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Why I am Leaving My Farm

Can't live up to it

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Why I am leaving My Farm

~~It~~ ~~Wonder~~ I can't live up to it

My! But these farmers are wonderful fellows! - I mean the words they use & the education they must have! - I never realized it ~~that~~ ^{these} ~~unintentionally~~ ^{from being} ~~and~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~farmers~~ ~~words~~ it till just recently when I retired from being a professor and came to settle down on my little

place that I call a farm. ^{over}

If I mean like this, - a few days ago I bought a bottle of ~~poison~~ ^{poison} ~~stuff~~ to use against garden bugs, and it had on the label "The antidote to the poison is any alkali emetic followed by an emollient febrifuge!"

Q) I hadn't had anything to do with ^a farm since I

lived on one as a little boy more than fifty years.

I am amazed at the charge! I'm not sufficiently
educated for it. I'll have to go back to the city ☹

(2)

9 Just think of it. ^{(Imagine} ⁱⁿ Japan a farmer's
wife calling down stairs, "William!
~~Throw me up any alkali emetic~~
Baby has been eating stool blacking!
Throw me up an alkali emetic
and follow it with an emollient
purgative!" And the farmer would
probably call back, - "All right! and
you'd better handle baby very carefully;
lift him up with callipers!"

That's another word on farmers'
labels "callipers", - directions for all
seeds and things say, "Handle very
carefully ^{and pick up} ~~pick up~~ ^{a pair of} with callipers".
Up till now I always thought that

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callipers were french things that
women wear. But it seems not . . .
Anyway ^{you} have to have them on
a farm. I'm going to get measured for
a pair right away

¶ This high standard of education, -
- I mean this ~~knowledge~~ need of knowledge
& special terms makes it hard for
^{any} outsider to start in and do anything
round the house or garden. You see
on a farm, everything is done from printed
directions. ~~Whatever you buy has a~~
~~paper of directions with it~~
either out of little manuals
or for papers that come with the packet or
round the bottle or under the wrapper.

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When I took over my place, as it
was ^{meant} to be my home ~~I~~ for good I thought
I would begin by planting trees
round it for shelter, from what I remember
of farming when I was young I naturally
thought of spruce trees, and ^{balsam and pine,} balsam, - any kind
of fir trees. But it seems they ^{don't} have
them. The book said, "The ~~subject~~
^{suggest} ~~subject~~ effect about the dwelling
house is to get by having a warm
belt of ^{conifers} conifers about it." I don't want
them. ~~by recollection of conifers~~
~~all that I get into~~
all that I remember about conifers
if I have the word right, - is that

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If they once get into the frame d^a beds
or bed room chest d drawers all you
can do is to burn it. You can of course
try poison, any good ^{unguent} unguent or
chollin^{ic}, but it seldom works. The
conifers can be lifted out ^{one by one} by callipers
~~a~~ ~~plates~~ but it would take a lot
of time. The book set "If school when
quite young they will increase rapidly".
I don't doubt it, but, thank you, not
mine ^{me}.

If the same manual suggested
that if a belt of conifers was not
~~available~~ ^{available} an equally ^{snug} snug effect
can be made by covering the loggia
with eucalyptus. 'Loggia' is a new

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farmer

word for me though I suppose I can guess what it refers to. Personally I would ~~not~~ just give it a coat of whitewash.

Equally ~~however~~, is gardening. The farmer is told to treat the soil with

I ^{have} found ^{already} that gardening ^{has} to go the same way as planting trees. I don't understand the words

~~# There was~~

Try this:—

"nitrates may be freely used with leguminous plants" ... "at the time of calyx closing watch closely for curculio" ...
.. an gramineous animal need ...
"remember that the ranunculus is the gardeners friend" (over)
and

among the birds all the *Caprimulgidae*

are well worth having, while the flickers were

war on larvae. . . etc

It seems that farmers eat this up, & the
~~latter~~ paragraph.

see next page..

Kind of language

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~~Equally uncomfortable is the weather. The manual reads.~~

If there was an old man working in the next lot to ^{my place} me on the first day of gardening and I asked him what he thought of the weather.

In the days when I was young such an old man would have said

"Well, sir, if them clouds would clear away at the sun ^{for a bit} at ^{bit} I think it might set in for a pretty fair spell".

. But this old man didn't

If he said

I had a look at my aneroid barometer first thing this morning and then barometer first thing this morning and then

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is certainly an area of pretty
low barometric pressure. I have been
thinking of setting out antirrhinum
this morning but I guess I won't

"Why ^{not} ~~not~~ [?] I asked

"It's too acquaceous. (1) You've got to
set back a pretty good eye on your ^{humidity} humidity
gauge before you do much with antirrhinum

~~to or for the matter that with any ...~~
I'll put ^{some} something a little more gelatinous"

I think of it. That old man getting
out of bed and having a look at his
aneroid before he even put on his
pants

I was going to ask him what
he would do ~~that~~ ^{instead} instead of ^{setting} setting out antirrhinum
anytime but then I didn't. I didn't ^{need to} need to

(9)

If I knew what he would do
 if he would go out start to do all
 those things that are in the farm
 & Home Manuals & ^{on} the seed
 packets and that I can't undertake.
^{no} For instance, he might go and
 make himself "a compost bed", —
 I don't ask you what it is, I've ^{no} ~~known~~
 idea except that it ~~sounds a dirty~~
 is a ^{said to be} grand ~~to~~ ^{over} make with a eye to
 the future of ~~it~~ ^{it} sounds like a dirty ^{enough}
 mess. If ^{Or} if the damner ~~did~~ make
 a compost bed then he might spend his
 time "treating his soil" with nitrate,
 phosphorus or basic slag? "What are
 they?" I don't know. "Where do ^{you} get basic slag?" I have
 no idea

"Soap suds, dirty water and all kind
d kitchen slops thrown ^{on} at the compost
bed will help to keep it in good heart"

If ~~then~~ if the ^{man} had done that he
could go and plant his garden

with ~~what do you think~~, - lettuce
, radishes and that sort of stuff that

I had expected to grow? - not

^{They don't have them any more, He can't plant it}
~~at all~~, with antirrhinum ^{as I just} or I just

said, and scabies, and ^{cusks} ~~paracenta~~

and a border of asbestos and

Scorfula. Those are the words on the packets, as nearly as I
^{recall them.}

If so as for gardening, - I in our

~~don't~~ I refuse even to think of

~~what the suggestion call~~ such as

~~setly~~ I don't understand the ^{terms} ~~words~~ "When

the garden is complete," suggests the manual

"a final touch may be given ^{by} laying down

(1)

flagstone
a flagstone path with saxifrage in
the interstices and then ^{carrying} ~~having~~ a pergola
all down the pathway. Thank you
and for me.

Of ^{another} ~~one~~ thing I had looked forward to
~~especially~~ in coming back to farm life after
~~so many~~ fifty years away from it, was the
reading of the good ^{old} farm newspapers.

They've been parodied, I know, a
thousand times by smart city people but
the charm was there all the same. There

was ^{journal} ~~social~~ news that said "Ed Callaghan was

in town last night from the Fourth Concursion and reports his fall
wheat nicely in hand. Well done! Ed"; and the social news "Miss Posie
^{Couslip} ~~Prattrose~~ ^{is visiting in part of} ~~his~~ ^{her} corner after a three day visit in
the city"

of In the place of that you now read, —

"Among the daintiest of the seasons
wedding was that of Miss ^{Prinsetia} ~~Poey~~
^{Cousin} ~~at the~~ ^{Prinsetia} celebrated at the
^{farmstead} ~~the~~ ^{The Bagnolias} family home ~~Newlands~~ the happy bridegroom
being Mr Earl DeBenture ^{of Wall Street.} The ceremony was
held, at which the Rev Mr Bray
officiated, was held out of doors under
a pergola, the assembled guests ^{being}
gathered in the loggia, ~~then~~ ^{beautified with} floral decorations
of hibiscus, ~~and~~ ^{and} cespitose rabies and
flowering ~~and~~ ^{Prinsetia} arunculus @ Miss ^{Cousin}
wore a beautiful ^{ecru} ~~ecru~~ of soft tulle
with shot with dainty ^{ecrus} ~~ecrus~~. Her father
who gave her away wore a plain

Violette of haricot whole Mrs
 Pamrose (mère)
 Cousin look riante in a
 dark purple chassie de nacre.
 The happy couple left immediately after
 the ceremony for a wedding tour
 through the Panama Canal to Japan,
 returning via Soviet Russia."

I find I don't talk much to the
 neighbours ~~farmer~~ ^{gathered family from near by}. I can't. One of them ^{dropped}
 in the other day to ask if I could
 lend him a pair of callipers to
 reset his seismograph, and we had
 a little talk. He talked a little while
 on surrealism which he said had
 been interesting him lately, he spoke

also metempsychosis as then drifted
onto foreign jultas and the open door in Manchuria. I
think it was in Manchuria: it may have been Missouri.
~~then I went home~~

If No, no. I'll have to go back ~~to~~ ^{lot} back

~~to~~ ^{and} study a whole lot more

and learn ^{all} about alkalis and barometers

and calipers ~~or else~~ perhaps not come

to the country but retire into a beer garden. It's
easier.

Gutterleacock