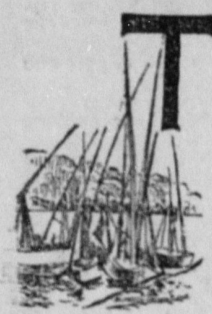


LOVE'S MEETING.

Love, who met me on the way, Kissed life's winter into May...

DISENCHANTED.

BY A. H. HOLDEN.



THE path looked cool and pleasant as it followed the course of the little stream...

A young girl passed down the steps of the house nearest to the mouth of the ravine...

"And let this feeble body fail, And let it fall and die."

Rebecca Kinsey's voice modulated to a faint thread of melody...

Thurdyke climbed quickly down the rocks, cleared the brook with a bound...

"Well, how are you now, Diamond?" inquired he.

"All right, I guess," answered Diamond, faintly...

"How we are ever to get out of this I don't see," said Thurdyke.

"I think," said Rebecca, "I can help you. Just a few steps further on is a path up the rocks..."

"Is there any house near?" asked Thurdyke.

"Yes," responded Rebecca, "Aunt Susy Rinehart lives right at the top of the cliff..."

Diamond was in too much pain to be seriously embarrassed by receiving assistance from this rustic beauty...

Aunt Susy surveyed the singular looking party, as they emerged from the gorge, with wide-eyed astonishment.

"Why! bless your soul! bring him right in the house," was her hospitable greeting.

"I reckon I can go," replied Aunt Susy, "if you'll stay while I'm gone and kind o' get things started for supper..."

"I am going away this afternoon," said Diamond, as he and Rebecca were taking their last walk together.

I ain't sorry. I've got tired runnin' in a rut. The same old things over and over again.

"By Jove!" fumed Fred Diamond, two weeks after his accident...

"Yes," replied Thurdyke, "you did look ridiculous, I solemnly assure you. There was a dab of mud on the end of your nose and your coat was split down the back..."

"Well, what's a fellow to do? I'm all banged up," complained Diamond, "and I've got to amuse myself some way..."

"I've got to leave here," said Thurdyke, gloomily, as he folded up a letter. "If I had as much money as you have I'd stay here and watch you..."

The days lengthened into weeks. Diamond had no longer a good excuse for lingering; his ankle was well and he often forgot to carry his arm in the sling...

He had chosen his words well. Poor little Rebecca could not understand how wide was the social gulf which lay between them...

Ten years after Diamond, then a grave family man, went through the market followed by a servant carrying a large basket. He paused at a stand of country produce...

The great magician, Love, had cast his spell over Rebecca. She breathed enchanted air. When she roused herself to consider the situation practically she saw only one ending...

Diamond took no thought of the morrow. He knew that all this must soon come to an end. How could he precipitate the crisis? It came sooner than he thought.

"All right, I guess," answered Diamond, faintly; then he attempted to rise.

"Something's the matter with my left ankle and right arm."

"How we are ever to get out of this I don't see," said Thurdyke.

"I think," said Rebecca, "I can help you. Just a few steps further on is a path up the rocks..."

"Trifling!" exclaimed Diamond, reddening. "I don't know what you mean."

"I'm going out to milk," snapped Aunt Susy, "and you can just study over it while I'm gone."

Diamond resisted an almost overpowering impulse to pay his usual evening visit to Rebecca; he resolutely set about packing up his belongings...

Poor Rebecca sat on the porch alone, watching and waiting for her recreant lover. Sometimes as the shadows shifted she thought she saw him emerge from the ravine...

"Why! bless your soul! bring him right in the house," was her hospitable greeting. "The doctor's just making a visit over on the next farm..."

"I reckon I can go," replied Aunt Susy, "if you'll stay while I'm gone and kind o' get things started for supper..."

"I am going away this afternoon," said Diamond, as he and Rebecca were taking their last walk together.

Rebecca gave a little start at this unexpected announcement and dropped the bonnet that she was swinging by the strings. As Diamond stooped to pick it up the picture of Miss Deven, which he had repentedly returned to its accustomed place in his pocket, fell out in full view.

"Now or never," thought he, and then, bracing himself, he said, in answer to Rebecca's inquiring glance, "This is the lady I have promised to marry."

Rebecca smothered a gasp. A late wild rose, the last one, hung a little way up the bank and she turned away, reaching upward to pluck it. It gave her a moment in which to recover herself. Her womanly pride came to the rescue, and she rose to the occasion.

This was a new phase of the matter. If any one else wanted this sweet wild flower, Diamond wanted it more than ever, and he felt an overwhelming resentment toward "brother Israel's son."

How out of place she would look in his mother's drawing-room! How his friends would ridicule him, while she would be only a target for the small wits of his set!

He had chosen his words well. Poor little Rebecca could not understand how wide was the social gulf which lay between them, but she could comprehend a moral obligation.

"Give me a kiss of forgiveness," he implored, with a voice choked with emotion. And there in the gorge where first they met, these two fond, foolish young lovers wept and parted.

From field experiments carried on at the Agricultural Experiment Station, Purdue University, Indiana, reported in Bulletin 15, extending over ten years, it appears that none of the varieties of wheat tried have any tendency to deteriorate or "run out," provided proper care is exercised.

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A Rabbit-Hunting Cat.

Fish and Game Warden George Farmer, of New Castle, is just now wrestling with a difficult problem, as to whether it is his duty to arrest William C. Robinson, the confectioner. Mr. Robinson has a large cat, which came directly from Madagascar Island.

One day this winter the cat was successful in catching no less than nineteen rabbits. Game Warden Farmer is trying to find a law that will prevent Robinson using the cat for hunting purposes, as there is a law against ferrets.

Military Value of the Dog. The French were the first to realize the military ability of the dog when fighting against the Kabyles in Tunisia and Algeria.

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CARROT GRUB.

An English gardener reports that he effectually destroyed the carrot grub, after it had become so abundant as to cause the tops of carrots to wilt, by watering them with a liquid made by putting a bushel of lime and a bushel of soot into 100 gallons of water.

WASTE OF GOOD FODDER.

An enormous quantity of corn fodder is grown each year, but not one-third of its feeding value is procured. Hundreds of thousands of acres of stalks are allowed to stand in the fields until December or January until the grain is husked, and then the cattle are turned in the field to get what they can.

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SOME ADVICE TO DRIVERS.

A driver gave his horse six quarts of oats about two hours earlier than he was usually fed. The harness was being put on while the horse was feeding. The driver managed to get his breakfast in the meantime. Shortly everything was in readiness and the horse was started on a long drive.

REQUISITES FOR A HORSE STABLE.

A horse stable should have thorough drainage first, then a solid, non-absorbent floor; next, the stalls should be roomy, and the feeding troughs should be made so that food cannot be wasted.

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sorbed by the coarse litter. The width of a horse stable should be not less than twelve feet, to afford space to move about in easily. The loose boxes, made nine feet square, are the most desirable for safety and convenience, and these may open into a passage five feet wide.

FARM FENCES.

The growing scarcity of timber in some parts of the country, and its entire absence in others, make the fence question a more serious one year by year. Only in the newly settled heavy-timbered land do we now see rails split for fences.

There is a way of making a wire fence, however, that is free from the objections that have been brought against the others. Plain, smooth galvanized wire, No. 10 or No. 12, may be stretched tightly, and fastened to wooden posts, with a single six-inch board at the top.

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FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

Strain the milk before the cream begins to rise. Medium sized hogs now bring the largest prices.

The milk is largely affected by the physical condition of the cow. It requires about twenty-five pounds of milk to make a pound of butter.

There is a scarcity of beet sugar seed in Europe owing to the drought. The number of sheep killed by dogs every year is said to exceed 700,000.

To make dairying a success, a dairyman must be a worker and a business man. Experienced butter makers say that too much washing spoils the flavor of butter.

The great food crops of the world are wheat, corn, oats, rye, rice and potatoes. There is a good market for trotters now, but only at prices consistent with the facts in the case.

Colts in training, if well cared for, grow better and keep in better health than when running at large. It is established that a horse whose individuality is strong enough to create a family type will also fix the color with great uniformity.

First-class fancy animals, suitable for driving and carriage horses, sound and well broken, are reported as scarce and bring good prices. Prices running well into the thousands are no longer given for road horses unless the speed and other qualities are of an exceptional character.

Many trotting horses, owing either to natural defects of temperament, to bad training or to imperfect preparation, are exceedingly difficult to control. The winter is the time to build the intended silo, as it can be done with less interference in other work.

The winter is the time to build the intended silo, as it can be done with less interference in other work. Have the silo ready and complete for a crop of corn next season. A silo soon pays for itself.

Sloppy food is not advisable as a continued diet for pigs. Give a change occasionally. The hogs are very partial to whole corn, fed dry, and will eat it from the trough, either shelled or on the cob. Currant and gooseberry cuttings should be about five or six inches long, and planted two-thirds their length in open ground.

The Sharpless strawberry has been tested over a large part of the country and does well in almost every locality, but in spite of its excellent record it sometimes fails. The Jessie is a fine berry when it succeeds, but it should be tested well before planting extensively. Turnips are easily kept by pitting, if not put in too thick.

Turnips are easily kept by pitting, if not put in too thick. Make the pits long and about three and a half feet high. Cover with straw and about six inches of earth. Ventilators should be placed about every ten feet. The pit is best made in a sheltered place, where the snow will not be blown off.

Grass and Clover Seed. The largest grower of Grass and Clover Seed in the world is Salzer, La Crosse, Wis. Over 50 hardy varieties, with lowest prices! Special low freight to New York, Pa. and the East.

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