

MOTHERS-IN-LAW.

BY JOHN G. SAXE.

If ever you should marry (said Major M. Gorth, While smoking a pipe by my black-and-white) If you ever should marry—and I wouldn't employ A word to prevent it, my brot of a boy— Remember that wedlock's a company where The parties, quite often, are more than a pair; 'Tis a lottery in which you are certain to draw A wife, and most likely, a mother-in-law!

What the latter may be all conjecture defies; She never is sick, she is seldom a piper; Sometimes she is silly—sometimes she is bold; Sometimes—rather worse! she's a vicious scold.

You dreamed of an angel to gladden your home, And with her—God help you!—a harpy has come! You fished for a wife without falling or flaw! And find you have netted a mother-in-law!

"Dear Anna," she says "as you clearly may see Has always been used to depending on me; Poor child!—though the gentlest that ever was known— She could never be trusted a moment alone; Such sensitive nerves, and such delicate lungs! Cries the stoutest of dames with the longest of tongues.

But your mother-in-law, you discover ere long, Though feeble in body in temper is strong; And so you surrender—what else can you do? She governs your wife, and your servants, and you!

And calls you a savage—the coarsest of brutes; For tramping the carpet with mud on your boots; And vows she committed a stupid "fox paw," In rashly becoming your mother-in-law!

And so (said the Major) pray let me advise The carefullest care of your eyes and ears; And "ceteris paribus," take you a maid, Of widows, my boy, I am sometimes afraid. Who gives you—the darling! her hand and her love, With a sigh for her "dear saluted mother above!" From which the conclusion you safely may draw, She will never appear as your mother-in-law!

RESUSCITATION AFTER HANGING.

An experiment was made on the body of the executed murderer, Gerald Eaton, hanged in Philadelphia on the 14th of April, to test the possibility of resuscitating a body destroyed by asphyxia. Complete preparations had been made beforehand for the trial, and immediately after the body of the murderer was cut down, after hanging thirty minutes, it was taken by the physicians, carried to the Medical College, and placed on a table in the amphitheatre. This was the work of ten minutes. A quantity of pure oxygen gas was forced into the lungs, and a powerful galvanic battery applied to the medulla oblongata and the pit of the stomach. At the same time the tongue was withdrawn from the mouth; and the body turned from side to side, the method of Marshall Hall, for artificial respiration. In four or five minutes a marked change occurred in the countenance. A gas was evolved, the eyes opened, one arm was drawn up, and, by means of a stethoscope, contractions and dilations of the heart were distinctly heard. So evident were the signs of life, that his friends exulted over the fact that he really lived. Another gallon of oxygen was introduced into his lungs, and the battery was so arranged that the current passed the entire length of the spine, and the artificial respiration continued. For a few moments the signs of life increased, but in a short time disappeared. Nitrous oxide gas was injected into the trachea, made by Prof. Duffie, but all to no purpose, and at the expiration of an hour and twenty-five minutes, the experiments ceased, and the body was handed over to his friends.

There have been other attempts made to restore executed criminals to life that were more successful. A Swiss convict was once hung up thirteen times without fatal effect, and he came out alive from the terrible ordeal. It was afterward discovered, on investigation, that his windpipe was ossified, and this saved him from suffocation. The case of Annie Green, a servant girl, who was hanged in London in 1742, is also remarkable. While hanging, her body was pulled, and beaten with a soldier's market, and after being cut down was trampled on. In spite of all this, when the body was stretched on the table for dissection by the anatomists, it showed signs of life; restorative were instantly applied, and the indications increased; in a few days she was completely restored. The terrible suffering she had gone through was considered a sufficient punishment for her crime, and she was pardoned. She lived three years afterward, married, and bore three children. She was often asked to narrate her sensations during the execution, and the time of her apparent death; but she said she could throw no light. She had her consciousness, she declared, when the drop fell, and remembered nothing till her revival. Another servant girl, hanged at Oxford in 1668, was cut down, apparently dead, after being suspended several hours, and allowed to fall a great distance, which of itself was enough to kill an unhardened person. She was resuscitated, however, by the anatomists; but the officers of the law insisted on doing their duty, and she was eventually hanged the next day.

Margaret Dickson was hanged at Elinburg in 1724, and after being cut down, was placed in a coffin, and that in a cart, to be borne a distance of six miles for burial. During the journey, the coffin was broken open by some medical students, which let the air in to the confined corpse; this together with the jolting of the cart resuscitated the body before two miles of the distance had been accomplished. Instead of being carried to the burial place, she was taken to her home; her neighbors gathered round her to offer their services, and the parish minister came to pray for her. The restoration was complete, and she lived long after to bear several children, and led an exemplary life. A man named Smith, who was hung at London, was revived, but the revive did not reach the officer till he had been hanging fifteen minutes. He was instantly cut down and bled. He revived and recovered. William Duell, who was hanged at London, in 1740, was revived by the physicians who had been given his body for dissection. The government spared his life, but transported him. In 1767 a man was executed at Cork, and after being cut down was removed to a dissecting room, a hole was cut in his wind pipe and restorative applied to the bed. He recovered at once, and the record adds, had the hardware to attend the theatre that night. A case too marvelous for belief, were not the testimony indisputable, is that of Inno de Balsam, who was executed in England, and kept hanging on the gallows from Monday morning till Thursday morning following, but who notwithstanding this fearful experience, was restored to life, pardoned, and lived for several years afterward.

When the hanging is skillfully done, however, so as to dislocate the cervical vertebrae, resuscitation is impossible, as the severance of the spinal marrow caused by the luxation separates the brain from the remainder of the nervous system almost as

completely as though the head were cut off. When the neck is not broken, the death comes by asphyxia, as in the case of drowning, without a lesion of any of the organs. In such cases, if too long a time has not elapsed from the first suspension of respiration to the application of restorative agents, resuscitation may be as possible as with a drowned person who has not lain too long in the water. But when the vital spark has fled, and the death is real and complete, there is no known chemical or galvanic art that can restore life to the corpse. That is a feat which science, with all its power, does not pretend to be able to accomplish.

Utterly impossible.—That the old lady who believes in "signs and symptoms," always looks out for the new moon over her left shoulder, and never makes pickles on a Friday, will not know "something to happen" within the year, particularly if she has had the bad luck to break the looking glass! As the old Dutch farmer said, "Things are always happening, most years!" That the man who says, "plenty of time, there's no hurry," should not miss the boats, lose the trains, and get generally behindhand! Just notice whether people that have "plenty of time," don't usually end with having no time at all.

That the woman who puts off her bathing until the washing is done, and the washing until the weather is a little warmer, and sits down to read a dog's eared novel in the meantime, should have anything but a drinking husband, shiftless children, and a desolate home.

That the man who carries his hands in his trousers pockets, should ever possess anything else to carry in his pockets! That the young lady who sleeps in kid gloves, and powders her face "for the benefit of her complexion," should have more than her share of common sense!

That the man who wears an imitation diamond ring, will ever own a real one! For mock jewelry indicates a lack of brains, and it takes a certain amount of brains to make money enough for real diamonds, or anything else that is genuine.—Phrenological Journal.

How He Popped the Question.—Deacon Small of Hopkinton, when pretty well on in years, went to woo for his second spouse the widow Hooper in an adjoining town.—"Thither he rode on his green mare, and found her emptying a wash tub. 'Well, I am that little bit of an old dried up Deacon Small, and have but one question to propose to you.' 'Please propose sir.'—'Well, madam, have you any objection to going to heaven by the way of Hopkinton?'—'None at all, deacon. Come in, sir.' The result was a wedding the next week.

If brevity is the soul of wit, what a vast amount of fun there is in the tail of a fashionable coat.

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