

Facts, Fables and Fancies

IDA INGOLD MASTEN.

Life's Shadows.

What one of us had not had in some measure to pass through the shadow of the valley of death? Some, it is true, may be spared this ordeal for a time, the young for instance. But all who live long in the world must "pass under the rod" some day, prepared or not prepared.

The Light Fades.

In the sun-lit zones there is perpetual summer. The birds are singing all the time, flowers are blooming, green grass covers the fields and meadows, and the soft breeze fans the air into the most delicious temperature. But our fortune does not always rest in this zone. As we wage the battle of the years we travel on and the situation changes. We each have our shadows, and this is as it should be, for how cheap would the sunlight become if we had it all the time.

"If all were easy, if all were bright,
Where would the cross be?
Where would the fight?"

For these natural changes in life we should be prepared intuitively, because we have lived through life's summer and have matured in its sunlight, have ripened in its glow. We should be ready to meet the gloom of the lengthening shadows because their time is due and their purpose at hand. These are natural phenomena and the symmetrical life will not quake at their appearance. The life that has garnered sunshine in the sweet long ago when days were fair and life was fortune. The wise soul that has not dissipated the opportunities when in the pleasant fields of the happy zone but has reserved strength for this dark hour. Summer cannot last always. The winter and the long night must surely come, and the time when our hands shall reach out for the last budding rose, when we detect the frost in the air and know that twilight and the warmth, the beauty and fragrance must wither and fade. These are the signs of life's natural close and must come to all alike.

Untimely Gloom.

But, when the clouds gather and the rain-drops fall around us in mid-summer, when the birds stop singing and shelter their heads beneath their wings, for sorrow, when the flowers droop and die ere they burst into bloom, when the green earth parches beneath our feet, and the air turns chill with affliction and grief; when all this comes to us without warning and out of time, how shall we bear it? If, like the afflictions of Job, some dire sorrow comes stealing in unexpectedly to us upon the breath of the morning bringing its blight and laying its bitter hands upon the song, the sunshine, the fragrance, upon the very zest of life itself, what shall we do? How shall we be prepared to meet it? How shall we be strong? Sometimes clouds will gather in a clear sky, chill winds come with the rays of the rising sun, the birds are hushed in the midst of their song, and the budding rose withers. Oh, cruel fate that blights the rose of spring-time, that hides the light of a mid-summer day! Oh, pitiless death, that hushes the song of hope in the morning! That points to the grave, feet that are not weary, eyes that are not dim, that gives so early the last rose to hands that have been denied many of life's roses. That defeats the struggle of the hopeful, patient soul for life and health. Oh, why are all these things? These are shadows to us. We cannot understand them. What shall save us from overwhelming sorrow when seeming defeat touches sweet hope, breaks the buoyant spirit and lays them weary-limbed and heavy-eyed in the silent grave?

Sunlight Somewhere.

The suddenness of such untimely shadows makes us tremble upon our foundations, it shocks us so heavily that for a time we are off our guard and we become dis-spirited and unhappy. If we could remember that somewhere there is that sun-lit zone and that there the birds are singing at this very moment; that all is bright with color and sweet with fragrance; that this darkest hour with us is someone else's best and happiest hour. That when the chill wind of adversity troubles us there are many that are basking in the warmth and light of realized hopes. If we could remember this that however dark our way there is always sunlight somewhere. That life has its shadows, and that the "shadows shift," sometimes over us, sometimes over others, and at their

coming the light fades, but that they cannot shut out the sun for long. The sun ever shines on, no matter how dense the clouds, and it will steal through a rift someday for us. If we might know that the greatest seeming defeat is really most often the greatest triumph, and if we might hear the voice of peace speaking to us in the words of the little poem, thus:

"Have faith in God, the Savior said:
He saw the path that we must tread;
The frequent thorn, the falling flower,
The joy and pain of every hour.

Have faith in God, the clouds arise
And overspread the glowing skies:
The sun and stars grow dim and pale,
His boundless love shall never fail."

IDA INGOLD MASTEN.

SPECIAL REMARKS.

I am sure my remedy will give perfect satisfaction in cases where a TONIC, ALTERATIVE, PURIFIER OF THE BLOOD OR A NERVINE is needed. I do not believe its equal can be found for nervous prostration, and when one is "rundown," it will certainly build up and restore to perfect health. I used to direct if half dozen bottles of my Remedy be taken and no benefit felt to stop it, that it was useless to try more, but I have met with a good many chronic cases, where no perceptible benefit was felt on the first half dozen bottles, and its continued use effected a cure.

In chronic cases of long standing where any of my Remedy is needed at all the use of a dozen bottles is necessary, and in many cases more. Some take half dozen bottles and more before feeling any benefit; a great many tell me they have felt better from the first dose; most report benefit on second or third bottle.

It will cure INDIGESTION and stomach troubles. It will counteract BLOOD POISON. In such cases give a wineglass every 15 or 20 minutes until the effect is felt in the head.

I most urgently recommend the Remedy to every one suffering from any trouble that comes from impure, impoverished, or poisoned blood, or for a "rundown" system.

The use of the Wash is of the utmost importance to be used in connection with the Remedy, in cases where there is any external trouble, inflammation, ulceration, or itching.

For further information, apply to Mrs. JOE PENSON, Charlotte, N. C.

Your sense of the difference between right and wrong is the limit of your convictions on a given question. A painted fire will not keep the room warm.

PRIZE ESSAYS.

Third Prize Won By Percy S. White, of Greensboro.

Percy S. White, of Greensboro, won the third prize offered by "The American Boy," published at Detroit, Mich., to the boys of North Carolina for the best essays on "Why I Am Proud of My State." Percy is only 12 years of age and his essay is reproduced below:

WHY I AM PROUD OF MY STATE.

Why am I proud of the Old North State? Why, because she has an area of 52,286 square miles, and a population of 1,893,810 people. North Carolina furnished more soldiers for the Civil War than she had voters, many of the young men having volunteered. The first man that was killed in the Civil War was a North Carolinian, as was the case in the Spanish-American War. Three of our presidents were born in North Carolina.

The climate of North Carolina is very pleasant, especially about Asheville. Both Northern and Southern people go there for their health and pleasure.

We raise all kinds of cereals that can be raised anywhere else in the United States. The principal products are cotton, tobacco, wheat, rice, Irish and sweet potatoes, oats, rye and peanuts. We also grow all kinds of fruits, except the tropical fruits. Apples grown in the western part of the State took the second prize at the world's fair at Paris a few years ago. The largest nurseries of the south are in North Carolina.

North Carolina is rich in mineral products. More zinc is produced here than all the United States. There are large quarries of granite and other valuable building stones. There are also jewels of great value found here, including the diamond, garnet, ruby, sapphire and the opal.

The pine trees of North Carolina furnish masts for the ships. There are many large furniture factories that make all kinds of furniture. More shuttle-blocks are shipped from North Carolina than any other state.

There are many large cotton mills all over the State, the largest of its kind, in the world, being situated at Greensboro, N. C. It is called "White Oak" after a large white oak tree which stands in front of it. There are also many large tobacco factories through out the State.

The educational system of North Carolina is fine. There are many colleges and universities all over the State, besides a splendid system of public schools for both white and colored races. The institution for the deaf, dumb, and blind is at Raleigh.

So you see we have much to be proud of in the Old North State, and we predict for her a bright and glorious future.

PERCY S. WHITE,
Greensboro, N. C.

"They like the taste as well as maple sugar" is what one mother wrote of Kennedy's Laxative Cough Syrup. This modern cough syrup is absolutely free from any opiate or narcotic. Contains Honey and Tar. Conforms to the National Pure Food and Drug Laws. Sold by Standard Drug Co. and Asheville Drug Co.

STANLEY ITEMS.

Child Caught in Belt at Saw Mill and Instantly Killed--Personal.
Stanley Enterprise.

After an absence of thirty-one years from his native home, S. A. Lively, of Maypearl, Texas, is visiting his brother at Richfield.

The finance book of the county shows a shortage of \$1,435.35 in the public road funds.

The 13-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. George Morton, 3 miles south of Albemarle, was caught in the belt at the mill Monday and instantly killed.

Miss Weatherly, of Bennettsville, S. C., and Miss Mary Weaver, of Rowland, N. C., have been elected to fill the vacancies on the graded school faculty, caused by the resignation of Misses Forney and Thom.

Mrs. D. R. Seago has moved to Greensboro where she will be in charge of a boarding house.

Jason Whitley, postmaster at Bridgeport, was married Sunday to Miss Ethel Morgan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Morgan.

Mrs. Hester Teeter, wife of our townsmen, Frank Teeter, died Saturday night from appendicitis. She had a complication of troubles and couldn't undergo an operation. Her remains were carried to Big Lick for interment. She is survived by a husband and six children.

The Absonian Chapter of Daughters of the Confederacy has secured a lot just north of the Stanley courthouse, upon which they will erect a monument.

Clear up the complexion, cleanse the liver and tone the system. You can best do this by a dose or two of DeWitt's Little Early Riders. So reliable little pills with a reputation. The pills that everyone knows. Recommended by Standard Drug Co. and Asheville Drug Co.

Chatham Items.

The Chatham Record

Zach. Borroughs, of Bear Creek township, died on Tuesday of last week in his 85th year.

Mr. John Neal and son and Mr. Little, of Indiana, are visiting Mr. J. R. Bright in Oakland township. Mr. Neal and Mr. Little moved from Chatham to Indiana forty-six years ago.

C. H. Crutchfield and family, who have been living at Mundy, Texas, for some time, have returned to this county and are living on Siler City Route 1.

Mr. S. S. Blackburn, depot agent of Pineville, and Miss Juanita McAdams, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McAdams, of Siler City, were married Thursday, December 27th, at the home of the bride's parents.

SOUTHERN FARMERS

Need a Southern Farm Paper . . .

One adapted to Southern crops, climate, soils and conditions, made by our folks and for our folks--and at the same time as wide-awake as any in Pennsylvania or Massachusetts. Such a paper is

The Progressive Farmer.

Raleigh, North Carolina.

Edited by Clarence H. Poe, with Dr. Tait Butler, of the A. & M. College, and Director B. W. Kilgore, of the Agricultural Experiment Station (you know them), as assistant editors (\$1 a year). If you are already taking the paper we can make no reduction, but if you are not taking it,

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Bedroom Suites \$11. to \$40.

Besides these I offer specials in Dining Chairs, Rockers, Couches, Lounges, Hall Racks and Iron Beds.

Still better is our Art collection of Pictures. See them. A full line of Bedding.

O. R. FOX, Asheville, N. C.

Successor to Kearns & Fox.

The Farmer and the Gun.

There is no one article more necessary to the welfare of a farm than a good reliable firearm. As a means of protection from prowling intruders, horse-stealing highwaymen, etc. and as an efficient remedy for winged and four-footed pests that decimate the crops and damage the pasture, there is nothing to equal a "shooting iron." It is the best argument the tiller of the soil has for the intruder referred to--and they do not repeat their visit after one dose.

Both the farmer and the farmer's son have been advised "to get a gun" by the raspings of the celebrated Stevens firearms. Members of the celebrated Stevens firearms are constantly wearing in behalf of the logical weapon. Stevens Rifles, Pistols and Shotguns are better than newspapers and any object struck by their bullets stays dead.

A natural exhibition of the farmer, cookman was the trained veteran shot that won the British rebuffs the tussle of their lives in '76. That's a point most people lose sight of in analyzing the reasons for the surrender at Vicksburg.

Put on the brakes; some day, by its awful momentum, the splendid machinery will go to the junk-pile.

Nearly every person who is subject to attacks from the stomach suffers from indigestion. A simple remedy for which is three times a day, and one fourth of a teaspoonful. On the other hand you can eat as you please and digest the food by the use of a good digestant, thus giving the tired stomach equally as much rest. Eat what you please and take a little Kodol. For indigestion after your meals. It digests what you eat. Sold by Standard Drug Co. and Asheville Drug Co.

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PER CORD FOR MAPLE,

4 ft. long, 7 inches and up;

HICKORY,

\$10.00 per Cord.

H. B. WORTH, Treas.
Greensboro, N. C.

BACKACHE

"I wrote you for advice," writes Lelia Hagood, of Sylvia, Tenn., "about my terrible backache and monthly pains in my abdomen and shoulders. I had suffered this way nine years and five doctors had failed to relieve me. On your advice I took Wine of Cardui, which at once relieved my pains and now I am entirely cured. I am sure that Cardui saved my life."

It is a safe and reliable remedy for all female diseases, such as periodical pains, irregularity, dragging down sensations, headache, dizziness, backache, etc.

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Write us a letter describing all your symptoms, and we will send you Free Advice in plain sealed envelope. Address: Ladies' Advisory Department, The Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn. 113

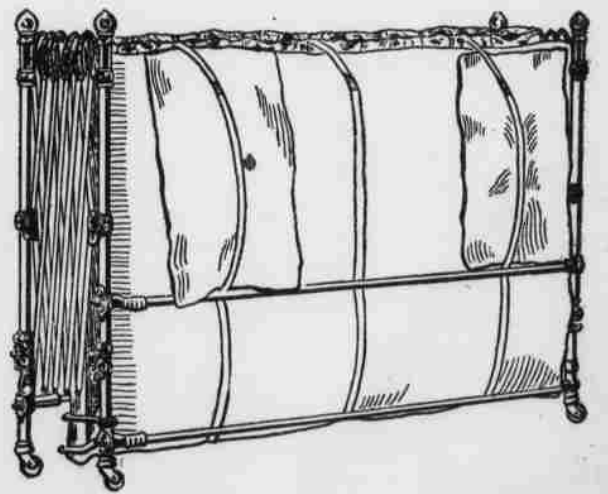
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The Twentieth Century "Sleeper."

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