My son, what are you thinking about ?

That you are the biggest tool in town, paps.

Recause you spent so much for this suit of mine. I could have got one just as good at Ben Forstner & Co.'s and had enough money left to

buy a whole toy strop besides. Largest stock in city. Sold at cut

B. FORSTNER & CO

without aggravating my cough."

a jar of my daughter's wild plum sauce.

"I ain't of no consequence," said she,

I dunno as I care so much about sweet

things. Only there used to grow a

wild plum bush on the hills at home,

and mother used to boil the plums

"Leah was mistaken," said Friend

something to spare for an old friend

"I didn't know that you looked on

"Thee ought to have been certain of

"There were ugly things said about

the way the Lennox property was man-

"Nothing was said by me, Friend Anastasia," observed the Quaker.

'And as far as in me lies I am anxious

"Humph!" said the old woman.

Well, there ain't no use making up to

"Thee is welcome to do as thee likes

with thy own," said Friend Decker

calmly, setting down the jar of wild

plum preserves and glancing wistfully

toward the cushioned armchair by the

sponded with an articulated grunt.

But when he was out of sight she un-

with bread and cheese for her supper.

"I never did taste nothin' that went

to the right spot like them plums," said

she. "It ain't 'cause they're relishin'.

It's 'eause they make me feel like I was

out in Wisconsin, with the sassafras

leaves turnin' yaller and the wind

Leah did not know until a neighbor's

boy brought back the jar neatly

wrapped in a newspaper what a treat

"What is it, Willie?" she asked the

"It's the jar that had the wild plum

sass in it," said Willie. "Miss Akerly

me a ginger cookey for bringing it back,

"Father," said Leah reproachfully

to the old man, "this is thy doings.

Thee is always thinking of some one

"It has done me more good than if I

Leah ran to him and gave him a hug.

She put the jar on the top shelf of

she had lived, sitting alone before the

fire, and this was the day they had ap-

Friend Decker had expressed a desire

to attend the obsequies of the kins-

woman who had been so little to him,

and Leah was hurrying through her

As she tore off the newspaper wrap-

"Father," she cried, "here is a plece

of thick, yellowish paper rolled up and

put inside this jar that came from Friend Anastasia's. What does thee

Decker. He looked dubiously at the

She ran eagerly with it to Friend

"Thee is right, Leah," said he. end Anastasia's beart was softened

us. This is doubtless the will

oned-will in favor of Moses

She has sent it to us to de-daughter, nay," as Loah

suppose it is? Father, it is a will!"

stitch in the coarse worsted gloves.

pings she stopped suddenly.

outside.

she had afforded her neighbor.

me; my will was drawn up long ago,

to be at peace with all the world."

and Moses Sawyer is my heir."

me as a friend," she said sharply.

aged," said Miss Akerly.

Perhaps it may tempt thy appetite."

Anastasia Akerly colored.

parcel.

spare.

like thee.

distance.

his homeward tramp.

seventy years of age."

blowin' in my face.".

Decker apologetically.

my own temper sometimes."

pointed for her funeral.

slindow of suspicion.

my's quarters?

TO THHEE ADORED.

Marie, have you fornotten yet.
The summer days of long sign.
The shady lane, where first we met?
The tiny brook's loquacious flow?
I spoke; you answered, buff afraid,
And then, and then, exquisite bliss,
As hand in hand we onward strayed,
I boldly stole a little kies!

Louise, have you forgotten yet How sweetly once you used to sing?
The sun of those dear days is set,
And love has fied on variabled wing.
Still "wondrons is the power I feel"
Rings saily, faintly in my care;
And, lo, a moment now I steal

From memory of the bygone years Susanne, have you forgotten jut

How quick the evening hours would fly?
No, loved one, you will ne'er torget,
The chapped hands, the tender sight
And when the time for parting came, How deep, we thought, our mutual woe, Then looks more fraught with love became Than words: but that was long ago.

Marie has gone, I know not where: Louise, my dear Louise is well. Susanne is still both young and fair, But all her love for me is dead.

Farewell Susannel goodby Mariel Louise, our sun of youth is set! The past lives only now in me, And I alone will ne'er forget. - William Barclay Dunham in New York Sun.

DECKER'S REWARD.

"The days are shortening," sighed Friend Decker, as he folded up his spectacles and replaced them in their fin case, "or else my sight isn't what it used to be. Welladay, one can't expeet to be young always. Is it thee, Leah? I did not look for thee so soon.

Leah Decker came into the room like a breezy young whirlwind. She had none of the repose of manner at present so much in vogue. Born and bred a Quakeress, there was nothing of the Quakeress about her except her quaint Scripture name.

'Yes, it's me!" said Leah shortly. "Did thee go to Friend Anastasia?" gently inquired the old man, readjusting the big pine logs so that they should burn brighter for Leah's benefit. "Oh, yes, I went there."

"I hope she is better of her rheuma-

"Yes; she is better. But-but she will not buy the apples, father. Mean, stingy old thing!" eried Leah wrathfully, flinging her coal scuttle bonnet on the table. "She says she can buy all she wants at fifty cents a barrel of old Jacob Joyce; so she can, perhaps, wretched, knurly, worm knots, not fit for pigs! Ours are apples! She says thee asks an exorbitant price." Friend Decker slowly shook his head.

"Friend Anastasia is under a misapprehension," said he. "Eighty cents a barrel is what they are paying at the eider mill. Only one does not like to see such beautiful, rare colored fruit ground into baleful spirits to set men's brains on fire."

"Much she would stop to think of that," said Leah, still ruffled.

"I am sorry," said Friend Decker mildly. "I need the money much, and I think she would have been better satisfled with my apples than with Friend Jacob Joyce's.'

"And after all that," flashed out Leah, the spirit of indignation rife within her, "she had the impudence to ask me for a jar of plum sauce I made. She says Friend Mary told her how nice it was and"-"And," quietly interposed her father,

"thee said, I hope, that thee would be glad to oblige her." "No, I didn't," bluntly answered Leah.

"I said that I gathered the wild plums myself in the Crook road, and cooked them after Aunt Mahala's recipe, and that there were four jars, and I wanted to keep them for thee, especially since thy health was so poor and thy appetite so variable."

"I am sorry, dear," said Friend Decker. "Friend Anastasia is very old, and old people are apt to be fanciful about trifles. Moreover, she's our kinswoman, a degree or two removed, perhaps, but"-

"Then why don't she do something for us," flashed out Leah, "besides giving us good advice and tormenting us with her fault finding. I didn't mean to mention it, father, but she told me out and out that she had adopted Moses Sawyer, and that she meant to | else.' make him her heir."

"Well, daughter, why should she not?" composedly questioned the old

"Because he is no relation to her at all," cried Leah, "and the property all came from our great-grandfather Lennox, thee knows."

the little pantry, and never thought "Thee attaches too much importance to mere dress, Leah," said Friend Decker. "Thee must study the text of the lilles of the field in the Bible. 'We shall all be provided for if only we

can have patience to wait." Leah bit her full, red under lip as she glanced around the sparsely furnished room, and noticed her father's drooping figure and rapidly whitening head, but she made no reply as she took up the coarse pile of vests on which she had been working button

holes for a neighboring clothing con-"Father's a saint," thought she, "but I am not, and I am afraid I never shall be. I should like to cut off Anastasia

Akerly's ears. If every one had their rights, half of that big Lennox farm would be ours. She gained possession of it by the merest legal quibble, and If father was like any one else he would have gone to law about it long ago and got back his own. And now to see it deliberately willed to some one

And Leal's needle flew vindictive. In and out of the cloth like a miniatus javelin pieroing the heart of an unseei

But the next morning when Leak

ragerly caught it up and hastened toward the fire. "Give it to me. It is not for as to make or meddle. If Friend Anastasia wished the will destroyed she should have done it herself. I shall take it back to Friend Johnson, Why, my son? the executor."

"Father," cried Leah, "thee would not give him the will?" "Does thee think it would be an

honorable thing to destroy it, Leah?" "If she wanted us to do so, father." "But we have no right to presume anything of the sort, daughter," reasoned Friend Decker, buttoning it up under his coat. "Nay, nay, do not fret." For Leah, overcome by the sudden

blaze of hope and the after blackness had gone to earry her bundle of vests of despair, had burst into a flood of home and get another batch of work "It will be well with us, never tears. Friend Decker put on his hat and buttoned his great coat, which was getting Judge Johnson, the great man of the worn at the elbows and shiny at the

neighborhood, received the paper with some surprise "It is a bright, clear morning, albeit "December sixth," he read. "Hum! a trifle frosty," said he. "I think I This is the latest document she has exemay walk as far as the Lennox farm

ented. Oh, yes! I remember it very well; I drew it up myself. But why did And under his arm he carried a neat you bring it here, Friend Decker?" The old man briefly related the cir-Old Anastasia Akerly was winding cumstances.

blue yarn before the fire when he came "Old people are apt to be capricious," in. She greeted him not without a said he. "Doubtless the trifling matter of the plum sauce pleased her and she Had he come like a spy into the enesought to reward us. But I should never take advantage of Friend Moses "I hope thee is well, Friend Anasby burning the will." tasia," said he. "I have brought thee

"But why in the name of common sense should you burn it?" said the judge. "Are you in the habit of having estates left to you every day that you dispose of them so readily?" "I don't think I quite understand

thee, Friend Johnson," said Decker, But Leah's face brightened like a

with molasses. They were drefful "I see! I see!" she cried. "Father, sour, but there was a flavor about 'em Friend Anastasia has done right, late I haint never since tasted. And when though it be. She has willed the Len-Mary Moore told how good Leah's was, nox farm to thee." I kind o' notioned I'd like a taste o'

And Leah spoke truly. The dead 'em. But Leah said she hadn't none to woman made tardy reparation in her last days, and Friend Decker and his daughter had at last legal possession of Decker. "In our home there is always what should long ago have been their own. No amount of reasoning or remonstrance had availed, but one of those sudden touches, which, "striking the electric chain wherewith we're darkly bound," sway the soul with disproportionate force, had induced her to perform an act of justice at last, and the jar of ald plums, with its train of associations, had been the most eloquent pleading of all.-Lewiston Jour-

> I heard of an amusing little affair today. A son of a friend of mine desired to purchase a cheap new hat to wear about the store where he is employed, and he and his father started

He Threw the Best Hat Away.

out to make the purchase. Previous to their departure, Jim, the boy, concluded to wear his "Sunday-go-to-meetin" hat, an almost new four dollar fire, for his limbs were enfeebled by tile, and, unknown to the father, age, and he had walked a considerable he put it on, told his father he was ready, and off they went in search But Miss Akerly did not ask him to of a new head covering. It did not sit down and rest, so he took a fresh take long to make the purchase. A grip of his knotty cane and started on two dollar hat was selected. Jim told his father that he would go down "Good morning to thee, Friend Anas- town in a while, and asked his father

been tucked away in a paper bag.

The father started home with the screwed the lid of the jar, and with an bag, and while on the way concluded old silver spoon, worn thin with long it would be useless to carry the "rusty" usage, she tasted the sweetness of its thing further, so he quietly laid it down on the pavement and moved on. A "Jest like them mother used to boil gentleman and lady came along soon down with molasses when I was a gal," after, picked up the bag, advanced to said she. "I could most fancy I was a a gaslight hard by, examined the congal ag'in, in the old plum time, a-cuttin' tents, became satisfied it was a good across the lots with my sun bonnet find and went on their way rejoicing. hitched on by one string and the red dog caperin' at my heels. Waal, waal! that Jim had bought a two dollar hat, It don't seem like I was close on to and that he had thrown his old hat away. "Thrown the old hat away!" Miss Anastasia had some of the wild exclaimed his wife. "Why, that was plum sauce with her scanty dinner. It his Sunday-go-to-meetin' best. Here is gives it a relish. She ate some more the old hat."-Louisville Post.

Eccentric Matches.

A child detests soap. How it would says she's much obliged, and she gave though they yearned for a sip of its Bits. sweetness. - Once a Week,

He Dug for Gold.

A tin peddler offered to tell Farmer Davis, of Ohio, where \$5,000 in gold was buried on his farm if he would hand over \$300. Farmer Davis sold two horses and paid over the money, had eaten it myself, Leah," said Friend and although he has rooted up about ten acres of ground he has thus far missed the iron bound box.-Detroit "Thee is an old darling, father," said Free Press, she; "and thee makes me ashamed of

In the last ten years no less than sixteen different patents have been issued anything more about it till one day on umbrellas, and yet none of them when she wanted a jar to put some has been accepted by maker or buyfresh cranberries in. She was in a er, because the umbrella as it is is good burry, for Miss Anastasia Akerly was to enough and can't be made any better. be buried that afternoon. She died as It is like old wine. - Detroit Free Press.

He Was Right. "What is the feminine of friar?" asked a teacher of his class. First Boy Hasn't any. "Next!" Second Boy -Nun. "That's right," said the master. First Boy (in an indignant tone) -That's just what I said. - Cassell's work so that she might brush the well worn suit and take a much needed

Aspiring High. Uncle Jasper was a colored man of very devout intentions, but his knowledge of the Scriptures was of a some what uncertain character. He lived in single blessedness" a good many years, but finally in the evening of life he married, and in due time an L ir was

advent of the little one, a gentleman met Jasper in the street. "I understand you have a baby at

born to him. The next day after the

you house, Uncle Jasper." 'Yes, sah; we has dat," Jasper re plied, with a broad grin and a satisfied chuckle. "We'se got a baby dar, sho'." "Is it a boy or a girl?"

"Hit's a boy, sah. Yax sah, hit's most sho'ly a boy.

"Have you named him yet?" "Yas, sah, we han."

"What name have you given him?" "Wah, sah, you knows I'se done allus been a pow'ful han fer dem Scriptur' folks, 'cause I'se allus been a monst'ous strong b'liever in de Bible. So I 'lowed I'd name him arter some o' de big officers what de Bible talks ob, an I studied bout which 'un I'd name 'im arter, an at las' I settled onto Beelzebub, sah.

"Hit's a mouty fine name, sah; an hit 'pears lack I'se 'spirin powerful high, but I 'lows dat chile'll sho'ty do credit to hits namesake, sah. Hit most sho'ly will." - Youth's Companion.

New Stable Apparatus.

The stables at the chief fire station, Jackson's raw, Manchester, have been fitted with a new apparatus that is calculated to add to the comfort of the horses and at the same time to facilitate the "turning out" of the brigade. The apparatus consists, roughly speaking, of a movable shutter at the entrance to the stall, and to it is attached the manger. The shutter can be raised by moving a pin and can be fitted to an ordinary stable.

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The advantages claimed for the system are the prevention of horses from kicking one another or any one who may happen to be passing by them. It avoids turning horses in their stalls, and thereby the risk of spinal injury. It allows them to front the stable door instead of standing with their heads to the wall, thereby breathing all the good air that enters the stable without draft, and in every way it renders the borse's condition as cheerful as possible when fastened up within the stall, tife stall being always available as a loose box without alteration or addi-

When rapid harnessing is a consideration one-half the usual time will be gained by not having to run to the manger or to turn the horse when harnessed. - New York Telegram.

The Oyster's Start in Life.

When the shell begins to form the baby oyster must cease his fantastic wriggling about in the water and give careful attention to his own support. The cares of life come upon him early, but as his burdens increase he grows in strength and ability to carry them. All he asks is a good start. He is not particular as to whose hand he holds during his incipiency, provided it is clean. To him an old boot, or a dead starfish, sia," to which the old lady only re- to take home his old hat, which had or the shell of a crab is as good as anything to cling to until be has sufficient courage to let go and paddle his own

If they are right in his way at the moment he wants them, an old bottle, a lost anchor, an escaped dredge, or a pair of oyster tongs will serve. In about two weeks after the spat is deposited, as one may see with the naked eye, these become barnacled all over with the enterprising young oysters .-Edward L. Wilson in Scribner's.

Heavy Rainfalls.

In England the discharge of water in sheets from the clouds is not unknown, though much more seldom seen than on the Continent. During a storm at Odessa one June some twenty-two years ago three inches of rain fell in less than an hour. Many of the sewamuse a child to behold a number of ers were burst, the streets converted matches rushing away from soap! into glens, and in the suburbs eighty-Place some matches in a basin of water seven houses totally destroyed. This in the shape of a star. Take a piece of was mild, however, compared with the soap, cut into a point, insert it in the thirty inches which fell in Genoa withwater in the middle of the matches, and in twenty-four hours, or the twentylo! they will fly from it in every direc- nine inches which flooded Joyeuse, in tion as if in horror. If you wish to France, within twenty-four hours. On bring the matches all together again the other hand, we hear of Ambukol, you will treat them as you would chil- in Nubia, where rain fell only five dren-with a lump of sugar. Dip the times in the years 1823 and 1824, and sugar in the water and little bits of Talta, on the Indus, which had not wood will come swimming to it as a drop for three years. - London Tit-

Up There.

The patient joke of the doctors will

never, never go out of use. A young Detroit physician who opened an office a year or so ago, was up in the northern part of the state on a fishing trip. One day a young lady, who had watched him for an hour or more waiting for a bite, laid down her hook and softly crept up near him.

"What lots of patience you have," she said to him in a little whisper that the fish couldn't catch.

"Yes," he answered promptly and with a tinge of sadness, "up here." She didn't understand for a ufinute, and when she did she limped slowly back to her hook.-Detroit Free Press.

The Value of an Oath.

The growth of perjury in law courts has become a scandal. The value of a witness' word, in comparison with his interest, seems to be paralleled by a well known example of schoolboy honor, "Will you take your dying eath to it?" "Yes." "Will you bet sixpence about 'it?" "No." San Franeiseo Argonaut.

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