

Depression of Spirits

so common in summer-time, accompanied by loss of energy, lack of thought-power, means a deficient supply of nourishment.



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SARGE PLUNKETT.

It is "Lay-by Time" With the Country People and

ALL IS BRIGHT AND CHEERFUL.

The Young People Are Having Picnics and a Good Time Generally.

From The Constitution.

It is "lay-by" time in Georgia and that means a happy time for old and young—for boys and girls, especially.

The country young folks have nothing to do at this season, but to eat melons and fruit and have a good time generally. It does me good to watch them at their picnics and at the church on Sunday.

In the old times a young fellow would take his sweetheart by the hand and walk the big road for miles, or through the paths they would go, "cooning" footlogs and wading streams that are never thought of in these days of railroads and other modern conveniences.

It would be easy enough to do this if we would all only start at it right and together. Women folks will be hardest to persuade into the sacrifices that must be made to accomplish the end.

folks upon the matter but I venture that the pressure is always congenial or the girls will quickly make you stand further. Me and Brown have tried to get scrouged by these pretty young girls, but they stick pins in us till we are glad to get out and stay out—there seems to be some little difference in being scrouged by an old man or young, and I think I see where they are right.

But, leaving the young people to have all the pleasure that they can, there is just such a state of things in the rural districts now that should make us all throw up our hats and rejoice. The young men that follows the plows and make the crops have learned that the calling of the farmer is not so "low" as was once supposed. A few years ago the country people passed through an ordeal of hard times that was trying and that many were not brave enough to stand.

The towns are now passing through an ordeal, and it may be a more serious stress than the one that the country passed through. This depends upon the course taken. The towns must be relieved. All the strikes in the world cannot relieve the town people of this stress as long as there are five or six men for every job of work. I would add nothing to the depression of the towns, but I feel they cannot escape without returning to the rural pursuits, and they had better be told of it, and prepared against it as soon as possible.

The hardest thing in having this occur is for the town poor folks to come down off the high horses they have mounted. False pride must be suppressed, big notions must be smothered and a decision at once to live within your means and to labor at whatever your hand findeth to do. I know that it will be mighty hard to get thousands to arrive at this stage, but you must. War will not relieve, desperation only clamps the chains of necessity tighter, and sooner or later, one way or another, you will have to return to country life.

Thousands of them, I believe, had rather die than give up the style

that they have been; training so hard to assume. If all the women would get to be sensible and practicable, the whole matter could soon be arranged. Let the family get together and agree that there is no way for them to keep in the present ruts and that they must come down and live in a more simple way, and half the battle is over.

But the people out where we live have nothing to do with the strikes; they do not invite war; there is no talk of anything much except that they want "free silver," and the most of them will join the silver Democrats to get this, and then all will be rejoicing. Brown has gone back with the silver democrats, and if he goes back everybody else may. He says that this year is the first year of the world that blackberries could not be sold, and he thinks when people can't find money enough to buy blackberries it is time to lay aside every other thought and work for more money.

I have never had the reputation of being a great financier, but I have concluded that more money is the thing we want—anyway, that seems to be the big side, and I am tired, tired, of always being in the minority, and shall trim my sails to be "in it" at the next election.

SARGE PLUNKETT.

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