert**

SONG		<i>Choir.</i>
	WHO WILL FOLLOW	
EXERCISE		<i>School.</i>
	SCRIPTURE	
SONG		<i>Choir.</i>
	HEAVEN'S HARVEST HOME	
EXERCISE		<i>Class.</i>
	THE HARVEST	
SONG		<i>Choir.</i>
	LO, THE FRUITFUL HARVEST	
RECITATION		<i>Albert W. Hinckley.</i>
	MY PUMPKIN	
RECITATION		<i>James Clifford.</i>
	OCTOBER'S PARTY	
SONG		<i>Choir.</i>
	A BUSY TILLERS' TRAIN	
RECITATION		<i>Charles W. Watson.</i>
	A DREADFUL PLANT	
RECITATION		<i>(John W. Robblee. Edward L. Davis.)</i>
	SOME TIME	
SONG		<i>Choir.</i>
	HAPPY LITTLE STEWARDS	
RECITATION		<i>Albert H. Ladd.</i>
	THE FARMER'S LIFE	
SONG		<i>Choir.</i>
	BRINGING IN THE SHEAVES	

**Digging up Trees**

Lately we have been digging up some trees in the groves between the two avenues. We took the ones that were in the way of the other trees. The easiest time to dig up the stump of a tree is when the tree is living. When we took down some trees we dug the dirt up around the roots and cut the roots. Before we cut the roots one boy went up the tree. The rope was thrown up to him and he tied it about three fourths of the way up the tree, in a solid knot. After he tied it he came down and then the roots were cut. Some trees have a tap root running down straight into the ground. After the roots are cut so that you can see well under it we try to pull it down. If it comes a little we are able to cut the tap root, then it is easy to get it down. The stump is cut off and the tree is trimmed and carried over to the east dike to be

used in building it, and the stump goes over to the south end dike to be used in protecting that dike. After the tree is out the hole is filled up and seeded over with grass seed. We have dug out seven trees between the avenues and fifteen over at south end.

ALBERT H. LADD.

**Harvesting Celery**

On the afternoon of November 7, the farm boys started to take in celery. In digging up celery two boys go together. One boy takes a spade and digs into the ground about a foot and five inches from the head and the other boy holds the bunch in about the middle and pulls it up as it is freed. We try to keep as much soil on the root as possible so it will keep longer and better. After it has been dug up it is laid along in rows. When a boy breaks off the root the bunch is laid aside and taken up to the house because it will not keep well with the root broken off. As the celery is being dug up a boy goes along and puts it in boxes. There are about twenty heads in a box. When the boxes are full they are taken off to the celery house where two boys empty the boxes and pack the celery. When we had taken the good celery over to the celery house we picked up the broken pieces and carried them over to the pigs. We had a very good crop this year, consisting of a hundred and seventy-five dozen head. It took about a half a day to harvest it.

EDWARD L. DAVIS.

**Nigger**

We have a cat by the name of "Nigger." He is a maltese cat with a white spot on his neck. He comes up to the house every day but he belongs to the boat house. He is a sly cat. When he catches a bird he leaves nothing of it but the feathers. When he is not angry he keeps his claws drawn in so that you can not see them but when he is angry they are pushed out. One Sunday he got up on top of the squirrel cage and tried to get a squirrel but the wire stopped him. We have a few other cats but they are not liked so much as "Nigger."

JAMES A. EDSON.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

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DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

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Following our regular custom, every boy at the Farm School, the day before Thanksgiving, wrote out, after due thought, his reasons for being thankful. This looking for benefits received tends to produce the true spirit of thankfulness; and nothing aids more in reaching a contented state of mind, and through that a happy life, than giving thanks to God and man for all benefits.

The boys' articles cover a great variety of

subjects and in all, everybody and everything was remembered. Following are a few articles on thankfulness selected from each class:—

**FIRST CLASS.** I am so thankful for the various things that I can't express my thankfulness in words. I am thankful that our superintendent recovered from his illness and I've got a good teacher, a true and righteous God to worship, the kind Managers, our friends, good health, also my brother's and my own. That there is one day in the year set apart for thanking God for his good doings to us.

JOHN W. ROBBLEE.

I am thankful that we have steam-heat in our building. I am thankful that I have relatives and friends. I am thankful that I know how to typewrite. I am thankful that we all had a chance to go and see "Uncle Tom's Cabin." I am thankful that I have a chance to go to town.

CHARLES F. SPEAR.

I am thankful I am well and happy. I am thankful I can play rugby. I am thankful I have a good teacher. I am thankful I am in the band. I am thankful my relatives are all well. I am thankful I am as strong as I am. I am thankful Mr. Temple gave me a picture of Mr. Bradley that I may keep. I am thankful that I can make good paper knives. I am thankful I have a good home to live in and I can get such a good education.

ALBERT H. LADD.

My thankfulness for everything cannot be written on this paper on account of its size, but the most important of them all is that I am a member of the Farm School.

CHARLES HILL.

**SECOND CLASS.** I am thankful that I am in good health and have enough clothes to keep me warm and enough food. I am also thankful for the friends I have and what they do for me. I am thankful for the School that I live in. I am thankful for the pleasure I have had this year and thankful to those that gave it to me.

EDWARD B. TAYLOR.

I am thankful that I have met with so much success this past year. I am thankful I have a mother who loves me. I am thankful that I am not sick. I am thankful I am in



sloyd. I am thankful that I am in the graduating L. T. L. class. I am thankful that Thanksgiving is so near. I am thankful for the teacher I have. I am thankful for my learning. I am thankful my relatives are all alive. I am thankful Mr. Bradley is home.

GEORGE E. HICKS.

I am thankful for the kind friends that I have. I am thankful that November is not like three years ago when we lost our steamer and small boats, or when the Pilgrims were here. I am thankful for the good milk which we get. I am thankful that we celebrate Thanksgiving.

DON C. CLARK.

I am thankful for the way the Managers have looked out for our pleasure this summer and the way Mr. Bradley has helped us out.

FREDERICK L. WALKER.

I am thankful I have a mother who is very kind to me. I am thankful I am in a place where I can learn to work in sloyd and work on the farm. And that I can spend holidays, and enjoy myself. I am thankful that I have many friends. And that I have good clothing to wear and food to eat. I am thankful I can go to school and get an education. I am thankful the United States is where I live and that we have good men to rule our country. I am thankful Mr. Bradley has kept me here to teach me how to earn a living.

WILLARD H. ROWELL.

I am thankful that no great damage to our Island was done by storms last winter. That I had such a happy Christmas. That Mr. Temple gave each boy a diary to keep a record of his doings. For the new schoolrooms and other improvements. For a joyfui Fourth of July. That the world paid due respect to Mr. McKinley and Queen Victoria by services when they died. For the good times Mr. Temple gave us. That all my friends and relatives have been preserved from death. For the good times we had during vacation and the trips to Gloucester and Arlington Heights. That Mrs. Ames has been so kind to us. That we had such a good time last Thanksgiving Day.

FRANK C. SIMPSON.

I am thankful for the good healthy food, warm bed and clothes. That during the rough and hard weather that we have had, no serious harm has come to our Island. I am also thankful that I am having a chance at working on the farm for a while; that most of my relatives and friends as well as myself have been kept in good health. That Mr. Bradley, who on account of illness has been away for a short time, has returned to us again. That I have a good teacher from whom I may learn a great many things. These are a few of the many things for which I am thankful.

FREDERICK P. THAYER.

I am thankful that I have lived during the past year, and have escaped sickness. I am thankful that I am in the Farm School and have such a kind superintendent. I am thankful I have such a good teacher. I am thankful that I have a minister to tell us about the Bible. I am thankful I have got along so well in my studies during the past year. I am thankful that there have been so few storms that do so much damage. I am thankful that the people got the right man who assassinated President McKinley. I am thankful that Thanksgiving is coming again. I am thankful that I can have some good turkey. I am thankful that God has spared so many of us to see the progress of the world.

WILLIAM B. MAY.

THIRD CLASS. I am thankful for the clothes I wear and also for the good food I have to eat. I am thankful that I go to school and have a good teacher. I am thankful that I have such a good opportunity to learn the different trades. I am thankful that so many of the graduates can come down Thanksgiving Day. I am thankful for a good many other things that would keep me writing quite a while.

CHARLES H. O'CONNOR.

I am thankful Thursday, November 28, is a day of public thanksgiving. I am thankful that my mother and relations have kept well during the past year, and I am thankful for the opportunity of being on this Island, with its good Managers and superintendent. I am thankful for the Pilgrims who founded this day nearly three hundred years ago. I am, as most

every other boy is, thankful for the dinner but I would be more thankful if the poorer ones could have as much. I am thankful that the alcoholic drink is decreasing, and I hope that soon it will be entirely gone.

ROBERT H. BOGUE.

I am thankful that Mr. Bradley came home so as to be with us Thanksgiving Day. I am also thankful that the crops were so plenteous this year. I am thankful that my mother is living and also my brother and sister. I am also thankful that President McKinley died a Christian man and that we have such a good President in his place and that we have grown from a band of people as noble as the Pilgrims and Puritans and now we stand as a great republic and the strongest nation in the world.

I. BANKS QUIMBY.

I am thankful that I have such a beautiful island home where I can get food to eat, clothes to wear and a bed to sleep in. I am thankful I have such a chance to get an education in school and sloyd, that I have such a good teacher and that I have a chance to learn on a cornet. I am thankful for the new school-room in which we study. I am thankful that Thanksgiving Day is so near and that we beat in the rugby game and that I had a chance to see "Uncle Tom's Cabin." I am thankful that Mr. Bradley is better and is here again.

WALTER D. NORWOOD.

I am thankful for my nice mother and sister and my friends. I am thankful for being in this nice School. I am thankful for my nice teacher. I am thankful for the friends like Mr. and Mrs. Bradley. I am thankful for the nice Managers. I am thankful for the nice dinner we have on Thanksgiving Day, and the nice time. I am thankful that I have clothes to wear. I am thankful that I am in a place that I may be warm during this winter.

LESLIE R. JONES.

I am thankful for a good teacher. I am thankful because God has kept my mother, brother and myself safe through another year. I am thankful that Thanksgiving Day is not far off. I am thankful that I have good clothes to wear.

FRANK S. MILEY.

I am thankful that I have a good teacher. I am thankful that I have a good mother and brother. I am thankful for the opportunity I have given me down here. I am thankful for the good time we have on Thanksgiving Day. I am thankful for the good dinner we get. I am thankful that I am in the first grade. I am thankful that I am away from the bad boys in the city.

JOSEPH E. K. ROBBLEE.

FOURTH CLASS. I am thankful that we can eat our Thanksgiving meals in peace and not have to have guns by our side to keep the Indians away from us. I am thankful that we have such a smart and courageous man to take up our presidential chair. I am glad that our good superintendent, Mr. Bradley, is back from his sick vacation, who did not have such a good vacation as we hoped that he would have. I am thankful that God has watched over my relatives as much as he has. I am thankful that this institution has kept up as well as it has and I hope it always will.

A. LEROY SAWYER.

I am thankful for a good mother. I am thankful for the way the Managers help this School. I am thankful that the superintendent is better. I am thankful that I am thankful for countless things.

RALPH O. ANDERSON.

I am thankful because I know how to sew my own clothes. I am thankful that we have healthy food to eat. I am thankful I was lucky enough to get on this Island. I am thankful that what relations I have are well. I am thankful that I am sheltered from the cold. I am thankful that when I leave here I will know how to start in life. I am thankful that I have eyes and ears to hear and see all the beautiful things of this world.

CLARENCE TAYLOR.

FIFTH CLASS. I am thankful we have Thanksgiving once more. I am thankful our superintendent is better. I am thankful for the School we are in. I am thankful for the instructors we have. I am thankful I have a mother alive. I am thankful for our sleep. I am thankful we are not on the stormy ocean the way the Pilgrims were.

HARRY M. CHASE.

I am thankful I am down on this Island and I am thankful that we have so much room to play in. I am thankful that our friends are allowed to come and see us. I am thankful that we can have a good dinner on Thanksgiving Day. I am thankful that Mr. Bradley is so kind as to let us go to entertainments and have such good times. JOHN F. NELSON.

I am thankful that I have a mother and sister and that they are well. I am thankful that I am well. I am thankful that we have a good Thanksgiving Day, and for the good things we have on it. I am thankful that we have some more good days. I am thankful that this School has been established for boys and gives them a chance in the world. I am thankful I can go to school. CHARLES W. WATSON.

### Notes

Nov. 1. All the apples picked.

Through the kindness of Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew in furnishing tickets, ten instructors heard the Symphony Orchestra concert in the afternoon.

Nov. 2. A game of football played with the graduates resulted in a tie, score 5 to 5. The graduates who played were William Austin, Ernest Austin, Thomas Brown, Samuel Butler, Dana Currier, William Davis, Frank Harris, Ernest Curley and Alfred Malm.

Nov. 4. Steamer PILGRIM went to Lawley's for an overhauling and to have her winter sheathing put on.

Rev. T. Namae and Rev. Masashi Kobayashi from Tokyo, Japan, visited the School.

Nov. 5. Leonard S. Hayden and Alfred H. Neumann entered the School.

Nov. 6. Painting at the farm house. PILGRIM returned from Lawley's.

Nov. 7. Carting gravel to beach road for grading.

TREVORE hauled up on the beach near the boat-house, for winter quarters.

Nov. 8. Pulled mangels.

Finished painting telephone poles.

Nov. 9. Boys put on winter suits.

Dug celery and stored it in the celery house.

Nov. 10. Harvest concert at 3 P. M.

Nov. 11. First snow fell.

Took down the gaff on the main flagstaff and housed the top-mast.

Commenced fall ploughing.

Miss Emily G. Balch and her class in economics from Wellesley College spent the morning at the School.

Nov. 12. Pulled cabbages.

The boys put on winter shirts.

The knockabout WINSLOW hauled up on the beach near the boat-house.

Mr. John T. Coolidge gave a sum of money for "amusements and entertainments," saying, "I believe in the old saying, 'All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.'"

Nov. 13. A new Clinton Welded Wire fence put along the Highland Road to replace the one that was blown down in the summer.

Nov. 14. Onion piece plowed.

A real snow storm.

Nov. 15. Spreading dressing.

Manager Mr. Francis Shaw visited the School.

A lot of hockey sticks and balls received from Mr. John T. Coolidge.

Nov. 16. Row boat BRADFORD painted and varnished.

Seventy-seven boys and eleven instructors vaccinated.

Nov. 18. Cider made for boiling down for Thanksgiving pies.

Nov. 19. Horse power and feed cutter set up in the stock barn.

Graduate Albert E. Gerry visited the School.

Nov. 20. President Mr. Richard M. Saltonstall gave us a horse.

Thanksgiving Proclamation read.

Nov. 21. Blacksmith from town shod the horses all around.

The fence back of Cottage Row and that near the storage barn repaired.

Nov. 22. Drawer-room painted and white-washed.

Nov. 23. Painted the STANDISH.

Nov. 24. A very heavy northeast storm with an unusually high tide.

Graduate Charles McKay came to spend Thanksgiving.

Nov. 25. Squirrel cage taken to the stock barn for the winter.

Nov. 26. Clearing the old wharf of rubbish thrown up by the storm.

Nov. 27. Professor Joseph L. Hills, Director of the Vermont Agricultural Experiment Station visited the School.

Repaired gang-plank at Public Landing.

Nov. 28. Thanksgiving Day.

Seventy graduates here, including nine with their wives and children.

Game of foot ball at 3 P. M. between the Alumni and home teams. Score 7 to 5 in favor of the home team.

By the courtesy of the Harbor Master, the Guardian brought the graduates and took them back.

We are indebted to the Boston Ice Cream Co. for twelve gallons of ice cream; and to Mrs. C. M. Warren and her friends for a crate of pies.

Nov. 29. No school.

Two pictures received from Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew.

Fifty-five boys were vaccinated, some for the second time.

John Lundquist went to work for Blodgett Bros., Boston, electricians.

### Farm School Bank

Cash on hand November 1st., 1901,	\$443.83
Deposited during the month,	24.53
	\$468.36
Withdrawn during the month,	7.55
Balance December 2nd., 1901,	\$460.81

### Dikes

We have to have dikes in some places to prevent the water from coming up on the meadow. They make a crib or kind of frame work of logs on the water and fill in the crevices with stones and put on dirt. The carts draw the dirt to the place,

and the boys put it in a pile. There is quite a lot of clay so some of the boys dig it out, and bring it over to the dikes and dump it in piles. The other boys take shovels and throw it back against the dikes so that they will be both water tight and strong. The dikes are on the south and west sides of the Island.

ROBERT H. BOGUE.

### Hauling Up the Trevore

On November 7, we hauled up the TREVORE. On the afternoon before at low tide the cradle was put on the beach and weighted down to keep it in place. The next morning at high tide the TREVORE was floated around to the cradle and three lines were put on her to hold her in place exactly over it. Then we had to wait for the tide to go. When she touched, five or six fellows got on her to help keep her from pounding till the tide went enough for her to rest firmly. Then they went ashore. A windlass was placed on the beach and with it and a block and tackle she was hauled way up near the boat-house. Then she was braced so she would be right. FREDERICK L. WALKER.

### Preparing for Christmas

It is drawing near Christmas time now and the boys are getting ready for it. The boys are making different things for presents. Some are making wood work, such as; paper-knives, rulers, picture frames, pen-trays, pen-holders, jewelry-boxes, key boards, napkin-rings and a number of other things. The things that the boys make are not all of the same design. Each boy makes a design of his own if he wishes. Most of the large boys make different designs. The most popular thing now is making picture-frames. One boy got up a design that the boys took a fancy to and now about half the boys are making them. When the boys want wood to make anything, they send a requisition to Mr. Bradley for the wood. Then if the wood is in stock he will get it. Some boys are lucky enough to find wood on the beach or in the lumber yard and do not have to make out any requisition for it. The boys are making out a number of requisitions now so as to get the things made for Christmas. WILLIAM B. MAY.

### Painting the Rowboats

When a boat needs painting a number of boys go down to the wharf and bring it up to the shop. After it is there we take it into the basement. We then scrape all the old varnish off the seats and the rail. The seats are made of mahogany. It is then sandpapered all over. After we get it sandpapered we put two coats of buff paint on the inside and two coats of white on the outside. After we get two coats of paint on her, we varnish the seats and rail twice. We then letter her name on both bow and the stern. The oars, yoke and backboard are varnished and the bumpers and rudder are painted white.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

### Our Sloyd Class

When I first got into sloyd I did not know what to do, so my sloyd teacher came to my bench with a sheet of paper and a model which I was to draw, then he showed me how to use a T square and the triangle. The first model I drew was a wedge and then a planting-pin and then a flower stick. When we first get into the sloyd class we have to draw three models before we can make any and after that we make one drawing for each.

ALBERT PROBERT.

### Vaccination

Saturday, November 16, all the boys went up to the Chapel at ten o'clock A. M. There, on the table, we saw soap, basins, towels and a bottle of corrosive sublimate tablets. Then each boy had to take off his coat, roll up his sleeve and get in line to have his left arm washed with a solution of corrosive sublimate by one boy, washed again by another with clear water and then rubbed dry by another. He was then ready to be vaccinated. The doctor took a little white quill and rubbed the arm with an edge until the blood came, then dipped the quill into a glass of water that stood near and rubbed it into the scratch with the flat side. Every boy had a new quill. On November 29 those whose vaccination did not take and all who were not done the first time were vaccinated. There have been some sore arms.

HAROLD S. TAYLOR.

### The Assembly Room Floor

The last two weeks of October three of us shop fellows laid the new floor in the Assembly Room. It was made of hard pine. We first fitted strips close to the wall and around the steam heating pipes, both places that required shaping and fitting the boards. When we began the actual laying of the floor we put six strips down and fitted them and then squeezed them up with wedges that acted against blocks nailed to the floor temporarily for the purpose. This made the strips fit close together. While the wedges were in we nailed the outside strip all along; then two of us took out the wedges. While one was nailing the other strips down the other two fellows got six more strips. When we got them out the three of us would wedge them, then nail the outside strip, and do as before. We put the best pieces in front of the doors and windows for that is where the most wear comes and by putting such harder ones in these places, the floor wears more evenly. After all the floor was laid we finished out the nailing that was not done. Then we set the nails, that is we sunk the heads of the nails an eighth of an inch below the level of the floor. Then we planed the boards off even. We washed the floor up last so as to leave it in good shape.

AXEL E. RENQUIST.

### Sending off Beacons

Every month the Beacons have to be sent off. I typewrite the addresses during the month and Miss Wright corrects them. When the Beacons come in they first have to be folded up and down through the middle with the front page in the inside. The Beacon wrappers are put on the table together so that the upper one leaves about half an inch margin on the lower end of the one under it. Then the mucilage is put across the end and the Beacons folded up in them. The ones that go to Boston and suburbs have a one cent stamp, but the ones which go outside are not stamped at all. We have one Beacon which goes to London. The Beacons are then tied up in separate piles and put in the large mail bag and taken to the Post Office.

CHARLES F. SPEAR

**Alumni**

ARTHUR F. LITTELL, '89, wrote expressing regrets that he could not come to the School on Thanksgiving. He has moved to East Rindge, N. H., and has whole charge of his brother-in-law's store, doing the buying, selling, bookkeeping, etc. It is a general country store carrying all sorts of goods. He is also assistant postmaster and so has to keep the store open every evening on account of mail delivery. He misses the Milford band, of which he was a member. He owns an Eb Tuba and a Bb Trombone but does not have a chance to play them.

WILLIAM N. PHILLIPS, '94, called on us recently. He had been performing military duty as orderly musician to Col. Pew of the 8th Mass. Infantry, and was in uniform, which of course particularly attracted the boys. He played all the calls we use and gave our buglers information as to how they should be played. He is a fine bugler, getting clear, sure notes. William served as bugler in the U. S. V. all through the Spanish War.

JOHN F. PETERSON, '95, this fall entered Tufts College. He is taking the Engineering Course. He lives at the college during the week and goes home to Lynn for Sunday. "Peter" has the typical freshman's enthusiasm and told about helping his class defeat the sophomores in the annual flag rush.

Among the graduates who are ambitiously endeavoring to extend their education, the following are attending the English High Night School: Howard B. Ellis, '99; Thomas Brown, '00; Samuel F. Butler, '00; Dana Currier, '01; Alfred H. Malm, '01; Ernest Curley, '01; Merton P. Ellis, '99; and Frank W. Harris, '00.

**Graduates here on Thanksgiving Day**

Austin, Ernest W.	Hart, Herbert A.
Austin, William	Hart, William D.
Balentine, Herbert E.	Horsfall, William
Barr, John F.	Havey, George J.
Bartlett, Charles B.	Hefler, Alden B.
Brown, Thomas	Hill, Woodman C.
Buchan, George	Hughes, Hiram C.
Butler, Samuel F.	Lanagan, Alfred
Bridgham, Charles H.	Lind, Charles A.

Carr, Joseph A.	Loud, Clarence W.
Carr, William C.	Lundgren, John A.
Clark, Joseph W.	Malm, C. Alfred H.
Colby, Horatio A.	Maxwell, Richard N.
Colson, Fred J.	McKay, Charles
Cornell, Warren R.	Nilson, Nils G.
Cummings, William G.	Oakes, Ernest E.
Curley, Ernest	Peterson, John F.
Currier, Dana	Powers, Michael J.
Davis, William	Pratt, Albert E.
Decis, Leo T.	Pulson, Clifford M.
Ellis, Howard B.	Pulson, Herbert A.
Ellis, Merton P.	Steinbrick, Edward
Ellwood, William I.	Steinbrick, Carl
English, George A.	Snow, William L.
English, Harry A.	Tinkham, Selwyn G.
Fairbairn, Thomas J.	Tobey, Henry D.
French, Herbert W.	Webber, Samuel W.
Gould, John R.	West, Elbert L.
Harris, Frank W.	Wood, Clarence W.
	Wilson, J. Henry

**Alumni Association**

The annual reunion and meeting of the Farm School Alumni Association was held at the School on Thanksgiving Day, about seventy graduates being present, together with the wives of several.

The officers of the Association elected at the meeting are:—

President,	John F. Peterson,	Lynn.
Vice-President,	Alden B. Hefler,	Boston.
2nd Vice-Pres.,	Merton P. Ellis,	Boston.
Secretary,	Wm. G. Cummings,	Boston.
Treasurer,	Herbert W. French,	Chelsea.
Historian,	F. G. Bryant,	E. Weymouth.

Members are hereby reminded that the annual dues become payable January 1, 1902.

WILLIAM G. CUMMINGS,  
Secretary.

“We all of us complain of the shortness of time and yet have much more than we know what to do with. Our lives are spent in doing nothing at all, or in doing nothing that we ought to do; we are always complaining that our days are few, and acting as though there would be no end of them. *Seneca.*”

# Beacon

## The Work in the Shop

Among the different kinds of work on the Island is the work in the shop, which is about the most interesting.

There are classes for sloyd and blacksmith. Besides these, there are four painters, four carpenters, a blacksmith, a cobbler and printers. There are four sloyd classes. Two of these classes go in the afternoon and the other two in the morning before school. There are thirty-two models to make in sloyd. First starting at whittling or making a wedge; next sand paper exercise, planing, sawing, turning on the lathe, carving, making joints, and putting on locks. The last model, the tool-chest, takes in most of the exercises, all except carving and turning on the lathe. Before you can make a model you have to draw it.

The blacksmith class goes every Monday afternoon from one o'clock until five. There are about forty models to make, each one something different from the one before, either twisting or bending. The first model is to make a spike seven and one half inches long, made of iron. As we go on, we make steel models and welds. The last model is a steel and iron weld. There are six fellows in the class. There are two fellows each time we go, to pump the forges, one on each forge. They are supposed to keep the fires in good order and to sweep up the floor when we are done. There is also a fellow that looks after the blue prints we use. He finds out what each fellow wants before he goes to work and gets them for him.

The painters and carpenters do all the work on the island. The blacksmith fixes bolts, makes nuts, staples, chains, hooks, lathe tools,

and solders boilers, making different things on the machine lathe. The cobbler does all the repairing of the fellows' shoes, sews the harnesses and takes care of the furnace. The printers do all the printing for the School.

There are quite a number of machines in the shop which are run by a gasoline engine. From this engine is a belt which runs a main shaft over head in the shop. On this shaft are pulleys, some of which are loose. From these pulleys are belts which connect different machines. Among the machines up stairs in the shop is a circular saw which is very useful in cutting large boards and planks. There are two saws, a cross cut and a splitting. But this saw is run by a belt from the shaft down stairs so the belt will not be in the way, when you are sawing. The wood lathe is used in making sloyd models and things which fellows like to make, such as napkin rings. The grindstone, which is used in sharpening all the tools in the shop, is about two and one half feet in diameter and set in a cast iron stand. It goes about sixty revolutions a minute. The printing presses, which are run by this main shaft, have a countershaft over head to keep them from going too fast.

There is also a shaft down stairs, which is run by a belt from a shaft up stairs. The emery wheel which is run by the lower shaft has a cord to switch it off or on, just as they want it. There is a coarse wheel and a fine wheel. The coarse emery wheel is used for rough work, the fine emery is used for finer work, such as sharpening tools for the machine lathe. The corn grinder is used in grinding up corn for the horses and hens.

LOUIS E. MEANS.

### **The Chinese Lilies**

In our schoolroom, on the table, we have a square dish with a half a dozen lilies in it. Mr. Bradley got the bulbs about a month ago; then they looked like onions. They do not live in pots with earth in them, but on stones which are covered with water. Long white roots cling on the stones except at the end where little roots dangle in the water. These are the roots that procure the food. When they began to grow the brown outside skin cracked. Then little green sprouts like the onion tops grew out. The sprouts grew wider and taller until now they are over a foot tall and three fourths of an inch wide. At the bottom, near the bulb, the leaves are white and grow green near the top. There are green buds on some. The tallest leaf is twenty-three inches tall. The buds have separated and left two buds on the same branch.

GEORGE E. HICKS.

### **Answering Bells**

There are six different bells we office boys answer; they are as follows: office, carpenter shop, Mrs. Bradley's rooms and sitting room, superintendent's dining room, and a big gong on the side of the building nearest the playground. The bells all have a little difference in the sound so when one rings we can go right to the place without waiting for it to ring again as we would if they all sounded alike. When a boy first gets into the office, one of his first duties is to learn the sound of the different bells and know where to go. The office bell, when it rings, sounds quite sharp, the carpenter-shop bell is the same only not so sharp, Mrs. Bradley's bells sound like a small dinner bell, the sitting room sounds like a bicycle bell when you put your hand on it, the superintendent's dining room bell is a small hollow oak box, the big gong sounds like any large gong. The telephone bells are both in the office right near each other and are the hardest bells to learn the sound of because they sound something alike. The long distance and local are the names of the telephones. The distance is loud and sounds like almost any telephone bell, the local is the same

only not so loud. When a boy has been in the office a few weeks he usually learns the different sounds without much trouble.

SAMUEL A. WAYCOTT.

### **Wall-Decoration of the first Schoolroom**

Our new schoolroom has some pictures and other things put up on the wall. In the front of the room right above the door is a large clock. On the right-hand side is a picture about two feet by eighteen inches supposed to represent "Hiawatha" and "Laughing Water." On the left is a calendar. There is a picture on the side wall near the front of the room, of "John Alden and Priscilla" the same size as the picture of Hiawatha. Opposite is a picture of "The Hanging of the Crane." On the side wall back a little farther is a large picture about thirty inches by eighteen inches of four Marsh Black-birds on some twigs. On the opposite side are the scholarship and conduct lists. These are two large pieces of cardboard with the boys' names on them. Whenever a boy has pretty nearly perfect lessons for a day he gets a gilt star, if he has good lessons for a week he gets a red star. Whenever a fellow is in the first grade he gets a gilt club and if he gets four gilt clubs right along he gets a blue club. In the rear of the room is a rack on which are some of the best drawings and neatest papers the boys have done.

CLARENCE H. DEMAR.

### **Unloading the Scow**

The thirteenth of December, Mr. Anderson told me to go down to the scow and help pass up some boards to Lester Witt. He was putting them in a team to carry up to the Chapel for a new floor. When we got the team load, Lester drove up the back road in front of a chapel window, and then I passed the boards to Lester and he passed them to a boy in the chapel who made them in a pile. Towards the last of the afternoon, Lester got a tip cart and we put six cedar posts in the cart and took them up to the shop.

GEORGE I. LEIGHTON.



"Think of ease but work on."

*Poor Richard.*



### Christmas

Christmas was an exceptionally good one and everywhere was shown the title of the Sunday concert, "The Spirit of Christmas." At ten o'clock A. M. most of the boys went over to City Point in the scow for Christmas trees. As soon as the scow returned, we all assembled in the chapel to receive the presents. Each boy received a present from the School and most of the boys received packages from their relatives. As some of the boys seldom receive packages from their relatives, Mr. Bradley sent their names to Mr. Temple, one of our managers, who gave the name and address of a boy to some lady in his employment at the register of deeds office and she sent that boy something. The boys were very grateful for this and all who received them wrote letters thanking the lady they received it from. In addition to this, Mr. Temple sent each boy an Exce'sior diary for 1902 and a pencil. Mr. Bell, the superintendent of Lowney Chocolate Manufacturing Co. who is a graduate from this School, sent each boy a box of chocolates. There was also a box of fixings for cottages, to be divided among the cottages, from the Dorchester Woman's Club, which paid us a visit last summer. After the presents were all given out, it was proposed to have a letter of thanks sent to these people who had so generously remembered us, so a boy was chosen by vote. Also a boy was chosen to write to Mr. Daland, secretary of the managers, thanking him and the other managers for making it possible for us to enjoy such a day. Then, when we were through showing our presents to each other, we were given a chance to put them in our drawer, if we chose. Then we all went to dinner and had the rest of the day to dispose of as we saw fit.

FRANK C. SIMPSON.

### Capillary Tubes

One afternoon after our agriculture lesson was through and we had all gone to our school-rooms, Miss Winslow gave us a lesson about capillary tubes. She took a piece of blotting paper and dipped a corner of it into some ink.

It soon began to get full of ink. Then she took two pieces of chalk and put just the ends of them into two kinds of ink, black and red. They also began to soak up the ink. Then she took cloth and a watering-pot of water, put a pin in the cloth and put it in the water up to the pin. This also began to get full of water. She had a flowerpot saucer full of water with a flowerpot in it. When it was time to go out of school the chalk was full of ink, the cloth was almost full of water, the water in the saucer was almost all soaked up into the pot. The water while in the saucer is free water, but when the soil takes it in it is capillary water. We broke the pieces of chalk in two and they were all full of ink. These are all proofs that the different objects have capillary tubes and the liquids are drawn up into them.

WILLIAM N. DINSMORE.

### Bugling

There are three buglers in the school all of whom are in the band. The bugle we have here is B flat tuned from a cornet of the same key. When we get up in the morning or when we go to our meals or when we go to bed the bugle sounds the proper call. When we get up in the morning Reveille is played and when we go to our meals, Mess. In the evening when the boys assemble in the Chapel Assembly is played and when the boys go to bed, Taps. During Taps everybody stops all noise and stands at attention until it is through. On Wednesday night when we have Chapel one of the buglers sounds the Officer's call and the instructors come in. On Sunday when we have service and Chapel the Church call is used. On Holidays when the American flag goes up, the call To the Colors is sounded on the cornet, and when the flag comes down at sunset, the call Retreat is sounded and the flag comes down while the bugler is playing.

BARNEY HILL, JR.

“Greatly begin! Though thou have time  
But for a line, be that sublime.  
Not failure, but low aim is crime.”

*James Russell Lowell.*

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL

DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

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January, 1902

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"The king is dead, long live the king!"

Thus in monarchical countries immediately on the announcement of a ruler's death the people turn their minds to the new king. Will he be a better sovereign than his father? Will he profit by the experience of his father? Will he build up the country more and more and extend he

interest farther and wider? At such a time it seems natural and fitting to review the life of the dead king and to consider the prospects of the nation under the new ruler. So the passing of the old year and the coming of the new is a vantage ground from which one may look back at the achievements and disappointments and look forward with confidence and hope. The etymology of January suggests this backward and forward look. When Numa was seeking a name for the first month of the year he thought of Januarius, derived from Janus. Janus is connected with janua, door, and became the name of the Roman god that presided over the beginning of things. The image of this god had two heads facing in opposite directions, the one facing toward the setting sun, the other toward the rising sun. Thus retrospection and prospection have always been connected with the beginning of the year, the door of the new year.

Retrospection and prospection go hand in hand. The past must be viewed in the light of the future and the future must be considered in the light of the past in order that either may be appreciated. The value of the past depends on the help its experience can give to the future and the prospect of the future depends on the use it will make of the experience of the past. The successes of the past year should be an incentive to greater and more glorious achievements in the coming months. The mistakes and failures of the past should be a warning for the future. The legacy of the dying year is invaluable experience. It will be the key to the solution of many perplexing problems. It lies within the power of all of us to use this legacy to the best advantage. The new year is a time of fresh beginnings. We take up the duties of life anew, armed with the lessons of the past.

Looking forward from this point of view

New Year's Day is a day of joy, joy in the prospects of a more glorious future. In planning for this new year it is our privilege and duty to choose for ourselves the highest ideals. Only with highest ideals are highest achievements possible. And again in planning for this year we must be willing to do with our might what our hands find to do. Whatever is worth our effort is worth doing well. Accepting from the past all it has to give of warning and encouragement, believing the present has opportunities never known before, and confident that the coming year has trophies in store for every one of us who is willing to work hard and do his best, we shall go forth with greater aspiration to greater victory.

### Notes

Dec. 2. White Wyandotte rooster received from Mr. W. D. C. Curtis.

Two large pictures of Thomas Jefferson and Daniel Webster presented to the School by James E. Cotter, Esq.

Dec. 3. Killed a pig.

Very severe storm with sleet.

Edgar L. Hudson entered the School.

Dec. 4. First coasting.

Four boys went to Keith's Theatre in the evening.

Dec. 6. Mr. A. J. Munroe and Mr. C. A. Norwood of Harvard College visited the School.

Meadow beyond storage barn flooded for a skating pond.

Finished husking corn.

Dec. 7. A large number of boys went over to the north end coasting.

Dec. 8. Sunday. All the boys and instructors attended Dr. George W. Cutter's church at Neponset, on the invitation of Manager Mr. Thomas F. Temple. A special sermon for the boys was preached.

Graduates William B. Winters and Frank G. Burgess called.

Dec. 9. Steamer towed a load of dress-

ing from Walworth's.

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Anthony visiting at the School.

Set channel markers at City Point.

Dec. 10. Election Day. Steamer went to East Boston with voters.

Dec. 11. 31 bushels of onions to market.

Towed a load of dressing from Walworth's.

Corn-cracking machine set up in the shop cellar and run by power from the engine, to grind feed for the cattle.

Dec. 12. William A. and Charles F. Reynolds entered the School.

Steamer towed a load of dressing from Walworth's and brought back a load of potatoes.

Dec. 13. Killed a cow for beef.

Steamer towed a load of lumber for the chapel and dining room floors. This is the gift of Manager Mr. Francis Shaw.

A dory with oars and one-fourth barrel of eels came on the east shore.

Dec. 16. Skates given out.

Cleaning drains in stock barn.

Dec. 17. Killed a pig.

Dec. 18. Christmas trees came.

Strawberry and rhubarb beds covered with dressing.

Dec. 19. Spread dressing on corn field at north end.

Dec. 20. Last examination in school.

End of fall term.

Two guinea pigs from Richard C. Hamilton added to the pet stock.

Dec. 21. Chapel decorated for Christmas concert.

First day of vacation. Skating.

Dec. 22. Christmas concert in the evening.

Rev. James Huxtable passed the night here.

Dec. 23. Killed a pig.

Skating at the north end.

Mr. Whittemore from Walker and Pratt Mfg. Co. here to see about extension of the steam system.

Dec. 24. Eight boys went to town with instructors to see the holiday preparations.

Mr. H. A. Arthur, of the Saxton's River branch of the Kurn Hattin Homes, spent the afternoon at the School.

Cottage Row Caucus in the evening; nominating committees were appointed.

Dec. 25. Christmas. Presents given out at 10.30.

Dec. 26. Steamer went to Milton with 50 bushels of corn to be ground for fine meal.

Dec. 28. Set more spar buoys at City Point to mark the channel.

Working on the trap and tide gate near the east dike.

Dec. 31. Manager Mr. Thomas F. Temple, Mrs. Temple, Miss Temple, Mr. W. D. C. Curtis, Mr. W. R. Pond, and Mr. A. T. Howell came in the evening. Mr. Howell entertained the boys with impersonations from David Harum. On account of the low tide and severe wind the whole party spent the night at the School.

### Farm School Bank

Cash on hand December 1st., 1901.	\$460.81
Deposited during the month.	50 08
	\$510.89
Withdrawn during the month.	44.80
Balance January 1st., 1902.	<u>\$466.09</u>



### Rank in Classes

Boys having first and second rank in their classes for the fall term appear below:

#### FIRST CLASS

Harold S. Taylor                      Clarence W. Barr

#### SECOND CLASS

Clarence DeMar                      Andrew W. Dean

#### THIRD CLASS

Robert Bogue                      Frank S. Miley

#### FOURTH CLASS

Albert L. Sawyer                      William N Dinsmore

#### FIFTH CLASS

Charles W. Watson                      Robert E. Miley

#### SIXTH CLASS

Charles H. Whitney                      George A. Maguire

### Christmas Concert

SONG		<i>Choir.</i>
	HAIL TO THE KING	
RECITATION		<i>Clarence DeMar.</i>
	CHRISTMAS BELLS	
RECITATION		<i>Harry Chase.</i>
	THE FIRST CHRISTMAS	
SONG		<i>Choir.</i>
	SILENTLY THE NIGHT	
RECITATION		<i>Ralph Holmes.</i>
	OUR TREE	
EXERCISE		<i>Class.</i>
	THE WISE MEN	
SONG		<i>Class.</i>
	CHRISTMAS CANDLES	
RECITATION		<i>Charles O'Conner.</i>
	THE LITTLE CHRISTMAS TREE	
RECITATION		<i>Clarence Taylor</i>
	SANTA CLAUS	
SONG		<i>Duet and Choir.</i>
	BLESSED CHRISTMAS WORDS	
RECITATION		<i>Banks Quinby.</i>
	CHRISTMAS EVE	
RECITATION		<i>William Dinsmore.</i>
	WHEN CHRISTMAS COMES.	
SONG		<i>Choir.</i>
	CHRIST WAS BORN IN BETHLEHEM	
RECITATION		<i>James Clifford.</i>
	IF YOU'RE GOOD	
RECITATION		<i>William Frueh.</i>
	TO SANTA CLAUS LAND	
RECITATION		<i>Willard Rwell.</i>
	THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS	
EXERCISE		<i>Class.</i>
	CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS	
RECITATION		<i>Samuel Waycott.</i>
	CHRISTMAS HYMN	
RECITATION		<i>George McKenzie.</i>
	WATCHING FOR SANTA CLAUS	
SONG		<i>Choir.</i>
	RING OUT	
RECITATION		<i>Charles Spear.</i>
	IMMANUEL	
RECITATION		<i>Frank Simpson.</i>
	KING OLAF'S CHRISTMAS	
SONG		<i>Double Quartet.</i>
	HAVE YOU A SONG	
RECITATION		<i>Don Clark.</i>
	THE CHILDREN'S STAR	
SONG		<i>Choir.</i>
	PEACE ON EARTH	

RECITATION *George Hicks.*

THE SONG AND THE STAR

RECITATION *Harold Taylor.*

THE ADVENT

SONG *Choir.*

CHRISTMAS HAS COME

### **Taking Apart Machines**

The last two days I have been taking apart mowing machines. We took apart two mowing machines and one plow. First we took off the knives and then we took off the seat. We took off all nuts and pulled out the bolts and everything that would come off, the wheels, toolbox, chain, tongue, axle and all the different pieces of iron. Then we took an old plow apart, the handles, bolts and nuts and all the iron. After we had them all taken apart we put all the bolts and nuts that were good in a bushel box so as to keep them. The other iron we put in a heap in a corner of the barn. This iron is to be sold for junk. New machines are to be gotten in their place.

I. BANKS QUINBY.

### **My Plants**

A few weeks after the garden prizes had been given out I took all the plants in my garden and put them under the soil so that next year I would have a good garden full of humus. Humus is decayed vegetable matter. It is good for holding water and keeps the temperature of the soil about the same. A boy who doesn't know much about such things said, "That won't decay this winter. They are put in too thick." I hope my garden will get a prize next year. It will if the owner is careful.

RALPH O. ANDERSON.

### **Dusting**

In the morning the dining room boys have to keep the room well dusted so as to keep things clean. I have to dust and keep things in their places. When we dust we get a cloth and start in the front of the room and dust the two colored glass windows. We dust them well and the frames of the bread and dish cupboards and dust on the sides of the windows. Every morning we have to dust the chairs and see that no dust is on the walls.

RALPH INGALLS

### **Flooding the Pond**

When the pond is going to be flooded the first thing to be done is to fix the trap so that the water will not get out. This trap is made mostly out of wood, it is square and has a small opening facing the pond. There is a pipe extending from the west side of this trap, going on a slant to the other side of the beach road. The water from the pond runs through this opening and goes through the pipe, which goes under the road to the other side. In order to fix this trap, clay or something else should be put up against this opening, so that the water can not get through. When the trap is fixed, the hose is gotten from the cellar at the house and carried down to the pond; there are quite a number of pieces of hose. The pieces are then fastened together until they reach the hydrant in front of the barn. The hose is then fastened on and the water is turned on and let run until it is thought that there is enough. The hose is then unfastened and rolled up and carried up to the cellar where it is stretched out to dry. We have had some skating this year and thought it was very nice.

CHESTER F. WELCH.

### **Putting on Storm Windows**

This winter the painters and myself had to go up in the west loft where the screens, windows and other things are stored and take out all the storm windows and carry them down into the wash room. Then we washed them and then afterwards carried them down into the basement. Mr. Wilson and I went down with some window cloths and wiped the water off and then went over them one by one and put a shine on with a piece of paper and then with a dry cloth. The next day we commenced putting them in. One fellow or Mr. Wilson most always stayed outside and put the windows on, because you can not put them on inside, and so there was a fellow inside helping him. While Mr. Wilson holds the window up the fellow inside screws it on tight so it won't fall out.

JOSEPH ROBBLEE.

"We should think just as though our thoughts were visible to all about us."

EDWARD E. DAVIS, '81, recently wrote inquiring about the BEACON and the Alumni Association. He expressed a desire to renew his former connections and to get into communication with former school-mates. He is janitor of the Wells Memorial Institute building, Boston. He is married and has five children, two sons and three girls. His wife was the sister of another Farm School boy, John E. Gould, '81.

ROBERT BLANTON, '97, is a member of the Hyde Park Athletic Association which this year had an unusually successful season in foot ball. His position was right tackle and both his weight and skill were valuable aid to the team. In an account of the game with the Dedham team the local paper said, "but for big Blanton there might have been a different story to tell." Dedham was defeated 11 to 0. Blanton ran 40 yards on a fumble and secured a touchdown.

HIRAM C. HUGHES, '98, is still with the firm of Irving & Casson, Cambridge, manufacturers of furniture and woodwork, and is receiving the reward of his faithful work and study. He is now a skilful carver and modeler and is often sent out on outside work. He has a full set of carving tools of his own, 125 in number, and says he uses every one of them in the course of his work. He is a member of the Cambridge Y.M. C. A. and thinks it is a fine thing. He lives with his mother and sister at Arlington Heights.

HENRY F. MCKENZIE, '99, has had to give up this year's study at the High School at Topsham, Maine, on account of trouble with his eyes. This is particularly hard for him, as he would have graduated this year, and he had attained high rank in his class. He is receiving medical treatment but the improvement is slow.

JOHN J. POWERS, '00, is working for Sumner Parker, '90, on his farm at East Westmoreland, N. H. and appreciates the pleasant situation he is in. He is getting along well in his work, and his manly conduct has gained for him respect.

### Picking Ducks

When Mr. Vaughan shoots any ducks, I usually have to pick them. It is quite a hard job to pick them clean as there are lots of feathers and a coat of down. When you pick a duck you should pick the feathers toward the head as they grow down toward the tail. There is a coat of pin feathers underneath the others; they are very small and it takes quite a while to get them off. The down is very good for pillows, besides it costs quite a lot. You have to pick it very carefully and if you pick it towards the tail you are liable to tear the flesh. You do not put the tail or wing feathers with the other ones because they are too large. Where the duck is shot it is quite hard to pick as the blood hardens and sticks there.

C. JAMES PRATT.

### Mr. Temple's Visit to the School

On December 31, 1901, Mr. Temple and some of his friends made a visit to the School to entertain the boys on the last day of the old year. Mr. Temple says that he could not see the old year of 1901 go and not see the boys again. "I will not see you boys again until next year", he said. And so he didn't. On the morning of January 1, 1902 he was in the assembly-room just before breakfast and we got a "Happy New Year" on him. He brought with him, Mr. Howells of Dorchester who entertained the boys from half past seven until half past nine. He began to talk of a story named David Harum. After he talked quite a while about this story, he gave five minutes intermission to the boys. Here John Robblee had a few words to say, and presented a nice box to Mr. Temple with the School's colors in it, from the boys of the School. Mr. Temple was pleased with it and thanked the boys for the gift. Then Mr. Howells said some more about David Harum, which we liked very much. It was his last visit at Newport and his experience there. After Mr. Howells got through, the boys clapped and were pleased for the nice entertainment that Mr. Temple gave for our pleasure. Then Mrs. Bradley played for us to go to bed.

LESLIE R. JONES.

# Beacon

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## The Cattle

The care of the cows, the food and the way it is used, milking, and every thing relating to them is one of the most interesting works on our island. We have twenty-four milk cows of Jersey, Ayrshire, Guernsey and Short-horn breeds. A few of them are thoroughbred and some mixed. Most of them are Ayrshire and Guernsey mixed; we have more of this breed because they give a larger amount of good milk than others and it is just strained and used pure without water.

Their food consists of corn fodder, hay, corn meal, cotton-seed meal, bran, cattle beets or mangels and occasionally carrots and pumpkins. In autumn, now and then, various vegetable tops, millet, clover hay and kaffir corn are fed them. In winter, at five o'clock A. M. cut feed is fed;— cut corn fodder mixed with bran and water, a pound of cotton-seed meal, a pound of corn meal. At seven o'clock, some loose hay, 10 o'clock, water in the yard, half past eleven o'clock, mangels, 12 o'clock, hay, 3 o'clock P. M., water, and 5 o'clock, a pound of cotton-seed meal cut feed. Every Wednesday and Saturday morning, they are given a small amount of salt which makes them dry and thirsty and they will drink better. In summer at five o'clock A. M. are fed two pounds of bran; at seven o'clock, they go out to pasture returning at noon for water. Then they go to pasture again, and stay until five o'clock and if it is a pleasant night they are left out all night in the yard. When the cows are out in the pasture there are ordinarily two boys who take care of them. But when they are on a field with no fence around it, then there are more

than two boys to watch them.

The cows are milked twice a day by five boys at 5 A. M. and at 5 P. M. A cow generally milks about nine months and while some are drying up, others are coming fresh, thereby making milk again. Some cows are up to about eighteen pounds at a milking and others thirteen to sixteen pounds dropping down steadily to the time to be fresh. After a cow has been milked into a pail the milk is weighed and recorded against that cow's number so we know who milks her and if she drops or rises. When the cows first go to pasture, there is as much milk as we can use, using it three times a day. It decreases in winter and increases in spring.

Above their stanchions in front and behind is the number of the cow starting at one, going to the last. The cows are in one row the length of the barn and are fastened in light but strong stanchions which are easily opened. Only one of the cows has a legal name, except what the boys give to certain pet cows they like, numbers being thought better. Any new cows coming in are put in vacant numbers and will soon learn to go to their right number. At a sufficient length behind the cows is a gutter into which is put dry horse manure. By using this, bedding is saved and the manure is made better by soaking up the liquid and on this the manure drops. Behind this is a platform which is kept swept and land plaster sprinkled over it which takes up part of the bad odor and presents a better appearance. The manure is forked into wheelbarrows and is tipped into a tip-cart from a platform. All the liquid which is not soaked up runs down a gutter through pipes to a barrel on wheels which is emptied every day. The

stables are cleaned out twice a day and made tidy.

There is a special boy detailed to raise the calves which are not killed. He cleans their stables out, feeds them, waters them when they get big enough to drink and looks after them altogether.

Once a year the cows are tested to see if any have tuberculosis. Their temperature is taken to get the normal, then they are injected with a dose of tuberculine and then if in succeeding trials the temperature rises high enough they are killed or suspected. After a short time the suspected ones are tested again and if they have the disease they are killed.

In winter the worst cows are picked out, fattened and killed for beef, and in the following spring or summer we usually get four or five more. Lately, the cows have been dehorned and though it does not make them look any better, it is better for them. It stops them from hurting each other by hooking because there is nothing to do any harm with. One old bull has just been killed and now we are going to get another one. The old bull's stall is boarded in front, with a small door in the middle, and the new bull will be put there.

CLARENCE W. BARR.

### **Skeeing**

A few weeks ago some other fellows and I thought we would make some skees, so we got some quite wide barrel staves and put a strap on them to hold our feet in and then we were ready for business. There is quite a place for them down the hills and it is all crust into the bargain which is so hard that the skees would glide very easily. One afternoon when we got out from work we thought we would try them. So we skeed out to the playgrounds and started down the hill and we got to going so fast and we were laughing so much, we both fell head over heels in the snow. But we got so interested in skeeing, we didn't think anything about school until school began. We ran as fast as we could but it didn't do any good for we were late already.

LOUIS E. MEANS.

### **Cut Feed**

In the winter when the the cows don't go out, we cut feed. The first process is to oil the machine thoroughly. Next the fellows get down corn fodder, that is corn stalks that the corn has been taken off from. When we are ready to begin we place the different fellows at the different places. The man who runs the machine stands ready to receive from a boy who is standing by the cutter ready to give the corn fodder to him. Another fellow brings the corn fodder to the fellow at the cutter. The last fellow stands at the mouth of the cutter ready to shove the corn fodder that has been cut down a shoot into a bin where it is kept. The corn stalks are usually cut from an inch to an inch and a half long. The bin is fifteen feet five inches long, seven feet wide, and four feet high. The cut fodder is mixed with bran and water and is served to the cows.

DANIEL W. MURRAY.

### **Giving Out Hockeys**

One noon when the fellows came out from dinner Mr. Wardwell gave out hockeys to the fellows who had their names or trade mark on them. We like to play hockey and most every fellow has one and some of the fellows who had two or three hockeys gave one to other fellows who hadn't any. The fellows play hockey on the ice and on the playground and around the house.

C. JAMES PRATT.

### **The Snow Plow**

After a snow storm is over, Mr. McLeod takes one of the horses and hitches it to the snow plow, which is made of wood and is V shaped. The point cuts through the snow and it is thrown out on either side. This is dragged over the paths and roads and plows off most of the snow. To make it heavy sometimes several boys stand upon it. The snow that it does not take off is removed with shovels. The plow makes a path about five feet wide. When the snow is deeper than the plow is high the snow runs over onto the top. The plow cannot be used in such a case. FRANK C. SIMPSON.



### Hauling Seaweed

In the fall there has to be some seaweed to bank up the different places, to keep the cold out. The first places that were banked up were around the farm house. Then the celery house was banked up so that the celery would not freeze. There was one door banked up in the stock barn cellar, so as to keep the cellar warm and the vegetables from freezing. There was one door in the piggery banked up so that the pigs would be warm. It takes a lot of seaweed to bank up the different places. It is hauled from different parts of the beach.

LESTER H. WITT.

### Teaching Agriculture

Mr. Vaughan, the farmer, gives lessons in agriculture twice a week. The boys are divided into two classes, morning and afternoon. The boys that go in the morning, go into the chapel on Mondays and Thursdays from nine till twenty minutes past. The boys that go in the afternoon, go into the chapel on Tuesdays and Thursdays from half past two till three. Sometimes he teaches about the soil, potash, nitrate of soda, phosphoric acid, and the different kinds of worms and vegetables that are destroyed by them. Every month we have a test in Agriculture and most of the boys like it very much. At the end of the term we have an examination in the agriculture we have studied and learned during the term.

LESLIE R. JONES.

### Cleaning out the Hedge

One afternoon Mr. Morrison, the instructor that has charge around the house, told another boy and me to get rakes and clean out the hedge. We raked all the stones and pieces of wood and leaves out, raked them in piles and then I went down and got a wheelbarrow. The other boy took the things down to the dump while I put up the tools.

HARRIS H. TODD.

### The Model of Our Steamer

The model of our large Steamer PILGRIM was made by two of our boys; as one has gone away, I am helping the other to finish what little there is on her. She is three feet long and eight inches wide and draws four inches of

water. The hull is made of pine and is about one-half an inch in thickness. It is shaped like the large steamer. She has three bits, one up bow and two down stern. The cabin which is about two inches and the pilot house which is about three inches high are made of pine. It has four doors, two in the pilot house and two in the cabin, and twenty-eight windows. The doors in the cabin have hatches, each made of mahogany. Then there are two light boards one on each side of the pilot house. The stack which was made on the lathe is of pine with a hole in the middle with a tube running through it. On the inside of the boat there is a boiler made of copper with thirty-five brass tubes in it so the heat will go up the tubes and heat the water more quickly. The boiler holds about one pint and a half of water and it is square. It has an eighth of an inch steam pipe which runs to a two cylinder oscillating engine, each cylinder taking live steam alternately. The lamp is made of copper and has five wicks; it burns alcohol. The propeller is a three-bladed cast bronze; we are in hopes that the brass rudder will be connected up with the wheel in the pilot house before long. She has two seats in the engine room and the floor has got a piece of plush on it and the pilot house has plush on the floor with one seat. The boat is painted the same as the large steamer.

HOWARD L. HINCKLEY.

### Painting in the Teachers' Room

During vacation weeks one of my jobs was painting the teachers' rooms. First we had to plaster up all the holes in the walls and wash the plaster off the places where it needed it. After that we sandpapered the doors and walls to get them smooth. Then we commenced on the border and painted it cream color. We painted the walls blue and the mopboard lead color and the closet was painted a sort of pea green and then we painted the doors, window sashes and blinds white. We painted the floor all over burnt umber and the threshold Indian red. We put two coats of paint all over.

JOSEPH E. K. ROBBLEE.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island. Boston Harbor.

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Every one desires to get along with others as smoothly as he can. No one is wholly lacking in good qualities and in most people it is easy to bring these to the surface. We can get along best by trying to bring out the good we find about us. However, there are people, fortunately in the minority, with whom it is an

effort to get along smoothly. There are disagreeable persons whom we can keep at arms length and with whom we need have nothing to do. But among the many persons with whom we have dealings in every day life, we are frequently thrown into relations with some one with whom we can not refuse to have anything to do and so we sensibly make the best of him. With persons of ordinary good sense it will not be a hard matter to get along with the general run of people. You know how they are likely to act. You can take it for granted that they will act sensibly. But with the cross-grained individual it is different. If you should try to get a pig to go where you desired, what a struggle you would have! Your temper and your ingenuity would be severely tried before you could get him to go where you wanted him. Very similar is the behavior of many a person whom we are trying to induce to do some particular thing or think in a special way. Our stock of patience and good sense is needed to the utmost to head him off from side tracks and keep him straight until, like the pig, he is penned in at last.

With one class of individuals, those who have no reputation to lose and who are not tied by the restrictions of good manners which we must observe, it is not worth the trouble to try to convince them. If you get into an argument with such a one you are at a disadvantage. You run the chance of being made ridiculous and of being dragged down to the level of your opponent. Success in such a case is not worth the trouble. There is no need of expressing a difference of opinion with this sort of person. To hold your tongue, when not to do so would stir up trouble, is a sensible course. It is not a sign of cowardice but of prudence to avoid trouble. If you know the bull in the pasture is a savage one, you do not climb over to his side of the fence.

Avoid all disagreeable people that you can. But do not abruptly offend those that you can not steer clear of; endeavor to bring them around to your views. This must be done gradually by adapting the means to the nature of the subject. You can not shape a bar of iron as you would a stick of wood. So as men vary our arguments must differ. We must find out the nature of the one with whom we are dealing and conform to it. Tact, temper and consideration for others are as effective as arguments. Persuasion is more powerful than force and it is most effective with the stubborn. It works also with the wise.

### Notes

Jan. 1. Graduate James H. Fisher gave the Library two books, The Bradford History and Black Rock.

Announcement in Chapel that the Alumni Association had offered a gold medal yearly as a scholarship prize.

New trap made in the ditch in the east marsh.

Jan. 2. A former sloyd instructor, Mr. Ernest Lindblad, from Philadelphia called with friends.

Steamer at Lawley's for new reversing quadrant and hot well.

Jan. 3. Killed a cow for beef.

Man from the Otto Gas Engine Co. here overhauling the engine.

Jan. 4. Boys who take the Youth's Companion sent for premiums in the evening.

Graduate George A. English spent the day at the School.

Jan. 6. Bonfire on the beach and skating for the first grade.

Jan. 7. Heavy snow storm in the evening.

Cottage Row citizens had their regular quarterly election of officers resulting as follows: Mayor, George Thomas; Aldermen, Frederick Hill, Charles Hill, Frederick F. Burchsted, Louis E. Means, Edward L. Davis; Assessor, Samuel

A. Waycott; Street Commissioner, Walter L. Butler; Chief of Police, Albert H. Ladd. The mayor appointed as clerk, Willard H. Rowell; curator, Frank C. Simpson; librarian, Frederic P. Thayer; treasurer, John W. Robblee; janitor, William Flynn. The chief of police appointed as patrolmen, Clarence W. Barr, John J. Conklin, Andrew W. Dean, Daniel W. Murray.

Jan. 9. Instructors gave an entertainment in the evening.

Jan. 11. Boys enjoyed the skating this afternoon.

New propeller put on the steamer.

Graduate Ernest W. Austin came to spend Sunday at the School.

Daniel W. Lighton left the School to work in the office of The Newton Journal.

Jan. 12. Snowed all night.

Jan. 13. Scow brought a load of freight from the Point.

Jan. 15. Killed a pig.

Jan. 16. New bow cable for the Steamer run to the breakwater.

Jan. 17. Mrs. Thomas Hibbard, whom many graduates will remember as Miss Bartlett, spent the day at the School.

Graduate James H. Fisher died.

Secretary Mr. Tucker Daland called with Mr. Mead of Brookline.

Dentist here to attend to the boys' needs.

Jan. 18. Conduct prizes awarded.

Steam was turned on for the first time in the north wing.

Mr. Dana Morse, Mrs. Vaughan's father, who is a lecturer for the Vermont State Board of Agriculture, spoke to the boys this evening.

Jan. 20. Skating in the evening.

Jan. 21. Long distance telephone inspector here.

Former assistant superintendent, Mr. Max Bennet Thrasher, here.

Jan. 22. Rainy day.

Farm boys worked inside.

Company X held a meeting.

Mr. Thrasher spoke to the boys.

Jan. 23. Pilgrim towed in the barge from City Point. cotton-seed meal and land plaster.

Jan. 24. Killed the Guernsey bull.

Boys who received honorable mention for conduct spent the evening at Keith's.

Jan. 26. Instructors attended church in town.

Jan. 27. Very warm; 53 in the morning. Cottage Row Citizens paid taxes.

Amendment made to Cottage Row charter providing for appeal from decisions of the court.

Samples of the different ingredients used in the manufacture of fertilizers received from the Bradley Fertilizer Company.

Jan. 29. Floor in the boys' dining room taken up.

Carting gravel for the roads and avenues around the house.

Boys have their meals in the chapel until the new floor is down.

Jan. 31. Manager Mr. Francis Shaw visited the School.

First and second grade skate this evening.

### Farm School Bank

Cash on hand January 1st., 1901.	\$466.09
Deposited during the month.	64 35
	<u>\$530.44</u>
Withdrawn during the month.	82.26
Balance February 1st., 1902.	<u>\$448.18</u>

### Conduct Prizes

The semi-annual distribution of the Shaw Prizes, the Temple Consolation Prizes, and the Honorable Mentions for the half year just ended, took place on Saturday evening, January 18, in the Chapel. The Shaw prizes consist of money, ranging in amounts from five to one dollar. The Temple Consolation Prizes are books. The award of these prizes is based upon our grade system of marking. The list in order of rank follows:—

#### SHAW PRIZES

- 1, Horace P. Thrasher
- 2, George I. Leighton
- 3, Frank S. Miley
- 4, Edward L. Davis
- 5, George F. Burke
- 6, William C. J. Frueh
- 7, Barney Hill
- 8, Axel E. Renquist
- 9, Daniel W. Lughton
- 10, John F. Nelson

#### TEMPLE CONSOLATION PRIZES

- 11, George Thomas
  - 12, Albert W. Hinckley
  - 13, Warren Holmes
  - 14, Thomas Maceda
  - 15, Leslie R. Jones
- HONORABLE MENTION
- 16, Edward B. Taylor
  - 17, Charles W. Russell
  - 18, Clarence Demar
  - 19, William B. May
  - 20, Samuel A. Waycott

### Shoveling Gravel

Lately and for the past week or so, a number of the farm boys, morning and afternoon, have had the work of fixing up the dike over to the south end of the Island. In the morning, the boys who are assigned to this work, go over with picks and shovels and load up the two-horse wagon, which is usually the first over. Soon after the one-horse cart gets over, and then the boys have two teams to keep going. Sometimes we have another one-horse cart over there. When the mornings are very cold, the boys, while the teamsters are over on the dike dumping their loads, get wood and dry chips so as to make a good fire. They can do this and still have the teams loaded and out of the way. After the fire is about burned down the boys take off all the fire and throw gravel over the hot ashes. After this is done the boys can sit down on the gravel when the teams are away and it is not long before they are warm.

FREDERIC P. THAYER.

### Freezing Sherbet

One day Miss Balch told me to help Charlie Hill to freeze sherbet. I thought it was a great thing to freeze anything except your feet or fingers. We went down and pounded the ice fine as snow, then we packed it around in the freezing-tub and the salt was put in with the ice. Then we began to turn it. It has to be turned much faster for sherbet than for ice cream. When one fellow got tired the other took a turn. After a while it got hard so we could not move it. Then Miss Balch came down and looked at it and took it apart. She took the churner out and scraped it pretty clean but left some on and told Charlie and me we could have it. I like to freeze sherbet when you get some.

WILLIAM B. MAY.

### Killing a Pig

A short time ago, we killed a pig. In the forenoon the water was brought down to the piggery from the barn and put into a large iron kettle with a fire under it, so it would be boiling in the afternoon. In the afternoon, when we came down the water was boiling and we were all ready to stick the pig. Mr. Anderson went into the pen and drove her out and then we cornered her and turned her on her back. Then Mr. Anderson took the knife, which had been sharpened to a very sharp point and ran it in, slanting towards the chest, clear to the hilt about six inches and twisted it a little until it struck a vein and the blood spurted up. While she was dying, we carried the water from the kettle and put it into a large scalding-tub. Then we let a tackle from the upper part of the barn down through the floor into the piggery, hitched it to a gambrel, hauled her up and let her down into the water. We pulled her up and let her down quite a number of times, until we thought the bristles would come off easily and then we scraped her. The rosin we had put in the water made the bristles come off much easier than if it had been just clear water. After we had her clean of bristles and dirt we pulled her through to the next floor and cut her open. Another boy and myself are learning to cut up pork and beef, so when Mr. Vaughan is not here we can do it ourselves.

DON C. CLARK.

### Cutting Wood

Mr. Anderson told some of us to go down to the lumber pile to saw wood. We took the logs of wood and sawed them about two feet long. We then threw the wood we had sawed into a pile for another boy to split. When they were split, another boy took them and put them in a large pile. There were some chips left, so some of the boys put them in barrels to be carried up to the bakery for kindling wood.

ROBERT H. BOGUE.



“He who hath but one hog, makes him fat.”  
*Poor Richard.*

### Scraping the Pond

Lately we have got a new scraper to scrape the pond with. It is about six feet long and three feet wide. It has two handles like plow handles. It has two hooks to hitch a chain to and then hitch it to a horse. We used Barbara in it and that day her shoes were not very sharp and she slipped down a number of times, but we have sharpened them up so she stands up well. The scraper is dragged along and it scrapes clear down to the ice. When the scraper is full, the handles are dropped and it will not collect any more snow. Then it is taken off the pond and the one at the handles lifts the handles up high, it turns over and the snow is thrown out. We keep going until it is scraped all over. It takes two persons to handle it, one to lead or drive and another to attend to the scraper.

ALBERT H. LADD.

### Shoveling Snow

December 17, it began to snow. By the next morning there was quite a lot of snow on the ground and after breakfast we went up into the hall until half past seven. Then I went out on the rear avenue to shovel snow. I got as far as the connecting path and then the whistle blew for school. While I was out on the rear avenue, other boys were making piles of snow between the hall and the house. The next morning we got the blue cart and took the piles of snow the boys had made the morning before and put it back of the hall.

LOUIS G. PHILLIPS.

### Playing Hide-and-Seek

After supper a number of us get together and play hide-and-seek. We choose not to be “it” and the slowest one to say “not it” is “it.” A number get together and a fellow gets in front, or some other fellow that isn’t in the game gets in front and leads a charge for the goal which is the red bench. The second or the last fellow is generally caught, if any. We run across the plank walk and then run by on the gravel. If a new fellow wants to play and all are willing, he has to be “it” and count five hundred by five.

JOHN W. ROBBLEE.

**Alumni**

**JAMES H. FISHER, '89,** died on Friday January 17, in the home of Miss Sarah H. Blanchard, at Petersham, Mass., where he was employed. The cause of his death was tuberculosis of the bone. He had the advice of specialists in Boston, and received the best medical attendance. Since leaving the School James worked for Miss Blanchard, at first doing general work around the place, gradually taking more, until, as for the last few years, he did all the work of the farm of an hundred acres. In his work he was industrious and responsible. His habits were excellent and he was quiet and studious.

He first noticed his trouble about a year ago. Since then he sank gradually, growing steadily weaker. For two months before his death he was helpless in bed, though fortunately without much suffering. During all the time he endured his misfortune with remarkable courage and resignation. He was very patient under the most trying circumstances; and not only did he not complain, but he was grateful for every thing. Often he expressed to people that saw him his thankfulness for what had been done for him in the past years and for what his friends were doing to make his last days as endurable as possible. His mind dwelt much on the Farm School. He recalled incidents of his life here, and he spoke of the good he had received. The feeling of affection for the School and an earnest desire to do something for it, led him to send two much valued books, The Bradford Journal and Black Rock. They are now in the library. All he had saved was used by the expenses of the sickness. This was all he could do. He was buried in the family lot of Miss Blanchard in Petersham.

**OVE W. CLEMMENSON, '94,** who has been in the employ of the Metropolitan Steamship Co. for four years was recently promoted to the post of Second Assistant Engineer of the H. M. Whitney of that line. He makes regular weekly trips to New York. His home is in East Boston.

**ALFRED LANAGAN, '00,** is working for Dr.

J. R. Draper of Westford, Mass., who has employed several boys from the Farm School. He wrote recently and said he liked the work. He goes out with the doctor on calls, sometimes being in the team three or four hours with the thermometer around zero. Evidently this out-of-door life agrees with him for he says he has gained eighteen pounds since leaving the School.

**Coming of the Dentist**

The Dentist came and examined all the boys' teeth. Some he pulled out. Others had to be filled. He had a spoon-like mirror that he looked at the boys' teeth in. I did not have to have any pulled or filled. The boys do not like to have the Dentist come very well because they don't like to have their teeth pulled out.

I. BANKS QUINBY.

**Hockey**

Hockey is the craze now because the ice is pretty good. Every noon, all the boys that can go skating take their hockey sticks and go down to the pond. Then two boys choose up sides and then they start. The boy who is going to hit the ball, calls out "woney" and then he hits it. When a goal is made, they change around and the boys that had the ups have downs. Every Saturday afternoon there is quite a game because more boys are down there and it is more exciting.

HOWARD L. HINCKLEY.

**Sliding**

Dec. 2, we started to slide as the snow had a hard crust on it. Lots of toboggans and sleds could be seen. We would start from the white gate behind the shop and go down a big hill alongside of the dike a distance of about one hundred and fifty yards. Usually there were about four boys on a toboggan, and if they didn't have the fun! Sometimes they'd take a big stick and sometimes nothing and push off. Perhaps they would arrive half way down the hill in safety, but then would begin to turn slowly and surely until at last they were completely around. And what a noise they would make, laughing, hollering, and falling off! Sometimes they would reach the bottom of the hill safely, but not always.

HAROLD S. TAYLOR.

## Thompson's Island

# Beacon

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March, 1902

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### The Steamer

The steamer Pilgrim was built in Lawley's Ship Yard in 1899. She is fifty feet long, twelve feet beam and draws four feet. The cabin is lower than our old boat and is made of pine, cherry stained and varnished. A chock rail about two inches in height runs around the deck. One guard rail runs around the hull a few inches from the deck and a shorter one is placed near the waterline. The chock rail up bow is protected by brass. A brass hand rail runs around the stern and on the cabin. The top of the cabin over the boiler is plated with steel. The inside of the pilot house is finished in mahogany. A bell pull is placed on either side of the pilot house and the jingle in the middle of the wheel stanchion. The back of the pilot house is sheathed part way with mahogany and a bench made onto it and enough space left on the starboard side to allow passengers to pass through to the engine room. The floor is laid with lineoleum. The engine is a compound condensing engine. The diameter of the high pressure cylinder is six and one fourth inches. The low pressure is thirteen and the piston stroke is eight inches. Two different types of piston valves are used, one for the high pressure and one for the low pressure cylinder. The Stephenson double link bar motion is used. The eccentrics are wrought onto the shaft and the steam chests are placed between the two cylinders. The exhaust steam from the high pressure engine exhausts through a receiver into the low pressure engine. The cross heads, eccentric rods, straps, the link block bearings and connecting rods are all made of brass. United States Metallic packing is used for the piston

rods and Crandall's expansion ring packing is used for the valve stems. An automatic lubricator supplies oil for the cross-head pins, crank pins and engine slides. The links, eccentrics and link blocks, piston rods and valve rods can be oiled by hand while the engine is in motion. The shaft has four bearings in the bed plate beside the thrust bearing; all of these are oiled by wick oilers. A sight feed oiler supplies oil for the cylinders. When it is desired to use this oiler the feed water can be pumped overboard instead of letting it go into the hot well by means of a three way cock placed in the discharge pipe from the air pump.

The boat has a surface condenser and combined air and circulating pump. The circulating pump has a two inch suction from the sea, also one from the bilge for emergency. The air pump as before said is connected to a steam cylinder which runs both pumps. A vacuum of twenty-one inches is produced by this pump which is good for that type of pump. It can discharge its water either overboard or into the hot well. The feed pump is a duplex feed pump and it has two lines of suction and delivery. It can draw water from the hot well, tank, bilge or sea and can deliver it either overboard or into the boiler. It can pump the feed water either through the heater into the boiler or through another set of piping into the other side of the boiler. It can also pump out a scow and throw the water overboard. A small hand pump is also connected for testing the boiler or for an emergency. All of these pumps are of the Deane make.

All the drips from the engine are piped into the condenser. The exhaust from the pumps is also run into the condenser. In case the

pumps get out of order the engine could exhaust into the atmosphere. A three way cock is placed between the heater and the engine and can be turned to let the steam into the condenser or into the atmosphere. A steam siphon is used to pump out the bilge and crank oil pit. In case of its failure three other pumps can be used. Steam is supplied to the machinery by a vertical shell boiler, height, five feet five inches, thickness, three hundred eighty-five thousandths of an inch and forty-eight inches in diameter. It has a grate surface of twelve and two ninths square feet and a spring pop safety valve one and seven tenths inches in diameter. The boiler has a tensile strength of fifty-six thousand five hundred pounds to the square inch, was tested to two hundred twenty-five pounds and is allowed one hundred and fifty. There are two hundred forty-eight, one and one-half inch tubes and it has six hand hole plates. The boiler is fitted with a Lee Ball Valve Automatic injector which can draw water from either the hot well, tank or sea; beside feeding water to the boiler it can supply hot water to wash down the decks with. It has four gauge cocks instead of three which is the number which most boilers have. An auxiliary steam pipe enables us to use steam for a tube cleaner, run a large suction T for pumping out scows or anything like that.

CHARLES W. RUSSELL.

### Going to Keith's Theatre

Mr. Bradley let the five boys who received Honorable Mention in grade system go to Keith's to see a Vaudeville. Mr. Bradley gave Charles Russell, the largest boy and the one who knows the most about the city, the money to take us. We got there before time and saw some of the things twice. The ring performer did lots of things that were interesting. The magic man did lots of tricks with cards. One thing was; he put two birds in a paper bag and tied it up and hung it on a rack, shot it twice and the birds flew into a cage that was about twenty feet away. There was some singing, which was fine. Then came the bicycle ride. There was a track which was inclined seventy degrees and three men rode on

it. They had a race and it was exciting. I thought surely they would fall. It was fine. There were men that came out in pairs that said jokes. One man said he was a fine speller and said no one could stick him on anything. "Well," the colored man said, "spell pin" and he spelt it. Then the colored man said, "Can't that stick you?" Another one was a rich man and a poor man. The rich man said, "What's that badge for?" "A badge of honor." "What did you do?" "I married a widow with seven children and we never had a cross word for seven years." "Weil, how's that?" "I haven't been home for eight years." "When was the last you heard of her?" "Last week." "What did she say?" "She said I would have to come home and get her and the children something to eat Friday or she and the children would have to go to the poor house." "Did you answer her?" "I did." "What did you say?" "Dear friend wife, don't go to the poor house Friday, but wait till Saturday and we will all go together." Three European actors came out and two of them held a rope in their mouths while the third, a lady, got on the rope and balanced herself. Then she put a bicycle on the rope and got on it and balanced herself. The moving pictures were fine. One showed the foot-ball game between West Point and Annapolis, showing Daly as quarter back, and it showed ferns that were interesting. It showed lots of other pictures. The last, and the one I liked best, was Sandow. He showed his muscles in his back, chest and arms. It seemed to me that was all he was made of. He is forty-seven inches around the chest, before filling it out. Then, when he takes three big breaths, his chest is sixty-one inches around him. When I was coming down to the steamer that night, I was thinking how it was that the strongest men's names began with S, as Sampson, Sandow.

SAMUEL A. WAYCOTT.

"The inner half of every cloud  
Is bright and shining;  
I therefore turn my cloud about  
And always wear it inside out,  
To show the lining."



### Phosphoric Acid

For the last term we have been having Agricultural lessons about the different things commercial fertilizers are made out of, and of what use they are to plants. There are three things in fertilizers; nitrogen, potash and phosphoric acid. We learned that there were three forms of phosphoric acid; mineral, animal and vegetable. The mineral form is mined in Canada, South Carolina and Florida; also in the West Indies. The most that we use comes from South Carolina and Florida. The best comes from Canada, but the cost of mining and the duty that has to be paid on it, makes it cheaper to buy that of South Carolina and Florida. There is a lot of it in the West Indies, but the cost of transportation makes that of our own country cheaper. The animal form comes from bones ground up. The value of ground bone depends on how fine the bones are ground. The bone black from sugar refineries is used when they are through with it. There is not much phosphoric acid in vegetable matter, only the little that is in humus. We learned that phosphoric acid made the plants stand up, and that it helped form the fruit and therefore the plant required it during its whole life.

CLARENCE H. DEMAR.

### A Trip to the City

One night, I asked Mr. Bradley if I could buy a pair of moccasins. He asked me how much they cost and I told him; he said I could. The next morning he said, when I was waiting on the table, that I had better go up and buy whichever pair I wanted. I thought he was making a joke on me but he let me go. I got ready and left the Island at 9:45 A. M. Henry Bradley went with me. Mr. Bradley, Henry and two others went in the same car. Then Mr. Bradley and the other fellows got off. Henry showed me places of interest as we went along. We first went to William Reed's store on Washington street. I saw moccasins, knives, revolvers, and all kinds of shooting irons and snow shoes from two ft. to about four and a half ft. We then went to Oak Hall Clothing Co., on the same street, where all our clothing

comes from. We waited there for Mr. Bradley. While we were waiting Henry showed me around. We saw all kinds of clothing; a pair of pants that was almost as wide as I am long. We also saw all the buttons except the Harvard, they were all gone, and swords. Mr. Bradley came and spoke to one of the men, and then he went. Henry and I took a car and went to the Youth's Companion building, a large brick building on the outside. We went in and I got what I wanted. Then we looked at some of the other premiums. We came out and went across the street to an apothecaries. Henry gave me a glass of soda and chocolates. He put a penny in a motor machine and I turned the handle around to 120. We took a car and went to a transfer station and came home. I had a very nice time, and thanked Mr. Bradley and Henry for it.

RALPH HOLMES.

### Carrying Bricks

One afternoon there was no school for the second school. So the boys in that room worked. Mr. Morrison set two other boys and me to carrying bricks from the basement to the hose-house. One boy would wheel the wheelbarrow full of bricks five times to the hose-house and then another boy would have his turn. While the other two boys would be getting another set of bricks ready for him to carry and it went on so each boy had his turn.

CLARENCE TAYLOR.

### The Glass Pictures

We have four glass pictures in the windows of our schoolroom. One of them is the battle ship Maine. It is colored and it looks pretty. Another is a view of Niagara Falls. It looks very pretty as the water comes foaming over the rocks. Another is a globe of blue and white violets some of which are strewn about on a table. Another has four different views of Niagara Falls. They are smaller and one picture is the United States side and another is the Canada side of the Falls. You can see the landing place in the distance. Another is a bridge near the Falls that crosses the river. There is a train just going across.

HARRIS H. TODD.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

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A philosopher has said that true education for boys "is to teach them what they ought to know when they become men." What is it they ought to know, then? First—to be true, to be genuine. No education is worth anything that does not include this. A man had better not know how to read, he had better never learn

a letter in the alphabet, and be true and genuine in attention, in action, rather than being learned in all sciences and languages, to be at the same time false in heart and counterfeit in life. Above all things teach them that truth is more than riches, more than culture, more than earthly power or position. Second—to be pure in thought, language, life—pure in mind and body. An impure man, young or old, poisoning the society where he lives with smutty stories and impure examples, is a moral ulcer, who ought to be treated as the lepers of old, who were banished from society and compelled to cry, "Unclean," as a warning to save others from the pestilence. Third—to be unselfish, to care for the feelings and comforts of others; to be polite, to be generous, noble and manly. This will include a genuine reverence for the aged and things sacred. Fourth—to be self-reliant and self-helpful, even from early childhood; to be industrious always, and self-supporting at the earliest proper age. Teach them that all honest work is honorable, and that an idle, useless life dependent on others is disgraceful. When a boy has learned these four things, when he has made these ideas a part of his being, however young he may be, however poor, however rich, he has learned some of the most important things he ought to know when he becomes a man.

## Notes

Feb. 1. Charles A. Taylor left the School to live with his uncle in East Boston.

Graduate Horace F. Edmands came to spend Sunday at the School.

Fourteen head of cattle dehorned.

An autograph copy of "Tuskegee" received from the author, Mr. Max Bennett Thrasher.

Feb. 3. No crossing today on account of rough weather.

Feb. 5. Blacksmith here shoeing the

horses.

Two Guinea pigs received from Mr. W. Graydon Stetson.

Feb. 6. Samples of the different ingredients used in the manufacture of fertilizers received from the Bowker Fertilizer Co.

Mr. Anthony spent the day at the School.

Feb. 10. Artist here making sketches for the annual report.

Feb. 11. Frederic F. Burchsted left the School to work for the Fore River Ship and Engine Co. of Atlantic, Mass.

Feb. 14. Masons working in the dining room plastering.

Feb. 15. Three cows, which had been suspected of having tuberculosis at the annual test were retested. The test was satisfactory but one was killed and examined and it was found that nothing was the matter. There was not the slightest trace of tuberculosis.

Feb. 16. The horse "Jane" broke her leg and had to be shot.

Feb. 17. Severe northeast storm.

Feb. 19. One lot of books received from Manager Mr. Henry S. Grew.

Feb. 20. Received two copies of the Autobiography of Booker T. Washington from Manager Mr. Francis Shaw.

Feb. 21. A few boys spent the evening at Keith's.

A social gathering of the Alumni in Dorchester.

Feb. 22. Holiday. A very heavy snow storm prevented the usual snowball battle.

Feb. 23. Several instructors attended church in town.

Feb. 24. The postponed snowball battle took place this afternoon. General John Conklin's side winning the victory after which the trophy was awarded.

Feb. 25. A lot of the London Illustrated News received from Vice-President Mr. Eben Bacon.

William F. Clark entered the School.

Feb. 26. A seven by nine foot map of the United States and her new possessions and the Final Report of the United States Industrial Commission received from Hon. John Shaw.

### Farm School Bank

Cash on hand February 1st., 1902,	\$448.18
Deposited during the month,	13.73
	\$461.91
Withdrawn during the month,	16.74
Balance March 1st., 1902,	\$445.17

### The Snow Battle

On Feb. 22nd, Washington's Birthday, it is our custom to have a snow battle composed of two snow forts and about forty boys on each side. This year the snow did not come until late and we had only four days to make our forts in before the 22nd. On Monday, Feb. 17, we chose the sides for the battle, George Thomas being one general and I the other. The next day we started to build the forts. I built a round one and Gen. Thomas one in the shape of a triangle. We finished the forts but on Saturday, Washington's Birthday, it was too stormy to have the battle so it was postponed until Monday. On Monday noon we gave the forts the finishing touches and all was ready. We lined up in Gardner Hall at three o'clock, each side separate. Then the two generals tossed up for the flags in which I won and took the Japanese flag in preference to the Russian. They are the flags of the two nations that are almost at war. We then tossed up to see who would attack or defend the forts. Thomas won the toss and chose to defend his fort first. The sides then cheered their flags and marched out to their respective forts. Mr. Bradley and Mr. Wardwell acted as referees. Each side attacked the other for twenty minutes. The first attack was made by my side. We were divided up into four companies and when the whistle blew we rushed to the attack and after twenty minutes hard fighting, got into their fort and took out five of the bags they were defending. After five minutes intermission the other side attacked us for twenty minutes. They fought hard but they did not get any bags and the battle ended in our favor. No one was seriously hurt. There were a few bloody noses and more black eyes. Only one boy had to go to bed. After the battle the victorious side lined up by their fort, gave

Gen. Thomas a cheer and started to march for the kitchen door. We had a bass and a tenor drum to march by. They went first, behind them came the flags, Japan and United States with the victorious banner. This is made of satin and on the front which is blue is painted, "Victory of Feb. 22nd." On the other side is "Thompson's Island." The fighting men were last. When we got to the kitchen door some of the fellows went in and got the trophy box. This year there were two more boxes besides the trophy box. We took the trophy and marched back to the hall where we divided it. The privates were seated in rows while the general and his officers gave out the trophy. There were oranges, different kinds of cookies, a bunch of bananas, peanuts, figs, peppermints, six or seven different kinds of candy and other good things. When the privates had been given their share they were dismissed and the officers invited Gen. Thomas and his officers to partake of the trophy. All the boys were thankful to Mr. Bradley for providing the trophy and he said it was one of the best battles he had seen. It was a fine day and it all ended up satisfactorily and we all enjoyed it.

JOHN J. CONKLIN.

#### JAPANESE.

John Conklin.

Howard Hinckley.

Louis Means.

Charles Hill.

Frank Simpson.

Warren Bryant.

George Burke.

Edward Capaul.

James Clifford.

Andrew Dean.

James Edson.

Weston Esau.

Jacob Glutt.

#### RUSSIANS.

##### *General.*

George Thomas.

##### *Captain.*

Edward Davis.

##### *1st. Lieutenant.*

Albert Ladd.

##### *2nd Lieutenant.*

Charles Blatchford.

##### *Color Bearer.*

Frederic Thayer.

Ralph Anderson.

Walter Butler.

Don Clark.

William Dinsmore.

William Flynn.

William Frueh.

Leslie Graves.

Archie Graves.

Edwin Goodnough.

Chester Hamlin.

George Hart.

Albert Hinckley.

Ralph Holmes.

Ralph Ingalls.

George Leighton.

George Maguire.

George McKenzie.

Robert Miley.

George Noren.

Walter Norwood.

Charles O'Conner.

Herbert Phillips.

James Pratt.

Joseph Pratt.

Albert Probert.

John Robblee.

Joseph Robblee.

Charles Spear.

Edward Taylor.

Harold Taylor.

Clarence Taylor.

Milo Thurston.

Harris Todd.

William Walbert.

Charles Watson.

Chester Welch.

George Hicks.

Frederick Hill.

Warren Holmes.

Edgar Hudson.

Leslie Jones.

Charles Jorgensen.

Ernest Jorgensen.

Joseph Keller.

Harry Lake.

Thomas Maceda.

William May.

Frank Miley.

Daniel Murray.

John Nelson.

Alfred Neumann.

William O'Conner.

Louis Phillips.

Banks Quinby.

William Reynolds.

Clarence Rice.

Albert Sawyer.

John Tierney.

Frederick Walker.

Charles Warner.

Samuel Waycott.

Frank Welch.

Charles Whitney.

Carl Wittig.

### Changing Dining Rooms

The dining room is changed to the chapel for the purpose of putting a floor, fixing the dish and bread cupboards, putting in a new sink and putting on new plaster, for about four feet from the floor, in the real dining room. The tables are the same as they were. The dishes and bread table have been brought up stairs and two extra tables. One of the extra tables is for the dishes, the other to keep the pans, boilers, and dishes on, which are sent from the kitchen, before meals. After meals, the same table is used for washing the dishes, the water being brought from the kitchen. The chapel seems to be larger and more lighted up. Things have been working smoothly under the circumstances. The first day it was rather queer, but it is just the same as down stairs now.

GEORGE E. HICKS.

### One Evening's Skating

A short time ago we had fine skating and in the evening the first two grades went skating. We had lanterns on the pond and a big bon-fire which lighted the pond up pretty well. After a while the instructors came down and there was quite a crowd on the pond. A number of boys and a few instructors had a game of tag, while others were skating by themselves. There was hardly a breath of air out and about nine o'clock we came up to the house. On the way up we could see the lights over to the city as they reflected on the calm water. This was a pretty sight. We then went to our rest after enjoying our skate. The next day it snowed and we thought we were lucky to have had our skate the night before. BARNEY HILL, JR.

### Sorting Sheets and Pillowcases

It is the work of the dormitory boys to sort the sheets and pillowcases. There are three piles of sheets, short, long and patched sheets. The pillowcases are put all into one pile. The torn sheets and pillowcases are sent down to the sewing-room to be mended. Two boys go together when they sort sheets. One boy takes the pillowcases and sorts them. After the sheets and pillowcases are all sorted they are put into a cupboard. The long sheets and the short ones and the patched ones are put in different piles so as to put them in their right places. The long sheets go on the large beds, the short ones on the small beds and the patched ones go into the third dormitory.

JOSEPH PRATT.

### Prize Night

One night Mr. Bradley gave out the Shaw and Temple prizes. It was planned that Mr. Shaw, who gives the money prizes, should give them out but he could not get here at that time, so, not wishing it to be delayed any longer, he had Mr. Bradley give them out. First, he explained the system thoroughly for the benefit of new boys. As each boy was called upon to receive his prize, Mr. Bradley congratulated him. Then he gave out the Temple Consolation Prizes, of books. When Mr. Bradley was telling Mr. Temple about the system of grade and the

rewards, Mr. Temple inquired for the boy who nearly got there but failed. Mr. Bradley told him there was no provision for him. Then Mr. Temple said he would give five books for the benefit of the boys who almost got there. This makes a total of fifteen prizes. Then the next five in standing received honorable mention. Then he called on Mr. Morse of Vermont who gave us a very interesting talk on the necessary elements for leading an honorable and straight-forward life. He seemed to possess the idea that all boys, I suppose taking them as a rule, do not enjoy such talks, but he was mistaken for we all enjoyed it and probably many will be benefited by his talk. He spoke very forcibly about the poor literature, denouncing useless stories which often lead us astray. He said what we read really molds our lives. For what we read, we often ponder over in spare moments and by this really take it into our lives. He thanked Mr. Bradley for giving him the opportunity to speak to us. Certainly, he contributed his part in making the evening an interesting one. FRANK C. SIMPSON.

### The Talk in The Hall

Sunday, February 2, 1902. The chapel was used as a dining-room for the boys while our dining-room was being fixed and so we could not have Sunday-school there. Mr. Dale went out in the hall and asked Hart if he would get a few fellows to play their instruments so we could sing. About half-past ten, Mr. Morrison blew the whistle and told us to take the seats that had been placed there a few minutes before. When the time came, Hart played the air on the baritone and Axel Renquist played the second part on the cornet. We sang out of the hymn books that we used to have with only the words. The boys that played had the music. I held the book for them. Mr. Dale read some stories and poetry and after he got through we would sing.

CHARLES H. O'CONNOR.

3

"God Almighty first planted a garden and indeed it is the purest of human pleasure."

Lord Bacon

### Alumni

DAVID H. MOORE, '62, is instructor on the trombone at the New England Conservatory of Music. He plays first trombone in the Festival Orchestra and has been a member of it since its organization and has the same position in the Municipal Band. In the "Boston Farm School Offering", which was a four page paper gotten out at irregular intervals only a few times, under the date of May, 1859, there was an article "The Ocean," by David H. Moore, aged 12. It is good. He gave a considerable amount of description of the ocean, evidently learned from his geography. The best thing was a contrast of the ocean in pleasant and in stormy weather which showed a personal familiarity with his subject.

JAMES L. MCKEEVER, '94, who for three years has been employed as an attendant at the State Hospital at Palmer, Mass., has just been appointed supervisor of one of the men's wards. His wife is a matron among the women. James is well liked and has earned his promotion by steady work.

RALPH O. BROOKS, '94, is Chemist of the State Laboratory of Hygiene at Princeton, N. J., to which position he was appointed in September, 1901. His work consists of analyzing foods and drugs, and in investigating all the water supplies in the state. It is a very responsible work, requiring much scientific and practical training, all of which Brooks possesses.

On February 14, of this year he married Miss Sarah E. Arnold at Providence, R. I. and after a brief honeymoon returned to Princeton.

Brooks graduated from the Somerville High School in 1898, having ranked well during his course. He worked summers and did much chemical work at home. On graduation he was offered the place of assistant in chemistry in the High School. Instead, he entered the senior class of Rhode Island College and graduated in 1899 with the degree of B. Sc. Since then he has done a variety of chemical work acquiring practical experience in chemical engineering, draughting, and analysis. At the time of his appointment he

had just worked out a new process for a firm of manufacturing chemists, designed the apparatus and installed it in their factory.

### Alumni Notice

The first "Smoke Talk" of the Farm School Alumni Association was held February twenty first, at Bowdoin Hall, Dorchester. A very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all present. The entertainment committee were pleased at the interest shown by those present. Dr. Frank E. Allard spoke of the opportunities offered in these gatherings and entertained the boys with some very pleasant reminiscences. Besides Dr. Allard we were favored with the presence of Assistant Supt. Wardwell and Mr. William A. Morse.

The following boys contributed to the musical part of the evening,—

Mr. Howard B. Ellis, cornet solo, Mr. Nils G. Nilson, trombone solo, Mr. Benjamin Gerry, vocal selection, Mr. Alden Hefler, mandolin solo, Mr. Frank Burgess, vocal selection, Mr. Howard B. Ellis and Mr. Ernest Austin, cornet duet, Mr. George W. Brennan, accompanist.

We received letters of regret from Supt. Charles H. Bradley, Mr. John R. Morse and Mr. David H. Holmes. We regret that a previous engagement prevented Supt. Bradley from attending. The committee looked forward to his presence and his usual interesting speech. We trust the next "Smoke Talk" will be well attended and feel sure the boys will look forward to a social evening.

Clarence W. Loud.	) Entertainment
Alden B. Hefler.	
Ernest Curley.	) Committee.

"Nor can I count him happiest who has never

Been forced with his own hand his chains to sever,

And for himself find out the way divine;  
He never knew the aspirer's glorious pains,  
He never earned the struggler's priceless gains."

Lowell.

## Thompson's Island

# Beacon

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PRINTED AT THE FARM SCHOOL, BOSTON, MASS.

April, 1902.

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### The L. T. L.

We have a society established by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, called the L. T. L., meaning Loyal Temperance Legion. Most of the counties in the state have many L. T. L. societies or companies and each is given a letter to distinguish it; ours is Company X. We have a constitution which we go by as nearly as we can. Our officers are a superintendent, president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, color bearer, captain, sergeant and pianist. These officers, excepting the superintendent, are elected semi-annually. The company is in two divisions, junior and senior, and elect their own officers. Boys under thirteen years of age are juniors and all over thirteen are seniors. If a boy wishes to join the company he is handed a pledge card and if after he reads the pledge he wishes to sign it he can do so and on doing this he receives his badge. This badge is a small nickle piece with "Mass. Temperance Loyal Legion, Co. X, Thompson's Island," printed on it. No boy is forced to sign the pledge; he can do so or not, just as he chooses. Nearly all the boys are in Company X. We have three mottoes and three rally cries.

We have manuals which have lessons on the harm alcohol does, the way it effects the moral senses, the cost to the individual and the nation and many others. There is one manual on tobacco which tells all about the harm tobacco does, the same as liquor. Our meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month. There is a class of about forty boys who are trying to graduate. This class comes together every Thursday evening from six to seven o'clock

and takes its lesson. Each boy has a manual of his own and can learn his lessons and have a fair chance to graduate. Miss Wright, our superintendent, asks us questions on the lesson and on a good many occasions she tells us little stories so as to make it more interesting. All the boys in this class like to come up for these lessons very much. The lessons are very interesting. They show us before we get hold of liquor and tobacco what harm they will do to us, what we will suffer from them and make others suffer from our using them, if we ever should. When a boy knows what harm they will do to himself and others he is probably not half so apt to take them and can keep from them far more easily than if he did not know all about the results. Those who are able will graduate next May and will receive their diplomas at the county convention, which is to be held then. Graduating from the L. T. L. does not mean that the boy drops out altogether, but that he has completed the course of study prescribed by the W. C. T. U. He keeps up his interest just the same and is a member.

Very few, if any, of the boys who have graduated from this School since the Company was organized did not belong to Co. X. Once a year the companies collect their annual dues, each member paying ten cents. The company which pays into the general treasury the largest sum for three years in succession receives a prize banner. One of these banners was won by our company in 1899 and was held until 1901 when it became ours. The second prize is an American flag. Occasionally we have medal contests. There have to be at least six contestants, and there are three judges who decide on the one who should receive the medal. After

six silver medals are won the six winners compete for a gold medal. Sometimes the companies visit each other and have contests and a pleasant time. The L. T. L. is a good thing and I am glad I belong to it.

WILLIAM B. MAY.

### **Rainy Day's Work on the Farm**

On rainy days when we cannot work outside the instructor in charge has us do different jobs. Some of the boys get pails of water and cloths and wash windows. Others get brooms and sweep down cob-webs and others clean harnesses, sweep floors, scrub in the barn and straighten up things in the storage barn. These are the principal things we do but there are other small jobs which are done. In cleaning a harness a boy takes a sponge, puts some harness oil on it and then goes all over the harness making it look black and shiny. Sometimes there is mud on the harness and then it has to be washed in water and dried before the oil is put on. The brass parts are shined with polish. In straightening up things in the storage barn we pile up the barrels, boxes, lumber and toboggans and put every thing in shape. Then we sweep down cob-webs and sweep the floor. When we sweep the floor we take up some of the planks which make up the floor and sweep the dirt down into the pig pens. After the barn is cleaned up, it looks a great deal better.

EDWARD L. DAVIS.

### **My Work at the Barn**

Every morning I am woke up with other boys by the watchman at twenty minutes of five. Then we line up and march down to the kitchen where we put on our shoes. Then we go out to the washroom and wash and then go and get a bucket of hot water and carry it down to the barn, where it is used for washing off the white horse. Then I start and feed the horses with hay and grain and then I begin to clean them. After school, at night, I go down to the barn and water, feed and bed them. If there is freight, I help Mr. McLeod get it from the wharf. We have the most freight on Tuesdays and holidays.

CHARLES A. BLATCHFORD.

### **Killing Beef**

Lately we had a cow we were fattening up for beef as she did not give much milk. When we killed her, we took her out in the orchard and shot her in the forehead and after we shot her and she fell to the ground, we stuck a knife into her a little behind the ear. After the life was all out of her, she was put on the horse drag and taken to the storage barn floor, where the blocks and tackle were and there her skin was taken off and her head cut off. She was hitched to the blocks and we pulled her up off of the floor, where the intestines and the stomach were taken out and the fat was taken off the intestines. We cut her in halves and then in quarters at night and took the four quarters to the corn barn, where they were hung up to go to the house later.

ALBERT H. LADD.

### **The Lizards**

A short time ago, Mr. Bradley received three lizards from William Snow, one of the older graduates in Dorchester. They came in a wire screen cage with a small branch of a tree inside for them to climb on. They change their color from dark brown to a light green. When they are in the light, they are the color of the branch, which is brown, and when in the dark they are green. There is one which stays green most all the time. We give them sugar, water and flies, which are their diet. One morning, I got a small box and put about a dozen flies in it that looked dead and put them over the radiator and they began to fly. When I put them in the cage, the lizards would wait awhile and when the flies came near them they would catch them and eat them up. I gave them so many that they couldn't eat them and the flies would walk all over their noses and they wouldn't try to catch them. One of them shed his skin and ate it up. They probably came, originally, from Florida.

SAMUEL A. WAYCOTT.

"Cheerfulness is also an excellent wearing quality. It has been called the bright weather of the heart."

*Samuel Smile.*



### Emptying the Pond

One morning Mr. Morrison told another boy and me to get two shovels and go down to the pond where we had skating in the winter. When we got there he told us to shovel the clay away from the trap, so we got to work. When we had shoveled quite a lot away, he told me to get a crowbar. He took the crowbar and laid it against the board and pulled, and the board came off and the water rushed out of the pond into the harbor. The ducks that were near by when the water came out looked at it as if they had never seen anything like it before.

JOHN F. NELSON.

### What the Boiler is Heating

The old section, which was put in when the boiler was, heats all the Superintendent's apartments, the instructors' dining room, the boys' dining room, chapel, wash-room, the two schoolrooms and a bed chamber. This fall we coupled onto the pipes in the wash-room and put radiators into the Superintendent's bath room, the instructors' bath room and turned it on January second. The northern section is complete. It started from two T's just above the boiler room door and went up to the kitchen where it branched off to heat the reading room. It goes through the bakery and heats the office and then goes straight along to the laundry and up to the third story heating three chambers on the way.

JOHN W. ROBBLEE.

### Birds

Spring is here and the birds are coming fast. We have now, robins, song sparrows, crows, blackbirds, owls and bluebirds. If it were not for the birds the world wouldn't be near as good. The insects and mice would destroy the trees, grass and vegetables. The insects would eat all these things. The owl is the one to look after the mice. Some birds like the eggs of insects and eat them mostly while others will eat just the insect itself. The birds have wonderful songs which they sing to us. The birds that sing the most to us now are the song sparrow and the robin. Their songs are very sweet indeed.

CHARLES WARNER.

### The Rabbits

We have a lot of rabbits down to the hen house. We have Belgian hares, English lop-ears, and other kinds. The Belgian hares are as large as a rat terrier only not so thin and have not got such slim legs. The color is red and white. They are a very good breed and raise quite a lot of young ones. Some Belgian hares weigh eighteen pounds and over. The Belgian hares are worth fifty dollars for a good pair. The English lop-ears are very queer looking things. Their ears nearly touch the ground. The color is reddish brown and they are very tame. We have some white rabbits. They are not so large as the Belgian hares. They have pink eyes and are very tame and can be picked up anywhere. We have some black and white rabbits which are very pretty too.

WILLIAM T. WALBERT.

### Care of the Sadiron Heater

One of the jobs in the laundry is to take care of a small sadiron heater. There is a rim all around the heater about one inch wide and one-half of an inch thick which holds the flat-irons in place. Every morning except Saturday and Sunday mornings I build a fire in the heater. First I dump the grate and get all of the ashes out of the place where the shavings and wood are to be put. Then I take a shovel and poker and get a few red hot coals from the other heater where the fire is kept burning all the time and throw them into my heater. As soon as the wood is burning a hod of coal is put on the burning wood and shavings. I then see that the dampers are all right before I go to breakfast. After breakfast I take the ashes out and clean around the heater. Each day I mark down upon a coal tally the amount of coal that I used during the day. I use about four hods in a day, twenty hods in a week. Each hod weighs twenty-five pounds. On Saturdays I black the heater and oil the flat-irons with kerosene oil. Sometimes the fire goes out and I hustle quite fast to make it again.

RALPH O. ANDERSON.

# Thompson's Island Beacon

Printed Monthly by the Boys of the

FARM SCHOOL

Thompson's Island, Boston Harbor.

A PRIVATE HOME-TRAINING SCHOOL

DEPENDENT UPON DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS.

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Of the many things that should occupy a boy's mind the most important is the development of his character. His future happiness and worth will depend on this. To become a good, noble, useful man, he must watch his character as it grows from day to day. For character does grow. The old analogy of character-making as

clay in the potter's hand is not apt. The clay is inert and like putty can be pressed into any shape the potter wishes. The form the clay is to take depends wholly on forces and influences outside of itself. It is not so with character. Character is not fashioned by forces that are external. Character is developed by the co-operation of forces within and forces without. Hence a better analogy for the development of character is the growing tree. The growth of the tree is made possible by the correlation of forces within and elements without.

Choice plays a very significant part in this development. The tender roots of the tree and the green leaves do not take in all that they find in the earth and air about them, for there is much there that is poisonous and hurtful to the tree. Only those elements that will help in the growth of the tree are absorbed, such as carbon from the earth, or oxygen and heat from the atmosphere. The forces within the tree choose these elements from without and then growth is the result. Every boy is surrounded by influences both good and evil. If he is trying to develop true, manly character he will, like the tree, spurn the evil and choose the good. There is that within him that urges him to choose the right. When the right choice has been made this inward prompting has found its correct correlation in the thing chosen and then true character is developed. Hence the importance of choosing aright. Every boy should make "chums" of those who are aiming high in life, those who are trying to make the world better by their living. The influence of such companions cannot do otherwise than help in developing true character. There is need also of careful choice and discrimination in the matter of reading. No boy can afford to read any trashy or bad books. They poison the

mind and their influence is always evil. There are plenty of interesting books whose influence is always good. It is possible through books to become acquainted with some of the best men that have ever lived. Such men as Washington and Lincoln loom up in history in colossal proportions. They stand for unselfish devotion to the highest and best. The boy that studies such lives unconsciously absorbs something of their character. Not only in making friends and selecting books but at every turn one must choose those influences and elements that will correlate with the noblest desires of the heart.

Here is a grand opportunity for boys. They have very largely in their own power the development of their own character. They can make themselves men of nobility and worth, men of whom the world will be proud; men who will render useful service to their day and generation. Today life is strenuous. Let the spirit within our boys find response to the spirit of life without. Let the character which they develop be that which prefers the present high demands of the world around them.

**Notes**

March 1. Graduate Robert Blanton visited the School.

Received several boxes of fancy-cake from Miss Stubenrauch, Elmer Johnson's friend.

March 3. Saw the first blackbird.

Graduate William Murray called.

Put in stone gutter on the back road from the-gate to the culvert.

March 4. First appearance of the robin.

March 14. Winter term of school closed.

March 15. Finished working up the woodpile by the storage barn.

March 18. Literature received from the Smithsonian Institute including the annual reports from 1895 to 1900.

March 20. One package of literature received from Manager Mr. Charles T. Gallagher.

Through the kindness of Mr. J. T. Coolidge all of the boys spent the afternoon at Bostock's Animal Show.

March 23. Some of the instructors attended church in town.

March 24. Spring term of school began.

Dug the parsnips and salsify.

Mr. Bradley read the rank in classes for last term.

Company X held a medal contest in Gardner Hall. Don Clark won.

March 25. Robert Wm. Gregory entered the School.

Illustrated London News for the years 1894, '95, '96 and '97, received from Vice President Mr. Eben Bacon.

March 26. Laid tile drain back of storage barn.

Began to send out our annual reports for 1901.

March 28. Planted raspberry, blackberry, gooseberry and currant bushes and grape vine.

March 30. A number of the boys and instructors attended church in town.

March 31. Uncovered the rhubarb.

During the month the orchard was pruned.

**Farm School Bank**

Cash on hand, March 1st., 1902,	\$445.17
Withdrawn during the month,	26.73
	<u>\$418.44</u>
Deposited during the month,	25.96
Cash on hand April 1st., 1902,	<u>\$ 444.40</u>

**Cleaning the Scow**

After the scow goes over to get manure and other things that dirty it it is put on the blocks near the Chilton boat house. Then a hose is taken, which reaches from the one on the wharf and is used to wash off the planks. After that is done the rest of it is cleaned out. When the scow has got a lot of water in it and the tide is low enough the plug is pulled to let the water out. If the tide is too high the pump or pail is used.

ANDREW W. DEAN.

### White Washing

Awhile ago, Mr. Wilson took us painters down to the west basement to scrape and white-wash the walls and ceiling. After it was all scraped, I went down to the storage barn and got some lime to make into white-wash. In mixing it, we used a bucket of lime to three-fourths of a small barrel of water and a quart of salt to make it stick. Then one of us took a long-handled brush and went to work on the boards and the other came after him with the short-handled brush doing the beams. After we had finished in the west basement, we went into the east basement and did that.

DON C. CLARK.

### The Stilt Craze

The fellows are over the marble craze now and have started the stilt craze. The fellows ask the one in charge if they can go down to the lumber yard and get some wood for stilts. We get a piece of wood that isn't decayed, because if the wood is decayed the stilts will go down and you will have a little tumble, which you won't like. The fellows can do quite a number of stumps on stilts, such as hopping. The most fun on stilts is a bung fight between two fellows. The one that gets knocked off the most is beaten. When a fellow gets knocked off he gets kind of excited and when he gets on again he goes in so hard that he knocks the other fellow off. The fellow that is on high stilts is worse off than the fellow on low because he can't get around so quickly.

JAMES A. EDSON.

### Fencing

Lately, some of the boys have got the fencing craze. The swords are made of wood, usually ash or oak about three-fourths of an inch thick at the handle and from that tapering down to three-eighths of an inch. Then leather hilts are put on the handles and the swords are ready for business. Sometimes we fence for a couple of hours or more and, though not very skillful, it is quite good fun. Sometimes we get hit in the face but not often. As yet no one has been hurt very much and I hope no one will be.

HAROLD S. TAYLOR.

### The Horses

We now have five horses, Jim, Dan, Barbara, Captain and Max. Jim is a gray horse and Barbara is a bay. These two are the regular cart horses. Jim is a strong horse and is intelligent and all the fellows like him. Barbara is a working mare and all the farm fellows like her. The house fellows haven't seen enough of her. Captain is used for the carriage. Dan and Max make up the regular span. As Jim was getting old he was removed. Max is a dapple grey and is a steady puller. Each horse is supplied with a set of harness which is cleaned quite often. A boy goes down at five o'clock in the morning and evening to clean and water them. A blacksmith comes often to shoe them. There are three carts and three wagons for the horses to use.

WILLIAM J. FLYNN.

### Making Bows and Arrows

Some of the boys have lots of fun with bows and arrows. Some days they work in the shop and make bows and arrows. The bows are made of ash or oak and the length is about four or five feet, the width is one inch and the thickness about one-half of an inch. They mostly make the bows out of old broom handles, old rake or snow-shovel handles. The arrows are about one and one-half or two feet long according to the length of the bow. The arrow is mostly made of pine and sometimes a piece of wire is put on the head of the arrow. A good bow will send a good arrow out of sight.

LESLIE R. JONES.

### The Corner Shelves

Last vacation new shelves were put into a corner of the second schoolroom. They are made of hard pine, shellacked and varnished. There are five shelves. On the two upper ones are some jars of fertilizers and on the third are some jars of maple sap, syrup and sugar. On the fourth are the scales, pencil-sharpener and some cocoons. On the fifth shelf are the liquid and dry measures and a box with samples of different kinds of wood. On the floor under the shelves are some baskets and some corn for measuring. They look fine.

WILLIAM N. DINSMORE.

### Melting Lead

About the first work I had when I got in the shop was melting lead. There was some old lead pipe that came from the boys' dining room. The pipe was brought down in the cellar and left there for a few days. One day Mr. Benson told me to go down stairs and start a fire in the forge. When I got a roaring fire I got the melting pot and put it on the hot coals. Then I took the hammer, laid the pipe on the anvils, took a chisel and by hitting the chisel with the hammer cut the pipe up in small pieces. When I got quite a number of pieces cut up, Mr. Benson told me to put some in the pot. I put some in and it began to melt and after I got it all cut up I kept putting it in when there was room. We had a box full of clay and a piece of wood shaped like a square only smaller at the bottom than at the top. It has a nail on one end so you can hit it with a hammer. Then Mr. Benson poured the lead into the hole we had made in the clay and when the hole got full, we poured it into another hole. Then we put the pot on the fire again and put some more pipe in the pot and let it melt. Then what we had poured in before was in a cake. The cake was about six inches long, two inches wide and one and a half inches thick. We took it out of the hole and poured some more in. Sometimes water would be in the pipe and it would explode and it is liable to blind you.

CARL L. WITTIG.

### Putting Away Skates

A little while ago Mr. Morrison said he would give the boys some string and a tag for their skates. So after dinner all the boys that had skates asked him for the things. He gave each boy a tag and a string. They tied up their skates and put them in the wash-room by the bath tub. After the skates had all been put in there, the boys went about their play as usual. After the skates have been put in there they are packed in a box and put in the west loft where they are kept until the following winter. The next winter the skates are taken out of the box and given to the boys whose names are on the

I. BANKS QUINBY.

### Barn Work

Another boy and I work in the barn. We let the cows out to water and clean them. One day it was so warm that Mr. Vaughan told me to let the cows stay out longer than usual. I have a pet cow. She is a Jersey. The other cows all drive her out of the way when she goes out to drink. So I went out and led her to the trough. She is going to have a calf and I hope it will be a pretty one. They call us two boys that work with the cows, cow-fellows. There is a barn-fellow who sweeps the barn floor, puts down hay and attends to the horses. Every day at half-past ten we grind mangels or cow-beets. So we go down to the root cellar with him and he turns the machine while I feed it. Now it is getting towards summer they will not feed the cows with mangels but will let them out to pasture soon.

WILLIAM A. REYNOLDS.

### The Mayor's Watch

Last year, when Mr. Temple had a day at the Farm School, among his other gifts he gave a gold watch to the mayor of Cottage Row. The mayor of Cottage Row, then, was Charles Jorgensen. Since the gold watch came the fellows run for mayor more than they used to. Mr. Temple told Mr. Bradley to give it each time to the new mayor. In the inside, on the case is inscribed, "Mayor of Cottage Row, Thompson's Island, Boston, Mass." It has a compass for a charm, which Mr. Temple thought would be appropriate because the Sunday before that Dr. Cutter spoke about the compass as guiding us through life.

DANIEL W. MURRAY.

### Shining Farm Saws

One day Mr. Anderson sent me down to the hen-house to shine saws. The way he told me to do it was to take some dry wood-ashes and a cloth so as to rub the ashes on well and after a while they would shine. He gave me two saws and a square and told me to come back after four other small saws when I had the three done. I finished about three o'clock and went back after the others and did those. They were rusty and hard to shine but I did them the best I could.

ROBERT E. MILEY.

### Alumni

RALPH GORDON, '98, left the School to work for D. A. Warren of Middleboro, Mass., and on April 4, 1899 he enlisted in the U. S. Army, leaving immediately for Cuba. He served for a year and a half in the artillery division, then was transferred to the 7th Cavalry, Troop D. He was stationed at Mariano, eight miles from Havana, during all the time he was there, making twenty-four day marches every six months. He had served his term of enlistment and left Cuba April 5, coming by water to New York and arrived in Boston the 8th. He soon called on us and was looking well. He may remain in the vicinity of Boston but thinks some of re-enlisting for service in the Philippines.

WILLIAM A. CARR, '00, recently finished his labors with Mr. C. M. Sawyer of Berlin, and is doing house painting in the same town.

SAMUEL W. WEBBER, '01, is now employed by Mr. M. R. Lawrence of Arlington, where he enjoys his work and surroundings very much.



### Mending Pants

Mrs. Elwood looks over the boys' pants, and places those that need mending in one basket and those that are all done in another. There are seldom very many pants that are all done, as they are changed on account of a rip or where there is a hole worn in them. After they are all looked over we commence mending them. There are mostly rips, tears and holes to be mended. There are also such things as buttons to sew on. When there are holes in the pants we put on patches and can do them quite nicely. Sometimes there are pants that are worn so much that we save only the best parts of them and use these for patches. The pants usually come in the last of the week, and we do them sometime during the next week. When they are all mended, two sewing-room boys carry them to the clothing-room where they are given out. I am very glad I know how to sew.

A. LEROY SAWYER.

### Scrubbing Chairs

Some mornings when we dining room boys get our table work done, we scrub chairs. There are three boys and each boy has a row of tables. We get a pail of water for the floor and one for our chairs. The way we scrub our chairs is to take one chair and put it near the bucket and take a piece of hard soap and a brush and scrub the seat, the back, the rounds, the legs and the bottoms. After we have scrubbed the chair we have a cloth to wash it off with. We wipe it with a dry cloth and then take another and do the same.

RALPH P. INGALLS.

### The Snowy Owl

One day in January, Mr. Vaughan fired at and wounded an owl. The owl was brought up to the reading room where it remained until all the boys had a good look at it. It was fed on rats, pigeons and occasionally rabbits. The owl was quite large; had large, bright eyes and looked a good deal like a bunch of feathers; its color was white and black spotted and on the whole it was a very handsome bird. The claws looked as if they could and would do quite an amount of harm if they had a chance. The owl was kept in a large cage which was in the orchard, seemingly none the worse after its experience.

FREDERIC P. THAYER.

### The New Roosters

Lately we bought three new roosters from Mr. Hawkins of Lancaster. There are two Barred Plymouth Rocks and one White Wyandotte. All of them are very large. The Wyandotte is the biggest of the three. He has a double comb and is quite a good deal heavier than the other two. The Plymouth Rocks are about the same size. They all looked very clean. No dirt was visible any where about them. As soon as they were turned out they settled it up with the other roosters as to who would have the right of way. I kept separating them but no sooner would I leave them than they would be at it again. They soon made themselves quite at home as though they had lived here all the time.

FRANK C. SIMPSON.









