

### Froisart to His Lady-love.

Lady of worth and beauty fair,  
In whom dwell all sweet gifts of grace,  
My heart, my love, my thought, my care,  
Are slaves before thy gentle face;  
Therefore, oh lady of land and prairie,  
I pray for goodness great to me,  
The gift of kindly thought from thee.

From day to day I make no prayer,  
At night no other hope finds place,  
But evermore and everywhere,  
To serve thee in thy works and ways,  
And though I plead in lowly case,  
Yet dare I ask, oh! grant to me,  
The gift of kindly thought from thee.

By words, by songs, by prayer,  
A lover's faith and truth you trace;  
Go ask and search out everywhere,  
All that I say, my dears, my ways,  
Should these unworthy seem, and base,  
Forgive me, nor withhold from me  
The gift of kindly thought from thee.

### FOR THE FARMER'S HOUSEHOLD.

Press the Earth Closely Upon Seed.

An eminent agriculturist gives his experience in regard to seed-planting thus:

On July 21 of 1874, as an experiment, I sowed twelve rows of sweet corn and twelve rows of beets, treading in after sowing every alternate row of each. In both cases, those treads in came up in four days, while those unfurrowed remained twelve days before starting, and would not then have germinated had rain not fallen, for the soil was as dry as dust when planted.

The result was that the seeds that had been trenched in grew freely from the start and matured their crops to a marketable condition by fall, while the rows unfurrowed did not mature, as they were not only eight days later in germinating, but the plants were also to some extent enfeebled by being partially dried in the loose dried soil.

This experiment was a useful one, for it proved that a corn crop grown in the vicinity of New York as late as July 21 could be made to produce "roasting ears" in October, when they never fail to sell freely at high rates, but the crop would not mature unless the seed germinated at once, and which would never be certain, at that dry and hot season, unless by this method.

The same season, in August, I treated seeds of turnips and spinach in the same way. Those treads in germinated at once and made an excellent crop, while those unfurrowed germinated feebly and were eventually nearly all burned out by a continuance of dry, hot air penetrating through the loose soil to the tender roots.

Of course this rule of treading in or firming seeds after sowing must not be blindly followed. Very early in spring or late in fall, when the soil is damp and no danger from heated dry air, there is no necessity to do so, or even at other seasons the soil may be in a suitable condition to sow, and yet be too damp to be trampled upon or rolled. In such cases these operations may not be necessary at all, for if rainy weather come, the seeds will germinate of course; but if there is any likelihood of continued drought the treading or rolling may be done a week or so after sowing, if it is at such a season as there is reason to believe that it may suffer from the dry, hot air.

Now, if firming the soil around seed to protect it from the influence of a dry and hot atmosphere is a necessity, it is obvious that it is even more so in the case of plants whose roots are even more sensitive to such influence than the dormant seed.

**Care of Young Turkeys.**

A farmer's wife complains of want of success with young turkeys. They seem to die the first week, when the middle toe begins to draw around like a fish hook, and in a few days the other toes turn the same way; they lose all use of their feet and die in a few days. Others seem well in the morning when let out, but sicken and die before night. This is cramps or rheumatism. The trouble is brought on by dampness and cold. These two conditions are furnished by wet grass and damp ground. The chicks must be kept in proper places, where it is dry and warm, for the first week of their lives; after this they may be allowed to go abroad with their dam in dry warm weather, but they should not be let out until the grass is dry in the mornings, until they are a few weeks old, after which they are out of danger from cramps. Young turkeys are quite tender at first, and need nice care and attention. The best feed for them for the first week is scalded corn and meal crumbs. It must not be wet and sticky, but of a crumbly consistence. Cured is good food for young turkeys, and after they are a week old they may have as much of it as they will eat three times a day. Cracked or broken corn may be mixed with the cured or fed separately. Good wheat screenings or sound wheat, or buckwheat or barley, are a good and proper food for young chicks of any kind. In cool, damp weather a few drops of tincture of acetic root, and the same of tincture of iron may be added to the water with which the food is mixed.

**Handling Sheep.**

There is a right way and a wrong way, a hard way and an easy way, an awkward way and a skillful way, to catch and handle sheep. A great many men will catch the sheep by the wool on the back with both hands, and lift the animal clear from the ground by the wool only. Barbarous! Let some great giant grasp you by the hair of your head and lift you from the ground by your hair only! Would you not struggle and squirm worse than the mule sheep does when lifted by the wool? And would there not be a complaint of a sore head for a week or two? If you do not believe it try the experiment. We have slaughtered a great many sheep in years past, and when removing the pelts of such sheep as had been handled by the wool, we never failed to observe that be-

neath the skin wherever the animal had been caught by the wool, blood had settled. In many instances, the skin had been separated from the body so that inflammation was apparent. We have known proprietors of sheep to be so strict in regard to handling them, that he would order a helper from the premises if he were to catch a sheep by the wool on any part of the body. Some owners of sheep direct their helpers thus: "When about to catch a sheep, move carefully toward the one to be taken, until you are sufficiently near to spring quickly and seize the beast by the neck with both hands, then pass one hand around the body, grasp the brisket, and lift the sheep clear from the ground. The wool must not be pulled. If the sheep is a heavy one, let one hand and wrist be put around the neck and the arm pressed against the leg." We have always handled sheep in the way alluded to. We never grasp the wool. Others seize the sheep by a hind leg, then throw one arm around the body and take hold of the brisket with one hand. But ewes with lambs should never be caught by the hind legs, unless they are handled with extreme care. When sheep are handled roughly, especially if their wool is pulled, the small bruises and injuries will render them more wild and more difficult to handle.—*Maryland Farmer.*

**Kilting Cows.**

When my patience becomes exhausted in coaxing and scolding a cow that kicks, I put a leather strap around her body, forward of her bag and behind her hipbones, and buckle it tight. Then she can do no harm, for she cannot raise her feet more than two or three inches from the floor. When she becomes satisfied that she can do no harm she will stand perfectly still; then you may loosen up on the strap by degrees, and soon leave it off entirely, for she soon learns to stand still to be milked.

**Cream Carriage.**—Wash, cut fine, boil until tender, and drain the water from it. Brown two tablespoonsful of butter in a saucepan; put in the carriage and pour over it a tea-cupful of good cream, season, and let simmer for half an hour.

**Raspberry Jam.**—Weigh equal proportions of powdered loaf sugar and raspberries, put the fruit into a preserving pan and with a silver spoon mash it well; let it boil five minutes; add the sugar and stir well with the fruit. When it boils, skim it and let it boil for fifteen minutes.

**Silver Care.**—The whites of five eggs; one cupful of sugar; and one-half cupful of flour; one-half cupful of butter; one-half cupful of milk; one-half teaspoonful of salt. Mix the butter and eggs together; add the milk; then the flour, in which has been mixed the cream-tar; then the whites of the eggs; then the soda, dissolved in a little boiling water.

**The Way to Wealth.**

The Rev. Dr. R. D. Hitchcock, who is not only a prominent theologian, but a profound thinker, says: "Suppose no muscle is put into the land; no sweat moistens it; it goes back into its original wildness, and that which formerly supported one hundred civilized men, affords support for one savage. The value which land possesses has developed by labor. Have you considered how short-lived labor is? Crops last no more than a year. Railways, so long as you stop work upon them, go to pieces rapidly and cease to be valuable. Houses have to be made over constantly. St. Peter's church, at Rome, one of the most solid of structures, is repaired annually at a cost of \$30,000. [The reverend doctor might have added, mechanics actually live in houses erected on the top of St. Peter's, that they may watch for any defect and attend to any leak in the roof.] A great part of the wealth of the world is only twelve months old; when men stop working it passes away. Suppose you earn \$1.25 a day and spend the same; at the end of the year you are no better off than at the beginning. You have only lived; suppose you spend \$1, or better still, eighty-five cents; then you have become a capitalist. Capital is wages saved, and every man can become a capitalist. I began to preach at \$500 a year; I've been there, and know what it is. My rule was then, and has been ever since, to live within my income. So it would have been, no matter what my business. Spend less than you earn; then you will acquire capital, and your capital will be as good as that of any other man."

**A Great Actor's Parsimoniousness.**

In money matters, Edwin Forrest, the eminent tragedian, is said to have been close and grasping to a degree which thoroughly disgusted the warm-hearted, open-handed men and women who were his associates on the stage. At the end of one short engagement at the Tremont theater, Boston, his share of the receipts amounted to \$4,000, and though the managers lost by their contract with him, and for the moment were unable to pay the stock company, he exacted the prompt payment of the last penny which was his due. The money was handed over to him, a few odd dollars being in rolls of twenty-five cent pieces, and he left the box-office. Half an hour afterward he returned with one of these rolls, and, taking a piece of silver from it, said to the treasurer, in his own peculiarly pompous manner, "This quarter, sir, which you have given me, is not good."

"What's the matter with it?" asked the treasurer, curiously.

"It has worn smooth, sir, and the people at the bank refuse to take it.— You must give me another for it."

The treasurer, who was a good deal of a wag, handed Mr. Forrest a bright new quarter, took the worn piece, and, with the words, "I wouldn't sell these two shillings for five dollars," slipped it into his pocket. That night the story of Forrest and the smooth quarter was known all over Boston.

### FOR THE LADIES.

**An Absent-Minded Rector.**

A fashionable church in Philadelphia has a rector who has been placed in embarrassing positions simply because of his absent-mindedness. It was only a week ago when he was to have married a couple at five o'clock in the afternoon. The bride and bridegroom appeared, followed by a retinue of ushers. Everything was in readiness except the gentleman who was to perform the ceremony. A messenger was dispatched to his residence, but the rector had gone out of town. After a wait of an hour, a Presbyterian clergyman in the audience volunteered, entered the chancel, and married the couple.

On another occasion, the rector was engaged to perform at St. George's hotel the marriage of the daughter of a well-known naval officer. At the appointed hour he failed to appear. Calling at his house, the ushers found him in the dining-room munching toast and sipping tea. He was hustled into a carriage and driven rapidly to the hotel, where the parties were waiting.

"Oh, dear, I've forgotten something," exclaimed the pastor, when he reached the hotel door.

"What is it?" asked the gentleman in whose charge he was.

"Why, my surplice; wonder if they will allow me to marry them without it," he inquired in an agitated manner.

"Oh, yes, certainly," replied the gentleman. And that wedding went off an hour later.

On another occasion, a well-known gentleman up town decided on giving a party in his honor, and wrote early in the week desiring to know whether the appointed date would be acceptable, asking at the same time for an early answer. Time sped on, and no reply. On the morning of the day the social gathering was to take place, the acceptance came. The guests assembled, but the rector was notably conspicuous by his absence. The matter had slipped his mind. As a climax to the string of forgetfulness, on Sunday, it is said the rector gave out the Psalter for the seventh day, and for the afternoon services gave out the Psalter for the sixth day morning.

**A Struggle With a Mad Dog.**

Near Gold Creek, Faulkner county, Ark., lives a man named Rhea, a farmer on a small scale. While Rhea and his wife were sitting in front of their door, two dogs jumped over the fence and ran under the house. At first very little notice was taken of the animals, there being several fox hunters in the neighborhood, and the Rheas supposed that the dogs belonged to them, but presently a terrific howling and fighting began, inasmuch that Rhea threw chips and pieces of wood under the house. The howling and fighting continued for some time, when at last one of the dogs darted out, leaped the fence, and ran away.—The other dog, a large brindle, of decidedly ugly type, followed as far as the fence, but stopped, turned around, and started toward Rhea with mouth half open. Rhea stooped and picked up an old chum-dasher lying upon a stump, and as the dog sprang at him struck the beast over the head. Stunned, the animal recoiled, but only for a moment, for he sprang again before Rhea had time to prepare himself. Grappling the dog by the throat, and holding his mouth as far away as possible, a desperate struggle began. The dog's eyes glared, and his mouth emitted that frothy foam known to hydrophobia. Mrs. Rhea ran into the house and soon returned with a casp-knife, which she handed to her husband. Then the "combat deepened." The blunt-pointed and dull-edged weapon for several hours before washing in salt water or in a weak solution of sugar of lead. This is best for reds; white sugar of lead is preferred for blues. Washing soda should never be used with colored clothes, since it not only fades, but often changes the color. We have known a green gingham turned blue and a brown calico yellow by its use. For the same reason strong soap should not be employed; no soap which affects the skin of the hands unpleasantly is fit for washing colored clothes.

Swiss muslin never looks well after having been washed; therefore, French or India muslin, at four times the cost, is cheapest in the end. Dotted muslin, which is again in fashion, laundries admirably. It is scarcely necessary to say that it is of absolute importance that the iron and ironing stand used for white muslin should be scrupulously clean.—Hot irons should always be tried on a clean cloth before touching them, in order to avoid all danger of scorching.—Lank and fruit stains may be removed by soaking in sweet milk before washing; the milk does no injury to the most delicate colors. After washing, salts of lemon will answer for taking stains out of white goods, but if used on anything colored it will remove the color as well. Ammonia will restore color taken out by acids, but when the acid has been used to remove a spot we have known it to bring back the spot also.

**Dame Fortune's Caprices.**

A letter-writer states: It is rumored that the wife and daughters of ex-Senator Stewart are to return to Washington and inhabit that great pile of sandstone known as Stewart Castle. It is the largest and most expensive house in Washington, but, as the ladies would think, the \$300,000 expended upon it was a sinful waste. It has been closed since the expiration of the Senator's term of office in 1875, and has been advertised for rent at the modest sum of \$15,000 per annum and later at \$15,000 and \$10,000. But no one has had the money to pay such a rental and keep up the house besides, for it will require several thousands a year to heat it alone. The motto has destroyed the greater part of the furniture, which was very handsome and costly, having been made to order in Paris, the fabrics of upholstery having been purchased at the exposition of 1873. The house was occupied only one year. Miss Stewart was married there and her baby was born in the house, but after the Senator's term expired and the Emma mine pulled down his fortune the family moved to the Pacific coast, where they have since been.

**A Daughter's Love.**

Mr. Avery Moore, a tax collector of Chicago, who defaulted and fled about two years since, has returned home. This return is due entirely to the noble and self-sacrificing efforts of his daughter, who offered, upon certain conditions, to pay the amount due from her father. The weight of the financial burden thus assumed amounted to about \$7,000, and its magnitude to the young lady can be properly judged when it is stated that she expects to pay the most of it during several years to come by saving from her own income—that derived from her pittance of a salary as a teacher in one of the public schools. About \$1,000 of the deficit has already been repaid. Mr. Moore designs entering business life again and endeavoring to reinstate himself in the good opinion of the public.

The young fellow who devotes his time to complimenting the girls is classed by the census-taker as engaged in a life-praising.

### FACTS AND FANCIES.

**Foot print—a press worked by foot power.**

Mumps are plural, yet they often look singular.

"That's too thin," said the boy when he tasted the picnic lemonade.

It takes something more than good clothes to make a gentleman; he can be distinguished in any garb.

The manager of a burlesque troupe will tell you that seeing his show will drive away sorrow, and yet he'll get mad as a wet hen if you suggest that it is a woe-be-gone company.

A New Haven, Conn., harness maker has a two-legged cat which propels it in a lively manner on its fore legs, with its hindquarters elevated sufficiently to preserve its balance.

The ministers' association of Utica, N. Y., has decided that its members shall preach no more sermons at funerals, but may deliver them afterward in church, if desired by the friends of the dead.

A young man, the other day, got married against the wishes of his parents, and, requesting a friend to break it to them, said: "Tell them I'm dead, old fellow, and gently work them up to the climax."

Several colored girls, sent North by the pastor of a colored church in Orangeburg, S. C., to obtain situations as housemaids, have returned. They hired out for a time, but the moment they raised sufficient means they turned back home.

This is the season of the year when the good little boy refuses to go in bathing with his companions, because his mother forbid him, stays on the bank to mind their clothes and scoots for home after tying knots in the sleeves of their trousers.

President Hayes was arbitrator in a case of disputed territory between Paraguay and Argentine Republic, and decided in favor of Paraguay, which so delighted the people that they have changed the name of the principal city of the disputed country to Villa Hayes.

North Perry, Maine, has an infant giantess in perfect health, which though but a year old, is three feet high and weighs as much as a healthy twelve year old boy. At its birth it weighed only nine pounds. Its great-grandfather was a man of extraordinary size.

About this time of year city people are getting terribly anxious about the welfare of the country coinage. This anxiety and solicitude will grow as the season advances, and when they can bear it no longer they will pack up four children and two trunks and go and see about it.

Peter Igo, of Lawrence, Mass., was very poor and very proud. Being out of work and money he did not make his plight known, but fed his wife and child on bread and water, and went without any food at all himself. A messenger, who went to tell him of a chance for work, found him dead from starvation.

The novelty of ornamented horse-shoes having worn off, wooden smoothing-irons have just been introduced, which are handsomely painted, flowers, figures, landscapes, or monograms.—They make very pretty mantel ornaments. The large wooden surface permits of more elaborate decoration than the horse-shoe.

People who went up Mount Washington, N. H., on July Fourth, were surprised to find the Summer house windows, on the exposed side, all snowed up and frozen up, and the promenade platform like the rocks about, still almost overtopped in snow, and every post and northwest facing rock still covered to a depth of nearly half a foot.

While swinging their hoes in the weed-harvested rows, Where beans and tomatoes are growing, The son to his father set out to remark,

As warily the sunbeams were glowing, "Why like is this spot to the place that was not known to fame till that apple proceeded?" "I pass 't' upon the parent," then answered the son,

"Because 'tis the garden o' woodin'!"

For years the fate of the ship *Alaska*, which cleared from British Columbia for Japan, was a mystery, when recently a drunken sailor boasted of having been one of the crew, who mutinied, killed the officers, secured what plunder was on the ship, burned her, and escaped to the shore in a boat. The case has been investigated and the participants nearly all arrested.

### A Stranger's Nose.

Some of those chaps who wear their eyebrows down thin leaning on saloon counters, have an artificial fly with a fine thread attached to the back; and sometimes these toys can be handled to the amusement of a small crowd.

When an unknown man yesterday fell asleep in a saloon on Michigan avenue the young man with an artificial fly was there. He took position behind his victim, who was lying back on his chair, and presently the fly alighted on the stranger's nose, walked up the bridge and down, and settled for a moment on the tip end. The sleeper never moved a finger. The fly went over the old route, dove into the corner of the left eye, galloped over to the right, and came down to the grand stand on a dead run, but the sleeper slept on. It began to appear that he was used to flies, and so the game was changed. Fly sticking a pin through one of these toys you can make quite a bee of it, the pin being the stinger.

When the 'bee,' descended on the stranger's nose everybody expected to see a sudden start, but it did not come. After a job at the tip-end the 'bee' crawled along up, waiting for developments and getting in an occasional sting, but not even a sigh escaped the sleeper. The young man with the insect was getting tired when the stranger lazily opened his eyes, slowly rose up from his chair, and coolly remarked:

"Now, then, if you have got through fooling with my nose I'll fool with yours for awhile!"

It isn't likely that particular young man will ever dangle artificial flies any more. He was doubled up, straightened out, choked, mopped and slammed so thoroughly that his appetite will run to chicken-broth and arnica for some days to come. When the cyclone had passed the stranger called for gin, drank it, and said to the white-faced crowd:

"Gentlemen, if any more of you see anything peculiar about my nose please call around and let me know.—Free Press.

During the Moimouth park race, the promising filly Magnetism was struck in the hind leg by one of the other horses and the flesh and tendons cut to the bone, thus disabling her.

An incised cut is much more easily healed than a lacerated or torn wound.

Tobacco stems placed with hay in the kennel will dispel all fleas from dogs.

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