

WHAT WOULD YOU TAKE FOR ME?

She was ready to sleep as she lay on my arm.
In her little frilled cap so fine,
With her golden hair falling out at the edge,
Like a circle of noon sunshine,
And I hummed the old tune of "Banbury Cross,"
And "Three Men Who Put Out to Sea,"
When she sleepily said, as she closed her blue eyes:
"Papa, what would you take for me?"
And I answered, "A dollar, dear little heart."
And she slept, baby weary with play,
But I held her warm in my love-strong arms,
And I rocked her and rocked away.
Oh, the dollar meant all the world to me,
The land and the sea and the sky,
The lowest depths of the lowest place,
The highest of all that's high.

All the cities, with streets and palaces,
With their people and stores of art,
I would not take for one low soft throb
Of my little one's loving heart;
Nor of all the gold that was ever found,
In the busy wealth finding past,
Would stake for one smile of my darling's face,
Did I know it must be the last.

So I rocked my baby and rocked away,
And I felt such a sweet content,
For the words of the song expressed more
to me,
Than they ever before had meant,
And the night crept on, and I slept and dreamed.

Of things far too glad some to be,
And I waken'd with lips saying close in
my ear,
"Papa, what would you take for me?"
—Eugene Field.

SOLUTION OF THE LAND QUESTION OF IRELAND.



MAP OF IRELAND, SHOWING THE CONGESTED DISTRICTS.

WALTER WELLMAN, of the Chicago Record-Herald, is assured by Sir Anthony MacDonnell, the new Under Secretary for Ireland, that the whole land question will be settled soon, on terms not only satisfactory to the Irish people and to the landlords, but in a manner which will greatly strengthen the British empire. In brief, the plan is the wholesale turning over of the soil of Ireland to the people of Ireland. Twenty-five years ago a settlement might possibly have been made on the lines followed in India, where the land rents were fixed upon the basis of the price of produce in the actual market. This plan has worked well in India, but it is too late to adopt that method in Ireland. It will not satisfy the aspirations of the people for actual ownership of the soil. So another plan must be devised, a plan which involves the actual removal of landlordism. There will be no confiscation of property, no compulsory sale except under conditions which may make it necessary for the good of the state.

The vital point, of course, is the price. Naturally the landlords desire to secure as high prices as they can, while the tenants are equally anxious to buy as cheaply as possible. Between these two stands the Government, which is deeply concerned in devising a practical plan and one which will involve as little cost as possible to the Imperial treasury. Probably a new valuation of the land will be made.

It is estimated that this project will cost the Imperial government at the outset \$150,000,000 sterling; this is \$750,000,000—a large sum of money, but not too much to buy peace and order and prosperity in Ireland.

In many instances the price will probably equal the rent covering a period of fifteen to twenty or twenty-five years. Where the purchaser and the landlord cannot agree the government must aid in reaching a settlement. It may buy out entire estates and then sell back to the landlord his homesteads and castles, preserving much of the outlying land for the people.

The scheme contemplates the thinning out of congested districts where families are crowded together on small tracts of land incapable of giving decent support to the number of people dwelling thereon. The sale of the estates will bring into use large areas, now given up to parks and hunting preserves, and in many instances wide stretches of pasture land, which have been too sparsely stocked with cattle, will be turned into productive farms and homes for the people.

The landlords, it appears, in most instances, are ready to submit to this scheme. Under existing land laws, where rents may now be determined in the courts, the exorbitant rents heretofore exacted cannot always be secured and land holding is losing its attractions.

It is less fascinating, also, for another reason. In 1896 parliament gave the people of Ireland the right to elect their own county councils. Heretofore the landlords held the local offices without dispute, but under the act of '96 the honors passed in many cases from the lord, by the suffrage of the people, to the former tenant. Ousted from local places of dignity and honor, and subjected to the official jurisdiction of his social inferiors, the landlord finds residence and land holding in Ireland less attractive than heretofore.

Where the unwillingness of the landlord to sell his lands to the people creates a condition unfavorable to public order and the general welfare it is proposed that the state exercise its right of eminent domain, fix a price upon his property, buy it from him and sell it again to purchasers from among the people.

Must be sort o' desolate for ye, I'm thinkin'.

"That's so," said Jonas, a little mournfully. "There ain't so much fun a-settin' alone o' evenin's, but I'm used to it," he added, despondently.

"Pshaw! There ain't no such thing as gittin' need tew it! It ain't nat'ral!" said Uncle John, stoutly.

"What'll I do?" asked Jonas, sheepishly.

"Ask one of these pretty girls around here to marry you—sort of a birthday present to yourself, don't you know." The old man chuckled as he glanced slyly at Jonas.

"They wouldn't have me," said Jonas, with a decided shake of his head.

"There's three of them that would," began the old farmer, but he checked himself abruptly. He had come very near betraying his pretty niece's secret. "Just you ask 'em," he finished abruptly, but with an encouraging smile.

"Which one'll I ask?" queried Jonas.

"Ask 'em all," said the old farmer, with a roar of laughter. He had evidently thought of something that was exceedingly funny.

"John Gardner, be you out of your head?" said Jonas, half angrily.

But the farmer's words burned in his brain long after he had parted with his friend and neighbor.

And that evening he put on his best suit and went over to call on Jennie Deering.

An hour before midnight they were sitting alone in the kitchen, for the old folks had gone to bed in a most accommodating manner.

"Did you know my birthday was next week, Jennie?" said Jonas, suddenly. He was sitting as near her as he dared when he asked the question. Suddenly, Jennie giggled in a most unaccountable way.

"Do you want a birthday present, Jonas?" she asked, with a fit of laughter that bordered on hysterics.

Jonas looked at her with some sur-

QUEEN BECOMES DOCTOR.

Consort of King of Portugal Attends Poor as a Physician.

Queen Amelie of Portugal has taken her degree of M. D. and is now the chief physician of her husband, King Carlos, and of her children. The queen's great hobby is medicine, but she has written and published treatises on a variety of scientific subjects, as well as a volume of poems.

Like her mother, the accomplished countess of Paris, the young queen is passionately fond of horses and dogs and has written a very entertaining volume of "Animal Anecdotes," being true stories of her own pets. The queen devotes most of her time she can spare from the imperative duties of her position to scientific and literary pursuits; she also has the entire supervision of her two sons' education.

It has often been said of the queen that she is the most energetic woman in the kingdom; she rises punctually at 8, an early hour for the "doce far niente" Portuguese. After breakfast, which the queen takes alone with the king, she retires to her study and proceeds to read the principal French, English, German, Portuguese and Spanish newspapers of the day. Queen Amelie is a great linguist and speaks these five languages with equal fluency. The work of reading the daily papers being accomplished, the queen takes a short walk or drive with the king, returning to the palace at 11; she then resumes her work in her private study until 1 o'clock.

It is during these two hours that Queen Amelie accomplishes her principal literary labors of the day. The king and queen lunch at 1, after which they take a drive, during which Queen Amelie makes a point of visiting one of the Lisbon city hospitals. King Carlos' charming consort is well known to the invalids of the hospitals, who look forward to her visits as the principal event of the day.

The queen always has a word of kindness and encouragement for the patients, in whom she takes a genuine personal interest. She often bandages the wounds of poor patients herself and this work she performs as well as a professional, in the opinion of the hospital doctors. Indeed, it is stated, says a correspondent of the New York Times, that but few trained nurses are as competent in hospital duty as Queen Amelie, who seems to be a natural-born physician.

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE Manufacturers' Record has gathered together some figures that briefly tell the amazing story of America's industrial growth in the last twenty-two years. In 1880 the total capital invested in manufacturing was \$2,700,000,000, and the value of the output was \$5,369,000,000. Now the capital invested in manufactures is over \$10,000,000,000, and the value of the output over \$15,000,000,000. Then we mined 42,000,000 tons of bituminous coal and made 3,000,000 tons of pig iron; now we mine 250,000,000 tons of bituminous coal and make 17,500,000 tons of pig iron. Then we had 87,800 miles of railway, now we have more than 200,000. Then we had 50,000,000 inhabitants; now we have nearly 80,000,000 people and are increasing at the rate of between 18,000,000 and 20,000,000 the decade.

"The momentum of development is such as the world never saw. The next ten years must easily show a greater growth than the last twenty, for we now have at home 30,000,000 more people to work and consume than we had in 1880, and by 1912 we will have nearly 50,000,000 more—almost the same as our total population in 1880, and then our manufacturers had but a limited foreign market; now we are pushing out for the world's trade and shall capture it just as rapidly as we can push our production beyond our consumptive requirements."

The total freight tons carried one mile by the railways in 1895 was 85,000,000; in 1901 it was 147,000,000, and for 1902 about 160,000,000.

Hitherto industrial development has been chiefly in the North and West. The immense natural resources of the South await the energy and enterprise of the future. The star of industrial empire now takes its way southward. West Virginia and Southwest Virginia are the centers of the greatest coal activity in America, yet West Virginia has only scratched a few hillsides of its coal deposits. Great Britain has only 8,000 square miles of coal area, but mines nearly 300,000,000 tons a year. West Virginia has 16,000 square miles and only mines 25,000,000 tons.

"The time will come," says the Manufacturers' Record, "when West Virginia will mine as much as Great Britain. Then comes North Carolina, a State larger than Pennsylvania, probably all around the most wonderfully endowed State in the Union—a State whose mineral and industrial potentialities are simply without limit. And then South Carolina, next to Massachusetts the leading cotton manufacturing State of the Union, and Georgia, the Empire State, and Alabama, as to the basis steel center of the world. Like West Virginia, it has scarcely scratched the ground. It has just started its real business career. And then Tennessee and Mississippi."

The fuel oil of Beaumont, the Isthmian canal, the completion of the occupation of the West, will undoubtedly send South during the coming years a great stream of population and money to take advantages of the immense idle resources of that part of the Union. The industrial era is just dawning in the South. If trade relations with Canada are not improved the bulk of the surplus capital and population of the North will go south to the Southern States, and beyond them to the whole South American continent, Mexico and Central America.

GOOD LUCK.

It Has Always Strangely Followed Possession of a Four-Leaf Clover.

Some people look all their lives for a four-leaf clover, quatre foil, without success, while others think nothing of picking them up. Same with everything else fotsam and jetsam. Thoreau was noted for his luck or skill in finding relics of the aborigines. He could pick up an arrow head at almost any time. He must have had an eye of a chicken. It is said that walking with Emerson one day, the subject came up and the latter philosopher lamented his inability to find one of these relics of the stone age. Yet he had looked for them often where they were known to abound. Thoreau replied that it was easy enough, and picked one up at their very feet. Four-leafed clovers are rare to most mortals. Those of the five-leafed variety are not often discovered. Back in '86 a jockey on one of the local running tracks, Abner Camp, who had been put on the ground for a week for disobedience at the post, went botanizing through the infield, looking for a quatre foil. He found a perfect quinte feuille, a five-leafed clover. This was mounted and given to Jockey James McLaughlin, to be worn by him while riding Miss Woodford in the big Eclipse stakes at St. Louis, for which this great mare was starting and in which she was expected to meet her old enemy and conqueror, Freehand. Of course that gave her luck, doubly so, for she won without having to measure strides with Mr. Corrigan's racing machine. A few days since an Italian was arrested while in the act of pawing a jeweled four-leafed clover of large value.

He claimed to have found it, and the police have been trying to discover the owner. When Gen. Hancock received the Democratic nomination for the presidency in 1880 he directed the formation of a committee of old Union generals and the organization of the veteran Democratic ex-volunteers throughout the North. This was effected. It was thought best to have a soldiers' campaign badge. Gen. James McQuade, of the committee, suggested the trefolium, the military insignia of Hancock's old army corps. This was vetoed by Gen. Hancock as seemingly invidious. He suggested as a substitute a four-leafed clover. "There's luck in that, you know," said he. The idea was adopted, and vast numbers of them were made. The design was drawn by the daughter of a Catholic bookseller in Barclay street, this gentleman belonging to the committee and being a veteran of Hancock's old command. For her services the young woman was complimented with a badge made expressly for her, and of considerable value, though not to the extent of the jewel alleged to have been found by the Italian. But there were many veteran followers of Hancock in the field and in the political campaign who had constructed their own decoration jeweled quatre folla of value, and the one in the hands of the police may possibly be one of them.—Brooklyn Eagle.

WEAPONS USED BY CHINESE.

Industrial Appliances Still Constitute Means of Defense.

The prominent part played by China in the world's affairs during the past seven years has aroused the interest of collectors, who have brought to this country many specimens of wares and goods peculiar to that part of the far east.

None among these are of greater historical value than the weapons which are in use in all provinces of the empire, writes a contributor to the New York Post, even in the districts where imperial armies are equipped with European firearms. One of the best collections was shown in this city not long ago, and is now in the possession of the commercial museum at Philadelphia. Single specimens of value are to be found in the Chinese club room

in Chinatown, and in many bric-a-brac stores scattered throughout the city. A careful study of the weapons shows that most of them are naught but industrial appliances suddenly employed for purposes of offense. One spear is a pitchfork and another a trident similar to the eel spear employed by our fishermen. Another ghastly weapon when examined carefully proves to be a scythe blade fastened to the end of a strong pole. The halberds, or hatchets, ax heads, adzes and cleavers wired or tied with thongs to stout staves. Even the spears and lances show an agricultural or domestic rather than a military origin.

These weapons may be viewed as historical souvenirs which are preserved as testimonials of the bravery of the Manchu conquerors. The Tartars take great pride in their conquest of the middle kingdom. Before they came from the north they were savages in comparison with the civilized Chinese. They preserve this fact in their laws and customs. The cuff of every official's coat is made in the form of a horse's hoof, to indicate that the Manchurian armies were cavalry, not infantry. The official footwear is a cavalry boot, which, though made of satin with kid-covered soles, is in cut and general appearance the same as the heavy leather articles worn by their ancestral troopers 300 years ago. When they conquered China they experienced the strongest resistance from the farmers and fishermen, who armed themselves with whatever came to hand and attacked the invaders with ferocious intrepidity.

In honor of these victories they retained the primitive weapons of their captives and used them as trophies of their battles. Each Manchu officer employed a lot of Chinese captives and armed them with their own spears, tridents and axes as the case might be. The practice has been kept up ever since. When a mandarin goes calling he has one or more guards in his retinue who are armed with these simple contrivances. So far has the idea been pushed that in nearly all the temples there are weapons which belong to the god of the temple, and these are usually of the same agricultural character as those employed by the guards of civil and military officials.

Continuous Performance.

"Gracious, look at the speed of that automobile ambulance. I should think it would be dangerous."

"It is rather. You see, they are hurrying to arrive and pick up the victims run down by another automobile ambulance that passed along here a few minutes ago."

"See, they've run down several people on their own hook, but they don't stop."

"No; another auto ambulance will be along soon to care for them, and after it's all over an ordinary horse vehicle will have to come trotting along and take care of all the victims of the three ambulances."—Baltimore Herald.

Testimonial Writers.

"Do you subscribe to the theory that people's characters are made by what they eat?"

"No," answered the scientist; "but judging from the advertisements I should say that in many cases their reputations are made by the medicines they take."—Washington Star.

American and English Bidders.

When the harbor authorities of Calcutta advertised for bids on locomotives the lowest English bid was \$7,349, with delivery in nine months. The lowest American bid was \$5,968, delivered in six months.

He "Drew" Well.

"How does your son draw in his political campaign?" asked the stranger.

"Purty heavy," replied the old man. "He drew on me yesterday for \$100, and I'm expecting another draw by next mail!"—Atlanta Constitution.

JUDICIAL DECISIONS.



A statute imposing a penalty on agents transacting business within the State for foreign partnerships which have not complied with conditions not required of local partnerships is held, in State vs. Cadigan (Vt.), 57 L. R. A. 96, to be void as discriminating against such agents in favor of those of local firms.

Merely exempting a witness in a criminal case from liability to have his testimony used against him in case he is subsequently prosecuted for an offense to which it relates is held, in re Carter (Mo.), 57 L. R. A. 654, not to be sufficient to prevent his claiming the protection of a constitutional provision that no person shall be compelled to testify against himself in any criminal case.

The vendor's interest in a partially performed contract to purchase land of which the vendee has been put in possession is held, in Bowen vs. Lansing (Mich.), 57 L. R. A. 643, to pass to his personal representative on his death, and not to be subject to execution for the debts of his heir. The nature of the interest of vendor or vendee in a land contract, as real or personal property, is considered in a note to this case.

A contract between a sheriff and his deputy, providing that the deputy as such shall collect all the taxes and do all the work of the sheriff's office in one district, and that he shall have all the fees and commissions allowed by law upon the work done by him, and in consideration thereof shall pay the sheriff \$100 a year, is held, in White vs. Cook (W. Va.), 57 L. R. A. 417, to be in violation of the State statutes prohibiting the sale or farming of any office under the laws of the State.

The contract of a married woman as surety on a note is held, in Union National Bank vs. Chapman (N. Y.), 57 L. R. A. 513, to be governed by the law of the place where her signature is affixed and the instrument delivered to the payee, although the note is payable in another State, and, as against the makers, has no valid inception until its negotiations in the later State if the surety has no knowledge that it is to be negotiated there, or intention that her contract shall be governed by the laws of that State. The subject of conflict of laws as to capacity of a married woman to contract is discussed in a note to this case.

Our heart goes out to those women who work so hard in keeping house by cutting bakers' bread and opening canned goods.

prise, but when he answered her he was in desperate earnest.

"I want a wife!" he said boldly, and then blushed as red as a poppy.

"That's what I mean," said Jennie, still hovering on hysterics. "Do you want a wife for a birthday present?"

Jonas caught his breath and looked at her sharply. Had she turned mind reader, or was it simply a chance question?

But Jennie was desperately in earnest, as well as Jonas. She had to fulfill her part toward securing the combination wife and present.

"May Gardner or Sallie Green would marry you, I am sure. They are both nice girls, and you're bound to like them." She blurted out the words in the most astonishing way, and then finished by bursting into a fit of crying.

"But I don't want Sallie Green or May Gardner! I want you, or nobody, for my wife," Jonas said bravely.

The sight of her tears had made him bold, and he was holding her hands now in the tenderest fashion.

And before 12 o'clock she was his promised wife, and when he left her there was only one cloud upon her happiness. "The girls will be awfully mad," she said over and over, "but, anyhow, I have kept my promise—I am going to give Jonas a wife for his birthday day."—New York Daily News.

His Conglomeratpredicament.

"Well, zish," said Mr. Ryefuddle, partially standing himself by clawing on to the door-frame and gazing at the wife of his bosom with fishy and focusless eyes. "is the (hic) first time I ever saw a liv(hic)ing puzzle-picture. Now, which of the two is (hic) which and which is not (hic) which? In other words, which of 'em is (hic) and which of her ain't one of (hic) 'em? On the ozer hand, which one of the two zhat I see is the (hic) one I don't see, and which is the (hic) one I see but don't think I do? I pause for a (hic) reply."

N. B.—He got it.—Judge.



"I WANT YOU, OR NOBODY."

"clock," said Jennie, but again May frowned upon the suggestion.

"No, indeed! That won't do. Jonas has no end of clocks and needs no more. Let's give him something that he would never dream of getting for himself."

"Oh, girls!" broke in Sallie Green, with a ringing laugh. "I've thought of the very thing! Let's give Jonas a wife for his birthday present! He has everything else that he needs, and you know he is altogether too timid to even secure a wife without some assistance!"

"Won't he resent it?" asked the girls, timidly, but May checked them imperiously.

"Certainly not, if she is the right one. What man would? The only thing is to see that she is in every way worthy of him, for Jonas is really a splendid fellow, even if he is bashful. Jonas shall have a wife for his birthday, that much is settled! Now, who shall she be, and how will we present her?"

The three girls sat for a moment in silence; then suddenly May was struck with a bright idea. The other girls stared at her in breathless amazement when she told them what it was.

"Why, May Gardner, you must be crazy!" they cried simultaneously.

"Not a bit of it!" said May, stoutly. "Now, see here, girls, be sensible. Here we are, getting older and older every day, and not a man in the village that is marriageable except Jonas. Now, we all like him, you know we do; but if we wait for him to propose we'll fall die old maids, and that would be awful. All Jonas needs is a little encouragement, and, no one will ever know that we used our influence for each other."

And, finally, her reasoning prevailed, possibly by the aid of a tender sentiment existing toward Jonas in the hearts of both the blushing maidens.

"I say, Jonas, you'd oughter be thinkin' of marryin'," said Uncle John Gardner shortly after the important agreement between the three young ladies. "I s'pose so," said Jonas absently, with a little blush.

"Pears to me you'd better be lookin' around," continued the old farmer, as indifferently as possible. "Your thirty-fifth birthday is comin' and you've be'a half your life without a wife.