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are not recommended as a remedy for all the ills that flesh is heir to, but in affections of the liver, and in all Bilious Complaints, Dyspepsia and Sick Headache, or diseases of that character, they stand without a rival.

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Insist upon having the genuine Dr. C. MC LANE'S LIVER PILLS prepared by Fleming Bros. of Pittsburgh, Pa., the market being full of imitations of the name *McLane*, spelled differently but same pronunciation.

UNCLE BENNY.

BY MISS AMELIA THORPE.

Uncle Benny was a bachelor, of the persuasion of friends. When I first became acquainted with him he was in his second year; of medium height, blue eyes, and a rather ruddy complexion. No one could help loving the good old man, whose law of life was kindness to his fellows. He had never accumulated much money, for his purse savings were too loose, and so many quarters and half dollars slipped out and found their way into the pockets of the poor and needy that Uncle Benny found himself at this time of life with but barely enough to supply his moderate wants. He was not an educated man—far from it—but he read the newspapers carefully and gained considerable information.

There was a romance connected with his youth; he had been engaged to a fair girl, the daughter of a neighboring farmer. Uncle Benny wooed and also the girl's mother—Madam Mary Hayes, but when he asked for her hand she had given on his cousin, Ephraim Ford, her undivided heart. This was a great disappointment, for he had loved as only a true man can love, but he said, in his quiet sensible fashion,—

"Mary, I have loved thee better than myself; thou hast been the idol of my heart—but if Ephraim is only kind to me, I will not grieve, for thy happiness is dearer than my own."

After his rejection Uncle Benny slowly walked homeward to his father's farm; the birds sang sweetly, for it was in the early spring; the meadow brook rippled along gayly through grassy beds covered with clover and daisies. Uncle Benny thought of the happy bygone hours when he and Mary had played on the green, mossy slopes where the buttercups grew. The past was but a pleasant memory; the future lay before him like a desert, he raised his hat and looked upward to the bright blue above and prayed for strength, vowing his aim in life should be the good of others. How blue the sky looked, only equalled by his Mary's eyes.

"If the dear girl could not love me, should I wish her ill? May the Lord forgive me if I have wronged her even in thought. Ephraim is wild and reckless but the influence of such an angel will go far with him no doubt. I shall hope for the best. I shall leave Meadow Brook, go to Philadelphia, and there engage in some active business, and in keeping the mind occupied will sooner forget my sorrow."

Ephraim and Mary were married, and Madam Rumor had many a sad story connected with their short wedded life. He was as only unkind but cruelly, and in two short years after their marriage the blossom faded. It was in spring time, when nature was regenerating the earth, that she was taken—in her full beauty and loveliness, to that bourne from whence no traveller returns.

It was now that Uncle Benny was not minded of her comfort and happiness, and the poor young creature was sad indeed. The event caused Uncle Benny much sorrow, and added to the gloom of his more dejected shadow which time could not dispel. Often Uncle Benny would walk homeward near Meadow Brook and stand flowers on the grave of his fair young friend, and looking through the blinding tears on her new-made grave he would say—

"I am a sinner and I have not been kind to thee; forgive all the pain thou hast caused me—but alas! alas! thou hast gone to a better country—better land than this. It is well; the Lord knows best. His is wise."

Poor old Uncle Benny! We will close the chapter of his early days. How often I think of him and his true Christian benevolence.

One Sunday in midsummer, when nature in leafy June was at its height of beauty, I took a walk out of the dusty city into the park, and there, in company with some friends, wandered along the beautiful, winding Schuylkill River. The waterfalls like a band of silver unrolled, and the beautiful slopes on either side were glorious in their summer beauty. Presently my eye was attracted by an old man in an ancient coat rather worn, a broad brimmed hat and green umbrella. He looked weary and seated himself beneath the shade. I soon recognized him my friend and said—

"Uncle Benny, have you come to enjoy this beautiful Sabbath with us and nature? I did not expect to see you, know you are prejudiced against riding in the street cars on Sunday?"

"Did thee think I rode out here?"

"Yes; the distance is so great from your boarding house."

"A mistake, never catch me riding on

the Lord's day; too much consideration for man and beast. The poor horses should rest, and the drivers and conductors go to church. Dear me, dear me, the world is getting very wicked!"

I left him, and as we were wending our way homeward, as twilight was deepening, I saw Uncle Benny far ahead of us. I had often heard of his quiet benevolence, and hoped to witness one of his many acts of charity. As I saw his steps were not turned toward home, I found my opportunity. He turned into an alley, and following closely I saw him enter a shanty whose broken wooden steps could scarcely support his weight and disappear through a doorway.

I followed and sitting in the little vestible saw inside a picture the sight of which I did not soon forget. There sat a pale-faced, care-worn woman with a little boy of about two years on her knee an a little fairy-like girl about four years old, with deep gray eyes and a wealth of sunny curls covering her face. Fairly shaped head, with fair complexion and well formed features, standing beside her. There was something very attractive about this little dainty creature who, with a cry of delight bounded forward and was soon in the visitor's arms. He folded little Carrie to his heart, and as he seated himself and she leaned her pretty head against him, it formed a striking contrast to the sunburnt, manly face of the old gentleman. For a long time he was silent then he said with emotion—

"Thee remembers, Jane, Mary, home at Meadow Brook? Thy little girl is much like her. A thing of the past, Jane, which little blossom here will not let me forget. Well, well, I have come to see if this is in need, and how thee feels this warm day."

Better, thank you. I think I will be ready to commence my sewing to-morrow."

"Better not be too smart; good health is to be prized, and thee must be careful not to overtask thyself. The Lord will care for thee and thy little ones. How long since thee buried William?"

"Eighteen months. It was a great blow but good friends have stood by me, and I am very thankful."

"Well, thee knows that I have ever been a good friend to thee, was to thy William; my sister raised thee, and thou art a good, sensible woman. But I fear my time here is short. It is drawing near sunset, and when I am taken away thee will find that I will leave thee and thy little ones a token of remembrance, and the children will have it at the death. I wish it was more, but John Jones is now eighty years old, and Silas, his wife two years younger, and when I die I must leave a trifling sum to my nephew, and Elizabeth, my brother's widow and her children, must be remembered and I trust ill will not fit to good account. It is a great wonder to me to see that those who never so much do little—such a sweet satisfaction to do good to others. I must do now, my country getting troubousome, I am dying little."

"And if she looks at the matter in the same light that you do, she will hang her ear on the point of your pincushion, and say, "Orlando, I will."

"Of course she will."

"But there is a possibility that you will be the first to will after the marriage."

"No matter, bridle up, take unto yourself a wife, and have some style about you."

"A man never knows what domestic bliss is till he has been kicked out of bed once or twice by an energetic wife, who takes an honest pride in letting him know that she is proprietor of that particular portion of the globe."

"Almost everybody gets married, and it is a good joke."

"But the joke soon wears out."

"Some marry in haste, and then sit down and think it carefully over."

"Some think it carefully over first, and then sit down and marry."

"Both ways are right, if you hit the mark."

"If you are addicted to feelings of loneliness, marriage will cure you of that."

"If you are of an independent spirit, and accustomed to have your own way, marriage will cure you of that also."

"Perhaps you will find it hard at first to realize that you are actually a married man."

"But the first time you stay out till midnight, the reality of the thing will be forced upon you so abruptly that you will feel as if you had been knocked down with a footstool."

"And maybe you have—I don't know."

"Women are economical beings, and will make your money go farther than you can."

"They will make it go so far, in fact that none of it will ever find its way back."

"A wife's instinct of economy enables her to buy her husband a whole suit of clothes for fifteen dollars, and herself a sacerdot for twenty-five cents."

"Perhaps you have been in the habit of paying from twenty-five cents to a dollar a week for laundry, one for twenty cents."

"To be sure, the twenty-five cents shirt, when washed, looks like a set of noble strings; but it shouldn't be washed."

"You don't want to be too clean."

"Thus you will see that you cannot possibly get along without a wife."

"The sooner you get one, the sooner you will be admitted to the paradise of conjugal felicity, and learn how to hold a squalling baby while your wife hangs over the back fence and tells Mrs. Smith what a handy husband she's got."

"When your clothes get ragged, your wife will repair them—may be—if her

time is not too much taken up with other things."

"Even if she doesn't, you have the consolation of pins."

"Before you were married you never could find a pin when you wanted it; now they are everywhere—all over the dressing-table, in the hash, on the floor, and sometimes you make the painful discovery that they are even on the chair."

"A pin is an insignificant affair in itself, but when you sit down on its point you feel as if a telegraph pole had penetrated your existence."

"Married men make the best soldiers. Not because they are the best fighters, perhaps, but because they can do a better job of retreating."

"They learn to dodge, drive, mislead, with a great nicely, and practice the sports so much at home that they can get out of the way of anything from a griffon to a booshion."

Napoleon Bonaparte was a married man, and I have no doubt he would dive under the bed as quick as any other man, when his wife gritted her teeth and made a grab for an argument that could be thrown clear across the room."

You man, get married. Don't hesitate."

Winter is coming on and you will need some one to get up in the morning and make the fires, while you take your morning nap."

A wife is what you want. She will make herself useful in a variety of ways—sweeping, scrubbing, and keeping the house in order—and will undoubtedly be as happy as you are miserable."

The origin of the custom of making persons suspected of murder touch the murderer body for the discovery of their guilt or innocence is interesting. This method of finding out murderers was practiced in Denmark by King Christian II. The story goes that it arose in the following way. Certain gentlemen being on an evening together in a tavern, fell out among themselves, and from words grew to blows, insomuch that one of them was stabbed with a poniard. Now the murderer was unknown, by reason of the number, although the man stabbed before death accused a servant who was one of the company. The king, to find out the homicide, caused them all to come together, and standing around the dead body, he commanded that they should one after another lay their right hands on the dead man's naked breast, swearing that they had not killed him. The gentlemen did so, and so it appeared against them. The purveyor alone remained, who, condemned before his own conscience, went first of all and kissed the dead man's feet, but as soon as he laid his hand on his breast, the blood was told, gushed forth both out of his wound and his nostrils, so that, urged by this evident confession, he confessed the murderer, and was, by the king's own sentence, immediately beheaded. The elder Darsali, in his *Curiosities of Literature*, gives several examples of these "ordeals," as they are called, such as walking blindfold amidst burning charcoal, passing through fire holding in the hand a red hot bar, and plunging the arm into boiling water. The popular affirmation, "I will go through fire and water for my friend," was, in all probability, derived from this custom. Darsali says: "Those accused of robbery were put to a trial by a piece of barley bread on which the man had been said, which, if they could not swallow, they were declared guilty. This mode of trial was improved by adding to the bread a slice of cheese, and such was the credulity that they were very particular in this holy bread and cheese, called the *concoct*." The bread was to be made of ewes' milk in the month of May." Du Gange observes that the expression, "may this piece of bread choke me," comes from this custom.

OLD ENGLISH LAW AGAINST BEGGARS.—For an able-bodied man to be caught a third time begging was held a crime deserving death, and the sentence was intended on occasions to be executed. The poor man's advantages, which I have estimated at so high a rate, were not purchased without drawbacks. He might not change his master at his will, or wander from place. He might not keep his children at home unless he could answer for them. In case of employment, preferring to be idle, he might be demanded for work by any master of the craft, whether he would or not. It ought to be noted, however, that he was not compelled to beg again.

"My dear," said a patient husband the other day, on finding a piece broken out of his saucer, and another out of his plate, "it seems to me that everything belonging to you is broken." "Well, yes, my love," responded the wife, "even you seem to be a little cracked."

A small boy in Belfast, whose deportment at school had always ranked 100 per cent, came home one day recently with his standing reduced to 98. "What have you been doing, my son?" asked the mother. "Been doing," replied the young hopeful, "been doing just as I have all along, only the teacher caught me this time."

"Not Possible." "In this case against my client for stealing a pair of trowsers, move for a mistrial," said the lawyer.

"On what ground?" asked the judge. "On the ground that a whole suit can't be made out of a pair of trowsers," replied the lawyer.

THE THIEF AND DRUNKENNESS.—The service in the Spartan house was all performed by Helots, the treatment of whom at Sparta, befitting the severity of their institutions, was残酷 than that of any nation. Such is proved by the statement that Helots were compelled to appear in a State of drunkenness, in order to excite in the Spartan youths a sentiment of repugnance of intoxication.

They were walking arm-in-arm up the