

Oregon City Enterprise.

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NO. 9.

LOST UMBRELL.

I have loaned thee to another,
In spite of many a vow;
I have loaned thee to another,
And the rain may drench me now.
He remembers not who owned thee,
He forgot that thou wert mine;
In a final hour I loaned thee,
Of old thy friend's shall'st shine.
Oh, was it well to do it?
Gone forever—and I knew it!
Long and sadly shall I rue it,
Lost, lost umbrella!

I have loaned thee to another,
Thou dost shield his head from rain;
Had I loaned thee to his brother,
I might have won thee a gain.
But with news of gold they won him,
California him beguiled;
Thou art on the ocean wild!
Oh, was it well to do it?
Gone forever—and I knew it!
Long and sadly shall I rue it,
Lost, lost umbrella!

I have loaned thee to another,
He will need thee, lo! they say,
In California weather;
And, perhaps, he may
But his faith with me broken,
That much I hope he can't forget;
And when I walk with jockey's
I shall mourn—shall mourn thee
yet!

Oh, was it well to do it?
Gone forever—and I knew it!
Long and sadly shall I rue it,
Lost, lost umbrella!

"The Mills Have Closed To-day!"

BY FELIX ABERNETHY.

Annie, is the baby better?
Worse! The Lord befriend us all!
Can't live? Oh, God, in Heaven!
How thy suffering servants call.
Xaver, dearest, lest the children
Near the work I have to say;
For your loving care and prayer,
For the mills have closed to-day.
And our little child is dying!
No, no, no! Not dying yet!
Have you prayed with long beseeching
For the helpless little pet?
Heaven must have mercy sometime;
Others thrive who do not pray;
Oh, the trouble's might come singly;
But the mills have closed to-day!
Other hands have saved up money,
And can give to the poor;
Must our darlings cry for hunger,
When the little one is dead?
Dear! It cannot be his dying!
Has the doctor gone yet?
And I cannot pay him, either.
For the mills have closed to-day.
Why was I laid up, last winter,
By the cold, from Opolousas,
Reasons why are hard to learn;
It was only on last Sunday
That the head of our concern
Gave away some trifling presents
To the church, a dollar to me;
He could spare it from his mills;
But the mills have closed to-day.
Laughing? Yes, because I'm jolly!
It's a joke; we dreamed it all;
But the mills have closed to-day.
All the mourning in the cradle;
Mourning! Pray, love, pray!
Death is clutching at our darling,
And the mills have closed to-day.

POOR LOUISIANA.

It appears that this State, like South Carolina, is to fall under the infamous administration now in power, into a place for the protection of thieves and Radical scoundrels. A correspondent to the *Commonwealth*, from Opelousas, gives the following sad picture of that once wealthy and prosperous parish. He says:—
"This year the cotton crop is almost a failure. We had an excessive season of rain, from May to September, and were forced to work our crops in mud and water. A large acreage of corn and cotton had to be abandoned on account of grasshoppers; the residue of the cotton was swept by caterpillars, and a great percentage of the corn rotted in consequence of the wet weather. There will be about one-fourth of a cotton crop, that is, 6,000 bales, against 24,000 bales of preceding years, and about one-half or two-thirds of a corn crop made in this parish this year. So, with climatic disasters, failure of crops, monetary panics, low prices for cotton, and crushing taxation, we have an exceedingly gloomy year before us, not only for this parish, but the entire State.
"Already confidence is destroyed—cash is the basis; business is paralyzed; many merchants are closing out at cost, and the people at large are discouraged at the depressing prospect for the sale of lands and homesteads for the ensuing year, and more stringent times will be felt than were ever known before. The columns of the official journal of our parish are filled with advertisements for the sale of lands and homesteads to pay taxes. It is true, some of these are voluntary delinquents on account of their opposition to the Kellogg usurpation, but there are many who cannot pay their taxes.
"In this connection your correspondent would state, that, while many do avoid future possible trouble and vexation, have paid their taxes to the Kellogg government, they execrate it, and the general sentiment of the citizens is against the usurper. An enthusiastic meeting was held in Opelousas, a few days ago, at which a series of resolutions were adopted denouncing the Kellogg government, endorsing Governor McCreary and appointing delegates to the State Convention on the 23d inst. at New Orleans.
"Yes, so,"—An old fellow who was making his will, taking an unusual view of things, said:
"I give and bequeath to my wife the sum of \$500 a year. Is that writ down?"
"Yes," said the lawyer, "but she is not so old but that she may marry again. Won't you make any change in that case? Most people do."
"Ah! do they? Well, write again, I say if my wife marry again, I give and bequeath to her the sum of \$1,000 a year. That'll do, won't it?"
"Why, that's double the sum she would have had if she had remained unmarried," said the lawyer.
"Yes, so," said the old man, "but the fool that takes her will deserve every cent of the money, and more, too!"

TRIFLING WITH A HEART.

"Louisa, who was that gentleman that came home with you?"
"Oh—it was one of my friends."
"No, it was not."
"It was not Henry Southron?"
"But I thought Henry waited on you to the party."
"So he did."
"And did he not remain until the party closed?"
"Yes—I believe so."
A cloud came over Mrs. Burnet's face, and she seemed troubled. She gazed upon her daughter for some moment without speaking further. Louisa was nineteen years of age; a bright-eyed, happy, merry making girl, possessing a true and loving heart, but a little inclined to be thoughtless in her moments of social joy. She was an only child, and had been a pet in the family, but her love was not confined to the circle that met around her own hearthstone. More than a year before she had promised Henry Southron that she would be his wife as soon as time and circumstances rendered such a step proper. Henry was an orphan, and had just commenced his business on his own account. He was a young man of whose friendship any sensible maiden might have been proud; a generous, upright, steady, industrious youth, fixed firmly in his moral code, and of a fair, manly personal appearance.
"My child," said the mother, after reflecting awhile, "what have you been doing? Why did not Henry come home with you?"
"Because he didn't choose to, I suppose," replied Louisa.
"That is not the reason," said Mrs. Burnet, with assurance. "Something that you have done has caused this. Now tell me what it is."
"You are too anxious, altogether, mother. There is no danger I assure you."
"Still, my child, I would like to know what you have been doing."
"Well, I will tell you," returned Louisa, giving herself a rock in the chair. "Henry is altogether too attentive. One would think, to see him at a party, that he was already his wife, and about the only female present."
"And you have become tired of so much attention?"
"Of course I have."
"And you let him down to-night?"
"Yes, I took occasion this evening to show him that I didn't like quite so much overdoing. I talked with everybody else, had suffered Mr. Pingree to wait upon me down to supper. Poor Henry looked as though he had lost his last friend. It will give him a lesson, I guess; and in future I hope he will make a little less love in public."
"My child," said Mrs. Burnet, with much feeling, "you are trying a dangerous experiment. The time will come, if you ever marry Henry Southron, when you will be proud of his undivided attention."
"It will be time enough for that when we are married," replied Louisa, with a toss of her head. "But don't give yourself any uneasiness. He will come around again all right."
"Did he offer to wait upon you home last evening?"
"No. He was rather shy of me after supper; and when the party broke up I ran off alone. Mr. Pingree accompanied me to the door."
"I think, my child," remarked the mother, after another season of reflection, "that you have been not only very wicked—stop listen to me. You know that Henry loves you most truly; that his whole soul is devoted to you, and that his attention is but the result of his affection—a demonstration of which you should be proud; for let me tell you, an undivided attention is something not always to be secured. Now you have been trifling with Henry's heart; and it so happens that those hearts which love the most deeply and truly are the ones which shrink the most quickly from coyness and trifling. Believe me, Louisa, you are entering upon dangerous ground. If you care for Henry's love I advise you to ask his pardon as soon as you have an opportunity."
"Ask his pardon!" repeated the thoughtless girl, with an expression of surprise. "Mercy on me! What are you thinking of? You shall see him at my feet before the week is out."
"Ah, my dear one, you don't know so much about the human heart as you think you do. A heart may resolve steadily around its center of affection for a long time—for so long a time that it seems fixed in its course like a planet around the sun—but a sudden strain may snap the cord, and the planet may fly off at a tangent and never come back. If you must trifle with anything rather than the heart. We are going to Mr. Winthrop's to-morrow, and I hope I may induce Polly to tell you a little story of her experience in life."
Louisa said she would be very glad to hear it; then she tried to laugh; and then, having told her mother more than she was needlessly anxious, she went to her chamber.
On the following morning Mrs. Burnet met her daughter, as usual making no allusion to the circumstances of the previous evening. In the afternoon they walked out to call at Mr. Winthrop's, having had an urgent invitation to visit them. They remained to tea, and spent the evening.
Polly, of whom Mrs. Burnet had spoken, was Mrs. Winthrop's sister. She was a maiden lady, past three score, and had for many years found a home with her brother. Her head was now silvered and time had drawn deep marks on her brow, but still

there were traces of beauty left in her face. During the evening she came and took a seat beside Louisa, and after some common-place remarks, the old lady said in a quiet way:
"Your mother told me that you would like to hear a little of my history."
"If you will please tell it, I certainly should, for anything which you may deem worthy of telling must be of interest," replied Louisa.
"Then let us walk in the garden. The moon is up and the air is warm and pleasant."
They went out, and when they had reached the grasper they went into the arbor and sat down.
"There is no need that I should make any preliminary remark," continued Polly, "for I have come out on purpose to tell you a short story, and I shall tell it to you as plainly as possible, and when I have done you may know why your mother wished that you should hear it."
"When I was your age people called me handsome; but still, with all my faults, I do not think I ever was proud or vain. I knew that I was good looking, and I meant to be good. I tried to do right, as I understood of judgment and a proneness to be thoughtless where I should have been directly the opposite. When I was eighteen years of age George Ashton asked me if I would be his wife. He was a noble-hearted, generous, upright man, and I never experienced a sense of more blissful joy than when I became thus assured that his heart's best love was mine. I said yes, and our vows were plighted. We were to wait one year, and then if we continued to hold the same purpose we were to be married. I don't know as any one could be more deeply wronged and there were one or two sentences in the missive that touched me unpleasantly. A week passed away and I did not answer it; but at the end of that time I made up my mind to tell him that I would confess my fault; for well I knew I had been wrong. I wrote, and my letter reached its destination just twelve hours after he had started on his journey.
"I never saw George Ashton again. In less than one year he died in a mad house.
"He did wrong—he did wrong—very, very wrong—to leave me as he did. He ought not to have done it. He ought to have made an effort for his own sake and mine. I had done a wicked thing—a cruel, thoughtless deed it was—and the penalty fell heavily upon me.
"Louisa, your mother asked me to tell you my story. I have done so, and I feel that I have felt in the recital. That I have not ceased to suffer let these hot, bitter tears bear witness. Oh, of all things within the sphere of your influence, beware how you trifled with a trusting loving heart. Be silent and thoughtful did Louisa Burnet return to the parlor, and very little did she say on her way home.
"On the following morning she wrote a brief note and sent it to me. I did not reply, but I had really been unhappy had he bestowed his social favors upon others of my sex; in short I did not reflect at all. I was only seized with a reckless determination to be a little more free in my love, and I had done it. We had a picnic in the grove near our village. I was buoyant and happy, and laughed and chatted with all who came in my way. We had a dance before dinner, and George asked me if I intended to join in the amusement. Some of my female friends joked me on the subject, and I finally determined that I would not be quite so closely tied to my lover. I did not stop to ask myself how I should feel if he were less attentive to me. I did not stop to think how really he had been unhappy had he bestowed his social favors upon others of my sex; in short I did not reflect at all. I was only seized with a reckless determination to be a little more free in my love, and I had done it. 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