The New Northwest.

FRIDAY.....NOVEMBER 2, 1877.

A TIRED WOMAN'S LAST WORDS.

Here lies an old woman who always was tired,
For she lived in a house where help wasn't hired.
Her last words on earth were, "Dear friends, I am going
Where washing ain't done, nor churning nor sewing;
And everything there will be just to my wishes,
For where they don't eat there's no washing of dishes.
I'll be where loud anthems will always be ringing,
But having no voice, I'll get rid of the singing.
Don't mourn for me now, and mourn for me never.
For I'm going to do nothing forever and ever."
—[Newburyport Herald.

Stolen Fruit.

A little room at the top of the house with "half" windows that opened a few inches only, and let very little of the wretched air of the crowded street into as poor a room as ever poor woman tried to keep clean.

It had not the immaculate spotlessness of the traditional home of poverty of the Sunday-school books, but that I believe to be fable; and do what its owner could, the smell of the cabbage, which the good German housewife down-stairs was cooking, and the smell of the pipe, which the Irishman on the next floor was comforting his soul with, would mingle with the perfume of the drains, which the owner thought would do very well, if the board of health never noticed them, and make the room anything but fresh and sweet and pure, whenever the door was opened.

However, the poor creature had swept and dusted and scrubbed up the place before daylight, and she had made soup and gruel, and had left her sick little girl in the care of a brother two years older—he was only twelve—and had gone to her long day's duties at the factory.

To neglect them would be to have neither room nor gruel next week, for she must be mother and father both to her children, now that her sailor-husband had gone down at sea with the wreck of the good ship "Esmeralda."

All day long she worked her body in the factory, and her heart in the little room where now in the baking heat of the red-hot noon-tide the little girl lay tossing and turning on her pillow, and the little boy sat beside her, repressing his boyish longings to be off in the streets, for love of his sick sister.

"I think," he said, stating his firm conviction, for he had never had enough to eat in all his life; "I think, Sis, if you could eat the rest of the gruel you'd feel better," and he pressed it upon her, holding the bowl in one hand and the spoon in the other. "Do now try to eat it, Kitty."

"No, no!" said the girl. "No, I hate it. I want something nice and cool. I wish I had lemonade. If I had lemonade I think I should get well right away. Oh, I wish I had lemonade!"

"Mother will get you some when she comes home," said the boy.

"She can't," said the little girl. "She won't have any money until Saturday night. Oh, dear; I wish I was rich, I'd have a great pitcher of lemonade and drink and drink and drink. But it's no use wishing, Tom," and she turned her flushed little face upon the pillow, and burst out with:

"And such lots of lemons in the grocery down-stairs."

And at this juncture poor little feverish Kitty began to cry.

In imagination she saw the long basket piled to the brim with the yellow fruit which nature taught her would do her so much good, and the tears came at the thought that while there were so many she could not have one.

The sight of those tears was more than Tom could bear.

A thought came into his mind that had never been there before.

"Don't cry, Kitty," he said. "I'll be back in a moment," and ran out of the room, down-stairs, and out at the side-door of the house.

He meant to ask the grocer to trust him a lemon, and then to earn the pennies to pay for it somehow. But there at the side-door stood Mr. O'Brien with an exasperated countenance, holding a slate covered with figures with his left hand, and emphasizing his remaks with his forefinger.

"That's the way we grocers ruin ourselves," said he, "trusting every one that comes along. No, Mrs. Conner, I can't. It's cash with me hereafter. No more trust. Didn't you see the card with the poetry on it I've hung over the counter? 'No Trust,' is on it, as your own eyes can see. It's not you particular, but it's everybody that I say 'No Trust' to.

After that, what could Tom do?

He couldn't beg for one; besides, he knew he shouldn't get it.

But there he stood beside the lemon basket, so that he could smell the delightful odor of the fruit, so that by putting out his hand, he could touch it, and no one was looking, or he thought so, and the vision of his little sister tossing on the pillow was before his eyes, and the temptation of opportunity fell upon him at the same time, and——

Well, the next minute each of his hands held two big lemons.

As well be hung for an old sheep as a lamb, and he was about to plunge them into his pockets, when——

"Catch him! Catch him, the thafe of the world!" cried the grocer's wife from behind the counter, and out flew the grocer and away flew Tom.

The lemons bobbed up and down in his pockets, and his heart bobbed up and down in his breast, and he ran very fast, but after him came those who could run longer.

The grocer, a lithe, long-limbed, active man—and a policeman—two of them.

Very soon all the tag-rag and bob-tail of the river-side street; and the cry of "stop thief!" was taken from the grocer's mouth by the crowd, so that soon he had no need to bellow it himself, but save his lungs for running.

Let no man blame the grocer; he knew nothing about the sick child upstairs.

All he saw was a well-patched, able-bodied boy making off with so much profit in the shape of four lemons.

His dealings were with poor people, and there was nothing in this rifle of "his basket and his store" to touch his heart particularly.

If you were a grocer—perhaps you are—you'd know how aggravated he was, and what just cause he thought he had for following the flying figure with purposes of vengeance. And the boy was a thief.

The chase lasted a little while, but it ended at last.

Tom tripped over a curb-stone, and came to the ground.

He was lifted by his collar, and from his pockets were taken the great yellow lemons.

"The finest in the lot, the young divil!" cried the grocer.

And now there was nothing to do but to shake down his soles as he was led to the station-house. He had no idea of excusing himself by mentioning his sick sister.

He was a son of Adam, but he was not so mean as his forefather.

Had he eaten the apple, he never would have mentioned Eve—never.

Little he knew who brought up the rear of that procession that had turned out to see him caught.

Kitty, lying in bed, had heard the noise of the pursuit, and had risen to her knees and thrust her head from the narrow opening of the window just at the moment when Tom started on his hopeless race.

She knew in a moment what had happened. She knew that Tom had stolen some lemons for her.

She remembered seeing them; her words:

"And such a lot of lemons in the shop down-stairs."

Why had she uttered them?

And now what could she do but follow them and tell the truth, and ask them to punish her, not Tom?

She had not been able to stand on her little feet for many days, but now the brief strength of fever was upon her, and she found herself making her way, bare-footed, and in her little nightgown, down the stairs and into the street.

She did not know the laws of her country sufficiently to be sure that he was not.

The station-house—a well-patronized institution in that neighborhood—was very near.

Into its doors, between its great gas-lamps, marched the officers and their prisoner, and the grocer, and all the ragamuffins, who were at once driven back.

They crushed and crowded away before the flourish of clubs, and Kitty was pressed against the wall.

She was almost too small to be seen, and six sailors, part of the crew of the "Peter Potter," who had been called upon to give evidence in the case of a comrade who had been beaten to jelly by the mate during the voyage, and were slowly filing out, never noticed her; but the seventh, a tall, robust man of forty, paused, and stooped down and said:

"Well, little lass, what is the matter?"

"Oh, everything," said Kitty. "Oh, please, please don't hurt him; hurt me. I said there were lots of lemons in the shop, and he took them for me, because I was sick. Please do it to me whatever gets done with thieves. Please, he's my brother."

"It's the boy who was just taken in yonder, you mean?" asked the sailor.

"Yes, brother Tom," said Kitty; "and they won't let me in, and I feel so queer."

And the sailor bending over her, lifted her in his arms.

"You are too sick to be in the street, lassie," he said, and strode into the building again, and there in the great room, before the fattest and whitest-headed old gentleman she had ever seen, stood Tom and the grocer.

"Sure and your honor sees 'em," said the grocer, holding out the lemons. "Four great beauties, and I saw him take them with my own two eyes."

Kitty's head was swimming, and she was as cold now as she had been hot, but high and shrill her baby voice arose:

"It was for me he took them. I cried I was so hot. I said there were lemons in the shop. Please, please do it to me, whatever it is."

Tom turned, saw his little sister, and for the first time broke down and cried; but through his tears he managed to sob:

"She don't know; she's not much but a baby. I guess the fever's got into her head. She's got nothin' to do with it."

"Now, if I might speak, your honor," cried the sailor.

"But you can't," said the Justice of the Peace. "Who are you? This child's guardian?"

"I just happened to be going by," began the sailor.

"Then keep your finger out of this pie," said his honor.

"I'll pay Mr. Grocer for his box of lemons, if he'll let the lad off," persisted the sailor.

"Hold your tongue, sir!" cried the Justice. "Do you make a charge against this boy, Mr. Grocer?"

But at that moment a little trembling figure ran into the room.

The mother of the children, who had come earlier than usual from the factory, work being slack, and had heard the awful news of her boy's arrest, and had missed her sick girl.

"It's mother!" cried Kitty. "It's mother!"

And it seemed to her that all must be right now. But Tom crouched low for shame.

He knew he was a thief; and what had his mother told him about keeping the laws of man and God, and being honest, if ever so poor. How he must shame her!

The grocer looked at her also in compunction.

"The mother's a decent woman," said he, "and pays for what she gets. A decent, respectable woman."

But then and there, before the very eyes of the whole court, the decent, respectable woman gave a wild cry, and flung her arms about the sailor, who, in his turn, pressed her to his heart.

Tom, first amazed, next turned furious, and doubled both his small fists.

But Kitty, with her baby-woman's instinctive comprehension, saw at a glance what it would have taken hours to have explained to Tom, and cried:

"I guess it's father come back from sea."

She guessed right. It was the old story of desert island and years of anxious waiting, and the sailor had made search for his wife and children since his return.

And thus queerly had they all been brought together again.

In consideration of all these circumstances, the grocer refused to make any charge against Tom, and he was set free.

Forgive any sooner than thyself.

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SUMMONS.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE of Oregon, for the county of Multnomah.—Henrietta Cloud, Plaintiff, vs. Thomas E. Cloud, Defendant.—To Thomas E. Cloud, Defendant: In the name of the State of Oregon, you are hereby required to appear and answer the complaint filed against you in the above-entitled suit, within ten days from the date of the service of this summons upon you, if served within this county; or if served in any other county of this State, then within twenty days from the date of the service of this summons upon you; and in case service is made by publication, then you are so required to appear and answer on or before the first day of the next term of said Court, which will commence after this notice shall have been published once a week for six successive weeks, which will be on the second Monday in February, 1878; and if you fail so to answer for want thereof, the Plaintiff will take a decree against you for the dissolution of the marriage contract and obligations now existing between you and said Plaintiff, for the custody of the minor child mentioned and described in Plaintiff's complaint, and for costs and disbursements.

This summons is published by order of Hon. E. D. Shattuck, Judge of said Court, duly made in open Court on the 17th of October, 1877.

CAPLES & MULKEY,
October 19. Attorneys for Plaintiff.

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" Meal	50
20 Meal Tickets	8 00

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