"THAT COUNTRY IS THE MOST PROSPEROUS WHERE LABOR COMMANDS THE GREATEST REWARD." BUCHANAN.

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THE BEST OF HUSBANDS. O, I have a husband as good as can be; No woman could wish for a better than he! Sometimes, indeed, he may chance to be wrong, But his love for me is uncommonly strong! He has one little fault that makes me fret, He has always less money, by far, than debt; Moreover, he wallops me, now and then, But, excepting that, he's the best of men! I own he is dreadfully given to drink; And, besides, he is rather too fond, I think, Of playing at cards and dice; but then, Excepting that, he's the best of men! He loves to chat with the girls, I know, ('Tis the way with men; they're always so,) But what care I for his flirting, when, Excepting that, he's the best of men!

I can't but say I think he is rash To pawn my pewter, and spend the cash; But how can I scold my darling, when, Excepting that, he's the best of men! When soaked with tipple, he's hardly polite, But knocks the crockery, left and right, And pulls my hair, and growls again, But, excepting that, he's the best of men! Yes, such is the loyalty I have shown; But I have a spouse who is all my own; As good, indeed, as a man can be; And who could ask for a better than he?

## THE CLERK'S MARRIAGE. 'You are a brave young man, or a fool-

ish one.' Why do you say that?'

'To think of marriage.' What had bravery or folly to do in the

'The young lady is poor.' 'I do not wed her for money.

'There would be some hope for you if she were the possessor of some twenty or thirty thousand dollars. But being as poor as yourself, the folly of this purpose stands out in bold relief. Look before you leap, my friend, there's trouble for you on the other side.' 'I am not sordid, Mr. Blair.' The

young man's fine face glowed, and his eyes flashed with a repressed indignation. 'Not sordid enough, Adrian, for the

marriage, as society is now constituted. There are two sides to the question of marriage; the sentimental side and the matter-of-fact side. Now have you looked only on the sentimental side; suppose we consider the matter-of-fact aspects. You are a clerk receiving a salary of \$1,000. How much have you saved?'

'Nothing to speak of.' 'Nothing! So much the worse. If it cost you \$1,000 a year to live, from whence is to come the means of supporting a wife and family?

Oh I've been careless and wasteful in expenditures, as most young men are. I had only myself to provide for, and was Adrian came. self-indulgent. But that must cease of course.

young lady you propose to marry is named

'Yes.' · A charming young girl; well educated, finely accomplished; used to good society, as we say; and just suited for my friend Adrian, if she had money, or he an income of three or four thousand a year. But the idea of making her a happy wife, in the city of New York on a thousand dollars, is simply preposterous. It can't be done, sir, and the attempt will prove ruinous to the happiness of both parties to so foolish an agreement. It is a matter of the easiest demonstration, Adrian; and I wonder that so good an accountant as you are should ere this have tried this question by mathematical rules. Let me do it for you. And first we look at Rosa's present sphere of life. She has a home with a Mr. Hart, an uncle, and is living in rather a luxurious way. Mr. Hart is a man who thinks a deal of appearances, and maintains a domestic establishment that does not cost less than four thousand dollars a year. His house rent is equal to your salary. Now, in taking Rosa from this home, into

A sober hue of thought came over the young man's face. 'You can't afford to rent a house at even one-half the cost of Mr. Hart's even if you were able to buy the furniture,' continued Mr. Blair.

what kind of a one can you place her?'

We will board of course,' said Adrian. · Housekeeping is not to be thought of in the beginning. 'If not in the beginning, how after-

wards ? The young man looked quite bewildered but did not answer.

What are you now paying for board?

Five dollars a week. 'You would require a parlor and bed-

room after marriage.' 'Yes.'

At a cost of not less than fifteen dollars a week.'

We could hardly afford the parlor.' 'Hardly,' said his friend, 'Well, give up the parlor, and take a pleasant front chamber on the second floor, at twelve dollars a week. But the house is not firstclass nor the location very desirable. These are not to be had in New York at twelve dollars a week. You cannot afford for Rosa the elegance of her present home. Three dollars more a week for washing and etceteras, and your income is drawn up at the rate of seven hundred and eighty dol- to choose that alternative!'

reach the demand. What was your tailor's

bill last vear? One hundred and sixty dollars. Say two hundred, including boots, hats, etceteras.

'Yes. 'You could hardly get this below

hundred and fifty.' ' Perhaps not.'

The young man's voice was growing

That will leave seventy dollars for your wife's clothing, and nothing for pleasure, recreation, little luxuries, unanticipated but unavoidable expenses. And if it be so with you two in good health, what will be the condition of things in sickness and house with hands folded and idle, depend- chairs, a work-stand, a hanging-shelf for with children to support and educate. ent on your labor. But I shall not so books, and a mantle ornament or two, of persisted Mrs. Surely; and you know, tried to do their duty to him. They ad-

THE LANCASTER INTELLIGENCER. Adrian, my young friend, there is debt, embarrassment, disappointment and miserable life upon you. Pause and retrace your steps before it is too late. If you

love Rosa, spare her from this impending fate. Leave her in her pleasant home, or to grace that of a man better able than rance. 'You cannot help me. Society you are to provide her with the external will demand of us a certain style of living blessings of life. You cannot marry on and we must conform to it or be pushed a thousand dollars a year, and it is folly aside from all circles of refinement, taste

'We could get board for ten dollars a week said Adrian

'That would scarcely help the business at all. At best, it would only make a Henry, the central point of social happidifference in the amount of your indebtedness at the close of each year. It is folly lives be-rather let me say, as we are, so for you to think of it, my young friend.—

holding up now,' replied Adrian, in a the sum of our enjoyment as we pass gloomy way. We have mutually pledged through life, but what we are in ourselves each other, and the day of our marriage has been appointed.'

It is everything. We must be the centres of our own world of happiness, or our lives has been appointed.'

bachelor of forty, who, on an income of ment like this, in which I live in weak defifteen hundred dollars a year, could see pendence, fill the measure of my desires? no possible chance for a happy marriage Can it bring peace and contentment? No, in the city of New York, and preferred no, Henry? The humblest apartment celibacy to the embarrassments which he shared with you would be a palace to my saw hundreds of friends encounter in their soul, instead. I am not speaking with attempts to live in style out of all propor- the romantic enthusiasm of an ardent girl, tion to their resources. 'I am sorry for but soberly, truthfully, Henry. No, you,' he repeated; 'but if you will bend dearest, we will not make our lives miseryour neck to the yoke, you must not com- able by living apart, because we cannot plain of the burden you will find yourself make a fine appearance in other people's compelled to bear.

clerk, Henry Adrian, had never before looked this matter of income, expenditure, and style of living, fair in the front. The actual aspect of the case, when clearly seen, threw his mind into a state of troubled bewilderment. He went over and over far from us Henry. I am equal to the again the calculations suggested by Mr. self-denial it will require, if the word self-Blair, a book keeper in the establishment where he was employed, cutting off a little Oh, Henry! is there any joy to be imagfrom one proposed expenditure and anothexcept when the style was so far below formity come in to rob us of our blessthat in which his wife must move, that he ings? turned half sick from its contemplation. The more steadily he looked at the truth, the more heavily came the pressure of its

how could be hold back now? 'Rosa sat alone, reading, in one of her uncle's parlors, waiting for her lover .-He was later than usual, so late that the book began to lose its interest, and at last lay closed upon her lap; while a shade true woman, and that the sphere in which fell over her expectant face. A single their lot was cast all attainable happiness There was no soft voluptuous languor its reception. One thing said to him by as he, and I am performing it to the best about her, but an erectness of position as Rosa in that evening's talk we repeat, for of my ability.' hat indicated an active mind and self-reliance. An hour later than usual

'Are you sick, Henry?' asked Rosa as his sober face. 'Not, sick, but troubled in mind.' he

replied without evasion.
'Why are you troubled, Henry?' Rosa drew an arm tenderly around her lover.

'Sit down, and I will tell von. trouble concerns us both, Rosa. The young girl's face grew pale. They

sat down close together, holding each others hands. But in Adrian's countenance there was a resolute expression, such as wesee on the countenance of a man who had settled a question of difficult solu-

'The day fixed for our marriage is only two months distant,' he said. The tone the answer. in which he spoke chilled the heart of Rosa. She did not answer but kept her gaze upon his face. Rosa we must reconsider this matter.

We have acted without forethought.' Her face became paler, her lips fell

apart, her eyes had a frightened expres-'I love you, Rosa, tenderly, truly. My heart is not turning from you. I would hasten, rather than retard, the day of our marriage. But there are considerations beyond that day, which have presented themselves, and demand sober consideramarry. My income will not justify the

step.'
The frightened look went out of Rosa's

'It was wrong in me ever to have sought your love. Her hand tightened on his, and she sank

close to his side. iose to his side.
I am a clerk, with only a thousand dollars of income, and I do not see much beyond to hope for. Rosa, the furniture in these parlors cost twice the amount of my salary. The rent of the house in which you now live, is equal to what I receive in a year. I cannot take you from all this elegance into a third class boarding house,

Rosa, it would be unjust, selfish, wrong, thought of so degrading the one I love!'

'And is this all that troubles you, Henry? 's Is it not enough? Can I look at the the two alternatives that present them-

And his form trembled under the pressure of excitement.

'You love me, Henry?' The voice of Rosa was calm, yet burdened with feeling.

'As my own life, darling! Have I not

said so a hundred times? 'And even as my life do I love you, Henry! For several moments her face lay hid-

den in his bosom. Then, lifting it, Rosa 'I am glad you have spoken on this

is one thousand dollars? 'Yes.' 'A sum large enough to supply all the pendence enough not to be enslaved by a nere love of appearance.

Why, darling it will require more than boarding.'

marriage, I am to sit down in a boarding and set for three persons. Four cane-seat smiled and bade her wait for the result.

'All that is in your heart, darling, know,' said Adrian. 'But we are hedged around by social forms that act as a hindand intelligence. I cannot accept this ostracism for you, Rosa. It is not right.

'As if a false, heartless world were more to me than a true, loving husband. ness is home; as the home is so will our will our homes be-centres of gloom or brightness, and what others may think of You cannot afford to marry. brightness, and what others may think of 'It has a dark look, but there is no us is really of little account in making up 'I am sorry for you,' said the friend, a will be incomplete. Can a fine establisheyes. God has given love for each other Strange as it may appear, the young and the means of happiness if we will use them. Let us take his good gifts in thankfulness. You have an income of one thousand dollars. We must not expect to live as those of two, or three, or four thousand dollars a year. Be that folly denial' is to be used. Are you not, also?

> The young man had come sternly resolved to put off the 'day of marriage .-He parted from his betrothed that night fair social appearance for his young wife, gave place to a better view of things.— He saw his love had fixed itself upon a

ined beyond that which flows from the

the eve of marriage she took his hand, and fixed her eyes on I will give all thought to that. Your inthe range of expenditures we must adopt. Do not fear debt and embarrassment. may God bless you. And These wretched forms shall never enter your home while I stand sentinel at the

care to work, shall not the wife do the same? If he provides to the best of his ability, shall she not dispense with wise do this, is not worthy of her position.' 'And so you are bent on this folly?' said the bachelor clerk, on the day preceding that on which Adrian was to be

married. 'Yes, if you choose to call it folly,' was

Where are you going? to Saratoga?

'We shall go nowhere.'
'What' Will you not make a bridal

tour ?' 'No. A clerk who only receives salary of one thousand dollars can't afford could promise them any due return of

to spend it in making a bridal tour.' Mr. Blair shrugged his shoulders, and arched his eyebrows, as much as to say, if dale, and, as a Sabbath passed during his and rain would prevent them. Some

On the day after Adrian's wedding, he was at his usual place in the counting room. He received from his fellow clerks tion. In a word, Rosa, I cannot afford to a few feeble congratulations, and most of

them thought him a fool, to burden himself with a wife not worth a dollar. When I marry, I'll better my condi- manent residence at Fallowdale, but the

tion-not make it worse,' was the unspoken thought of more than one. Where are you boarding, asked Mr. Blair, indifferently, two or three weeks after Adrian's marriage.

'Nowhere,' was the reply, housekeeping.'

'At housekehping.'

'What is your rent?'

'Two hundred dollars, and a half of that my good little wife is to pay in music lessons to our landlord's daughters. We the best my means will provide. No, no, have two pleasant rooms in a third story, I furnished these with the money it would cruel. How blind in me ever to have have taken for the bridal tour. Rosa has the use of the kitchen, and insists on doing The young man was strongly agitated. her own cooking and house work for the often suffered from long droughts, and afpresent. I demurred, and do demur, but ter arguing a while longer, they agreed to she says that 'work is worship,' if per-hire Parson Surley, on the condition that formed conscientiously and dutifully, as he should give them rain whenever they she is performing it. And with this we selves, and not grow heart-sick? If we are very happy, Mr. Blair, as you shall separate, each taking different ways in witness. To-morrow you must go home life-oh, Rosa, I am not strong enough with me, take tea, and spend the eve-

Mr. Blair accepted the invitation. He had met Rosa occasionally before her marriage, and knew her to be a bright, accomplished young woman, fitted to move in refined and intelligent circles; and he felt some curiosity to see her in the new position of mistress and maid to her own household. The Third Avenue cars bore the two men a long distance from the city's throbbing heart, to the more quiet exteriwalk, entered a modest looking house with well attended shrubbory in a little front subject, Henry. I could not approach it garden. To the third story they ascended, for a compact, but now that we have it before us and there the young wife met them. Not mous. let it be well considered. Your income blushing and with stammering apologies for their poor home but with such ease and sweet self-possession, and such loving smiles about her lips that Mr. Blair found real wants of two persons who have inde- himself transferred to an earthly paradise. As soon as time came for observation, he

took note of what was around him. The furniture of the room into which he half of my salary to pay for respectable had been ushered, could scarcely have been plainer. In the centre stood a small Taking it for granted that, after our breakfast table, covered with a snowy cloth husband had entered into; but the pastor

will be a help mate-for him. I will stand floor, and plain white curtains, looped back rain very often when there is none for by his side; sharing life's burdens.' the wall, the dark case and plain style of the pastor. which showed it to be no recent purchase. 'Ay, but you cannot be as good The instrument had been Rosa's as the observant visitor correctly inferred.

After a pleasant talk of some minutes Rosa left the room, and not long after re- and he took up a book and commenced turned, bearing a tray on which were tea, reading. toast, butter, biscuit, cold tongue and Time flew on, and the hot days of midsweetmeats. There was a beautiful glow summer were at hand. For three weeks on her face as she entered, but nothing of it had not rained, and the young corn was shame or hurt pride. With her own fair beginning to curl up beneath the effects of took her place at the head to serve her ple bethought themselves of the promise busband and his friend. The heart of Mr.
Blair glowed and stirred with a new impulse as he looked into the pure, sweet,
was suffering severely, 'we want rain. happy face of the young wife, as she You remember your promise.' poured out the tea and served the meal

which she had prepared.

After supper Rosa removed the things, and was absent nearly half an hour. She ming.'

With this the applicants were perfectly with the applicants were perfectly and the standard to which she had prepared. sitting room, all in one, with just the call the flock together. slightest change in her attire, and looking as fresh, happy and beautiful as if enter- disgrace,' said Mrs. Surely, after the vistaining a drawing room full of company. itors had gone. 'Oh, I am sorry you ever The evening passed in reading and pleas- undertook to deceive them so.' ant conversation.

As Mr. Blair was about retiring, Adrian said:

Do you think, now, that we were fools to marry? Rosa stood with her hands drawn within the arm of her husband and clasped, with a face radiantly happy.

A shade crept over Mr. Blair's counte-Not fools, but wise as others might be if they were courageous enough to do as you have done, Mrs. Adrian; and he took Sharp, and you know you promised to the young wife's hand. 'I honor your give it to us.' bravery, your independence, your true love that was not overshadowed by worlder, but not being able to get the cost of conjunction of two loving hearts? and liness, that mildew of the heart, that blight living down to the range of his salary, shall pride and a weak spirit of social con- on our social life. You are a thousand times happier in your beautiful seclusion than any fashion-loving wife, or slave to

external appearance, can ever be.' 'I love my husband, and I live for him.' Rosa leaned close to the manly form by her stony weight upon his heart; to go for-looking forward with golden-hued hopes side. I understood, when we were mar-ward was little less than madness, and yet for its arrival. They had talked over the future, practically and sensibly. The home was to be established and sustained lover's fond pride, which had looked to a by the work of his hands, and I underhome was to be established and sustained stood, as well, that I was not his superior, but only his equal, and that if it was right and honorable for him to work, it would be no less right and honorable for me.--Was I to sit idle, and have a servant to glance at Rosa's countenance revealed the fact that she was a girl of some character.

was in store for them, if they would but fact that she was a girl of some character.

open their hearts in an orderly way for no, no! I had my part to perform as well should have rain in just four days.

she sat; and a firmness of tone in all her the sake of young wives or maidens on 'You are a true woman, a wise woman, need not cut any-' task of ordering and regulating our do- to be. I thought Harry a fool to marry on is the day we have set to go to Snow-hill. mestic affairs in conformity to your means. a thousand dollars, and told him so. But It musn't rain then.' I take back my words. If such women as come is fixed, and I shall exactly know you were plentiful we could all marry, and find our salaries ample. Good night, and

And the bachelor clerk, who could not afford to marry on fifteen hundred a year. door. If the husband gives his life and went to his lonely home-lonely, though peopled thickly-and, sitting down in his desolate chamber, dreamed of the sweet picture of domestic felicity he had seen, frugality his earnings? She that fails to and sighed for a sweet hiding place from the world, and all its false professions and

## heartless show. Parson Surely's Experiment.

A SKETCH FOR WEATHER GRUMBLERS. The small parish at Fallowdale had been for some time without a pastor. The members were nearly all farmers, and they did not have much money to bestow upon the support of a clergyman; yet they were willing to pay for anything that good. In course of time it happened that I couldn't afford to make a bridal tour, I'd sojourn, he held a meeting in the small wanted it immediately—some in one, some not marry.

Sojourn, he held a meeting in the small wanted it immediately—some in one, some in three days, while other in two, and some in three days, while other

preaching, and some of them proposed incharge of their spiritual welfare. Upon the merits of this proposition there was a long discussion. Parson Surely had signified his willingness to take a permembers of the parish could not so readi-

ly agree to hire him. 'I don't see the use of hiring a parson, said Mr. Sharp, an old farmer of the place. He can do us no good. A parson can't

learn me anything." To this it was answered that stated religious meetings would be of great benefit to it; they had become attached to him

source of good to all. 'I don't know about that. I've heard tell of a parson that could pray for rain, and have it to come at any time. Now if we could hit upon such a parson as that I

would go in for hiring him. This opened a new idea to the unsophisticated minds of Fallowdale. The farmers hire Parson Surley, on the condition that wished for it, and, on the other hand, that he would also give them fair weather when

required. Deacons Smith and Townsend were denutized to make this arrangement known to the parsen, and the people remained in the church while the messengers went upon their errand.

When the Deacon returned, Mr. Surely accompanied them. He smiled as he entered the church, and with a bow he saluted the people there assembled

opie there assembled. 'Well, my friends.' he said as he ascend ed the platform in front of the desk .-I have heard your request to me, and ors, where they alighted, and after a short strange as it may rppear, I have come to accept your proposal; but I do it only on one condition, and that is that your request for a change of weather must be unani-

This appeared very reasonable, since every member of the parish had a deep interest in the farming business, and ere should become the pastor, and that he pression, 'going to the dogs.' In short, long it was arranged that Mr. Surely should give the people rain when they scarcely a week passed by that either the When Mr. Surely returned to his lodg-

ings, his wife was utterly astounded on learning the nature of the contract her But you know you cannot make it rain.

construe my relation to my husband. I no special value, an ingrain carpet on the too, that the farmers here will be wanting vised, they entreated and they helped him, inventory, for there was a piano against 'I will teach them a lesson,' returned

> your word; and when you have taught it to them, they will turn you off." 'We shall see,' was Mr. Surely's reply.

hands she arranged the table, and then the drought. In this extremity the peo-

'Certainly,' returned Mr. Surely. 'If

joined their little parlor, breakfast and satisfied, and forthwith they hastened to 'Now, you will see the hour of your

> 'I did not deceive them.' 'Yes you surely did.'

'We shall see.' 'So we shall see,' added the lady. The hour of the meeting came round, church. They were all there-some anx-

ious, the remainder curious. 'Now, my friends,' said the pastor rising upon the platform. 'I have come to hear your request. What is it?' 'We want rain,' bluntly spoke Farmer

'Ay-rain-rain,' repeated half a dozen

Very well. Now when do you want to catch it, too.' have it? 'To-night. Let it rain all night long,' said Sharp, to which several others im-

mediately assented. 'No, no, not to-night,' cried Deacon Smith. 'I have six or seven tons of wellmade hay in the field, and I would not have it wet for anything.'
'So have I hay out,' added Mr. Peck

We won't have it rain to-night.' 'Then let it be to-morrow.' 'It will take me all day to-morrow to get my hay in,' said Smith. Thus the objections came up for two

succeeding days, and at length, by way of 'For,' said he, 'by that time all the hay

which is now out can be got in, and we a good woman,' said Mr. Blair, with ardor, 'Stop, stop,' uttered Mrs. Sharp, pulling Be mine, dear Henry,' said she, 'the 'and you will be as happy as you deserve her worthy husband by the sleeve. 'That disadvantages of this state of things, when

> This was law for Mr. Sharp, so he proposed that the rain should come in one week, and then sat down. But this would not do. 'If we have rain before then, we'd better not have

> it at all,' said they.
> In short the meeting resulted in just no conclusion at all, for the good people found it utterly impossible to agree upon a time when it should rain.

'Until you can make up your minds on this point, said the pastor, as he was about leaving the church, 'we must all trust in the Lord.' And after this the people followed him from the church.

Both Deacon Smith and Mr. Peck go their hay safely in; but on the very day Mr. Sharp was to have started for Snow hill, it began to rain in good earnest. Mr. Sharp lost his visit but he met the disappointment with good grace, for his crops smiled at the rain.

Ere another month had passed by another meeting was called for a petition for rain, but with the same result as before. the Rev. Abraham Surley visited Fallow- Many of the people had their muck to dig, wanted it immediately-some in one, some parishioners wanted to put it off longer. viting him to remain with them, and take So Mr. Surely had no occasion to call for

> One year rolled by, and up to that time the people of Fallowdale had never once been able to agree upon the exact kind of weather they would have, and the result got the white sparrow, and only looked was that they began to open their eyes to the fact that this world would be a strange flourishing aspect, and men began to ob-Mr. Surely's settlement at Fallowdale. he offered to break up his connection with (Forward.) the parish; but the people would not listen

to some of the younger people, and also a and the meeting, and they wished him to But I can no longer rest under our former contract with regard to the weather,'

said the pastor.
'Nor do we wish you to,' returned Sharp. Only preach to us, and teach us and our children how to live, and help us God bless you, Herder! you have and our children how to live, and help us to be social, contented and happy.' 'And,' added the pastor, while a tear of

our proper sphere we will leave with God.

In most parts of Germany, there passes

for he doeth all things well.' The White Sparrow. "Sleep is the worst of thieves; He steals half our lives."

current among the people this proverb :

"He that would thrive Must the white sparrow see." The meaning of this proverb is not, at first sight, so apparent as that of some others that circulate amongst us, such as 'Early habits make the man, 'Honesty is the best policy,' &c.; but the moral signification it is intended to convey is not the less true and important. I will, therefore, here relate the story connected with its origin, even as I received it myself, from the lips of an old and valued friend.

NOTES, LEGAL BLANKS, CARD SANDERS AND CIRCULARS, BILL HEADS AND HANDBILLS, PROGRAMMES AND POSTERS, PRINTING INCOLORS AND PLAIN PRINTING, with neatness, accuracy and dispatch, on the most reasonable terms, and in a manner not excelled by any establishment in the city.

From the lips of an old and valued friend, Intelligencer Office, Intelligencer Office,

There was an old farmer with whom everything appeared to grow worse from year to year. His cattle died one by one, and the produce of his land was not the half of what it ought to be; in fact, all his property was, to use a very familiar extax-gatherer or the pawn-broker did not come to his window, and, addressing him with a courteous bow, say-

'I am really very sorry, Herr Ruckwart, to be compelled to put you to inconvenience, but I am obliged to do my duty. The old friends of Herr Ruckwart also

but all in vain, and so one after another gave him up in despair, declaring with a sigh, that as for poor Ruckwart, there was no use in trying to help him-he was past being helped.

He had one friend, however, whose heart

was in the right place, and who was not only a good man, but a very clear-sighted one. This friend thought he would not give Herr Buckwart up altogether, without making one more attempt to save him. So one day he led the conversation, as if accidentally, to the subject of sparrows, relating many anecdotes of these birds and observing how greatly they had multiplied of late, and how very cunning and

voracious they had become. Herr Ruckwart shook his head gravely in answer to this observation, and said-'They are indeed most destructive creatures. For my part, I have not the slightyou will call for a meeting of the members est doubt that it is mainly owing to their depredations that my harvest has of late

years been so unproductive.' To this conjecture his old friend made no rejoinder; but after a moment's pause, he continued the conversation by another

interrogatory-'Neighbor, have you ever seen a white

sparrow ?' 'No.' replied Ruckwart; 'the sparrows which alight in my fields are all the com-

mon grey sort.' 'That is very probable, too,' rejoinded his friend. 'The habits of the white sparrow are peculiar to itself. Only one comes and Parson Surely met his people at the into the world every year, and being so different from his fellows, other sparrows take a dislike for it, and peck at it when it appears among them. For this reason it seeks its food early in the morning, befose the rest of the feathered tribe are astir, and then goes back to its nest, where it remains for the rest of the day.'

'That is very strange!' exclaimed Ruck-wart. 'I must really try and get a sight at that sparrow-and if possible I will On the morning following this conversation, the farmer rose with the sun, and sallied forth into the field. He walked around his farm, searched his farmyard in

every quarter, examining the roof of his garners and the trees of his orehards, to see whether he could discover any traces of the wonderful white sparrow! But the white sparrow, to the great disappointment of the farmer, would not show itself, or stir from its imaginary nest. What vexedethe farmer still more, however, was that although the sun stood high in the heavens by the time he had concluded his round, not one of the farm laborers

were astir. They, too, seemed resolved

not to stir from their nests. Meanwhile.

the cattle were bellowing in their stalls with hunger, and not a soul was near to feed them. Herr Ruckwart was reflecting on the suddenly he perceived a lad coming out of the house, carrying a sack of wheat on his shoulders. He seemed to be in great haste to get out of the precincts of the farm, and Herr Ruckwart soon perceived that his steps were bent towards a public house, where Casper had unhappily a long score to pay. He hastened after the astonished youth, who believed his master to be still in the enjoyment of his morning

nap, and quickly relieved him of his The farmer next bent his steps to the cowhouse, and peeping to see whether the white sparrow had perchance taken refuge there, he discovered, to his dismay, that the milk-maid was handing a liberal portion of milk through the window to her neighbor, to mix with her morning cup of coffee.

'A pretty sort of housekeeping this is,' thought the farmer to himself, as he hastened to his wife's apartment, and roused her from her slumbers. 'As sure as my name is Ruckwart,' he exclaimed in an angry tone, 'there must be an end to lazy habits. Everything is going wrong for the want of somebody to look after them. So far as I am concerned,' thought the good farmer to himself, 'I will rise every day at the same hour I rose this morning, and then I shall get my farm cleared of those who do not intend to do their duty properly. Besides, who knows but some fine morning or other, I may suc-

ceed in catching the white sparrow Days and weeks passed on. The farmer adhered to his resolution, but he soon for-

after cattle and his corn-fields. On the last Sabbath in the first year of serve that Herr Ruckwart (Backward) now well deserved to be called Herr Vorwart In due course of time his old friend

again came to spend the day with him. and inquired in a humorous tone-Well, my fine fellow, how are you getting on now! have you yet succeeded in catching a glimpse of the white sparrow? The farmer only replied to this question by a smile, and then, holding out his hand

saved me and my family from ruin. Often, in after years, when Herr Ruckwart was a prosperous man, respected by neighbors, and beloved by his well ordered pride stood in his eye, 'all things above household, he was wont to relate this history of his early life, and thus, by degrees. the saying passed into a proverb- He that would thrive, must the white sparrow

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