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A SONG OF TWILIGHT.

Oh. to come home once more, when the dusk is failing.
To see the namery lighted and the children's table spread:
"Mother, mother." the eager voices callag.
"The baby was so sleepy that he had to go to bed!"
Men and women now they are, standing straight and steady.
Orave heart, gay heart, fit for life's emprise:
Shoulder set to shoulder, how should they be but ready!
The future shines before them with the light of their own eyes.

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mane: Much the years have taken, when the heart its path retraces, But until time is not for meg that image will remain. It is strength that's mine. Ecauty, pride and peace have walked by day beside me. The evening closes gently in, and how can I repine?

But oh, to see once more, when the early dusk is falling. The nursery windows glowing and the children's table spread; "Mother, mother, mother?" the high child volces calling. "He couldn't stay awake for you; he had to go to bed?" —Se

-Soribner's Magazine,

THE DANGER OF BEING A TWIN.

By LEONARD MERRICK.

Concessessessessessessessessessesses

My confession must begin when 1 | Never since I was a boy had I staybed with the same complaint.

"What a misfortune," exclaimed our mother, "that Silvestre is no sooner convalescent than Gregoire falls ill." The doctor answered: "It astonishes me that you were not prepared for it, Madame Lapalme-since the children are twins, the thing was to be foreseen; when the elder throws the malady off, the younger naturally contracts Among twins it is nearly always it. 50.

And it always proved to be so with Gregoire and me. No sooner did 1 throw off whooping cough than Gregoire began to whoop, though I was at home in Vernon and he was staying with our grandmother in Tours. If I had to be taken to a dentist, Gregoire would soon afterward be howling with toothache; as often as I indulged in the pleasures of the table, Gregoire had a bilious attack. The influence I exercised upon him was so remarkable that once when my bicycle ran away with me and broke my arms, our mother consulted three medical men as to whether Gregoire's bicycle was bound to run away with him, too. Indeed, my brother was distinctly apprehensive of it himself.

Again at college. I shall not pretend that I was a bookworm, or that I stir. How I rejoiced, how grateful shared Gregoire's ambitions; on the and sanguine I was! contrary, the world beyond the walls

was four years old and recovering ed in Vernon for so long as now, nevfrom swollen glands. As I grew well, er had I repented so bitterly as now my twin brother, Gregoire, who was the error of my ways. I loved, and some minutes younger, was put to it seemed to me that my attachments was reciprocated, yet my position forbade me to go to Monsieur Leuillet and ask boldly for his daughter's hand. While I had remained obscure, artists whose talent was no more remarkable than my own, had raised themselves from Bohemia into prosperity. I was an idler, a good-fornothing. And then-well, I owned to Berthe that I loved her! I owned all his heart and brain! that I loved her-and when I left for Paris we were secretly engaged.

Mon Dieu! Now I worked indeed! To win this girl for my own, to show myself worthy of her innocent faith, supplied me with the most powerful incentive in life. In the Quarter they regarded me first with ridicule, then with wonder, and, finally, with respect. For my own enthusiasm did not fade. "He has turned over a new leaf," they said, "he means to be famous!" It was understood. No more excursions for Silvestre, no more junketings and recklessness! I was another manmy ideal of happiness was now a wife and home.

For a year I lived this new life, 1 progressed. Men-whose approval was a cachet-began to speak of me as one with a future. In the Salon a picture of mine made something of a

I said that it was not too soon

"Do I look as if I had forgotten?" to triumph at my approaching ven-"I was inconstant, cruel, I cannot exgeance. cuse myself. But, Oh, Silvestre, in the

Roanoke

name of the love you once bore me, have pity on us! Reform, abjure your evil courses! Do not, I implore you, condemn my husband to this abyss of depravity; do not wreck my married life!"

Now I understood what had procured me the honor of a visit from this woman, and I triumphed devilishly that I was the elder twin.

"Madame," I answered, "I think that l owe you no explanations, but I shall say this: the evil courses that you deplore were adopted, not vindictively, but in the effort to numb the agony that you had made me suffer. You but reap as you have sown "

"Reform!" she sobbed. She sank on her knees before me. "Silvestre, in mercy to us, reform!"

"I shall never reform," I said inflexibly. "I will grow more abandoned day by day-my past faults shall shine as merits compared with the atrocities that are to come. False girl, monster of selfishness, you are dragging me to the gutter, and your only grief is that he must share my shame! You have made me bad, and you must bear the consequences-you cannot now make me good to save your husband!"

Humbled and despairing, she left me. At this stage 1 began deliberately to contemplate revenge. But not the one that I had threatened. Oh, I bethought myself of a venno! geance more complete than that! She should be tortured with the torture that she had dealt to me-I would make him adore another woman with

It was difficult, for first 1 must adore and tire, of another woman myself--as the passion in me faded, his would be born. I swore, however, that I would compass it. For some weeks now I worked again, to provide myself with money. I bought new clothes and made myself presentable. When my appearance accorded better with my plan, I paraded Paris, seeking the woman to adore.

You may think Paris is full of adorable women? Well, so contrary is human nature, that never had I felt such indifference toward the sex as during bat tedious quest; never had a pair of brilliant eyes or a well turned neck, appealed to me so little;

How true it is that only the unforeseen comes to pass! There was a model, one Therese, whose fortune was her back, and who had long bored me by an evident tenderness. One day this Therese, usually so constrained in my presence, appeared in high spirits

So I married Therese; and yesterday was the twentieth anniversary of our wedding. Berthe? To speak the truth, my plot against her was frustrated by an accident. You see, before I could communicate my passion to Gregoire I had to recover from it, and-this insolent Therese-I have not recovered from it yet.

There are days when she turns her remarkable back on me now-generally when I am idle-but, mon Dieu! the moment's when she turns her llps are worth working for. Therefore, Berthe has been all the time quite happy with the good Gregoire-and since I possess. Therese upon my word of honor I do not mind!-The Bystander.

DAIRY FRAUDS IN ENGLAND.

Pure Butter Said to be Difficult to Find in London.

The British government has recently issued as a parliamentary paper a report of the select committee appointed to consider the conduct and control of the trade in butter and butter substitutes. The report was argued upon unanimously, and makes suggestions to be embodied in legislation.

"The London Times" asserts that genuine dairy butter is a thing past praying for. Four-fifths of the population of London, "The Times" asserts, have never seen it in their lives. Those who know what it is have great difficulty in procuring it and cannot obtain it in many cases at any price. What is called genuine butter in London, "The Times" says, is blended and reworked butter. Its tough, tenacious_fexture is as different, as possible from that of real dairy butter, and it is destitute of the subtle aroma of the genuine unworked butter. "The Times" says that both the imported butter and that made at home are generally blended butter. The parliamentary committee proposes that butter factories shall be registered, the registration to be renewable annually, and that inspectors shall be empowered to enter all such premises when they suspect that butter is reworked, blended or adulterated butter must not be stored on such premises. With adequate penalties proportioned, as the committee proposes, to the magnitude of the output, some real check would be placed upon adulteration. Imported butter is to be met with not less

It was shown before the committee a firm that was prosecuted for the sale of adulterated Danish butter that it got off with a nominal penalty upon showing that it had ordered what is known as "control butter." This butter is guaranteed by the Danish government. The committee proposes that the importer shall be held responsible for the genuineness of the butter he sells, without any regard for anybody else's warranty. No difficulty is put in the way of those who manufacture and sell imitations of butter openly and honestly. Those who want margarine will be free to buy it as such. But people who want butter are expected to get butter, and not mysterious mixtures. It is thought probable that the British government will take favorable action on the report .- From Government Consular Reports.

stringent conditions.



Value of a Cow. In undertaking to place an estimate on the value of a cow the exact amount of milk and butter fat produced should be determined.

Beacon.

Most people when estimating the value of a cow will be largely influenced by the statements made by the owner of the number of gallons of milk she will produce. This information is usually very misleading, as most persons do not take into consideration the foam in mifk, and again, the party wishing to sell a cow will sometimes exaggerate as to

her production as well The milk from a cow, as usually measured, should not be given any consideration, but to know the eract amount of milk a cow gives it should be weighed with an accurate scale; foam adds nothing to the weight of milk. When the milk from a cow is weighed morning and evening, then her daily production can be estimated, but it is better to know the weight of milk produced for a number of consecutive milkings and to take an average of these for deter-

mining her daily production. After determining the amount of milk produced per day in pounds and ounces, then one should know the average butter fat contained therein. This can be determined by taking a sample from each milking, and from about five consecutive milkings, putting these samples together and determining the per cent. of butter fat in this composite sample. This will be an average per cent. of fat for the time during which the samples were taken. From the average daily production of milk and the average per cent. of fat the average amount of fat produced daily can be ascertained. As six pounds of butter fat thus determined will make about seven pounds of butter, the value of the milk for butter-making purposes can be determined. As butter fat is the foundation of cream, the value of the milk put into cream can be estimated. While this method does not give any idea of the amount of milk and butter fat a cow will produce during her milking period, it does show how much she is producing in butter or cream for the time being. No dairyman should be without this record of each one of his cows at any time. It will enable him to know when a cow is not producing an amount which justifies her keep, and she can then be replaced with a better cow. Where records are kept as has been suggested at the end of the milking period the amount of milk and the amount of butter fat from each cow can be estimated and her value for that period pretty closely determined .- Wm. D. Saunders. Dairyman Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Blacksburg.

with a greenish louse and the trees are dying. We are bothered with these insects every year and I want to know what they are and how to destroy them. J. E. J., Hartselle, Ala.

Answer .- During the spring and early summer, one often finds the leaves and tender twigs of apple covered with small green lice or aphides. These are the Apple Aphis. They injure the trees by sucking the sap through their tiny beaks. So far as we know it, the life history of these insects it : ; follows: The lice hatch from eggs in spring as soon as the leaf buds begin to expand, and increase with marvelous rapidity, so that almost as fast as the leaves develop there are colonies of the plant lice to occupy them. They continue broeding on apple until July, when they largely leave the trees, and migrate-we know not where, but probably to some annual plant that is succulent in mid-summer. Here, apparently, they continue breeding until autumn, when they return to apple, and the winged females may be found establishing colonies of the wingless egg-laying form upon the leaves. The males are apparently developed on the same plant that the winged females are. The small, oval eggs are now laid on the twigs and buds, and

the cycle for the year is complete. Remedies .--- These lice have various natural enemies that destroy them-especially the lady-bird beetles-but it is often necessary to spray infested trees with kerosene emulsion, or a strong tobacco decoction to get rid of them. The latter may be made by soaking refuse tobacco stems in hot water, and then draining the liquid off .- The Southern Fruit Grower.

About Nitrate of Soda.

As you are probably aware, nitrate of soda supplies only one constituent of plant-food to the soil and that one is nitrogen or ammonia. If it is persistently used on the same land 'it will, by stimulating increased growth, cause the supply of phosphoric acid and potash in the soil to be more heavily drawn upon, than if only or moderate yields THRU . Mele duced; hence it might be found such circumstances that the yields on a soil thus treated would materially decline. It might be found, too, that under such treatment, unless the store of vegetable matter of the soil were kept up, that the mechanical condition of the soil would probably, become worse, especially if the soil were fine grained, and would be poticed by the soil running together and tending to work hard after each rain. It is not believed, however, that nitrate of soda used properly, and in reasonable quantities per acre would injure land. Neither do we think it would be at all necessary to materially increase the application per year, unless the yield be much increased. To secure the best results from the use of nitrate of soda, It will usually be necessary to use with fertilizing materials containing phosphoric acid and potash and in some cases lime. The amount and proportion of these constituents will depend upon the crop to be grown and the soil in which it is to be planted. The normal plant-food supply of a soll is being kept up when as much is added to it in the iertilizer or ferthe growing crop and by leaching .-C. B. Williams, North Carolina De-

the mere sight of a classroom would mettle, and, though I foresaw that sometimes till me with abhorrence. her father would ask more before he But, mon Dieu! if other fellows were gave his consent. I was, at least, juswild occasionally, they accepted the tified in avowing myself. I telegraphpenalties, and the affair was finished; on me rested a responsibility-my wildness was communicated to Gregoire. Scarcely had I resigned myself to dull routine again than Gregoire, the industrious, would find himself unable to study a page, and would difficulty in making my choice. Hence, commit freaks for which he rebuked me most sternly.

So far as I had any serious aspirations at all, I aspired to be a painter. and, after combating my family's objections, I entered an art school in Paris, Gregoire, on the other hand, inclined strongly to law. During the next few years we met infrequently, but that my brother continued to be affected by any unusual conditions of my body and mind I knew by his letters, which seldom failed to contain expostulations and entreaties. Can you blame me if I had no love for this correspondent?

My Brother:

The Circumstances of Our Birth .--Your attention is directed to my preceding communications on this subject. I desire to protest against the revelry from which you recovered either on the 15th or 16th inst. On the afternoon of the later date, while engaged in a conference of the first magnitude, I was seized with an overwhelming desire to dance a quadrille a public ball. I found it impossible to concentrate my attention on the case concerning which I was consulted; I could no longer express myself thoughI could compel myself to paint, with lucidity.

ay desk dizzied by such visions as half a year, worked with my teeth pursued St. Anthony to his cell. No clenched, worked against nature, worksooner was I free than I fled from Ver- | ed while my pulses beat and clamored non, dined in Paris, bought a false beard, and plunged wildly into the vertex of a dancing hall. Scoundrel! nized that my work had been wasted, This is past pardon! My sensibilities revolt, and my prudence shudders. Who shall say but that one night may be recognized? Who can foretell to what blackmail you may expose me? I, Maitre Lapalme, forbid your profligacies, which devolve upon me, I Torbid-eto

Our mother still lived in Vernon, where she contemplated her favorite son's success with the profoundest pride. Occasionally I spent a few days with her, sometimes more.

One summer when I visited her I met Mademoiselle Leuillet. I know and bloodshot. My visitor was Berthe. very well that no description of a girl ever painted her to anybody yet. mangel, that her voice was like the by entreaty, mine dark with hate. music of the Spheres-more than all, that one felt all the time, "How good come to beseech your forgiveness! Can ed to a kiss, I was in paradise. My she is, how good, how good!"

looked such a jolly place to me that me to speak now; I had proved my ed to my mother to expect me.

On the way to the station I noticed the window of a florist; I ran in to next morning. bear off some lilies for Berthe. The shop was so full of wonderful flowers that, once among them, I found some palette. I missed the train; and, rather than walk about until the next, returned to my studio incensed by the delay.

A letter for me had been just delivered. It told me that on the previous morning Berthe had married my brother.

I could have welcomed a pistol shot for me!" -my world rocked. Berthe lost, false. Gregoire's wife! I reiterated it, I said it over and over, 1 was stricken by it -and yet, I could not realize that actually it had happened.

Oh, I made certain of it later, believe me-I was no hero of a feuilleton, to accept such intelligence without proof! I assured myself of her perfidy, and burnt her love letters one by cue; tore her photographs into shreds-strove also to tear her image from my heart.

A year before I should have rushed to the cafes for forgetfulness, but now, as the shock subsided, I turned feverishly to work. For months I persisted, denying myself the smallest respite, clinging eo a resolution which proved vainer daily. Were art to be mastered by dogged endeavor. should have conquered; but alas! I could not compel myself to paint Outwardly sedate, reliable, I sat at well. I had fought temptation for for the draughts of dissipation, which promised a speedler release. I recogthat the struggle had been useless-1 broke down.

> I need say little of the months that followed-it would be a record of degradations and remorse; alternately, I tell, and was ashamed. I shuddered at the horrors I had committed.

One afternoon when I returned to my rooms, from which I had been absent since the previous day, I heard from the concierge that a visitor awaited me. I climbed the stairs without anticipation. My thoughts were sluggish, my limbs leaden, my eyes heavy I think nearly a minute must have passed while we looked speechlessly Suffice it that she was beautiful as in each other's face-her's convulsed

you not forget the wrong I did you?" ecstasy was so supreme that I forgot

and mentioned that she was going to be married.

The change in her demeanor interested me A little piqued I invited her to dine with me, but she refused. Before I parted from her I made an appointment for her to sit to me the

"So you are going to be married, Therese?" I said, as I prepared the

"In truth," she answered, gaily. "No regrets?" I asked.

"What regrets could I have"" she returned. "He is a very pretty boy, and well-to-do, helieve me!" "And I am not a pretty boy, nor

well-to-do, hein?" "Oh," she laughed, "you do not care

"Is it so?" I said. "What would you

say if I told you that I did care?" "I should say that you tell me too late, monsieur," she replied, with a shrug, "Are you ready for me to pose?" And this changed woman turned her peerless back on me without a scruple.

A little mortified, I attended strictly to business for the rest of the moraing. But I found myself on the following day waiting for her with impatience.

I remarked that Therese's hands were very well shaped, and indeed happiness had brought a certain charm to her face.

"Do you know, Therese, that I am sorry that you are going to marry?" I exclaimed.

"Oh, get out!" she laughed, pushing me away. "It is no good your talking nonsense to me now, don't flatter yourself!"

Reybaud, the sculptor, happened to come in at the moment. "Oho," he shouted, "what changes are to be seen! The nose of our brave Sylvestre is out of joint now we are affianced. hein?"

She joined in the laughter against me, and I picked up my brush again in a vile humor.

Well, as I have said, she was not the kind of woman I had contemplated, but these things arrange themselves-I became seriously enamored of her. And, recognizing that Fate worked with her own instruments, 1 did not struggle. For months I was at Therese's heels; I was the sport of her whims, and her slights, sometimes even of her insults.

I actually made her an offer of marriage, at which she snapped her white fingers, with a grimace-and the more she flouted me, the more fascinated i grew. In that rapturous hour when her insolent eyes softened to send-"Forgive me," she gasped, "I have ment, when her mocking mouth melt-

Romance of a Sweet Pea,

The parent of nearly all the most beautiful varieties of the American sweet pea is the Blanche Ferry, which has a pretty romance connected with its discoverey.

Some fifty years ago, the comely daughter of a well-to-do farmer ran away from home to marry a young quarryman, and her home thereafter was always in a cottage, often but a mere hut, on the very thin soil overlying the limestone ledges where her husband worked. When her baby died she went back to her father's farm to bury it, and took with her on returning to her coltage some seed of a white sweet pea and seed of the old Painted Lady pink.

Thereafter, however great her poverty, she never failed to grow near her cottage home some of these sweet peas, as a reminder of her happy girlhood and her dead baby. They were always grown on thin, noor soil often so thin that they could only be kept alive by constant attention and watering. As a result of such envi ronment for many plant generations the flowers acquired a dwarf growth and a great abundance of bright colors.

Some twenty-five years after the baby died a spedsman, passing the lit tle home of the mother, noticed the beauty of the sweet peas and obtained a teaspoonful of the seed. This he multiplied into thousands of pounds, and sold as the seed of the Blanche Ferry variety, which is now famous throughout the world for its beauty and the many beautiful varieties In has produced .- Washington Star.

Naturally.

De Style-Has any of your family gone away for the summer? Gunbusta-Only the cook -- Woman's Home Companion.



If you live near a city, nothing is so profitable as a berry crop. If you live away from a market, nothing is nicer for your own table. We cannot understand how our farmers can do without strawberries and raspberries. The blackberry also deserves consideration everywhere, except where wild ones are plentiful and near at hand. It is time to begin to prepare for your patch of a row or two, or an acre of two, according to your means. You ladies who want some pin money of your own, and have little children to help, gather them. If you cannot tilizing material as is removed by do this have a little berry patch. We always think strawberries the best fruit that grows, until raspberries partment of Agriculture, Raleigh. come in, and then we think they are the best. Both are worthy a place in every garden in our South. They always help out a supper and round out

a dinner; and we never object to them for breakfast. No one has ever been able to reach the maximum yield of our berry crop of either variety. Wonderful yields have been made. We saw a blackberry bush at our near neighbor's that yielded ten bine in an effort to secure goods at quarts and brought him in the handsome return of \$1.00. Putting the plants at four by six feet, this would give us 1185 plants per acre, and a revenue of \$1185.00 per acre. No one can say this is an impossibility, since one bush has made the proportionate yield. This amount of strawberries has been made. As to raspberries we are not so well informed, but as they sell at double the price of either of the other berries, we cannot see why a like return can not be obtained. There is a good living for the small farmer who will take wife and children into co-partnership and get down to business and learn how to grow the many things our market now demands. Don't let's talk cotton until we know of nothing else; but let us give our garden crops due consideration, and don't forget the berry. - Southern Cultivator.

The Apple Apples. My apple trees are badly affected | 400 years.

Mixed and Unmixed Fertilizers.

Farmers should now be planning for their small grain crop. Will it: be better to buy mixed or unmixed fertilizero? The syndicate controlling commercial fertilizers and the prices will not sell by the car-load to farmers. All has to be bought through agents. If the farmers should comfirst hands, they could do it. The one. who wants a few sacks has to buy at retail. Let the farmer buy fourteen per cent, acid phosphate and muriate potash of kainit, and do his own mixing. On a good floor, or a hard place in the lot, a hand with a shovel can mix a ton thoroughly in two ours.

2000 pounds of acid phosphate; 200 pounds of muriate of potash. That will give 12.75-4.50. That s a high grade.

If ammonia is desired, make it this way;

2000 pounds acid phosate; 200 pounds of muriate of potash; 1000 pounds cottanseed meal. That would give a fertilizer analyzing 9-3-2%. That is firstclass for wheat or oats, and will not cost more than \$20 a ton. The agents would charge about \$24.

The Greenland whale often lives.