

FAREWELL SUMMFR.

(THE WILD ASTER.)

In the meadows near the mill, By the wayside on the hill; In the fields that wander down To the edges of the town, And beside the farmhouse door, "Farewell summer" blooms once more.

THE STAR OF THE EVENING.

Everybody in Florence said that Amy was the most talented pupil old Maffalda had. That fact was plain even to myself, pursuing rather languidly the secrets of bel canto. My only aim was to vary the monotony of afternoon tea and evening bridge at the pensions of my friends and relatives.

But Amy was different from the rest of us. She had a voice. It seemed as though she had to go home just when the time had come for her to make a debut. "It simply can't be helped," she said, and her lips quivered as she spoke.

"There isn't a way I haven't tried; and there isn't a way that doesn't lead to one wall. That wall is made of money. I've sung for all the agents in Milan. They all know what I can do, for old Maffalda has staked his reputation on me. Yet there isn't a manager in the lot who would spend a cent of his own money on me or any other American girl. She must be able to buy her way. I am not. My money is gone."

It was difficult for me not to suggest that she take some means to go a few steps farther in her career. Amy was proud, however; above all, she was too delicate to say anything that stirred the particulars of her situation. I didn't dare talk too implicitly about money.

"What in the world does it all mean, Jack?" she asked. "Do you know what you are doing?" I nodded. She stared at me with a searching look to see if I was really as mad as I seemed.

"I've come to ask you," I said, "to sing a duet or two with me. How about La Cava in the first part, and then that beautiful *Dov'è Pasquale* between the soprano and baritone at the end of the concert? I thought that would vary the programme, and I'd be very grateful to you."

"Then you really are serious, Jack?" she said, rather sympathetically. "You are going to give me a concert? What in the world are you going to sing?" I rattled off a number of songs that suggested themselves to me, most of them, as I realized, from Amy's own repertoire. I was as solemn as an owl.

"Well, if you really mean to be so very foolish, she said, "I'm going to see you through so far as I can. Of course you would not under ordinary circumstances be very wise for me to make my first appearance in such a way, but I want to be of all the help I can to you. We'll make up a programme; you have your accompanist come up here and I'll coach you every day until the time for the concert comes. But, Jack, you're joking, you know you are?"

"Do those notices in the papers look like jokes," I asked. "Does that \$250 in advance to Markhoff look like a joke? No, Amy, you've underrated me. Just because I don't have to go to business every day there's no reason why I shouldn't have some interest in life. So it's to be my music."

Amy sighed. I went home to find a letter from my older brother in Boston. "What is all this tommyrot in the papers about your singing in a concert somewhere. I didn't believe it could be you. It's good mother's abroad or the thing would worry her. What in the world does it mean? Because you were equal to a little close harmony at college do you think you can hire a hall and sing at people and have them stand for it? Suppose you go around with a fur coat on all the time, smell strongly of perfume, and wear a diamond ring on your middle finger, like the rest of those musical bounders. Cut it out, Jack, if it is you and wake up."

These were his fraternal suggestions. I kept away from the club, but I could not dodge the United States mail. So the letters kept coming, to ask if it really was I and what it all meant, and, to my surprise, wanting to know where tickets were to be bought. My men friends were not in the habit of going to concerts. Most of them had never heard of Haendel Hall, but they wanted to get in on this show there. Love me as they might, not one of them was going to miss being in to see the fun. I was perfectly satisfied to have as many come as wanted. I knew better than they did what they were going to get.

Amy worked hard with me, and the programme we put together contained only songs she had studied with Maffalda. It was she that practically did all the rehearsing during those two weeks. I stood watching her at the piano while she followed one song with another, telling me the way every phrase ought to be sung. I assumed a mildly interested air and did little more than hum some of the sentences, while the accompanist looked as if he already dreaded that night when he should be left on the stage with me alone.

"You're like all amateurs, Jack," Amy said one day in disgust. "Here I am working out my life to make you do those songs well, while you are as indifferent as if it were my concert and not yours. And you satisfy yourself by thinking you will do everything all right when the time comes."

"You're entirely mistaken, my dear girl," I answered; "I am listening to every word you say and taking it in. You must know that it would be the most reckless thing in the world for me to tire my voice just now when I am to be heard here for the first time." I tried to look as serious as I sounded.

"Very well, Mr. West," Amy said. "Do as you think best. It's not my funeral. Oh, I beg your pardon, Jack. I wouldn't have said that for the world. Really I wouldn't."

"Well, you are encouraging to a fellow, Amy, I must say—funeral. That's a fine way to talk to a man a few days before his debut."

Markhoff was in the seventh heaven. Haendel Hall was to be full to the doors. The unexpecting dead-heads who usually sat underestimatingly through the concerts of budding geniuses were not to get one of their supercilious noses into the place when I sang. My friends were looking forward to the treat of their lives. Parties were coming from the club. A delegation from my class had taken a block of seats. One of the latter caught me unawares on the street, which was a young singer's first appearance in New York. Those few newspapers who mentioned the unfortunate concert-giver were intimate enough to intimate that they no disguise about the blessing his indisposition had brought about. I didn't care. I had given Amy the sort of a debut she wanted, and that was my only purpose. She has even had an offer to come to the opera house to replace a wabbling Italian importation that had expired some time ago. She says she will never be satisfied until she is known as the foremost American singer of her day. Yet I am not hopeless of persuading her to compromise before very long on being known as Mrs. John West.

By Lawrence Reamer, in Harper's Weekly.

Children are often made uncomfortable by being obliged to wear shoes that are either too large or too small. The mistake is made in buying. An experienced shoe man who has made children's shoes a special study advises that the child wear thick stockings and soft-soled shoes on shoes. In many cases the child will wear his "best" hose, which are thinner than those for every day, and then the new shoes will be a trifle too tight when worn with the thicker pair. Buy as good leather as you can afford, but it is not worth buying the most expensive shoes for the child may out-grow them. The shoe dealer above quoted says that a shoe with a wide, flat, low heel is better for a child than the heeled shoe, since children usually put the heel of the foot down heavily when walking. Teach children to take care of their shoes. When the shoes have been wet they should be wiped dry, stuffed with paper to hold their shape, put in a warm place and rubbed with vaseline to keep the leather soft.

Young Mothers.

Are not always wisely guided when they choose some medicine to give them a strength adequate to nurse baby at their own breast. The need at this time is real strength, strength which lasts. So-called "tonics" and "stimulants" do not give real strength. They give a temporary support to a weak system, but they do nothing to balance the drain of the mother's vital forces by the nursing child. Of all such preparations those containing alcohol are most to be dreaded. Many a child has begun the drunkard's career at the breast. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription makes motherhood easy and gives to those who use it, a real strength, which the baby shares. It contains no alcohol, whiskey or other intoxicant and no opium, cocaine or other narcotic. It is the best medicine for woman and woman's ills which has ever been prepared.

You take a bath for the outside of your body to remove accumulations and dead matter. Does not the inside of the body need an occasional bath, think you, to help rid it of clogging and effete material? Nature's waste which has clogged in some canal of the body and is poisoning the blood current with its corruption? Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cleanses the inner man, purifies the blood, strengthens the stomach, builds up the muscle. The same invigorating results which follow a bath, follow the use of "Golden Medical Discovery."

Don't suffer with constipation. Use Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets and be cured.

Professional Instinct.

"Romeo and Juliet," with the original company, had reached its crucial moment. Juliet was staggering about the stage, regarding her afflicted lover.

"Oh, cruel poison!" she wailed. She raised her lover for a moment in her arms.

"Willy excited medical student in the gallery sprang to his feet.

"Keep him up, Juliet—keep him up!" he bellowed. "I'll run out and fetch the stomach pump!"

"A word in season how good it is." That word in season is just what is spoken by Dr. Pierce's Common Sense Medical Adviser. The word it speaks may be a word of counsel or of caution, a word of wisdom or of warning, but it is always a plain word and practical. This great book of 1008 pages and 700 illustrations is sent free on receipt of stamps to pay expense of mailing only. Send 21 one-cent stamps for book in paper covers or 31 stamps for cloth binding. Address Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y.

"Violet—I never had such a stroke of luck. He fell in love in Paris, proposed in Rome and bought the ring in Naples. Pierrrot—Did your luck end there? Violet—Oh, no! While we were at Monte Carlo he won enough from papa for us to get married."

In life troubles will come which look as if they would never pass away. The night and the storm look as if they would last forever, but the coming of the calm and the morning cannot be stayed.

It is becoming daily more dangerous to refer to "the weaker sex" on account of the increasing doubt in the reader's mind which sex is meant.

The fire you kindle for your enemy often burns yourself more than him.

cert, but none of them came to inquire about my cold. They all wanted to make the acquaintance of the strange girl who had sung so beautifully.

"The critics stayed until the very last song," said Markhoff. "That's wonderful. They came to me and said, 'Who is this girl, anyhow?' and that is still more wonderful. It was a great night altogether."

Amy was just leaving to join her sister, who had gone out to look for her scarf. We were alone for a minute in the waiting room.

She was flushed and palpitant still from the ordeal through which she had passed so triumphantly. She closed her eyes and let her head fall back on the chair, overcome for the moment with fatigue.

"You saved my concert," I said. "How shall I thank you?"

"Jack," she said, turning straight into my eyes that frank gaze nobody could resist. "If I had ever supposed that an American gentleman, clean-hearted and honest, could have been such an elaborate and consistent fraud as you have been for the past month, I'd have lost all confidence in mankind. It seems to me that you couldn't have told me a truthful word during all that time. But, dear Jack—"

she reached out her hand to me—"it was awfully awfully good of you to come."

Amy's reputation was made after that night. Rarely have there been such spontaneous and enthusiastic accounts of a young singer's first appearance in New York. Those few newspapers who mentioned the unfortunate concert-giver were intimate enough to intimate that they no disguise about the blessing his indisposition had brought about. I didn't care. I had given Amy the sort of a debut she wanted, and that was my only purpose. She has even had an offer to come to the opera house to replace a wabbling Italian importation that had expired some time ago. She says she will never be satisfied until she is known as the foremost American singer of her day. Yet I am not hopeless of persuading her to compromise before very long on being known as Mrs. John West.

By Lawrence Reamer, in Harper's Weekly.

Children are often made uncomfortable by being obliged to wear shoes that are either too large or too small. The mistake is made in buying. An experienced shoe man who has made children's shoes a special study advises that the child wear thick stockings and soft-soled shoes on shoes. In many cases the child will wear his "best" hose, which are thinner than those for every day, and then the new shoes will be a trifle too tight when worn with the thicker pair. Buy as good leather as you can afford, but it is not worth buying the most expensive shoes for the child may out-grow them. The shoe dealer above quoted says that a shoe with a wide, flat, low heel is better for a child than the heeled shoe, since children usually put the heel of the foot down heavily when walking. Teach children to take care of their shoes. When the shoes have been wet they should be wiped dry, stuffed with paper to hold their shape, put in a warm place and rubbed with vaseline to keep the leather soft.

Young Mothers.

Are not always wisely guided when they choose some medicine to give them a strength adequate to nurse baby at their own breast. The need at this time is real strength, strength which lasts. So-called "tonics" and "stimulants" do not give real strength. They give a temporary support to a weak system, but they do nothing to balance the drain of the mother's vital forces by the nursing child. Of all such preparations those containing alcohol are most to be dreaded. Many a child has begun the drunkard's career at the breast. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription makes motherhood easy and gives to those who use it, a real strength, which the baby shares. It contains no alcohol, whiskey or other intoxicant and no opium, cocaine or other narcotic. It is the best medicine for woman and woman's ills which has ever been prepared.

You take a bath for the outside of your body to remove accumulations and dead matter. Does not the inside of the body need an occasional bath, think you, to help rid it of clogging and effete material? Nature's waste which has clogged in some canal of the body and is poisoning the blood current with its corruption? Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cleanses the inner man, purifies the blood, strengthens the stomach, builds up the muscle. The same invigorating results which follow a bath, follow the use of "Golden Medical Discovery."

Don't suffer with constipation. Use Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets and be cured.

Professional Instinct.

"Romeo and Juliet," with the original company, had reached its crucial moment. Juliet was staggering about the stage, regarding her afflicted lover.

"Oh, cruel poison!" she wailed. She raised her lover for a moment in her arms.

"Willy excited medical student in the gallery sprang to his feet.

"Keep him up, Juliet—keep him up!" he bellowed. "I'll run out and fetch the stomach pump!"

In life troubles will come which look as if they would never pass away. The night and the storm look as if they would last forever, but the coming of the calm and the morning cannot be stayed.

It is becoming daily more dangerous to refer to "the weaker sex" on account of the increasing doubt in the reader's mind which sex is meant.

The fire you kindle for your enemy often burns yourself more than him.

The reward of one duty is the power to fulfill another.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT.

I believe in havin' a good time when you start out. If you git knocked out of one plan you want to git yourself another right quick, before your sperrits has a chance to fail.—Mrs. Wiggs.

Skirts are still cut after the same long pattern, but instead of being a yard and a hat width are now nearly a yard more in circumference. The shoulders are formed longer, that is to say from neck to over the arm, the seam is possibly an inch longer. In the end, the kimono effect in sleeves is not changed.

Worth has brought out the very full skirt, but so far, it has been a complete failure, for once trained to the narrowness about the feet, people will not accept the exaggerated width. So Worth during the past few days, has been having things changed in his atelier. We see the same trimmings in the way of mousseline and chiffon. Velvet is a great factor in trimmings, and is used in very wide bands both on jacket and on the hem of skirts.

Aprons of skirts, there are sometimes little trains to afternoon and evening dresses. With the former, the prettiest and most coquettish are short and now since we are accustomed to the port length about the feet, a long robe seems to add years to the wearer. Dragging skirts appear no longer graceful. So when a train is put on, it is made separately, to fall so that it is a kind of demure, the elongation is more effective on evening gowns, for it seems to add to their dignity; but certainly afternoon frocks are more consistent cut walking length. For tailormade the black satin has seen no rival since its advent last spring, and apparently will carry everything before it for the next year to come.

Black clothes are going to continue in their sway, for every one of the houses show lovely things in black. Milliners declare that the best hats they have made recently have been those in all black, and it is reasonable to suppose that black will be a leader during the winter. Women have found black so flattering that they will cling to it as much the next season as they have the past year or so.

The few new hats that have been made are less large than those of the spring. The small bell-toque is quite pretty for young girls, but it makes a show of older women, posed as it is almost over the eye, to almost entirely swamp the head. I understand that the round, rolling effect in chapeaux for dressy wear will be stylish later on. With such hats, the form that is off at the back, allowing all the coiffure to show.

The new hats will be pitched far over the forehead, too. This will be the case with the velvet toques which will be grand chic, trimmed in a single up-standing plume or wings, or flowers such a hat is never loses its costly effect, no matter what the twistings of the spirals. The willow ensemble is carried out in the plumes with very wide spirals, that is to say the spirals are pieced so as to extend right to the temples. Instead of lying flat on the hat, such plumes now rest on end, and the effect is fine. With such plumes, shortness is one of their features.

Some of the best hats this season will be those in white felt, and will be more large than small. Trimmed in colored plumes or wings or flowers such a hat is always becoming. The black satin shape barely trimmed, that which for the past years has been with us from August until November, has so far not been ordered in the best shops, from which I infer that the black satin has died a natural death. The black velvet, trimmed either in black or colored plumes, with jet or pearl ornament, will perhaps compare the dressy hat for afternoon.—Shop Talk.

The most popular stone this season among the less costly jewels is the amethyst. This beautiful and most becoming stone is much valued for its lovely color, which is particularly effective upon black and white, gray, mole and beige.

The favorite jewel in which the amethyst appears is the long drop earring, which is so much just now.

Earrings at its best with a fair-sized stone, fitting in stud fashion against the ear, from which falls a delicate silver chain, with a smaller amethyst as a drop at the end.

Silver, by the way, is better metal to use with amethyst than gold.

The lovely purple of the stone, and has a much less garnish effect than gold.

A woman whose tongue can be trusted is as rare as the fairies.

Care of the Eyes.—Keep the eyes cool and clean by washing them once or twice a day in rose water or in equal parts of witch hazel and warm water. Keep the eye brows and eye lashes free from dust by brushing them with a tiny eye brow brush.

Eye strain and inflamed eyelids are two of the almost unavoidable results of a summer holiday. Bathing the lids in much less diluted tea will eradicate the redness, while rest in a darkened room with a bandage of cool tea leaves placed across the eyes will relieve the strain.

Tutti Frutti Cheese.—Beat one package of cream cheese with a quarter of a cup of sweet cream, chop a dozen large table raisins, a strip of citron, six candied apricots, a small piece of candied pineapple, a dash of lemon juice, a dash of nutmeg, a tablespoonful of apricot brandy and a tablespoonful of sugar. Mix well, then mold and chill, cut in small squares when ready to use and serve with buttered toast for afternoon tea or with luncheon dessert.

Tomato Catsup.—Peel and slice one gallon firm tomatoes. Simmer in a porcelain kettle for several hours with a pint of vinegar, then add one cup sugar, into which has been thoroughly blended four tablespoonfuls salt, one teaspoonful black pepper, one quarter teaspoonful cayenne, a grating of lemon peel, one tablespoonful mustard and a half tablespoonful of cloves. Cook slowly to the desired consistency, put in pint bottles, using new corks soaked in hot water. Seal.

Smothered Cucumbers.—Pare three cucumbers and cut into quarters lengthwise. Trim off the portion containing the seeds, and cut the firm flesh into half inch pieces. In a thick-bottomed saucepan put one tablespoonful of butter, one scant half of a teaspoonful of salt, one-quarter of a teaspoonful of paprika and the cut cucumber. Cover closely, and set over the hot fire for five minutes, then draw back where they will cook slowly. They should be very tender in from 12 to 13 minutes.

FARM NOTES.

—Reply to a Willow Grove, Pa., reader of the Record, the soy bean is somewhat more resistant to frost than garden beans.

—Where a water tank is used for cooling milk, have a bottom outlet, so that the tank can be cleaned of sediment and scalded out with little effort.

—In the United States in 1880 there were 40,000,000 hogs and 50,000,000 humans. In 1900 there were 76,000,000 humans and only 67,000,000 hogs.

—When the milk vessels begin to rust they are no longer fit for dairy use. Discard them for some other purpose and use only the smoothest and brightest vessels for the milk.

—The use of gypsum about a stable where nitrogen is liable to escape as free ammonia is highly recommended. It is also valuable to sprinkle over manure heaps where ammonia is escaping.

—A good blister for ringbone may be of the following: Two drachms of biniodide of mercury. Two drachms of powdered cantharides and two ounces of lard. Mix well and rub well down on the roots of the hair.

—A lime wash which has been found a good protection for trees against rabbits is simply to wet enough unslacked lime to the point of consistency, add a little carbolic acid to the substans and paint the trunks of the orchard trees.

—A composition made of carbolic acid, half ounce; glycerine, eight ounces, and water, eight ounces, is recommended for treating wounds made on horses or cattle by barbed-wire fences. A syringe is useful in injecting this into the wound.

—Do not forget to dip the animals during the busy season if you are provided with the dipping tank. Insects, mites and parasites multiply more rapidly at this time of the year than any other and if they are to be held in check, the preventive measures should not be overlooked now.

—It took England 200 years to increase her yield of wheat from 12 to 14 bushels per acre, to an average of 42 bushels. This was accomplished largely by the use of agricultural manure. The United Kingdom has 144 farm animals per mile, while our best agricultural States have less than eighty.

—When summer calves are old enough to eat give them some dry feeds at first as supplementary to the milk diet. Shelled corn, oats, clover hay or fine timothy hay are good. Shelled corn is the best grain that can be fed young calves on skim milk. They may eat grass after they are eight or ten weeks old.

—Never give boiled linsed oil to any kind of farm animals. Some claim that it is poisonous, at least it is known that it is not attended with good results when given to an animal. Raw linsed oil is needed to loosen the bowels and the farmer should be sure that he has the real product before it is given to an animal.

—A bee expert gives away this little secret: If bees are kept in a shed or crosscut of them can be handled without fear of being stung. A beehive ought to be long enough to give at least two feet to each hive, and sufficiently wide and high so that one can work comfortably back of the rows of hives. It should open preferably to the east, so as to get the morning air.

—A subscriber of the Record would like to know how to keep Keifer pears till Christmas. There is no positive method generally known for keeping pears any great length of time, but if they are gathered before being fully ripe and wrapped in thin paper and kept in a cool place away from the changes of light and air they may be kept in good condition for a number of weeks.

—Poultry terms not generally known are as follows: A cockerel is a male bird less than a year old. A cock is a male bird less than a year old. A pullet is a female bird less than a year old. A yearling is a male bird over a year old. A yearling is generally one counted as having laid 12 months. A setting of eggs is 13, although many poultrymen have increased it to 15. A broiler is a bird weighing two pounds or less. A broiler is a bird weighing two pounds or less. A broiler is a bird weighing two pounds or less.

—With quite a number of farmers the belief is that from about the last of October to the middle of November is the best time to plant an apple tree. At that time usually the ground is loose and moist sufficiently to work well, but not wet and sticky. Besides, the growing season is over and the trees will hardly be injured at all by the change from nursery to orchard. The roots that have been cut in digging and preparing for resetting will callous over, and the ground will settle firmly about the roots, and in the spring the trees are ready to awaken into new life without a check to their growth. But in severe winters some trees will be lost. The better plan is to set the trees in a trench with top sloping close to the ground. Then cover with litter to prevent severe freezing. They will be in fine shape for early spring planting.

—Some useful suggestions for the general farmer whose orchard has been neglected and for the young man who is planning to plant an apple orchard were given at a recent horticultural meeting of E. Cyrus Miller. Where trees in your old orchard are too closely planted, cut out every other one. Remove all undesirable varieties. Begin pruning at once, but extend this operation over several years rather than try to do it in one year. Seal all insect pests and to cleanse and invigorate the trees. When old enough to bear, spray for fungus and chewing insects. A few hundred trees or a few acres should be the limit at the start for the average apple grower. The value of a season's growth on an apple tree should be the length, and with proper cultural treatment it should approximate \$3 per tree.