

WHOSE NEGLECT?

Nobody wonders what goes on behind the curtain our pride has drawn...

WHEN JANET COMES MARCHING HOME.

Now this is the tale of Mr. and Mrs. Tibbetts and their only daughter Janet...

Mr. and Mrs. Tibbetts were quiet, respectable, pleasant, well-to-do people...

Mr. and Mrs. Tibbetts had always loved one another. They had not married hastily...

At sixteen Janet went away to somewhere else to school and took a scholarship...

Janet graduated with honor and honors. She came home for a month, and then went to visit her room-mate, Mary Kew...

Janet was married. There was something very serene, stern and prompt about the wedding...

Janet had gone to live in a city five hours' train-ride from home. It wouldn't have been five hours only that merely the first half-hour could be traversed at express time...

Then Janet suddenly came to her senses and realized that she was neglecting her parents. The idea had never occurred to her before...

Mr. and Mrs. Tibbetts were about sixty now, and their gravenines and apple trees were all of a prosperous and "bearing" size...

ed again within the past week), and she swept everything at a glance and made up her mind what was to be done.

There was nothing to be done but submit, move out the furniture, and cook for the workmen.

Then the next summer Janet came again, took another look around, and left them quaking.

When Janet came the next summer she was jubilant. Her husband had just made a million.

But Janet was not to be foiled in her duty, and while she was abroad a contractor came with a force...

Mrs. Tibbetts sat down and cried. She had stood in one basin and taken her bath out of another for almost fifty-five years...

"I don't know how we're ever going to stand it," he said to his wife while she was helping him out of his dripping apparel.

"This coat 'll never do again," said Mrs. Tibbetts. "And to think we've got to write that letter saying how kind she is, said the father, who had never come so far toward dead temper in all his life before."

"I shall if I want to," said Mr. Tibbetts. "You'll bust that pipe out at the joint if you bang at it like that," said his wife.

It was the first harsh word in all their long life of love together. Mrs. Tibbetts burst into tears and climbed the cellar stairs to weep above.

But Janet was troubled herself this time. "Do you know," she said, "George has accepted the contract to build ten thousand miles of railroad and ninety-three towns along the line in northern Kenabakooee, and I don't see how I can stay behind or how I can go and leave you, and I'm almost insane."

"I think you ought to go with your husband," said Mrs. Tibbetts. "Yes by all means," said Mr. Tibbetts.

Her tone trembled in her anxiety to make it sufficiently impressive. "But I'm all you've got," said Janet.

"That's the evil of these higher educations," said Mr. Tibbetts; "why, Ellen, if we'd never let Janet go away to school, she'd never have met a fellow like that man she's got, she'd have married some one in the village and had a nice chaperone."

"No," said his wife, "you see, she meant to be kind." "Yes, I know, she meant to be kind. And we had nothin' in the wide world to do but to sit still and bear it."

The "Wish-bone." Scientists call the "wish-bone" the furcula, and it is the union of what are, in man, two collar-bones.

For this reason we find in the eagle a furcula that is a perfect Roman arch, which is the shape of the "wish-bone" of our common fowls.

It has been asserted that spiders possess a sensitiveness to musical sounds. Some species seem to respond to the notes of the piano, and the flute.

It has been remarked that when rain falls in the desert it at once begins to develop verdure and beauty.

Fresh pineapple juice has great value as a digestive. A small amount will digest a considerable piece of steak or any other animal tissue.

There is no very great change in glove styles as the Parisians see them. The demand for long sleeves will increase.

There is a big revival of silk gloves, particularly in the long sizes. Here black and white are the most important shades.

How Silkworms Work.

As with the culture of tea, the production of silk is an extremely simple occupation, especially in China, which is, after all, the chiefest of silk-producing countries.

About the middle of the month of April the eggs of the silkworm are hatched. When hatched, the resultant little worms are placed on bamboo frames, there to remain for a certain period, during which their diet consists of mulberry leaves cut into very small pieces.

Later another change in their feeding habits comes. When they awake their appetites are not so keen, inasmuch as they will, generally speaking, eat for four days only the quantity of food which they have stored up.

The first and foremost circumstance that goes to make up the quality and texture of the silk is the breed of the worm responsible for it. Next comes the quality of the leaves fed to the worker, and then comes the mode of feeding.

There is a church in a Pennsylvania town possessing the distinction of being the work of one pair of hands. Those who stroked every block of stone of which it was constructed, cut each into shape, and laid it in its place.

There is a church in California which, though not the work of one man alone, is as unique in its way as that in Pennsylvania. It was built of one tree and is, notwithstanding, a large church.

Among other peculiar churches may be mentioned one in Waterloo, Indiana. People there wanted a new church, but there was no suitable stone to be had and no quarries near by where it could be obtained.

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It has been remarked that when rain falls in the desert it at once begins to develop verdure and beauty. These arid stretches of sand contain in themselves the elements of beauty, only needing the proper conditions to reveal all that lies hidden beneath the bleak and barren surface.

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FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

Separate blouses are essential to comfort this year, and while the never-ending cry continues to be heard that white shirt-waists are out of fashion, still one also is offered to us—gray, terra cotta, blue, etc.

Away from a few eccentricities which feminine taste will soon banish, fashion this season is bringing us some charming creations among the new materials, such as, for instance, the reversible covert coating, one side of which is striped and the other plain.

There is a growing fashion for net blouses that is interesting. They are not only worn with skirts that are cut off at the waistline, which are few in number, but also with the Empire skirts of satin, cloth or linen.

When it is well embroidered it has a fine old air that is quite appealing, and that is only equalled by ecclesiastical and handsome lace.

Wallpapers are imitating all sorts of weaves and copying no end of antique designs. Among the fabrics there are denim, burlap linen, crases, basket cloths, chambrays, dimities, batiste, muslin and the like.

Idiosyncrasy often takes the form of a special craving for, instead of an objection to, certain foods. Many people possess an extraordinary relish for common salt, and will eat it by the teaspoonful when opportunity admits.

During the damp days which precede the warmth of spring it is often a matter of much thought on the part of the housekeeper to keep her breakfast foods and cereals in a state of crispness.

Pepper Sandwiches.—Mince together a sour apple, a Spanish red pepper, a sweet green pepper and a cream cheese in a grinder; season with salt and spread between thin slices of brown bread.

For Grape Fruit Salad.—Remove the pulp from two large grape fruits, chop fine the hearts of a bunch of celery with a half cupful of walnut meats.

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FARM NOTES.

—Too many are in the habit of setting hens in the shed with the other chickens.

—When you hoe corn, thin it out to not more than three good stalks to the hill. Nature doesn't like to be crowded.

—The almost universal practice now is to disinfect eggs before incubating. Place orders for eggs for hatching early and you'll save time and money.

—The Department of Agriculture is seriously considering the introduction into this country of Bokhara sheep, from which comes the fur called "Persian lamb."

—The Massachusetts Experiment Station has found that the total cost of producing milk satisfactory in sanitary quality and containing from 4 to 5 per cent. of butter fat will usually amount to from 4 to 5 per cent. per quart.

—Surplus suckers in blackberry or red raspberry patches should be treated just like weeds; don't let the rows get too wide nor too thick.

—Don't forget to spray the grapevines. For the grape-ferret moth (which causes wormy grapes), the Bordeaux-arsenical mixture (or the self-boiled lime-sulphur-arsenate) should be used about the time the berry reaches the size of a small cherry seed, or shortly before.

—Growers of cabbage plants who have been annoyed by maggot injury to their seed beds will find much to encourage them in Bulletin 334 of the New York Agricultural Station, at Geneva, N. Y.

—Where lands have been "cropped to death," as some plain people aptly term it, live stock farming is the surest, cheapest and quickest method of restoring its fertility.

—A new species of white potato has for years been cultivated in France from plants found in Uruguay. Originally a very bitter tuber, the Scotch American vegetable becomes, after three or four years of cultivation, an admirable food product.

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