

HER SILVER SPOONS.

THEY REMAINED HER PROPERTY, BUT WERE VERY COSTLY.

After Buying Them Three Times She Refused to Risk Them Any More—A Little Story Bearing on the Question of the Wife's Property Rights.

The following story was told in a paper read by Mrs. M. J. Coggeshall at a meeting of the Woman's Suffrage society of Des Moines and published in The Saturday Review of that city:

Today, when we women have not outgrown the pretty fad of collecting silver spoons, the great variety and beauty of which were unknown to our grandmothers, allow me to recall the story of a great aunt of ours who also loved spoons, but whose plain cupboard drawer contained no sets of dainty after dinner coffees like those from which we love to sip as we sit in our clubs and talk of culture.

This aunt when a young woman was a teacher in a country school until she had saved enough money to indulge her great desire for a set of silver spoons. She was married soon after to the young man of her choice. Six years passed by—years of hard work and economy for both, happy years, though no children had come to bless their union—when by a sudden illness the husband was taken away. The day after the funeral the grieving wife was surprised by the entrance to her home of the two brothers of her husband, bringing with them the village lawyer. They told her they had come to set a value upon their brother's property, in order that she might know what part of it was hers.

She held her peace as they set down the worth of each article of furniture in the little home, until they finally came to the box of spoons.

Then she spoke and said: "These are mine. I bought them with my own money before I was married."

"Yes, ma'am," said the lawyer, "but you know, ma'am, that after a lady is married everything belongs in law to her husband."

So all the little property was divided, the brothers taking half, and she took the spoons with the rest at the price that had been set upon them. But it obliged her to give up the home, and she, with her few effects, went into rented rooms and began life anew. Occasionally teaching a school and always sewing when possible, she supported herself very comfortably for about three years, when a lifelong friend of her husband, an excellent man, offered her his hand in marriage.

She liked him well, and her friends told her it was the best thing to do, and she thought with pleasure of again being mistress of a home. So they were married.

In a few years her husband's health declined, and for many months she gave him most tender and unceasing care. She had a few times spoken to him about making a will, but as it seemed an unpleasant subject she had ceased to mention it. Finally the end came. There had come to attend the funeral his nearest relative, a nephew from New England, whom she had never seen before. In a day or two he brought two men to the cottage to appraise the property, and again was there a price set upon the well preserved spoons. On the evening of that day as she was preparing supper the nephew entered the kitchen and said: "Aunt Liza, I am disposed to be very easy with you. The worth of all of uncle's property has been carefully estimated, and I will allow you to include in your half of it any article of furniture you may choose."

And again she paid the price of her first darning purchase of silverware, but there was not enough left after the half was taken for her to keep the home and lot, so they went into the hands of strangers, and with her cat Aunt Liza again went into cozy, but hired rooms. She was a pattern of thrift and tidiness, as a smart widow of the neighborhood was well aware, and in less than a year he made a call upon the comely matron. He was wise enough to make his first visit short, but lingered a moment in the door and suggested that in the near future they become better acquainted.

She answered, "I am living here very comfortably, and I think, Mr. Johnson, that it will not be worth while for you to call," and closing the door hastily she turned to her cat and said:

"No, Tommy, I have bought those spoons three times, and I don't intend to risk them any more."

Bought the Ship That Brought Him.

An interesting anecdote is told of the late Captain Theodore Julius. Some time ago Captain Julius went over to a shipyard in Camden to take a look at the old pocketship Tonawanda, which was being converted into a coal barge. The captain took a particular interest in the old ship, because of his having served as mate aboard her in the early sixties. While he stood watching the old vessel, a tall stranger approached him and asked, "Isn't your name Julius?" The captain replied in the affirmative. "You were a mate on that ship in the summer of 1857?" "Yes," said the captain. "You don't remember me," continued the stranger, "but I remember you very well. I was a steering passenger on the Tonawanda at that time, being on my way to this country. I've been pretty prosperous, and I've just bought the old ship and am going to make a coal barge of her. Strange, isn't it, that I should come to own the ship that brought me, Philadelphia Record.

A Misapprehension.

"Only think," exclaimed Fenderson, "of the many uses to which paper is now put!"

"I know," replied Bass. "I was at the theater the other night, and I was told it was all paper, and it was a fine, substantial looking structure too."—Boston Transcript.

The Darlington, Wis., Journal says editorially of a popular patent medicine: "We know from experience that Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy is all that is claimed for it, as on two occasions it stopped excruciating pains and possibly saved us from an untimely grave. We would not rest easy over night without it in the house." This remedy undoubtedly saves more pain and suffering than any other medicine in the world. Every family should keep it in the house, for it is sure to be needed sooner or later. For sale by A. C. Marsters & Co.

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Final Settlement.
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: NOTICE IS hereby given that the undersigned, executor of the last will and testament of John H. Marsters, deceased, has this day filed his final account with said estate, and that Monday the 2nd day of November, 1893, at 11 o'clock a. m. of said day at the county Court House at Douglas County, Oregon, has been fixed by Hon. A. F. Stearns, Judge of said County, as the time and place for hearing objections to said account and to the settlement thereof. Dated this 1st day of October, 1893.
J. S. HUNT,
Executor of the estate of J. H. Marsters, deceased.
C. A. SEHLBREDE,
Attorney for Executor.

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