

THE GOOD OLD GIRLS.

There are no girls like the good old girls— Against the world I'd stake 'em!

A GRAFT ON THE FAMILY TREE.

The house was old, even for Rosquebury. To-night the windows blazed with light.

Ladies in quaint costumes and men in quaint old clothes danced and chatted behind puzzling masks.

"I did it, I wonder if death is waiting for me to repent? I did it and I am not yet sorry nor afraid."

"How you love him!" "Love him? I have loved him through three generations."

"All this is too much for you. Shall I not close the doors and help you to bed?"

"The girl went reluctantly away. Not one of the fair faces behind the dainty masks down stairs was fairer than hers."

shelter that would enable her to live on and grow old. Fifteen years ago Miss Annesley had gone on a journey and she had returned with a child, a little shy, quiet girl,

"But I want to, may I?" eagerly. "But I want to, may I?" eagerly.

"But would you know? Really, the people of your world are very provoking. And alas, that is true of the people of mine!

"What a dream of beauty it was. An hour ago we watched the rockets from the dormer window, all alone."

"All three," she laughed, and then her heart stood still. The clock on the stairs began to strike.

"It is twelve—the witches' hour. With the last stroke you must take the lace away!"

"The house was dark. At the street corners the fires were dying sullenly. Now and then a lonely rocket swept the sky."

"Come sir, come quick! Such a sight as is waiting. It is Miss Berta, sir, going, going at last!"

"I have found you," he said quietly. "This sad event will necessitate some change in your life," he began, formally,

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"It is yourself, Philip!" Edith whispered. There was another paper in which was recorded the death of Philip Brent and later the marriage of his daughter, Edith, to Arthur Wyde.

"That was my grandfather. When he and granny died Miss Annesley brought me here," Edith said wistfully.

"It was in Florence and she was young and that world was fair to see. She pointed to the walls where hung quaintly beautiful pictures of the old city, as the story went on; but there was a picture across which hung a curtain of priceless tapestry, and this he was never permitted to see."

"Did he die?" Philip asked one night when the red firelight glared about the woe-witch-looking figure bringing to it the curves of youth.

"Die? Almost everybody had died in a way, Philip, but not really, you know. My lover is alive!"

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voice, the hair—who is it that you are like? She laughed softly—(there was no danger of being betrayed by a sound he had never heard in that dim chamber upstairs)—as he took off his mask and looked eagerly at her.

"The delusion is a pleasant one," she said. "Yes, the very roses in your gown, and your hands—do take the lace away!"

"How can I tell?" No, surely not, else—What does it all mean, Philip? See the curtain is gone from the picture, and it is—why, Philip, it is like you! What does it all mean?"

"It means that there has been—a graft on the family tree," he said gravely, his eyes on the handsome picture.

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The Korean Troubles. The reported insurrection in Korea may have very important results. The empire, for that is the official designation of the country now, occupies such a geographical position that in case of serious internal troubles threatening the stability of its government and the independence of the people, it may become the theater of a conflict for control by several powers.

At the close of her recent war with China she would have taken up a position in Korea which would have practically given her control of the country, but she was thwarted by Russia and the other European powers and was forced to content with exporting a recognition from China of the independence of Korea, China, of course, would like to re-extend her influence in Korea, which she had held as paramount lord, except during the period of Japan's occupancy, from the beginning of history until after her recent defeat by Japan.

On March 10th, 1898, began a great anti-Russian demonstration, which ended in the total withdrawal of the Russian influences from the peninsula. The Russian military commission and drill instructors soon departed and the Russo-Korean bank was closed. The correspondence of the Russian minister showed that Russia henceforth considered Korea beyond her sphere of influence. It is difficult to believe, however, that Russia has really given up her hopes in Korea and it is not at all improbable that the present internal troubles have been fostered by her emissaries.

At times she would vomit blood from the stomach, showing that there must be a rupture of a blood vessel there. Mrs. Owen was conscious at times, and then would suffer another spasm, afterward relapsing into a state bordering on exhaustion. She gradually grew weaker, and, in spite of all medical treatment, she passed away. Dr. Miller gives it as his opinion that the spasms were caused by the rupturing of a blood vessel by over exertion, and subsequent heart failure caused her death.

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Cheerfulness at Home. Life Made Easy by the Cultivation of a Happy Disposition. "Perhaps there is nothing that adds more to the happiness of a home than the habit of cheerfulness," writes Mrs. F. M. Colby in Woman's Home Companion.

"It is a potent factor in the secret of housekeeping, and the housewife who has always a pleasant smile and a soothing word has already acquired one of the most valuable accomplishments. As long ago as the days of the wise man a merry countenance had its recognized value. It is a duty to be pleasant. Yet how many neglect this important requirement. Some women are constitutionally cross and morose; others are weak and nervous and are made fretful by the exactness of their household cares. But there is no excuse for much of the friction that exists in many households. I have been in some where the atmosphere seemed actually to bristle with hostilities. Everyone was in a fret, and frowns and cross words were the rule, and not the exception. How uncomfortable life in such a home must be to the inmates, as well as to the passing guests. One learns to shun such homes as one would a pest house.

"All women can not be beautiful, but it is the duty of every woman to look as well as she can, and nothing adds more to a woman's good looks than a cheerful countenance. 'I have always,' said the good Vicar of Wakefield, 'been an admirer of happy human faces.' The sentiment is universal. The pleasure thus derived compensates for the absence of beauty and supplies the deficiency of symmetry and grace. Cheerfulness can be cultivated and acquired as well as other qualities. If one's work is exacting and tiresome, it makes it no easier by being fretful. Form the habit of being cheerful under adverse circumstances. 'Our happiness,' observes a standard writer, 'is a sacred deposit for which we must give account. A serene and amiable temper is among its most efficient preservatives. It is a virtue not to be gained. Admiral Collingwood, one of England's great naval heroes, in his letters to his daughters, says, 'I never knew your mother to utter a harsh or hasty word to any person in my life.' What loftier eulogy could a woman have than that?"

"Some women are naturally cheerful, but allow themselves to be put out by little things. Suppose the servant has broken a dish, or the butter doesn't come, or your husband comes home to dinner late, does it mend matters by your impatient complaint? Preserve your equanimity. The world was not made in a day, nor was it made all flowers and rippling sunshine. Your work will go along much smoother, you will accomplish more, and you will make others happier by being cheerful."

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Lincoln's Promise. While drinking whisky was the fashion all about him. Abraham Lincoln never forgot his dead mother's request to close his lips against intoxicants. Once when he was a member of Congress, a friend criticised him for his seeming rudeness in declining to test the rare wines provided by their host, urging as reason for the refusal:

"There is certainly no danger of a man of your years and habits becoming addicted to its use."

"I meant no disrespect, John," answered Mr. Lincoln, "but I promised my precursors mother only a few days before she died that I would never use anything intoxicating as a beverage, and I consider that promise as binding today as it was the day I gave it."

"There is a great difference between a child surrounded by a rough class of drinkers, and a man in a home of refinement," insisted the friend.

"By a promise, is a promise forever, John, and when made to a mother, it is doubly binding," replied Mr. Lincoln.

Miss Elizabeth Cogley, probably the oldest lady telegrapher in the world in point of service, has abandoned the key and will hereafter superintend the force of seven messengers in Union Station, remarks the Harrisburg Telegraph. She entered upon her new and easier duties this morning, having her desk in the telegrapher's office, where she has sent and received messages for about thirty-five years. Miss Cogley has not been physically strong of late years, and the company, in recognition of her long and faithful service, gave her the less wearing position she now holds. Miss Cogley began her career as a telegraph operator at Lewistown, her home, in 1856, and she received the first message calling out the Logan Guards of that place in response to President Lincoln's first call for volunteers at the outbreak of the civil war. Since the outbreak of the civil war she has been located at Union Station. Her place at the key is being filled by operator Harry Toomey.

The bill requiring retail transient merchants to pay license was signed by Gov. Stone. The act imposes a license of not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$200.00 per month, the amount to be taxed by borough councils. In townships the license for such dealings is \$25.00 a month and is made payable to the county treasurer for use of township school funds. Licenses must be renewed monthly. A fine of not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$200.00 is imposed for neglect to obtain the license.

The men who neglect their own business to take an interest in the affairs of others never get along very well. If a man's affairs amount to anything, he has enough to keep him busy.

Dr. Leonard Pearson, State veterinarian, reports that during the last year 1,000 cattle were condemned as tuberculous, and appraised at \$25,519.

Emperor Nicholas II of Russia has no male heir. Besides the infant Marie, just born, he has two daughters, as follows: Olga, born November 23rd, 1895. Tatiana, born May 22nd, 1897.

The Zarina before her marriage was Princess Alexandra Alix, daughter of Ludwig IV, Grand Duke of Hesse. She was married to the Zar, November 14th, 1894. The Zar is 31 years old and the Zarina 27.

The Pennsylvania State Game Commission has decided to place in the hands of every constable a copy of the act making constables of the state, game, fish and forestry wardens, imposing a penalty of \$500 or two months' imprisonment upon the official when he neglects or refuses to perform his duty.

The Boers in South Africa deserve the sympathy of the people of the whole world. Their country is an object for the British cupidity, and the aversion of the Briton causes him to look with longing eyes upon it. The case is a simple one and is an example of a powerful nation trying to oppress a weak one. The greatest robber on the face of the earth is Great Britain and she is possessed with a land hunger that is never satisfied. As may be supposed, she is not wanting for excuses to attempt to justify her meddling with the Boers' affairs. But history is full of such duplicity and the shrewd robber is never without an excuse to offer for his conduct. The British have no reason whatever to meddle in the affairs of the South African republic. They have long been plotting against it, however, and committed an overt act in the Johnson raid of several years ago. The English contention that they have a right to control the domestic affairs of the Boers' country is legally and morally wrong.

Wealthy Young Man's Sad End. In trying to show some girls how fast he could run toward, on Thursday night, Edward F. Powell, a young man worth a quarter of a million dollars, fell in the street at Port Kennedy, and a few minutes later he was dead. He was returning from an entertainment in the Presbyterian church in that village, and bantering challenged the young woman in his party to a race. The conditions were that she should run backward while he ran forward, and he laughingly declared that he could easily beat them.

The race started, but young Powell had covered but little ground when he fell heavily on his back. He did not move, and when his companions gathered around him they found him unconscious. The doctors think that it was not the fall which caused Powell's death, but that he was stricken with apoplexy from the exertion in running in that unusual way.

President Judge Cyrus L. Pershing, of Schuylkill county, has sent his resignation to Governor Stone, to take effect Aug. 5. Judge Pershing has for years past been physically incapable of fully performing the duties of his office. His term would have expired in 1903. His resignation, in that it is a final announcement of his own conviction of his serious disability, will give unfeigned regret to his friends. He is a very popular man, and an upright and able jurist.