

### THE RED-WING.

On a bluish stalk a black-and-white.  
All the sun and the sunshine weather,  
Tender and soiled there as the wing  
Of the meadow and the swamp-wind tangled  
And the spots on its wings were as fire  
And his notes rang sweet as Apollo's lyre.  
The Summer woods were a haze of blue  
Draped and veiled with an emerald tinge,  
And the blackbird whistled clear and true  
The first of the birds was made in the flower  
And the first on its wings were as fire  
And his notes rang sweet as Apollo's lyre.  
A black head leaped for a dragon-fly  
And struck the spray from the sleeping  
While dilly, dilly, dilly on high  
Sang the blackbird with his "reeter-  
tutter."  
And on his wings were as fire  
And his notes rang sweet as Apollo's lyre.  
A bee for the music bore of man,  
I shake my head and I wonder whether  
Your cultured brain has a charm for Pan  
When a blackbird sings in the sunshine  
With the spots on his wings as red as fire  
And his notes as sweet as Apollo's lyre.  
—BENNETT McJAFFE, in *Youth's Companion*.

### A CELEBRATED TREATY.

BY T. G. BARBAQUE.

The common histories to which we have access tell us, in a line, of the purchase of Louisiana, the treaty, the dark days that really brought about that wonderful acquisition of territory, from which have been formed some of the greatest States of the Union.

The inner history of that purchase is repented with interest, and we learn that Napoleon got rid of Paris, not because he had the good of this country at heart—for he had not, in reality—but from motives of statecraft, for which he was famous and famous.

In 1763 France ceded to England the whole of that region east of the Mississippi, except Florida, and all west of that river to Spain.

This was the end of French territorial dominion in North America, and had been brought about by the Seven Years' War, which cost France of lives and millions of money.

The Spanish crown held on to Louisiana until 1803, when, by the treaty of San Ildefonso, was ceded back to France. It was said by rumor at the time that the cession by Spain to Napoleon would include the entire navigation of the Mississippi and place us, in many ways at the mercy of the French.

The American people, and especially President Jefferson, grew very uneasy under the circumstances, and our ministers in Paris, London and Madrid were instructed to defeat the scheme, if possible; but the instructions were soon too late, owing to the slowness of ocean travel, for the treaty had been confirmed and France had a powerful foothold on our shores.

Defeated in his first designs, Jefferson turned to the idea of purchasing the Mississippi valley, and he resolved to attain the free navigation of the Mississippi, down which so much of our produce would be compelled to pass to the sea.

Now, see how cunning Napoleon was. In the first place he was at war with England, and he could not do without his ally, France, and he stood ready to steel a march on her, and to cripple her in any manner possible.

Napoleon believed that England would attempt to take this new territory of Louisiana, and thus obtain another foothold on the western continent. He saw the danger which would menace France if this was done.

He said to one of his advisors: "A few lines of treaty have restored Louisiana to me and now I must expect to lose it. The English wish to take possession of it, and it is thus they will begin the war. They have ordered twenty ships of war in the Gulf of Mexico. The conquest of Louisiana would be easy. I must put it beyond the reach of the English, and they shall have the Mississippi which she covets."

for making the purchase, but time has made him wiser.  
We obtained by the treaty more territory than we wanted from England during the Revolution. War, and from it have been formed such gems of the American Union as Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Ohio, Colorado north of the Arkansas, the two Dakotas, Wyoming and Montana.

The region of Louisiana left Spain but a sorry foothold on our shores. She still held the Florida, but these in time passed from her hands and fell to the hands of the United States.

President Jefferson afterward sent out Lewis and Clark to make a road to the Western coast through our territory. The expedition was successful, and the first American flag through the Territory of Louisiana, and showed the people what a grand acquisition was Napoleon's hatred of England had won for "the new republic of the Western world."

### HEALTH AND BEAUTY.

MASSAGE.

Massage—now a recognized agent in the culture and beauty of the human body—is a comparatively modern practice with us in ancient India, Egypt, Greece, and Rome, however, massage was so common and so essential to the preservation of health and beauty, as the bath itself—if not more so.

The word massage is derived from the Greek; *massa* (I knead). In fact, the operator kneads on all the muscles of the body, to restore their vitality, as well as to break up and disperse the joints to render them more supple.

To be perfect, massage should be followed by a slight flogellation (preferably with the hands), which helps to understand the "excitement" of this part of massage than ladies, and therefore I advise the latter to try the treatment with their own hands, rather than submit to the tender, or unskilled mercies of an attendant.

Massage being now the fashion, a knowledge of its principles and practice is a comparatively modern practice with us in ancient India, Egypt, Greece, and Rome, however, massage was so common and so essential to the preservation of health and beauty, as the bath itself—if not more so.

### BIRD'S-NEST AND THEIR NESTS.

SCISSOR-TAIL WEAVER BIRDS.

Scissor-tail Weaver Birds are found in several parts of Africa. There is nothing remarkable in their appearance, but the singular edifice which they build for their young is remarkable. In the community has always been a source of interest and admiration to travelers.

The structure of the nest is very remarkable. When about to build, the birds gather together large quantities of coarse grass, the favorite species being the long, tough, wiry kind, known as bushman's grass. They then hang these long stems over the branches, interweaving them in a definite manner as they proceed with the work, until they have formed a large dome or roof, not unlike the shape of a large mushroom.

These birds will not use the same nests the following season, the year of nests is increased year by year, and they give way altogether, so that the birds of the year are obliged to build a new one.

It is very probable that these birds build their nests in order to protect themselves from the attacks of the many enemies to bird life which are found in tropical regions.

Another of the many African weaver birds, sometimes known as the yellow prairie bird, builds its nest in a different style altogether. They also are very sociable birds, and as soon as they have built their nests, they gather together in a flock, and as always near water, they begin to build with such untiring industry.

These nests are attached to the most conspicuous places in the trees, and are always found overhanging the water, which thus serves as a protection from their enemies. In building, these birds employ some of the same principles as the weaver birds, but they use a different material.

Many people have learned by experience that Sheridan's Condition Powder given once daily in food will supply the needed material to strengthen and invigorate sick chickens or moulting hens and get the young pullets to laying earlier than anything else on earth.

It is proposed to purify the Thames river by importing a school of crocodiles to act as river scavengers.

## "August Flower"

My wife suffered with indigestion and dyspepsia for years. Life became a burden to her. Physicians failed to give relief. After reading one of your books, I purchased a bottle of August Flower. It worked like a charm. My wife received immediate relief after taking the first dose. She was completely cured—now weighs 165 pounds, and can eat anything she desires without any deleterious results as was formerly the case. C. H. Dear, Prop'r Washington House, Washington, Va.

### Scrofula.

Afflicted me 4 years—blotches all over my body, swelling in my neck, and in less than a year had lost 40 lbs. I was induced by H. L. Tubbs, our druggist, to try HOOVER'S SUIVANT.

### JOHNSON'S Anodyne Liniment.

UNLIKE ANY OTHER

FOR FIFTY YEARS! MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP

### TOWER'S FISH BRAND WATERPROOF COAT.

FOR FIFTY YEARS! MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP

### FRAZER AXLE GREASE.

Little girl—Did you ever see a ghost?  
Little boy—No.  
"Didn't you ever, really?"  
"That's queer. Everybody has seen 'em."

### AMERICAN GILL'S TASTERS.

Attale—How would you like to marry a European nobleman?  
Walter—No, you see I've seen a many drawings of it.

### DR. KILMERRON'S SWAMP ROOT.

My wife suffered with indigestion and dyspepsia for years. Life became a burden to her. Physicians failed to give relief. After reading one of your books, I purchased a bottle of August Flower. It worked like a charm.

### ALL THE SAME, ALWAYS.

Sprains. Bruises. St. Jacobs Oil.

### W. L. DOUGLAS \$3 SHOE FOR GENTLEMEN.

The best shoe in the world for the money.

ASK FOR W. L. DOUGLAS SHOES.

### HUMOROUS.

Neighbor—What is all that crying about over at your place?  
Johnny Feestraw—Willie pulled down a jug of molasses on himself in the pantry this morning, and now is combing his hair.

Mr. Silmpurse—To tell the truth, I am a little afraid to ask your father for your hand.  
Miss Oaright—Oh, you needn't worry. He says I am ruinously extravagant.

Smart Boy—Please ma'am, it was two minutes after nine when you got here. When we're late you always keep us after school.  
Teacher—Very well. You can all start and keep me after school, if you wish.  
[Smart boy subsides.]

The exact geographical center of the United States is marked by a grave—the last resting place of one Major Ogden, who is buried on a little knoll a short distance northeast of Fort Riley, Kan.

Don't work your horses to death with poor axle grease; the Frazer is the only reliable make. Use once and you will have no other.

Photographers say that the actual resemblance of husbands and wives is closer than that of brothers and sisters.

Day—All right; he had three thousand dollars; his father-in-law has given him three more, and for the other half he has given a long-term mortgage.

McFlanagan (who has travelled)—Walter, were you ever in Cuba?  
Walter—No, you see I've seen a many drawings of it.

St. Jacobs Oil. A prompt and permanent cure.

### IMPURE BLOOD.

Nearly all diseases of long standing have their origin in the unnatural or unhealthy condition of the blood, or in the condition of the organs which are affected by it.

W. BAKER & CO.'S Breakfast Cocoa. Unlike the Dutch Process. No Alkalies. Other Chemicals.

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