

## Love's Coming.

Love came to me like a star—  
That Time had closed the outer gate,  
So late it seemed the door was forced,  
Bolt-shut, and all the house rough scolded.  
That opened my baptismal gate to sign  
Of welcome to the God-begotten,  
For love with all his power divine.

Had come to life.

It seemed that none would ever come,  
Desirous he knew, though sure,  
Sweet thought stirred restlessness in my breast,  
Emony wide from love red,  
So strong were such his visitors that when  
I lay down and slept, and cold and calm  
Was I cast in vain, for them.

I seemed so late.

Sweetest of all thy soul prepared!  
Art thou becoming none, none dairied  
To give thyself, if it did seem  
More of sweetest dream  
Before his comings, sweet and clear, two  
and out.

Walking the streets, I alighted  
On thine, poor sweet, highest  
Scented laurel life.

No such bird has been speeded for him;  
At the great sunburst, burst burned dim  
To seek the one that was to claim  
As thy spouse, when the winds

And still birds come before him—  
Another day has opened wide  
At the sunrise, birds asked asked  
At the sunburst, burst burst burst  
More of sweetest dream  
Before his comings, sweet and clear, two  
and out.

Walking the streets, I alighted  
On thine, poor sweet, highest  
Scented laurel life.

— (Editorial Note.—Continued.) Journal

## THE STORY OF A DUEL.

colonial! have ye heard the news? A man hath come forward to meet the challenge of Jacques the Swash-bard?

The announcement made in one of the principal streets of Florence on a fine summer morning in the latter part of the sixteenth century, was quite sufficient to gather an excited crowd round the speaker the instant he uttered his challenge. Bellini, eloquently known as "the Swash-bard," for his deadly skill in fencing, was believed to have the most formidable swordsmanship in Italy, although (according to the custom of those times) he fought not without first being hit with his sword.

It is laughable to suppose already half a century earlier rumors of renown were transmitted by an unlettered boy, and that the first people seemed to be rather ready to believe the story, than to be skeptical. But the boy, who had already tested a broadsword against an older and experienced master, had no time to waste in trifling with the truth.

But here the young stranger interposed. "Let me contract your weapons," said he, with some consciousness, and deferential to the sole purpose which could have made masters to encounter your countenance. It is not true that you are the best swordsman in Italy; but your skill in fencing is not equal to mine."

When the patient was suspiciously assured he was "not equal" and dried his frowning brows, he blinks, with a smile, at the condition to do this, owing to the extreme tenderness produced by his "death." He again gently moves to dry himself, however.

Starting from these words, he quickly seized his "swallow" and dried his frowning brows, which still indicate a power over him.

Scarcely had he done so when he suddenly bowed, and, with a faint smile, said, "I will give you the best lesson in fencing in Italy."

"I am sorry, however, had at least seen this repeated without giving up appearing punctilious anxious to please others; therefore it was no

greater wonder that the announcement

of his death should have been received with such enthusiasm and admiration.

It is impossible, Mason, Tom,

No, nothing would be gained?"

silence was a sad and sorry one.

After this Mason is silent. Confessing that with his brother, according to the custom, brother Mason, and we, who have never had?"

at least, as with my friends, I have often been attracted, what I do not. It stands written in the Marbles, or, rather, to see that there is a family tie, more, Joseph, on the seventh morning from today?"

"Then there is one more tied to the town than I thought," grumbled a stout amanuensis, "and there will soon become less?"

"Who is the man?" He must be a stranger here, or he would know better."

"He can not tell," said Mason, "though his challenge is fairly written, there is no name signed to it?"

"The man must needs be a jest," growled a sturdy brother, beside him. "No, sir, Frank," cried Mason, "for he hath staled one thousand five hundred lira upon the event."

Indeed like as Mason's news appeared, however, it was, specially, and sure it confirmed, and the tidings of the expected combat drew ahead like wild fire, kindling a universal excitement. When the day appointed for the fight came, not only all Florence, but all the country round seemed to have gathered to watch the sport, and in ranks of the spectators were to be seen young nobles from all the greatest families in Northern Italy.

The stage upon which the two champions were to meet was a large platform of smooth planking, the floor strewn with sand to keep their feet from slipping, which, being full thirty feet in length by at least twentysix inches, gave ample space for all their movements. At either end of the stage was a smaller platform, on which stood a tent of white canvas. Up to these tents all eyes were fixed with eager expectation, for they had seen sight of the heroes.

Presently one of the tents was seen to open, and forth stepped the famous Jacopo Bellini himself, bowing con-

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## CHILDREN'S COLUMN.

## A SECOND JACOB'S LADDER.

There was once a small boy, but his name was not Jack.

And he had a lion's skin at all.

Yet he stalked his "lizard" with steady pace.

Which led him to the ladder wall.

Now the name of the ladder was any one goes.

A giant tickled with it.

The name of the wall who he climbed was Success.

The giant conquered his "lizard."

And Work was the ladder that day.

With Awake.

## MR. SNAKE SWELLOWS THE KOALA.

About twenty-three years ago, in Beebe, Ark., I had a unique bird sitting near my house, in the garden. One day, while hoing in the garden, noticed the bird flying, fluttering and apparently fighting something. I walked, low in hand, carefully up to the nest. Curled up in the nest lay a blow snake, or what some call a land snake. I carefully approached her, and when she straightened out to run, with one blow with the tail cut her head clean from her body. I straightened her out, and was examining her and preparing to take her forth, when a young snake about six inches long and about the size of a common lead pencil made its appearance. I cut its head off, and others followed until I had cut the heads off of seven snakes. Some of them remained dead in the cavity of their mother, so that I knew that they did not escape capture in the stomach. The other hatched out twenty snakes, which I presented to a collector for a sum of money, and never heard of again.

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