

HUMILITY.

I plucked the weeds from, left and right. To make an open space About a wind-sown blossom bright...

THE SUBSTITUTE.

It was a rough cabin home, squatting, as if to hide its spall, in a straggling grove of scrubby trees. Its outside appearance denoted thriftless poverty.

Its interior, however, presented a different aspect. The rough board floor was scrubbed white, and the floor was scrupulously clean.

Among those whose devotion to his State was the first to take fire and the first to evaporate was one George Cahoule, a young man, the proud, petted son of a proud, but not wealthy, father.

From the time he could cry, his every whim, that the foolish fondness of his mother and the moderate means of his father could gratify, had been indulged.

"But there is old Nix's boy; couldn't they take him? He is not of age yet but is large enough to pass," suggested the anxious mother.

"Yes, he will do—a fine, strapping lad. I will sell old Nix's boy and give him two hundred dollars to let him go."

"Nix needed the money, and when to the two hundred dollars was added ten pounds of fine plug tobacco and a herd of goats that ran on the mountain behind his plot, the bargain was made."

Robert Nix, the boy, not yet fifteen, was not unwilling to leave the coziness of youth he had read of in his smarted clothes, and as he stood arrayed in his best military jacket, gray breeches and a wide-brimmed hat...

brave, handsome boy, he became the pride of his comrades, and a pet with his Captain.

On Friday skirmishing began, on Saturday afternoon the battle opened, and on Sunday morning, a calm Sabbath morning, both armies were marshaled in line, face to face, ready to cast the fateful die.

Up to that time, the last critical moment, Robert Nix had stood in line, elbow to elbow with the foremost file, and then he disappeared, silently, mysteriously, no one remembered when or how.

Without explanation he was sent to the guard house, and charges of desertion in the face of the enemy were preferred against him. In the regular routine of events a court-martial was convened and he was duly arraigned.

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"I was not until roll-call after the battle that he was missed," said Nix. "He was in line when we started; he must have been killed," was the report of the orderly-sergeant.

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guardhouse, and the court proceeded to make a verdict.

There was no discussion, each member of the court being simply asked: "What say you, is the prisoner guilty or not guilty?"

It is the rule, in all military courts, for the senior officer in rank to vote first, and then the next, and the next, in an ascending scale. This is done to that the opinion of the seniors may not affect the judgment of the juniors.

So poor Robbie Nix was condemned to be "shot to death" at such time and place as the commanding General may designate.

"The President, bluff old Colonel Zachary, added to the official report: 'In consideration of the extreme youth of the prisoner, the manifest illegality of his enlistment and his uniform good conduct as a soldier, and in view of this offense, I respectfully commend him to the mercy of the commanding General, and would ask that he be discharged from custody and remanded to the regiment for duty.'

"I will sell the cow. That will be enough to carry me there," said Nix. "But how'll you get back?"

"I can save my child. I can walk back; but if they murder my darling, I shall not care ever to come back; I shall pray to die too."

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A SINKING FARM.

A TRACT OF LAND THAT IS SLOWLY DISAPPEARING.

Querer Seismic Disturbance a Few Miles from Sterling, Ill.—Farmers Puzzled to Find a Cause for the Phenomenon.

A Stalling (Ill.) letter to the Chicago Herald says: The people of this locality have been for some time considerably exercised over an earthly phenomenon...

For a few moments, after hearing it, she stood dazed, then, creeping in to her room, she knelt by her bed, and poured out her sorrow in tears and sobs and prayers.

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WORDS OF WISDOM.

Blasphemy, like mud, dries and falls off. Never be irritable or unkind to anybody. To wait and be patient soothes many a pang.

He who gathers roses must not fear thorns. The smallest act of charity shall stand us in great stead. It is the summit of humility to bear the imputation of pride.

There is nothing so delightful as the hearing or the speaking of truth. For this reason, the most agreeable conversation is agreeable as that of the man of integrity, who hears without any intention to betray, and speaks without any intention to deceive.

Intelligent Dogs. A dog belonging to John Withnesspoon, of Detroit, was taken with the family to New Mexico, nearly 2,000 miles away...

Two valuable dogs were chasing a rabbit near a drain and were suddenly lost, says the London Field. After ten days a ferret, when a spring trap was put down the hole the rabbit was seen to enter.

A Norwich, Conn., bull dog was charged with biting the neighbors' and was muzzled his owner laughed at the charges. Being carefully watched the dog was seen, when ready for business, to slip the muzzle off his nose, cast it around near his ear, go in and maim his victims, and quickly as a flash slip the muzzle back with his paw, and act as innocent of work as a lamb.

Babies appeared to be plentiful, and unlike those in other places, they seemed to be both healthy and well nourished. Their lungs were certainly of the strongest, and their appetites were truly prodigious.

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Often one may learn more from a man's errors than from his virtues.

WOMAN'S WORLD.

PLEASANT LITERATURE FOR FEMINE READERS.

Dressed All in Lace. An amusing and interesting incident occurred on the steamship Aller on Friday. The steamship was nearing port and one of the women cabin passengers appeared in the dining saloon dressed in the costliest lace.

A Costly Cloak. Mrs. Mackay, the wife of the rich American, is, says the Sydney Mail, determined to possess a cloak made from the breasts of the birds of paradise.

Dogs' Wardrobes. The insanity of ladies who keep pampered curs as pets has reached such a pitch of absurdity that a large shop has been opened in Paris to supply the "toilets" of these little nuisances exclusively.

Taking Care of Herself. An incident displaying the value of cleanliness to the fair sex was witnessed at Highbury station about 11 p. m. one night last week.

Vancover Papposes. The natives of Vancouver's Island are described by Mr. Stuart Cumberland as superior to other tribes along the Northwest coast. He praises the beauty of some of the children; but, owing to the manner of living, this beauty fades early.

A Fatal Habit of Speech. I heard on State street an authentic story of detective acuteness, says a writer in the Boston Post. Everybody is familiar with the fact that many men have of their own accord fallen into the habit of saying "just so" or "to be sure," and there is a considerable faction for whom the words "just so," or "to be sure," seem to fill the required need.

How Baby First Began to Talk. "Oh, George!" cried young Mrs. Merry, running to meet her husband at the door. "I've something the best to tell you."

Confiding Detectives. With regard to forgery, we learn that their main company will be with other classes of criminals; in small, only about two dozen men being recognized as applying their talents as penmen and engravers to the fabrication of spurious documents.

Second Marriages in France. A correspondent of the Boston Transcript says the French have decided views as to second marriages. The correspondent adds: There are certain rules of good taste and etiquette with regard to second marriages in France which are usually observed by the educated classes.

The Zither. The zither, that pretty little flat harp which is now taught in our cities, and which so many young ladies are learning, originated in the Alpine countries, and was, toward the middle of our century, used by traveling Tyrolese singers as accompaniment to their songs and yodels.

FASHION NOTES.

The new stylish gloves have lapped seams for street wear. In evening dress the slippers are made of the same unadorned kid as the gloves.

Checks of indistinct colors harmoniously blended, crossbars and zigzag stripes are features of the rough cloth shown for gowns. Gossamer handkerchiefs in delicate hand embroidery are stylish and lend a daintiness to the costume when tucked into the dress waist.

Although passementeries and silk cord applique ornaments are not novelties, the never before possessed the importance they have now attained. Pinked edges are seen upon imported clock dresses. They form side bands, yokes, borders and vests, made of alternating rows of light and dark cloth.

Careful of your parasols. It does not cost much to cover them, and it will be of great use next spring, that the parasol shall be of the same stuff as the gown.

The revival of short waists and full skirts does not mean with universal favor by any means. In fact, a very determined fight is being made against it. There are two distinct varieties of the turban hat, the English, which is low-crowned and simply trimmed, and the French, which is large and elaborately trimmed.

Scarlet cashmere or diagonal wool frocks for little girls are made very effective with black braid put on in small equal-shell patterns, or in diminutive check knees. There is a tendency this season to bring up black silk costume with plaid silk or velvet in brilliant tints, and in the case of its being worn strictly by young persons, it is a welcome fashion.

Draped bodies will be in great favor, if clumsy dress-makers do not spoil them. They fit to perfection, yet show soft falling draperies and do not look as if cut out of tin. Moire with flowered stripes is one of the most elegant and stylish of the new fabrics and will be very generally used with tulle or other gossamer fabrics by bridesmaids.

It is unlucky to be discharged from a good situation on Friday. It is unlucky to leave a house on Saturday without paying the rent (or the landlord).

A broken nose is a sign of language. It indicates that its owner has had "words" with some one. A black eye is a sign of discontent, for it is difficult to satisfy a man in presenting him with an ebullient opinion.

To knock over the salt-cake at the dinner-table is a sign of awkwardness. If a man with gray hair falls in love with a young girl he will die. A man's name on an umbrella is a sign it belongs to him (the name, not the umbrella).—Tid-Bits.

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