Threshold.
...space;
...?
...race,
...?
...doth tread
...dead;—
...might.
...dies.
...?
...cries,
...
...ss, greed and crime;—
...at new time
...
...
...through the years,
...
...and fewer tears
...es roll;
...ding still the van;
...ing fellow-man,
...the scroll.
...coming day,
...bravely press,
...oubled on the way;—
...some distress,
...victory won
...dearest duty done,
...that shall bless.

[illegible] Preserves.

BY MARLTON DOWNING.

[illegible] Howes had always been [illegible] a rich man. His broad [illegible] farm-buildings, and [illegible] livestock went to prove that [illegible]. Then again the presi[illegible] county bank had often [illegible] would not hesitate a mo[illegible] accept Squire Howes' paper [illegible] of fifty thousand dol[illegible] perhaps more.

[illegible] appreciated his worldly [illegible] and out of the goodly store [illegible] which the Almighty had endowed [illegible] ever ready to assist the [illegible] the wants of others, [illegible] fortunate or frugal, of [illegible] creatures.

[illegible] still a young farmer and just [illegible] life, he married the daugh[illegible] one of his neighbors.

[illegible] youthful bride proved to be a [illegible] mate in every sense of the word, [illegible] it was through her energy and [illegible] that Jotham ere he reached [illegible] middle age found himself above [illegible] want.

That is, all material want. Still [illegible] was one blessing which the All-[illegible] Ruler of the Universe had denied [illegible] loving couple. They were child[illegible].

[illegible] we have no children of our [illegible]," remarked the farmer one day, [illegible] can at least assist some parents [illegible] have many, by assuming the re[illegible]sponsibility of rearing a portion of their flock."

Consequently it was determined to adopt a boy and a girl.

"I tell you what we will do, husband," said Sofronia Howes. "We will make a short journey away from this village, and find some homeless ones in another part of the state, so that when the youth and maiden grow up they may not be annoyed by any recollection of former associates."

This plan was settled upon, and ere many weeks the old farmhouse was enlivened by the laughter and prattle of a girl of four years of age and a boy of six.

Time passed, and the little waifs grew into the hearts of their foster-parents.

At length when Ruth was fifteen, and Albert, the boy, was passing his freshman year in college, the woman whom they loved as a mother laid down her burdens of this world and was borne to rest leaving sad and aching hearts behind to mourn her loss.

With the death of his wife a change came over the worthy squire. Though too good a Christian to rebel against the will of Heaven, he nevertheless felt his bereavement heavily and bemoaned the departed bitterly, refusing to be comforted.

After the funeral Albert returned to his studies, while Ruth resumed her household duties, and strove her utmost to cheer the drooping spirits of the more than parent who was left to her.

With the alteration in the demeanor of the owner of the Howes Farm, there was also apparent a marked change in the establishment itself. Head by head the cattle and horses were led away and sold.

The hay in the fields and meadows was converted into money, even as it stood awaiting the coming of the reaper.

Jotham put no seed into the fertile soil, but leased his ground to his neighbors.

What could this mean?

Some of the village folks whispered that Albert was the cause. That the boy was squandering his benefactor's gold in riotous living, and a few of the more officious began to feel it their duty to remonstrate with the squire ere his whole property should be swept away by, as they claimed, an "ungrateful reprobate."

Jotham heard them through, calmly, his face never changing from its habitual, unruffled expression. When they had finished he looked up and replied:

"My friends, I am convinced that in your coming to me, you have been actuated by kindly feelings for my welfare, and therefore forgive you for so cruelly maligning the absent youth. But you will pardon me if I, at this moment, positively forbid any of you to interfere in my affairs, and assure you it would be very pleasing to me if you would, in the future, mind your business."

The astonished visitors, rendered almost speechless by the squire's reception of their presumption, withdrew, and by ominous shakes of the heads signified their disapproval of their townsman's action.

Left alone with Ruth, the old farmer took the maiden's hand, and with moistened eyes, pleadingly asked:

"My child, you do not believe what these people hint in regard to Albert, do you?"

"No, father, no indeed. My brother is too honorable, and too deeply impressed with your kindness to him—and to me—to abuse your confidence and trust in him."

"You are right, Ruth. Instead of squandering my money the boy actually disobeys me in not using enough of it to place himself in the social circle which I want him to fill. But you must not call him your brother, Ruth, for he bears no such relations to you, other than by association."

Here the farmer glanced quickly up into the beautiful face before him, and as he detected a slight blush mantling the fair cheek, he smiled for he thought he read the heart of the gentle one and it pleased him.

He changed the subject, saying:

"Do not allow the idle prattle of our neighbors to disturb you. The disposition of my property may seem strange in their sight, and perhaps in yours also, but be assured, that when I am gone——," here Ruth placed her hand quickly on her adopted parent's head as though to check him——. "Nay," continued Jotham, "do not interrupt me. I repeat that when I am gone, you and Albert will have enough and to spare."

Time continued its flight, and the squire's once beautiful farm had dwindled into insignificance, until one summer month when Albert was called home to attend the funeral of the man who had reared him from childhood, the place bore the appearance of a complete wreck.

The squire's funeral was largely attended, for he had been greatly loved and respected by his neighbors, despite the eccentricities which he had displayed since the loss of his wife.

When the sorrowful party returned to the old homestead, after placing the remains of the squire beside those of the companion of his youth, they found the notary waiting their arrival. In his possession was the last will and testament of the deceased.

It was no wordy document that Jotham had left. It simply read:

"After paying my just debts, I give and bequeath all my property real and personal, to my beloved foster-children, Albert and Ruth Howes."

Of debts there were none save those incurred at the funeral, and to liquidate these sufficient money was found in the antiquated desk of the farmer. But search as they would not a scrap of paper could be discovered to indicate that Jotham Howes had left more than his acres, now run to weeds, and the buildings, which were rapidly falling into decay.

"It is strange," remarked Albert that evening, after Ruth had related to him the words of their adopted father.

"There must be some money somewhere about this place. I cannot believe that our dear parents could have disposed of it all."

"Let us think no more about it, Albert, for the present, at least. I would rather have the dear old man back with us again than all the wealth in the world." And here the girl took from the table the Bible to find consolation for her sorrow in the words of its pages.

Turning the leaves she was astonished to find two pinned together. "Who could have done this?" she murmured, carefully separating them.

To the astonishment of both, a sealed envelope fell to the floor.

Albert picked it up and read the address—

"To my children."

Hastily tearing it open, they saw enclosed a slip of paper, on which was written:

"Search, and ye shall find."

JOTHAM HOWES."

"What does it mean?" asked Ruth, in bewilderment.

"That our father has converted his property into cash, and hidden it somewhere about the house. In the morning we will follow his instructions and search diligently."

As the sun arose the following day, Albert and Ruth joined each other in the large old-fashioned sitting-room.

"Let us take a walk out into the fields, Ruthy," said the young man. "I feel perplexed, and wish to collect my thoughts, and then we must make plans for the future."

As the two wended their way across the broad pastures, a long silence ensued, which was finally broken by Albert, saying;

"Do you realize that we are now alone in the world?"

"Yes," was the faltering reply.

"And how dreary your life will be for you, when I am obliged to return to my duties in the great city."

"Can you not remain here Albert?" asked the young girl, quickly, an expression of pain flitting across her countenance.

"I am afraid not, but we will see."

Then, after continuing their walk a little further, the two returned to the house, prepared to carry out the last instructions of Squire Howes.

"The most likely place that father would choose to hide anything would be in the cellar, it seems to me," said Albert, as they entered the roomy kitchen, and the young man's eyes fell upon a trap door in the floor.

"Remain here, and I will descend and search."

So saying, he lifted the planks by means of an iron ring, and stepped down upon the ladder, and began to ransack the cellar.

Ruth stood by the aperture quietly awaiting her companion's reappearance; she seemed to take but little interest in the matter, her thoughts dwelling on the one who had gone rather than upon what treasure he had left behind.

Presently she was startled by an exclamation of surprise coming from the cellar, and soon Albert was heard ascending the steps, carrying in his hand a glass preserve jar.

"What think you of this, Ruth? A very frail receptacle for anything of value."

"It contains nothing but some ruined jam that should have been thrown away months ago," replied the girl, indifferently.

"There, you are mistaken. It is one of a number that I have found, and they are all filled with money. Look," and the young man unscrewed the metal top and turned out upon the floor several gold pieces.

"Poor father!" murmured Ruth. "He has left this for us."

"And a great deal more. Wait and I will bring it all up."

One after another the jars were brought to light, and their contents carefully examined. Among the bank notes and certificates of stock was found a letter written by the testator to his heirs, explaining to them his object in thus converting his property into cash. It was that he felt he could realize more upon the stock and equipments of the farm than inexperienced Albert; and when he became possessed of the money he feared to entrust it to the keeping of any bank, and had consequently taken care of it himself.

Following this explanation Jotham Howes delicately made known his last and only wish, which was that the two whom he had loved so much in life would journey along hand in hand until called to join him in the other world.

"Shall we comply with this request, Ruth?" asked the young man tenderly, looking into his companion's face.

"If you so desire it;" was the murmured reply.

"I do, my darling, I do. I had intended to ask you to become my wife before long, and this communication has only hastened the words."

Though Albert had been educated for the law he abandoned the pursuit of that profession, turning his attention to the farm, and before many seasons were passed, the fields and meadows resumed their wonted look of prosperity.

The rejuvenated barns were again stocked with valuable cattle and horses, while about the hearthstone of the young farmer were gathered a happy and loving family who long had occasion to remember with heartfelt gratitude, the forethought of the venerable squire, Jotham Howes, who had stored away for his beloved children an enormous wealth in glass preserve jars.—[Yankee Blade.

One After Result.

Banks—I don't mind the grip itself so much—it's the after effects I'm afraid of.

Rivers—The after effects is what ails me. I'm still standing off the doctor for $65.—[Chicago Tribune.

THE REALM OF FASHION.

LONG CLOAKS IN STYLE.

This Season's Fashions Are Gracious to Slim Women.

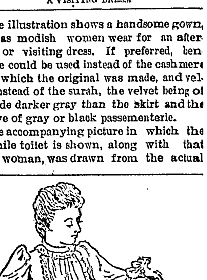
A SEASON of fancifully fashionable overgarments is at hand, and so thin women are at an advantage over thick ones. Many a stylish mantle or cloak won't do for broad figures. A typical garment in the new styles is herewith depicted. It wouldn't look its best on a lavishly rounded woman. However, gentle reader, don't mind if you are plump. Men always like plump women. Not fat, of course, but a woman can be very plump before she is fat. The outlines may not be the most beautiful in the world, but smoothness goes a great way.

The initial fashion plate shows a dolman, or palatine, made of chinchilla goods and ornamented with lace and ribbons. At the joining of the sleeves with the front breadths, folds of gray silk are placed. The lace, falling in the form of a collarette and forming a straight collar, is ornamented with bows of gray ribbon.

A VISITING DRESS.

The illustration shows a handsome gown, such as modish women wear for an afternoon or visiting dress. If preferred, bengaline could be used instead of the cashmere with which the original was made, and velvet instead of the surah, the velvet being of a shade darker gray than the skirt and the zouave of gray or black passementerie.

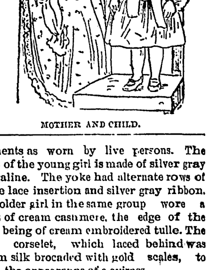
The accompanying picture in which the juvenile toilet is shown, along with that for a woman, was drawn from the actual



MOTHER AND CHILD.

garments as worn by live persons. The dress of the young girl is made of silver gray bengaline. The yoke had alternate rows of white lace insertion and silver gray ribbon. The older girl in the same group wore a dress of cream cashmere, the edge of the skirt being of cream embroidered tulle. The deep corselet, which laced behind was cream silk brocaded with gold scales, to form the appearance of a cuirass.

The cut shows two beautiful costumes, particularly suitable for a powder ball. One



COSTUMES FOR A YOUNG GIRL AND A YOUNG WOMAN.

of the other pair is seen in white spotted tulle, with white roses and white satin ribbon as trimming; also, a white satin bouillonne along the lower hem of the petticoat and train. The sash is of iron-gray surah. The final example is a gown of pale blue damask trimmed with sapphire velvet; white lace plisses complete the petticoat.

MOTHER AND CHILD.

MADE THINGS VS. BOUGHT THINGS FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

The cut gives a picture of mother and child, the one in a house costume, just putting the finishing touches to her little girl's dress for an outing.

Lovely woman is now sitting up nights, ruining her eyes, and neglecting her children, her husband, her engagements and a lot of things, to make a collection of impossibilities for Christmas gifts. She thinks it costs so much less to make them herself, but she would do better to go out to the stores and buy them. But, that makes no difference to her. She thinks people likes things made by hand better than they do "bought things," but they don't. She doesn't, but she thinks she is different from other people. When her cousins and aunts and folks give her a lot of odds and ends

TWO BALL COSTUMES.

made of tags of floss and eccentric bows, she pretends she likes them. The trouble with the average Christmas presents women are now evolving is that they are good for nothing; that they take up a lot of room, and that they never match anything else you have.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

The female ostrich lays seventy eggs a year.

The Gatling gun was invented by Gatling in 1861.

Military engineers were formerly called trench masters.

In India there is a species of crow that laughs just like a human being.

It is said that $2,000 varieties of goods are manufactured from wood.

Market gardens in Paris pay $1 a dozen for live toads as insect destroyers.

The game of billiards was invented in France towards the end of the fifteenth century.

After the passage of the cape cinnamon, vanilla, cloves, nutmeg and pepper came into use.

The State of Washington is one of the heaviest consumers of condensed milk in the country.

In the Eleventh Century both English and French dandies covered their arms with bracelets.

The Sandwich Islanders become hilarious on the juice of a vegetable resembling the beet root.

A Brunswick (Me.) man recently paid for a suit of clothes with 3000, which weighed twenty-one pounds.

The accuracy of surveying in ancient engineering is marvelous, considering the rudeness of the instruments.

Fleetwood, Penn., claims to have a quince which weighs twenty-eight ounces and measures sixteen inches in circumference.

A shoemaker in Berlin, Germany, has invented an artificial sole of stone for use in shoes. It is elastic and easy on the feet, and is calculated to last for years.

Mrs. William Wood, the wife of a prominent farmer, died at Martinsville, Ind., recently. She was married when fourteen years old and though only thirty-five when she died, she had been a grandmother for two years.

A jimmy, such as burglars use, is simply a short crowbar. A sectional jimmy is one in sections of, say one foot in length, which are screwed together to make it of the necessary length. One end of this jimmy is turned up a little more than the ordinary crowbar. The jimmy is an example of a simple lever.

The largest specimen of extinct animal ever found in the world was the skeleton of a Dinosaurian reptile discovered in the Bad Lands of South Dakota in 1892. The weight of the skull alone was 694 pounds, and of the whole skeleton 1900 pounds. It is now in the rooms of the Academy of Natural Science, Philadelphia.

Luther Springer of Hancock, Me., owns a horse, whose days of usefullness being over, he hired a man to kill. The man, taking an axe, started to lead the horse into the woods, but, after going some distance, the animal suddenly attacked the would-be slayer, and, throwing him down, trampled upon him and injured him so badly that it is feared he will not recover. At last accounts the horse's prospects of living were much better than the man's.

THE women of England have boldly started in another reform. A correspondent says: "They are in large numbers riding astride at the hunts. The spectacle of fair equestriennes attired either in divided skirts or in long riding coats, boots and breeches is something calculated to startle those who are privileged to look on." It is also reported that the change meets the approval of the English people.

Alvinza Hayward, one of the earliest of the gold millionaires of California, is very old and feeble now. He is worth probably $20,000,000 or more, but has dropped completely out of sight behind the newer bonanzaists.

Mr. Herman Hicks

"Three years ago, as a result of CATARRH, I entirely lost my hearing and was

Deaf for More Than a Year.

To my surprise and great joy when I had taken three bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla I found my hearing was returning. I kept on till I had taken three more and I can hear perfectly well. I am troubled but very little with catarrh. I consider this a remarkable case." HERMAN HICKS, 30 Carter Street, Rochester, N. Y.

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable.

N Y N U—51

THE KIND THAT CURES

MRS. FRINDA HAMS, Ticonderoga, N. Y.

A Victory Over Disease!

"Terrible Pain in Head and Stomach!"

"My Face was one Mass of Eruptions!"

"Walked the Floor Night After Night!"

The following from Mrs. Hams proves the WONDERFUL POWER of DANA'S over disease.

GENTLEMEN:—I am 54 years of age. About 10 years ago I had the Measles which left me in very bad shape. I have had RHEUMATISM for a long time and a TERRIBLE PAIN IN MY HEAD for months, also severe pain in my stomach supposed to be caused by Liver Trouble. Night after night I have been compelled to walk the floor because of the terrible pain, and this was not all, my face was one mass of eruptions so bad at times as to be covered almost entirely with scabs. I read your papers, and thought I would try one bottle of

DANA'S SARSAPARILLA

though I had tried so many different medicines without any help, I had but little faith. Before I had taken one bottle I felt a great deal better. I have now taken two, and do not feel like the same woman. I can go to bed and SLEEP ALL NIGHT. The terrible pain has departed. The tired feeling I had is entirely gone. My face is well. I think one more bottle will cure me entirely. Yours respectfully,
Ticonderoga, N. Y. MRS. FRINDA HAMS.

To whom it may concern:—I hereby certify to the truth of the above. P. W. BARRY, Ticonderoga, N. Y. Pharmacist.

Dana Sarsaparilla Co., Belfast, Maine.

"German Syrup"

My niece, Emeline Hawley, was, taken with spitting blood, and she became very much alarmed, fearing that dreaded disease, Consumption. She tried nearly all kinds of medicine but nothing did her any good. Finally she took German Syrup and she told me it did her more good than anything she ever tried. It stopped the blood, gave her strength and ease, and a good appetite. I had it from her own lips. Mrs. Mary A. Stacey, Trumbull, Conn. Honor to German Syrup.

DR. KILMER'S **SWAMP-ROOT**

THE GREAT KIDNEY, LIVER AND BLADDER CURE.

Biliousness,

Headache, foul breath, sour stomach, heartburn or dyspepsia, constipation.

Poor Digestion,

Distress after eating, pain and bloating in the stomach, shortness of breath, pains in the heart.

Loss of Appetite,

A splendid feeling to-day and a depressed one to-morrow, nothing seems to taste good, tired, sleepless and all unstrung, weakness, debility.

Guarantee—Use contents of One Bottle, if not benefited, Druggists will refund you the price paid.

At Druggists, 50c. Size, $1.00 Size.

"Invalids' Guide to Health" free—Consultation free.

DR. KILMER & CO., BINGHAMTON, N. Y.

PENSION JOHN W. MORRIS, Washington, D. C. Successfully Prosecutes Claims. Late Principal Examiner U.S. Pension Bureau. 3 yrs in last war, 15 adjudicating claims, atty since.