

A SKATING SONG.

Skate, skate, skate, Early and late, While the ice is sparkling and strong: And the air is gay. In its winter array, As in summer with flower and song; With the laugh, and the shout, And the dazling quick rout, And the musical click of the skate.

WINNIE'S FORTUNE.

The handsome dining room in the Mayberry mansion was all a-glitter with floods of gaslight and the genial glow of the fire—for Mr. Josiah Mayberry was a very "queer man," according to his wife's opinion, and this fancy of his to have nasty, ashy fires all over the splendid mansion before the weather became cold enough was one of his "eccentric freaks."

"I declare, Mr. Mayberry, it is too bad! I have gone over the list of invitations you have made, and to think there is not one—no, not one—of our set among them, and such a horrid lot of people as you have named!" Mr. Mayberry sipped his wine contentedly.

"I told you, didn't I, Marguerite, that it was my intention to give an old-fashioned dinner? And by that I meant, and mean, to whom it will, indeed, be cause for thankfulness. As to making a grand fuss, and seeing around our table only the people to whom a luxurious dinner is an every-day occurrence—I shall not do it. And as to the guests on my list being 'horrid' and 'common,' you are mistaken, my dear. None of them have a worse failing than poverty. There is not a 'common,' vulgar person among the ten names on that paper."

"I would like to go, grandpa. I don't have any recreations—I don't want many, for I think contented honest labor is the grandest thing in the world, and the best discipline—but, somehow, I can't tell why, but I do want to go. I can wear my black cashmere, and you'll be so proud of me."

"Proud of you, indeed, my child, no matter what you wear. Yes, we'll go." And thus it happened that among the ten guests that sat down at Josiah Mayberry's hospitable, overflowing board, that cold, blue-skied day, Winnie Wilmington and the little old man were two—and two to whom Ernest Mayberry paid more devoted attention than even his father had asked and expected. Of course it was a grand success—all excepting the cold hauteur on Mrs. Mayberry's aristocratic face, and that was a failure, because no one took the least notice of it, so much more powerful were the influences of Mr. Mayberry's and Ernest's courteous, gentlemanly attentions.

"I only hope you are satisfied," Mrs. Josiah said, with what was meant to be withering sarcasm, after the last guest had gone, and she stood a moment before the fire; "I only hope you are satisfied—particularly with the attention Ernest paid to that young woman—very unnecessary attention, indeed."

"Satisfied? Yes, thankful to God I had in my power to make them forget their poverty, if for only a little hour. Did you see little Jimmy Hurd's eyes glisten when Ernest gave him the second triangle of pie? Bless the youngsters' hearts," they won't want anything to eat for a week."

"I was speaking of the young woman who?" Mrs. Mayberry was icily severe, but her husband cut in short. "So you were—pretty little thing as ever I saw. A ladylike, graceful little girl, with eyes beautiful enough to excuse the boy for admiring her."

"There is no use wasting words, Mayberry, at a time like this. Did you know your son has asked my Winnie to marry him?" Mr. Mayberry's face lighted a second, then the gloom returned.

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THE ENIGMA.

What the Scientific World Wants to know—A \$100,000 Offer. We have published in our columns from time to time different advertisements in regard to Bright's Disease and its cures. What is this terrible disease? We have taken the trouble to make an investigation from the best sources, and we give the results to our readers.

What astonishes us is the general indifference given to kidney disorders. The kidneys do not sound the alarm of their diseased condition, owing to the fact that they have very few nerves, hence few suspect that there is any disease in them. Irritation, inflammation, ulceration set in, and then the little tubes, of which the kidneys are full, are destroyed and thrown off, and from this fact are called tube casts.

As soon as this begins to take place it is only a question of how fast decomposition goes on before the disease results fatally. If the proper remedies are taken before final decomposition or waste of these tubes commences or becomes too far advanced, that is the only and last chance for relief. It is at this point or before that Warner's safe cure proves so beneficial, and may cure or stop the wasting away of the kidneys if it has not advanced too far.

The most remarkable thing of all our investigation is the fact that the patient with Bright's disease has no exclusive symptoms, but has the symptoms of every common disease. First he may possibly feel a dull pain in his back, generally upon one side, which does not depart him from his usual business routine. After a time he may begin to feel neuralgic pains, or have a slight attack of what he may call rheumatism, or headache, with high or dark colored urine, with an unpleasant sensation in its passage, and after standing showing an unusual condition.

There appears to be some one cause for nearly every other ailment of the human system, but up to the present time no one has been able to fully account for this terrible malady. We understand that the people of Germany have become aware of its fearful fatality, and have offered 400,000 marks (\$100,000) to any one that can satisfactorily explain the cause.

The Sweetest Girl in School.

"She's the sweetest girl in school!" enthusiastically exclaimed one young miss to another, as they passed down the street together. "Edith is so kind, and gentle, and unselfish, every one likes her. And she has lovely golden hair and pretty eyes. Isn't it a pity her complexion is so bad? It spoils her looks. And then she has such dreadful headaches!"

Edith took it faithfully, with the result that it cleared her disordered blood, relieved the headaches, made her skin soft, fair and rosy, and now she is not only the "sweetest girl in school," but the most beautiful.

WASHINGTON is said to be overrun with bridal couples. From N. Y. Times, Dec. 9, 1887. The Grant Monument Fund Likely to Receive Several Thousand Dollars from an Unexpected Source. Funds for the Monument have been coming in slowly of late, though encouragingly, and the whole amount desired (about \$250,000) there has been received to date, about \$135,000. Now, Messrs. Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict, the proprietors of the Remington Sewing Machine, have challenged all other writing machines to a contest in which it is proposed to decide the question as to which is the superior machine.

Consumption Surely Cured. To the Editor—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their names and P. O. address. Respectfully, T. A. SLOCUM, M.D., 181 Park St., N. Y.

Realism on the Japanese Stage. The following is an extract from the London Pall Mall Gazette describing a play in Japan. This was the plot which amused the Mikado's subjects: A man becomes jealous of his wife and quarrels with her loudly and long, using strong language, and she answers him in kind. Finally, after much by play and rhetoric, he, in an exacerbation of passion, stabs her to death, and is immediately seized with remorse. But hard! some one approaches, as is evidenced by the clatter made with two sticks on the stage by an orchestra man. The murderer hides the body behind a screen, and a neighbor enters and asks for something, but soon goes away. Now to get rid of the evidence. He draws his victim's body from its hiding place and tears its clothing away; then he takes a weapon like a billhook, and butcher-like, severs an arm off and throws it, dripping blood—yes, dripping blood—and quivering, into a basket; then he cuts off the other arm; then the legs and head; and finally he divides the carcass in two, and the stage assumes the appearance of a human shambles; then he collects the pieces and ties them up in a pack and slings it on his back, and is about to depart, when lo! the police appear, and tableau! The body of a freshly strangled criminal was substituted as a dummy, and the play was only given three nights because the supply of criminals gave out and there were no more dummies to be had. The public executioner sold his corpses at 80 cents a head. There's a relish for you.

Advertisement for ELY'S CATARRH CREAM BALM, HAY-FEVER, and RADWAY'S READY RELIEF PILLS. Includes text about rheumatism, neuralgia, colds, and various ailments, along with a small illustration of a person holding their head in pain.