

ational, but he felt it was all practical, and he especially commended the old way of bringing up boys to work. We afterward asked him if the boys were paid for this home work and he said, No, they were not. They all felt their work was for the family, and were they not part of the family.

Mr. McCotter is a man of force and character and his opinion has weight and he says, "The great lack today with the child is he is not made to feel his part in the economical life of the family, and to know that part of it is up to him."

Another personage of importance was Summer Hamlin, editor of the Eaton Rapids Journal, who was the grandson of one of the colonists, and gave a short talk.

No one, eclipsed in interest Mrs. Pickens, the centenarian of Bismarck, who does not show her years, but who sat erect on the platform and with natural dignity throughout the whole program. Mrs. Pickens does her own housework and takes care of her son. She is prepossessing in appearance, and wore a black bonnet with broad silk ties, around the bonnet being a frill of lace. She wore a black dress, and over her shoulders was knotted a fine white silk shawl, that was very becoming.

"Jep" Bisbee, musical kid of over 80 years, whose home is in Mecosta county, and famed as Henry Ford's fiddler, was present and proved the hero of the day. He is a small man, slight and wiry, with gray hair and wearing a gray suit, and he played the fiddle a number of times throughout the program and for the dancing in the evening. Such old dance tunes as "The Arkansaw Traveller," "Money Musk," etc., set everybody's toes a tingling. His own were not still, for every little while he capered a few steps, to the delight of all. He made the trip in the Ford car which was a gift to him from Henry Ford at the close of one of the trips he took with Ford and Firestone and Edison. Jep must have been a tired man the next day

with bouquets of his choicest glad-tulas for Mrs. Pickens and Jep Bisbee.

Waft Squires, one of the original colonists has no children living but he has a number of fine granddaughters and grandsons in the Dakotas.

Jay Hawkins has a number of descendants still living about the old locality.

Hiram Gray's son, Warren, settled two miles from the village.

In her talk Mrs. Marsh said the grove where the picnic was held was one mass of Canada thistles when she was a girl. She showed a reticule, containing thread, needles, etc., a housewife, such as was sent the soldiers during the civil war by their women folks, which she is to give to the state historical museum at Lansing. "From the ladies of Vermontville."

Vermontville band furnished music for the day, and the fire department gave an exhibition of their new village and rural fire trucks.

## Notice

### COUNTRY FIRE TRUCK RESOLUTION

In view of the fact that it requires only a few men to operate the country fire truck, that there is more or less danger involved, and that an excess number of men riding on the truck only adds extra weight to the already heavily loaded chassis; the township board has passed a resolution "that not more than six men be allowed to ride on the country fire truck in going to and coming from fires, and that the fire chief or driver be vested with authority to enforce this ordinance."

Vermontville Township Board,  
Chas. A. Stiles, Clerk.

of the well-to-do Many laboring  
as much and more to him than the