

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

Jonas' Birthday Present

CERTAINLY, Jonas must have a birthday present! Now the question is, what shall it be?" said black-eyed May Gardner in a determined manner. "Just think! He'll be 35 years old, and has never had one, except when he was a little boy, almost too young to remember!" she added, sympathetically.
"Did he say that?" asked Jennie Deering, with a curious blush.
"Yes, he told Uncle John so," said May quickly, "and when Uncle repeated it to me I just decided that he should have a present this year, sure."
"Let's send him something that is useful! An old bachelor needs so many things that he would never think of buying himself. We could send him a



"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 all 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'n half your life without a wife. Must be sort o' desolate fer 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' used t' 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

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 over a period of fifteen to twenty 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.

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 surprise, 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 him down, 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.

Just to Give Confidence.

Sam is a gentleman of color. Occasionally he takes a seat at the poker table with some of the boys, and his winning ability is a matter of wonder among the "perfers." A new recruit to the gambling ranks showed up and Sam was informed that he had a big roll.

"Wall, ah don't mind takin' a hand at de table wif de gemman wif de finance," responded the ever-willing Samuel.

"Well, he's got de dough, Sam," said his friend, "and I've got a line on him for to-night. Now, I'll tell you what we'll do. We'll take him a spin at poker and I'll deal. I'll give the moneyed guy four queens. Then I'll deal you four kings, and, of course, we'll land him."

"Yaas, sah, yaas, sah. Ah see. Yo' gwine t' gimme fo' kings, an' g'ib de gemman wif de money fo' queens. And den you gwine ter deal to yo'self."

"Sure thing."

"Yaas, sah, yaas, sah; I git de fo' kings—he git de fo' queens. An' yo' gwine ter deal. Umph, umph! Waal, say, I don't play cahds so much, but I wish yo'd give me a ace jes' as a sort o' a confidence cahd. Jes' to gimme confidence, dat's all"—Indianapolis News.

His Conglomeratpredicament.

"Well, zish," said Mr. Ryefuddle, partially staidying himself by clawing on to the door-frame and gazing at the wife of his bosom with fishy and focusless eyes, "is (hic) the 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 other hand, which one of the two zhat I see is (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.

Around the World in Seven Months.
Seven months and a half was the time taken in traveling round the world by a picture post card which has just been delivered to its sender at Berlin.

Died Happy.

Wigg—At any rate, poor old Hard-oupe died happy.

Wagg—Yes; he had lived on tick so long that he was just tickled to death.

—Philadelphia Press.

REPLY AMAZED ENGLISHMAN.

Lingering Suspicion in His Mind that She Poked Fun at Him.
"The conversational versatility of your American girls astonishes me," said the Englishman who was approaching the close of his first month in New York. "Not only do I find that in society the young women have quickness of perception and readiness of repartee, but I have found that in the downtown restaurants, where girls are employed as waitresses, they are extremely handy with their retorts."

"Been trying two jolly 'em a bit, eh?" said the college graduate, who was finishing off in Uncle Jim's Wall street office.

"Not at all—not at all!" replied the Englishman, hastily. "My observations are based on what I hear them saying to other men. The girls are quite bright, y'know."

"What led you to think them otherwise?" said the American citizen.

"I did not look for the quality of glibness in girls of that class," said the man from London. "In eating places on the other side the waitresses never talk to me, not even after you have been going to the restaurant every day for months. Here in New York it is vastly different. And they seem to know where you are from, too."

"I went to my usual restaurant to-day. There was a new girl at my table, and the one who usually waits on me was a sort of assistant head waitress. She came over to the girl at my table before I had a chance to tell what I wanted and said:

"Bring the gent a rasher of bacon, two eggs, underdone, a toasted muffin and tea. Is there anything else?" and she looked at me. I said that would be all right, and remarked that the weather was changeable, and what do you think she said?"

"Something equally bright," I suppose," remarked the college man.

The Englishman eyed him a moment. "I wonder if she was poking fun at me?" he said. "Well, she just answered: 'We have so many foreigners in New York we have to have all kinds of weather to suit 'em. This is not our day for English weather, but I hope you won't get tired waiting for your turn.'—Mail and Express.

QUEER STORIES

An ordinary oak tree raises 120 to 150 tons of moisture from the earth during a single season.

The youngest monarch who ever ascended the British throne was Henry VII. He was eight months and twenty-five days old at his accession.

A raindrop one-twenty-fifth of an inch in diameter cannot fall at any greater speed than thirteen feet in a second. Raindrops rarely exceed one-eighth of an inch in diameter.

Originally the common or domestic goat was a native of the highlands of Asia. Naturalists generally regard it as having descended from an animal found in the Caucasus Mountains and the hill country of Persia, called in the Persian language the pesang.

Fancy two plants being so unfriendly that the mere neighborhood of one is death to the other! Yet this is the case with two well-known British plants. These are the thistle and the rape. If the field is infested with thistles, which come up year after year and ruin the crops, all you have to do is to sow it with rape. The thistle will be absolutely annihilated.

The use of hard coal has become so common that it is hard to comprehend how the community could be satisfied with soft coal. Yet the available supply of anthracite in America is so small that unless some other fuel be discovered, the use of bituminous coal must prevail within seventy-five years at the most.

The anthracite fields of Pennsylvania will be exhausted within seventy-five years, and there is no other deposit of the sort in the United States of any importance.

Europe has very little anthracite. Most of the Welsh coal bituminous though the coal of the western part of the South Wales field is hard coal. China has vast fields, however, compared with which our Pennsylvania field is but a dot on the map. The China fields underlie forty thousand square miles in Hunan, Honan and east Shansi.

Education in Sweden.

The largest school house in the world, one which has accommodations for nearly three thousand children, is claimed by Stockholm. In the basement are one hundred bath rooms, where the children are required to bathe if their teachers think they are not taught habits of cleanliness at home. Soap and towels are furnished free by the city. A wholesome dinner is furnished poor children at noon in all the public schools if they need it, as in Norway, which insures every child at least one warm meal each day. Children whose parents can afford to pay for the dinner are charged a nominal price, and the personal pride and independence of the Swedes compel many people to pay who really cannot afford to do so. This is a characteristic of the race, says William B. Curtis, who adds: "Swedes abhor charity, and as a rule, if they cannot take care of themselves, will suffer and even starve rather than accept it. They take care of their poor in a generous manner, and have asylums for the diseased, the afflicted and distressed, but you seldom see a beggar in Sweden. I visited every part of Stockholm, and did not see a beggar; one may travel for months in Sweden without being asked for alms."

Putting It the Right Way.

"I have no doubt you have heard some stories to my discredit," he said. "I don't like to put it in that way," she quietly replied.

"How then?" he hopefully asked.

"I have never heard any stories to your credit," said she.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

If people like you, don't ever start trouble for yourself by asking them Why.

When a woman serves cake, she makes an apology for the frosting.

PAPERS BY THE PEOPLE

"REIGN OF ELOQUENCE IS PASSING."

By Judge Kavanagh, of Chicago.

Honesty, courage, intelligence and health are necessary to marked success even in commercial pursuits, where the attainment of money is the only thing desired. In the learned professions there must be added to these learning, tact in the management of the people and skill along the lines to be pursued. The successful lawyer must have as excess baggage ease of expression and an indefinable adaptability for throwing oneself wholly into the concerns of another. But, most of all, he must in these latter days possess business ability. The most successful lawyer is he who is of greatest assistance to the business man. The reign of eloquence is passing, if not altogether gone. It is of assistance still, but not indispensable. Juries yawn before fiery oratory, and the upper courts now reverse cases because of it.

JEALOUSY AN ABUSED SENTIMENT.

By Paola Montegazza, Italian Professor.

Jealousy is a constitutional psychological malady, and when born in one is difficult to conquer. It poisons the dearest joys of life; it penetrates into all the pores of the skin. Every drop of water is saturated with its venom; it impregnates every mouthful of bread. It transforms the man who loves into a soldier, always in arms, his ear strained, his eye alert. The jealous man carefully watches, he always doubts, always suffers. He questions the past, the present, the future. In a caress he seeks a falsehood, in a kiss indifference, in love hypocrisy. What a life of torment!

Jealousy not being an elementary psychic phenomenon, but a variable mixture, takes different ethnic forms as numerous as they are varied. The jealousy of a number of oriental peoples is familiar. Of all Europeans the Italians, Spaniards, and, above all, the Portuguese, are the most jealous. In America the Brazilians are the most jealous. Jealousy is necessarily stronger in polygamous peoples than among monogamous. And just as it has already diminished in the monogamous society it will tend to decrease in the future, when marriage will no longer be sanctified without love, when the choice will always be reciprocal, when every trace of hypocrisy shall have disappeared from the relations of the sexes.

Can we love any one more dearly than our children? Certainly not. Yet we are not jealous of those who love them, although father and mother with sublimity vie with each other as to who can love them the most. Love your companion in love in the same way. But this is vain counsel, words thrown to the wind.

FEDERAL AID NEEDED IN HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT.

By Representative Walter P. Brownlow of Tennessee.

The fact that the United States government has taken no substantial part in building or maintaining public highways in this country for the last two generations is accepted by many people as final proof that the general government is forbidden, either by constitutional limitations or by sound public policy, from engaging in any such internal improvement.

On the other hand it should be noted that no system of public highways was ever built up or maintained in any country without the substantial aid of the general government. The almost universal lack of improvement in our public road system is directly referable to the fact that we have had no well established national road policy. Those who have done most to agitate for permanent improvements have found that the farmers of the country have almost invariably been opposed to any general and durable roads; although it is generally con-

LONDON WOMAN INSPECTORS

They Are Trained for Duty and Fill Important Posts.

In view of the recent victory of women principals here in the struggle for recognition in the selection of the higher officers of the school system, it is interesting to look abroad and see how the "weaker sex" are faring in their endeavors to obtain a footing in positions from which they have hitherto been excluded in London. On Jan. 15 a meeting was held by the Linnaean Society to discuss whether women should be admitted to fellowship. A circular having been sent to the members requesting votes on the question, 301 answered favoring their admission, 126 negatively, while 313 were still to be heard from. The Botanic Society already admits them.

As sanitary inspectors women are rapidly gaining ground in London. They were utilized as inspectors of the slums of the overcrowded city of Glasgow many years ago, but it was not until 1893 that London followed the example. The vestry of Kensington appointed two in that year. They have been found such a success that there are now twenty-two women employed in that capacity under the borough councils, at salaries ranging from \$400 to \$750 a year. The work consists in the inspection of all public places where women work, including homes where they take in outside work, tenement-house visiting, and last, but by no means least, the investigation of causes of infectious disease. These inspectors must be trained and undergo an examination before being eligible for a berth. Their training embraces the study of physics and chemistry in relation to air, water, soil and vegetation, also municipal hygiene and building construction.

IRELAND'S JOAN OF ARC.

Maud Gonne to Wed an Irishman Who Fought with the Boers.

Announcement is made of the betrothal in France of Maud Gonne, the Irish Joan of Arc and the fair high priestess of Irish revolution, and Major John McBride, who with the American, Col. John Y. Fillmore Blake, commanded the Irish Brigade in South Africa during the Boer war.

Miss Gonne for more than a decade has been a strong and ardent champion of Irish independence and is well known in this country, where she has lectured in favor of the cause so dear to her. Most of her time since she became a champion of Ireland has been spent in France, and in Paris she conducts a paper in advocacy of her principles.

She was not always an Irish sympathizer. She was born in Dublin, the daughter of an Irishman of aristocratic lineage, and who once held the post of military attaché to the British embassy at St. Petersburg. The misery and distress which she saw on every side in Ireland greatly impressed her compassionate heart, but during the lifetime of her parents she was held in check by their loyal sentiments. When, however, she found herself at the age of 19 an orphan and possessed

ceded that the farmers would be benefited as much, if not more, than any other class of people by such roads.

The real reason for the farmer's objection is found in the fact that, according to the ordinary scheme of improvement, he would be called upon to pay the entire burden of cost; which he intuitively feels to be greater than he ought to bear, if not greater than he is able to bear.

Considering this long continued opposition by the people in the rural districts, and the lack of policy on the part of the general government, and especially considering that road building is undoubtedly a public duty which rests upon the government in some form, it seems clear that the farmers are entitled to some assistance in bearing the necessary burden of cost to improve the public highways. The United States government should step forward with some definite policy and assume some share of the burden and responsibility which is necessary to produce a creditable system of public highways. What we have seen and are seeing in the development of rural free mail delivery should be repeated in the matter of permanent improvements to the highways.

What members of Congress want is an expression from their constituents showing what is desired in the several districts. There are many rural districts which have no great rivers, or great harbors, or great cities which entitle them to public buildings; but there is no district but has many miles of public roads which need to be permanently improved.

It is a remarkable fact that the United States government has already appropriated \$1,000,000 to Porto Rico for road-building, and another \$1,000,000 to the Philippine Islands; and the Secretary of War has just made an appeal to Congress through the President of the United States, who strongly indorses that appeal, to have \$3,000,000 appropriated for the use of the Philippine government.

TRUSTS' RIGHTS AND RIGHTFUL USES.

By Franklin Murphy, Governor of New Jersey.

There has been much discussion of late on the subject of trusts, and New Jersey is largely interested in the matter by reason of the large number of corporations organized under her laws. The fees and taxes from these corporations are sufficient to pay the annual expenses of the State, to pay a large proportion of the cost of our public education, and to leave a handsome surplus besides. Other States, envious of our prosperity, have copied our laws, reduced their fees, and solicited our business.

As a matter of fact, there are few, if any, real trusts, and the name is given promiscuously to large corporations of all kinds, especially if composed of a combination of a number of smaller concerns. It is a wrong use of the term and it carries an unjust inference, but it has come into common use.

The country has no more occasion for alarm than the Arab has for an Ifrit or we have for the ogre of our childhood. And were the situation really threatening, I still would have supreme faith in the ability of the people of the country to protect themselves in any emergency that might arise. The danger is not to the people from the greed of corporate power asserting itself unwisely, but to the corporations themselves.

Because of this alleged danger it has become the fashion of the day to assail corporations on general principles, and the public man who is bold enough to say a word in their favor runs the risk of bitter criticism as to his motive, as if it were a crime to be a stockholder and immoral to be the friend of a stockholder. It is time the air should be cleared. The corporations have their rights, as the individuals have theirs. We undertake here in New Jersey to protect them in their rights. We have taken their money and sold them the charters under which they do their business. We continue to take their money each year in the shape of taxes, for which we give them the continued protection of our laws.

of a goodly inheritance, she decided to devote her life to the amelioration of the conditions surrounding her. She would go among the evicted tenants, preaching to them the necessity of rallying to the cause of home rule. That her labors were effective is proved by the fact that the British government issued an order for her arrest. She fled to France before the arrest could be



MISS MAUD GONNE.

made. She has often visited Ireland since, but has not been molested.

Miss Gonne is a beautiful woman and is a forcible writer and lecturer. Major McBride is a native of County Mayo, Ireland, and since the close of the Boer war has been living in France.

CHEF GETS A BIG SALARY.

King Edward's Cook Receives Stipend Equal to that of Bank President.

The chef who prepares the food for the table of King Edward of England receives as large a salary as does an admiral of a fleet or a lieutenant general of the army. Every year he draws from the royal exchequer the handsome sum of \$10,000. The man who at present occupies the post is a native of southern France and his name is Menager. His age is about 40 and he is considered, at least by King Edward, the most capable chef in the world.

So great a culinary artist is not expected to produce three masterpieces in one day, so he has nothing to do with the king's breakfast. He arrives at Buckingham palace from his private residence near by in a hansom at about 11 o'clock.

In a large, sunny kitchen, overlooking the lawns, he receives the luncheon carte, drawn up by Lord Farquhar, and his work begins. First of all he orders what will be required and the master of the kitchen sees that all the articles come in, checks each item and then sends the account to Sir Nigel Kingscott, the paymaster, who writes out a check in payment.

After luncheon is served M. Menager

retires once more, to reappear at 5 o'clock, when the great event of the day—the preparation for dinner—commences. That over, the artist is free for the evening. It is worth noting that he owes his enviable post solely to hard work and genius, for the cook, like the poet, is born, not made. An additional interest attaches to this culinary autocrat because of the encouragement he gives to women cooks.

It has always been said that women cannot attain to great heights as cooks and creators of dishes, and that just as they fail to excel in music, poetry and painting they fail also in the higher mysteries of cooking. It is very interesting to learn on the testimony of the king's cook that this is no longer true, however true it may have been formerly.

HE LOVED HER JUST THE SAME.

His Antics Were Not Due to Any Derangement of His Affections.

It was 9:30 o'clock in the drawing room of the home of Miss Clara Armstrong. As the last notes of the piano died away the young lady in question suddenly whirled around and gazed long and fixedly at the agitated countenance of her embarrassed fiancé.

"Mr. Mainspoke," she said, bitterly, "this is too much. When you first came in this evening it was evident to me that you intended to provoke a quarrel. There was a marked coolness in your manner, and as we sat on the sofa together you edged away and insisted upon changing to a chair. Even there, however, you were not contented, but you suddenly arose and I caught you glancing at the clock. Several times I saw you start to pace the floor as if something was on your mind, and now, when at your request I play your favorite air on the piano, I catch you trying to mimic me behind my back. This has gone far enough. If, sir, you wish to break off the engagement, you have only to speak. Let there be no further shillyshallying."

James Mainspoke loved the indignant girl before him better than his life, says the New York Times, and he became conscious that unless he told the plain truth she was lost to him forever.

"Darling," he said, his face suffused with blushes, "if you must know, I have on a suit of brand-new underwear."

Also Her Prices.

Patti's voice at 59 may not be all it used to be, but if she comes over here it will be found, no doubt, that her diamonds retain all their pristine splendor.—Boston Globe.

British Sweets Welcome.

Colored sweets of British manufacture may now be imported into Turkey. It has taken nearly two years to persuade the Turkish authorities that such sweets contain nothing injurious.

Useful Dog Ambulance.