



# Fiction

## Jobblot's Masterpiece.

BY EVAN M. JONES

Jobblot looked at her in a surprised way, and she returned the picture toward him.

"See," said she, "it is finished."

Jobblot asked Miss Styles, "Don't you remember working on it?"

Miss Styles replied, "I don't remember working on it."

Jobblot assured her she had no such recollection, and Miss Styles told him that she had been painting for him during his delirium period, but that she had never finished it.

"I must have been hypnotized," he said.

At any rate, there stood the picture, an artist's work, and the best one he had ever produced.

"Flagg will have to pay something for that," he declared.

"Flagg," said Miss Styles, "won't get it. It will go to the Exhibition."

"Do you really think it good enough for that?" asked the delighted Jobblot.

"Certainly," said Miss Styles. "Let me manage this."

Jobblot was agreeable to the proposition. While they were preparing the picture to be sent to the Exhibition, Flagg entered.

"Oh," said the auctioneer, "so you've finished the picture? Seems to me, though I'm no judge, you've put a few fancy touches to it."

"Yes," said Jobblot, "I have."

"Fancy touches don't mean fancy prices, do they?" inquired Flagg, anxiously.

"In this instance they do," answered Miss Styles.

"Yes," assented Jobblot, "and before I send it to you I'm going to exhibit it. I'm quite proud of this picture, but I'm not going to ask you to pay much for it."

In the exhibition "A Jersey Meadow," by Williston Jobblot, was adjudged by the critics to be one of the noblest paintings of the year, and at the close it was sold for \$10,000.

"I wish," said Flagg, when he learned of Jobblot's good fortune and fame, "I had sold you other pictures so cheap. But I didn't appreciate their value, especially as you didn't ask much for them. If I get any of them back I'll know what to charge for them."

"So shall I," said Jobblot.

But Jobblot did not have to peddle any more paintings to the auctioneer. Shortly after the sale of his masterpiece, Flagg had another painting to sell, and he had sold it for a large sum of money, and the vacant country seat. So he and Miss Styles were married. They fitted up the country place, and there they spend the summer months in delightful ease. Mrs. Jobblot continues to paint, but Jobblot has another painting to Flagg, and he has exhibited again. —New York Press.

# FARM TOPICS

**Empty Brood Combs.**  
Empty brood combs should be examined every few days, to see if the wax worm is not at work. A cool, dry cellar is a good place to keep them, but if they become infested, give them to the bees at once. If you have a swarm to occupy them, place them in a strong colony, so that the bees will be compelled to pass through them.

**Milk For Making Growth.**  
The milk of the Jersey and Guernsey breeds of cows averages higher in butter fats than that of the larger breeds. But this richest milk is by no means the best for babies, and the pure Jersey milk, find that it needs to be largely diluted with water or it will curdle in the stomach. The milk is too rich is the reason why so many babies sicken when fed on cow's milk.

**The Dairy Farm.**  
If it is regarded as a desirable to purchase a farm for the future keeping of the herd, the land should be selected with an eye single to the purpose for which it is intended. A dairy farm should naturally consist of good land, but all good lands are not suitable for the establishment of a dairy farm. The soil should be selected with a view to its superiority and fitness for grain and grasses. There should be purity and plentifulness of a constant supply of running water. If possible a fall of running water should be secured that will supply sufficient water to the premises, and could be conducted to a tank by means of a hydraulic ram. This would be more economical and satisfactory than a windmill or pump. An abundance of clean, pure water is absolutely essential in every department of a dairy farm.

**Look Out For Potato Larva.**  
Notwithstanding the scarcity of the potato beetle early in spring there will be a good many potato hills stripped before farmers are aware. Each female beetle lays 1000 eggs before she dies, and as these are on the under side of the leaf to keep them dry, they are unnoticed despite their yellow color until another generation of one beetle will strip a good many hills, so that their product will not be worth much. There will be some fair sized potatoes grown under these stripped hills, but the tubers will be deficient in starch, and will be salvy and will not cook properly. It is as if a cooked potato should be left in the leaves and wherever leaves are destroyed by any cause the potatoes will be poor, as the farmer did not gain anything by moving down his potato tops as soon as he found potato larva working on them.

**Feeding Young Chickens.**  
During the first twenty-four or thirty days after hatching young chickens require no feeding. During this interval in which the chick makes its final effort to push out of the shell it swallows a portion of the egg, which nature, in one of its wise ways, has placed there for the chicken, and this is the only food it needs for its first few days. A good plan is to boil a piece of fresh beef well done and cut up a small quantity each day and mix with the bread. In the absence of beef, fresh, soft bones can be ground with a hammer, and fed at intervals of every two or three days. Some dealers keep on hand supplies of ground bone for feeding young chickens. The green food can be prepared by cutting wheat, barley or oats and clipping it up fine. The chicks will readily eat this, and it is a constant supply of such food as chickens would likely obtain through the assistance of the old mother hen if allowed to run at large on well kept premises, where a variety of all these things could be had. Under such conditions the meat and bones is furnished by the old hen constantly scratching for bugs and worms. It is from such a source that the muscle and bone is formed, without which no chicken can thrive and attain size.

**How to Go Upstairs.**  
A physician who declares that but very few people know how to walk upstairs properly, gives these instructions: Usually a person will tread on the ball of his foot in taking each step, and this is a very tiresome and wasteful use of the muscles, as it throws the entire suspended weight of the body on the muscles of the legs and feet. In walking upstairs your feet should be placed squarely down on the step, and all the weight should be supported by the feet. In this way there is no strain upon any particular muscle, but each one is doing its duty in a natural manner. The man who goes upstairs with a spring you may be sure is no philosopher, or, at least, his reasoning has been directed to that subject. —Bournemouth Directory.

**It was thought that the giraffe was extinct, but a great herd of them has been discovered on the Sobat River, a tributary of the White Nile.**

**Some industrial individual has ascertained that most of the great men of the world have had blue eyes.**

# GOOD ROADS NOTES.

**Pat on the Back.**  
The newspaper that does not insist in the work of making public opinion, but waits until public opinion is almost morbidly before expressing it, is of little moral worth to its community. A newspaper publisher should be wide-awake to the best interests of his neighborhood. He should be a leader, not a tail-end. If he sees what would be best for the people, he should say so, and in every such case, he would say so only.

**Well, maybe some of his readers** think differently and would "stop the paper" for not being a leader. He should be a leader, not a tail-end. If he sees what would be best for the people, he should say so, and in every such case, he would say so only.

**As soon as the berries were cut** and the following summer I cultivated strawberries by the old method, the walkway with a horse cultivator, the space between the plants with hoes.

**The following October I scattered** about 50 bushels of ashes around and between the plants, and about 30 loads of stable manure, taking pains not to smother the plants. Again in February I applied six weight fertilizer rich in potash and pulled out every weed that grew up. The manure needed as the stable manure, now well beaten down by rain, took its place.

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# ALL ON AN ACRE.

**What a Farmer Made on One Acre in Strawberries.**  
I had one acre of fair land which had been yielding something over half a bag of cotton to the acre. In 1897 I determined to raise strawberries on it under intensive culture and see what I could do, trying my level best.

**The land had been in cotton that** summer. Cotton was to have been much better. As soon as the cotton was picked, about October 15th, I cut off the stalks, plowed the land well, hauled on 50 loads of stable manure and all the ashes I had, broadcasted all evenly and turned under shallow.

**I then ran off the lot in lands 4-2** feet wide. To each land I set 3 rows of plants, rows one foot apart, plants one foot apart in row. This left a walkway 2-1/2 feet wide between each set of three rows.

**The plants grew finely. One light** working was all the attention they got until the following February. I then dressed them with 600 lbs. fertilizer, net in potash, scattered pine straw evenly around and between them as a mulch.

**April I gathered and sold 2,200** quarts of splendid berries, which netted \$8 on an average—\$176 for the crop. Not bad for the first crop.

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# Do Your Feet Ache and Hurt?

**Shake into your shoes Allen's Foot-Powder. It cures Itches, Burns, Swellings, Fungus, Corns, Bunions, Sore Feet, Hot Calluses, Aching and Swelling Feet. Sold by all Druggists, Grocers and Shoe Stores. Sample sent FREE. Address, Allen S. Umsted, LeRoy, N. Y.**

**Beauty is Blood.**  
Clean blood means a clear skin. No beauty without it. Cleanse your system with Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. It cleans your blood and keeps it clean by stirring up the liver and driving out the poisons from the body. It cures all skin diseases, such as pimples, boils, blotches, blackheads, and all such blemishes, complexion by taking a box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. All druggists, satisfaction guaranteed, 10c, 25c, 50c.

**No-To-Bac For Fifty Cents.**  
Guaranteed tobacco habit cure. Makes weak men strong. Blood purifier. 50c. All druggists.

**Big Money in Easy Strawberry Berries.**  
Our free publications will show you how to make it. Call for our free catalogue. Write to: C. O. W. & Co., 100 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

**Most young artists do their best drawing** on the "old man."

**Educate Your Bowels With Cascarets.**  
Cascarets, cure constipation forever. 10c, 25c. If C. C. & Co., fruit, druggists, retail money.

**One way to take a judge's part is to** make his hair.

**Judge Foote is County Judge** at Wayne, Ark. He has been elected to the office of county judge for the year 1900. He is a native of Wayne county, Ark., and has lived in Wayne county for over 30 years. He is a member of the Methodist church, and is a prominent citizen of Wayne county. He is a native of Wayne county, Ark., and has lived in Wayne county for over 30 years. He is a member of the Methodist church, and is a prominent citizen of Wayne county.

**The regulations for Irish Home Rules** uniting will probably be final.

**Fifty Cents Will Stop Your Coughing.**  
Whether it is from cold, cough, croup, whooping cough, or any other kind of cough, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People will stop it. It is a sure cure for all coughs. 50c. All druggists.

**To Cure Constipation Forever.**  
Cascarets, cure constipation forever. 10c, 25c. If C. C. & Co., fruit, druggists, retail money.

**Don't Tobacco Split and Smoke Your Liver Asap.**  
To quit tobacco easily and forever, buy Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. It is a sure cure for all tobacco habits. 50c. All druggists.

**Aluminum is the Kitchen.**  
A recent investigation in Germany for cooking utensils raises the question whether any danger attends the use of such vessels. While aluminum is but slightly affected by weak acids when they are pure, it is rapidly attacked in the presence of sodium chloride by sulphur dioxide, acetic acid, and even alum. But says Science, it remains a mooted question whether the amount dissolved would do injury to the system. Experiments indicate that aluminum salts have a somewhat detrimental effect on digestion; yet on the other hand, alum water is often beneficial to health.

**Then She Thought.**  
Mrs. Grimes—Mr. Gushell was real good, wasn't he? Relief of Departed Politician—Yes; but one thing I didn't like, what he said about Tom having filled every office in the gift of the people. Tom was no better, whatever he got he paid for.—Postco Transcript.

**New Orleans's Water Ballast.**  
The report that the cruiser New Orleans is dangerously top-heavy," said an old sea captain now in the government short service, "seems to have grown out of a shipowner's water ballast is a trifle light. The remedy is simply letting in more water, and the incident is chiefly valuable as showing the immense superiority of American-built ships. Water ballast on a modern vessel is a good joke. Ballasting is a corrective measure intended to ship properly constructed it oughtn't to be over-hydrated and oughtn't to need ballast of any kind. The presence of such a thing is conclusive evidence that the designer made a mistake in his calculations. Every inch of an armed cruiser should be occupied by something useful, and the space taken up by the water tanks is dead waste. The New Orleans, as you will remember, was built by the Armstrongs for the Brazilian service, and while she is a fine craft, she is distinctly inferior technically to those constructed in this country. None of the American-made ships carries