BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.

If you've a grayhaired mother In the old home far away-Sit down and write the letter You put off day by day. Don't wait until her tired steps Reach heaven's pearly gate-But show her that you think of her Before it is too late.

If you've a tender message Or a loving word to say, Don't wait till you forget if But whisper it today. Who knows what bitter memorie" May haunt you if you wait-So make your lived ones happy Before it is too late.

* * * * The tender words unspoken, The letters never sent.

The long forgotten messages The wealth of love unspent. For these some hearts are breaking

For these some loved ones wait-So show them that you care for them Before it is too late.

-Ida Goldsmith Morris, in Atlanta Constitution.

Margaret

The door was wide open, and upon its threshold stood a woman whose fine, full figure was prettily outlined against the soft glow of the interior. She had on a crimson wool wrapper and an odd little bibbed apron with ruffled edges, and there was a sprig of some one is. Dear I am going away, ful brown hair. She had wrapped her it, and it is his right to command, frolic that was going on inside, so and my own honor, and what is dearer that she had to lift her voice in order | even than these, the one woman whom to make it heard by the other woman I shall ever love in all my life." who had paused for a parting word or two, half way down to the gate.

'hear them, doesn't it you?"

night!

headed about the Longford streets. him. It's too long a story to tell Every one loved her and I think you now, but I found him and he made every one knew why it was she had a confession to me. Ah, he was cunnever married. Would you also know ning, that old man! It was easier it? It is said that no woman lives, to suspect the reckless boy than a be she never so ugly, but has her bit of good old fellow like that. My poor romance. Margaret had had hers. It father! If he had only believed me. had happened long ago, when many a If he had only believed me. Oh, Marwooer came from far and near to got, I can't tell you what I've lived pay court to the beauty of Longford. through-I don't know what you've But Margaret would have none of lived through. They call me a rich these. She had thought but for one man out where I've been, and better man, as he had thought but for her, than that an honest one. God knows and so in the course of time they be- I've tried to live as you would have came quietly engaged and began to talk of their wedding day. Margaret was very happy, as these I got here tonight and no one knows gentle women are to whom love is me yet. I heard all they could tell all of life, and many a tender thought me, Margot, how you had wasted your went with the thread as she stitched life in waiting for a good-for-nothing away at the simple pretty things of lover. Until then I had scarcely dare Then one morning Longford blazed here to the house and rang agath and with suspicion and astonishment and again, then remembering how you indignation. The bank had been rob- never locked your doors, I entered bed of a great sum of money, and boldly and took possession. Margot Tom Longford, the old banker's reck- you don't know how I felt to be here less, light-hearted son, was charged in this room again with all these eviwith the crime. Margaret was not dences of you about me. I sat down permitted to see him. Her father and in your chair there on the hearth rug brother said harsh things of him, as in- and wept. Dear kiss me. There! deed did almost every one. Tom went You are weeping too. Margot, this away and the matter ended. But first joy is worth all we both have sufhe sent to Margaret a few lines which | fered, is it not? Ah, the kettle is she felt, even as she read them, wrote boiling over-I hadn't finished my teafinis to this sweetest, saddest chapter

of her life history. "I am not guilty, Margot," he said, That is one of the things I have "though they will tell you so, and indeed just now there seems no other life." He was smiling down into her way of believing. I am not guilty but | wet eyes. "Margot, can't you speak scarlet geranium tucked in her plenti- it is all I can do. My father wishes can't you even bid me-" hands in her apron, for the evening for to him the wrong has been done. Margaret cried, and in her face was had set in cold, and a sharp little wind But some day I shall come back- the dawn of such love and new life was blowing from the sound. Over Margot, I shall come back, God help- and content as glorified it in the and around her broke fragments of ing me, cleared of this charge which watching eyes of her lover .- Etta J. pleasant chamor from the children's has cost me my father's confidence Webb, in Waverly Magazine.

her trousseau.

Old Banker Longford was a ruined man, and he died, it was said, of

"It's going to be a cold night, Mar- heart-break. The affair was kept out garet," she was saying. "I'm glad of the papers, and little by little it through your mouth, or pick your you haven't far to go to get home. ceased to be talked about, perhaps | teeth, stop and reflect, for life is short-Did you ever hear such a racket?" as even to be thought about. But it al- ened by such little mannerisms. Nera fresh burst of merriment fairly si- ways had its place in Margaret's vous people are especially prone to lenced her. "It's always so on Satur- mind. She had never doubted her such triffing habits, which, if once day night-their hilarity reaches a lover, but when years had passed contracted, have a serious effect. Weak climax then, and I can keep them without word or sign from him, she sight, lung diseases and possibilities pretty quiet over Sunday. I actually could no longer hope that he would of even worse dangers lurk behind dread trying to get them all away to keep his promise and come back. The such simple acts, and an eminent phybed. Little scamps! It almost makes girlishness of her beauty faded; she sician declares that many fatal cases me wish I were a child again to saw women who had been young with of consumption are directly traceable her happy in homes of their own. to some mere mannerism. "Yes, it does," Margaret said. She Well she knew that she had missed, Breathing through the mouth will

doorway responded. She had stepped up at the starless skies. Her lips suit the lung tissues are weakened back and was drawing to the door. moved-perhaps in prayer; then a and the less able to withstand disease. 'Good-night!" she cried again through great clot of snow slipped from a The body gets about half the amount maple branch above to her shoulders, of oxygen it requires. Moreover, any Then the door closed upon her, and and startled into sensibility, she stray disease germs floating about are upon all the warmth and light and turned and ran lightly up the carefully sure to find lodgment in the sleeper's In Longford no one ever thought Iy refreshed, and when one wakes in chill outer gloom of the growing night, of locking her doors when she went the morning with that tired feeling, with sweet sounds echoing in her ears out. Margaret had not locked hers. it can usually be traced to the habit and a dazzle of fair sights before her Her old servant was away for the of sleeping with the mouth open. If eyes, groping her way through the evening and the house was dark and the habit is strongly contracted, heroic empty. Margaret entered and shut measures are necessary. One man the heavy door behind her with some was warned of the danger found that As she walked swiftly down the difficulty, for the wind blew strong he could not keep his mouth shut in against it. The hall was an old- any other way, so he tied his jaws gleams of lamplight on either side and fashioned one, broad and high, with firmly together before retiring each the rattle and crack of icy branches rooms opening from it on either side, such as were buit when people did not ability to breathe through the nose have to economize space as they do comfortably because of some local now. At the end of the hall was Margaret's own little sitting room where she sewed and read and received her had had a good time such as she had friends, and sometimes drank her tea this that she went now. As she opened the door another light than that of the fire flashed upon her. The room was full of lamplight, and over her own tea table, freighted with lace and quaint china was nothing to keep any young man and shining cld silver, a man was kettle. At the sound of her entrance now, and had home ties and a large looked toward her. He had a beard- ed to grow. Ordinarily, a person is practice that bound him to the bust- ed blonde face of that type which She had lived on with her old father ning in it; only the eyes betrayed the in the big, desolate house under the sober dignity of a man wno has ex- 200 blinks a minute. Natural blinkmaples, doing faithfully the little du- perienced all the hard things of lifeties of her home life and social life defeat and bitterness and denialand is none the worse for the experi-Margaret stood staring at him as at the arisen dead. Her shawl had in the chill first light of a certain slipped from her shoulders to the floor, March morning she found herself and lay in a little drift of whiteness about her feet. She could not speak. not even when he came to her and took her hand in his warmly, saying her name over and over, not even when he drew her into his arms and laid his face against her still deadly "Margot-Margot, my own beloved Margot, this surprise is too much for He wanted to take her home with you-I should have given you some preparation." The same dear voice, felt that she could not leave the old the old sweet name; how she had landmarks of all that was best and starved for them! "Did you think I brightest in her life. Woman-like, would fail of my promise to you? Did she feared the new and untried, and you think that the world was so wide or life so long that I could forget to his work and his own dear ones, you? But either would have been and she was left in the old house easier I think, than to come back to you with all that old stain upon me. would ever leave again until she left | It is gone, Margot, gone! I am free! Do you hear-do you understand? Margaret was no longer young, and And here on my breast under your yet to the simple folk of Longford she dear head are the proofs of it. Margot did not seem old. True, there was listen!" He was drawing her eyes up some gray in her hair and the beau- to his. "Do you remember a certain tiful, dark, calm eyes had long since clerk of my father's, Stilson, that old been emptied of all their dreams and man whom the children called Father fancies. But she still had much of Time because of his long gray beard? the grace and lightness of bearing that | They tell me he went away soon after had characterized her every action I did and no one in Longford ever saw purposes has been refused by Edinwhen a little child, she had run bare- him again. Four weeks ago I found burgh town council.

me, and I can't think that I've altogether failed. No one knew me when tations. hope such a thing could be. I came

making. I meant to have had a nice hot cup for you when you came in. learned to do in my long bachelor now-can't you say a word to me-

"Welcome! welcome! welcome!"

AVOID THESE MANNERISMS.

Blinking Your Eyes or Blowing Your Nose May Hasten Your Death.

If you blink rapidly, or breathe

looked wistfully at her friend through this poor Margaret, and many a time not in itself kill one, but it is a most the gloom. Then she turned round that brave smile of hers hid her lips unwise practice, for the lungs are not toward the gate again. "Good-night, trembling. But she had given her properly inflated with air. The lower Hetty," she called back. "Don't stand heart once for all, and to the last day half of those valuable organs falls there another minute or you'll freeze. of her life she would keep faith with almost entirely into disuse. Persons I'm going to run home now. Good- her conscience and Tom Longford. who breathe through the mouth dur-As she lifted the latch of her own ing the daytime invariably continue "Good-night!" the woman in the gate she paused a moment to look the practice when asleep. As a remouth. The body is not thoroughnight. Frequently there is real introuble, in which case a specialist should be seen. How many people moisten their lips with their tongue? It is a trifling acof a chilly evening. It was toward tion from some standpoints, but it may bring cancer. The lips become drier and drier if the mannerisms become a habit, and the nerves more and more sensitive. Eventually the lips became permanently cracked, which is painful and annoying in itself. Should cancer be hereditary, the subject has bending, busy with spirit lampand tea- an excellent chance of contracting it. Blinking the eyes rapidly means parhe straighttened his tall figure and tial loss of sight, if the habit is allowentitled to about twenty blinks a always has something boyish and win. minute: but a nervous blinker will sometimes pile up the record to over ing moistens and clears the eye. Such abnormal use of the lids, however, results in unnecessary development of the eyelid muscles. Besides, it involves counter irritation, which acts on the optic nerve and renders the sight daily more weak and irritable. The unlucky individual who finds his eyesight becoming weaker and weaker through excessive blinking should keep his eyes closed for at least ten minutes out of every hour. The lids should also be bathed in warm water. Where the habit has been long contracted, it is impossible to read small type, and a strong light is positive pain. Picking the teeth seems a simple and harmless way of caring for them. Eight persons out of ten do it. But any dentist will warn you against the practice, for it means quick decay of the enamel. Some nervous people pick their teeth continually when they have nothing else to do. As a result the life of a second set of teeth is shortened by six or seven years, and there is more bodily pain in store for the owner thereof. Dentist's bills will pile up, and you will wish that toothpicks had been left alone. Carefully brushing the teeth is a far bettetr way of preserving them.-London Express.



CREATING A DEMAND.

At a Nebraska fair last year the dairies managed. The result is that

LOSSES OF YOUNG CHICKS.

dogs, hawks, rats and other depredat- in American Cultivator. ors carry them off. The most destructive enemy is the family cat, and the one that eats from the same dish with that do the greatest damage.

SOWING SEED ECONOMICALLY. than seeding by hand.

OAT HAY AND TIMOTHY.

they have ever had the fever or not. They may in this way be prevented from suffering an attack. Curative treatment is more diffi-

cult and complicated than preventive, and many cows with milk fever have been drugged to death to cure them. Usually the safest course is to have

a veterinary surgeon who understands dairymen in a community organized his business well to take charge. The and sent their best butter to be given so-called Schmidt's treatment is said away as samples, on crackers, as well by the Mississippi bulletin to be genas distributing circulars describing erally successful, but this is not a how the butter was made and the simple operation for one not accustomed to it. It consists in washing at the present time the demand is out the udder with a solution of the greater than the supply, and at prices lodide of potash. After washing higher than the regular market quo- thoroughly outside with warm water and soap, and then with a five per

cent. watery solution of carbolic acid, two or three drams of iodide of pot The losses of young chicks occur ash, dissolved in a quart of warm during the summer from so many water, is infused in the udder by causes as to sometimes cause aston- means of a rubber tube and glass funishment. They seem to disappear nel. The detailed method is describwithout enemies. The fact is that ed in the bulletin .- Prof. S. N Doty

POTATO SCAB.

As we have many inquiries concernthe chicks, allowing them to sit on her ing potato scab and its prevention, we back, will take her share of young will give our readers a method that poultry when she is not observed; in is in general use in many sections. It fact, it is the kind and gentle cats has been proved that potato scab is a low form of fungus life. Some

writers believe that there are two kinds of scab, the surface and the The sowing of seed by hand is not deep scab. But the two are almost an economical method, as more seed identical as far as injury to the potais required than when a drill is used, to is concerned, and may be considand there is a larger return from the ered the same. If scab has made its drill, owing to better covering of the appearance, new ground should be seed and greater uniformity of depth. selected, if possible, for planting po-The drill has been improved to a high tatoes. The fungi of the scab will degree of efficiency, and some have remain in the ground for years, and fertilizer attachments. In all experi- attack the potatoes whenever they ments made to determine the com- are planted in the affected ground. parative value of the drill and hand Some have made the statement that seeding a less quantity of seed, care- the scab was worse where barnyard fully drilled in, yielded more bushels manure was used as a fertilizer. But per acre, in proportion to seed used, this was found to be the case only where the stock had been fed upon scabby potatoes.

The only way to destroy scab Oat hay makes very fair feed for where the potatoes are fed to stock horses, although it is not quite the is by thorough cooking, as feeding equal of timothy. One hundred raw has no destructive effect upon pounds of the digestible food in oat the germs. They pass into manure hay contains about 4.07 pounds of and are ready to attack the potatoes proteine and 33.35 pounds of carbohy- whenever an opportunity offers drates, while the timothy contains through the fertilizer. This scab also 4.82 pounds of preteine and 46.83 attacks beets in the same way that pounds of carbohydrates. For mlich it does potatoes, hence to get rid of cows there is no better rough feed the disease no planting should be than well cured clover hay which done where the affected vegetables should contain nearly 7 1-2 pounds of have been raised. To prevent this digestible proteine and 38 pounds of disease, seed potatoes may be treated carbohydrates. As proteine is an im- in the following way: Procure from portant feature in producing either your druggist one ounce of corrosive muscle or milk, if entirely palatable, sublimate (mercuric bichloride) finethen the hay that contains the most ly pulverized, and pour upon it one of this material should be best suited gallon of hot water. When it is disfor horses or dairy cows. We have solved pour into a barrel and add six been feeding oat straw to our horses gallons of water. Stir it occasionally all winter with good results, but now for four or five hours, then put the powith the hard work of plowing they tatoes into it, letting them remain are feeding on timothy. Oat straw is one and a half hours. They may be not to be confounded with oat hay, cut ready to plant, or left whole; if for the latter is cured as hay and con- whole they should be dried before being cut. If more of the solution i tible proteine as the oat straw does. needed at a time, the ingredients may -C. S. Plumb, in the Indiana Far- be doubled, or kept in about the same proportion. Use no metal in connection with it. The potatoes can be put into a coffee sack, or something not closely woven, and immersed in the solution. Remove them and treat others in the same way; the the liquid may be used many times. Care should be used in handling this solution, as it is very poisonous. All potatoes so treated should be planted or destroyed. There are other methods that are successful as a preventive of scab. One is the use of the Bordeaux Mixture, in which, as a weak solution, the potatoes are soaked for an hour. However our preference very rapidly. On strawberries ashes is for the first solution given, as we consider it better adapted to the purpose.-Agricultural Epitomist.



A VANDAL.

Oh, do not trust the glittering folk Who make this life seem all a joke, For oft their jesting ways conceal Intents 'twere mournful to reveal.

The moth, it seems a careless thing; It flutters by on gaudy wing; And yet this treacherous beast, alack, Will eat the clothes right off your backt

---Washington Star.

EVERYTHING IN ITS OWN PLACE. Ethel (coyly)-What a pretty mouth you have. It ought to be on a girl's face.

Jack-I seldom miss an opportunity. -Princeton Tiger.

THE WATCHMAN.

"Night watchman, eh? At iss a hard b. He has to schleep daytimes." "Vat vor has he to schleep davtimes ven he gets paid vor schleepin nights?" -Brooklyn Life.

EXTRAORDINARY INDUCEMENTS. Harriet-What shall I say in our

advertisement for a cook? Harry-Well, say that we'll take her with us to any summer resort she may prefer .- Detroit Free Press.

VEIN HOPES VAIN.

"How is it," demanded the angry stockholder, "that our gold mine has stopped work?"

"I believe it isn't in the vein for it," replied the promoter, coolly .--Philadelphia Press.

NOT SCARED.

The gloomy man was endeavoring to make an impression on the bustling enthusiast.

"Remember," he said, "that riches have wings."

"Well," was the response, "supposing they have. Wings never hurt anybody, that I am aware of."-Washington Star.

HE SLEEPS.

"Has your husband a good ear for music?" asked Mrs. Oldgirl of Mrs. Newed.

"I'm afraid not," replied Mrs. Newed. "He seems to think everything he hears played in church is a lullaby."-Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

UNNECESSARY KNOWLEDGE.

Aunt Sarah (a spinster)-"Now, dear, if you would only watch me closely you might learn how to crochet.'

Little Bessie-"Oh! I'm going to get married when I grow up!"-Detroit ran Proza

the lessening space.

gayety of the home life that enfolded swept walk to the front door. her and Margaret found herself in the little gate that marked the extreme limit of this paradise.

village street, with faint guarded over her head, one hand holding the thick white shawl under her chin, the other wound in the long swaying fringes at her side, she tried to remember how long it was since she just left in that house back yonder.

Fifteen years-yes, nearer twenty, for after her mother's death the good times grew more and more infrequent until they eaded utterly in Bob's going away. To be sure there was nothing to keep him in Longford; there who was bright and energetic and had his own way to make in the world. Bob had gone West; he was married ling new city where he was located. as they arose, but doing them after the manner of any woman for whom | ence. the sweet choice flavor has gone out of life forever. Years passed. Then standing at her father's bedside, trying to awaken him who had already awakened to new light and life and great glory in another world.

Three days later Bob came. She hardly knew her brother in this grave, dark man in whose fondness for her one. had sprung up that strange growth of remoteness which separation fosters. him, but Margaret would not go. She so it came to pass that Bob went back which it hardly seemed possible she it forever.

On application for the use of one of their public baths for baptismal

tains nearly four times as much digesmer.

ASHES AS A FERTILIZER.

We used to think that ashes were a good fertilizer for potatoes because of the potash that they supplied, but we are not now so sure of it. They have the reputation of _ssisting in the growth of the fungous disease which causes the scab in potatoes, by the lime that is in them. If they have been applied two or more years before the alkaline property of the time will have disappeared so that the potash will show its good effects, as that nekher evaporates nor fleaches away are reported as not being a desirable fertilizer unless the land is wet, cold and sour, or, in other words contains toe much acid. On good corn land, which is not wet and sour land, ashes seem to act favorably for the corn crop, or, indeed, for almost any grain crop. We need to learn much about the action of lime on our soils, not only in the ashes, but as the carbonate and sulphate of lime or of the lime in the phosphate. There is reason to believe that they are beneficial to some soils which are not apparently acid in character, but where tuey help to make other mineral elements. available, yet we have little real knowledge of the facts or of the conditions under which lime or ashes containing lime do their best work .- The

MILK FEVER.

Cultivator.

In a bulletin from the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station preventive and curative measures for the should be of special value to those who have animals suffering with this disease, or which show a tendency to contract it. At the outset it is stated teids. that the disease is most likely to appear in heavy, deep milkers, which means our most valuable dairy cows. The preventive measures consist chiefly in regulating the diet and bowels of the cows previous to calving when the fever is most likely to appear. A very rich diet at such times is dangerous. It is even necessary to take the heavy milkers at the time of parturition from rich pastures and put them on thin and scanty ones. If stall fed they must be given a cret that can be easily digested, and one that is not very rich and heavy. The animals must have plenty of exercise, and milking should be thorough two or three times a day. Cows that have suffered with milk fever are very apt to have a second attack during calving time, but a little attention to the diet, exercise, fresh air and

careful milking will generally prevent a recurrence. Deep milkers should be watched at such times, whether want to get rid of.

FARM NOTES.

The food for the cows should be of such a nature that no bad tasto will be imparted to the milk. For rust on bean vines spray with saltpetre water, one ounce of salt-

petre to one gallon of water. Stripped cucumber beetle may be checked by applying soot on tho plants early in the morning while the

dew is on. For squash and cucumber bugs, dissolve a tablespoonful of saltpetre in a pail of water. Apply a pint to each hill.

Feed regularly, water regularly, milk regularly and treat kindly always, is the golden rule for caring for your cows.

Remove the milk of every cow at once from the stable to a clean, ary room, or where the air is pure and sweet. Do not allow cans to remain milk fever in cows are given, which in stables while they are being filled. To fatten animals quickly the fat elements of foods must predominate, but not to the exclusion of the pro-

> Horse blankets should always be used out of doors to protect sweaty horses from cold and rain.

No one should try to raise hogs without plenty of pasture throughout the season, but remember also that it takes grain to make a marketable hog. and to keep brood sows up to their work.

There is practically no difference between beets and ensilige as a succulent food for ewes rearing early lambs, there is nothing better than good clover hay.

Land Without Limit.

In Manitobia and Assiniboia there are 60,000,000 acres of rich arable land. which could support 6,000,000 persons. The present population is only 320.

Every man who has money is abus ed for not buying things other people

A SAD DOG.

He-Oh, you can talk, but I suspected from the first that you were only playing with me, and I hadn't known you three days before my eyes were completely opened.

She-That was rather remarkable. wasn't it? My father, who is some thing of a dog fancier, says that nine days is the rule .- Boston Transcript.

A DRUMMER.

Bacon-What's his business? Egbert-Why he's a drummer for automobiles.

Bacon-Oh, they have drummers for those things, do they? Well, it's a good idea. I think it would be much safer if they had a drummer and a fifer go in front of each of the achines .-- Yonkers Statesman.

SUMMER PERILS.

"This seventeen-year locust is a very dangerous animal," said the student of horticulture.

"Yes," answered the youth with the far-away and dejected look; "but it doesn't do nearly as much irreparable damage as the seventeen-year-old girl." -Washington Star.

AN UNTUTORED IMPRESSION.

"I understand," said one savage islander, "that the last of the Caribs have about disappeared, owing to the numerous explosions in their vicinity." "Yes," answered the other; "In other words, the Caribs may now be regarded as civilized."-Washington Star.

EXCEPTIONAL.

"She's a wonderfully intellectual girl," said Maud.

"How do you know?" rejoined Mamie.

"She is more anxious about how her graduation essay is going to sound than she is about how her hair is going to look."-Washington Star.

LANGUAGE.

"It's wonderful," said the meditative man, "how one small word, insignificant in itself, may induce an endless train of thought, speaking volumes in fact."

"Yes," replied the caustic man. "Take the word 'but,' for instance, when a woman says: 'Of course, it's none of my business, but." "--- Philadelphia Press.

A Mexican carpenter considers hanging one door a big day's work. An American carpenter will easily hars ten doors a day.

The only man who can afford to do ust as he pleases is the fellow who has no reputation to lose.