

## After Life's Story

By Frank L. Stanton

*O'er the graves where they sleep,  
O'er the graves of the Nation,  
Guided by great stars above,  
The rain of the blossoms on slumbering  
beams,  
And the beautiful lilies of love  
O'er their breasts on the hills, in the  
glades—  
The blossoms of love for the old brigades—  
They sleep, after all the wild story,  
The triumph, the strength of the strife,  
Under the pall  
Of the our flag of all,  
That gave unto liberty  
—life—  
And over their breasts and  
their silent dim blades  
Love rains his bright  
blossoms on the old  
brigades.*

—From Collier's Weekly.

## FLOWERS FOR NAVAL HEROES WHO SLEEP IN OCEAN SEPULCHRE

Shall the heroes of the Navy who lie dead in the sea be honored with the soldiers on Decoration Day? The idea is of classic beauty—bands of children marching to the beach, with songs and invocations, scattering flowers upon the Ocean Sepulchre!

This exquisite memorial ceremony is the inspiration of a California woman, Mrs. Armitage S. C. Forbes, of Los Angeles, the city of angels and of flowers. Her appeal last year awakened wide and immediate response. All along that glorious Coast, towns and villages poured out processions of children with flowers to honor the dead. So great was the interest shown that Mrs. Forbes wrote to Washington for official recognition of the movement, hoping it might become a national feature of Decoration Day. She received hearty responses, but no official action then. Now the Government seems ready to assist.

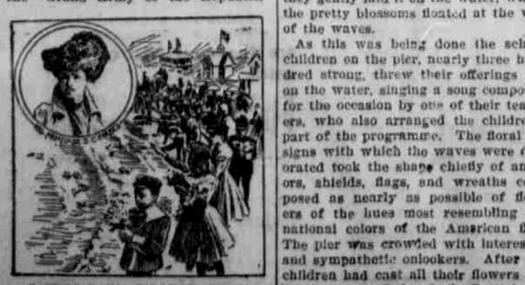
Curiously enough, it was a woman who suggested the idea of placing wreaths and flowers on the tombstones of the soldiers, and it was fitting, therefore, that the happy thought of strewing flowers upon the waters in memory of the sailors who have perished at sea should also emanate from a woman.

In May, 1900, the unique ceremony was held for the first time in several of the coast towns of California. First of all Mrs. Forbes addressed a circular letter to the school superintendents and teachers in the principal towns of the Golden State, inquiring what they thought of the idea, and asking them, if they approved of it, to assist her in her endeavors to make the proposition a success. With hardly an exception favorable answers were received, together with kindly suggestions as to how the "flower services" could best be carried out. After the children had placed their flowers upon the soldiers' graves in the cemeteries they marched to the seashore, and there cast laurels and flowers or tiny flags upon the sea, in memory of the brave men who lie in unknown and unmarked graves beneath the waves.

Last year all the important coast towns of California participated in the ceremony, including San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, Long Beach, Colorado Beach, and San Diego. On the Eastern coast the cities of Baltimore, Boston, Portland and many others also joined in the ceremony.

The strewing of flowers upon the bosom of the ocean at Long Beach, Los Angeles, on Thursday, May 30th last, was a pretty spectacle. Gaily and peacefully Old Ocean rolled, gently tossing the flowers laid on its bosom by hands no less loving than those which at thousands of cemeteries were placing wreaths and garlands on the graves marked by a flag. No flags could be placed over the graves of the sailors, for only a mighty expanse of water marks their last burial place.

A number of members of the various State military organizations, such as the "Grand Army of the Republic,"



CASTING FLOWERS ON THE WATERS.

the "Women's Relief Corps," and the "Daughters of the Revolution," were responsible for the arrangements.

little ones at Santa Monica were also casting masses of red roses, white daisies, and blue violets upon the Pacific Ocean. It was the first time that the system had been observed at Santa Monica, and thousands of people were present to witness the unique festival. As the flowers were being cast by youthful hands into the water the burial service of the naval ritual was read. Then, with bowed heads, the few veterans left of those who took part in the Civil War offered thanks



LIEUT. SMITH AND HIS MEN THROWING THE SERVICE TRIBUTES INTO THE SEA.

to God for sparing their lives. The regulation salute of three volleys was fired as the bright blossoms floated out on the ebb tide. The flowers are always thrown into the water at ebb tide, so that they may be carried far out to sea by the currents.

Similar scenes were witnessed at Santa Barbara and other California towns. On the eastern coast of America the ceremonies were equally touching. Car-loads of flowers were thrown upon the Atlantic from the Boston Navy Yard. At Baltimore floral designs were cast upon the ocean from the training-ships. In every instance the ceremonies were conducted with all the solemnity that the occasion demanded. Even the crowds that went to witness the unique and pretty spectacle were different from ordinary holiday pleasure-seekers, and many a tear-stained face could be detected amongst the audience as the children, dressed in white, cast their flowers over the pier-side.



When First Observed.

In 1808 the Grand Army of the Republic first began to observe the day in a formal manner. The South adopted the custom of decorating its soldiers' graves with flowers before the Civil War closed, and the practice spread to the North just after the war, but it did not become general until 1808. At that time General Logan was commander-in-chief of the G. A. R., and his order for the observance of the day was issued early in May, the 30th of May being designated for the ceremonies.

**Day of Hallowed Memories.**  
The grandest enterprise in which mankind ever engaged was in the preservation of the great American Republic from disruption. In maintaining the integrity of the nation the dangers which threatened the Union and the causes which precipitated the



For those who fell on battle fields,  
For those who sank beneath the sea—  
Yet knew such joy as victory yields,  
Though dying at a woman's knee  
That freedom dwells with you and me;  
For all which anxious love or tears—  
For mothers prayers and daughters tears,  
For sweethearts' slings, and wifely pain,  
We twine memorial wreaths again.

Civil War were destroyed, to the untold benefit of millions living and other millions yet unborn. The results of that war have been more far-reaching and beneficent than those of any other human endeavor, and in commemorating the heroic deeds and noble sacrifices of those whose lives were lost in that cause we perform a sacred and patriotic duty. Decoration Day is a hallowed memory of the past and a glorious inspiration for the future—Nelson A. Miles, Major-General Commanding United States Army.

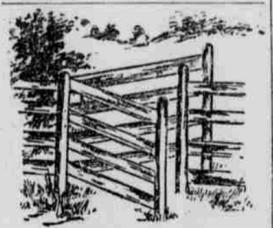
**"Honor the Knightly Dead."**  
The honor, strength and safety of a nation depends upon the martial spirit of its people. To cherish and perpetuate this is our sacred duty. To place flowers upon the graves of the brave men who fell in battle is a privilege which the living should proudly claim. We thus honor the knightly dead and insert a knightly spirit into those who still live.—Joseph Wiswiler, Major-General United States Army.



## Farm Matters.

**Queens' Stings.**  
There is something very strange in the fact that a queen very rarely uses her sting, even under the greatest provocation possible, unless it is toward a rival queen. In fact, they may be plucked, or pulled limb from limb, without even showing any symptoms of protruding the sting at all, but as soon as you put them in a cage, or under a tumbler with another queen, the fatal sting is almost sure to be used at once. There seems to be a most wise provision in this; for if the queen used her sting at every provocation as does the worker the prosperity of the colony would be almost constantly endangered. It is true that instances are on record where queens have stung the fingers of those handling them, but these cases are so very rare it is quite safe to say queens never sting. I am inclined to think the cases mentioned (although, of course, it must be only a surmise) were with queens that were not fully developed, for I have often seen the dark half-queen and half-worker show its sting when handled as we usually handle queens. It is said that a queen has been known to lay eggs after having lost her sting, but as I know, at least, when they sting rival queens, we must consider this as a very unusual occurrence. When you wish to pick queens from a comb you can do it with just as much assurance of safety as if you were picking up a drone. It is true, the queen often bites with her powerful mandibles, and she does it so viciously that a novice might be almost excusable for letting her get away in fright.—From A B C of Bee Culture.

**Gate For Pasture Fence.**  
It is always desirable to have some sort of a gate in the pasture field fence, but it is not always easy to build one that is at once stock-proof and easy to operate when necessary. The arrangement as shown in the illustration is not in reality a gate, but a passageway, so placed that the stock cannot get through, but through which a person may readily pass. No explanation of



STOCK PROOF PASSAGEWAY.

the plan is needed, for it is plainly shown by the illustration. This fence may be arranged so as to provide a double gate by hinging the open portion in the foreground so that when closed to the post will come in snugly against the fence post, and be held in place by a wire loop dropped over both posts, then the gate in the background should also be placed on hinges, so that when closed it will lay over against the fence about two feet, and be held in place by a staple and hook.

**Uses of Copperas.**  
The value of copperas is not fully understood, but there are few things more useful to the farmer and gardener. It is invaluable as a purifier around drains, or in any place where a disinfectant is needed. It is especially useful in the chicken coop, a small lump placed in the drinking water being a preventive of disease and a general purifier. In the garden there are several uses for it; two tablespoonsful in a gal of water will kill cabbage worms, while a somewhat stronger solution will kill currant worms as quickly as hellbore, and it is much safer to use. Powdered copperas can be sprinkled on the surface soil of hard wood pot plants, so that the water that is applied will soak through it into the soil, carrying the strength of the copperas with it. For more tender plants the copperas can be dissolved, allowing one ounce to each gallon of water, using it in the soil once in two weeks, not allowing any of it to touch the foliage.

It is also used for shrubs and trees in the garden, especially those which for some unknown reason fail to make satisfactory growth. It can be made in large quantities for that purpose, using two pounds of copperas to a barrel of water. A few applications will usually cause the growth and the color of the foliage. In sections where corn is dug up by birds and gophers it has been found that if the soil is soaked for a few hours in a strong solution of copperas the pests will not disturb it.—Bernice Baker, in Agricultural Experiment.

**To Make Charcoal For Stock.**  
In the corn-growing districts of the Western States corn cobs are made to serve a good purpose when reduced to charcoal and used for stock. The method of reducing the corn cobs to charcoal is thus given by Theodore Louis:  
Dig a hole in the ground five feet deep, one foot in diameter at the bottom and five feet at the top for the charcoal pit. Take the dry corn cobs and start a fire in the bottom of this pit, adding cobs so that the same is drawn to the top of the pit, which will be thus filled with the cobs. Then take a sheet iron cover, similar to a pot lid in form, and over five feet in diameter, so as to amply cover the whole, and close up the burning mass, sealing the edges of this lid in turn with earth. At the end of twelve hours you may uncover and take out a fine sample of charcoal if desired, but Mr. Louis prefers to take six bushels of it, or three bushels of common charcoal, eight pounds of salt, two quarts of oil-slicked lard and one bushel of wood ashes, breaking the charcoal up well with a shovel or other tool, thoroughly mixing the various ingredients. One and a quarter pounds of copperas is then dissolved in hot water, and with a watering-pot sprinkled over the whole mass, which is again thoroughly mixed. The mixture is then put into boxes and placed where the pigs can get at it at their pleasure. It is not only excellent for the health of the

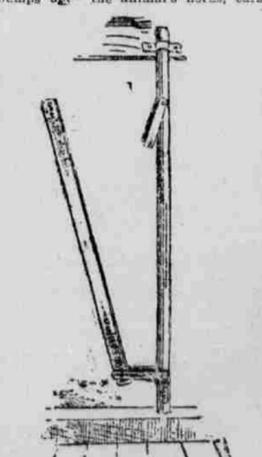
## A Good Garden.

A few simple rules are all that is necessary to govern a good garden. First, there should be a good spot, convenient to the house, thoroughly drained, with soil as rich as possible. Second, the owner must know when, how and how much to plant. Third, weeds and under growth should be kept free from the entire season. If the gardener has the right kind of tools, and has learned to do his work to the best advantage, two hours a week or a little less than a day in a month, will give him a clean profitable garden, unless the season is one of frequent and heavy rains, which will make the work harder. The garden cannot be too well drained, for this will enable the gardener to plant early and to work much sooner after rains; it will also keep the soil from packing, causing the plants to become unthrifty. Planting in a well drained garden, plowed in the fall, may begin as soon as the ground dries enough for a harrow to mellow the surface. Peas, lettuce, radishes, onions, beets and cabbage may be planted as soon as the ground can be worked, and if the ground freezes after they are up it rarely hurts them.

There are certain kinds of vegetables of which several plantings should be made as they soon go by, and with a single planting the family can use them but a few days; with a succession of plantings there will be a supply for several weeks. It takes little work to keep a garden in good order if a hand cultivator is used. As soon after each rain as the land can be worked, the surface should be stirred to the depth of about one inch. No weeds will then start until it rains again, the evaporation of moisture will be checked, and you will have a clean thrifty garden, which will be a pleasure to look at, which will give a supply of vegetables from the middle of April till frost, and which will furnish what would cost \$50 if bought in the market.—Otto Iwin, in The Epitome.

## A Humane Stanchion.

One of the greatest problems of the dairy barn—outside of the problem of the most judicious method of feeding—is the matter of confining the cattle in the stalls. It is agreed on all sides that the greatest comfort must be assured the cow if the largest returns are to be expected, but at the same time it is admitted that the cow that is given the greatest freedom in the matter of confinement in her stall is the one that is hardest to keep clean. Now, as cleanliness is an absolute requisite in producing the best of milk and butter, the question resolves itself into this: How rigid a stanchion can be constructed and still give the cow such freedom of movement as will make her confinement in the stall not at all irksome to her? If the cow is tied by a chain to a post she can step ahead into her manger and back into the manure trench. In this way the platform on which she stands has manure dropped upon it and carried upon it to the manure trench by the animal's feet. The old fashioned, rigid stanchion, consisting of two uprights, keeps an animal from moving back, ward or forward, but it also confines the head so closely that very little movement of this is possible, while the fact that the stanchion has no "give" in any direction causes a good many bumps upon the animal's horns, ears



and shoulders when it is getting up or lying down. It is possible to make use of a stanchion, however, and yet have it admit of considerable movement of the animal's head, while still confining its forward or backward movements to very small limits. The cut shows the construction. The upright post turns freely at the loose end and at the top. Two iron L pieces hold the swinging upright at the bottom, as shown, while a swinging iron clamp at the top holds it when shut. With such a stanchion the cow can move back and forth but little, but can move the head about from side to side with great freedom, while the swing of the stanchion causes it to "give" a little when the cow is lying down or getting up. With such an arrangement for hitching animals the platform or which she stands should be just long enough so that the hind feet will come close to the rear edge, when the manure will fall into the gutter, six inches at least below the surface of the platform.

Such a stanchion as that described here-with should be as light as possible consistent with strength, since lightness will have much to do with the cow's comfort, as the head cannot be moved from side to side around a clumsy stick of wood, even when this cut sawing a little. — New York Tribune Farmer.

**Checking Cab Fares.**  
In Havana, Cuba, there is a device for protecting passengers from being overcharged by cabs. The lamp posts are painted various colors, red for the central district, blue for the second circle, green for the third, etc., and the "fare" knows immediately when he has passed a legal boundary and pays accordingly.

# NEW IDEAS IN TOILETTES

New York City. — Box pleats are among the features of the season, and are seen upon many of the latest waists. The novel and attractive May



WOMAN'S BOX PLEATED SHIRT.

Manton model shown exemplifies their use and is admirable for many materials. The original is made of white mercerized chevrot and is worn with a tie and belt of black liberty satin, but madras, chambray, percale, linen, dimity and the like as well as flannel albattross, taffeta, peau de soie and all waisting cloths and silks are appropriate.

Both the fronts and the back of the waist are laid in narrow box pleats that are stretched for their entire length and are drawn in gathers at the waist line to give a tapering effect to the figure. The sleeves are plain, in regulation shirt style, and are finished with straight square cornered cuffs. At the neck is a plain stock that closes at the back. The closing is effected by means of buttons and buttonholes worked in the centre box pleat.

To cut this waist in the medium size four yards of material twenty-one inches wide, three and a half yards twenty-seven inches wide, two and three-quarter yards thirty-two inches wide, or two yards forty-four inches wide will be required.

## Woman's Eton Jacket.

Eton jackets are first favorites of the season both for entire suits and general all-around wraps. The attractive May Manton model in the large drawing is shown in the black moire velours with the broad collar of batiste edged with



WOMAN'S ETON.

twine colored guipure overlaying the one of silk, and is designed to be worn with odd skirts and gowns, but the design suits cloth etamine and chevrot equally well, and is admirably adapted to the jacket suit. The collar can be omitted when not desired and the neck edges simply finished like the rest of the garment with stitchings of corticell silk.

The little coat is short and jaunty. The back is smooth and seamless, but joined to the fronts by means of shapely under-arm gores that render the fit perfect. The fronts are fitted by means of single darts and are elongated at the centre to fall below the waist and give the long drooping effect so much in vogue. The collar is circular and lies smoothly around the neck, meeting in centre just above the bust line. The fronts are extended slightly beyond the centre, and can be lapped and closed by means of buttons and loops of cord, or rolled back to form revers as shown in the small sketch. The sleeves are in coat style, with the fashionable turn-over cuffs.

To cut this jacket in the medium size four and a half yards of material twenty-one inches wide, one and seven-eighths yards forty-four inches wide or one and a half yards fifty-two inches wide will be required.

## The Sentimental Symbolism of Colors.

Red, for courage and intense love. Its emblem is the ruby.  
White, for youth, freshness and innocence; represented by pearls and diamonds.  
Yellow—the topaz—wisdom and glory, but jealousy, too, except for the November-born.  
Violet means dignity, and the aesthete is highly pried as an amulet to keep friendship and love.  
Green symbolizes hope, joy, youth, and is represented by the emerald, which is fabled to change color if the love changes.  
Blue means constancy, truth and friendship, and is represented by the turquois, although the "forget-me-not" stone, the turquois, and even turquoise-matrix, have claims for recognition.—Ladies' Home Journal.

## White Costumes.

Young people are wearing white as much as possible, even in white cloth. Dinner gowns are being made in black muslin, and very well they look, every blouse edged with a ruche headed by transparent black lace insertion. There are likely to be a good many

new fashions in jewelry. Stones worn long ago which have had to take a back seat are once more to the fore because they accord with the light coloring of the material. Those who have been treasuring up old jewelry are having such stones reset with the most satisfactory results.

## Ribbons For Stocks.

Ribbons for stocks now come woven in one piece about six inches in width and one and one-half yards in length. The edges are finished with a satin stripe, and the ends with heavier masses of the floral design. Other new lines are overshot with linen threads in large plaids. Still a third variety, called linen crash, is woven like coarse gauze, and dotted with black cheville.

## Pearl Trimmings Popular.

Pearl trimmings abound. A novel trimming takes the form of tiny bunches of grapes, the pendants made of green beads. Ribbons interlaced to form a plaid effect form a novel garniture. Still another form of trimming is lace with one color introduced in the white mesh. Pale heliotrope, delicate pink or light blue may be found in these fancy laces.

## An Odd Hat.

An odd hat is a big one made of innumerable shirtings of fawn-colored chiffon. In the centre of the hat is a big rhinestone buckle, which holds the ends of three feathers, one black and one white, with one of fawn between. Starting from the buckle, these ostrich plumes spread out and fall in a row over the back of the hat.

## Parasols in Linen Colors.

Parasols are again shown in linen colors. Lace tucking and shirring is a feature on the more elaborate parasol, while a decidedly new touch is seen in a petal puff at the point. This is known as the tulip top, the flower-like petals standing up about the stick and spreading out upon the parasol top as well. The other trimmings lie rather flat on the cover.

## Mourning Rings Now.

Mourning rings are finding their way back into fashion, but they are not at all like the old-time hat rings. Tarnished silver, black enamel, black pearls, and white and black cameo are the foundations of mourning rings now.



GIRL'S GIBSON DRESS.

**The Fashionable Droop.**  
Dresses droop in the skirt, sashes droop, ends of ribbons in a fashionable toilette droop also, and in the large black hat now worn ends droop over the back of the hair and look wonderfully graceful the while.

## A Handsome Hat.

An attractive hat which has a rather up-to-date appearance is made entirely of gardenias, their leaves and buds.

## Girl's Gibson Dress.

"Little Miss Gibson" is a most fashionable young person, and appears in the favorite gowns made of all soft wools as well as washable fabrics. The pretty May Manton model shown is suited to all, but as illustrated is made of white pique, simply stitched, and is worn with a narrow belt of the same.

The waist is made over a fitted lining that, with the left front, closes at the centre. But the waist itself is laid in deep pleats that extend over to the waist line at the front, and closes invisibly at the left shoulder and beneath the left pleat. The circular front of the skirt meets the back, that is laid in two box pleats, but laps in front where it closes at the side to make a continuous line with the waist. The sleeves are in bishop style with straight cuffs, and at the neck is a standing collar.

To cut this dress for a girl of eight years of age four and three-quarter



A GIBSON DRESS.

yards twenty-seven inches wide, four and a quarter yards thirty-two inches wide, or three and three-eighths yards forty-four inches wide will be required.