"The polished marbles rest On the lips which they had pressed In their bloom. And the names they loved to hear Have been carved for many a year

On the tomb." Not long since, a good-looking man, in middle life, came to our door asking for "the minister." When informed that he was out of town he seemed disappointed and anxious. On being questioned as to his business, he replied, "I have lost my mother, and as this place used to be her home, and as my father lies here, we have come to lay her beside him."

Our heart rose in sympathy, and we said: "You have met with a great loss." "Well-yes," replied the strong man with hesitancy, "a mother is a great loss in general-but, our mother had outlived her usefulness-she was in her second childhood, and her mind had grown as weak as her body, so that she was no comfort to herself, and was a burden to everybody. There were seven of us sons and daughters, and as we could not find anybody who was willing to board her, we agreed to keep her among us-a year about. But I've had more than my share of her, for she was too feeble to be moved when my time was out, and that was more than three months before her death. But then she was a good mother in her day, and toiled very hard to bring us all up."

Without looking at the face of the heartless man, we directed him to the house of a neighboring pastor, and returned to our nursery. We gazed on the merry little faces there, which smiled or grew sad in imitation of ours-these little ones to whose ears no word in our language is half so sweet as "mother," and we wondered if that day would ever come when they would say of us, "She has outlived her usefulness she is no comfort to herself, and a burden to everybody else?" And we hoped that before such a day should dawn, we might be taken to our rest. God forbid that we should outlive the love of our children. Rather let us die while our hearts are s part of their own, that our graves may be watered with their tears, and our love linked with their hopes of heaven.

When the bell tolled for the mother's burial, we went up to the sanctuary to pay our last token of respect to the aged stranger; for we felt that we could give her memory a tear, even though her own children had none to shed.

"She was a good mother in her day, and toiled very hard to bring us all upbut she had outlived her usefulness-she was no comfort to herself, and a burden Sarsar arilla with greater confidence than for loss of to everybody else." These cruel, heartappetite; indigestion, sick headache and other trouless words rang in our ears as we saw the bles of dyspeptic nature. In the most natural way this medicine gently tones the stomach, assists dicoffin borne up the aisle. The bell tolled restion, and makes one feel "real hungry." Ladies long and loud, until its iron tongue had in delicate health, after taking Hood's Sarsaparilla a few days, find themselves longing for and eating chronicled the years of the toil-worn mother. One-two-three-four-five; how clearly and almost merrily each Sold by all druggists. \$1; six for \$5. Prepared only stroke told of her once peaceful slumber by C. I. HOOD & CO., Lowell, Mass. on her mother's bosom, and of her seat at nightfall on her weary father's knees. Six-seven-eight-nine-ten-rang out W. C. DOUGLASS. | THOS. J. SHAW. the tale of her sports upon the green sward, in the meadow and by the brook. Eleven-twelve-thirteen-fourteen-fifteen-spoke more gravely of school days and little household joys and cares. Sixteen-seventeeneighteer -- sounded out the enraptured House during the terms of Superior visions of maidenhood and the dream of early love. Nineteen brought before us the happy bride. Twenty spoke of the young mother whose heart was full to bursting with the new strong love which God had wakened in her bosom. And then, stroke after stroke, told her early womanhood-of the love and care, and hopes and fears and toils through which she had passed during these long years. till fifty rang out harsh and loud! From that to sixty, each stroke told of the strong, warm-hearted mother and grandmother, living over again her own joys and sorrows in those of her children. Still the bell tolls on? Seventy-seventyone-two-three-four. She begins to grow feeble, requires some care, is not always perfectly patient or satisfied; she goes from one child's house to another, so that no one place seems like home. She murmurs in plaintive tones that, after all her toil and weariness, it is hard she cannot be allowed a home to die in; that she must be sent rather than invited from house to house. Eighty-eighty-one-two-three-four; ah. she is now a second child-now she "has outlived her usefulness she has now ceased to be a comfort to herself or anybody;" that is, she has ceased to be profitable to her

dren! Now sounds out, reverberating through our levely forest, and echoing back from our "hill of the dead." Eighty-nine! There she lies now in the coffin, cold and still-she makes no trouble now-demands no love, no soft words, no tender little offices. A look-of patient endurance, we fancied also an expression of grief for unrequited love, sat on her marble features. Her children were there, clad in woeds of woe, and in iron we remember the strong man's words She was a good mother in her day."

earth-craving and money-grasping chil-

When the bell ceased tolling, the strange minister rose in the pulpit. His form was erect and his voice strong, but his hair was silvery white. He read several passages of Scripture expressive of

God's compassion to feeble man, and es-There are many accidents and dispecially of His tenderness when gray eases which affect stock and cause scrious inconvenience and loss to the farmer faileth. He then made some touching remedied by the use of Dr. J. H. Me-ing remarks on human frailty, and Lean's Volcanic Oil Liniment. Get it faileth. He then made some touchof dependence on God, urging all at W. M. Fowlkes & Co's. present to make their peace with their

Maker while in health, that they might

claim His promises when heart and

flesh should fail them. "Then," he

said, "the eternal God shall be thy ref-

uge, and beneath thee shall be the ever-

lasting arms." Leaning over the desk,

and gazing intently on the coffined form

before him, he then said reverently,

'From a little child I have honored the

aged; but never till gray hairs covered

my own head, did I know truly how

much love and sympathy this class have

a right to demand of their fellow-creat-

ares. Now I feel it. Our mother," he

added most tenderly, who now lies in

death before us, "was a stranger to me,

as are all these her descendants. All I

know of her is what her son has told me

to-day—that she was brought to this

town from afar, sixty-nine years ago, a

happy bride-that here she passed most

of her life, toiling as only mothers have

strength to toil, until she had reared

a large family of sons and daugh-

ters-that she left her home here,

clad in the weeds of widowhood, to

dwell among her children; and that till

health and vigor left her she lived for you

her descendants. You, who together have

shared her love and care, know how

well you have requited her. God forbid

that conscience should accuse any of you

noble, generous feelings of their natures

there are no more sleepless nights, no

mere days of rain for thee. Undying

vigor and everlasting usefulness are part

of the inheritance of the redeemed.

Feeble as thou wert on earth, thou wilt

be no burden on the bosom of infinite

love, but there shalt thou find thy

konged-for rest, and receive sympathy

from Jesus and His ramsomed fold."-

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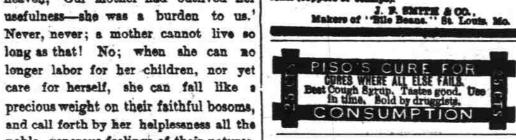
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of ingratitude or murmuring on account of the care she has been to you of late. When you go back to your homes, be careful of your words and your example before your own children, for the fruit of your own doing you will surely reap from them when you yourselves totter on the brink of the grave. I entreat you as a friend, as one who has himself entered Dee the SMALL SINE (40 little beans to the botthe 'evening of life,' that you never say in the presence of your families nor of KISSING at 7, 17, 70; Photo-gravure for heaven, 'Our mother had outlived her usefulness-she was a burden to us.'







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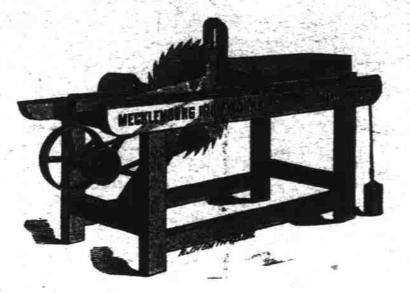
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