

LEAD THOU ME ON.

Shee kindly light amid the enquiring gloom,
And lead me on.
The night is dark and I am far from home,
Lead thou me on.
Keep thou my feet; I do not ask to see
The distant scene; I step enough for me.
I was not ever thus, nor prayed that thou
Shouldst lead me on;
I loved to choose and see my path, but now
Lead thou me on.
I loved thy day's dazzling light, and smile of dawn
I loved thy light, I remember not past years,
So long thy power hath blessed me surely
Still
Thy lead me on.
Through dreary dells, through yew and sorrow
The night is dark,
And with the moon, these angel faces smile,
Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile.

A Dynasty of Cooks.

It is George Elliot, if we mistake not, who speaks of the silent tragedies, unknown and unwritten, which are constantly taking place amid thousands of human lives while the world moves carelessly along. In such the same way reference may be made to certain innumerable domestic tragedies, equally unobserved and uncommemorated, upon which cooks play not the heroic but the villainous part. The heroine in such cases invariably is the suffering housewife, whose spirit, no matter how resolute it may be when circumstances first bring it face to face with illiberal depravity, gradually succumbs into despairing submission. A notable feature in the case of bad cooks may be called their tendency to occur in groups. A certain household may have had its kitchen affairs ably and peacefully administered for several years, when suddenly some unavoidable change, which in its wake months of protracted distress, until at last a long line of incompetent or debased cooks shall have given place to one representing "milder manners, purer laws," like Thus after the Imperial horrors that had preceded him. Meats served up in a condition of bleeding rawness one day, and blackened to actual cinders the next; soups that are flavorless mockeries; vegetables execrably underdone, or else pitifully scorched; profane omissions of temperance; disgusting shrieks of dissatisfaction; wretchedly wild meditations; noisy departures—these are but a few of the most saliently unpleasant attributes that belong to some such distracting intervals as which occasionally follows the exodus of a trusted and responsible cook.

Not long ago an interregnum of this disastrous and unwholesome kind took place within the kitchen of a certain lady of New York.

From week to week he kept account of the rapid changes in down-stairs government, and called his document when finished, "Culinary Dynasty of the house of Brown, from the Reign of Bridget the Pure down to the Present Monarch." Similarly embellished by incidental rhetorical graces, Mr. Brown's list read something after the following manner:

Bridget L., surnamed the Pure. Begun to reign December, 1867; abdicated October, 1878, because contemplating a life of seclusion—and matrimony. Her reign was marked by great executive wisdom, clemency and economy, and its cessation caused the most sincere regret. Succeeded by

Bridget H., a sovereign of considerable administrative power, but cursed with a most irascible disposition. Insulted her prime minister (Mrs. Brown), when justly rebuked by that dignitary for her reckless consumption of butter. Popular opinion (Mrs. Brown) being decidedly against her, she abdicated, November, 1878, in favor of

Katharine, surnamed the Flirt, on account of the multiplicity of her suitors. A giddy, good-natured queen, but wholly unfitted for her exalted position. Deposed, November, 1876, and succeeded by

A Regency of Three Days, during which Jane the daintiest chambermaid wielded with much ability the culinary sceptre. After which the kitchen was descended into by

Bridget III., a sovereign whose character previous to accession had been represented as stainless, but who early gave signs of the most revolting intemperance. Driven from the kitchen by an indignant people (Mr. Brown) under an alcoholic reign of only two days, and succeeded by

Mary Ellen, satirically surnamed the Skeleton, on account of her unattractive stoutness. Celebrated for her intense laziness. Deposed, December, 1876, and succeeded by

Margaret, popularly known as the Fiend. Threatened to kill her prime minister two hours after coronation. On the following day refused to abdicate. Resisted even the demand of the army in parliament, and unconsciously induced the policy of the prime minister. Imprisoned for high-treason, December, 1876. End unknown. Succeeded by

Bridget IV., surnamed the Lomotic. Her administration was chiefly distinguished by an attempt to substitute the usual methods of dining throughout her realm; cansing soups to be served after fish, and meat before either. Banished after a turbulent reign of twelve hours, and succeeded by

Ana, known as the Spoiler—and so on, through a terrible list of wrongheaded outrages, the chronicle continues, at last ending in the month of February, 1877, with the following happy item:

Bridget XV., the reigning sovereign, surnamed the Culinary Antagonist. Modest of demeanor, gentle in speech, wise and economical in her rule. Slightly difficult to minister and people. A beloved difficulty with France (the children's foreign wars, which occurred in the early part of her reign, has now been amicably settled). The realm is at present in a most flourishing condition, and the refrigerator has never been so prosperously administered. Long live Bridget XV.—*Appleton's Journal for July.*

Do Not.

Young ladies, if they only knew how disgusting to men slovenliness is, and how attractive are displays of neatness and taste, would array themselves in the simplicity and cleanliness of the lilies of the field; or, if able to indulge in costly attire, they would study the harmonious blending of colors which nature exhibits in all our works. A girl of good taste, and habits of neatness, can make a more fascinating toilet with a shilling calico dress, a few ribbons, and lace, and such ornaments as she can gather from the garden, than a vulgar, tawdry creature who is worth thousands, and has the jewelry and wardrobe of a princess.

AGRICULTURAL.

WINTERING OF CATTLE.—One of the most important subjects to all farmers and stock raisers is, how to feed their stock. I have always been opposed to chop or cut feed of any kind; that is, as commonly used by many farmers, the public generally. Invariably this kind of food is usually, moistened, more or less, according to fancy and theory for its beneficial results. For my own satisfaction, a few years ago, I visited many stables in Chicago, Philadelphia, and New York, and made special inquiries as to what they fed, and about the general health of their stock. I found one stable in Chicago that had sixty head of horses, and the stable had been run by the same person for eight years, during which time they had not fed one pound of chop or cut, and not one pound of ground feed of any kind, except coarse wheat bran. The feed consisted of wheat, oat and rye straw, whichever the market afforded most favorably. Of this they had all they wanted, and were bedded with the same. They fed oats at morning and noon, and at night they fed a mixture of timothy hay, and a few pounds of clover hay, and the general appearance of good health, and there was not a case of colic in the stable. The best of the feed was given in the morning, and the rest was given at night. Both oats and bran were always fed. The horse is thus in a healthy condition. The horse returning to his stable, he is fed from six to eight pounds of hay, and not one pound of ground feed of any kind, except coarse wheat bran. The feed consisted of wheat, oat and rye straw, whichever the market afforded most favorably. Of this they had all they wanted, and were bedded with the same. They fed oats at morning and noon, and at night they fed a mixture of timothy hay, and a few pounds of clover hay, and the general appearance of good health, and there was not a case of colic in the stable. The best of the feed was given in the morning, and the rest was given at night. Both oats and bran were always fed. The horse is thus in a healthy condition.

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DOMESTIC.

A FIRE POTPOURRI ANATOMIQUE.—Many persons have become disinterested in making the delightful "sweet jars" so useful in refreshing the air of a room, and secondarily in giving a pleasant odor to the atmosphere. The article required, and not taking the proper mode of extracting the various perfumes. The following will retain and distribute when required its fragrance for twenty years. During the winter season gather a quantity upon fine dry days; remove the petals; and when a half peck is obtained take a large china or glass bowl, strain a handful of salt on the bottom, then three handfuls of leaves, then salt, and so on until all the leaves are used, covering the top with salt. Let it remain five days, stirring and turning twice a day; they should now appear moist, when add three ounces of bruised or coarsely powdered alspice, and one ounce of bruised stick cinnamon. This forms the stock. Allow to remain a week, turning daily from bottom to top, until the leaves are all used, covering the top with salt, and adding the "stock" layer by layer, sprinkle between the layers the following mixture: One ounce of nutmeg, one ounce of cinnamon, one ounce of cloves, one ounce of ginger, one ounce of allspice, one ounce of mace, one ounce of nutmeg, one ounce of cinnamon, one ounce of cloves, one ounce of ginger, one ounce of allspice, one ounce of mace, one ounce of nutmeg, one ounce of cinnamon, one ounce of cloves, one ounce of ginger, one ounce of allspice, one ounce of mace.

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