

# The Courtship of Miles Standish

With Illustrations by  
Howard Chandler Christy

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## The Wedding Day

Forth from the curtain of clouds,  
from the tent of purple and scar-  
let,

Issued the sun, the great High Priest,  
in his garments resplendent,  
Holiness unto the Lord, in letters of  
light, on his forehead,  
Round the hem of his robe the golden  
bells and pomegranates,  
Blessing the world he came, and the  
bars of vapor beneath him  
Gleamed like a grate of brass, and the  
sea at his feet was a laver!

This was the wedding morn of Priscilla,  
the Puritan maiden.  
Friends were assembled together; the  
Elder and Magistrate also  
Graced the scene with their presence,  
and stood like the Law and the  
Gospel,

One with the sanction of earth and  
one with the blessing of heaven.  
Simple and brief was the wedding, as  
that of Ruth and of Boaz.  
Softly the youth and the maiden re-  
peated the words of betrothal,  
Taking each other for husband and  
wife in the Magistrate's presence,  
After the Puritan way, and the laud-  
able custom of Holland.  
Fervently then, and devoutly, the ex-  
cellent Elder of Plymouth  
Prayed for the hearth and the home,  
that were founded that day in af-  
fection,  
Speaking of life and of death, and im-  
ploring divine benedictions.

Lo! when the service was ended, a  
form appeared on the threshold,  
Clad in armor of steel, a somber and  
sorrowful figure!  
Why does the bridegroom start and  
stare at the strange apparition?  
Why does the bride turn pale, and  
hide her face on his shoulder?  
Is it a phantom of air,—a bodiless,  
spectral illusion?  
Is it a ghost from the grave, that has  
come to forbid the betrothal?  
Long had it stood there unseen, a



Friends Were Assembled Together.

guest uninvited, unwelcomed;  
Over its clouded eyes there had  
passed at times an expression  
Softening the gloom and revealing the  
warm heart hidden beneath them,  
As when across the sky the driving  
rack of the rain-cloud  
Grows for a moment thin, and be-  
trays the sun by its brightness.  
Once it had lifted its hand, and moved  
its lips, but was silent,  
As if an iron will had mastered the  
fleeting intention.  
But when were ended the troth and  
the prayer and the last benedi-  
ction,  
Into the room it strode, and the peo-  
ple beheld with amazement  
Bodily there in his armor Miles Stand-  
ish, the Captain of Plymouth!  
Grasping the bridegroom's hand, he  
said with emotion, "Forgive me!  
I have been angry and hurt,—too long  
have I cherished the feeling;  
I have been cruel and hard, but now,  
thank God! it is ended.  
Mine is the same hot blood that leaped  
in the veins of Hugh Standish,  
Sensitive, swift to resent, but as swift  
in atoning for error.  
Never so much as now was Miles  
Standish the friend of John Alden."  
Thereupon answered the bridegroom:

seemed as the Garden of Eden,  
Filled with the presence of God,  
whose voice was the sound of the  
ocean.  
Soon was their vision disturbed by  
the noise and stir of departure,  
Friends coming forth from the house,  
and impatient of longer delaying.  
Each with his plan for the day, and  
the work that was left uncom-  
pleted.  
Then from a stall near at hand, amid  
exclamations of wonder,  
Alden the thoughtful, the careful, so  
happy, so proud of Priscilla,  
Brought out his snow-white steer,  
obeying the hand of its master,  
Let by a cord that was tied to an  
iron ring in its nostrils,  
Covered with crimson cloth, and a  
cushion placed for a saddle.  
She should not walk, he said,  
through the dust and heat of the  
noonday;  
Nay, she should ride like a queen, not  
plod along like a peasant.  
Somewhat alarmed at first, but reas-  
sured by the others,  
Placing her hand on the cushion, her  
foot in the hand of her husband,  
Gaily, with joyous laugh, Priscilla,  
mounted her palfrey.  
"Nothing is wanting now," he said

with a smile, "but the distaff;  
Then you would be in truth my queen  
my beautiful Bertha!"

Onward the bridal procession now  
moved to their new habitation,  
Happy husband and wife, and friends  
conversing together.  
Pleasantly murmured the brook, as  
they crossed the ford in the for-  
est,  
Pleased with the image that passed,  
like a dream of love through its  
bosom,  
Tremulous, floating in air, o'er the  
depths of the azure abysses.  
Down through the golden leaves the  
sun was pouring his splendors,  
Gleaming on purple grapes, that, from  
branches above them suspended,  
Mingled their odorous breath with the  
balm of the pine and the fir-tree,  
Wild and sweet as the clusters that  
grew in the valley of Eschol.  
Like a picture it seemed of the primi-  
tive, pastoral ages,  
Fresh with the youth of the world,  
and recalling Rebecca and Isaac,  
Old and yet ever new, and simple and  
beautiful always,  
Love immortal and young in the end-  
less succession of lovers.  
So through the Plymouth woods  
passed onward the bridal proces-  
sion.

THE END

## LIGHTHOUSE HAS NO KEEPER

Volcano on San Salvador Whose  
Flashes of Light Come Regularly  
Every Seven Minutes.

"What do you think of a perpetual  
lighthouse, needing no keeper, and  
yet as regular in its flashes of light  
as one maintained by the govern-  
ment?" asked Albert D. Van Wyck, a  
globe trotter, at the Raleigh.  
"This natural light never fails, and  
that means much for navigation. It  
is a volcano on the island of San Sal-  
vador. This volcanic lighthouse is  
about eight miles inland from the port  
of Acajutla. It is a veritable pillar of  
cloud by day, and the flash of its light  
by night has been valuable to mar-  
iners for years. It can be seen far out  
at sea, and a burst of flame has gone  
upward every seven minutes, without  
the variation of a second, for many  
years.

"The few visitors who stop at San  
Salvador amuse themselves the first  
few days by holding their watches  
and timing the outburst of flame.  
"A lighthouse fee is collected of all  
vessels that put in at the harbor near-  
est the volcano, and no skipper ob-  
jects. He knows that the volcano is  
more reliable than the lighthouses  
kept by human beings on other coasts,  
and the novelty of the light is worth  
the price charged by the government.  
There is the usual detonation caused  
by the eruption every seven minutes,  
and the ground is shaken, but, after a  
short sojourn on the island you fail to  
notice it, and would be the more  
shocked if it did not occur."—Wash-  
ington Post.

## Anne Boleyn's Coach.

"Headless coaches" are fairly num-  
erous. The most famous is the one  
that drives once a year, on the anni-  
versary of Anne Boleyn's execution,  
up the avenue at Blicking, her Nor-  
folk home, says the London Chronicle.  
The coachman and the four horses  
have not a head between them, and  
Anne's own is not upon her shoulders,  
but she holds it in her lap as she sits  
in the coach all in white. At the hall  
door the whole apparition vanishes.  
Anne's father, Sir Thomas, also rides  
in a coach drawn by headless horses  
once a year, and his ride is much  
more exciting than his daughter's. He  
has to cross forty county bridges dur-  
ing the night and a company of yell-  
ing demons pursues the coach to keep  
the horses going.

## Sterilizing Liquids.

Perfect sterilization of liquids by  
means of filtration only seems to be  
made possible on a large scale  
through a process originated by two  
French scientists and reported to the  
Academy of Scientists at a recent  
meeting. It is known that membranes  
of collodion have the property of re-  
taining all the microbes in a liquid  
filtered through them. But they are  
very fragile and therefore impractical  
outside of the laboratory. By re-en-  
forcing the collodion membrane with  
a fine wire screen imbedded in it, just  
as a pane of glass is thus re-enforced,  
the two scientists constructed a filter  
not only strong enough for practical  
purpose; but so effective as to ex-  
clude even molecules of salts dis-  
solved in the liquid.

## Passing of Bridal White.

Bridal white will soon be a mis-  
nomer. The old style of dead-white  
wedding gown and a bouquet of pure  
white flowers seems to have gone for-  
ever.—Tattler.

## As Uncle Eben Sees It.

"De reasun," said Uncle Eben, "dat  
some men walks de floor because of  
deir debts is because it's warmer an'  
mo' comfortable dan gittin' out and  
bulldin' fences or shovellin' snow."

If you want to learn patience lend  
money to a chronic borrower.

## Winter Months on the Farm

How to  
Improve  
Them

## Feeding Hens for Eggs

Winter Feeding and Care of Farm Fowls  
to Get Eggs When Prices Are High  
By PROF. J. G. HALPIN  
Wisconsin College of Agriculture

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Many poultry raisers make radical  
mistakes in changing their fowls from  
summer to winter rations. They do  
not appreciate the importance of  
maintaining the proper proportions of  
meat and succulent feed in the win-  
ter ration and above all of supplying  
these constituents to the birds imme-  
diately at the beginning of cold  
weather. During summer the birds  
catch and eat an abundance of grass-  
hoppers and in addition have a large  
supply of green food constantly avail-  
able so that all their wants are satis-  
fied. Just as soon as extensive ranging  
is prevented by cold weather the feeder  
should begin to supply succulent  
feed, such as alfalfa, roots and clover  
hay and beef scraps in the ration so

constituent to use in the ration for  
egg production. It must be fed in  
moderation about one ounce per hen  
three times a week and then gradu-  
ally increased until one ounce is sup-  
plied daily to each hen.

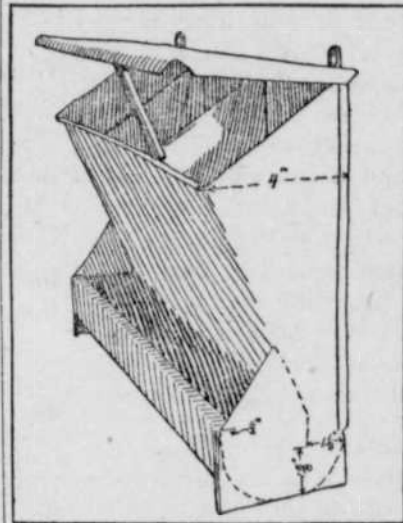
Several prominent poultrymen have  
recently attained remarkable success  
by using a combination of wet and dry  
rations. Their system includes a  
noon-feed of a light, well-scattered wet  
mash and then during the afternoon  
giving the birds free access to a dry  
mash. The main advantage of this  
method is the extra labor involved. In  
a well-arranged house when a dry  
mash is fed in hoppers one man can  
feed 2,000 hens in about a half hour.  
As ordinarily fed a wet mash for 2,000  
birds requires at least two hours for  
mixing and distributing the feed.

## Roughage for Hens.

Where alfalfa meal is fed the de-  
mand for a succulent roughage is de-  
creased. Even in this case, however,  
the addition of succulent clover or al-  
falfa hay is beneficial. Root crops  
play an important role in the dietary  
of poultry. Mangels may be fed en-  
tire once a day in troughs. Cabbages  
are best fed by suspending them by  
cords to keep them clean. An addi-  
tional advantage is obtained here  
through the extra exercise necessary  
for the fowl to secure the feed. Where  
available sprouted oats can be fed.  
Carrots in small amounts are very  
palatable and tempting to the flock.  
Clover chaff can be fed wet or dry  
and is a very economical egg producer.  
Begin to feed the green stuff and  
mangles as early in the autumn as pos-  
sible.

## Clover Good for Poultry.

Steaming clover hay increases its  
palatability greatly. If free from long  
fiber, clover is an excellent feed to mix  
with bran, table scraps, or with a regu-  
lar mash. A convenient way of hand-



A Hopper for Grit or Dry Mash.

that it will correspond as closely as  
possible to the summer feeding. The  
feeder should not wait until after  
Christmas to begin this system of feed-  
ing but should commence it as soon  
as the fowls are off the range.

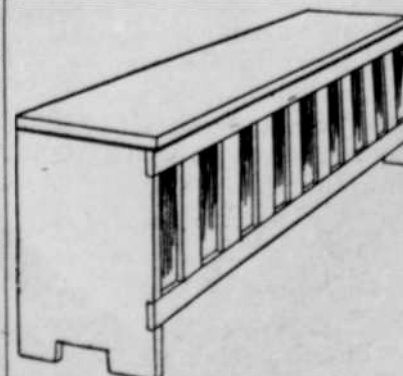
## Feeding a Wet Mash.

Changes in the system of feeding  
hens should never be abrupt, but  
should be very gradual, slowly accus-  
toming the birds to the variation in  
their ration. Where a wet mash has  
been fed to the young fowl it is pre-  
ferable to continue to feed the older  
birds with this variety of mash. Al-  
though a wet mash is more palatable  
than a dry mash, it is also more trou-  
ble to prepare and has to be fed more  
carefully. There is always a danger  
of it scouring or freezing. A wet mash  
should be thoroughly mixed and al-  
lowed to swell and expand. This mash  
should be uniformly spread in the  
troughs so that each bird receives an  
equal allowance. Otherwise the strong-  
er birds will gorge themselves while  
their weaker mates will starve.

An excellent wet mash ration con-  
sists of one part alfalfa meal, one part  
wheat bran, one part middlings, one  
part cornmeal and one part beef  
scraps. If possible these concentrates  
should be moistened and mixed with  
skim milk and allowed to stand for  
several hours before feeding. Five per-  
cent of oil meal is used advantageously  
in this ration, due to its value as a  
laxative and general tonic and stimu-  
lator. The wet mash should be fed  
once daily, in amount never to exceed  
what the birds will clean up readily  
in ten minutes, preferably at the noon  
hour.

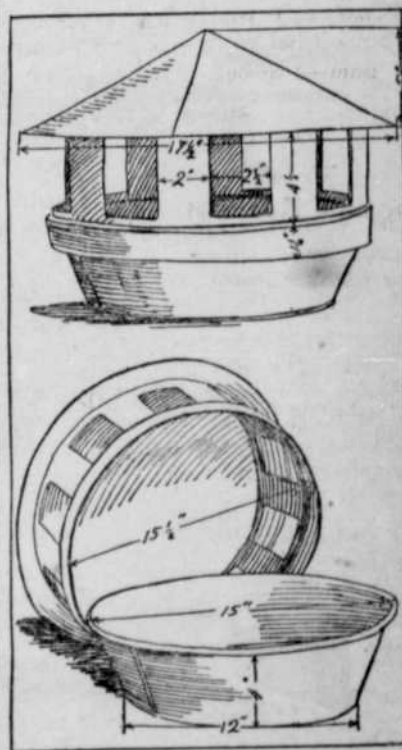
## How to Feed Dry Mash.

The dry mash is not so palatable  
and accordingly can be fed to the hens  
at any time although the stock usual-  
ly eat more and thrive more rapidly if  
allowed access to this feed for three  
to four hours each afternoon. This



Trough for Feeding a Dry Mash.  
Slatted Front Prevents Waste.

gives the "underlings" plenty of  
chance to eat and lessens the possi-  
bility of the mature fowls stuffing  
themselves. The dry mash has the  
same composition as the wet mash  
the only difference being that it is  
fed in a dry form. Where ground oats  
and barley are plentiful they can be  
added to the dry mash with excellent  
results. Green bone is an excellent



Two Views of a Simple Drinking Ves-  
sel for the Small Hen House.

ling the poultry flock is to thoroughly  
bed down the house with straw in the  
fall and then to add a forkful of clover  
or alfalfa hay every day until the lit-  
ter begins to get dirty. The house  
should then be cleaned, the straw re-  
placed by clean litter, and the daily  
forkful of clover or alfalfa continued.

The importance of litter cannot be  
overestimated as a means of com-  
pelling the birds to exercise in ob-  
taining their food. A generous allow-  
ance of corn mixed with the litter  
works out excellently for winter feed-  
ing. Corn may be fed either shelled  
or on the ear—broken into small  
pieces.

It is of great importance that a  
little grain be left in the litter over-  
night so that the hens have some-  
thing to eat immediately after leaving  
their perches in the early morning.  
This accounts for the generous allow-  
ance of grain which is absolutely nec-  
essary in the litter. If no grain is  
left in the litter the birds should re-  
ceive their first feed by daylight for  
best returns. A very detrimental prac-  
tice on the general farm is to finish all  
the morning chores before feeding the  
poultry. The hens as a result remain  
on their perches too long, so no in-  
centive urges them to get down and  
exercise. This common mistake is  
one of the fundamental errors which  
results in a diminished egg produc-  
tion.