The Bradford Reporter.

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The REPORTER having a larger circulation than all the papers in the county combined, makes it the best Advertising medium in Northern Pennsylvania.

JOB PRINTING of every kind, in Plain and Fancy colors, done with neatness and dispatch. Handbills, Blanks, Cards, Pamphlets, Billheads, Statements, &c. of every variety and style, printed at the shortest notice. The REPORTER Office is well supplied with Power Presses, a good assortment of new type, and everything in the Printing line can be executed in the most artistic manner and at the lowest rates. TERMS INVARIABLY CASH.

BUSINESS CARDS.

O. D. BARTLETT & SON, Insurance Agents, Towanda, Pa. None but reliable companies represented.
O. D. BARTLETT. C. GRAHAM BARTLETT.
Nov. 13, 1872.-1y*

R. FOWLER, REAL ESTATE DEALER, No. 278 South Water Street, Chicago, Illinois. Real Estate purchased and sold. Investments made and Money Loaned.
May 10, '70.

JOHN DUNFEE, *BLACKSMITH*, MONROETON, PA., pays particular attention to ironing Buggies, Wagons, Sleighs, &c. Tires set and repairing done on short notice. Work and charges guaranteed satisfactory. 12,15,69.

AMOS PENNYPACKER, HAS again established himself in the TAILORING BUSINESS. Shop over Rockwell's Store. Work of every description done in the latest styles.
Towanda, April 21, 1870.—tf

FRAYSVILLE WOOLEN MILL. The undersigned would respectfully announce to the public that he keeps constantly on hand Woolen Cloths, Cassimeres, Flannels, Yarns, and all kinds at wholesale and retail. HAIGH & BROADLEY.
Aug. 1a, 1870 Proprietor.

C. S. RUSSELL'S GENERAL INSURANCE AGENCY,
May 28'70—tf TOWANDA, PA.

WM. H. MORGAN & CO., Dealers in REAL ESTATE.—Lots from $100 upwards. Also Real Estate Agents. Land bought and sold and money loaned. Parties desiring to sell Wild Lands, Farms, or Lots, can have a map of lands or subdivision made at this Agency, and property sold on a reasonable commission. Office over Postoffice, Mercur's Block, Towanda, Pa.
L. L. MOODY. [Dec.4'72] WM. H. MORGAN.

THE UNDERSIGNED ARCHITECT AND BUILDER, wishes to inform the citizens of Towanda and vicinity, that he will give particular attention to drawing plans, designs and specifications for all manner of buildings, private and public. Superintendence given for reasonable compensation. Office at residence N. E. corner of Second and Elizabeth streets.
J. E. FLEMMING.
oct5'71 Box 511, Towanda, Pa.

W. W. KINGSBURY, REAL ESTATE, LIFE, FIRE, & ACCIDENT INSURANCE AGENCY. Office, corner of Main and State Streets,
March 13, 1872. TOWANDA, PA.

SASH, DOORS, AND BLINDS. I am prepared to furnish Kiln-dried Doors, Sash and Blinds of any style, size, or thickness, on short notice. Hand in your orders ten days before you want to use the articles, and be sure that you will get them that will not shrink or swell. Terms cash on delivery.
Towanda, June 13, 1871. GEO. F. ASH.

DAYTON & BROTHER, Dealers in WOOL, HIDES, PELTS, CALFSKINS, FURS, &C. For which the highest cash price is paid at all times. Office in M. E. Rosenfield's Store, Main St.,
A. A. DAYTON, J. E. DAYTON. Nov. 14, '70 TOWANDA, PA.

NEW FIRM! NEW GOODS, LOW PRICES! AT MONROETON, PA. TRACY & HOLLON, Retail Dealers in Groceries and Provisions, Drugs and Medicines, Kerosene Oil, Lamps, Chimneys, Stoves, Dye Stuffs, Paints, Oils, Varnish, Yankee Notions, Tobacco, Cigars and Snuff. Pure Wine and Liquors, of the best quality, for medicinal purposes. All Goods sold at the very lowest prices. Prescriptions carefully compounded at all hours of the day and night. Give us a call.
TRACY & HOLLON.
Monroeton, Pa., June 24, 1869—1y.

CHARLES F. DAYTON, Successor to Humphrey Bros., HARNESS MAKER, Over Moody's Store. Keeps constantly on hand a full assortment of DOUBLE and SINGLE HARNESS, and all other goods in his line. Repairing and manufacturing done to order.
Towanda, August 28, 1871.

BAKERY! CONFECTIONERY!! GROCERIES! The undersigned begs leave to return thanks to the people of Towanda and vicinity for the very liberal patronage extended to him during the past year, and at the same time to give notice that he has added to his business a stock of BEST FAMILY GROCERIES which he will sell CHEAP AT THE LOWEST PRICES! Bread, Cakes, Pies, Baked Beans, &c., always on hand. Oysters and Ice Cream in their season. Call and examine for yourselves. No trouble to show goods.
L. C. NELSON.

GUARANTEE SATISFACTION. He has also fitted up a DINING ROOM, where he will at all times be ready to furnish Meals at the shortest notice and on as reasonable terms as any other house in town. Horses fed by the day or meal on the lowest terms. Oysters served up in all the styles desired, in season. Ladies and gentlemen can be accommodated with Oysters and Ice Cream at any time during the season. Particular attention paid to the comfort of those who may give him a call.
Towanda, August 28, 1871.

BUY A THING WHERE IT IS MADE AND ENCOURAGE HOME TRADE. BARTLETT'S ADJUSTABLE SPRING BED BOTTOM. This spring bed is the only desirable one in use. It is manufactured in Bradford County. Call at our home and try it a week; if it is not the most comfortable bed you ever slept on, return it at our expense. We warrant it to be the best bottom in the market. We make them to order to fit any old bedstead. Our agent will call on you. Make inquiries in your neighborhood, and satisfy yourself as to its merits. We make them to order to fit any old bedstead that no sale really to the spring will fit.
L. C. NELSON.
We are agent for Cook's Patent Door Strip. Agent wanted. Office opposite M. E. Church, Towanda, Pa.
April 2, 1873.

EXCELLENCE WITH ECONOMY Attained by purchasing your CLOTHING! At the old and well-known Clothing House of JULIUS WOLFF, Where STYLE, FIT, AND QUALITY Is guaranteed. Always kept on hand an immense stock of the latest styles of SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS To which I invite the attention of my numerous customers and all others who desire to study economy in the purchase of Clothing. ONE DOOR SOUTH OF FOX'S MERCUR'S. Come and see! I do not wish to carry unseasonable goods. Therefore my profits very small in order to close out my stock before a change of Clothing is required.
JULIUS WOLFE.
May 14, 1873

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

JAMES WOOD, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, Towanda, Pa.

SMITH & MONTANYE, ATTORNEYS AT LAW. Office—corner of Main and Pine Streets, opposite Porter's Drug Store.

DR. H. WESTON, DENTIST.—Office in Patton's Block, over Gere's Drug and Chemical Store. jan 1, '68.

DR. T. B. JOHNSON, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, Office over Dr. H. C. Porter Son & Co.'s Drug Store.

F. G. MORROW, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, offers his professional services to the citizens of Warren and vicinity. Residence first house north of J. F. Cooper's Store, Warren Centre, Pa. apl8'72-1y

DR. C. M. STANLEY, DENTIST, successor to Dr. Weston. Office in Patton's Block, up stairs, Main Street, Towanda, Pa. All kinds of plate work a specialty. Jan.15'73

DR. S. M. WOODBURN, Physician and Surgeon, Office over Wickham & Black's Crockery store.
Towanda, May 1, 1872.-1y*

H. STREETER, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW,
may30,'72. TOWANDA, PA.

FOYLE & McPHERSON, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, Towanda, Pa. Will give prompt attention to all matters entrusted to their charge. Orphans' Court business a specialty.
W. FOYLE. [may21'73] I. McPHERSON.

BARTLETT & TRACY, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE AGENTS AND BROKERS. Office third door south of First National Bank, ground floor, Towanda, Pa.
O. D. BARTLETT. [may21'73] W. G. TRACY.

H. B. McKEAN, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, Towanda, Pa. Particular attention paid to business in the Orphans' Court. July 20, '66.

H. W. PATRICK, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW. Office, Mercur's Block, next door to the Express Office, Towanda, Pa.
July 17, 1873.

P. C. J. DeANGELIS, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Main Street, Towanda, Pa. Office with Overton & Elsbree, opposite Court House. May 14, '73.

W. H. CARNOCHAN, ATTORNEY AT LAW (District Attorney for Bradford County), Troy, Pa. Collections made and promptly remitted. feb 15, '69—tf.

W. B. KELLY, DENTIST.—Office over Wickham & Black's, Towanda, Pa. Teeth inserted on Gold, Silver, Rubber, and Aluminum bases. Teeth extracted without pain. Oct23,'72.

DR. L. U. BEACH, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, Permanently located at Towanda, Pa. Particular attention paid to all Chronic Diseases. Cancers and Tumors removed without pain and without use of the knife. Office at his residence on State street, two doors east of Dr. Pratt's. Attendance in office Mondays and Saturdays. May 16, '72.

MADILL & CALIFF, ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, TOWANDA, PA.
H. J. MADILL, J. N. CALIFF.
Office in Wood's Block, first door south of First National Bank, up-stairs. Jan. 8, '73-1y

OVERTON & ELSBREE, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Towanda, Pa., having entered into copartnership, offer their professional services to the public. Special attention given to business in the Orphan's and Register's Courts. apl 14'70
E. OVERTON, JR. N. C. ELSBREE.

W. A. PECK'S LAW OFFICE. Main street opposite the Court House, Towanda, Pa.
Oct. 27, '70.

A. A. KEENEY, COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT, Towanda, Pa. Office with B. McPeck, second door below the Ward House. Will be at the office the last Saturday of each month and at all other times when not called away on business connected with the Superintendency. All letters should hereafter be addressed as above. dec.1.70

DR. J. W. LYMAN, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. Office on Main Street, formerly occupied by Dr. Ludd. Residence, corner Pine and Second streets. Towanda, June 22, 1871.

JOHN W. MIX, ATTORNEY AT LAW, Towanda, Bradford Co., Pa. GENERAL INSURANCE AGENT. Particular attention paid to Collections and Orphans' Court business. Office—Mercur's New Block, north side Public Square. apr. 1, '69.

E. C. GRIDLEY, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.
April 1, 1873. Towanda, Pa.

DOCTOR O. LEWIS, A GRADUATE of the College of "Physicians and Surgeons," New York city, Class 1843-4, gives exclusive attention to the practice of his profession. Office and residence on the eastern slope of Orwell Hill, adjoining Henry Howels. jan 14, '69.

DR. D. D. SMITH, *Dentist*, has purchased G. H. Wood's property, between Mercur's Block and the Elwell House, where he has located his office. Teeth extracted without pain by use of gas. Towanda, Oct. 20, 1870.—yr.

Hotels.

DINING ROOMS IN CONNECTION WITH THE BAKERY, Near the Court House. We are prepared to feed the hungry at all times of the day and evening. Oysters and Ice Cream in their seasons.
March 30, 1870. D. W. SCOTT & CO.

ELWELL HOUSE, TOWANDA, PA., JOHN C. WILSON. Having leased this House, is now ready to accommodate the travelling public. No pains nor expense will be spared to give satisfaction to those who may give him a call.
☞ North side of the public square, east of Mercur's new block.

RUMMERFIELD CREEK HOTEL, PETER LANDMESSER, Having purchased and thoroughly refitted this old and well-known stand, formerly kept by Sheriff Griffis, at the mouth of Rummerfield Creek, is ready to give good accommodations and satisfactory treatment to all who may favor him with a call.
Dec. 23, 868—tf.

MEANS HOUSE, TOWANDA, PA., COR. MAIN AND BRIDGE STREETS. The Horses, Harness, &c. of guests of this house, insured against loss by Fire, without any extra charge. A superior quality of Old English Bass Ale, just received.
Towanda, Jan. 24, '71. T. R. JORDAN, Proprietor.

WARD HOUSE, TOWANDA, BRADFORD COUNTY, PENN'A. This popular house, recently leased by Messrs. ROON & MEANS, and having been completely refitted, refurnished, and refurnished, affords to the public all the comforts and modern conveniences of a first-class Hotel. Situate opposite the Park on Main Street, it is conveniently convenient for persons visiting Towanda, either for pleasure or business.
sept 71 ROON & MEANS, Proprietors.

MANSION HOUSE, LeRAYSVILLE, PA. W. W. BROWNING, PROPRIETOR. This House is conducted in strictly Temperance principles. Every effort will be made to make guests comfortable. Good rooms and the table will always be supplied with the best the market affords. Nov. 1, 1871.

SUPERIOR AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY, for Sale by R. M. WELLES, TOWANDA, PA., Office No. 3 Mercur's Block, north side of Court House square. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER AND MANUFACTURERS AGENT. Mowing Machines, Horse Powers and Threshers, Wheel Rakes, Plaster Sowers, Grain Seeders, Hay Tedders, Reversible and Steel Plows, Cultivators, Thill Horse Hoes, Clover Hullers and Fanning Mills. LAWN MOWERS, WATER DRAWERS, HAY SELLING SEED CHURN POWERS IN THE WORLD, CORN SHELLERS FOR HAND OR POWER, &C., &C. Catalogues and descriptive, illustrated printed circulars, furnished or mailed free to all applicants. It will cost but three cents to send for circulars in postage. Farmers when in Towanda, call and see me.
April 2 '72. R. M. WELLES.

NEW STAGE ROUTE! The undersigned is now running his Stage from TOWANDA TO CANTON, making a saving of one dollar on fare and fifty-five miles travel over the route by cars. Leave Towanda at 10:30, A. M., arriving at Canton 3:30. Leave Canton at 10:30, arriving at Towanda 4, P. M. Express goods carried at reasonable rates.
Towanda, Sept 4, '73. J. WILES.

J. O. FROST & SONS, MANUFACTURERS OF FURNITURE! Our warerooms at all times contain an UNRIVALED ASSORTMENT OF CHAMBER SETS Of all styles and prices, combining with the Rich and Elegant, the Medium Prices, suitable for all, and so cheap that any can afford to have them. Also the finest and most FASHIONABLE BLACK WALNUT PARLOR AND LIBRARY FURNITURE. Of new and original designs and of the most superb style and finish. Also a choice assortment of TABLES, WARDROBES, DRESSING CASES, SIDE-BOARDS, LIBRARY AND BOOK-CASES. Also a complete line of Tete-a-Tetes, Sofas, Sounges Rocking, Easy and Parlor Chairs, in the greatest variety of styles and prices. Also an endless variety of BEDSTEADS, BUREAUS, CHAIRS TABLES, MIRRORS, FEATHER PILLOWS, MATRESSES, & SPRING BEDS, Of every description, and in fact everything to be found in a First Class Furniture Store, CHEAPER THAN THE CHEAPEST! We pay Case for Lumber, or will take Lumber in exchange for Furniture. Also a large stock of COFFINS Of every description from the most common to the finest Rosewood, always on hand. We are sole agents for FISK'S METALIC BURIAL CASES, Which are now conceded by all parties to be far the best Metalic Case in use. We have the FINEST HEARSE In this section of country, and will furnish anything in the UNDERTAKING line AS LOW as the same quality of goods can be got at ANY PLACE, either in Towanda or elsewhere, and from our large EXPERIENCE and thorough acquaintance with the business, we can save persons many annoyances to which they are always subject when dealing with incompetent parties. STORE 107 MAIN STREET. ☞ Do not forget the place.
J. O. FROST & SONS.
Towanda, April 2, 1872

TO OUR PATRONS. GEO. H. WOOD & CO., PHOTOGRAPHERS, TOWANDA, PA. Grateful for the generous patronage of the past year, would inform all wanting Pictures that we are still adding to our establishment NEW AND IMPROVED INSTRUMENTS, And adopting tried and approved modes of printing and retouching in order to secure FINER PHOTOGRAPHS THAN HERETOFORE made outside of the cities, and that we make it a specialty to enlarge all kinds of Pictures to any size desired, and finish in Water Colors, India Ink, or in Oil, in the BEST STYLES AND VERY LOW PRICES. We also endeavor to take all the time possible in making childrens pictures, so as to secure the best results. We are constantly adding to our stock of FRAMES All new patterns and tasteful styles, and furnish them at a small advance from cost prices. May 14, 1873.

100 MEN WANTED To buy the celebrated HARD AND SOFT COAL BURNER COOK STOVES. We have the best line of Stoves in the State. MANSARD COOK and MODERN VULCAN Have taken the premiums in all the State Fairs, and we know they are a first-class Stove. DOMESTIC COOK For soft coal, something new. DOMESTIC COOK For hard or soft coal. Also the INVINCIBLE, PRESIDENT, ZENITH, UNITY. All first-class Stoves. PARLOR STOVES. EMPIRE GAS BURNERS (4 sizes). COSY LIGHTS. LIGHT HOUSE, BEACON LIGHT, ROCKET, REFLECTOR, FIRE FLY, AND BALTIMORE HEATERS. A full assortment of Hardware, Tinware, Copper, and Sheetiron Ware always on hand. ☞ All orders filled promptly. Job work done and warranted. Give us a call.
LEWIS & SMALLEY,
Nov. 13, 1872. No. 4, Bridge St., Towanda.

TOWANDA NURSERY. The undersigned having purchased the NURSERY ON TOWANDA FLATS, Calls attention to his large stock of FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES Which he is now prepared to DELIVER ON MOST REASONABLE TERMS. Orders in person or by mail promptly attended to.
HENRY PEET.
Towanda, April 16, 1873.

WE CLAIM FOR LAZARUS & MORRIS' CELEBRATED PERFECTED SPECTACLES AND EYE GLASSES. The undermentioned advantages over those in ordinary use, the proof of which may be seen in the extraordinary sales, and constantly increasing demand for them: 1st. That from the peculiar construction of the glasses they assist and preserve the sight, rendering frequent changes unnecessary. 2d. That they confer a brilliancy and distinctness of vision, with an amount of ease and comfort not hitherto enjoyed by spectacle wearers. 3d. That the material from which the Lenses are ground, is manufactured specially for optic purposes; and is pure, hard, and brilliant, and not liable to become scratched. 4th. That the frame in which they are set, whether in Gold, Silver, or Steel, are of the finest quality and finish and guaranteed perfect in every respect. For sale only by our authorized agent in this locality. We never supply or employ peddlers.
WM. A. CHAMBERMIN, Sole Agent,
Nov. 20, 1872. Towanda, Pa.

Selected Poetry.

BY THE RIVER.

I am sitting alone by the river,
And the willows are sweeping its brink;
The shadows of twilight are falling,
And I sit by the river and think.

The shadows of twilight grow deeper,
The river is fading from sight;
I can see the gray willows no longer,
And I am alone with the night.

In darkness and gloom, noble river,
Thou art noiselessly floating away;
In darkness and gloom I am floating,
And whither, oh! say, do I stray?

The learning of Plato and Pascal
Is madly at work in my brain;
I am satisfied about nothing—
I feel and I reason in vain.

Does justice exist? Oh, where is it?
Still the heart of the tyrant is stone,
Still his victims are toiling, despairing;
Still he heeds not, he hears not, their moan.

'Tis vain that you tell me, hereafter
These things are not to be so;
We are only able to reason
From that which we see and we know.

For centuries long have the curses
Of the heart-broken pierced to the skies;
For centuries long has no answer
Returned to their desolate cries.

If I call upon Nature for comfort,
It is silent and grim as the grave;
The winds will not stop at my question—
No reply from the long-sounding wave.

And the stars, as they glitter above me,
Pure and calm as the flakes of the snow,
Look as cold on the sorrows of mortals,
As they looked in the years long ago.

Oh, give me! oh, give me my childhood,
The unquestioning faith that was there,
When I knelt at the feet of my mother,
And gently she taught me my prayer.

I am sitting alone by the river,
And the willows are sweeping its brink;
The twilight has deepened to midnight,
And I sit by the river and think.

Miscellaneous.

COURTSHIP AFTER MARRIAGE.

"Now this is what I call comfort," said Madge Harley as she sat down by her neighbor's fire one evening; "here you are at your sewing, with the kettle steaming on the hob, and the tea-things on the table, expecting every minute to hear your husband's step, and see his kind face look in at the door. Ah! if my husband was but like yours, Janet."

"He is like mine in many of his ways," said Janet, with a smile, "and if you will allow me to speak plainly, he would be still more like him if you took more pains to make him comfortable."

"What do you mean?" cried Madge; "our house is as clean as your's; I mend my husband's clothes, and cook his dinner as carefully as any one in the parish, and yet he never stays at home on an evening, while you sit here by your cheerful fire night after night as happy as can be."

"As happy as can be *on earth*," said her friend gravely; "yes, and shall I tell you the secret of it, Madge?"

"I wish you would," said Madge, with a deep sigh; "it is misery to live as I do now."

"Well, then," said Janet, speaking slowly and distinctly, "I let my husband see that I love him still, and that I learn every day to love him more. Love is the chain that binds him to his home. The world may call it folly, but the world is not my lawgiver."

"And do you really think," exclaimed Madge in surprise, "that husbands care for that sort of thing?"

"For love, do you mean?" asked Janet.

"Yes; they don't feel at all as we do, Janet, and it don't take many years of married life to make them think of a wife as a sort of maid-of-all-work."

"A libel, Madge," said Mrs. Matson, laughing; "I won't allow you to sit in William's chair and talk so.

"No, because your husband is different, and values his wife's love, while John cares for me only as his house-keeper."

"I don't think that," said Janet, "although I know that he said to my husband the other day that courting time was the happiest of a man's life. William reminded him that there is greater happiness than that, even on earth, if men but give their hearts to Christ. I know John did not alter his opinion, but he went away still thinking of his courting time as a joy too great to be exceeded."

"Dear fellow," cried Madge, smiling through her tears. "I do believe he was very happy then. I remember I used to listen for his steps as I sat with my dear mother by the fire, longing for the happiness of seeing him."

"Just so," said Janet; "do you ever feel like that now."

Madge hesitated. "Well, no, not exactly."

"And why not?"

"O, I don't know," said Madge; "married people give up that sort of thing."

"Love, do you mean?" asked Janet.

"No, but what people call being sentimental," said Mrs. Harley.

"Longing to see your husband is a proper sentiment."

"But some people are ridiculously foolish before others," reasoned Mrs. Harley.

"That proves they want sense. I am not likely to approve of that, as William would soon tell you; all I want is that wives should let their husbands know they are still loved."

"But men are so vain," said Madge, "that it is dangerous to show them much attention."

Her friend looked up, "O, Madge, what are you saying? Have you, then, married with the notion that it is not good for John to believe you love him?"

"No, but it is not wise to show that you care too much for them."

"Say *I* and *him*; do not talk of husbands in general but of yours in particular."

"He thinks quite enough of himself already, I assure you."

"Dear Madge," said Janet, smiling, "would it do *you* any harm to receive a little more attention from your husband?"

"Of course not. I wish he'd try," and Mrs. Harley laughed at the idea.

"Then *you* don't think enough of yourself already? and nothing would make *you* vain, I suppose?"

Madge colored, and all the more when she perceived that William Matson had come in quietly, and was now standing behind Janet's chair. This of course, put an end to the conversation. Madge retired to her own home to think of Janet's words, and to confess secretly that they were wise.

Hours passed before John Harley returned home. He was a man of good abilities, and well to do in the world, and having married Madge because he truly loved her, he had expected to have a happy home. But partly because he was reserved and sensitive, partly because Madge feared to make him vain, they had grown very cold to each other, so cold that John began to think the ale-house a more comfortable place than his own fireside.

That night the rain fell in torrents, the winds howled, and it was not until the midnight hour had arrived that Harley left the public-house and hastened toward his cottage. He was wet through when he at length crossed the threshold; he was, as he gruffly muttered, "used to that;" but he was not used to the tone and look with which his wife drew near to welcome him, nor to find warm clothes by a crackling fire, and slippers on the hearth; nor to hear no reproach for late hours, and neglect, and dirty foot-marks as he sat in his arm-chair. Some change had come to Madge he was very sure. She wore a dress he had bought her years ago, with a neat linen collar round the neck, and a cap, trimmed with white ribbons, on her head.

"You're smart, Madge," he exclaimed at last, when he had stared at her for some time in silence. "Who has been here worth dressing for tonight?"

"No one until you came," said Madge, half laughing.

"I? Nonsense; you didn't dress for *me!*" cried John.

"You won't believe, perhaps, but I *did*. I have been talking with Mrs. Matson this evening, and she has given me some very good advice. So now, John, what would you like for supper?"

John, who was wont to steal to the shelf at night and content himself with anything he could find, thought Madge's offer too excellent to be refused, and very soon a large bowel of chocolate was steaming on the table. Then his wife sat down, for a wonder, by his side and talked a little, and listened, and looked pleased, when at last, as if he could not help it, he said, "Dear old Madge!"

That was enough; her elbow somehow found its way then to the arm of his great chair, and she sat quietly looking at the fire. After awhile John spoke again:

"Madge, dear, do you remember the old days when we used to sit side by side in your mother's kitchen?"

"Yes."

"I was a younger man then, Madge, and, as they told me, handsome; now I am growing older, plainer, duller, *then*—then you *loved* me; do you love me *still?*"

She looked up in his face, and her eyes answered him. It was like going back to the old days to feel his arm around her as her head lay on his shoulder, and to hear once again the kind words meant for her ear alone.

She never once asked if this would make him "vain;" she knew, as if by instinct, that it was making him a wiser, a more thoughtful, more earnest-hearted man. And when, after a happy silence, he took down the big Bible, and read a chapter, as he had been wont to read to her mother in former times, she bowed her head and prayed.

Yes, prayed—for pardon, through the blood of Jesus Christ—for strength to fulfill every duty in the future—for the all-powerful influences of the Spirit, for blessings on her husband evermore.