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Lochmede

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LOCHMEDEK

Vol. II.

WINTER PARK, FLORIDA, FRIDAY, MAY 18, 1888.

No. 20.

A SONG OF THE NIGHT.

Just a song of the night—but, ah! who can tell

The magical charm of the wondrous spell,
That floats through the mellow and soft-moving air,

That fans the leaves with a breath as light
As the touch of the dew on the grass blades there.

Or yon feather that drops from a night-bird's flight!

And the low tinkling drip of the moon-lighted stream.

The lisp of the whispering musical leaves,
And the wild sweet call of the cuckoo, seem
A harmony come from the woodland hearts
Of dryads singing among the trees.

A weird blue light drops down from the sky,
Touching the scene with a magical art,
Till the gnarled old trunks and the branches high,

The rocks and the brakes where the shadows lie,

To many an eerie semblance start.

And under the spell of the sweet old moon,
With its rays softly kissing the hills and the glades.

And lingering caressing on whispering waves,
The hard glaring facts of the work-a-day world

Are shadowed and softened and blended in tune.

As are shadowed and blended the woodland and stream;

And the soul of the hour stealing into the heart

To a feeling of restful calm gives birth.

And the star-studded heavens seem to lean
Protectingly nearer the tired old earth.

—B. H., in *Outing for May*.

NIGHT IN FLORIDA.

Where but in Florida can the suggestions of the little poem above be realized? How few elsewhere are the nights when physical discomfort will not put to flight all poetic fancies, and defeat all efforts to rise above our immediate surroundings. But here the soft air seems so nicely tempered as often to make it almost impossible to realize any sensation from contact with it, and with nothing to call it rudely back, the imagination is free to work to its full desire upon the suggestions of the scene before it. On such a night let one who feels in the mood take a boat and pull lazily about one

of our lakes, stopping or starting as the impulse seizes him, and he will be loath to leave the dreamland in which he will soon find himself. The moonlight nights which we are now enjoying are just right for such exercise, and from now until next winter there will be few nights unsuited to it. None will be too warm or too cool, and few will be other than bright and clear. A few stormy nights must come anywhere, but here there are probably fewer than almost anywhere else. During the spring and fall we have long periods of bright weather, with little rain night or day, and during the so-called rainy season, from June to September, when showers come almost daily, continued storms are of rare occurrence. At first it will take nearly all day to develop the conditions for a shower, and we shall generally have rain in the afternoon. Then, as the season progresses, the showers will come on earlier in the day, but as a general rule they will clear away by early candle-light, and the night will be bright and beautiful as only Florida nights can be. However warm it may have been through the day, the clearness of our upper air induces an immediate radiation after the sun goes down, which rapidly precipitates the moisture, and with it other impurities, from the air, and leaves it so clear and bright that even when there is no moon it is never very dark, the stars shining with such brightness, that one unused to it will frequently look for some other source of light to account for the unusual ease with which he sees surrounding objects. By land or by lake, one may always find his way on a clear night by nature's light alone, if he will only leave at home the garish and unromantic lantern. Nature illuminates the whole world at once, and he who would see it aright must learn to adjust his eyes to her light, for the best lantern in the world can only show a very small field at a time, and the impression produced must be correspondingly limited and partial, a consideration which affects

the mental view as well as the physical. Who would not rather see the distant shore-line of the lake, dimly outlined under the moon or stars, to say nothing of the heavenly bodies themselves, than count the planks in the sidewalk or the pickets in the fence? We seem to see more of the natural world by daylight, but in spite of the dimmer light, a clear night is the time for the mind to expand itself, and take into itself the immensity of the universe. There may be no high mountains in Florida to expand our minds by a contemplation of far-reaching views by day, but with such an abundance of clear nights we are in no danger of being mentally stunted on that account.

A Home in the Flatwoods.

The high pine lands of Florida are most sought for residence sites and groves, but those who desire to make a home in this balmy, healthful and delicious climate, and yet have it partake in a large degree of the character of the isolated country homes of the North, as much as the difference in climate will permit, can advantageously turn their attention to the Florida flatwoods. By the majority these lands are held in little esteem, yet they have special characteristics and advantages that will cause them to be more highly prized as the years roll on. They are held at a much lower price than either the high pine or hammock lands, and the settler can secure forty acres or more of these for less cash than five or ten acres of the other lands. To a man with limited capital this might prove to be an advantage.

The especial characteristic of the flatwoods is that, during the rainy season, they are covered with water for days, or it may be for weeks. This is due to one of two causes, a hardpan formation, impervious to water, within a foot or two of the surface, or lack of drainage outlets, and a very level surface. They are not necessarily low lands but may have ample fall for the most thorough drainage. They also

abound in knolls, or elevated spots, of varied sizes, whose crests are well elevated above the annual overflow, and would make excellent sites for residences or small groves. The soil is of a darker color and more fertile than the high pine lands, as it contains a larger proportion of vegetable matter, and consequently, is less thirsty. Hence, it is more favorable to the growth of plants that require a large amount of moisture. It is also more liable to the visitation of frost. By proper choice of location and drainage these lands will be found more favorable to the growth of vegetables generally, of small fruits, and of the varied grasses than are the high pine lands without irrigation.

The chief disadvantages are, at present, greater distance between neighbors, the overflow of the country after heavy rains, and, in many cases, shallow wells filled with surface water which always has a tendency to produce disease. It can be obviated, however, by properly constructed cisterns that are filled with rain water from the roofs of the buildings, by drive wells passing through a stratum or two of clay, or by cemented pipes sunk to the requisite depth. If the selection of the location has been judiciously made, a few ditches properly located will greatly reduce the time and extent of the annual overflow, the distance between neighbors will decrease from year to year and school facilities for the children be greatly improved. The public roads will become more and more numerous, and as they are comparatively hard and firm, they can be traveled with more ease than the less compact sands of the higher lands. In fact, the flat lands offer many advantages to the one who desires a home by himself, where he can grow almost all the eatables his family needs, and be the baron of his own realm.

He should not, however, make the mistake of selecting gallberry lands or sand-soaks. A scrub knoll might be selected, perhaps, for the residence location, as it would be free from stagnant water, but would require much irrigation and fertilizing to secure desired growths about the home. Better select a pine or even a black-jack knoll for the residence site. Cut but very few of the trees. Locate the

garden site very conveniently near the house. Put in ditches deep, long and thick enough to make the drainage sure. This must be considered when selecting the location. If the drainage cannot be made satisfactory you do not want the location at any price. If you see the tops of the pines flattened as if pressed down from above you may know that the roots have met with an obstruction, and are flattened out to correspond with the top. The cause is probably hardpan. In some cases such lands can be made available for tree growth by digging down to the hardpan, breaking it up, throwing it out and putting back the dirt before setting the tree. This will depend upon the character of the strata below the hardpan. Without question thousands of prosperous healthful homes can be readily made on selected locations in the flatwoods of Florida, giving to the owners competence and content.

Pecans in Clay County.

Gail Borden, the wealthy milk man, whose autograph is familiar to those of our readers who use tin cows, lives at Green Cove Springs, where he has an experimental fruit farm. Writing to the *Spring*, of that place, he says: "It may be of interest to your readers to know how the pecan trees flourish in my native State (Texas); but I can also show a nursery of about 800 trees which are three years old and from four to nine feet high. I am trying to demonstrate, by planting pecans, mulberries and other trees, that our State of Florida can do as well, if not better, for the effort expended, as any State inside the frost line. Some of my pecan trees are fourteen feet, four years from the seed. I send you by this mail a sample of my paper shell variety; I find that the extreme hot weather we have been having lately (95 in the shade) has injured the extremely delicate flavor that belongs to this nut. I have but about a dozen nuts left. I sold all I could spare (58 pounds) at one dollar per pound."

A Truck Farm.

The *Leesburg Commercial* says: J. S. Cureton and W. E. March, of Orange Bend, have made a success of the trucking business. Their farm is located east of town and consists of twenty-eight acres of good hammock land. Nine acres were planted in cabbage. Half of this crop has been shipped to market, for which they have received in hard cash \$1,800. On the other half they will probably realize as much more; although the amount received is a large profit on the time, labor and money expended. On this nine acres they averaged eighty-five crates of cabbage to the acre. Last week they sold for cash two car-loads of cabbages at \$2.25 per crate. These gentlemen have other vegetables growing in goodly quantity, on which they will realize a handsome revenue. Besides vegetables, they will grow a good crop of corn and watermelons in abundance for market. Mr. Cureton came here a short while ago a poor man, and is rapidly getting on his feet financially.

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WINTER PARK, FLA.

Uses of the Palmetto.

The palmetto is not only a delightful vegetable which can be used in all respects like cabbage and cauliflower, but it is very useful in many respects. From its leaves the nicest hats and the best fans are made. But the greatest use to which palmetto is put is in the shape of piling in constructing docks. Pine and other woods are attacked with worms in a few years, when brought in contact with salt water, and for this reason the frequent renewals are very expensive. Palmetto, on the other hand, is not attacked in this way, and will last for years. The palmetto played a very important part in the revolutionary history of this country. When the British fleet made an attack upon Charleston, it was confronted by flimsy-looking wooden fortifications that seemed to offer but feeble resistance. Every shot that was fired into them, however, sunk into the soft, spongy wood of the palmetto without damaging the inmates in the slightest. After keeping up the harmless bombardment for some days the attack was abandoned. A gentleman is traveling through the State, buying palmetto timber, to be cut and shipped to New York for wharf piling.—*Ex.*

Pure Lard.

The investigation now being made by the committee on agriculture at Washington develops the fact that the manufacturers of lard use the leaf lard almost entirely for making imitation butter, and that the lard of commerce to-day is made of the other fat of the hog combined with stearine (beef fat) and cotton-seed oil. It is not denied that this is done to secure an increased price for the leaf fat and to prevent a depreciation in price of the compound sold for pure lard. A knowledge abroad of the ingredients of this compound has already greatly depreciated our exports, last year to the extent of thirty millions of pounds, and if the practice is continued will nearly ruin the hog industry. This business is confined to less than a dozen large concerns, and the question to be determined by the agriculturists of America is, are they to be allowed to prosecute this work of enriching themselves and of ruining everybody else.—*Coleman's Rural World.*

THE PIONEER STORE

(IN)
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Advertisements at reasonable rates.
Terms on application.

Communications by mail should be addressed to J. B. HENCK, JR., Longwood, Fla.
Office at Winter Park with Chas. J. Ladd.

Entered at the post-office at Winter Park as second class mail matter.

WINTER PARK, MAY 18, 1888.

We are glad to receive the report and announcements of the Chautauqua, and Christian Endeavor societies, and would be pleased to publish regularly all such announcements, church and school notices, if those interested will forward them to us not later than Thursday morning's mail to Longwood.

We are glad to see that our young friends at the College are prospering with their little paper, and hope their entertainment will be a great success. In order to do our part to help, if they should find it to their interest to do so, we invite them to reserve the proceeds of their entertainment for necessary incidental expenses, and make use of a page or so of LOCHMEDE, without money and without price, in which to publish whatever they like, the editing of their columns to be entirely in their own hands, just as if they had a separate paper. We should be glad to receive a copy of their program for next Friday evening, and publish it in LOCHMEDE, which appears on that day.

Our jottings this week contain contributions from four or five different hands, which is the way we like to have it. If you want the paper to be interesting and to increase in usefulness, send it just such little items of local news as you may happen to have. If one does others will, and in return for the one item you contribute, you will see half a dozen others that have come from others. However diligent Jotter may be, he cannot get hold of everything, and when he sits down to write, in minutes snatched from other work, those things which concern his immediate friends or business associ-

ates are naturally the ones which first come to mind; so if he seems to slight your circle of friends, or subjects you are interested in, do not blame him nor the paper, nor accuse either of wilful partiality, but just sit down and write a few notes of those things you think ought to appear, and then they will not be left out. The greatest obstacle to those who work for the public good is the public indifference to its own interests.

JOTTER notes the unusual proportion of refined and educated people among the settlers in Florida, as compared with other new countries. This has often been remarked by many independent observers, and is in fact what might be expected from the circumstances of the case. A rough miners' camp among the Rocky Mountains, or a cattle ranch on the plains, naturally draws a wild, adventurous population, made up of such as like a wild life for its own sake, and of outlaws who find in it a safe and congenial refuge. But the quiet life of a farmer or orange grower, or of the sort of tradesman these quiet people will encourage with their custom, attracts a more peaceful and conservative class of people, and the settlements where such people live oppose no objectionable features to deter others who may wish to settle among them merely for the sake of the mild climate, a class which would as a rule prefer to take their chances at home rather than go amongst a population of gamblers and cut-throats, such as often infest new countries. Florida is a good place for a home, and they know it.

JOTTINGS.

The Misses Flenner left on the 16th for a trip to the North.

Alex. Earl has left us for a summer sojourn in the mountains of Tennessee.

Everybody tells us that in proportion to size we are doing more building and improving than any town around us.

A paper from Mr. Mark tells of his safe arrival home, and from the interview therein published, he is talking up Winter Park nicely.

Miss Garritt and Mrs. Robinson, of the College, spent Sunday in Orlando, and Miss Root spent the same day with Mr. Haines' people at Wilcox.

Many residents of this place will be pleased to learn that the Orlando Laundry will be ready to receive work next week. Goods may be left at Ladd's, as usual, on Monday.

In the absence of Rev. Mr. Potter, services of the Methodist church were held as usual last Sunday, conducted by Rev. Mr. Missildine, who preached in the forenoon an able sermon from the words, "Be a christian!" The meetings will be continued without interruption during the summer.

Capen & Co. consummated a sale of all their nursery stock this week to Mr. Wallace of Orlando, who will bud the whole stock to Riverside Navels and ship them to California next winter. Here is a chance for some one to say something about "coals to Newcastle" or some such venerable and time worn old saw or remark.

That our town has good material for a base ball club is shown along East Park avenue every afternoon, when about a score gather to bat and catch the ball. Who knows but "a great and only" Kelly or Clarkson is now sojourning among us, who only awaits the opportunity to develop his powers and astonish the base ball world. Time only can tell, and "tempus fugit" here the same as everywhere.

In looking over the annual report of Rollins College made by Dr. Hooker to the Board of Trustees this spring, we are struck by the steady improvement in numbers, good work and in fact everything that goes to make up a prosperous, beneficial school. Some of the testimonials in the report are of great value, and the whole thing shows earnest, faithful work by the able faculty, all of whom we are pleased to learn will return next year. This whole region should be proud of such an institution in her midst.

We are in receipt of a diagram of the good ship Cephalonia, in which Mr. Chase sails on the 26th for Europe. From the location of the state-room he has secured, we are led to the conclusion that he still knows a good thing when he sees it. May we not hope for some letters from him during the summer? He expects to make every exertion to get Victoria, Bismarck and Leo XIII interested in Florida so that they shall spend their declining years in the cultivation of an orange grove.

Mr. Arnold, the energetic Passenger Agent of the S. F. R. R., was here on the 15th, and reports booking a great num-

ber of our people for the North in the next few days. This reminds us of a remark we heard a baggage-master make to Mr. Etter a short time after the Seminole closed. There was a huge pile of trunks on the platform all ready to go, and he said, "Where do all those come from, the Seminole closed long ago?" The answer was, "the woods are full of them yet." And that is so, for there are lots of people around here yet.

For some time the students of our college have been issuing a small sheet called the *College Critic*, a single written copy of which has been posted upon the bulletin board weekly. Now, however, things are developing so that nothing less than a printed paper will satisfy them. The subject is being agitated with such effect, that an entertainment will be given at the Cottage, May 25th, to "start the ball rolling." A good program of music and rhetorical exercises has been prepared, and it will probably be fully equal to the many other pleasant evenings, for which Rollins College is noted.

The Winter Park Chautauqua Circle celebrated, at its last meeting, the birthday of Joseph Addison. The Circle met at Dr. Hooker's. A sketch of Addison's life was read by the Secretary, and some excerpts from the *Spectator* were given by other members. Miss Livingston read the inimitable *Vision of Miza*. The regular program was closed by a modernized version, by Dr. Jones, of the discoveries made during the dissection of a Pop's Head and a Coquette's Heart. At its meeting next Monday night, the members of the Circle intend to go on an excursion through Canada, and will be delighted to welcome any of their friends who would like to accompany them on the journey.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor held its semi-annual meeting on the evening of the fourth, in Knowles Hall. The following officers were elected for the ensuing six months: President, Albert H. Barrows; Vice President, Mrs. E. J. Coan; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. E. N. Coan; Recording Secretary, Miss Eva Ainsworth; Treasurer, B. C. Rackliff. A brief musical and literary program was rendered at the close of the business meeting. The pastor, Dr. Hooker, and the retiring president, Mr. W. V. McDuffee made brief addresses. A short social was held at the close. This society now numbers more than fifty members, active and associate. It promises to no as good work this summer, as during the past six months, although many of its mem-

bers will be on the absent list. The prayer meeting committee has prepared topics for the summer meetings, which are issued from the press of LOCHMEDE today.

Perhaps one of the most significant features of Florida is that so many people of education and refinement have found homes here. We had the pleasure of a nice drive to Oviedo a few days ago, on the kind invitation of Mr. Davids, behind Mr. Knowles' fine team of bay steppers. We stopped several times along the route and in every case we met a very fine, sociable class of people who were alive to the interests of Florida, and wide-awake cultivated people. We venture on the assertion that no State in the Union whose growth is so recent and so rapid as ours can boast of the class of settlers that we can. Arrived at Mr. Mead's nursery at Lake Charm, we met Mr. Mead's father and mother—smart, educated, Christian people—and found in Mr. Mead, a thoroughly equipped, enthusiastic nursery-man. Having secured some very nice plants and shrubs for the improvement of the Seminole grounds, we came back more than ever pleased with Florida, and especially this part of Orange County in which we live. We saw Mr. Isaacs hard at work on the *Chronicle* and suppose from the way he was applying himself that that newsy sheet will be more than usually bright and readable this week.

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DENTIST,
— OFFICE AT RESIDENCE, —
Cor. Interlachen and Welborne Aves.,
WINTER PARK, FLA.

Bee Keeping in Florida.

Florida, says the *Southern Farmer*, is rapidly coming to the front in the great industry of bee-keeping. It has been but a few years since much was said concerning bee-keeping in Florida. Now it is a grand excitement and a rush. A great many from the Northern States have sold their homes and come to Florida for the purpose of engaging in bee culture, and as a rule are making a success of it. With its beautiful climate flowers are blooming and honey can be gathered in almost every month in the year. Brands of orange-blossom honey are now being shipped to our Northern cities as the products of Florida. In many instances Northern apiarists now ship their bees to Florida for safe wintering.

Apiarists here receive them on shares, taking for their care and attention the increase and surplus honey stored through the winter, and ship back the same number of colonies received in the fall. One great advantage the Florida apiarist has over those in the North is that he can raise queens all winter and ship North to supply the early spring trade, which could not be otherwise supplied. The great majority of the queens sold in the North in the months of March, April and May are raised in the Southern States.

Dewberries.

Who is there that has ever tasted the wild-dewberry of our fields that has not longed for some variety that would thrive well under cultivation; and although a number of varieties have been tested, none of them have proved to be of much value, till the introduction of the Lucretia, which was discovered in West Virginia some years ago. The plant is perfectly hardy and healthy, and remarkably productive. The flowers are very large and showy. The fruit is often one and one-half inches long, by one inch in diameter, soft, sweet and luscious throughout, without any hard center or core. It is the best of the blackberry family; as hardy and productive as any. The berries are far larger and incomparably better than any blackberry. As the dewberry roots only from the tips, and does not sprout like blackberries, it will be much more desirable for garden culture. It may either be allowed to trail on the ground, or be trained to a trellis.—*Ex.*

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LOCHMEDE

Postage on Seeds and Plants.

We are not in favor of relegating to our good friend, Uncle Sam, the care and promotion of every department of business. The people of the United States have a genius of their own and wish, as much as possible, to be allowed to take care of themselves; but when any one like our good friend undertakes by force of law to do something for us that we cannot do for ourselves it may just as well be properly and equitably done as not, for he desires no personal profit from the transaction. In the small matter of sending seeds through the mails and as well scions, bulbs and plants, there is no reason in the world why Uncle Sam should be considered a competitor with the express companies any more than in carrying the letters which refer to them. This thing is of vast importance to the agricultural interests of the country, interests which no paternal government can or need undertake to care for. We hope "the powers that be" will see their way clear to the adoption of the "one cent for four ounces charge" for seeds, that the farmers of the interior, far from the centers of business and from express companies, may be able to get them as cheaply as their richer and more favored fellow farmers in other situations.—*Coleman's Rural World.*

Memorial Trees.

Under this title *Vick's Magazine* says: There is a curious law in vogue in Switzerland which compels every newly married couple to plant trees shortly after the marriage ceremony. The trees ordered to be planted on wedding days are the pine and weeping willow. On natal days the suggestive birch tree is selected.

It would be well if some modification of this law were adopted in this country.

In some cases families have made it a rule to plant a tree for each child on its birthday, if possible, and call it that child's tree. This early beginning tends to give the child a taste for horticulture.

Young ducks, at ten weeks old, can be made to average ten pounds to the pair—double the weight of average chicken broilers at that age.

REMEMBER

That whatever Printing you may have to do will all help to support and encourage the publisher of

YOUR HOME PAPER

and enable him to make it better than he can otherwise afford to do, for whatever he can make from such work is all reckoned in among the inducements to publish the paper.

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