

GRADED SCHOOL COMPOSITIONS.

HONOR.

Honor is one of the greatest traits in a person's character, for, without it, no one could gain the respect of others. If a man loses his honor, it will not only mar his character, but will injure him politically, because he would not be allowed to hold office, and it would also give him a bad reputation.

The true points of honor are honesty, manliness, truthfulness and bravery. If a man does not possess these traits, he will not only gain for himself a bad reputation, but will lose the respect of every one, and will always be pointed out as a scoundrel.

Among the best illustrations of honor and dishonor, rank George Washington and Benedict Arnold. George Washington was Commander-in-Chief of the American army during the Revolutionary War. At a time his army was in such a condition that he was unable to delay the progress of the British.

At this time, some persons spoke of having him removed, but Washington did not resent this, but only strived to repair his losses.

Benedict Arnold was an American general in the Revolutionary War and fought bravely at the Battle of Saratoga. He was not rewarded as he thought he should have been, so he betrayed his country and joined the British Army against the Americans, for a large sum of money. After the war, he lived in England, but truly regretted what he had done, before he died. If he had behaved as Washington did, he might not now be called the great traitor of America.

Clarence Trautman, Age 14, First Year High School.

HONOR.

Honor is excellence of character. Our reputation is the most valuable of all we own, and is generally valued at that rate. Honor is one of the few things that cannot be bought or sold; that is, if a person sells what he calls his honor, it is not the genuine.

Honor is written on some men's faces that will be honored wherever presented. Honor is viewed in different ways. Some people consider honor the rise in social or business affairs. Benedict Arnold thought that an office in the British army would be worthy of betraying the Americans. Some consider it an honor to be wealthy, regardless of how it is obtained.

We are impressed with the strict sense of honor in which the Puritans held their religion.

General Moultrie, while a prisoner on parole, was offered a position in the British army by Charles Montague, if he would desert the cause of American Independence. Moultrie replied that he had pledged his life, fortune and Honor in the cause, therefore he declined.

Etta Dixon, Age, 15; 1st year High School.

CHRISTMAS.

Christmas comes on the twenty-fifth of December. We celebrate it because Christ was born that day. We have been celebrating that day nineteen hundred and three years. Most of the people in the United States have Christmas trees for their little ones, with all sorts of toys on them that will please the children.

Christmas is a holy day and all of the people ought to go to church and take their children with them.

There was once a little boy whose name was Jean; his mother and father were dead and he had to live with his mean old aunt, who made him sleep up in the loft of the house.

It was now but a few days from Christmas and all of the school boys were to go to church with the teacher. At last the evening came; all of the boys but poor little Jean were clad in nice warm clothes and costly furs. Each boy was telling what nice things Santa Claus was going to bring him; all but poor little Jean, he was only rubbing his fingers to keep them warm.

At last the time came for them all to go home. Jean was the last one to leave the church. As he was going down the steps, he saw a little boy sitting on the steps. All of the rest of the people had just by without noticing him. Jean took off one of his little wooden shoes and placed it on the little boy's foot. When he told his aunt what he

had done, it made her angry, and she told him that he would get no more. Little Jean went up to his dark room that night with a heavy heart.

The next morning (which was Christmas) Jean heard a scream from his aunt; he ran down the stairs to see what was wrong. There he saw the fireplace filled with all sorts of nice things and among them was the little wooden shoe. The hard heart of his old aunt was softened. Some kind person who had seen him give his shoe away sent him these things.

Nannie Hough, Age 12, Grade 6.

CLIPPINGS.

The following very valuable items are clipped from our various exchanges, principally from the Farm Journal. We do not intend to do much of this kind of thing, as we think we have a sufficient number of farmers in this county to keep us supplied with all literature of the character contained in this column that we will need from week to week.

What a Farmer Can do in Winter.

He can take care of his stock, see that it is well stabled and well fed, and that it gets sufficient exercise.

He can repair tools of all kinds and get them ready for work in the spring.

He can fix up things in the barn so that they will be more convenient. He can do this in the house, too.

He can, during pleasant days, look over the wood lot, cut old trees for wood or lumber, clear out brush where necessary, prepare wood for next winter, etc.

He can grub out bushes, fill ditches, haul away stones, and repair fences, if any of these things need to be done.

He can get his hot beds going. He can do many of the little odd jobs that he has neglected because he did not have time to do them.

He can study seed catalogues, implement catalogues, and all other catalogues which are likely to be useful to him.

He can lay out his plans for the coming year.

He can read and study agricultural papers and books, and other good books and papers. It would be a good idea for him to select some branch of his work for special study, and to take this up systematically and thoroughly.

He can visit the schools. Best of all, he can rest and cultivate the virtues of patience and cheerfulness.

Things that Help.

It helps: To have every farm tool and all the harness and wagons and the things that cut, saw or dig, in the best order that we can put them.

To do to-day's work to-day, feeling sure that to-morrow will have plenty of business of its own.

To be satisfied with doing one day's work at a time. It never paid any man to crowd two days work into one. Overpressure is a frequent cause of explosion of the boiler.

To keep eyes and ears open when using any kind of farm utensils, so that we may know whether or not everything is working properly. A bolt or a screw is a small thing, but if either of them gets out of place, it is quite likely that there will be an hour or two of running about to put matters in shape again for business.

To keep on hand a little hardware store of one's own, including bolts of assorted sizes, snaps for the harness, screws, cock-eyes, nuts rivets, nails and washers. No one knows when he may need these things, and it saves time to have them ready in case of need.

To see that the wagons are all properly oiled before they get as dry "as a contribution box."

To study economy of the truest and best kind, and to practice as well as study.

Cather up the charcoal from that old brush pile and throw it into the poultry yard, or into the scratching shed.

A padlock costs little, and may help to save much. Poultry meat is worth money now. Lock the doors, or unchain the dog.

Either eggs are being used more largely, or the American hen is not doing her duty. At any rate, eggs are wanted, and they bring spot cash.

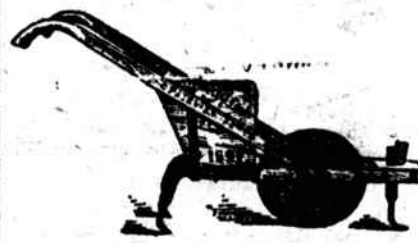
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