

### MY LITTLE BOY.

Against my knee a little head is lying,  
Two eyes of blue are looking in mine.  
The breath of twilight in the air is sighing,  
And twinkling stars amid the azure shine.

With mother love the winsome face I kiss,  
And fold the hands so weary of their play,  
No sweeter joy a mother holds than this,  
Too soon, alas! the little feet will stray.

Again I press him to my hungry heart,  
Ah, me! If I might shield him ever so!  
Mayhap some day he'll kiss me and depart,  
And I shall sorrow as I watch him go.

Secure I hold him in my arms to-night,  
And mother-like I lay him down to rest,  
His curly head upon the pillow white,  
His dimpled hands soft folded on his breast.

I may not go and leave my darling there,  
So fair he looks within his cozy bed,  
Ere one last touch upon the wavy hair,  
One lingering kiss upon the lips so red.

"God bless my darling!" low I whisper then,  
And silent as a watcher of the night  
I close the door, low breathing o'er again  
A mother's prayer to keep his steps aright.

—Cincinnati Enquirer.

### Lover's Ruse.

GOOD morning, Harry! You are looking as if this free mountain air didn't agree with you.

"I wish it didn't! I wish it would dry me up and blow me away, or an eruption of the earth would send some huge rock down upon me, and end it all!"

"O, nonsense, Harry! You are a little dyspeptic. Come, have a cigar and face your troubles like a man. I know what the matter is; I've seen it all along, my boy! Let her go, I say, with her villainous-looking foreigner."

"Of course you've seen it. Everybody's seen how she has gone on, and I've borne it all and said nothing until last night, when, as I had a right, I asked an explanation, but I wish I hadn't; I'm sorry she explained it, for it's all over now, and she's free to have that confounded baron; I wish he'd accidentally shoot or drown himself!"

"That never would do, Harry, for she would go mourning all her days after him, in that case, and you wouldn't stand half the chance you do now. I wish you would make up your mind to let her go. She isn't worthy of you, I'm sure."

"Yes, she is. You don't know her, Fred. She is gentle and good, but ambitious. She can't help it. You see, I understand her. All her family are ambitious."

"O! that's it, is it? Probably that is the way she explained her behavior to you last night?"

"No such thing, Fred. She doesn't understand the real motive which has induced her to do as she has done. It is all owing to her bringing up. She sees a better chance than I can offer and falls in love with that, and there stand her father and brothers, ready to encourage the thing. I see how it is."

"Then what do you intend to do?"

"I'm in hopes she will become disgusted with the baron before it is too late. He isn't much of a fellow, and if it wasn't for his title and money his chance would be small enough."

"Then you don't think she loves him?"

"No, I'm sure she does not."

"Well, all I've to say is that Imogene Lacy is a vain, mercenary, heartless girl, unworthy of the affection of my friend, Harry Hammond."

"You don't know her, and that is why you talk so."

"Well, perhaps I don't; however, I've a plan to propose, which will show you which way her heart turns; and if she cares anything for you she will turn her back square on the baron and his money-bags. Here, take a cigar and light it, while I make sure there is no danger of our conversation being overheard."

Dr. Frederick Mason opened the door of his room and looked out, then he examined the windows, and, finding the coast clear, resumed his seat, and for some time the two sat earnestly in low, guarded tones.

"The view is very fine there. See how the soft rays of the moon glimmer over the lake, and the shadow of the overhanging trees; O, how beautiful!" and Miss Lacy paused and gazed in silence at the scene before her. The baron bent his dark eyes upon his fair companion, and in low, soft accents, said:

"You have de great love for de nature."

"O, yes. There is so much of wondrous beauty to worship in the work of the Divine Master. A scene like this fills me with a deep joy, stills the worldly emotions of my nature, and whispers to my inward sense 'peace be with thee.'"

"And you listen to de voice of de nature, and you be still and happy; but when I look at you I cannot hear the voice of anything but mine heart crying forever dat it loves you. Is there no answer in your heart?"

Imogene stood with downcast look, but made no answer. No light of love beamed in her eyes, nor blush mantled her cheek. She was fully conscious that her heart gave no extra throb, and yet she was considering how to answer encouragingly. She waited so long that her companion spoke again:

"Have you no word for me?"

"You are very kind," she said, softly, with a little sigh.

"And you. Will you be kind to me?"

"How can I be otherwise?"

"And you will be my wife?" he asked, eagerly bending down toward her.

Imogene extended one hand toward him. He caught it in a warm clasp, and said quickly:

"I have your promise?"

"Yes," was the low reply, and, turning away from the moon-lit lake, she said:

"Let us go now."

There was a lonely bit of woodland, through which they must pass to gain the main walk, and scarcely had they entered this when a dark figure sprang before them.

"Your money or your life!" was the demand, in rough accents, and with a shrill Imogene turned to her companion for protection, but he was quite busy in handing over his ready money, and paid no heed to her terror.

The highwayman pocketed the baron's effects, and then turning to the lady, he politely requested her to hand over her jewels, but she was quite unable to do so, for overcome with fright she had sunk upon the ground.

The robber presented a pistol at the noble baron and requested him to rid the lady of her superfluous ornaments, and pass them to him.

"For de life he must have dese," said the trembling baron, stooping over Imogene and removing her bracelets, necklace and earrings. "I have no arms to fight for you, Pardon me," and he gave the jewels to the robber; then, taking hold of one of Imogene's hands, he said:

"Now we may go."

"Not so easy to tell tales. Stand off there until I silence your tongue."

Imogene, glancing up, saw the pistol glimmering in the moonlight, knew that the baron had dropped her hand and fled away, and then a new figure appeared upon the scene, and a voice exclaimed:

"What are you doing, you villain?" and she knew it was Harry Hammond, who grappled with the highwayman, and, forgetting everything else, she sprang to her feet and rushed forward, crying:

"Harry! Harry! He will kill you!" and as a long knife shone in the faint light, and seemed to descend upon her discarded lover, she fainted. When she recovered her consciousness she found herself reclining upon a grassy mound, with Harry beside her, bathing her temples with cool water from the lake by which she had stood so recently.

She lay quiet a little while, feeling quite safe and happy, and then beginning to realize her situation, she endeavored to arise.

"Where is the robber?" she asked, looking about her.

"I am sorry to say he succeeded in making his escape."

"He may come back with others. O, let us get away from here."

Harry assisted her to rise and attended her to her home; and as they were about to part (Harry refusing all offers to enter), he handed her her jewels, saying:

"I succeeded in recovering these for you."

Looking up to thank him, she noticed that his head was bound with a handkerchief.

"O, Harry! are you wounded?" she exclaimed.

"It is nothing serious. Good evening," and he went away.

The next morning a messenger from Mr. Mason came to request the presence of Mr. Hammond to lunch; and Dr. Mason sent back word that if Mr. Hammond kept quiet he would probably escape brain fever.

No doubt the comforting information that the baron had been made the recipient of a package containing his money, which he had so obligingly allowed himself to be robbed of by the highwayman, and a grateful letter and a visit from Mr. Lacy, assisted the sick man in his recovery. For three days afterward Dr. Mason thought him sufficiently recovered to ride out, and a little perfumed note, that reached him on his return home, completed the cure and enabled him to answer it in person at the dinner table of the Lacy's.

Imogene was tender and kind, and before the evening was over had an opportunity to confess her repentance, and Harry went home that night the happiest man in town.

"Well, Harry, you don't look as if you would like to be crushed by a rock or otherwise disposed of. How is it? Shall I congratulate you?"

"Yes, my bold robber," replied Harry, seating himself in the doctor's room and joining him in a snuggle.

When the autumn months had sent the country visitors back to their city homes Dr. Mason received the wedding cards of Mr. and Mrs. Hammond.

—New York News.

Everybody knows that great actors and singers of both sexes receive bushels of love letters yearly. Many, as may be imagined, are ridiculous in the extreme, however seriously meant by the writers. A beautiful English singer had recently to ignore a most tempting proposal. The unknown wooer was a half-dresser's assistant in Camden Town, who laid himself and an income of thirty-five shillings a week (including tips) unconditionally at the feet of his adored one. He was a member of a church choir, and looked forward confidently to the day when, emancipated from scissors and razor, "their voices might blend on the same platform, and life be one sweet song." He is still plying the scissors.

**New Fuel.**

"Manjak" is the name of a new mineral, of a lustrous black, discovered on the island of Barbadoes. According to experts, it is petrifed petroleum mixed with solid organic matter. It will form a valuable fuel, far superior to coal.

The wise man seeks a woman with an independent fortune rather than a fortune with an independent woman attached.

## BOUNDARY FIGHT.

### GREAT BRITAIN WANTS SLICE OF NEW GOLD FIELDS.

Contends that We Must Give Up Some of Alaska—Americans Construe the Meaning of the Treaty One Way, and the British See Another Way.

Aside from the Philippine war, the subject engrossing most public attention is the dispute between the United States and England over the line which cuts Alaska off Canada. The question, officially, is in the hands of an Anglo-American commission, whose report is being withheld by the two governments because, as it is reported, the commission could not agree upon terms. Where the matter will end nobody knows now, for both Uncle Sam and John Bull are anxious to get for their subjects as much of the gold land of Alaska and British Columbia as they can. This commission was assigned several other matters of arbitration or adjustment, but the boundary question is the one which demands the quickest settlement, for it is liable any day to create trouble between the two governments.

As to the Alaska boundary question, it is unfortunate that the commission



MAP OF ALASKA, SHOWING TERRITORY IN DISPUTE. Canadians are understood to want an outlet on Lynn canal or near place marked or further down the coast. The boundary line, as given in the above map, is the American line. The Canadians contend that in general it should be drawn nearer the coast, and seek a port at the place indicated by the cross.

failed to agree. As to which party is to blame for this non-agreement, there seems to be a general agreement. Scarcely had the commission been appointed before Ontario passed a decree practically prohibiting the export of gold. Not to be behind in international amity, British Columbia passed a law confining all mining privileges in that province to British subjects. The members had worked together in greatest harmony for the accomplishment of the great purpose of the commission, but since it was seen that provinces such as Ontario and British Columbia had it in their power to enact laws which might make of no effect a general settlement as proposed the difficulties have greatly increased.

A year ago a provisional boundary was agreed upon with the exception of a few miles of the Dalton trail at the end of Chilkoot pass from Pyramid harbor. At the same time the growing importance of the Alaska territory in dispute as furnishing the gateway to the El Dorado of the North impresses the necessity for the prompt settlement of the boundary dispute. To understand the difficulties of the case a historical and geographical review is necessary.

**History of Question in Dispute.**

By the Webster-Ashburton treaty of 1842 between the United States and Great Britain the northern and eastern boundaries were accurately defined from the Rocky Mountains to Mars Hill, at the eastern end of Maine. In regard to the northern and western boundary, after considerable discussion and diplomatic fencing, the question was left unsettled. Out of this boundary question grew the excitement which led to the adoption of the campaign cry, "Fifty-four forty or fight." How this old boundary question has been at least partially revived involves an interesting play of treaty against treaty and rights against rights. To understand it, it is necessary to go back to the ukase of the Emperor Alexander I. in 1822, by which he declared all the territory of the Pacific coast north of the fifty-first parallel of north latitude Russian territory, and by the same ukase made that part of the Pacific Ocean lying north of the fifty-first parallel of latitude in America to 49 degrees north latitude on the Asiatic coast a closed sea. The effect of this ukase was to exclude United States whalers from the Northern Pacific, an exclusion which the Government of the United States vigorously protested, and as a result, in 1824, by treaty between the two governments, the Northern Pacific was made an open sea.

**Evaded War with England.**

By the Oregon settlement of 1846 Great Britain got to the Pacific, that solution at the time being regarded as preferable to fighting or to a probable contest all along the Pacific coast with England for supremacy. The United States sacrificed the great Northwest in order to acquire New Mexico and California. Everything considered, that probably was the best solution. It

gave the United States a compact territory, and admitting that Canada and the United States are always to remain separate countries, it is but reasonable the former should have its outlet on the Pacific in British Columbia. By acquiring Alaska, however, in 1867, the British outlet in the Pacific now intervenes between parts of the United States. Curiously but naturally enough, Great Britain, or rather Canada, is now seeking another outlet to the coast, and this time through what, since the cession of Alaska to the United States thirty-two years ago, has always been considered American territory. What historical or treaty right has Great Britain or Canada to such an outlet? The question is not an easy one to answer. Great Britain's title to British North America from the 141st degree of west longitude (meridian of Greenwich) rests, like that of the United States to Alaska, upon her treaty with Russia. Russia's right certainly was a vague one, and amounted at best only to a claim in regard to the vast interior of whose extent at the time she had no conception. Great Britain's title to the Northwest east of 141st degree of longitude has never been seriously questioned. It is only in regard to the southeastern part of the boundary line, which is formed irregularly by mountains and a line extending thirty miles from the coast, that there

has arisen a question in recent years which has grown into great importance by the discovery of a new gold field in the Klondike region.

**Now Is the Time to Act.**

By the same treaty (1825) the free navigation of the Stikine river was granted, but this also at the time was regarded as of little importance. The discovery of gold in the Stikine changed the situation. As early as 1863 the British Colonist, an English newspaper of Victoria, B. C., perceived the desirability of Great Britain's acquiring in some way a depot on the Pacific for this part of the British possessions. It affirmed that the strip of land stretching along from Portland Canal to Mount St. Elias, with a breadth of ten marine leagues, "must eventually become the property of Great Britain, either as the direct result of the development of gold, or for reasons which are now yet in the beginning, but whose results are certain." At that time the British Colonist looked forward to obtaining this strip from Russia either peaceably or forcibly, and conjured up a vision of the British lion and the Russian bear looking at each other from the opposite sides of Bering straits. Possibly Russia also may have felt that such a contest was coming and wisely saw that for her, situated as she was, it would be unprofitable. Not caring to stand at the door of British America on the Pacific, she probably counted upon making the United States doorkeeper. And this is a role that, until recently, would have been pleasant enough to the United States. The events of the last year have, however, greatly modified the traditional feeling between the two countries, and the present is, therefore, a most opportune time to arrive at a satisfactory settlement of all territorial or other questions at issue between the two countries.

**Some of the Difficulties.**

But to arrive at such a solution it is necessary to know where the equities lie. Those being determined, it is next requisite to ascertain what, if anything, the other party has to offer in return for waiving or yielding any of these equities. This is the difficult part of the subject. By the terms of the treaty of 1825 between Great Britain and Russia, the provisions of which were adopted at the treaty of cession between Russia and the United States in 1867, the line of demarcation between Russian America, as it was then called, and Great Britain's North American possessions, was defined.

When this treaty was made it was supposed there was a range of mountains running down the entire coast, practically, thus forming a natural watershed and line of demarcation. The Russians cared only for a foothold along the coast, as it was with the fisheries they were concerned. The treaty, however, made provision as to how the boundary should be determined should it be found that at any place there is no such natural boundary by limiting the Russian (now United States) territory to a distance of

ten marine leagues, or thirty miles, from the coast. The Canadian and British contention, as now made, turns upon the Portland canal. The British, at least until recently, have claimed that the words Portland canal or channel in the convention were a mistake for Behm canal, or Clarence inlet, or else that what is now called Portland canal was not then so called.

**Construe Treaty Differently.**

This difference in the respective American and Canadian boundary lines of the Alaska pan-handle strip arises from wholly different methods of construing the treaty. There are many intricate questions involved in the methods of construction. For instance, in determining the ten marine leagues from the coast to which, in the absence of a mountain chain, the American territory extends, shall sinuosities of the shore of the mainland be followed or should the line be run from headland to headland? Again, shall the line be considered to run ten marine leagues east of the outer shore of the islands? In that case in many instances the line would not reach the mainland, as some of the islands are more than thirty miles across. On the other hand, the Hon. David Mills says that in pursuance of its method of determining the boundary the United States in many places has drawn its boundary line "more than 100 miles

from the coast." To explain these divergent points of view it is necessary the nature of the Alaskan coast be understood, or at least that part of it, nearly 500 miles long, extending south by southeast from the body of the territory, as this is the part with which the boundary dispute concerns itself. As to this part of the Alaskan coast it may be said in general that a lofty mountain range extends from Observatory inlet to Cook's inlet and then sweeps toward the Asiatic side along the peninsula. A group, or several groups, of islands, many of them of considerable extent, lie off the shore and from Cross sound to Observatory inlet and the coast below to Puget Sound there is a series of islands which are so situated as to leave between them, as one writer upon Alaska has described it, "an unbroken line of inland navigation the most extraordinary in the world."

**World Claim Far Inland.**

The British contend that, under international law, when an inlet, or arm of the sea, is less than six miles wide it is to be considered territorial water of the country in which it is situated, and that what is known as the three-mile limit would apply. The British and Canadians assert that the territorial waters of the United States commence at Point Bridget, at the mouth of Berner's bay, where the Lynn canal is less than six miles wide, and that consequently ten marine leagues from Point Bridget would make the boundary line at Point Seduction. This would place Dyea twenty-two miles within British territory and Skaguay sixteen. The United States, however, in its maps has followed the coasts of inlets, especially of such great inlets as those along the Alaskan coast, where the water is salt and of great depth and plainly a part of the ocean. Even granting the British contention that in the case of the Lynn canal the territorial waters begin at Point Bridget, the American settlements at Dyea and Skaguay, Katsikhin and Pyramid harbor, were made in good faith and at a time when there was no question as to whether they were in American territory. Following the precedent established by Great Britain herself in the Venezuelan case, these places, in case of the boundary line being submitted to arbitration, should be excepted. To regard the coast line as running across the heads of inlets, when they are more than thirty-three miles long, as the British contend it should, would affect the territory bordering upon the Lynn canal, especially the White and Chilkoot passes, which, according to American contention, are within ten marine leagues of the coast, but not according to the British contention. It is now practically or provisionally agreed that the boundary line crosses the White and Chilkoot passes, as while these do not constitute a mountain chain, they may be said to serve the purpose of a mountain barrier and thus come within the meaning of the treaty of 1825.

Charitable people attribute the failure of a bachelor to his lack of a wife to act as an incentive, and the failure of a married man to the domestic burdens he carries.

Investigate the habits of the man who believes that he could do better in some other State, and you will find that he is the last one of his family out of bed in the morning.

You can still find women who believe that a mother does not live up to the traditions of motherly goodness unless the children can leave molasses candy on the parlor chairs.

### ABOUT SLEEP.

#### Some Queer Things in Regard to "Nature's Soft Nurse."

One of the most remarkable facts to be found in the history of sleep consists in the utter inability to resist its onset in cases of extreme fatigue. Several remarkable instances are given in which persons have continued to walk onward while sleep has overcome them, the automatic centers of the brain evidently controlling and stimulating the muscles when consciousness itself had been completely abrogated. It is recorded that at the battle of the Nile, amidst the roar of cannon and the fall of wreckage, some of the overfatigued boys serving the guns with powder fell asleep on the deck. Dr. Carpenter gives another instance of allied kind. In the course of the Burmese war the captain of a frigate actively engaged in combat fell asleep from sheer exhaustion and slept soundly for two hours within a yard of one of the biggest guns, which was being actively worked during his slumbers. It is a matter of common medical knowledge that extreme exhaustion in face of the severest pain will induce sleep. Here the imperative demand of the body—a demand implanted, as we have seen, in the constitution of our frames—asserts its influence; and even pain, the ordinary conqueror of repose, has in its turn to succumb. One of the most extraordinary cases in which the overruling power of sleep was ever exemplified was that of Damiens, condemned for treason in Paris in 1757. He was barbarously tortured, but remarked that the deprivation of sleep had been the greatest torture of all. It was reported that he slept soundly even in the short intervals which elapsed between his periods of torture. Among the Chinese a form of punishment for crimes consists in keeping the prisoner continually awake, or in arousing him incessantly after short intervals of repose. After the eighth day of such sleeplessness one criminal besought his captors to put him to death by any means they could choose or invent, so great was his pain and torment due to the absence of "nature's soft nurse." Persons engaged in mechanical labor, such as attending a machine in a factory, have often fallen asleep despite the plain record of pains and penalties attending such a dereliction of duty, to say nothing of the sense of personal danger which was plainly kept before their eyes.—Harper's Magazine.

### Proof of It.

The art of "putting two and two together" is humorously exemplified in this dialogue from the New York Weekly:

Mrs. De Gree—How did you manage to get home so early to-night? You said there were to be a number of initiations.

Mr. De Gree (prominent Mason)—The initiations had to be postponed. All the regalia, draperies, and so forth had mysteriously disappeared.

Mrs. De Gree—Aha! Now I've found out all about you Masons! So it's true after all, and you said it wasn't.

Mr. De Gree—What's true?

Mrs. De Gree—You keep a goat.

She had sent a telegram, and was waiting for an answer. Suddenly the peculiar halting click of the receiving machine sounded in the office, and she said to her companion: "That's from George, I know; I can tell his stutter."—Modern Society.

### HOMESPUN PHILOSOPHY.

#### Observations of Commonplace Things by the Atchison Globe Man.

When a woman with a little money marries a worthless husband, how she does strut.

Every time we see a big vine against a wall, we wonder if there is a snake hidden in it.

When an old bachelor who has been good to his sisters, marries, how they criticize his wife!

When a farmer sees a nice looking lawn in town, he sees nothing but a nice patch of pasture.

Baseball is like whist. You can understand the game fairly well and still not know much about it.

The proper thing for a man to do in helping his wife entertain guests is to pay the bills and get out of the way.

When a girl has a new engagement ring, she finds many occasions for feeling if her back hair is in good order.

Every one wonders why those ten years older than himself don't put their affairs in shape to be ready when death comes.

If a girl finds fault with the fit of a young man's clothes he can go on and get a marriage license without further preliminaries.

There comes a time to every married woman when she has to use a sort of faith cure on her belief in her husband's affections.

Some women raise babies without the slightest trouble, while others make such a job of it that it distresses you to look at them.

It always makes a daughter mad to see her mother obey her father, and she vows she will show her "spirit" when she has a husband.

There are few girls of sixteen who study a foreign language who are too smart to talk about it, in order to impress those sitting near them with their ability.

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ALASKA

ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

KONODKIE DISTRICT

YUKON DISTRICT

BRITISH COLUMBIA

PACIFIC OCEAN