## THE DUTCHMAN'S HEN.

*A Funny Story with a Bucolic Moral.*

Once with an honest Dutchman walking,
About his troubles he was talking—
The most of which seemed to arise
From friends' and wife's perversities.
When he took breath, his pipe to fill,
I ventured to suggest that will
Was oft the cause of human ill;
That life was full of self-denials,
And every man had his own trials.
"'Tis not the will," he quick replied,
"But it's the won't by which I'm tried.
When people will, I'm always glad;
'Tis only when they won't I'm mad!
Contrary folks, like mine old hen,
Who laid a dozen eggs, and then,
Instead of sitting down to hatch,
Runs off into mine garden patch!
I goes and catches her, and brings her,
And back onto her nest I flings her;
And then I snaps her on the head,
And tells her, 'Sit there you old jade!'
But sit she won't, for all I say,
She's up again and runs away,
Then I was mad, as mad as fire,
But once again I thought I'd try her.
So after her I soon makes chase,
And brings her back to the old place,
And then I snaps her a great deal,
That she must do as she was bid;
But not a bit of it she did;
She was the most contrariest bird
Of which I ever saw or heard.
Before I'd turned my back again,
Was running off, that plaguey hen;
Thinks I, I'm now a 'used up man,'
I must adopt some other plan;
I'll fix her now, for if I don't,
My will is conquered by her won't!
So then I goes and gets some blocks,
And with them makes a little box,
And takes some straw, the very best,
And makes the nicest kind of nest;
Then in the nest the eggs I place;
And feel a smile upon my face,
As I thinks now I at last I've got her,
For to this little box I did
Consider I must have a lid,
So that she couldn't get away,
But in it till she hatched must stay,
And then again once more I chased her;
And catched, and in the box I placed her,
Again I snaps her on the head,
Until I fear she might be dead;
And then when I had made her sit down,
Immediately I claps the lid on;
And now, thinks I, I've got her fast,
She'll have to do her work at last,
No longer shall I stand the brunt
Of this old hen's confounded won't!
So I goes in and tells mine folks,
And then I takes my pipe and smokes,
And walks about and feels so good
That 'wouldn't' yields at length to 'would;'
And now so oft I'd snapped the hen,
I take some 'schnapps' myself, and then
I thought I'd see how the old creetur
Was getting on where I had set her.
The lid the box so nicely fits on
I gently raised—thunder and blitzen!
Give me more schnapps—and fill the cup!
There she was sitting—standing up!

*—Knickerbocker Magazine.*

## Interesting Brevities.

—London has a Mormon church with one thousand members.

—The Bible is now printed in over two hundred different languages.

—A lost city like Pompeii has been discovered near Chalco, Mexico.

—The Legislature has to look out for another one the married man for months to two.

—One man at Coal Creek Iowa has purchased 10,000 apple trees for planting next spring.

—If Queen Victoria lives as long as her grandfather George the Third her reign will extend into the next century.

—A man who had a scolding wife being asked what he did for a living, replied that he kept a hot house.

—Why is kissing your sweetheart like eating soup with a fork? Because it takes a long time to get enough of it.

—It is considered cool to call a man's hat with his name written in it, simply because you want his autograph.

—A handsome woman pleases the eye, but a good woman pleases the heart. The one is a jewel, the other a treasure.

—A preacher thinks the Grecian Benders will soon be dropped. Short dresses must be resorted to, especially.

—Some [illegible] of a certain chief [illegible] are to spray out their knees on Sundays and not to [illegible] the rest of the week.

—[illegible] in San Francisco whose husband [illegible] a Mormon. [illegible] was very [illegible]

—Do you [illegible] girl we ever knew was [illegible] when he was asked if she had [illegible] sitting up.

—[illegible] Davenport [illegible] to [illegible] age, in forty minutes.

—The editor of a Vermont paper says he had an [illegible] Christmas morning which [illegible] and he [illegible] well.

—A [illegible] to [illegible] a [illegible] [illegible] wall into church [illegible] which [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]