

BOWSER'S HENS.

He Almost Trades His House For a Chicken Farm.

BUT THE MRS. OBJECTS TO IT.

And After Much Discussion the Happy Family Decide to Settle Their Differences in the Divorce Court—Mr. Bowser Reneges.

By M. QUAD.

[Copyright, 1912, by Associated Literary Press.]

WAS there a farmer named Cavendish here this afternoon to look over the house?" asked Mr. Bowser when he came home to dinner. "Why, I saw a man pecking and peering from the outside, but he didn't come in," replied Mrs. Bowser. "Perhaps he hadn't the time to see the interior."



"I SAW A MAN PEERING AROUND."

have about made an exchange with Farmer Cavendish. He takes this house, and I take his farm. "And you start your chicken farm?" "Exactly."

"Well, you have the name of being a very shrewd man, and I am glad to hear that you feel you have at last struck a big thing. The outdoor life will be a great thing for you. Will you let me look over your figures?"

"But how can any one pick a banker's figures to pieces?" "That's so—that's so," said Mr. Bowser, with a sigh of relief. "Well, here they are, and you can look them over."

"What does Mr. Cavendish leave on the farm?" "Why, nothing at all," was the reply. "Not even a pig nor a farm implement?"

"I—I guess not. You see, I'm going to make a chicken farm of it, and why should he leave anything?" "You will have to have at least one horse, won't you?" "Oh, certainly."

"And a cow and a pig?" "Yes." "Are you going to buy all the feed for them and your hens to boot or raise it?"

"Haise! Of course," replied Mr. Bowser, looking a little startled. "Then you must have a plow, a drag, hoes, shovels, seeds, rakes and a hired man. If you simply buy what is eaten it is going to cost a lot of money."

for many days." "Hear her go on! Just hear her!" "You can't possibly attend to the many things connected with poultry raising, but must hire a boy at least. Have you figured on his wages and board?"

Mr. Bowser could not utter a word in reply. "You must have a one horse wagon to drive to and from the market. What will such a vehicle cost? How far did you say the Cavendish farm is from a shipping point?"

"Four hundred million miles!" shrieked the chicken man in agony. "I see," said Mrs. Bowser, in the same calm and even way, "that you figure on buying 200 hens at 25 cents each. Please tell me who has hens to get the scrubbed kind at that figure. The farmer can kill them and get double the money. Good layers will cost you at least 75 cents each."

The Family Jar. "More dragging me down—more—more!" "I'm sorry if you think so, but it seems we ought to figure close on an enterprise like this. The way it looks to me you'll want several thousand dollars in cash to get a start, and then the eggs and broilers may possibly pay for the feed and hired help. It's all right, however. I'm tired of city life and shall have the change. It will also be a great thing for your backaches and aches. And think of us standing together in our back door of a morning and seeing the sun rise! Why, that alone will be worth it!"

"Woman," interrupted Mr. Bowser in a tense tone, "you have a lawyer?" "Yes." "So have I."

"They can get together and plan for a divorce without publicity." "But why not have publicity—lots of publicity?" she asked. "If you are going to start a hen farm you want all the advertising you can get. It will be worth \$500 to your scheme to have the papers come out with: 'We understand that Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bowser have sought the divorce court because they could not agree as to how many eggs a speckled hen should lay in a week, working only union hours. Any banker in the country could have given them the exact number.'"

Mr. Bowser choked and gasped and swallowed, but the English language went back on him, and he walked down the hall and out of the house. Where he went no one knows, but he came sneaking in at midnight, and ten minutes after he struck the bed he was muttering in his sleep: "Two hundred hens! "Five hundred broilers! "Twenty dozen eggs a day! "Mrs. Bowser must go!"

A Resentful Man. "I see that your wife's father and mother are living with you now." "Yes." "The old gentleman has permanently retired from business, has he?" "Retired? That's hardly the name for it. He has been kicked out."

"I'm sorry to hear that. Didn't he have anything saved up to keep him and his wife in their old age?" "Not a cent. I'll have to support them the rest of their lives." "Well, it's lucky that you are able to do so."

"It may be lucky enough, but there's one thing that makes me mighty sore whenever I think of it." "What's that?" "The lofty way in which the old man asked me, when I told him I wanted to marry his daughter. If I thought I would be able to support her in the style to which she had been accustomed."—Chicago Record-Herald.

The "Gentler" Sex. Woman is a creature of mood—generally the imperative mood.—New York Times. "You want to pick them to pieces, as you did before."

Manliness. "Mac, I bear ye was courtin' bonny Kate Macpherson," said Donald to an acquaintance one morning. "Weel, Sandy, man, I was in love w' the bonny lass," was Mac's reply. "but I found out she had nae siller, so I said to myself, 'Mac, be a man.' And I was a man, and noo I pass her by w' silent contempt."—Christian Register.

Blessed Are the Pacemakers. The Village Grocer—What are you running for, sonny? "The Boy—I'm tryin' to keep two fellows from fightin'." "The Village Grocer—Who are the fellows?" "The Boy—Bill Perkins and mel-Puck."

Previous Engagement. "Jack, mon, I'll play ye a roon o' gof on the links the morn'." "The morn'?" (doubtfully). "Aye, the morn'." "Weel, I'll play ye. But I had intended getting married the morn'."—Fun Magazine. Good Material. Jack—Now that your engagement is broken are you going to make Blanche send back your letters? Harry—You bet I am. I worked hard thinking out those letters. They're worth using again.—Boston Transcript.

In Dallas Pulpits

Christian Science, held in Adventist church Sunday, December 8, at 11 a. m. Subject of lesson—sermon, "God, the Only Cause and Creator." Sunday school at 10 a. m.

Christian Church, Bible school, 10 a. m. Morning service, 11 a. m. Christian Endeavor, 6:30 p. m. Preaching service, 7:30 p. m. Prayer meeting, Thursday evening, 7:30. The public is cordially invited to attend all these services. C. C. CURTIS, Minister.

Presbyterian Church, Services Sunday, Dec. 8: Sunday school, 10 a. m. Morning service, 11 a. m.; sermon subject, "The Sad Plight of a World Without Pain," with apologies to Newell Dwight Hillis. Y. P. S. C. E. meeting, 6:30. Evening service, 7:30 p. m.; sermon subject, "Brotherhood," as taught in Charles Rann Kennedy's drama, "The Servant in the House." You are cordially invited to attend our services.

Evangelical Church, Sunday school, 9:45 a. m. Preaching service, 10:45 a. m. Children's sermon—Poetic Justice. Sermon to adults. Junior Endeavor, 2:30 p. m. Senior Endeavor, 6:30 p. m. Evening service, 7:30 p. m. Topic, "Stay Utterly." Prayer meeting Tuesday night, 7:30. All are cordially invited to these services. Each Sunday morning the pastor gives a ten-minute sermon to the children, which has been proving, in its brief trial, very beneficial and satisfactory to the work of the church. For this cause the morning hour of worship is 15 minutes earlier than heretofore. C. P. GATES, Pastor.

BUSINESS LOCALS

Advertisements under this head are charged at the rate of 1 cent per word, first insertion; 1/2 cent per word for each insertion thereafter; 30 words or less, \$1 per month if paid in advance. No advertisement inserted for less than 15 cents.

FOR SALE—Three good milk cows, one heifer, 14 months old, two about weighing between 75 and 100 pounds. Phone Black 155. 658-12-17. FOR SALE—Good second hand organ also three Ancona roosters for breeding purposes which took prizes at Dallas fair. Phone 13x7. 643tf

FOR SALE—Vetch seed. U. S. Grant, 618 Main St., Dallas, Oregon. 609-tf. TYPEWRITERS—For rent or sale. Hayer's Bookstore, Dallas, Ore. 588-tf

FOR SALE—Oak and Cedar Posts. Soehren Warehouse Co. 111f18. FOR SALE—Thirty-five horse power center crank Atlas engine, good as new. F. J. Coad, Dallas Planning Bldg. 589-tf

FOR RENT—Furnished room for rent. Apply 719 Mill St. 621-tf. WANTED—Room and board in private family, by single man. Address, or call Observer office. 658-12-6. WANTED—Fifty young men to prepare for Wireless Operators, for new positions opened on March 1st, call or write The Pacific Coast Telegraph Institute, 505 Commonwealth Building, Portland, Oregon. 654 12 4

WANTED—Some one to buy 500 feet 3/4-inch second-hand gas pipe, in good shape. Watson's Second Hand Store. 651-tf. WANTED—All kinds of iron, rubber, brass, copper, zinc, and hides. Highest cash prices paid. A. N. Halleck, Monmouth, Oregon. 3-121f. HOUSEKEEPING ROOMS—Inquire of Mrs. H. E. Smith, 619 Washington street. 657-tf

YOUR WINTER'S WOOD—Order your slab wood now and be sure of having a good dry supply for winter. I can sell you either slabs, blocks or trimmings. Can furnish any other kind of wood desired. Plenty of good oak and fir. Send in your orders by phone. 1562.—AUGUST BOMAN.

CHICHESTER SPILLS. DIAMOND BRAND. It would never do to put Colonel Goethals on one of these jobs of river and harbor improvement. He might get it done some time. TOWER'S FISH BRAND REFLEX SLICKER. KEEPS OUT ALL THE RAIN. THESE REFLEX EDGES PROTECT YOU. WATERPROOF—DURABLE. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED \$3.00 Everywhere. A. J. TOWER CO. BOSTON. TOWER'S FISH BRAND.

PEOPLE'S ELECTRIC PAGE

ELECTRIC GARDENS PROVE PROFITABLE

Evanston, Illinois, Grower Tries Experiment With Great Success He Says

A landscape gardener of Evanston, Ill., has experimented with electricity and the growth of plants. Early one spring he started, side by side, in his hothouse two beds of chrysanthemums, one filled with choice and promising plants, the other with weavings—gleamings from the first lot. The two beds were treated exactly alike, except that the one with the poorer quality of plants was subjected to electrical current passed along insulated wires forming a netting four feet above the ground and connected with a galvanized iron wire imbedded in the soil.

the stronger stems decreased breakage and ultimate loss of plants. Roses and carnations similarly electrified showed remarkable growth and a yield about four times as great in the same length of time as could be obtained by the former methods of cultivation.

A garden situated in the greenhouse yard and given the "Electrical treatment" produced unusually large crops of radishes, tomatoes and melons. Other investigators interested in the application of electricity to agriculture have determined that the electrified process stimulates the growth and brings to earlier maturity, cereals, fruits and vegetables. These statistics show in some cases an increase in quantity of 36 per cent for strawberries, 20 per cent for tomatoes and 30 per cent for cucumbers.

Electricity Wins in Washing Race. In a clothes washing contest at a recent electrical show in Chicago, electricity won the race against hand labor. Five pretty girls, operating electric motor driven washing machines and wringers, raced against six ladies of pronounced color who used ordinary wash tubs, wash boards and wringers. By a simple turn of the switches the girls started the electric motors, and while the machines automatically washed the clothes, the girls spent most of their time laughing and chatting with the visitors. The colored women worked their hardest to win the \$100 offered if they succeeded in accomplishing one-half as much as

electricity and the girls. The colored women certainly worked vigorously, the suds flying fast and furious, but when "time" was called, they had not washed one-third as many clothes as had their adversaries with the motor driven machines. The contest certainly demonstrated the vast difference between antiquated and modern laundry methods.

Oyster Patties—Filling. (Chafing Dish.) One pint small oysters, one cup cream or milk, one tablespoon flour. Make the cream sauce. Bring oysters to a boil in their own liquor, drain, then add to sauce. Fill patty shells and serve hot.

Invite your husband to do one ironing. You won't have to ask him the second time to get you an Electric Iron. Human labor at any price is too expensive to do the work that an Electric Motor will do. How would it be to take your wife an Electric Iron next present day instead of a box of candy. By using modern lamps you get enough electric current for doing much housework and cooking without any increase in your monthly bill. A woman shouldn't be expected to iron with anything except an Electric Iron, the strength and time saver.

- What a Cent's Worth of Electricity Will Do. Run a 12-inch electric fan for 20 minutes. Run a sewing machine motor for three hours. Operate a massage machine for 3 1/2 hours. Keep the electric dental hammer going for 90 minutes. Play an electric piano for one hour. Pump 250 gallons of water 100 feet high. Clip one horse. Groom two horses. Raise 10 tons 12 feet high in less than one minute. Raise a large passenger elevator, loaded, five stories in one minute. Grind 10 bushels of ear corn. Grind 20 bushels of shelled corn. Crack 60 bushels of corn. Shell 100 bushels of corn. Roll 200 bushels of corn. Cut 50 pounds of fodder. Thrash 200 bushels of barley. Separate 500 pounds of milk. Grind 75 pounds of sausage. Stuff 5 pounds of sausage. Clean 500 square feet of carpet.

A wonderful preserver of health and beauty for the woman who irons, THE ELECTRIC IRON. Why should your wife pedal that sewing machine when Electricity will do it for her at half cent an hour.



Is Your Light Electric?

All who can obtain it, have electric light—it's an essential improvement of the modern home.

Many fine houses lack this convenience because they were built before electric service was available, and therefore, were not wired when built.

Don't Be Without Electric Light

on that account. Our expert wiremen can wire a fine old house as easily as a new one. They work without disturbing you in any way. They leave not a single visible mark of their work except unobtrusive push buttons and switches. Their work is effective—their charges are moderate. Our advice is free to you.

SMITH & ELLISON ELECTRIC CO. Electric Fixtures and Supplies. Telephone 534 Dallas, Oregon

CRAVEN BROS. ARE DISPLAYING

The El Perco Electric Coffee Percolators and Automatic Asbesto Heat Regulating Sad Irons. The Most Economical Electric Iron in Use. Dallas, Oregon

STATE NEWS

Clifton M. Butler, a former Albany boy, has been promoted from First Lieutenant to Captain in the regular army. W. H. Williams, hand writing expert, testifies the signature to a note supposed to have been given Samuel McLain, now dead, is a forgery. The sum involved is \$2500. George Webber, 68 years old, was found guilty of murder in the second degree at St. Helens this week. He starts for the pen today.

SEE California this Winter

Its Attractive Scenic Resorts Famous Hotels, Magificent Scenery, Delightful Climate, Outdoor Sports of All Kinds, with Miles of Drives Through Orange Groves and Along Ocean Boulevards. THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC SUNSET OGDENSHASTA ROUTES

Davis Best Flour

Say, Mrs. Breadmaker, did you ever have trouble with your bread in the Summer and Fall? Yes, you have. But it was not your fault. We know it. For years, yes, for half a century perhaps, you have baked bread fit for a king. The reason of your failure in the Summer and Fall was that you were baking new flour. Flour freshly ground from the newly harvested wheat needs to cure for months before it will make good bread.

BIG BEND WHEAT DAVIS BEST

Is acknowledged by millers to be the best grade of milling wheat grown on the Pacific Coast. DAVIS BEST. Is unbleached, uncolored and unshaded, but has as fine a color as any flour on the market. TRY A SACK. Of DAVIS BEST now, and if you are not greatly delighted your merchant will cheerfully refund your money. SIMONTON & SCOTT, Dallas, Ore.

Has in Effect Round Trip Fares \$55.00 PORTLAND to LOS ANGELES Effective January 1st, 1913 \$54.70 EUGENE to LOS ANGELES 50.20 ROSEBURG to LOS ANGELES 44.30 GRANTS PASS to LOS ANGELES 42.60 MEDFORD to LOS ANGELES 41.85 ASHLAND to LOS ANGELES Same Fares apply to Colton, Pasadena, Riverside, and San Bernardino. With corresponding Low Fares from Intermediate Points and stop-overs going or returning and long returns limit. Descriptive and interesting Literature on various Attractions of the Golden State may be obtained from any Southern Pacific Agent or by writing JOHN M. SCOTT, Gen. Pass. Agent, PORTLAND, OREGON