

The Wives of Great Men.

Robert Burns married a farm girl, with whom he fell in love with while they worked together in a plowed field.

Milton married the daughter of a country squire, and lived with her but a short time. He was an austere literary recluse, while she was a rosy romping lass, who could not endure the restraint imposed upon her; so they separated. Subsequently, however, she returned, and they lived tolerably happy.

Queen Victoria and Prince Albert were cousins, a rare example in the long line of English monarchs, wherein the marital vows were scarcely observed and sincere affection existed.

Shakespeare loved and wedded a farmer's daughter.

Washington married a woman with two children. It is enough to say she was worthy of him, and they lived as married people should live—in perfect harmony with each other.

John Adams married the daughter of a Presbyterian clergyman. Her father objected on account of John being a lawyer.

John Howard, the great philanthropist, married his nurse. She was altogether beneath him in social life and intellectual capacity, and besides she was fifty-two years old while he was but twenty-five. He wouldn't take "No" for an answer, and they were married and lived happily until she died which occurred two years afterward.

Peter the Great, of Russia, married a peasant. She made an excellent wife and a sagacious empress.

Humbolt married a poor girl because he loved her. Of course they were happy.

It is not generally known that Andrew Jackson married a lady whose husband was still living. She was an amiable woman, and was devotedly attached to the old warrior and statesman.—*Ex.*

It is interesting, and to many people it may be profitable, to know the comparative value of different kinds of wood for fuel. Shellbark hickory is regarded as the highest standard of forest trees, and calling that 100, other trees will compare with it for real value as fuel for house purposes as follows: Shellbark hickory, 100; pignut, hickory, 92; white oak, 84; white ash, 76; dogwood 75; scrub oak, 73; white hazel 72; apple-tree 70; red oak 67; white beach, 65; black-berrch, 92; yellow oak, 60; hard mapple, 59; white elm, 58; red cedar, 26; wild cherry, 55; yellow pine, 54; chestnut, 52; yellow poplar, 54; butternut and white birch, 53, white pine, 30. It is worth bearing in mind that in wood of the same species there is a great difference, according to the soil in which they grow. A tree that grows on wet, low, rich ground will be less solid and less durable for fuel, and therefore less valuable than a tree of the same kind that grows on a dry and poor soil. To the ordinary purchaser, oak is oak, and pine is pine; but for house use the tree grown on dry upland and standing apart from all others is worth a great deal more.

The time has arrived when thinkers cannot afford to have hobbies. Truth is so magnificent, so large, so important, that thinkers should receive all things, investivate every subject, (so far as time and opportunity allows,) and hold fast that which can be verified, holding the remainder in abeyance for additional light.

Time gently soothes, uplifts, strengthens; like fairy fingers constantly at work, it weaves not only for the future, but the past, covering its painful memories with tender radiance, and the heart leaps again to joy. Time buries our loved ones; but a little while and it covers the dark clods with sweet grass and flowers. Just as surely will time cover our aching hearts with what is best. Be "patient in tribulation." Each day takes us further from our pain, and the heart will sing again; for God's moments, like the dews of heaven are bringing refreshment.—*Mary Alford.*

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