

LOVING WORDS.

Loving words will cost but little,
Journeying up the hill of life;
But they make the weak and weary
Stronger, braver for the strife.
Do you count them only trifles?
What to earth are sun and rain?
Never was a kind word wasted,
Never one was said in vain.

When the cares of life are many,
And its burdens heavy grow,
Think of weak ones close beside you—
If you love them, tell them so.
What you count of little value
Has an almost magic power,
And beneath their cheering sunshine
Hearts will blossom like a flower.

So, as up life's hill we journey,
Let us scatter all the way
Kindly words, for they are sunshine
In the dark and cloudy day.
Grudge no loving word or action
As along through life you go.
There are weary ones around you—
If you love them, tell them so.
—Galveston News.

Tom's Flirtation

AND so you positively refuse to give up this intimacy?"

"Really, you ask too much, aunt. What else can I do in this stupid place? I am devoted to yachting, you know, and besides, Mr. Trevor is the only man here who has a motor car."

"But, my child, you are engaged to be married! What would Tom say if he should hear of it? And what would you do if he followed your example?"

"Oh, I wish he would! His devotion wears me sometimes. He used to be quite a tease, but since our engagement he seems to have forsaken everything exciting."

Flossie tossed her pretty head until her blonde curls fell over her eyes from which gleamed a spirit of mischief.

The first speaker was Miss Treadway, the girl's aunt, a wealthy woman of 40 years, who had adopted her after the death of her parents. Flossie's fiancé, a young doctor of good family and some means, was completing a medical course in Germany, and they were to be married as soon as he received his foreign diploma.

Mr. Trevor's summer home, a fine stone mansion overlooking the harbor, was the scene of many festivities. He had already given two dinners in Flossie's honor, at which functions Miss Treadway had served as an unwilling chaperon, for she realized that the brilliant company invited to meet them regarded her niece as the future Mrs. Trevor. Now we find her reproving her young relative, with indifferent success.

"Flossie," said Miss Treadway, "I think you ought to consider Mr. Trevor's feelings. It is not fair to him; he does not know about Tom. Perhaps you had better tell him?"

"And spoil all my fun? Why, auntie, what a fuss you are making about a trifle! I cannot mope here without men's society, Tom's in Germany, the sea divides us, and he is welcome to enjoy himself in like manner. However, there is no prospect of his doing anything so sensible. Why, I verily believe he spends all his leisure time writing to me. I get so many letters that I don't read half of them. And that reminds me, one came yesterday when I was getting ready to go out in the yacht. I haven't read it yet; really, I had forgotten it."

When she was alone Flossie curled her dainty self in a large easy chair and laughed softly as she recalled her aunt's words.

"Lose Tom," she repeated. "No danger of that; couldn't get rid of him even if I wanted to." Then she fell to musing, and a tender look came into her deep blue eyes. "Dear Tom," she murmured. "I do love him. I wouldn't give him up for twenty Mr. Trevors!" She went to her desk, found the letter, and having a fine sense of personal comfort, sank back into the soft depths of the chair, and with a box of chocolates in one hand, the letter in the other, began to munch sweets and read.

At first her expression was slightly bored, then astonished, and finally she threw the sweets and the letter on the floor, flung herself face down on a couch and commenced weeping. The portion of Tom's letter which had produced such dire results ran as follows:

"I had such a strange and exciting adventure that I feel it my duty to tell you all about it. You know that my hotel is in one of the best streets here, and that from my windows I can see much of the beauty and fashion of Berlin. However, I never dreamt of such a vision of loveliness as the piece of femininity whose acquaintance I made yesterday."

At this Flossie's blue eyes opened wide, she sat up, loosed her hold on the chocolates, and read on:

"The object of my admiration sat in her carriage alone and unattended just below my window. Suddenly I heard the rush of a runaway horse from the opposite direction, and seeing her alarm, I hastened down the steps and assisted her to the pavement. She smiled sweetly and was about to speak when her attendant returned and she re-entered the carriage and was rapidly driven away; not forgetting to throw me a kiss just as she was lost to view."

"The world seemed a blank without her" (here Flossie's expression became indignant); "I found on inquiry that she was staying at my hotel, and so had grounds for hope of a speedy meeting. That night, for the first time in years, my dreams were not of you

alone, the beautiful blonde appeared to me more than once, always with that charming smile."

"Fancy!" exclaimed Flossie. "To-day the plot has thickened, and, however painful it may be for you to hear it, I feel it only honorable that you should know all particulars, and then judge for yourself if I am to blame. This morning I was seated near the front window reading. Keeping one eye on the street—you can easily imagine why—when there came a gentle tap at my door."

"Thinking it was the waiter, I shouted, 'Come in!' The door opened, and, to my utter amazement, there stood the beautiful blonde, all smiles and blushes. After I had recovered from the delicious shock, which thrilled me from head to foot, I invited her to a seat on the sofa, and then endeavored to entertain this fairy guest to the best of my ability. You must not be shocked, dear, when I confess to you that we soon became great friends, and that she came of her own accord and sat on my lap—"

It was here that Flossie flung the obnoxious letter away from her and began to weep wildly, and was so absorbed in her grief that Miss Treadway entered unobserved.

"Why, what is this?" exclaimed her aunt. She bent over the prostrate form and said: "Flossie, dear, tell auntie."

The girl only cried the more, but at last wailed: "That man; that wicked, false man!"

"Who do you mean?" asked the bewildered woman.

"Tom!" See, the letter on the floor!" Mrs. Treadway picked up the letter, put on her glasses and began to read; at first she looked puzzled, then amused, and finally she laughed outright.

Flossie raised her head and gazed at her reproachfully with tear-stained eyes which looked like wet violets, and said:

"Oh, auntie, how can you laugh? The false villain! To let a strange woman sit on his lap! And I loved him so!"

"Why don't you finish the letter?" asked her aunt, with a quizzical expression in her kindly eyes.

"Because I won't!" cried Flossie, springing to her feet. "Never mention that man to me again. Where are my hat and my jacket? I am going to ride with Mr. Trevor at 5, and if he asks me to marry him I will say 'yes.'"

At this Miss Treadway only smiled. "There, there! Sit down and listen to your old aunt. Nay, I insist. If I am not mistaken you left off just when she sat on his lap?"

"Yes!" cried Flossie. "How can you bear to speak of it?"

"Listen," interrupted Miss Treadway. Flossie, awed by the unaccustomed severity of tone, obeyed.

"She came down of her own accord and sat on my lap. Fortunately I had a box of sweets and I was offering her some when there came another tap at the door. Putting her hastily down, for I did not wish to be caught with a young lady in my arms, I opened the door, and there stood a stout French nurse, with a high white cap and apron, who asked anxiously if 'la petite Mademoiselle Helene' was within. And, Flossie, she sternly reprimanded my charmer for entering a strange gentleman's apartments uninvited, and she led the beautiful blonde away in tears, who, by the way, was just three years old, and it was from a baby carriage that I assisted her the day before!"

By this time Flossie had ceased to weep, and, though much abashed, she could not refrain from joining in her aunt's laugh.

"Flossie," said Miss Treadway, later on, "how do you like the idea of Tom's flirting? And I believe I heard a maiden say not long ago that she wished he would tease her as he used to do. How do you enjoy it?"

"Spare me!" cried Flossie. "You know I don't like it. Oh, I wish we could go away from here. Mr. Trevor's attentions are so marked, and the worst of it is I now realize that I am to blame."

"What do you say to a trip to Germany, for instance?" said Miss Treadway.

"The very thing!" cried Flossie, all smiles.

And the next week found them bound for the Fatherland.—New York News.

Aboriginal Art.

Recently a number of remarkable aboriginal carvings were discovered at Jibbon, Australia. They are on a flat rock, which most probably was a lookout station for the natives. When the fact is taken into consideration that they devoted little labor to their dwellings or to matters relating to their personal comfort it is a cause of surprise that they maintained efforts sufficient to outline figures of gigantic size by grooving them in the solid rock. At Jibbon are the outlines of three whales, one 20 feet 6 inches long and a third 32 feet in length by 11 feet in width. The last-mentioned is marked across the center of the figure, from one outline to the other, by two parallel straight lines. A shark fifteen feet long, a turtle ten feet, a human head twelve feet, a stingray nine feet and a walley six feet are also carved upon the rock.

Pretty Close.

Customer—"What have you got in the shape of pork chops to-day?" Butcher—"Well, we've got mutton chops. They're pretty near that shape."—Philadelphia Press.

Big guns are the only things served on armor plates.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL CONDITION OF VENEZUELA.

OWING to its lack of transportation systems and its average of a revolution every nine months Venezuela is a very backward country. In no respect is it developed anywhere near up to its possibilities. The principal agricultural industries are the raising of coffee, sugar and cocoa. The area of the coffee plantations is estimated at 170,000 hectares and the product 850,000 bags of 100 Venezuelan pounds. The yield of Venezuelan coffee trees is very small. Havre has always been the great market for the coffee of Venezuela, but that port has been closed to it for several months by a prohibitive tariff. The coffee is now sent to New York and Hamburg. This dislocation of the trade and the general crisis prevailing in Venezuela have led to a considerable decrease in price. The country consumes about 200,000 bags of its own coffee.

Two grades of cacao are found in Venezuela, the native criollo which grows wild in the valleys near the sea and the trinitario, imported from Trinidad. The latter is inferior in quality to the former, but grows more rapidly. The most important criollo plantations are found between La Guaira and Puerto Cabello. The cacao crop of Venezuela averages about 8,000 tons a year.

Tobacco is cultivated in the warm and temperate regions, being planted from August to November and gathered about the month of May. A German firm has successfully introduced the famous Cuban tobacco, Vuelta-Abajo.

Rubber trees grow abundantly in Venezuela, especially in the Orinoco basin. German, American, French and English companies are exploiting this valuable natural product. Last year more than 1,000,000 kilograms were exported.

Large numbers of bananas are produced for domestic consumption, but few are exported.

Out of 49,462 farms in Venezuela, 11,020 are devoted to the raising of sugar cane. In central Venezuela the sugar mills are modern, in other parts they are primitive. Almost all the products are consumed in Venezuela. Most of the sugar is eaten unrefined, but a small amount is refined for the use of the wealthier classes.

Venezuela has vast forests of tropical woods. It ships 50,000 to 60,000 head of cattle to Cuba yearly. There is only one packing house in Venezuela. Leather making is the chief native industry. The cigarette industry, highly protected, is very flourishing. Chocolate making is an important industry. There are two breweries in Venezuela, and they do a very profitable business.

Venezuela has only one important telephone company. Caracas and Valencia are the only cities having street car lines.

MRS. JULIA DENT GRANT.

Her Death Leaves but Two "White House Widows."

Mrs. Julia Dent Grant, who died at Washington, of bronchitis, Bright's disease, and valvular heart trouble, was one of the three "White House widows." Her death leaves Mrs. McKimble and Mrs. Garfield as the two surviving widows of Presidents. Mrs. Benjamin Harrison cannot properly be included, inasmuch as she did not marry Mr. Harrison until he had left the White House, which makes her an ex-President's widow. Of Mrs.



MRS. JULIA DENT GRANT.

Grant's four children, the only one with her when the end came was Mrs. Sartoris. Gen. Frederick D. Grant was in Texas, where he commands a department of the United States army; and Ulysses S. Grant, Jr., and Jesse Grant were at their homes in San Diego, Cal.

Few women whose husbands were men of action have been so intimately identified with the careers of the latter and have shared their experiences to such an extent as did the woman who united her fortunes with those of an unknown army captain and lived to see him the head of a nation, to be greeted by the nations of the world and to enjoy with him the hospitality extended by crowned heads. Her father was a judge—Frederick Dent, who occupied a prominent place in the political and social circles of Missouri at the time his daughter was born—January 26, 1826. Her brother was a classmate at West Point of Ulysses S. Grant, and when Grant was sent to Jefferson Barracks as a lieutenant he carried letters of introduction to the Dent plantation and there the romantic event of his life occurred. The daughter of Judge Dent had just returned from an eight years' stay at a boarding school and the young officer found it a pleasure to call often where he could enjoy the girl's company. Eventually they became engaged, but before the marriage could take place there came the war with Mexico. When the soldier returned, with the title of captain, earned at Chapultepec and in other battles, the wedding took place, August 22, 1848. Mrs. Grant was with him at Sackets Harbor and at Detroit, and when he went to the front during the civil war she joined him. She was with him at Vicksburg, which she called the general's greatest battle, and elsewhere she heard the cannons booming and saw the bullets fly.

The war over and Gen. Grant installed in the White House, his wife entertained on a magnificent scale. When her husband went on his tour of the world she accompanied him, and sat at the tables of Kings, Emperors and Queens. After his return, when the shadows gathered about him, when physical and financial difficulties darkened his days, her devotion increased and her confidence in his ability to weather the storm never wavered. After his death she made her home in New York and Washington. She also spent some time in Canada, and once visited her granddaughter, the Countess Cantacuzene, in Europe. The government gave her a pension of \$2,000 a year. All her children survive.

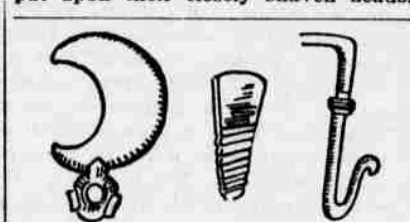
EVOLUTION OF THE RAZOR AND BEARD.

If any writer on the history of civilization should ever undertake to write a history of the beard, he will have to record the fact that a majority of the peoples were beardless.

Just as the savages carefully remove every bit of hair from their faces, either by shaving or by pulling the hairs out by their roots, the civilized nations considered it the proper thing to be beardless. The ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans looked with contempt upon the barbarians, who allowed their hair and beards to grow unrestrained and believed that only a perfectly smooth face was proper and dignified for an educated man. Only in rare cases an Egyptian would allow two tufts of hair to grow on his chin, and the Greeks and Romans were so radical in their duties on the subject that they even had their eyebrows shaved off, considering them superfluous and contrary to their ideas of beauty. The Egyptians removed the hair from their faces with the same primitive stone knives which the Kafirs of South Africa use to the present day. The Greeks used sickle-shaped knives, sometimes made of precious metals, for the same purpose. Opinions on the beard question were divided in Europe during the Middle Ages. While peasants and men of science kept their faces smooth, tradesmen, soldiers and patriots considered it a matter of pride to wear fine long beards.

During and after the Thirty Years war, when the much criticized custom of following fashions was transplanted from France to Germany and other countries, the beards were reduced to a minimum. Only a narrow strip under the nose was permitted to remain, which strangely contrasted with the bushy perukes which the men used to put upon their closely shaven heads.

When the perukes went out of fashion the beards followed them. During the '40's of the last century beards began to make their appearance again, though at first only modestly. Gradually they assumed larger proportions, and finally, during the last 10 or more years, there is practically no restriction in regard to beards.



SOME EARLY RAZORS.
Greek. Egyptian. Old English.

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A Costly Perfume.

Attar of Ylang-Ylang, which rivals the attar of roses as an exquisite perfume, and sells at \$40 to \$50 or more a pound, is the product of an Asiatic tree that reaches its highest development in the Philippine Islands. The tree grows to a height of sixty feet; when three years old it begins bearing long greenish-yellow flowers, and at the age of eight may produce yearly 100 pounds of these flowers, blossoming every month. The attar is obtained by simple distillation of the choicest petals with water, no chemicals being used. Besides its value as a perfume for hair and toilet waters, the product is prized among the natives as a medicine, being credited with curing toothache and numerous other pains.

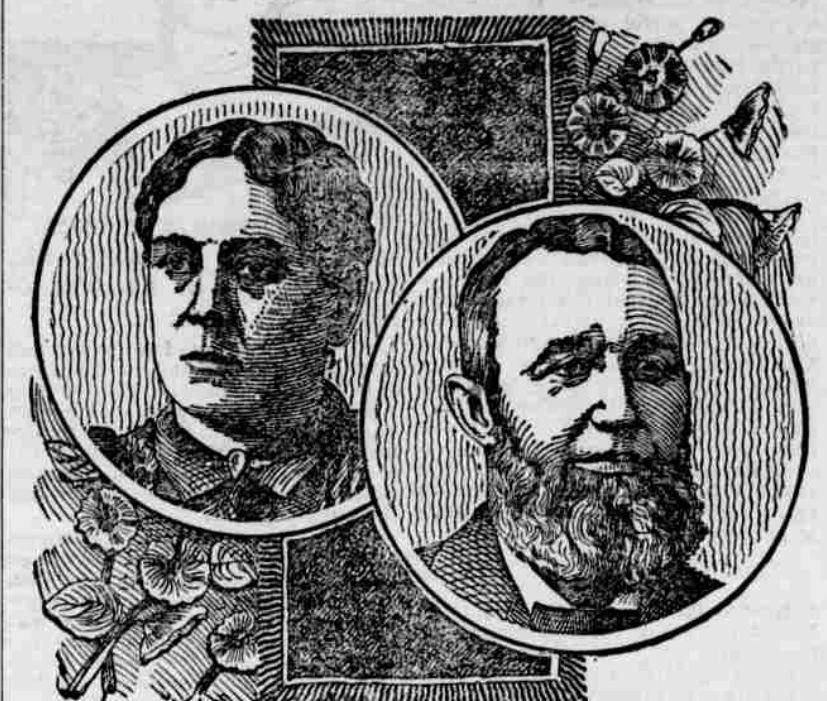
Mixed to Him.

"Your speech is very strange," said the foreigner. "I went to the football game and sat in the grand stand, and others had a grand time standing up."

Fireproof Railway Trains.

All the new trains on the Central London Railway are to be of fireproof construction, steel and asbestos being largely used.

THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME Are Never Without Peruna in the House for Catarrhal Diseases.



MR. AND MRS. J. O. ATKINSON, INDEPENDENCE, MO.

Under date of January 10, 1897, Dr. Hartman received the following letter:

"My wife had been suffering from a complication of diseases for the past 25 years. 'Her case had baffled the skill of some of the most noted physicians. One of her worst troubles was chronic constipation of several years' standing. 'She also was passing through that most critical period in the life of a woman—change of life. In June, 1895, I wrote to you about her case. You advised a course of Peruna and Manalin, which we at once commenced, and have to say it completely cured her. She firmly believes that she would have been dead only for those wonderful remedies."

"About the same time I wrote you about my own case of catarrh, which had been of 25 years' standing. At times I was almost past going. I commenced to use Peruna according to your instructions and continued its use for about a year, and it has completely cured me."

"Your remedies do all that you claim for them, and even more. Catarrh cannot exist where Peruna is taken according to directions. Success to you and your remedies."

John O. Atkinson.

In a letter dated January 1, 1900, Mr. Atkinson says, after five years' experience with Peruna:

"I will ever continue to speak a good word for Peruna. In my rounds as a traveling man I am a walking advertisement for Peruna and have induced many people during the past year to use Peruna with the most satisfactory results. I am still cured of catarrh."

John O. Atkinson, Independence, Mo.

When old age comes on, catarrhal diseases come also. Systemic catarrh is almost universal in old people. This explains why Peruna has become so indispensable to old people. Peruna is their safeguard. Peruna is the only remedy yet devised that meets these cases exactly.

Such cases cannot be treated locally; nothing but an effective systemic remedy could cure them. This is exactly what Peruna is.

If you do not receive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, president of the Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, O.

Book Learning.

Mr. Newedde—These biscuits are awful.

Mrs. Newedde—Impossible. Why, the receipt says they are excellent.—N. Y. Journal.

A Simple Explanation.

A man in public life noted for his brusqueness of speech was under informal discussion in cabinet circles. "There's one thing to be said in his favor, however," said Secretary Wilson, "and that is he never importunes the department to get promotions or positions for his friends. 'That's readily explained,' commented Secretary Root; 'he hasn't any.'"

MOTTO FOR NEW YEAR.

Eat Whatever You Want, But Be Sure and Have Good Teeth.

Now that the holiday spirit is prevalent everywhere it is a good time to be a little selfish and think what would be the best present to give to oneself.

Why isn't a good set of teeth one of the best things you can have in this life?

Wise Bros., the famous dentists in the failing building, Portland, Oregon, have had a large run of business during these holidays, probably somewhat in consequence of the people's special desire just now to make themselves sensible presents.

Why don't you go to this firm before the new year and have your teeth looked after?

When you come to think of it, there is nothing we want more than a sound set of teeth. Our health and all our happiness depend much upon what we eat. If we cannot masticate our food properly we are restricted to only a few eatables, and even in their case we cannot properly chew and digest our food.

Not long ago the fear of pain and the great expense of dental work kept nearly all the masses away from dentists. Now it is all different. There is positively no pain when such dentists as Wise Brothers do your work. Wise Brothers' charges, also, are in reality very moderate. If your teeth are apparently in good order the best way is to go and have them looked over so as to be sure that they are all right and in sound condition. If your teeth are decayed, then the best way is not to lose any more time but go immediately and have the bad teeth taken out. Even if you have to get an entire new set the expense will be trifling in comparison with the great and lasting benefits you will derive from having a set of teeth that look for all the world like the natural ones, and which will serve you in every respect nearly as well as your own that grew in your mouth.

The popularity of this great dental firm, Wise Brothers, whose signal success we have from time to time noted in these columns, is much to be desired. They have proved to everybody that we need not suffer any longer with bad teeth and poor food. We can all eat what is good for us, and we all can afford to have the best teeth in the world.

Extracting teeth without pain was a short time ago a myth. Now it is a grand reality.

Unnecessary.

Deacon Johnson—Does yo' believe in infant damnation, Brudder Jackson.

Brother Jackson—Deedy, no! Dey'll pick up cuss words enough widout being sword at by deyr parents.—Puck.

HOW'S THIS?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that can not be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

P. J. CHENEY & Co., Props., Toledo, O. We the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the past 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm.

Wm. & Truxal, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Testimonials free. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Explained.

"But there's one good point about those flats. I understand they do not object to children there. They lay special stress on that in their advertisement."

"No wonder. They realize that any couple with a child would have to move out and find more room."—Philadelphia Press.

As to the Manner of His Going.

"And must I walk the planks?" faltered the captive.

"Certainly," replied the smart Corsair, with a frown. "You don't suppose I'm going to supply you with an automobile, do you?"

Piracy is essentially an unprogressive industry. It does not respond to the modern spirit.—Automobile Magazine.

Health and Beauty.

No beauty with pimply skin, dull eyes, bad breath. Clean your system and keep it clean with Cascarets Candy Cathartic. All druggists, 10c, 25c, 50c.

An Improvement.

"I hear that Cactus Tim had his legs cut off," said Alkali Ike.

"Yes," said Tarantula Tom; "railroad did it—nipped his feet off clean and sure. He's stumpin' 'round on wooden pins now."

"How does he like it?"

"Fust-rate. He says he can't get snakes in his boots now."—Judge.

FITS Permanently Cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Kidney & Bladder Cure. Send for FREE TRIAL BOTTLE and booklet. Dr. R. H. Kline, Ltd., 301 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Nothing in It.

"Here's an account of a poet who committed suicide after having his verses rejected," said Kindart. "That should be a lesson to you editors."

"Nonsense!" replied the editor. "It won't always work. You surely can't hope to kill off all the poets by rejecting their verses. That's too much to expect."—Philadelphia Press.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

Their Opinion of the War.

The following conversation was overheard in a South African block-house near the close of the Boer war: First soldier—"Say, d'ye think we shall be home for the coronation?" Second soldier—"Coronation be blowed! We shall be — lucky if we are home in time for the resurrection."