#### A SPRING SONG.

My heart leaps up on a bright Spring day, When't look out to the sky, And see the clouds in light display Floating gently by. So was it, when I was a boy; Now, though my hairs are gray, My heart throbs with the self-same joy

On a shining April day: Shine, shine, O April bright, And drive dull care away!

"Youth's the season made for joys," An old song thus doth say, But I can make a merry noise. Although my hairs are gray. There's danger in youth's wild delights And hotly spurred desires; But safety dwells with sober sprights, And chastely glowing fres. Shine, shine, O April bright, And drive dull cares away!

### AN AUCTION STORY.

This is a strange world! And yet I never thought so until my attention was called to the fact by a little inci dent that befell me one day, and set me thinking so hard that it seemed to grow out of my own head and reach a great height, and then look down on my other self with compassion I don't know that it made me any reckor

I had cried dozens of pawnbrokers sales in my time, and never thought anything about them, unless it was that old Two to One or Give and Take were doubling their money, and making a pretty penny, even with 10 per cent. commission taken

But I had never thought of the story connected with any one article of the sale-of the heartaches, and despair, and woman's tears. It was but a joke to me, who had known the time when to "spout" a watch, or a pistol, or some light trinket, in order to carry on a frolic, or help a a poorer chap than I was, was but the impulse of the moment, and carried no further weight than the relief from empty pockets at the moment. But, as I have said before, something made me think, and ever since I haven't the same heart to cry away the goods of the poor creatures that want and misery had driven into old

Two to One's clutches. The city of B. is a splendid mar-ket for our business. The trade done there by one house alone would discount any banking, commission or other business in the place, and by the same token, the pawnbrokers equal us in power and profit, and give us our biggest sales.

An odd lot came into the ware room one day consigned to us by Clutchem & Keep, a shrewd firm of new beginners, and as it fell to my duty to assort and label the goods, it thus also fell to my fate to have a part in the following story:

The consignment consisted mainly of glass and silverware, pictures and bronzes, as Clutchem & Keep were rather first class in their business, and did not yet condescend to family Bibles; but in the lot I came across a few pieces of furniture, which attracted my attention from the fact of our having an order from a Western house to pick up all the antiques and oddities afloat for a bric-a-brac firm.

One article alone I noticed with attention enough to remember after wards, and then only because I struck my hand roughly against it, and the pain made me stare hard at the cause of it. It was an old cedar cabinet, brass bound and clamped, but rusty and forlorn-looking enough in its changed fortunes. I labelled it, as I thought, for our next day's sale, as

#### "Yes, madam." "You would know the articles sent up. here?

nervously I have just come from Clutchem & Keep," she began in hurried tones. as if ashamed of admitting her knowledge of these gentlemen. "They -had-some-things-I was forced -to-part with." Here she paused a moment; then looked up at me with a faint smile. "You hear this said so often that I shall weary you." sibility of a heart sorrow being at-

"I am anxious to help you, madam."

ghs or sobs were coming from it.

d with to Clutchem & Keep, and am streams and lakes that, for the most told it was sent here for sale. I wish to redeem it at any price—" She stopped suddenly as she saw

my face change. A cedar cabinet!

on my hand recalled it, also that it the toil of clearing the forest, which had been labelled for that day's sale. is one of the troublesome features of She grew frightened at my hesitation

"Do not say that it is gone!" she cried, raising quickly, and grasping my arm. "Oh, God would not so ers; and many years must elapse beafflict me! Look, look everywhere for fore the rich lands can be exhausted,

that I could feel the quivering of her ity as it has poured for several decthin fingers. I tried to think to whom I had sold

a cabinet that day; then it flashed a rolling country toward and up the on me that there had not been one in slopes of the Rocky Monntains, the catalogue. Had I made a mistake and sent it

West with a bric-a-brac lot? If so, it could be recovered. I felt glad for my error, but the poor little woman eral large "ranches," the beginning mistock my silence and broke down of a productive industry, in view of completely, sobbing so pitifully that the yearly increasing demand for

claim the old cabinet. "It is more to me than life or death,"

she cried out 'passionately, looking provincial straight before her. "It means my children's honor. Listen, and you will be influenced by my great need to find this cabinet for me. I believe it contains the certificate of my marriage, and my children's baptism. without which I cannot lay claim to my husband's estate in France. It is with a proud spirit; "I cannot bear to place in the Dimmocrat pahty no touch that; but my children shall not mo." "Why not?" "Kase I ain't

She paused to look at me. I felt as if a severe tension upon her nerves had given way at last, and, crushed by her fear of the cabinet being lost her, her silence and reserve had broken down, and that she appealed to me unconsciously in her need.

The shadowy pageant passed to

"Fifteen years ago my husband de-serted me. Evil influences led him astray, and while for my children's sake I would have pardoned him, I never saw him again or heard one word from him until I learned word to be the the word of the w had died in his sin, anforgiven by bery time I sees wun out my way I'se the great golden pumpkins seemed to A nice fellow: "Nice fellow!" she

forget her face when she held them The halo was there, as she said so softly: "Thank God!"

"Probably." And it seems to cling to me yet, She looked about her again, and and to make me think how much the color came and went in her face misery our evil passions can work through selfishness and thoughtless-

ness.

## THE GREAT NORTHWEST.

This Northwest territory, at last reclaimed from the hunter and trapper, is large enough to give Canada I had only then understood the pos- Illinois and Iowa; this, too, year after River Valley has conclusively proved.

lands his eye becomes perfectly "Thank you! I am looking for a edar cabinet," said the lady, gently, which was among the articles I part-which was among the articles I partpart, water the region. But, monotonous as seems the landscape, it represents to the practical eye a vast heritage of comfort and wealth. Here the settler can, with a very lit-I remembered it at once. The hurt tle labor, raise his crops, and avoid all pioneer life in the old provinces. The most valuable districts of the territory are watered by the Red, Assiniit. I beg, I pray you!" Her hands shook so on my arm even if the tide of immigration flows into the country with the same rapideven if the tide of immigration flows ades of years into the Western States. Where the prairie lands end stretches slopes of the Rocky Mountains, where herds of cattle can be raised far more profitably than in the States to the South; and there have been al-I knew then that some great cause animal food for exportation. One was hidden beneath her desire to re- fine province has already been carved out of the territory, and others will

scon follow as the necessity arises for organization.- Blackwood's Magazine. OLD SI AND HIS ROOSTER.

Old Si looked over a few of the State exchanges to see who had the bulge on the Governorship and then remarked to the political O'Donovan a man's heart grows large and his Rossa at the third pine table: "I not the money I want," she added, don't see how I'se gwine ter keep my and the grand scale upon which natbe robbed of the right to their father's name." seem to catch on to your racket?" and "going it alone" in the most in "Well, yer kno' dat shawlneck rooster dependent manner. And as to sucwhat I got de time Marse Tilden run ceed is the very best proof of success fer de President? Well, he wuz de and the West succeeds passingly well, bes' rooster I ever seed. Whenebber sumoody cum foolin' 'round de woodpile, er fum'lin wid de hasp on de versing the order of things, and the smoke-house dar rooster jes' turn "child becoming the father of the and fro across the mirror, and as she loose an' say sump'in 'bout sibbil sar- man." Now we must confess that went on passionately with her story, vice an' entrenchment an' reformity we were once shocked at the ways of it seemed to me I saw the whole sad episode pass in review on the dim surface. "Fifteen years ago my husband de-wrted mo. Evil influences led him

## PLOWING.

me Valuable Hints to Cultivators of the Soil in Preparation of Farm Lands for the Spring Planting. Two

If we compare the methods of agriculture which prevailed in the early times with those of the present, we find fewer changes than in those of other industries. It is true that half a dozen or more provinces as the mower and reaper, and especialproductive as any of the Western ly the self-binder, are a vast imten that I shall weary you." States. On its prairie lands can be provement upon the old fashioned a flowing sea; of course, the wet had only then understood the better wheat and roots than in here, but the plow and the harrow de sheet is understood. year, probably for 20 years, without serve to be obsolete, because as an adtached to the exchange of goods such the use of manures, as the experi-as I had that day sold. The of the old settlers of the Red crooked stick, the plow is many cenvance, even upon the aboriginal turies behind the present time, as ng superstitious, too; for it seemed than that of Illinois or Indiana, and compared with the modern reaping occupied with the I.O.U's. to me as if a ghostly pageant was crossing and recrossing that dim mirror and the old screen shook as if els day after day over these rich ticks or indiana, and prairie region. As the tourist trav-plow is certainly a valuable modifica-tion of the common implement, but it merely multiplies it without otherwise adding its effectiveness. It is as compared with a horse, for instance. as though 100 of these animals were used in harness instead of the steam-

engine, which uses the horse-power in a far more effective manner. To correspond with this mechanism of the steam-engine, which so compactly and usefully makes 100-horse-power available, we need, as regards plowing, a machine which will do the work of four or six horses in the field and utilize all the force in comparing the soil in the most effective

nanner. It is a serious question if the soil needs plowing at all, that is, in the manner in which we turn and re-turn violin in five years. Poor cats! it year after year alternately. Much has been said about the beneficial in-Because they both have to be mashed fluences of the atmosphere upon the soil and the pulverulent effects of frost upon the mineral particles and clods. This is very true, no the doubt, but these influences are not only exerted upon the surface but as far down as the air and frost and that he sent back the present of a warmth penetrate, and this is far below the reach of the plow. So that it is quite unnecessary that the soil should be turned up to the daylight that it may be acted upon, oxidized or that it may be acted upon, oxidized or pulverized by the frost. The soil re-quires to be broken up and mellowed and prepared for the seed, but certainly not to be turned over, excepting in the case of sod ground. And in whatever way this may be done-the cheaper and the easier-it will be the same in the end. We have learned a good many things from the westviews broaden. like the wide fields. and the grand scale upon which nat-ure works, never ties itself down to a too much room, and crowd out all half a million." The fr "Kase I ain't notion or a practice from filial or rev- the advertisements. erential motives. Indeed, it seems to delight in casting off such restraints breaking!" and "going it alone" in the most in-

it may not be unwise to learn something from it, although it may be re

# ADROIT SWIND

The Washington Dead-Beats W sist on the Patronage of the Political Rings.

whose names are good at the

of a check. The dead-beat g

poorly trying to get a Govern

place; so, of course, he can

better than put his old dead

machinery to work and get a

town in some way. This means

ident, though this is rare.

honored and honorable Ca Ministe's have had poor luck

progeny, and more than one Senator has vicariously gone

devil in the second generation.

more honored and well know

than a month ago the son of a

honorable gentleman, once the

ber of a famous Cabinet, car

Washington and easily playe

father's name for \$100-perhap

more; the \$100 instance is the

No

name the easier the game.

There is a style of deadbeat]

somebody suffers.

a copper at a toss-penny when it is There is probably not a your toss. An Erie woman has robbed a hair the country where the tr store. Like a pistol she went off with swindlers are more practice

HUMOROUS DRIFT.

death and yet not be able to see the

Two heads are better than one on

Now is the time to get up a corner in Washington. Not that a bang. in coal. The corner should be in the are any more 'swindlers he anywhere else, but it is a place parlor grate.

Oyster beds are always covered by else, but it is a place where people get stranded and this think and plot and plan to get

When a convict's watch runs down, does not necessarily follow that that they know they can new There is a class, numerous, his time has expired.

No, Charley, I shall not join the everywhere, too improvident I. O. O. F. this season, I am too much on without leaning on son that somehow land here, ho

The first Florida shad of the seaget a permanent lien on the G son sold for \$5. The buyer wanted ment. This class seldom, him to start a bone-yard with. succeeds. The Government,

Tom Thumb tried to knock down a Chicago hackman, and was mad be-cause the man didn't know it. Even the festive cockroach is to be who can answer "here!" with

'protected," a duty of ten cents a ringing voice whenever cal box having been put on borax. Bayard Taylor called snowflakes "wild white-bees of winter." When they swarm, it is stinging cold. A little child of seven or eight said that when the Bible speaks of "children's children" it must mean dolls.

There are people malicious enough to say that the rest which Jay Gould and dead-beating on a good ; wants is the rest of the railroads. He may be the descendant of al

A Bowery music teacher says that he has taught 1,500 boys to play the

Why are squashes and girls alike before they can press your lips.

When your dog goes three times around, like a gallant ship, before lying down, he is looking for the bolster.

One Waterbury man is so religious calendar because it omitted the Sun-

one reported thus far. To give name would be to unnecessari honor it. It would not help t the money back, though a poor

lost it. The swindler came, an A writer, in Harper's, commences a poem with the line. "Some day I shall be dead." It is, indeed, a beaucomplimented on every hand. friends of his father are plenty la tiful thought.

Correspondents of the New York and the son reaped the Sun are discussing the question "Can a man marry on \$10 a week?" He cannot, if the girl is aware of the money, and remarked that he w amount of his income.

like to get recognized and "draw The newspapers often print the the old man." He casually remain 'last words" of men, but never those to a friend of his fath knew that he was, and was not

"O, my poor heart! My heart is man to see his son want, so he wailed a girl. And yet dorsed the draft. It took but th the doctor who was called in pre- days to learn that he had made at scribed lime water, and told her she of himself. The "old man' repaired better leave off eating fried pork ated, and the son went on to "water"

for a few days. A man always looks through his pockets four times before handing his coat to his wife to have a button sewed on, and even then he is filled with a nameless fear until the job is completed.

sons and refuse to pay their de even at the risk of causing a friend "And this is married life!" exclaimed embarrassment. It is well to been an indignant wife, as her husband of great names.

A person may be at the point of

there were two others to go West,

But subsequent events discovered put up was off lively and quick.

The crowd had begun to thin, and I was busily mopping my wet face with a fresh handkerchief-for it is warm work, I can tell you, to cry such sales from 10 to 1 o'clock-when a lady came back in the store where I was standing and approached me eagerly.

"Are you the proprietor ?" she asked, with nervous haste, and I saw she was trembling.

"I am the auctioneer, madam," said, wondering what was wrong. will call the firm, if you wish.

She looked around timidly but eagerly

"Perhaps you can attend to my business I-I-do-not-understand-these-matters-very well," she answered, and then I saw she was for sale, and now youpoorly clad, although well bred and timid

I drew an old chair up into the spair. It was more than I could spair, and asked her to sit down, stand. That cry and pitiful story corner, and asked her to sit down, woman!-I took a good look at her. "You shall have back the madam," I said, solemnly, as if de-She was still young and pretty. voting my life to its search.

Behind her hung a long mirror. It had grown dim hanging there, and had a misty shadow over it, and in a corner stood a faded old Japanese screen and a tall chest of drawers. cried, gratefully, looking at me with beaming eyes.

The store was now empty, and the light was leaving it, as the sun was erseping away from the door sill and mounting up to the roof, as if he had only waited for the sale to be over. death of hope and love in this poor woman's life-the requiem of glad-

The lady had a face that touched ness and impulse. me at once. She was pale and timid, but there was that in her face that made me take off my hat while I taking my hand with a pretty grace, cause of temperance and \$200 a night talked to her. I don't know how to and I watched her in the mirror, go with expenses. He reports that the express it; but it was as if I stood in down the shadewy room into the sun- work in England has gone on apace the presence of death, and the nat- light of the street, and the shadows until the Queen has said, 'well done.' ural reverence of that great mystery

commanded my respect. "What can I do for you, madam?" I asked.

She had been looking all around her, as if seeking something. "You sell the goods, do you not?"

she said, eagerly.

"Oh, the shame, the despair, of see!" finding another claimant in France the sidewalk and reconnoitered for a sible to become our ways. But in ma (to Maud, who has been with her to my children's name and honor.

I must prove our claim as wife nately none were in sight. and children,' said the careful French lawyer, by the production of the marriage and baptismal certificates!" "And I knew not where they were.

"The minister was dead, the wit- father to an ardent lover. nesses gone I knew not where.

You shall have back the cabinet.

"Oh, sir, you will do a noble deed

"On what grounds do you base "I felt as if my carelessness had vour objections?' dishonored my children, and for days

our objections?" and cost of plowing. There is a ma-"On the grounds that you are a chine even invented for the special could get no relief from my horrible poor man, have no trade or profession, anxiety until, by a flash, as if from and are by no means capable of supheaven, I remembered that I had porting a wife." "Oh, that's it, ch? Look here," and utilized in stirring and mellowing placed the certificate with other

papers in the old cabinet that I had he took out several papers showing the soil and none expended in packparted with to Clutchem & Keep. I that he owed four or five hundred went to them; they had sent it here dollars. "Don't this prove that I am furrow, and consequently the subsoil, a thrifty man; what more can you She broke down with a moan of deask

"I can ask for nothing more. You the plow as it is forced through the have shown your abitity. Take my soil and wedged down upon the furdaughter.'

A THRIFTY MAN.

"I am thankful," said the young doubtedly very injurious, but hitherman. "I bave only one more reto how to avoid it has puzzled those quest?" who have thought about it.

"That the marriage shall take if you will but find it for me," she place immediately ?"

"No; that you will lend me enough "No; that you will lend me enough ing an attempt to acoust any and if asked what the school was, he re-money to buy me a suit of clothes the street cars in that city, and if asked what the school was, he re-and pay the preacher. Let me see what the papers say is true they have plied: "It is the place where the vising weigh master. The face looked to me as if a halo came over it, and I dimly felt why I how much will be necessary. I can a strong show of justice and propri-wicked are punished everlastingly by stood bare-headed before her. Truly I had stood in death's presence-the

"Yours-in-the-Lord Murphy will visit New Orleans on his return to She left me with a hopeful smile, the United States and labor for the

seemed to fall from her forever. I telegraphed the Western firm. They had the cabinet and returned it Judge Lawrence, first Comptroller They had the cabinet and returned it of the Treasury, has notified the At-at once; so that before many days torney General that the appropriation Minnesota into Canada are being dec-super the torney of the Treasury and the torney of the t the little, nervous fingers were search-ing, in the presence of the lawyer and myself, for the precious papers. She found them! I shall never only \$190,000 fees of jurors available. She found them! I shall never only \$190,000 fees of jurors available. Minnesota into Canada are being dec-imated by small pox. Three hundred are reported dead. The remainder are on their way to Portage La Prairie.

But subsequent events discovered my mistake. Our Saturday sale was a big one—the rival house across on the corner hadn't a chance against us that day—and by noon every article that day—and plied to a lawyer to obtain possession menny days twell I'll hab cawpses a grand place, and that our ways has led about thirty Germans this the favors done genuine newspape ter seil ter er medicum collidge-you were not their ways, and could never season.' Then the old man went out on be, just as their ways seemed impos-

straggling light-wood toter, but fortu- time we fell into them, and came to brother to the play and is full of it) see the necessity for them and the -"But was there no love in the piece, reasonableness of them. And we then?" Maud-"Love? Oh, dear, no, see the necessity for them and the think that in many things we might mamma. How could there be? "I cannot give my consent to your do worse than to copy some of their The principal characters were husband marriage with my daughter," said a methods even in the far East. Cerand wife, you know!" tainly in regard to their manner of

On the boulevard. after a long sowing some crops without the labor eparation: "What's new with you? "Nothing: always a bachelor; and you?" "Oh, I'm married." "Good purpose of pulverizing the soil known as the screw pulverizer, by which the whole work of the horses is match?" "A widow, still young, but with two children." "That is regretable, my dear. Children, you know, are like toothpicks; each wants his own ing and treading the bottom of the

"If your boarding house should

by the horses' feet, and the enormous pressure, in addition to the weight of the plow as it is forced through the soil and wedged down upon the fur-This action of the plow is un-"I would just ring the breakfast bell, and all the boarders would be in the dining-room in three minutes."

fused, and got his catechism mixed ences between the Shipers' and R ing an attempt to abolish smoking in up with his lessons, for when he was ceivers' Association and Eastern rate asked what the school was, he re- roads in the appointment of a supe

given the smokers a privilege in all, and now there is no car in which la- to testify to the correctness of the dies can be protected from smoking. definition Helena, Ark., special says the water In response to an inquiry for courts rushing through the Old Town plaster, the others day, a Detroit

up to within two feet of the late rise. dunno," was the doubtful reply. "Who The Indians who crossed from is it for?" "For father." "Didn't he

the honored name of his father so

Honored names are the inno

causes of dishonored debts m

many times every year in Wa ington. Fathers get tired of i

where else. This is only one insta

One of the others, and perhaps the most frequent of all the schemest to visit Washington, spend all th money brought, and then get a res dent friend from the same state to security at a hotel. This trick ist common to be interesting and to tiresomely frequent to be strange.

Senators and Representatives bled right along. That is a regul thing, and they stand it like lift men, or great men, as the case m

Probably the money owned Washington by borrowing deadbes would build a wall around the cit 100 feet high if all were paid at on with interest to a competent an trustworthy engineer.

The Department of Agriculture Washington estimates the growing wheat crop of the entire country 80 per cent. In April of last year was 104 per cent. and in April of 188 it was 85 per cent.

Another futile effort was made A little Austin boy became con- Chicago, Tuesday, to heal the differ

character, and the poor boy was soon most of the time for the past eighter years in Europe, died at Nice, Italy aged 68 years

The trouble with the Wilson Set is rushing through the Old Town break in the levee, and many planta tions will be again overflowed. The tions will be again overflowed. The if he thought that would do. "I cably adjusted. Capitalists of the Rock, Ark., have taken 710,000 shares at par, and it is believed manufactur ing will begin July 1. ing will begin July 1.

The noblest mind the best content ment has.

stone all on one end.

The New Orleans ladies are mak-

stand the preacher off. Let me have ety on their side. It has been the stand the preacher off. Let me have ety on their side. It has been the reference to Satan was personal in its chicago's leading merchants and the preacher off. stand the preacher off. Let me have ety on then show every third car a reference to Satan was personal in its wealthiest citizens, but who roside

+ 10+ 1