

THE SWEETNESS OF LIFE.

It fell on a day I was happy,
And the winds, the convex sky,
The flowers and the beasts in the meadow
Seemed happy even as I.

The Story of a Mortgage.

BY LEROY ARMSTRONG.

In the first place, the mortgage never should have been made.
Ben Morgan was one of your "active men," one of the class termed "hus-tlers" in these years of new world coinings.

BUDGET OF FUN.

HUMOROUS SKETCHES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

An Awful Warning—A Dainty Dog—Didn't Know How to Apply It—A Social Catechism—Rather Stale Bread, Etc.

"No one but a widow can know how this farm is stripped when the good man dies."
"Ben Morgan was one of your 'active men,' one of the class termed 'hus-tlers' in these years of new world coinings.

A Dainty Dog.

Tramp—"Say, gu'n'r, will yer dog bite me?"

Men and Money.

"Money talks," remarked the rich Mr. Smartellique to a young woman late one evening.

Didn't Know How to Apply It.

Lady (to rheumatic old woman)—"I am sorry you should suffer so—you should try electricity."

A Social Catechism.

"And what do you mean by a wise man?"

His Victory Won.

Returned Tourist—"Is Mr. Goodheart still paying attention to your daughter?"

She Was Perennial.

"Mrs. Trotter," quoth Mr. T., "you remind me of certain flowers by your direct opposition to them."

An Anglomaniac.

Morrison—"I hear Stivey met the Prince, last summer."

Rather Stale Bread.

Mrs. Slim Diet—"The boarders are coming in. Cut the bread, Matilda."

Johnny's Poor Luck.

"Well, Johnny, what are you thankful for?" asked the invited guest.

A Tough Old Sponge.

Uncle Joe (on his second eight-month visit to Johnny's house)—"Johnny, stop pinching your uncle. What are you up to, you little rascal!"

He Followed Instructions.

Lawyer—"Now, sir, listen to me, and please give straightforward answers. You say you drove a baker's cart?"

These Clever Impromptus.

Bulfinch—"That was a wonderfully clever speech that your husband just made; and he tells me it was entirely impromptu."

Why He Was So Generous.

Mrs. Grayneck—"Johnny, I am very glad to see that you gave your sister the largest half of your apple."

POPULAR SCIENCE.

Thunder and lightning are exceedingly rare on the Pacific Coast.

Electric motors have been so greatly improved of late that they will now pull nearly 30,000 pounds.

The French soldiers have lately been engaged in an extensive series of experiments with bicycles.

Steam pipes are now being made from the ramie fibre.

Flower pots can be rid of earth worms by pouring on the soil a warm decoction of wormwood and powdered horse chestnuts.

Owing to the rapid progress that is being made in all branches of electrical science many manufacturers are afraid to prepare their electrical exhibit for the World's Fair until the latest possible moment.

In sinking an artesian well at Galveston, Texas, recently, at a depth of 1510 feet, good specimens of wood and of seeds were found.

A French professor has recently analyzed the waters of the Dead Sea and found that they will kill every microbe, with the exception of gangrene and tetanus bacillus.

Compound air is used in the Union Pacific Company's shed at Portland, Oregon, for removing dust in railway cars.

Military reviews have been more numerous than ever before in Europe this fall.

It is said that four-fifths of the steam engines of the world have been constructed within the last twenty-five years.

An interesting calculation has just been made by a French geologist to the effect that, taking into consideration the wear and tear on the solid land by ocean washing, rivers, wind and weather, and leaving out of the calculation volcanic action, the world will in four and a half million years be completely under water and no dry land exist at all.

A specimen of old Mexican picture-writing has lately been discovered by Dr. Valton which indicates that the germ theory of disease was known to the ancient Mexicans.

As to the origin of the meteoric masses that have fallen from time to time on the earth innumerable theories have been advanced.

The generally accepted theory among astronomers is that they are solid masses, and are formed by the breaking up of the comets.

Dr. Elkin, the astronomer of Yale University, and formerly of the Cape of Good Hope, has, by a long series of observations on the parallax of the star Arcturus, arrived at the conclusion that it moves with the inconceivable velocity of 318 miles a second, that is to say, it would traverse the distance from London to Edinburgh between two ticks of a watch.

An Engineer's Prenomination.

A telegraph operator on one of the single-track roads leading out of Pittsburgh had an experience last week that will last him a lifetime.

Over 4,000,000 peasants in Russia are in danger of starvation.

do not know how it delights me to hear you say so."

Johnny—"Yes'm; there was a big worm hole in that half."—Boston Courier.

A QUICK CURE.

Wagg—"It's too bad about the girl that jumped off the Washington Monument, isn't it?"

Wooden—"Why, what did she jump off for?"

Wagg—"Why, you see she was very thin."

Wooden—"What had that to do with it?"

Wagg—"Why, she thought she'd come down plump."—Boston Courier.

THEY AGREED.

Capitalist—"My letting of the job for putting up that building, sir, will depend on circumstances. I want to know whether you and I agree on the proper limit as to height."

Architect and Builder—"I have already made decided views on that subject. May I ask how high a building you consider putting up?"

"Seventeen stories, sir."

"(With much firmness)—"In my opinion, sir, the limit for a building of this class should be seventeen stories."—Chicago Tribune.

CHEAPER IN THE END.

Boutton—"So you are not going to housekeep when you get married?"

De Boarder—"No. We shall take board for a year."

"Isn't that rather an extravagant way to begin?"

"Not at all. I desire my wife to study economy of my landlady. Then we will start housekeeping, and I will make her an allowance of as much as a week as we paid for board."

"What do you think will be the result?"

"Well, by the time we are old she ought to have about a million."—New York Weekly.

STILL GOING.

One day a Lie broke out of its inclosure and started to travel.

And the man who owned the Premises saw it after it had started and was sorry he had not made the inclosure Lie-tight.

So he called his swiftest Truth and said:

"A Lie has got loose and will do much mischief if it is not stopped. I want you to go after it and bring it back or kill it!"

So the swift Truth started out after the Lie.

But the Lie had one Hour the Start. At the end of the first day the Lie was going Lickety-split. The Truth was a long way behind it and was getting Tired.

It has not yet caught up.

And never will.—Chicago Tribune.

HE WANTED IT LIVELY.

He was an old bachelor looking for board.

"Is it pretty lively here?" he asked, as the landlady was showing him about.

"I should just say it was. Now, if you take this room there's a man and his wife on the right. They're always quarreling, and you can hear every word that is said."

"And on the left there's a young man that is learning to play the cornet. He practices half the time. And the family across the hall have a melodeon. I have a piano myself, and a girl upstairs is learning the violin. I think you will find it lively here."

But he said if there wasn't a zylophone and a callopie in the house he wouldn't take the room. He was afraid he would be lonesome.—Detroit Free Press.

Lieutenant Dravo's Indians.

There is a company of cavalry at Fort Niobrara, commanded by Lieutenant Dravo, of which he is very proud.

"On the 21st day of April," said the officer, "I completed the enlistment of the fifty-five Indians in my company. An Indian is more easily enlisted into the cavalry, because he is allowed a horse."

"His own pony?"

"No; he must be mounted upon a horse as the other cavalry soldiers are."

"Do you find it difficult to discipline the Indians?"

"Not at all. They obey orders better than white men, and you should see the improvement in them. The comparison between the Indian soldier and their relatives at the agency is most favorable to the soldier."

An Indian, while he is not round-shouldered, leans forward and bends his knees, but six months' setting-up drill has changed all this materially. Ten of my men are from the Carlisle School in Pennsylvania, and the junior corporal is a son of the famous Two Strikes. We have a school in the garrison and they are at present learning the alphabet. It is hard for them, too, but they are very much in earnest and learn readily. I promised them when they enlisted that they should be as fully equipped as the white soldiers, and I have just returned from a nine days' trip around the reservation, in which they proved my words good to their relatives and friends."

"How did you induce them to cut their hair?"

"It is funny about that. I told them they could have no uniforms until they were clean and their hair cut. This was Saturday; if they were ready, they could wear their uniforms Monday morning. Sunday—the whole day—was spent in bathing, six at a time, and on Monday morning the entire company reported, clean and with hair cut. I explain to them their orders. They wish sincerely to learn the white man's way, and as I said before, are the most earnest workers imaginable."

Lieutenant Dravo is in Omaha under orders to be consulted upon army matters. He is enthusiastic upon the Indian question, and personally cares for the men.—Omaha World-Herald.

WANTED A HEAD PUT ON HIM.

An old man with a head as destitute of hair as a watermelon, entered a Manhattan avenue drug store and told the clerk he wanted a bottle of hair restorer.

"What kind of hair restorer do you prefer?"

"I reckon I'll have to take a bottle of red hair restorer. That was the color it used to be when I was a boy."—Texas Siftings.

THESE CLEVER IMPROMPTUS.

Bulfinch—"That was a wonderfully clever speech that your husband just made; and he tells me it was entirely impromptu."

Mrs. Wooden—"Oh, yes; quite so."

Bulfinch—"It is marvelous that he could do so well when he looks so tired."

Mrs. Wooden—"Well, I should think he might look tired; he sat up all night thinking what he'd say."—Boston Courier.

WHY HE WAS SO GENEROUS.

Mrs. Grayneck—"Johnny, I am very glad to see that you gave your sister the largest half of your apple."

Johnny—"Yes'm, I was very glad to give it to her."

Mrs. Grayneck—"My little son, you

Oil Baths For Lead Pencils.

A new discovery has been made by railroad clerks in Pittsburg regarding the saving of lead pencils.

This will be a great boon to those who are continually using expulsive and borrowing pocket soft lead in a pencil.

Every one who has much rapid writing to perform prefers a soft pencil, but nothing has come to public light so far by which the lead can to an extent be preserved. The P. C. C. and St. L. clerks have brought about a new era in the pencil business; also have they morally benefited humanity, inasmuch as they decrease violation of the third commandment.

The new idea to preserve a soft pencil is to take a gross of the useful article and place them in a jar of linseed oil. Allow them to remain in soak until the oil thoroughly permeates every particle of the wood and lead.

This has the effect of softening the mineral, at the same time making it tough and durable. It has been found very useful and saving, an ordinary pencil being used twice as long under the new treatment.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

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What is It For?

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