

MY HOME.

ELLA WHELAN. This is the place I love the best. The little brown house, like a ground-bird's nest.

The tenderest light that ever was seen. Sift through the vine made window screens. Sift and quivers, and fits and falls. On house-made carpets and gray-brag walls.

All through June, the west wind free. The breath of the dove brings to me. All through the languid July day. I catch the scent of the new-mown hay.

The morning glories and scarlet vine. Over the door-way twist and twine. And every day when the house is still. The humming-bird comes to the window-sill.

In the cunning chamber under the sun. I think to sleep, but I do not. And when I wake at dawn, in my white bed. By a singing bird on the roof or head.

Better than treasures brought from Rome. Are the living pictures I see at home. My aged father, with frost on hair. And mother's face, like a painting rare.

Far from the city's dust and heat. I get but sound and colors sweet. Who can wonder if I love to stay. Week after week, were they away.

In this my nook, that I love the best. The little brown house, like a ground-bird's nest.

FRED RAINOR'S PLEDGE. "Only nine o'clock! What a long evening it has been!" sighed a sweet girl.

"Yes, indeed, auntie, and my aunt and uncle will be, too, in the morning. I am going to have company to breakfast, and I want you to get a good night's rest, so you will be ready to receive my guests."

"You are never gone who it is, and I won't tell you, so good night," and bestowing a loving kiss upon each of the beautiful girls left them.

Bright and early the next morning Maza was fitting back and forth from dining-room to kitchen, and from kitchen to dining-room, giving her orders for breakfast, the servants all the while eyeing her in perfect amazement, for such a thing had never before been heard of.

"I am going to have some friends to breakfast," she explained, "and I want things arranged according to my own taste. I will also wait upon the table myself."

Fred was the first to respond to the bell. As the judge and his wife entered he approached them.

"Mother, father," he said, taking a hand of each, "through the influence of that dear little woman," bowing his head to Maza, "I am resolved to lead a better life. Will you take me back to your hearts as of yore?"

CAPTAIN OBSTINATE.

My story commences (said an old soldier of the "Grand Army," who had left one of his arms on the field of the fifth campaign, 1812, a short time after the battle of Wazima. We beat a retreat, not before the Russians, for they were at a respectful distance from our camp, but before our sharp and bitter cold of their detestable country—a cold more terrible to us than the Russians, Austrians and Bavarians all put together.

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NOTICE.

To the Farmers and Mechanics of Oregon, Washington Territory and Idaho: We wish to call your attention to the fact that our annual Catalogue and price list for 1882 is now ready for distribution.

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