

OF AN ORCHARD.

Good is an Orchard, the Saint hath,  
To meditate on life and death,  
With a cool well, a hive of bees,  
A hermit's grot below the trees.

Very good in the grass to lie  
And see the network against the sky,  
A living lace of blue and green,  
And boughs that let the gold between.

The bees are types of souls that dwell  
With honey in a quiet cell;  
The ripe fruit figures goldenly  
The soul's perfection in God's eye.

Fragrant and praise in a country home,  
Honey and fruit, a man might come,  
Fed on such meats, to walk abroad,  
And in his Orchard talk with God.

—Katherine Tynan Hinckson.

The BRIDAL TOUR.

By Daisy Wright Field.

He was a prosperous young merchant, and she was the belle of the village; or had been. Now that the wedding was over, she would follow the custom of the community, settle down to the stern realities of married life with matronly airs, leaving her throne, as queen of the village maidens, to the next in popularity—probably her sworn enemy and rival, Polly Cleve.

But she cared little for all this; she had been too much absorbed in the contemplation of her new finery, the details of the wedding and the anticipation of the tour they were to take immediately after. Now the trousseau had been carefully packed in trunks, hand boxes, and hand bags, the wedding had gone off successfully in the little church, decorated with evergreens and easter lilies and they were in the little smoky general waiting room of the depot. Young Mr. Brown stepped up to the window with an important air, called for round trip tickets for two and ostentatiously opened a well-filled pocketbook.

"Where to?" queried the grinning agent.

Such absentmindedness under the tender influence of the sublime passion, was too much for human nature to bear stoically, however commendable it might be. Mr. Brown nearly fell over backwards.

"I believe I've actually forgotten the name of the place," he gasped in dismay, and then there was a hasty conference in the corner of the empty waiting room, with little Mrs. Brown.

"Of course I didn't forget anything," he explained to her, "but I remembered that we hadn't exactly decided. But we will go to Uncle David's of course."

"When I had so far humbled myself as to give in to you," he added. "Still determined to assert your authority, I see," spitefully. "Still determined to have your own way," stubbornly.

Then they parted again, and stood at separate windows, moodily watching the approach of a passenger train. As the rear coach came up even with the station, a simultaneous exclamation burst from the bride and groom.

"Aunt Ellen, as I'm alive," "Uncle David, by all that's holy!" As the train was to make a half-hour stop, they darted out of the door and into the car, seeking some explanation of this curious turn of affairs. As they entered, a tall silk hat and a black plumed bonnet nodded cheerfully in their direction.

"Nephew Charlie," ceremoniously announced his uncle, "this is your new aunt, Mrs. David Brown."

"Aunt," gasped the bride, "you're not even married—are you?" "We are indeed, my dear, ceremony performed not six hours since. And we are now on our wedding tour."

"But we didn't know you were acquainted," gasped Dorothy, who had not yet recovered her breath. "Didn't want you to know," responded Uncle David, "wanted to surprise you, my dear."

"Where are you going?" "To Niagara."

"Who had the ordering of your journey?" questioned young Mr. Brown. "Ellen, of course," was the ready reply, as Uncle David glanced affectionately at his new made wife. "Of course she was willing to let me say but I told her a husband that couldn't let his wife have her own way on a little thing like her wedding tour, wasn't worthy the title."

Little Mrs. Brown shot a triumphant glance at her young husband. A moment later he gently drew her aside.

"Dear," he whispered, "we'll go wherever you want to go, if it's to the moon."

"Don't you think it would be nice Charlie," she answered sweetly, "to go to Niagara with Uncle Dave and Aunt Ellen?"

"The very thing," he replied. "And so they settled it—Indiana Farmer.

A REAL WAGONLOAD.

Western Man Got 110 Persons Into His Carriage and Won.

RARE AMERICAN COINS.

MANY CENTS HIGHLY VALUED BY COLLECTORS.

Private Gold Issues That Bring Big Prices—Three Cent and Five Cent Nickels With Large Premiums—Varying Values Put on Dollars—Unique Coin.

"Premiums on old coins have advanced from 75 to 100 percent during the last few years," said an old coin dealer. "Any number of coins that could have been picked up for a small sum a short time ago now bring sums up to \$75 and \$100."

"This is due to the tremendous revival of interest that has taken place in coin collecting. There are now in this country more than 4000 coin collectors who systematically buy old coins and are always in search of new specimens."

"They make trips abroad to Europe and other countries in quest of desired rarities. Some of them make trips of this character every year for no other purpose than to ransack the shops of dealers in odds and ends on the other side of the ocean in the hope of finding a treasure, which, as a matter of fact, they very often do."

"Of course, there are thousands of persons who casually gather old coins indiscriminately, but I don't take such collectors into account. So great is the demand for old coins nowadays that the supply does not begin to meet it."

"Most American collectors go in for coins of United States issue. Not much interest is taken here in foreign, and in the ancient Greek or Roman coins, although they are the rage abroad."

"A good many collectors make a specialty of gathering Colonial coins and the private gold issues of North Carolina, Georgia and California, but the large old copper cent leads them all in point of interest. Still other collectors go in for die varieties and mint marks. For a small letter on a coin which shows the place of its minting, makes all the difference in the world to a collector and also in the price."

"For instance, a 20-cent piece of 1875 of the Philadelphia Mint is worth just 25 cents, and yet a coin of the same denomination of 1877 or 1878, bearing the two tiny letters 'C C' for Carson City, will bring between \$10 and \$15."

"The dime of 1894 is another example. The one made in San Francisco, with the letter 'S' is worth anywhere from \$5 to \$10, whereas those made in other mints are worth just their face value or a trifle over. There were only 24 of the former ten-cent pieces minted."

"Would you believe a dollar of 1904 was worth \$5.50? It is, just the same, and that sum was paid at a recent auction sale."

"Yet, such is the inconsistency of coin collecting that a dollar of 1798, in good condition, can be bought for \$2.50. The reason for this is that all 1901 dollars were struck in proof sets and were limited."

"Proof coins are made by burnishing the sheet of metal before the forth with a high polish. The low figure of the 1798 dollar is due to the enormous number preserved in good condition."

"Many of the coins minted since 1850 bring premiums that greatly exceed those for coins issued during the latter part of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century."

which the maker had submitted to the authorities for approval, but it was rejected. The coin is now worth more than \$500 and is seldom offered for sale.

"Of the California gold issues alone there are several hundred varieties, and some of them command enormous premiums."

"There are only three collectors in this country who make a specialty of accumulating gold pieces of the value of \$10 and upward. There are not only the eagle and double eagle of United States issue, but the many 10, 20, and 50-dollar gold pieces of private firms in the west and the \$16 and \$40.07 gold slugs."

"This branch of numismatics is only for millionaires. All the 50 dollar gold pieces, of which there were seven varieties, are octagonal in shape except one and now fetch from \$150 to \$500, that is, when they are offered for sale, which is not often."

"These 50 dollar pieces were made of the purest gold, which cannot always be said of many of the minor denominations, such as the 25 and 50 cent pieces of so-called gold."

"But there is one gold piece of United States issue which is beyond the reach of all collectors, no matter how wealthy. This coin is above price. It is the first 20-dollar gold piece minted by this government, in 1849."

"The piece was submitted for approval, but before action was taken the new year came, so that the dies had to be destroyed and new ones made for 1850. This coin, the only one of its kind, now rests in the coin cabinet at the Philadelphia mint."

"After all, the real factor in the value of a coin of rare date is its condition. On this depends whether it is worth \$5 or \$200."

"A 1799 copper cent, worn almost smooth from constant circulation, and with the date barely discernible, will bring from \$5 to \$15, while one in better condition will advance in value with leaps and bounds. Two hundred dollars has been paid for one of these homely cents in very fine condition."

"One of my customers has had a standing offer with me for the last five years of \$225 for one of these 1799 cents in uncirculated condition. Such a coin must exist, I'm sure, maybe hidden away in the bottom of an old bureau drawer or reposing in the depths of an old stocking, the owner unaware of the small fortune it would bring."

"The great premium at which the 1799 cent is held is one of the mysteries of coin collecting. Usually a large premium is demanded for coins that are extremely scarce, or, by reason of their limited issue, are almost unobtainable. But there is no such reason why the 1799 cent should be rare."

"The mint records for that year show that exactly 994,585 were coined. Notwithstanding this enormous number the coins are now very scarce, but where they have gone no one knows."—New York Sun.

LAW WORKED BOTH WAYS.

Judge Who Fined Man Payed for Expensive Meal.

In a hamlet not far from New York lived a justice of the peace who is well liked by all the people. His cases for the most part are heard on the veranda of his country place in summer and in his library during the chilly days of spring and when the snow flies in winter.

SCIENCE

The recent electrical exhibition in London was such a financial success that the executive committee has been able to refund to the exhibitors much of the money they paid for space.

A new time-recording camera has been patented in England. By photographing an automobile in motion and a watch at the same moment, it is possible for policemen to produce absolute proof that a motorman has exceeded the legal speed limit.

Professor Landouzy, in a communication just made to the French Academy of Medicine, insinuates a serious degree of distrust between a man and his dog. There is no doubt that tuberculosis is on the increase, and the professor has just as little doubt that dogs have something to do with it.

The New York Central Railroad has placed orders with several manufacturing companies for a total of 25,000 freight cars, calling for the expenditure of about \$25,000,000. The tremendous scale on which the railroads are now providing equipment indicates the pressure under which they are working to care for the traffic that is being offered to them.

To meet the effects of sea-water on cast-iron piles, and for other reasons, it is a common and good practice to make the lower lengths of greater thickness—say, 3-8 inch more—than that sufficient for the upper. Occasionally, also, the bottom lengths are filled with concrete, which no doubt adds to the length of time during which they may be relied upon.

Forced draft takes back of course to Stephenson's "Rocket," and its first use for marine purposes was by Mr. Robert L. Stevens on the Hudson River steamers in our own country prior to the civil war. During that war Mr. Isherwood built a number of gunboats which used forced draft, but it had fallen into disuse until about 1882 for naval vessels, when it was introduced into the English navy, and still later was applied in the merchant service.

BIRDS IN THE ANTARCTIC.

They Gather About a Ship for Days at a Time.

"The tempestuous seas of the southern oceans have one great feature, lacking in other oceans, in the quantity and variety of their bird life," says Captain Robert F. Scott, R. N., in "The Voyage of the Discovery," published by the Scribners. "The fact supplies an interest to the voyager which can scarcely be appreciated by those who have not experienced it, for not only are these roaring, tireless birds seen in the distance, but in the majority of cases they are attracted by a ship and gather close about her for hours, and even days. The greater number are of the petrel tribe, and vary in size from the great stormy petrel, which fits under the foaming crests of the waves. For centuries these birds have been the friends of sailors, who designate them by more or less familiar names, some of which have been preserved, while others have been dropped for more definite titles."

"In the older accounts of voyages it is often difficult to recognize the birds referred to; for instance, the term 'Eglet' seems to have been applied to various species. But the 'Wanderer,' 'Sooty,' 'Cape Pigeon,' 'Giant Petrel,' and many others are survivals which the ordinary man still prefers to employ in preference to the scientific designation. It was the shooting of a 'Sooty' albatross by one Simon Hartley in Shelvocke's voyage that supplied the theme immortalized in the 'Ancient Mariner.'"

Carrots Good for the Health.

Carrots are associated rather with Irish stew and boiled mutton and most people find them a somewhat tasteless vegetable, although their bright color renders them useful as a garnish to make dishes, either for pretty little rings made by removing the lighter colored centres from round slices of carrot, to float about in clear soup, or served in tiny strips with green peas and cream sauce. The carrot, however, is by no means to be despised from a hygienic standpoint. It contains digestive properties (in the form of pectic acid) which, acting on the other foods eaten with it, aids in dissolving them, and so promotes digestion. They are also a good blood purifier, and it has been said that their frequent regular use clears the complexion and brightens the color of both eyes and hair. This would seem to indicate that they contain iron, well known to have that color-restoring property. Besides this, carrots applied externally in the form of a poultice aid in reducing inflammation.

Lucky and Unlucky.

A beautiful idea is prevalent in Burma about rubies. The natives believe that their color changes gradually, while they ripen in the earth, as if a fruit. At first they say the stone is colorless, then it becomes yellow, green, blue, each in turn, the final stage being red. When redness is attained the ruby is ripe. The ruby is said to influence the wearer very strongly for good or evil. It is supposed to bring one's due in money that has been misappropriated. If it brings back bad luck to the wearer, it should be discarded; it is malevolent.

KEPT TIME 200 YEARS.

Clock That Has Passed Along Through Seven Generations.

S. S. Peters of 572 South Twenty-eighth street, Omaha, is the owner of a calendar clock which is 194 years old and still running. It has come down in direct line of descent from the original purchaser through the oldest male member of the Peters family through the two centuries of its existence. There is no flaw in its pedigree. The clock was built by Felix Owen in the famous town of York, England, in 1711, and was purchased by Newton Peters. Seven years afterward Newton Peters came to America, settling at Jamestown, Va. A few years later he, with William Byrd founded the town of Petersburg, Va. On the death of Newton Peters in 1725, the clock became the property of his son, Absalom, and on his death in 1760, Absalom's son, Zachariah, came into possession. Zack Peters was an officer in the American navy, and when he died his son, Tunis—evidently named in memory of the scene of actual naval service—got the timepiece. In 1787 Tunis Peters became a member of a colony moving to Ohio, and brought the clock with him to that then new country. On his death, in 1802, his son, also Tunis, became the owner of the old clock. He was one of the pioneers of Ross county, O., where he lived until 1855. His successor in the ownership was Jonathan L. Peters of Columbus, O., who died in 1882. The clock then became the property of Jonathan's only surviving son, Samuel S. Peters, now on the Bee staff.

It will thus be seen that the Peters clock has counted the hours of seven long-lived generations of the Peters family.

The body of the Peters clock is of cherry, the works of brass. So well did ancient Felix Owen do his work that the only repairs ever made on his handwork have been in the nature of occasionally renewing the cords that support the weights. It is an 8-day clock, and must be wound once a week. The face of the clock shows the phases of the moon and also indicates the ebb and the flow of the tides. It shows the days of the month also. The face of the dial is of enamel and shows marks of its great age in the shape of cracks, honorable scars of a useful life. The figures are Arabic characters, an inch and an eighth in length. The corners of the face protruding the dial are painted with quaint old English figures. The second hand is three inches in length, the minute hand six inches and the hour hand five inches. The clock frame is eight feet high and eighteen inches wide. The pendulum rod is four feet and ten inches long, and the two weights tip the scales at thirty pounds. It is still in excellent running order and correctly records the time of today as it did in the sedate days two centuries ago.

This old clock was on exhibition at the Centennial exhibition in Philadelphia in 1876, with no other veteran of its kind to dispute its precedence for age. Subsequently it was exhibited in the Curtis Press club rooms at Columbus, O., for several months, when the Ohio Historical society tried in vain to secure it for the state collector of antiquities.

Persons in Virginia, Philadelphia and New York have repeatedly made flattering offers in money for the clock, and other branches of the Peters family have been anxious to get possession of it. Samuel S. Peters steadily refused to part with the honored timekeeper of the lives of his ancestors. He brought the clock to Beatrice, Neb., from Ohio in 1885, and has frequently loaned it for exhibition at gatherings of old folks. For several years, however, this has been stopped for fear of possible injury in moving.—Omaha Bee.

He Spoiled It All.

W. Cary Ely of Buffalo, the president of the American Street Railway association, was talking at the convention in Philadelphia about motor-men's and conductors' adventures. "A conductor came to me with a smiling face the other day," he said. "He wanted to tell me what had happened on an incoming car. It seems that a middle-aged woman and her little son, a lad of six or seven years, got on the car, and as soon as they were seated the woman took a half dollar out of her pocket and handed it to the youngster to pay the fare with. The boy held the coin in his small, fat hand, and examined it closely and solemnly. The conductor appeared for the fares, and the youngster gave him the half dollar with owl solemnity. The money was pocketed and 40 cents in change was put in the small, extended hand. As soon as he got this change the boy laughed and wriggled in his seat, and shouted gleefully: 'Oh, ma, he's taken the bad half-dollar!'"—New York Tribune.

Dangers of Peace.

Johnny Ralston was a very good boy, declares Answers, but he had one fault which it seemed impossible for his mother to overcome; he would fight with other boys. He had been proved, and at last Johnny had made a faithful promise that he would battle no more.

"That very evening he returned from school with a cut cheek and a swollen nose."

"Johnny," said his mother, "you promised me this morning that you would not fight again."

"But I haven't been fighting, ma. This is an accident."

"An accident?" "Yes, ma, I was sitting on Tommy Biggs, and I forgot to hold his feet."

FOR THE HOUSEWIFE

Nut Puffs. Delicious nut puffs for afternoon tea are made with a cupful and a half of flour, a cupful of milk, a saltspoonful of salt, two teaspoonfuls of sugar, three eggs and a quarter of a cupful of ground nuts. Beat the mixture for fifteen minutes and bake in gem pans that have been previously heated in a hot oven.

Almond and Date Cakes. For almond and date gems, stir the well beaten yolks of two eggs into a pint of sweet milk and add a teaspoonful of salt and three cupfuls of flour, sifted with a teaspoonful of baking powder. Then add a cupful of dates and almonds in equal proportions, chopped very fine. Fold in the stiffly beaten whites of the eggs and bake in buttered gem tins.

Apple Gems. To make apple gems, have ready four large sour apples peeled and minced. With them, mix a quarter of a cupful of molasses, an egg beaten well, half a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little hot water and a cupful and a half each of fine cornmeal and flour sifted with a teaspoonful of baking powder. Stir in enough sweet milk to make a thin batter and bake in buttered gem tins.

Bread Griddle Cakes. For bread griddle cakes, which are an excellent expedient for using up stale bread, soak a pint of crumbs in milk to cover them until they are soft. Then add a cupful of flour sifted with a heaping teaspoonful of baking powder, a well beaten egg, a level saltspoonful of salt and milk to make a thin batter. If sour milk is used use half a teaspoonful of soda in place of the baking powder, dissolving it in a little warm water.

Apple Johnny Cake. Apple Johnny cake is famous among New Englanders. It is a delicious breakfast or luncheon bread. Mix two cupfuls of cornmeal, a saltspoonful of salt, a teaspoonful of cream of tartar, a scant half-cupful of sugar, half a teaspoonful of soda dissolved in a little water and milk to make a thin batter. Stir in three sour apples that have been peeled and cut into thin slices. Bake in a shallow tin in a moderate oven for 35 minutes.

Useful Hints. Do not use cracker crumbs for covering croquettes; they will not brown. A small square of asbestos kept on the ironing board will save the ironing sheet.

Vegetables with the exception of potatoes and onions, should be purchased each day. A broad-bladed spatula is the handiest of kitchen tools for lifting croquettes for an egg mixture.

Few people care to bother making pickles, as there are so many kinds to be bought very cheaply. Always use a wooden spoon, and the best vinegar you can buy, boiling this in an enameled saucepan.

An old rule for plain apple griddle cakes is half a pint of chopped apples into a quart of ordinary griddle cake batter. It is a well-known fact that all vegetables which grow beneath the ground should be put on to boil in cold water, those which grow above into boiling water. This will ensure a successful result.

If a croquette mixture stick to the palms while it is being shaped, dip your hands in cold water and begin again. Never fry croquettes in a draft; they will crack.

A cleaning fluid may be made of five cents' worth of saltpeter, ammonia and shaving soap dissolved in one quart of rain water. It is good for a thousand things. It takes the grease out of carpets beautifully.

Cold vegetables should never be thrown away. Cauliflower, beans, peas, whole potatoes, etc., make delicious salads with the addition of oil and vinegar dressing, and a little chopped parsley.

Remove the outside leaves from a nice red cabbage, cut into four parts, taking off the stalks, and cut it into very thin slices.

A Natural Remedy.

That the remedy is sometimes worse than the disease is again shown by an incident chronicled in the New York Times. A prominent politician has a wife who is a model of domestic carefulness. She has a talent for making bread, and takes great pride in having her loaves turn out well.

One evening she had set the batch of dough to rise in the kitchen and was reading in the parlor, when her 6-year-old boy came running to her, crying, "Mamma, mamma, there's a mouse jumped into your bread-pan!"

The good woman sprang from her seat. "Did you take him out?" she asked frantically.

"No, but I done just as good. I threw the cat in, and she's digging after him to beat the band!"

In 1904, the total consumption of coffee by the American people amounted to 960,879,000 pounds.