worked each holiday; It settled down among us, and it never

went away. tever we kept from it seemed almost as bad as thert; It watched us every minute, and it ruled

us right and left. The rust and blight were with us sometimes, and sometimes not;
The dark browed scowling mortgage was

forever on the spot. The weevil and the cut-worm, they as well as came The mortgage stayed forever, eating hearty

It nailed up every window, stood guard at every door, happiness and sunshine made their

home with us no more,
Till with failing crops and sickness we got
stalled upon the grade,

And there came a dark day on us when the interest wasn't paid;
And there came a sharp forclosure and I kind o' lost my hold,
And grew weary and discouraged, and the farm was cheaply sold.
The children left and scattered, when they

hardly yet were grown; My wife she pined an' perished, and I found myself alone.

What she died of was a "mystery," an' th doctors never knew; But I knew she died of mortgage—just as well as I wanted to.

If to trace a hidden sorrow were within the loctor's art, They'd ha' found a mertgage lying on that woman's broken heart. Worm or beetle, drought or tempest, ou :

farmer's land may fall, But for first class reination, trust a mort gage 'gainst them all.

MOSE DORMER.

Mr. Erasmus Scott was a little man with thin gray hair, and pink-and-white | weeks to come." complexion and a meek and kindly face. He was about forty-seven, but stay here, mayn't I?" seemed older. He had written a old manor-house and to his dull, solitary

He was humbly content with everything, and admired with all his heart his nephew, Dick Scott, a fine broadshouldered fellow of twenty-two, who playing the fool," was the encouraging night. They will improve your chances was now away shooting in Seetland, reply. He had hitherto been the one and only human interest in Mr. Scott's dife, but lately there came a new element into the narrow world of the manor-house. This was in the shape of a little cousin come with her widowed mether to live I thought I'd see if going north for a in a cottage near by.

Dick and she were always quarreling, but with Erasmas she was on excellent terms.

She came to see him nearly every day on some errand of her mother's or on some device of her own. She picked his flowers, ate his fruit, and vainly turned over his books in the hopes of finding pictures; for she was very much of the same opinion as "Alice in Wonderland," that a book without conversations and illustrations is a very poor invention. And so the summer and early autumn had stipped away, and one day Mr. Scott had realized to himself with a start what a change Rose's coming had made in his life. Then he tried to shake off the idea, and he opened his books and began to read; but in betweed the lines, over and over again he read nothing but Rose's name, until Scott assented, and then in his shy. he closed the books in despair, and stood with his eyes vaguely looking lady's name is-? Did you meet her in across the quiet fields into space, dreaming of a sweet, fresh face with innocent childish eyes; of a willowy think I meant-Rose Dormer, of sfigure and dancing feet; of a vaice that was as gay and careless as that of a ssimple, affectionate nature and winseing ways; of Rose Dormer, an-short. He pictured her standing in the oriel not, and frasmus broke the silence by window, framed by the gray stone and theart-shaped ivyleaves, dressed in some | cares for you, my dear boy?" seft brown stuff with a kmot of pale punk ribbons on her dress and ther were always quarreling but then hands full of carrations and migron- that's the way with lovers, they say:" elte; or sitting at the head of the old- and then he went on to give strong the windows and through the ventilafashioned oak table pouring out tea, proofs of his assertions. with the gravity and dignity of an accompilshed housekeeper.

Such thoughts as these were goouing of cause tripping by herself to up seorch and burn his very heart. terrupt his meditations. A large green cooking-apple was thrust under his "God bless you, my dear boy! She is road and came almost to a level with

gan Mr. Scott, timidly, and a little sadly-he could not bear to refuse her reminds him of the time when he was amything.

"Nothing ever makes me ill," was the reassuring reply,

man, hesitatingly. "Won't anything cottage. Erastmus watched him from riper do as well?"

He was so comic in his earnestness that the spoilt child burst out laughing. Then with a pretty smile.

He stood looking at her with his most puzzled expression, until she beaming and burdened by the necesblushed and said peremptorily.

"Show me some books!" So they went into the sunny library, his uncle, although very silent (he said and Rose elimbed up the library steps he was not well-"toothache"), made cently in Coffee county, Ga,

and sat with a big book on her knees a good listener, and this was all Dick listening to his explanations of it. She | wanted. had grown suddenly quiet and absent.

He was afraid he had wearied her.

here," she answered, softly.

seemed to swim before his eyes. Was than to suffer in this way!" she slipped off her perch.

may I come on Saturday to tea? You gotten his presence. must have a cake made expressly for

"You shall have anything you like," his mouth to speak—and shut it again. By this time she was gone.

Ah! well. On Saturday he would to think what those might be.

So the day slipped quietly away, and he was sitting idly by the hissing wood-fire, when the door was flung open, and, to his surprise, Dick walked

"Why, my dear boy, where did you come from? I thought you were shooting in the North for the next three

"I changed my mind, uncle. I may

The permission was readily given. learned book and no one had read it. But as the evening drew on it became His mature was too gentle to be apparent oven to Erasmus, who was soured, but he had said sadly, "I shall far from clear sighted, that something never do auything well," and had left was amiss. And when after dinner the world and gone back to his quaint Dick came to the study, drew his chair gin to doubt your sincerity. close to the fire, and sat silently gazing into the flames, his uncle at last wentured on a remark.

"Nothing wrong my dear boy?"

Then there followed a long pause broken at last by Mr. Scott in his slow, timid voice, "You were saying, Dick that you had been -eh?"

"Well, it comes to this-I'm in love! of Mr. Scott, Rose Dormer, who had There's no good trying to fight it down. change would set me up But it only Rose was 18, and as sweet and bright made it worse. I never cared for a as a pretty, wayward girl can be. Beau- girl before, and thought it all such testing against the word "obey" in the tiful she was not in the strict sense of rot; but new I can't live without her, the word, but she had all the charm of Oh! you can't think what it was, up youth and health and gay spirits. She in that dreary shooting lodge on those soon became a queen at the manor- great meors alone, with nothing but tobacco while he was courting you, do her face and her ways haunting mel"

"She?" began Erasmus again, inquiringly. "She is-what did you say is the same of the young lady?"

But Dick went rambling on after the fashion of people suffering from his malady, "I think she likes me. I never thought about anything at first but mere fun and chaff, son know; and him around, and then when your husthen it came over me all of a sudden that there is no one half-half like her, you know. And when I said good-by to ber was wretched, and she looked awfully down in the mouth, too, So I think she likes me. She didn't say anything-well, I suppose girls don't: they expect one to begin,"

Terahis general observation Mr. blundering way, "You were saying the Scotland?"

"In Scotland! Why, who do you course?"

If Dick could have seen this uncle's face be would have guessed the whole story. But, as it happened, he could asking very gently, "You whink she

"Well, Elm nearly sure of all We

Mr. Scott Mistened very patiently, but it seemed to him he had mever known before what pain was like. He

Then when Dick had done he said.

"Dear old fellow" thought Dick, "It down the steep hillside. young. "

The next morning Dick dressed himself with care and put a white rosebud "Must you eat it?" asked the poor in his buttenhole and strode off to the over the rails. The moment the gas the window and thought how natural ploded, igniting the oil. In less than ever to have thought matters could be driving-wheels of the engine scattered

> sity of pouring out all his story to some veritable sea of fire. one-it did not matter to whom. But

When the engagement was announced in the neighborhood every one said thing, but we are skeptical. The ar-"I tire you, perhaps?" he said: "you how "suitable it was, and how nice ticle is a "car-seat hammock," and cannot understand how I care to live for Mr. Scott to have a niece he was in this library with all these dusty so fond of! Only, poor man, he seemed books—such a life wouldn't suit your to have been suffering so much from mock is a young lady asleep, and over tastes." "I think one could be very happy delighted about the marriage, but he ling, sleep." The girl seems to be He dared not look at her, the room be far better to have every tooth out wicked wildness about her face that

it possible this sumbeam ever could be One cold December evening, when awake. Such a hammock might be content to brighten up so dull and Dick and Rose were sitting by the fire made to work in an empty car on a side drab-colored a life as his? Presently in the twilight, Mr. Scott, against his an hour that girl would get spilled out will, overheard a scrap of their conver-"I mustn't stay longer now. Please sation. He was arranging his books son with a hammock has got to have give me the news paper for mamma. And in a corner, and they had quite for- two whole seats, which no railroad

"How strange it is," Dick was saying, meditately, "that some people seem so content to be without happihe said, with a little husky cough that ness like ours. Look at my uncle. The was habitual to him. Then he opened dear old boy never seems to want anything more than his books."

"Do you know, Dick," answered Rose, very gently, "I think he would say something. What? And then he have very much liked things in his life as though she had only one lung, but fell to composing his own speech, and to have been different. Not that he she has two galls," and would go up to her answers-but he scarcely ventured ever said anything to me. But it is a fancy of mine."

Could it be that Rose had understood dimly something of the pain he had suffered, something of the sacrifice he had made? He liked to think so. There was a vague comfort in the thought that she knew that his own happiness was nothing to him in comparison with hers.

Advice to Brides.

Do not be in a hurry to buy all the new fabrics you see. A richly dressed woman runs the risk of being mustaken for a servant girl.

Do not threaten to go home to your mother oftener than five times a week, As you don't go, he may eventually be-Do not get angry when your husband

first asks you to darn his stockings. Smile sweetly and suggest that it would be cheaper to buy new ones. Have a house with a furnace in it and "Nothing except that I've been keep both it and the range going over

> for happiness 600 per cent. Your husband's wardrobe will frequently require repairs in the way of buttons. Always leave the needle. thread and button bag where be can get

> If your husband complains that you cannot cook as his mother does, comfort him with the reflection that you probably will by the time you are as old as

Many women make a practice of promarriage service after the marriage has taken place. This is a mistake. Do not protest against it. Quietly ignore it. the dogs to talk to, and all day long not begin to speak of smoking as a "horrid, disgusting, beastly habit" right go. after you are married. Wait at least a

> If you need a pair of new shoes say nothing about them, but get the money for something else, and then while he is away slip out and select the shoes yourself. Even a pair of sevens look small to a man se isu; as he does not know the number.

If you have a pet dog always keep band relaxes his attentions fly to the dog for comfort, hugging and kissing sure sign that he still loves you

Remember that getting married is no reason why you should shut yourself up in the house. Accept all invitations just the same as before, and have a good time. When he comes home and finds both you and the fire out he will realize how cheerless life would be without you. In the course of a month your hus-

band will probably ask why you never go near the plane any more. All mer do An effective reply is to hant up an old book of exercises and practise three hours every evening for a week while he is at home. He will attend to his ewn affairs after that.

Eacing Through Sace.

Three persons were killed and twenty four badly burned on the arain which plunged into a river of oil, near Bradford, Pa., recently. The terrible heat from the barning eil instantly cracked and shattered every window in the car. The quit work wednesday, November 14, and was paid off. He sent \$15 in a money order from the Chippewa Falls post office to his brother Jehn at St. The flames leaped in through the doors,

The car wheels splashed through the burning oil, scattering at along the botflames which, lapping their heads, faces and hands, left terrible barns behind. The high snow banks which lined the "May I have this to est—oh, may the sweetest girl that ever lived, and I the car windows, anorhed the indicate the stack rolled over the stack rolled over

was covered with oil. At points it was over the rails. The moment the gas came in contact with the fire-box it exploded, igniting the oil. In less than heard for a mile, the flames leaped fully 250 feet ahead of the locomotive, which was thus compelled to run through a

-A 25-LB. wild cat was killed re-

The Hammock in Cars.

An advertisement before us in an ex-

change looks as though it was a good

there is a picture of the hammock swung from the back of one seat to the back of the seat ahead, and in the hamreally looked miserably ill. It would asleep, with her foot in the stirrup of convinces the beholder that she is wide on the floor. In the first place, the percompany would allow, unless the girl was a friend of the brakeman. would be a nice sight, wouldn't it, to see a girl come into a crowded car, cause passengers to move out of a couple of seats, then swing her hammock and get in and go to sleep. Imagine such a scene, and listen to the comments of the audible. passengers. The drummer for the grocery house, sitting on the wood-box, would look at her and say: "She looks the hammock and say: "Is this seat all occupied?" The girl would open her eyes and give him a look that would cause him to pass on to the smoking-car in a hurry. The brakeman would go to the hammock girl and touch her on the will have to take down your circus tent seat," and she would paralyze the brakeman with a look, and he would go off and send the conductor in. The conductor would bring the big grocery drummer with him, and say: "Can" you make room for this gentleman? and then she would be mad. At stations along the line of the road, grangers would stand on the platform and to have grown much during his imprisook in the windows at the curious spectacle, and, as the train moved off with the sleeping beauty, everybody would be tired except the girl. Girls can think of enough ways to make passengers on a railroad train wish they were dead without harnessing themselves up in a hammock at the top of the seats, and an inventor who places additional facilities in their possession by which they are enabled to annov passengers is doing a great wrong. It is bad enough to drive along the road and see a girl swing in a hammock between two trees on a lawn, where the salk or lisle thread, but to have a girl in | water. the hammock right across the aisle of a car would be tantalizing, and the fear that something would break and that the beautiful sleeper would drop down between the two seats, her body shut up like a jack-knife, one foot caught in the shawl-rack and her head on a valise in the corner, her wig off, and the girl yelling murder and calling for the brakeman to uncouple her foot, would If you told him you leve! the oder of be enough to cause the hair of the average man to turn gray on a single trip The girl in a hammock, on cars, must three cents?"

Buried Under Hay.

On the afternoon of the 10th of December while a party of boys were playng around a hay stack belonging to John Wacher, near La Crosse, one of their number noticed a movement of the hay, and, on close inspection, discovered an emaciated man, with his clothes almost torn from his body. They gave the alarm, and a Mr. Byrne, together with officers Duncan and Jackhim right before your husband. If he son regalied to the specture of suffering son repaired to the spot. On reaching was presented to their view. The skeleton of a man, still breathing, was lying upon the hay, where the boys had uncovered it. His clothing was hanging

Mr. Byrne asked the man how long he had been in the hay, to which he responded "Since Saturday, Nov. 17."
"That can't be possible," responded
Byrne, "Do you know what day of the month it is now?" The poor fellow answered that he did not and Byrne told him the date. He caid he was positive as to the date on which he was imprisoned. He stated that his name was Louis Anderson. He left St. Paul where he has two brothers, John and Andrew, about two months ago. He went to work for a railroad-contractor, at Chippewa Falls, who was doing some grading.

He quit work Wednesday, November Paul, and started off with \$5 or \$6 for La Crosse, where he expected to get a job in the woods. Most of this money be spent for railroad fare. He reached La Crosse Friday, and put up that tom of the ears. There were seas of night at a boarding house in the Fifth

During the night a violent sterm came up. It rained very hard, and he got wet. Then the wind blew and he human eyes ever witnessed. For a dis- every day. He got over being hungry, tance of nearly half a mile the road-bed and did not know when it was night or

suspenders, which fell to pieces on being handled. His hip bones protruded through the skin und exhibited a raw spot two or three inches in diameter.

The hay in which the man had been was reduced to a compost by the heat of his body and moisture from repeated rains. On his person were found a it is dry. receipted bill paid in St. Pau!, a rusty old brass watch and a watch key of the kind supposed to wind any watch. He had been imprisoned in the place where he was so providentially discovered since Saturday night, November 17, so that he had been in the stack twentyfour days without a particle of food or a drop of water. The story was almost beyond belief, and details were eagerly sought for. The account given by the man is corroborated by all the facts in

The condition of the patient was eagerly inquired after the other day. In company with Dr. Anderson, several newspaper reporters went out to the poor farm to see the man and learn from him further details of his harrowing experience. Dr. Renggley, the city physician, and Dr. Marquadt arrived at the same time, and all proceeded to the the case, knows little of that, room where the living skeleton lay stretched upon a bed in one of the bridged over many a precipice. small rooms. He took no notice of any His breathing was short and in-When spoken to however, he glanced

toward the speaker with an intelligence that showed that he still knew what was going on about him. He is a young man of 21 years of age, was born in Sweden, and has only been in this country two years. Nevertheless, he talks English quite plainly and understands all that is said to him. His mind seemed clear, considering his painfully reduced physical condition. His face vaccination mark and say: "Miss, you has a death-like pallor; his eyes, which are light blue, are sunken deep into and let somebody help you occupy this the forehead, and are the only features which show expression when he speaks

Still the face does not appear so badly as one would imagine. His limbs are somewhat stiff, and have to be moved slowly to avoid pain. His hands are truth. dry, and stained with some dark-colored matter; his hair and nails do not seem onment, but this can be accounted for on the theory that absorption was going on very rapidly. The thorax and abdomen were devold of flesh. The pulse was 120; respiration, 34; temperature, 99 4-10°; tongue dry and clean.

Aftar a careful examination, the doctors concluded that Anderson would probably fully recover. He never asked questions, when she is adding up a grofor food on being discovered, but begged | cery bill. continuously for water, which was given water when it was offered him, and he prized it more than anything in the world. He seems, however, to feel distance from the object is so great that the importance of heeding the docyou cannot tell whether the stocking is tors' orders not to take too much

At the Stamp Window.

"Has postage been reduced to two "Yes'm."

"For letters?" "Yes'm." "Then a two-cent stamp will actually

carry a letter? "It will."

"Not a bit," "Do you know Mrs. Blank?"

"No'm "She says it's two cents in the city." "It is two cents anywhere in the country,"

"She says she sent a letter to her husband in Chicago with a two-cent stamp on it, and he never got it.

"I can't helpt that ma'am." "Then two cents is enough?" "And her husband probably got the

letter and didn't answer it?" "Probably." "Well, I'll take a two-cent stamp, but if there's any doubt about the matter I'd as soon pay more. It will go,

will it?" "Yes'm." "Go right out to-day?" "Yes'm, "Well, I hope so, for it is a very im-

portant letter. You know Mrs. Dwho used to live on -- street?" "No'm.

"Well, it's for her. She lives in Buffalo now. She asked me for the best way to pickle mixed-The woman had to stand aside for wo or three minutes, but as soon as the window was clear she returned to say:

"I've got the stamp on." "Two cents." "I see." "And it'll go?" "It will," "If it don't-

"And she probably didn't sleep a wink last night."

Building Contract.

S. sued B. for \$495.60, the balance due him for building a two-story brick pying Prasmus Scott as he paced up and down the terrace. And as so often that some the half hour than he had ever done in sais nearest to the ends of the cars dashed to the suffered more in that some stare every passenger in the face. Those day. His money was all spent, and the next night, not finding work, he went to this haystack to sleep.

Werd and took breakfast there the next day. His money was all spent, and the next night, not finding work, he went to this haystack to sleep. house, and B. made a counter-claim for paid \$2042.40; the counter-claim was \$1985, which the defendant got a judgment for. The defence to the counterbecame very cold. Suddenly the top of claim was a most novel one: That the His plaintiff "no experience in laying foundations, as the defendant knew." The case-Sherman vs. Bates-was carried to the Supreme Court of Nebraska, majority fell into the snow and rolled tomb. He shouted and struggled, but where the judgment was affirmed. An eye-witness says it was the grandest and yet the most awful scene that burner eyes ever witnessed. For a dis-"A party entering into a contract to construct a building thereby agrees that all parts of the structure shall be put up according to the agreement. As a defense to inferior workmanship he cannot say 'I am not a mason, or carpenter, or tinsmith, therefore I am not it was that Rose should prefer Dick to one minute the engine and cars were had been in the stack, but said it or cargiess workmen.' The question is him, and what a foolish thing it was hable for defects caused by unskilful of smoke ascended heavenward and the driving-wheels of the engine scattered sleep. he weighed about 135 pounds, "If you don't want me to do it I different. Yet even these reflections the blazing oil in every direction. With but he does not now weight more than a rush and roar, which might have been the stood looking at her with his different. Yet even these reflections the blazing oil in every direction. With but he does not now weigh more than the must comply with the agreement. To. He had worn two pair of pantaloons, the inner pair of which he had looking at her with his looking at her wit worked himself out of as he had of his or any of his workmen or sub-contracshoes. The outer pair was held by the tors will constitute a defence for a failure to comply with the contract.

-The mineral springs of France yield.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

Scandal will run out like dirt when Riches are chiefly good because they

He who has lost his honor can lose nothing more.

He is not likely to be a true man who s false to God. He who loses hope may then part vith anything. Any truth, faithfully faced, is

strength in Itself, All those who know their mind do not know their heart. Contact with the world either breaks or hardens the heart.

If you desire to be held wise, be so wise as to hold your tongue. He who cultivates a taste for reading n his youth plants good seed. He who knows only his own side of

A smile is a simple thing, but it has Falsehood always endeavors to copy the mien and attitude of truth.

Intemperance shortens life, while sobriety in all things prolongs it. The world is a comedy to those who

think, a tragedy to those who feel He who can conceal his joy is greater han he who can conceal his griefs. Reason wrapped up in a few words

is generally of the greatest weight. Poverty may excuse a shabby coat. but it is no excuse for shabby morals. We cannot help suffering from sorrow, but we can keep from murmuring.

If thou wouldst bear thy neighbor's faults, cast thine eyes upon thine own. Hearken to the warnings of conscience if you would not feel its wounds. The judgment of this world is oftener

based on policy than on justice and To suffer through those we love is ten times worse than to suffer ourselves.

If our eye be towards God in duty his eye will be ever towards us in mercy What is mine, even to my life, is hers

I love; but the secret of my friend is not mine. It is dangerous to ask a woman idle

Nothing except what flows from the him sparingly. He clutched at the heart can render even external manners

'Tis the privilege of friendship to talk nonsense, and to have nonsense Predominant opinions are generally

the opinions of the generation that is Envy not the appearance of happiness in any man, for thou knowest not his

sacret griefs. Modesty has great advantages. It enhances beauty and serves as a veil touncomeliness.

Throw a sensible man out of a window, he'll fall on his feet and ask the way to his work. Money you earn yourself is much

brighter than any you can get out of a. dead man's bags. The beam of the benevolent eye giveth value to the bounty which the

hand dispenses. Hard work is the price of success, and it can be purchased with no other

kind of currency. The feeble tremble before opinion, the foolish defy it, the wise judge it. tue skilful direct it.

Oftener the world discovers a man's moral worth only when its injustice has nearly destroyed him.

Divine love is a sacred flower, which in its early bud is happiness, and in itsfull bloom is heaven.

As daylight can be seen through very small holes, so little things will illustrate a person's character. Every man has three characters: that

which he exhibits, that which he has, and that which he thinks he has, It is easier for a camel to swallow a whole paper of needles than for a delinquent subscriber to get to heaven.

There are many vices which do not deprive us of friends; there are many virtues that prevent our having any. The human mind is like the ground.

which acquires a quality according to the pains bestowed on its cultivation. The more self is indulged, the more it demands, and, therefore, of all men, the selfish are the most discontented.

Tears are to be looked at not as proof

of very deep sorrow, but as a gracious. relief to the killing intensity of such grief. He who can irritate you when he likes is your master. You had better turn rebel by learning the virtue of

To do good which is really good, a man must act from the love of good, and not with a view to reward here or hereafter.

Bad temper is its own scourage. Fewthings are bitterer than to feel bitter. A man's venom poisons himself more than his victim. One of the most effectual ways of

pleasing and of making one's self loved is to be cheerful; joy softens far more hearts than tears. "What men want," says Bulwer, "is not talent, it is purpose." In other

words, not the power to acnieve, but the will to labor. When misjudged by others, as all are liable to be, it is a comfort to know that God makes no mistakes, since he

reads our hearts. We must look downward as well as upward in human life. Though many have passed you in the race, there are many you have left behind.

A man or woman may be highly irritable, and yet be sweet, tender, gentle, loving, sociable, genial, kind, charitable, thoughtful for others, unselfish

The envious man is tormented, not only by all the ills that befall himself, but by all the good that happens to another. He is made gloomy, not only by his own clouds, but by another