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THE SWEETEST MUSIC.

You may talk about your singin' an' I won't dispute a thing, But give to me the music that my mother used to sing! The singin' that is paid for she never even heard, And her voice rang out as freely as the singin' of a bird.

When I was tired an' sleepy she'd wash me clean an' sweet An' hug me tight, an' tuck my gown around my little feet, An' rock an' rock, while with her voice the old house used to ring, Till sleep like balm descended, as I heard my mother sing.

I believe the sweetest music we shall hear around the throne Will come from just such humble souls, hard-worked an' unknown, They could sing a hymn in meetin' an' sing a child to sleep, But all the extra music, in their hearts they had to keep.

They sang the songs the old folks loved as evening shades came down, Sweeter than all the operas they advertise in town.

You may talk about your singin' an' I won't dispute a word, But my mother sang the sweetest songs my ears have ever heard, An' I believe when all we long for freely shall be given I'll hear my mother's songs again, She's singin' now, in Heaven.

ORIGIN OF LEAP YEAR.

There is quite an interesting and little known history connected with the introduction of leap year. In 1288, when Queen Margaret reigned over Scotland, this gracious lady decreed that during her reign every maiden in her realm, whether of high or low degree, should propose to the man that she loved, and that if the man were not betrothed already he must either wed the maid or pay a heavy fine.

On the death of Queen Margaret the women were urgent in their demands that their new privileges should be continued. To appease them an act of parliament was passed which made it lawful for maidens to do the proposing every leap year.

Not all the romantic ideas of our ancestors have been thus perpetuated, and comparatively few were transferred by our pilgrim fathers across the Atlantic. For instance, in the good old days it was the custom in many towns, and even villages, in England to own a house where poor couples, after they had been wedded in church, could entertain their friends at small cost, the only outlay, indeed, being entailed by the purchase of such provisions as they chose to bring with them.

In Hertfordshire there was such a house, which had a large kitchen with a caldron, large spits and a dripping pan, also a large room for merriment and a furnished boudoir. Dishes, table linen and bed linen were among its possessions.

In Essex there was a house very much like this, which was used by the poorer folks for dining in after they had returned from church.

In some of the old English histories one may read that in 1456 Roger Thornton granted to the mayor and community of Newcastle upon Tyne the use of the hall and kitchen belonging to Thornton's Hospital for the use of young couples "when they were married to make their wedding dinner in, and receive the offerings, and gifts of their friends."

At Hamelin there still exists a large building which is known as the wedding house. It was erected during the second decade of the seventeenth century.—Boston Globe.

It is a misfortune when brains do not serve as a guide to the heart.

OUR NEIGHBORING COUNTIES.

NEWS GATHERED FROM OUR NEARBY EXCHANGES.

Echo Pilot.

John H. Anderson, Clear Spring, in a fit of madness, it is stated, drove his children from home, locked all the doors and threw the key at his wife, striking her in the head. The children sought refuge in a neighbor's house. Anderson, it is reported, has since locked all the provisions for use from his family and forced them to rely on the kindness of the neighbors. He is thought to be insane.

Rouzeville, this county, has an oil excitement. While digging a well for water, Isaiah Monigham found at a depth of 45 feet indications of oil. Samples of the fluid were sent to Baltimore experts and they pronounced it oil of good quality. Within the past few days several Baltimore capitalists have visited the well and endeavored to lease the property. Mr. Monigham has given a temporary lease for experimental purposes to Waynesboro capitalists. If he cannot make satisfactory terms with the persons who desire the land, Mr. Monigham will bore the well much deeper and develop it himself, as the experts are of the opinion that oil is to be found there in paying quantities.

Magistrate H. B. McNulty took bail in \$400 from Dr. J. A. Kemper, of St. Thomas, for appearance at court to answer the charge of practicing medicine without a State license. A hearing was waived.

Valley Spirit.

While running to a grocery store in the vicinity of his home yesterday, George, the twelve-years-old son of Joseph Osterman, 433 East Queen Street, swallowed a horse shoe nail. The lad's mother had sent him on the errand and he was hurrying to the store with the nail between his teeth. Before he was aware of it the nail had slipped down his throat. He made an effort to expel it, but without success. The nail passed down his throat with the head downward. When he returned home he informed his parents, who consulted a physician. Upon his advice the little fellow is subsisting on mashed potatoes and mush. The parents are much worried. Young Osterman's father is cutter in Adam Lohman's tailoring establishment.

Hancock Times.

Patrick Ryan, a farmer near Cumberland, has invented a novel rat trap. He cut a hole in a barrel and placed in the bottom a quantity of whiskey-soaked corn. The next morning he found in the barrel 82 intoxicated rodents, all of which he dispatched.

From the ravages of the fly on the early sown wheat and the repeated freezing and thawing during the winter, the wheat through this section looks quite brown and the present condition of the crop is hardly up to the average at this season of the year.

A four and a half foot vein of anthracite coal is now being worked on a small scale at Cherry Run, Morgan county, W. Va., near the Baltimore and Ohio railroad. Pottery clay of the best quality has been found near the coal. Some important deals in Morgan county coal lands are expected. Lawyers from other States have been at Berkeley Springs examining titles.

Harry L. Creager who received the contract for putting down a well on the Delaplaine lot, adjoining the J. K. P. Grove property, has employed Jacob Schultz, of Buck Valley, Pa., to do the work. Mr. Schultz started his steam drill Monday morning and expects to have the well completed in a week.

Semi-Weekly News.

Quite a number of our citizens were grossly indignant Friday over an unwonted act of cruelty practiced on a dumb beast in this place. Mr. John Lower was the owner of a horse for several years which was of a balky disposition, and on the above day was hauling cinder in the vicinity of the electric light plant. The animal got into one of his balky spells, and refused to move. While waiting for the animal to change its tactics a stranger appeared on the

scene, and after expatiating on how he usually induced a balky horse to move, proceeded to illustrate. Taking a piece of lace leather he made a slip noose which was passed over the animal's tongue, the idea being to draw the cord tight on the tongue and distract the animal's attention. Before anyone could realize what had happened, the animal gave a hard jerk upwards with his head, and the light leather cord cut through the tongue like a knife, severing some three or four inches of that member.—The act was so quickly done that it was hard to realize its effect. Deploring the maiming of the poor beast, and realizing the misery the animal must be in, its owner had the poor beast taken out next day and shot.

Everett Press.

We have been informed that Messrs. M. J. Fogarty & Co., of New York City, have received the contract to construct three and one-half miles of new road bed for the H. & B. T. Railroad, which, when completed, will abandon all five trestles between Everett and Cypher station. The work will be commenced at once. We hope to be able to have more to say in a future issue.

THE USES OF LEMONS.

Lemon juice removes stains from the hands.

A dash of lemon in plain water is an excellent tooth-wash. It not only removes tartar, but sweetens the breath.

Two or three slices of lemon in a cup of strong tea will cure a nervous headache.

Lemon juice (outward application) will allay the irritation caused by the bites of gnats or flies.

No family should be without lemons. Their uses are almost too many to enumerate.

A teaspoonful of the juice in a small cup of black coffee will certainly relieve a bilious headache.

Lemon peel (and also orange) should be all saved and dried. They are a capital substitute for kindling wood. A handful will revive a dying fire.

The juice of a lemon, taken in hot water on waking in the morning, is an excellent liver corrective, and for stout women is better than any anti-fat medicine ever invented.

Glycerine and lemon juice, half and half, on a bit of absorbent cotton, is the best thing in the world wherewith to moisten the lips and tongue of a fever-parched patient.

The finest of manicure acids is made by putting a teaspoonful of lemon juice in a cupful of warm water. This removes most stains from the fingers and nails, and loosens the cuticle more satisfactorily than can be done by the use of a sharp instrument.

Lemon juice and salt will remove rust stains from linen without injury to the fabric. Wet the stains with the mixture and put the article in the sun. Two or three applications may be necessary if the stain is of long standing, but the remedy never fails.

CARLISLE INDIANS' TRIP TO PARIS.

The Carlisle Indian School band of sixty pieces, under the direction of Dennison Wheelock, a full blooded Oneida Indian, has completed its arrangements for a trip to the Paris Exposition.

The American tour of the band begins on March 16th at Washington, where the members will play at the meeting of the Longfellow National Memorial Association. The principal cities of the United States will be visited until the latter part of May. On July 11 the band will sail from Boston to Paris. It will remain at the exposition for two weeks and then make a tour of the Continent.

The Carlisle Indian Band was organized in 1881. Professor Dennison Wheelock, a graduate of the school, is the leader, under whom the band has won many laurels.

His special arrangements of Indian songs and Indian scalp and war dances are regarded as interesting, and while people will come to hear the band play the "Tannhauser" overture and like compositions from curiosity as to their ability to do so, they all want to hear the members render a war dance in the old style.

JENNIE CREEK'S INVITATION.

An Indian Girl Bidden to the Paris Fair as a Guest of the Legion of Honor.

Miss Jennie Creek, of Millgrove, who is the youngest member of the National Humane Society of France, has been invited to attend the Paris Exposition this year at the expense of the Legion of Honor.

Miss Jennie is an orphan and still lives with her foster parents in sight of the spot where her heroic act averted a wreck which would have cost the lives of many people. It was in the afternoon of September 10, 1893, that Jennie, then but 11 years old, was playing along the ledges and in the ravine of her uncle's farm. She came to the Panhandle Railroad and to her great surprise found the railroad bridge which spanned the deep gulch at this point almost burned away. It had taken fire from the burning grass which had been set afire by a hot cinder from a passing engine. In the distance she heard the World's Fair train coming. There was no time to summon help, and as the train drew nearer a happy thought passed to her mind. Trembling with fright, she tore off her red petticoat, and, standing in the centre of the track, waved it valiantly above her head. Engineer Frank Williamson, who had charge of the train, reversed his engine and stopped on the brink of the flaming bridge.

The story of the little girl reached the passengers, who picked her up and carried her through the coaches and showed their appreciation by presenting her with no small purse. Among the passengers were many from France, returning home after a visit to the World's Fair. When they reached their native country the Society of the Legion of Honor was told of America's little heroine. President McKinley, then Governor of Ohio, was asked the child's address, and a month later little Jennie received a five pointed gold star, an emblem worn only by those who have performed exceptionally brave deeds.

The French Legion of Honor was founded by Napoleon. At first he excluded women as recipients of decorations, but through the solicitation of Josephine this order was rescinded. But one other girl has been thus honored, it being the Iowa school teacher who saved her pupils in a cyclone by tying them together. For months after the stopping of the train, the little girl received hundreds of letters. One of the school readers used in the primary grades of Indiana has the story of her act. Each year she has been urged by the officers of the society to attend their meetings in Paris, the society offering to pay her expenses.

A few weeks ago Miss Creek, who is now 18 years of age, began a term at the Marion Normal College. The badge of the Legion is still proudly worn by her, and it is more than probable that she will accept the invitation.

SPRING HOUSE VALLEY.

Miss May Harr, of Big Cove Tannery, spent last Saturday night with Miss Jessie Mellott.

Miss Daisy Morgret, who has been spending some time in Franklin county, is visiting her many friends here.

William Seiders is reported on the sick list.

George Paylor and sister Rosa, who was spending some time with friends in Franklin county, have returned home.

When three of our young ladies were returning from preaching in McConnellsburg last Sunday evening, they had the misfortune to get off the road and nearly upset the vehicle in which they were riding.

Misses Phoebe Paylor and Daisy Morgret spent last Wednesday and Thursday in Todd township.

The other evening a certain young man called on his young lady friend not a thousand miles from McConnellsburg. It was very cold, and, of course he sat close to the stove. After the old folks had retired she took her place on the sofa and said: "—, what is the use of you hugging the stove?" He tumbled and you may guess the rest.

TABLE MANNERS.

At a dinner to which guests are bidden the gentlemen help to seat the ladies before taking their own places. If a clergyman is present, it is customary to request him to ask a blessing.

One should sit so as to bring the body about a foot from the table, and say a few words at the earliest opportunity to both neighbors, whether one has been presented or not. "The roof is an introduction."

The napkin should be folded to half its amplitude and laid upon the lap, and the ladies remove their gloves. It is extremely bad form to put these in a glass, as some do, or tuck them in at the wrist, leaving the arms covered, a form of laziness that is not according to the usages of good society.

The oysters come first and are eaten with the appropriate fork; otherwise one may find oneself obliged to ask for another, the oyster fork being useless for anything else.

If one does not take wine, it should be sufficient to say to the servant, "No wine, thank you," but one should be on the alert to prevent its being poured, if one's preference is forgotten later on. Out of consideration to one's host one would not waste what is supposed to be choice and costly.

Soup must be taken from the side of the spoon, unattended by the slightest sound, and the plate may be tipped away from one, if one is very anxious to secure the last spoonful.

No one uses a knife with fish unless silver ones, made for the purpose, are provided. A bit of bread is usually sufficient as an auxiliary to the fork.

Entrees are eaten with the fork alone. The roast imposes no special etiquette. If a vegetable is served as a separate course according to French fashion, each has its own punctillio.

Asparagus may be held in the fingers if the stalks are not too slender and pliant or divided and eaten with a fork.

In England one who would eat peas with a spoon would be regarded as a barbarian. Artichokes may also be eaten with the fingers, plucking the leaves to be eaten at the base of each.

The game follows with the salad, which last, if composed of lettuce, should be dipped in a sauce and the tiny morsel eaten with a fork alone, which may fold the leaves to a convenient size.

Ice cream is eaten with fork or spoon, as one prefers, never with both.

Fruit must never be bitten, but cut in small pieces and eaten in either the hand or with a fork.

One dips only the ends of the fingers in the finger bowl, after which, at a signal from the hostess, the ladies rise, placing the napkins, still unfolded, at the side of their plates, as implying that they, of course, will not be used again, and withdraw from the room. The men rise and remain standing, while the one nearest the door holds it open for the ladies to pass through.

It is customary, upon leaving table, to set one's chair closer to it or far enough away to enable others to pass without inconvenience.—Table Talk.

Good Name for the Dog.

A boy's fishing rod was fastened to the root of a tree on the river bank, and he was sitting in the sun playing with his dog, idling the time away. He caught absolutely nothing.

"Fishing?" inquired the man passing.

"Yes," answered the boy.

"Nice dog you have there; what is his name?"

"Fish," replied the boy.

"Fish? That's a queer name for a dog. What do you call him that for?"

"Cause he won't bite."

Then the man proceeded on his way.

There are people who are considered too poor to associate with here on earth that the angels will be glad to keep company with by and bye.

The Supreme Court has decided that a landlord is not obliged to call upon a tenant to collect rent. The tenant may be sued for the rent if he refuses to pay when due without having the landlord come for it.

HOW A WOMAN SAVED MOUNT VERNON.

Miss Alice Longfellow, youngest daughter of New England's beloved poet, told the story recently to the Warren and Prescott Chapters, Daughters of the American Revolution, of how Mount Vernon was saved to the nation by a woman. Miss Longfellow told of Miss Ann Cunningham, a gentlewoman of old Virginia, who, when passing up the Potomac River one day in 1853, and hearing the steamer bell toll when passing the grave of Washington, became possessed with the desire to restore it. The place was then occupied by a great-grand-nephew of the President, John Augustine Washington. It was in a state of decay, and the generous hospitality of the owner, who treated every passing stranger as a guest, made the expenditure of money for repairs utterly impossible. When Miss Cunningham ventured to tell him of her plans he was filled with horror that women should do that which should so emphasize the degeneracy of men. But the determined woman sent out urgent appeals. Her first call was to the South, and on July 12, 1854, the first meeting was held. Edward Everett was one of the first to offer his services, and as the result of his lectures \$68,000 was contributed to the fund. From this point Miss Longfellow read from Miss Cunningham's own words of her battle, for such it was. Northern people withdrew when they learned that the property was to be turned over to Virginia, but on March 17, 1856, the Ladies' Mount Vernon Association was formed, but there were misunderstandings which wrung from Miss Cunningham the pathetic utterance, "None but God can know what mental and physical sufferings I undergo for Mount Vernon." A certain Congressman vowed he would defeat the association, but at a critical time Mr. Washington showed his loyalty, and just at the time when Miss Cunningham was ready to die from over-anxiety and discouragement a definite conclusion was reached after she lay in a stupor for three weeks. In addition to the actual price of the plantation, \$300,000 had to be raised for repairs, and when matters were progressing finely the Civil War broke out, and confusion was the result. Mount Vernon was neutral ground throughout the bitter struggle. When the strife was ended, Miss Cunningham went there to live, received the aid of Summer in getting an indemnity from the government, and went on with the noble work she had undertaken.—The Presbyterian.

LICKING CREEK.

March 6.—Supt. Chesnut started to visit schools in this township on Monday. He reports good work among the schools.

Albert Mellott, of Belfast, is selling books in this township.

Geo. Harris is slowly recovering. We hope to see him about soon.

H. I. Mellott, wife, and baby spent Sunday at the home of John Minnick.

Miss Ella Mann was taken suddenly ill on Sunday. We hope for her speedy recovery.

The scholars at Forest Dale School had a very interesting debate on Friday afternoon. Jacob Hauman was president and Maudie Strait, secretary. The scholars deserve praise.

David Strait spent Sunday at the home of James Daniels.

A. C. Mellott and wife started to-day for Pittsburg where they expect to make their home.

Miss Lyda Mann, of Clifford Manor, spent Wednesday night as the guest of Edie Mellott.

Lawson Mellott accompanied his brother A. C. Mellott to Pittsburg where he will seek employment. Success to you, Lawson.

Mr. and Mrs. John Daniels are very poorly at this writing.

Mrs. Frank Daniels and Aretta Schooley are on the sick list.

Miss Nell Daniels, of McConnellsburg, is spending a few days with her grand parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Daniels.

Harrisonville school has been closed a few days on account of the illness of their teacher, Miss Lenore Wishart.

Samuel Strait left on Monday for Huntington county.

BELDON.

The coldest in Virginia has been this winter, says one day being the greens below es of snow on regular salutes. "Have you at least a dozen around here sale of D. W. Thursday mill \$42.00 to \$250.00. A call a yearling sold dor stove containing full blast first class st the world's pine timber of his farm and Parnell with ing the same, has also sold lumber delivered for to be shipped. Rev. S. L. B. Sunday morning Mrs. F. R. Eaton returned from Yancey been visiting weeks. The Christiana tended Sunday mra Morris ing the past daughter Mrs. turned last Rose Brook Va., of 95 ac

March 5. wife of Shad afternoon wife place.

Misses Ella Knobsville, Sunday in S. O. Fris Orbisonia, Fraker's home Miss Isa with Miss Ne Frank Mor made a flying Friday.

Amos Wells Fannetsburg our village.

Miss Lucy Hill, spent a sister, Mrs. this place.

Wm. Green Readle, of K urday in our Mrs. Joseph Oscar are spe with her age Valley.

William spent Sunday Mrs. Daniel S.

Mr. Landis spent Saturday John Menard

Miss Laura urday and Knobsville.

Henry Miller trin to Knobs ternoon.

Charles attended the sister Mrs. Grace Na Sunday at J

We unders W. Miller is have one to him.

Arthur B visiting his of this place.

Professor P town again for Thomas Broo

received a morning star brother Will

Fred Crum ker and Miss Annie Gordon attended re Sunday night

"A man who town not far says the Kan blacksmith quantities of them to Indu

cles, and they Eastern He makes old gun bar

smith at one and learned profitable