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SONG OF THE COUNTRY.

Away from the roar and the rattle, The dust and din of the town, Where to live is to brawl and to battle, Till the strong treads the weak man down. Away to the bonnie green hills, Where the sunshine sleeps on the brae,

And the heart of the greenwood thrills To the hymn of the bird on the spray. Away from the smoke and the smother,

The vale of the dun and the brown, The push and the plash and the pother The wear and waste of the town! Away where the sky shines clear, And the light breeze wanders at will, And the dark pine wood nods near To the light plumed birch on the hill.

Away from the whirling and wheeling, And steaming above and below. Where the heart has no leisure for feeling, And the thought has no quiet to grow. Away where the clear brook puris, And the byacinth droops in the shade, And the plume of the fern uncurls Its grace in the depth of the glade.

Away to the cottage, so sweetly Embowered 'neath the fringe of the wood, Where the wife of my bosom shall meet me With thoughts ever kindly and good. More dear than the worth of the world Fond mother with bairnies three, And the plump-armed babe that has curled Its lips sweetly pouting for me.

DONALD'S WIFE.

-J. Stuart Blackie.

When Donald McKeon married his ward, Jessie Sumner, many of his

friends said he had made a mistake. She was a merry, laughing girl of failed, and his wealth seemed melting eighteen, fresh from school; and he, away like a snow-wreath, his only her father's old friend, a quiet, selfcontained man of thirty-five, and it day his hair grew whiter, and his form can scarcely be wondered at that many grew stooped with bending over the wise heads were shaken over the illassorted match.

Jessie had always stood a little in awe of the quiet, stern man, who had been a frequent visitor at her father's house during his lifetime.

But she was quite unprovided for, matter-of-fact way, very much is he might have asked her to be his house-keeper, it seemed the matter-of-fact way asked her to be his house-keeper, it seemed the matter-of-fact way asked her to be his house-keeper, it seemed the matter-of-fact way asked her to be his house-keeper, it seemed the matter-of-fact way asked her to be his house-keeper. solve the troublesome problem of her life; and beside this, she knew her the three years she had spent at a fashionable school since her father's death had been at his expense.

And so they were married, and he took her to the old home that his family had owned and occupied for genera-

It was quite a stately house, sur- entail, rounded by handsome, old-fashioned grounds. But a little time ago it had been quite on the suburbs, but the city ligations were met there would be liventor.

And he resolved that this at least he would spare her. After all his obligations were met there would be

But in spite of its great, handsomelyfine linen, and the bright, old-fashioned trouble her with his presence, garden at the back, it seemed a dreary prison to the laughter-loving girl-

Mr. McKeon had done what he through every word. could to brighten the old rooms, and ing that Jessie was fond of flowers, the note himself up to her room. and she might have been quite happy had he known more of the ways and needs of women.

But he had always been devoted to had presided over his house since his presence. mother's death, until he brought his young wife home.

ghosts of bygone generations for com- in the hall giving some directions.

And when she grew pale and listless, and lost her old elasticity of spirits, a wedding day took possession of him had married him for home and position and already regretted her choice.

Gladly would he have given her back her liberty had that been possible. filled the room, But being a sensitive, undemonstrative man, he let her see nothing of burden was lifted. Music gave him this, but rather shrank from her be- the comfort she ever gives to those cause of the wrong he felt he had done who truly love her. It was no longer her, and came and went and made no a wail of despair, but a pean of

And then people began to discover that Mrs. McKeon was a very charm- hear a soft footstep enter the room, ing woman, and her husband a wealthy A hand was laid on his shoulder, and and influential man, and invitations began to pour in upon her.

And Jessie plunged into this new Mfe of fashionable dissipation with a discord on the keys. It was the first Counsel for one of the defendants day-school superintendent coming wind so changes during the day as to zest that was the natural reaction from time Jessie had ever called him by moved for a nonsuit on the ground down through the clouds on a bicycle, follow the sun.—Mary A. Barr, in zest that was the natural reaction from time Jessie had ever called him by the gloom and loneliness of the past that name.

year. her wherever she went, for he had cashmere. The firelight was sending somewhat old-fashioned nctions as to long rays down the stately gloom of what was right and fitting for women

to do. But it was a life he utterly detested. It interfered with his business, and he looked below the surface and saw Donald; you have worked so hard for the hollow falsehood it was after all, your wealth." and it grated on his fine ideas of truth

and sincerity.

when he urged the point she rebelled as heaven is my witness, I would not THE BAD BOY DISCOURSES. against his assumption of authority.

It was their first quarrel and their

last, but it was a very bitter one. She spoke cruel, stinging words, that rankled and hort him the more that he can give me than wealth can buy. had learned to love her so dearly, as Give me back the love I so madly only reserved, self-contained men such threw away. Let me work with you as he can love, and then only when and help you, and I will bless the day they heard all the treasures of their that made us poor!" nature to lavish it in middle life on the one woman who is their fate.

ice had risen between them.

she became the acknowledged leader of me!" the most exclusive circle in the city. She was madly extravagant. She

Mrs. McKeon's toilets, jewels and dinners became the models for her

Men worshiped her beauty; but for all their flatteries she had the same smile of cold contempt, and no man was bold enough to venture beyond the merest commonplace.

And so the years passed, and each one drifted them farther apart, until they seldom met, except at their own have ever been since I learned to hate grand entertainments. Each year she the things that cost me so much, and become more the slave of fashion, and to envy the poorest woman happy in he of his office. But through it all her husband's love." he loved her with an undying love, and his one thought was to gratify her every whim.

And when the dark days came-And when the dark days cannow when ships that were sent out freighted with costly wares went said, softly.

And in their hearts there was a gladhouses that seemed stable as granite failed, and his wealth seemed melting thought was for her; and though each long columns of figures in which the balance was always on the wrong side, he whispered, "For her sake," and

struggled on and denied her nothing. with the And even on the day when he came deavor. home, knowing that all his efforts had availed him nothing and he was a poor man, his only regret was for her, that

which was almost the only room in the house that remained unchanged, father to have been under obligations and tried to collect his thoughts. How to him, and more than suspected that would he tell her? was the question that reiterated itself through his brain, and for the first time in his life Donald McKeon was a coward.

The thought came to him of how she who had chafed at her bonds when they were gilded would bear the closer relations a straitened income would novel is a debtor to Homer. Every

until now it was surrounded by stately often lavished on one dinner, perhaps, solute want. Jessie should have this, and he would go away and work for or genius. furnished rooms, its stores of plate and her and dream of her, but never again

He sat down and wrote a letter, tell-

had built a large conservatory, know- not be in for some time, and he took

It was a dainty place, bright as unbounded wealth and an exquisite taste could make it.

He left the note on her toilet-table, business, caring little for the society lingering for a moment to touch caof women, and knowing little of them, ressingly the costly articles that were except the grim, old spinster aunt who scattered about, all breathing of her

When he returned to the library the early dusk was falling. A servant It never occurred to him that it was came, bringing lights, but he disa dreary sort of life for a girl like Jes- missed him impatiently, and a few sie, alone in the gloomy old house all moments later heard the sound of day, with only the servants and the wheels and the sweet voice of his wife

At length the silence became unbearable, and he seated himself at the piano. In his old bachelor days music fear that had haunted him since his had been his passion, but in these latter years of feverish struggle he had and poisoned his life-a fear that she found no time for it. But when his fingers touched the keys all the despair, the pain and longing in his heart found voice in the rich chords that

He played on, and gradually the thanksgiving for victory gained.

So absorbed was he that he did not a tremulous voice said:

" Donald." His hand came down with a sudden

He turned and saw her standing At first her husband accompanied there in her dressing-gown of soft the library, and she looked very beauti- ing?"

ful against the resy background. "You read my letter, Jessie?" "Yes; and I am sorry for your sake,

"Do not think of me, Jessie, It is Perhaps he was somewhat dicta- of poverty. But, oh, my child, if I me, judge. These fellows besieged me where the boy took all the money he torial in his manner of telling her could save you from its sting! If it and I winged three of them, this; perhaps she imagined so. But were at the sacrifice of my own life, motion for a nonsuit was denied.

spare it !"

She came close to him and laid her hands in his.

"Donald there is a better thing you

"Jessie," he said, "are you sure of this? Do not try to deceive me. Do After that he opposed her in nothing, not say it if it is not true. I could go but it was as though a great wall of away now and learn to bear it, but to open my heart to this new hope and He devoted himself to business, and then find I was mistaken would kill

"Donald, do you think I am made of stone—that I could know all your made the old house a marvel of kindness and patience all these years, asthetic beauty, and entertained like a and not learn to love you? Oh, so often I have longed to kneel at your feet and ask your forgiveness, but I believed I had forfeited your love by

> "And you will not regret the loss of wealth and luxury?" he said, incredu-lously, "and can be happy with only

> my love?"
> "You forget papa and I were poor
> before I married you, Donald, and I
> was happier in those old days than I

He turned the sweet, tear-wet face to the firelight, and bent down and looked into her eyes. And then he took her close in his arms.

ness that all the treasures of the world colud not buy.

WISE WORDS.

There is always hope in a man that etually and earnestly works.

As the light goes out with the exhaustion of the oil, so fortune fails with the cessation of human

Truth takes the stamp of the soul it enters. It is vigorous and rough in arid souls, but tempers and softens itself in loving natures.

There is always room for a man of force, and he makes room for many. Society is a troop of thinkers, and the best heads among them take the best

Every one in this world has his or her share of troubles and trials. Let us, then, try as much as we are able not to increase the burden of any by as much as the weight of a straw.

Every ship that comes to America got its chart from Columbus. Every carpenter who shaves with a foreplane borrows the genius from a forgotten

had reached out ever-encreaching arms something left, not more than she had learnt in good society, are of that force that, if a person have them, he or she rows of brown stone and glaring new but still enough to keep her from ab- must be considered everywhere welcome, though without beauty, wealth

> What Tully says of war may be applied to disputing; it should be always so managed as to remember that the ing her this simply, directly, and with only true end of it is peace; but genthe great love he bore her breathing erally true disputants are like true sportsmen, their whole delight is in The servant had told him she would the pursuit; and a disputant cares no not be in for some time, and he took more for the truth than the sportsman for the hare.

Challenging a Consul.

The following case is of peculiar interest to the consuls of the United States in Europe, and the action of the Wurtemberg government has furnished a valuable precedent. A furniture dealer of Stuttgart, feeling himself aggrieved by a remark said to have been made by Mrs. Catlin, the wife of the United States consul at that capital (but which she denied,) demanded a written apology from Consul Catlin, and failing that, challenged him to fight a duel, naming pistols as his favorite weapon. Mr. Catlin declined to accept the invitation, declaring that he had been sent abroad by his government to respect and uphold the laws of the country to which he had been accredited, and not to violate them by dueling. Thereupon the furniture dealer sent him a grossly insulting communication, which the consul forwarded to the foreign office of the Wurtemberg government. The authorities at once caused the offender to be presecuted, and he was brought up for trial, found guilty and sentenced to a fine of eighty marks and to pay the full costs of the proceedings. Paris Continental Gazette.

Winged Three of Them.

A Dakota schoolmistress sued three young men for breach of promise. that she was too promiscuous. The he put his hand on my head and said Cottage Hearth. court seemed disposed to grant the motion, whereupon the plaintiff

"Judge, did you ever go duck shoot-His honor's eye lighted up with the pride of a sportsman as he answered "Well, I should say so; and many

the time that I've brought down a doz en at a shot.' "I knew it," eagerly added the fair not for myself I care. I am not afraid plaintiff; "that's just the case with that story about the prodigal son,

UNBOSOMS HIMSELF TO THE GROCERY MAN.

And After Ventilating His Mind on Various Serious Matters Leaves a Sign for His Listener to Ponder Over.

"What you sitting there for half an hour for, staring at vacancy?" said the grocery man to the bad boy, as he eat on a stool by the stove one of these foggy mornings, when everybody feels like quarreling, with his fingers clasped around his knee, looking as though he did not know enough to last him to old man came down to the depot to bed. "What you thinking about any meet him, and right there before the

had been no fog-horn on Mount Ararat, and he had passed by with his excursion and not made a landing, and had floated around on the freshet until all the animals starved, and the ark had struck a snag and burst a hole in her bottom. I tell you, we can all congratulate ourselves that Noah hap-pened to blunder on to that high ground. When I think of the narrow escapes about something that is weighing on we have had, it is a wonder to me that we have got along as well as we have."

"Well, when did you get out of the asylum, 'said the grocery man, who had been standing back with open mouth looking at the boy as though he was crazy. "What you want is to have your head soaked. You are getting so you reach out too far with that small mind of yours. In about an other year you will want to run this world yourself. I don't think you are reforming very much. It is wicked for a boy of your size to argue about such things. Your folks better send you to college."

"What do I want to go to college for, and be a heartless hazer and poor baseball player. I can be bad enough think. I don't believe I can ever be good enough to go to heaven, anyway, moon, for and I guess I will go into the newspaper business, where they don't have to be good, and where they have passes or, everywhere. Some boys can take things as they read them, and not think any for themselves, but I am a thinker from Thinkerville, and my imagination plays the dickens with me. There is nothing I read about in old times but what I compare it with the same line of business at the present day. Now, when I think of the fishermen of Galilee drawing their seines, I wonder what they would have done if there had been a law against hauling seines, as there is in Wisconsin to-day, and I can see a constable with a warrant for the arrest of the Galilee fishermen, taking them to the police station in a patrol wagon. I know it is wrong to think like that, but how can I help it. Say, suppose those fishermen had been out hauling their seines, and ister should come along with his good clothes on, his jointed rod, his nickelplated reel, and his silk fish line, and his patent fish hook, and put a frog on for bass? What do you suppose the is in the northwest. lone fishermen of the Bible times knew he wouldn't get a bite in a week, fair weather." the way a fellow at Muskego lake lied to our minister a spell ago? I tell you, boss, it is a sad thing for a boy

argue with him. grocery man went to the door and weather will be clear, calm and fine. looked up and down to see if somebody wouldn't come in and watch the crazy frost. In autumn and spring evenboy while he went to breakfast.

"Oh, pa and the minister can't make a first payment on me. Pa gets frost. mad when I ask questions, and the Pa said yesterday that baldness was may be expected. caused in every case by men's wearing plug hats, and when I asked him and well defined frosts will follow: where the good Elijah (whom the boys called go up old bald head, and the bears had a free lunch on them) got his plug hat, pa said school was east to east, and continues two days dismissed and I could go. When the without rain, and does not turn to the minister was telling me about the good south on the third day nor rain, it is Elijah going up through the clouds in likely to continue northeast for eight a chariot of fire, and I asked the min- or nine days all fine, and then come ister what he thought Elijah would back to south again. It is a sign of have thought if he had met our Sun- continued good weather when the my liver was all wrong. Now, I will leave it to you if there was anything wrong about that. Say, do you know what I think is the most beautiful thing in the Bible?"

"No, I don't," said the grocery man, "and if you want to tell it I will listen | tor?" just five minutes, and then I am going to shut up the store and go to break-fast. You make me tired."

"Well, I think the finest thing is hours."-Arkansaw Traveler. could scrape up and went out West to ner in Kentucky, Dr. Grabam, will be centwited upon the capital at a few paint the towns red. He spent his 100 years old next fall,

money in riotous living, and saw everything that was going on, and got full of benzine, and struck all the gangs of toughs, and his stomach went back on him, and he had majaria, and finally he got to be a cowboy, herding hogs, and had to eat husks that the hogs didn't want, and got pretty low down. Then he thought it was a pretty good scheme to be getting around home, where they had three meals a day and spring mattresses, and he started home, beating his way on the trains, and he didn't know whether the old man would receive him with open arms pointed boots, but meet him, and right there before the way?"
"I was wondering where you would brakeman, he wasn't ashamed of his boy, though he was ragged, and looked by though he had been on the warpath, and the old man fell on his neck and wept, and took him home in a hack and had a veal pot-pie for dinner. That's what I call sense, A good many men now days would have put the police on the tramp and had him ordered out of town. What, you going my mind," and the boy got out just in time to save his coat-tail from being caught in the door, and when the grocery man came back from breakfast he

Weather Signs.

"When round the moon there is a brough (halo), The weather will be cold and rough."

This simply records the fact that the first indication of a change in the weather is the appearance of a halo round the sun or moon, and that a storm of wind and rain, or snow and wind, is at no great distance. The open side of the halo indicating the at home. The more I read the more I quarter from which it may be expected.

"When the sun goes pale to bed, 'Twill rain to-morrow, it is said."

"When clouds are upon the hill, They'll come down by the mills."

The same causes explain the old sayings, that "when walls are unusually damp, asses bray, peacocks cry, toads come out, glow-worms shine, spider's webs float in the air, bees enter their hives in great numbers, but do not come out again, gnats bite, and flies keep near the ground," are one and all prognostics of rain. Also rheumatism, neuralgia, old wounds and corns become troublesome. And many plants, like the pimpernel which is called the poor man's weather-glass close their flowers at the approach of a storm. A piece of seaweed is also used as a weather sign, for it becomes damp before a storm. There is an old saying that

When the wind veers against the sun, Trust it not, for back it will run. When the wind is in the south, It is in the rain's mouth."

The wind from the northwest is the hook and cast his line near the always best, hence the wise man will Galilee fisherman and go to trolling do business with men when the wind

In the summer when brilliant sunwould have thought about the gall of shine prevails during the day and there the jointed rod fisherman? Do you is heavy dew at night, and mist in lowsuppose they would have thrown stones lying places, one will hear it said, in the water where he was trolling, or "Heavy dews in hot weather, continued would they have told him there was fair weather." "No dew after a hot good trolling around a point about a day foretells rain." "If m sts rise in half a mile up the shore, where they low grounds and soon vanish, expect

"When the mists creep up the hill, Fishers out and try your skill."

Fine, bright weather exerts an influto have an imagination," and the boy ence, not only on human beings, but put his other knee in the sling made also on birds, animals and insects, for by the clenched fingers of both hands, we know that if larks fly high and sing and waited for the grocery man to loud we may expect fine weather. When seabirds fly out carly and far to I wish you would go away from seaward, moderate winds and fair here. I am afraid of you," said the weather will follow. When owls grocery man. "I would give any- whoop much at night, or bats come thing if your pa or the minister would out of their holes quickly after sunset, come in and have a talk with you. or the little plant, called chickweed, Your mind is wandering," and the expands its leaves boldly and fully the

In winter, white mist indicates ings, vapor arising from a river is regarded as a sure indication of coming

When fires burn faster than usual, minister thinks I am past redemption. and with a blue flame, frosty weather When the moon's horns are sharp

"Clear moon Frost soon." When the wind turns from north-

Lockjaw. A gentleman whose wife was taken

suddenly ill, hastened to a physician, who immediately responded. "What is the matter with her, doc-

"I fear she has the lockjaw. "Lockjaw! Well, say, doctor, let her run along that way for a few

Congressman Blackburn's law part-

FARTHER ON.

I hear tsinging, sweetly singing, Singing in an undertone, Singing, as if God had taught-It is better farther on.

Night and day it sings the sonnet, Sings it while it sits alone; Sings so that the heart may hear it-It is better farther on.

Sits upon the grave and sings it; Sings it while the heart would groan; Sings it when the shadows darken-It is better farther on.

Farther on-ah! how much farther?-Count the mile stones one by one. No ; no counting, only trusting-It is better farther on.

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

At last a woman has been sunstruck while shopping. (Cut this out and paste it in your wife's hat).—Puck.

The effects of love: A .- "My cousin lost his reason through love." That isn't saying much. A friend of mine became a postman only in order to get his letters from his sweetheart

Among the new colors are "strained gooseberry" and "mashed dude," The latter, it is presumed, is a sort of sickly green. Or it may be a soft-very soft-shade of cigarette smoke-Norristown Herald.

First student: "How stupid! Here my uncle sends me twenty marks as a present." Second student: "I should think you would be delighted." "Not at all; I was just going to ask him to lend me fifty."—Fligende Blatter.

A Vermont man bet a neighbor that he couldn't walk half a mile without looking to the right or left, and just as the man started on his walk set two dogs to fighting about half way down the track, and won his money as easily as could be -Boston Post.

An exchange tells of a man who, by saving a young lady from beneath the tramping hoofs of a drove of mules, won her for a wife. As the event eccurred years ago we would like to have that man's present opinion of that drove of mules-not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. -Oil City Blizzard.

The people of Northwestern Texas are very much puzzled what to do with the prairie dogs that are eating up all the grass. We have not given the subject very thorough consideration, but it seems probable that if such cereals as cabbage, lettuce, green peas, etc., were planted in sufficient quantities in the vicinity of the dog towns, the prairie dogs would cease to fill up. like Nebuchadnezzar, on grass, and would devote all their time to stowing away the more succulent garden truck. ... -Texas Siftings.

THE SMACK OUT OF SCHOOL The sun shone in through waving bough Of elm-trees by the door, Across the row of feet that toed The chalk mark on the floor,

Across the row of reet that tood.
The chalk mark on the floor.
Down at the foot of that long line
Of spellers, standing there,
Was Allan Dean, with quiet face
Framed round with stiff tow hair.
The fair young teacher called this boy
"The dunce of Wheaton school;"
But Allan's wits, though slow, were keen,
And since to Lawyer Poole
This same fair teacher gave a kiss,
So slyly, as she thought,
The boy, with mischievous delight,
A cunning plan had wrought.
Next morning Allan charged his class
To learn their lessons well,
For young 'Squire Poole that afternoon
Would come to hear them spell,
And this was all; they never knew
What else was on his mind,
Until the teacher gave out "smack,"
To be spelled and defined.
"Twas Allan's turn: he raised his eyes

'Twas Allan's turn: he raised his eyes
To watch the lawyer's face,
And spelled the short word slowly through

With calm and steady grace. Define it, sir," the mistress said, For, courage to acquire, The boy had paused—"Why, ma'am," said

Gallantry.

"It's what you gave the 'squire."

Mr. S. C. Hall's father was once in a boat, on an arm of the Atlantic that made up into the Irish coast. Several young ladies were with him, and the six rowers did their best,

According to the local custom, each rower was rewarded with a glass of whisky. But a merry lass, intending to play a little joke, dipped the glass into the salt water, while one of the boatmen was looking away, and pre-

sented it to him. He drank it off and returned her the glass, saying, "Thank ye, me lady!" instead of sputtering as she expected. "What, Pat! Do you like saltwater?" she asked, astonished at his

quiet way. "No, me lady, I don't like salt-water; but if yer ladyship had given me a glass of poison, I'd have drank it."-Youth's Companion.

The German army is at the present time distributed over 304 garrisons, thirty-nine of which have an effective of over 2,000 men. Berlin, with 17,813, and Metz, with 14,441, are the only two towns which have garrisons of over 10,000. The garrison of Strasburg numbers 8,968, that of Mayence 7,712, that of Cologue 7,655, that of Coblentz 6,353, that of Konigsberg 6,383 and that of Magdeburg 6,068. The garrisons of Potsdam (6,580) and Spandau (4,339) are so close to Ber-lin that 28,732 troops could be connotice.