

FIRESIDE MISCELLANY.

"THEY SAY."

They say—Ah! well, suppose they do; But can they prove the story true?

They say—but why the tale rehearse, And help to make the matter worse?

They say—Well, even if it should be so, Why need you tell the tale of woe?

They say—Oh! pause and look within, See how thine heart inclines to sin;

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to life. But with the gods nothing is impossible, and the spirit of vitality was breathed once more into his nostrils.

The mistletoe was now given in charge to Friga, and was never to pass from her power "till it touched the earth—the empire of Loke."

No wonder, then, the Druids gathered it so carefully; and you will readily understand why it is suspended on our ceilings, to place it beyond the region of Loke, the enemy of love and good-will.

Odin now made a decree that a bunch of the mistletoe should be hung in Valhalla, and that whenever any of the gods or goddesses passed under it a deity of the opposite sex should give the kiss of peace, and this is how the custom of kissing under the mistletoe had its origin.

This pretty fable is an allegory. At the fall of the year Balder dies—that is, the beauty of the vegetation dies—and the sun goes downward to the lower regions of the world.

Loke, the spirit of Wickedness, induced Hoder, the god of Death, to kill the year. All nature mourns the loss; but the gods revive the dead year; the sun is brought back in his strength, and heaven and earth clap their hands for joy.

The mistletoe was the arrow that killed Balder, for the mistletoe is alive when all other plants are dead with winter sleep.

But the mistletoe, being taken from the hands of the god of mischief and placed under the care of the goddess of Love, is hung on high, to remind us not to look down, or back, or on the earth, if we would live in love and friendship, for Loke has dominion there; but forward and upward, where the gods reside, and where a hopeful future is laid before us in the commencement of a new year.

THE LAW OF TRUE MARRIAGE. Whenever man says reverence to woman—wherever any man feels the influence of any woman, purifying, chastening, abashing, strengthening him against temptation, shielding him from evil, ministering to his self-respect, medicating to his weariness, peopling his solitude, winning him from sordid prizes, enlightening his monotonous days with mirth, or fancy, or wit, flashing Heaven upon his earth, and mellowing it all for spiritual fertility—there is the element of marriage.

Wherever woman pays reverence to man—wherever any woman rejoices in the strength of man, feels it to be God's agent, upholding her weakness, confirming her purpose, and crowning her power; wherever he reveals himself to her just, upright, inflexible, yet tolerating, merciful, benignant, not untrusting perhaps, but not overcome by the world's turbulence, and responding to all her gentleness, his feet on the earth and his head among the stars, helping to hold her soul steadfast in the right, to stand firm against the encroachments of vanity, impatience, fatigue and discouragement, helping to preserve her good nature, to develop her energy, to consolidate her thought, utilize her life force, to receive at every instant of its action.

There is neither dependence nor interdependence, but interdependence. Years cannot weaken its bonds, distance cannot sunder them. It is a love which vanquishes the grave and transfigures death itself into life.

A lady lately reached a railroad depot in Dayton Ohio, just as the train on which she desired to take passage moved away. As she stood gazing at the train, her arms full of packages and her eyes full of tears, a gentleman arrived at the depot on a run, with his carpet sack in his hand, his coat on his arm, and his face streaming with perspiration. He, too, wanted to take the same train, but was too late. As he looked at the train, now fast moving away, he set down his carpet-bag, wiped his face, and very deliberately and emphatically said, "Damn that train."

The lady heard him and, smiling upon him with a lady's sweetness, said: "Thank you, sir." They were her sentiments precisely.

A modern writer thus enumerates the various expressions of woman's eye: The glare, the stare, the sneer, the invitation, the defiance, the denial, the consent, the glance of love, the flash of rage, the sparkling of hope, the languishment of softness, the squint of suspicion, the glare of envy, the fire of jealousy and the luster of pleasure.

A Greek maiden being asked what fortune she would bring her husband, replied: "I will bring him what gold cannot purchase—a heart unspotted and virtue without a stain, which is all that descended to me from my parents."

Lay it down as a rule never to smile, nor in any way show approval of any trait in a child which you would not wish to grow with his growth and strengthen with his strength.

If you put two persons in the same bedroom, one of whom has the toothache and the other is in love, you will find that the one with toothache will go to sleep first.

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MAIN STREET, BOLA.

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GENERAL MERCHANDISE,

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Dry Goods, Groceries, Queensware, Hardware, Boots & Shoes, Hats & Caps, Etc., Etc., Etc.

Call, and judge for yourselves.

G. B. STILES' HEADQUARTERS!

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New Store! New Goods!

I AM NOW PREPARED TO OFFER A large assortment of choice

PROVISIONS, GROCERIES, WOODEN WARE, TOBACCO, FRUITS, CIGARS, YANKEE NOTIONS, Etc., Etc.

Also, a General Assortment of BOOTS, SHOES AND GAITERS.

I design to keep only the CHOICEST and BEST articles and sell them at a Small Profit For Cash.

MY MOTTO.—Quick sales and small profits.

G. B. STILES.

BY OVERLAND ROUTE

STEP IN!

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Don't Forget the Chickamip.

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THE BEST KNOWN TO MAN!

MASON'S GANG PLOW

"CHALLENGE."

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To which we invite the attention of the Ladies. Also, to our full stock of DRESS GOODS, consisting of Silks, Irish and French Poplins, French Merinos, all-wool Emprass and half and all-wool Delaines; and especially to our complete assortment of Brass Buttons, Fringes, Gimps and Velvets of all colors, our Gingham, Lawns, Cambrics, Swisses, etc., etc., in great variety.

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Dallas, Polk county, April 30, 1869.

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We are prepared through recent arrangements made in San Francisco, to find constant sale for all kinds of Produce, and paying the highest market price for WHEAT.

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And all kinds of PURE LIQUORS, put up expressly for Medicinal use.

PERFUMERIES OF ALL KINDS.

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FOR INFLAMMATORY AND CHRONIC RHEUMATISM AND GOUT, DYSPEPSIA OR INDIGESTION, BILIOUS, REMITTENT AND INTERMITTENT FEVERS, DISEASES OF THE BLOOD, LIVER, KIDNEYS and BLADDER, these BITTERS have been most successful. SUCH DISEASES are caused by VITIATED BLOOD, which is generally produced by derangement of the DIGESTIVE ORGANS.

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