

The Post

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Poetry.

A Mite Song.

Only a drop in the bucket, But every drop will tell, The bucket would soon be empty, Without the drops in the well. Only a mite in the penny, It was all I had to give, But as pennies make the dollars, It may help some cause to live. A few little bits of ribbon, And some tays that were not new, But they made the sick child happy, Which has made me happy, too. Only some outworn garments— They were all I had to spare, But they'll help to clothe the needy, And the poor are everywhere. A word now and then of comfort, That cost me nothing to say, But the poor old man died happy, And it helped him on the way. God loveth the cheerful giver, Though the gift be poor and small, What doth He think of His children When they never give at all?

Miscellaneous.

An Iowa Horror.

The St. Joseph (Mo.) Herald, of the 18th, ult., gives an account of a terrible tragedy near Albany, Mo., enacted just across the line in Iowa. The paper says: About one year ago a man by the name of Phil Ames moved in that neighborhood, bringing with him a wife, a little child and his sister-in-law. He secured a small piece of land and erected on it a neat two-story dwelling. For a time all things appeared to go on nicely inside the family mansion, but it soon became evident to those who were intimate with the Ames that there was a skeleton in the house, and that all was not as lovely as it should be, or, in other words, the love of the household was scattered around among too many women. There was a coldness growing up between husband and wife, only equalled by an apparent warmth existing between the husband and the sister-in-law. The neighboring woman noticed that the wife appeared often in tears, was neglected and left unprovided for, while her sister received the smiles and caresses of the husband. Whole days the wife passed alone, having no company save the child, a bright golden haired girl of five summers, who clung to her, and in whose existence she appeared to live and have her being. At length, on the 15th of November, the little child sickened and suddenly died. It was buried the next day—a rare country burial, a bitter cold north wind, leafless trees and cheerless grave enshaded the mother's spirit and broke her heart. Then it was that the spirit of the first born Cain appeared to take possession of the husband. He frequently beat his wife, drove her from his bed and forced her to occupy a miserable straw and hick pullet on the kitchen floor, while the sister occupied the place which belonged to her. At length the wife driven to despair, told the story of her wrongs to Mrs. Rosa McGair, and she laid the situation in the Ames household before her husband, and he soon had men of the neighborhood worked up to a point of lynching the unmarital husband. They visited the house, and would have hung the monster but for the pleadings of his wife, who went down on her knees before the angry crowd and begged the life of the man who had so wronged her, while her sister, at the first sound of danger, had sought safety in flight. The neighbors listened to the poor woman's appeal, removed the rope from the man's neck and set him free. To any but a man possessed by a devil this would have proved a warning that would have turned him into better ways. But not so with Ames. Scarcely had the crowd dispersed when he went to the barn, saddled his horse and returned to the house with a heavy curb bridle. Up stairs, kneeling and at prayer, with a photograph of her dead child in her hand, he found his wife. In an instant he had struck her to his feet with the curb bit, dragged her to the head of the stairs, and threw her to the floor below, where he continued to beat her with the bridle until life had departed. In the meantime the sister had returned from her hiding place. Another horse was saddled, the body of the dead woman was thrown across the saddle, and, the sister riding one horse and leading the other, Ames walked alongside and held the body in position until they arrived at the river, where a hole was cut in the ice and the body thrust out of sight. A young man returning home saw the parties journeying to the river, and when he reached the settlement told what he had seen. A number of armed men started in pursuit, and arrived at the river bank just as the murderer and paramour were mounting their horses. They were called upon to halt, when Ames drew a revolver and fired into the crowd. The fire was returned by a volley, and the guilty woman fell dead from her horse, shot through the neck. The man putting spurs to his horse attempted to escape in the dark, but a fortunate shot brought him snuff down and the murderer was captured. A rope was provided and all the necessary arrangements made by a frontier lawless, when the

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The bill for counting the Presidential vote provides that the two Houses shall assemble on the second Wednesday of February, in the Hall of the House of Representatives. The President of the Senate will be the presiding officer. Two tellers are to be appointed on the part of the House, and two on the part of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall open all the certificates of electoral votes, in alphabetical order of the States, beginning with the letter A, and the tellers, having read the same, shall make a list of the votes as they appear on the certificates. They shall certify this list to the President of the Senate, who will announce the result, and the person having the majority of the votes shall be declared President of the United States. If any question shall arise on the reading of any certificate, as to whether the votes shall be counted, the objection having been stated by the presiding officer, the Senate shall withdraw to its own Chamber; the objection shall be considered and decided without debate, and unless both Houses concur in sustaining the objection, the vote objected to shall be counted. In case where more than one set of returns are presented from the same State, the two returns, with all accompanying papers, are to be referred to a commission to consist of five Senators, to be elected by the Senate; five members of the House, and four Associate Justices of the United States Supreme Court, for the first, third, eighth and ninth circuits, and four Associate Justices shall preside at the sessions of this tribunal, and its decision with all the powers of either or both Houses of Congress to make regulations. The decisions of this commission shall be made in writing to both Houses, which shall be conveyed in the Hall of the House of Representatives to receive such decisions, and the decisions of the commission shall stand, unless both Houses concur in rejecting them, as provided in the first section of the bill with reference to the votes of objected States, from which but one return has been received. This commission of fifteen persons, who are to decide the important questions referred to them by the joint meeting, are to take an oath to act impartially and give a true judgment according to the Constitution and laws. They are to be chosen by a majority of votes, which may and what votes from the disputed States are the voter provided for by the Constitution, and how many electors were duly appointed in each of said States. Any power now existing in the Constitution which would prevent proceedings in the United States Courts as to the rights or title of the person declared elected, are not to be impaired by the provisions of this bill.

WHAT SHE DREAMED—A Strong-minded woman married a man not noted for activity of body or energy of character, and before the honeymoon was over, upon waking one morning he found his spouse in tears.

"My love," said he, "what is the matter?" "Oh, my, I have had such a dreadful dream!" "Why, what was it?" "I thought I was going up Broadway, shopping, when I saw a sign 'Husbands for sale.' So many were on every railing in that I followed and just then they sold a splendid specimen for fifteen dollars."

"But did they all bring as much as that?" "Oh, no! They went a thousand dollars, five hundred and so on down."

"Well, did you see any that looked like me?" "Yes, indeed. But they were tied up in bunches, like asparagus, and sold for ten cents a bunch." Taberna!

A Brave Girl.

Mr. Close and family, of Pittsburgh, had gone out in the afternoon, leaving no one at the house but a girl, who is a servant in the family and whose name, unfortunately, the reporter did not learn. She also went out for a few minutes, and when she came back found a barely-looking man standing on the porch. She asked him what he wanted, and he answered that it was none of her business. She then ordered him away, and he retorted that he wouldn't go until he got ready. The girl became frightened and slipping in the hall door closed it in the man's face, locked it and put the key in her pocket. She had been in the house but a minute or two when she heard noises up stairs which she thought was coal falling from a grate. She went up to attend to it, but on reaching the room door (which was standing open) from whence the noise proceeded was astonished and frightened to see a thief rummaging among the bureau drawers. She retained enough presence of mind not to cry out, as a neighboring woman in a hundred would have done, but stepped away cautiously, remembering that in an hour or two was a revolver belonging to Mr. Close, she went in and hid it, and then walked down into the hall to wait the coming of the thief. The latter, perhaps having heard her come down also in a minute or two with his hands and pockets full of jewelry, and was astonished to find himself confronted by the brave girl with the cocked revolver in her hands. She asked him what he had been doing, and ordered him to disgorge instantly. He refused, but the girl, trembling and crying with excitement, yet evidently determined, told him she would tell him three times, and if then he didn't obey her she would certainly shoot him. The man hesitated for a few moments, but before waiting to be told the third time, concluding that he was in a position from which escape from the threatening revolver and daring girl was impossible, capitulated, and laid down his plunder, consisting of a lady's gold watch and chain, gold bracelets, &c., to the value of \$200. The girl then threw him the doorway and ordered him to depart which he did without loss of time.—Pittsburgh Gazette.

An Effective Trap for Rats.

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