

# CO MY MOCHER.

As I look upon the changes that the passing years have wrought—  
At the bent and shrunken figure, comes a saddened, reverent thought,  
How the wearied feet, slow passing,  
Pierced by stones on life's rough road,  
Soon shall gain a heavenly portal, finding rest at last with God.

Mother, o'er your faded features rests a light more bright to me  
Than the brightest ray of sunlight shining on the distant sea.  
For it tells of battles conquered—patience, hope, denial sweet—  
While the grave smile round your lips, dear, makes the picture quite complete.

Words e'en fall me, now, to tell you all the love within my heart;  
Deepest thoughts are ever silent, though of life the better part,  
All unworthy as I am, dear, of your life-long sacrifice,  
Still my beacon star shines brightly from your faded, tear-dimmed eyes.  
Only when your hands are folded on a cold and pulseless breast,  
And your still form in its casket speaks a soul in perfect rest—  
Will your spirit, on white pinions, hovering o'er your lonely child,  
See upon my heart deep graven, your own features, soft and mild.  
—Kate B. Adams.



## The Spell Broken.

BY MARY MARSHALL PARKS.

(Copyright, 1901, by Daily Star Pub. Co.)  
"Anderson says he met you on the avenue yesterday, but he was not sure that you recognized him," said Jack, with a troubled look in his honest eyes.

"I am delighted to hear it," answered Madge, with a trill of gay laughter. "That was precisely the state of mind that I wished to produce, but I was not certain I had acquired the necessary manner. I believe my education is now complete. What an unappreciated creature I was a year ago!"

"I liked the old Madge best," said Jack, bluntly.

"Did you?" said Madge, indifferently. "But what a goose I was! I had so many illusions. I believed in so many things and so many people, almost everything and everybody, I think, absurd as it seems."

"I had hoped you would always be kind to my friends, Madge. Anderson is no carpet-knight; but he is an honest man and a good fellow."

"That was simply one of your little misapprehensions," replied Madge, lightly. "I shall always choose my own friends."

"I did not mean that you should make my friends yours in the nearest sense. That would be unreasonable," said Jack gravely. "All I ask is common civility."

"That also is at my own discretion," retorted Madge wilfully.

"I could never cut any one except for the gravest reasons," said Jack, soberly. "I never cut any one in my life but Dick Foster."

"Dick Foster? And what has he done to incur your displeasure?" Madge asked, with a bright, hard look.

"You know that Ella Parsons is in the insane asylum and you know why," said Jack, sternly. "He ought not to be received in decent society."

Madge's face grew still harder. "It may as well be understood once for all that I shall recognize whom I please, and when and where I please," she said, icily. "That is a matter in which I would not be guided by the Prince of Good Form himself."

"And who is that?" asked the astonished Jack.

"Dick Foster," she responded with another hard glance.

Jack rose unsteadily. He was not going to quarrel with Madge just then. He was not fit. For days he had been aware that his head and legs were a little queer. Nothing serious, he said



"And who is that?"  
to himself, as he descended the steps; and yet his feet were still unsteady and his head curiously light.

It would have been easy for him to give Madge up had he not firmly believed that the sweet-souled, dew-eyed girl who had won his heart still dwelt somewhere within that cold and wordy exterior. Like a princess shut in a tower, waiting for some bold knight to release her from the spell of the enchantment.

"I fear I'm not the knight," he thought sadly, as he walked heavily down the street; and still, he could not decide to give her up—not just yet.

## The Irritating Fly

Has Its Place in Nature's Great Scheme.

If there is any living creature that you think you know, it is the fly. But while you have seen flies, and have, perhaps, been tormented by some of that family, how much do you really know about them? The flies you know best are the house fly, the stable fly, and the mosquito. Their general family name is diptera, which is given as well to other members of the family, for it is legion. "Diptera" means two-winged—a term which belongs to all two-winged insects. The larvae of the house fly and of the stable fly are born in filth, but as soon as they are fully developed they soar into the sunshine and free air. Only on damp days do they care to enter houses and stables; for flies cannot bear to be out in the wet. So sensitive are they to moisture that they will go almost anywhere to avoid it. We do not need to tell you that to drive flies from the house you should darken the rooms and give the little creatures a chance to escape into the sunshine. They will avail themselves of it readily enough. As the flies of which we are speaking develop in filth, it is natural that cleanly human beings should do their best to be rid of them. Flies swarming upon articles of food are a menace to health, as any physician will tell you.

Scientifically Considered.  
To keep to the house fly and to begin at the beginning, we must tell you that it is one of the short-horned diptera, its special name of brachycera meaning short-horn or antenna, because the antennae are short. They are also three-jointed with the third joint ringed. If you can look at a common house fly under the microscope you will at once see what we mean. This fly lays its eggs in manure or other filth, and as 100 or 200 eggs are usually laid by a single female, you see that a mother fly is very much like the famous old woman who lived in a shoe. In warm weather it takes only a few hours for the eggs to hatch in maggots or larvae; it takes only a week for the maggots to become full grown flies; within two weeks they are busy starting families of their own. If the common fly had no enemies it would torment mankind far more than it does. Nature man-

ages, however, to keep her balance, even with a fly. Tiny parasites destroy many of the larvae before they have half a chance to develop. In the autumn you will find a fungous growth choking the life out of the flies that it infests. Have you never found dead flies on the window pane, their bodies wrapped in an odd sort of winding sheet made of very fine white threads stretching out in every direction? If you haven't you may look for them this autumn, and feel that you have learned something of the tragedy which came into the life of a fly.

The Horsefly.  
The common stable fly, or horsefly, is of three kinds. The large mourning horsefly is of a uniform black; the white lined fly differs only in dress, being of the same annoying species; the smaller golden headed horse and ox flies have banded wings. The female alone sucks blood, while the male feeds daintily upon flowers. The larvae, however, are carnivorous. The mosquito and the black fly we speak of together because of the equally painful discomfort of their bites; but zoologically they differ a little. The mosquitoes are culicidae, culic being Pliny's name for the fly. They have feathery antennae and a fringe of hairs on the hind margin of the wing. The larvae develop in the surface of stagnant pools. As the larvae have a respiratory tube open at the tail end, they rest vertically near the surface of the water, head down and the tail at the surface, in order to breathe through that end. The reason they are killed by pouring kerosene oil over the water is that the oil makes a film through which they cannot breathe, which literally smothers them to death. The black flies, on the other hand, are long-horned flies, the nematocera. What boy in the Adirondack woods this summer, or in past summers, has not seen and felt them? The females alone, like the female mosquitoes, are the blood suckers. The larvae also live and develop on the surface of the water.

Righteousness is the richest reward of the right.

## HANGTOWN

How a California Town Got Its Unpoetic Name.

Hidden in the fir-clad hills and ravines of El Dorado county, Cal., there is a place called Hangtown. The place was originally known as "Old Dry Diggings," but in January, 1849, it received its new baptism.

One night three men were playing poker in a saloon, probably a tent or hut, when one of the party "went broke." That in itself was probably not extraordinary, but what followed was enough out of the common to affect the little camp to no slight degree. The proprietor of the place had fallen asleep in the room, and as it was known that he had some dust in his possession, it occurred to the gentleman who had lost that a glorious opportunity of replenishing purses was at hand. Needless to say, the proposition found favor in the eyes of the others. The sleeper was aroused and requested over a gunbarrel to "ante!" A favor asked in such terms was not to be refused, and he responded with alacrity. The accompanying threats of sure death if he "blew" were disregarded by the victim, however, and he "blew" as promptly as he had "anted" on the previous evening. The camp was wild and wanted justice done. No time was wasted, and the robbers were arrested before they had time to escape, a court

was convened, and flogging and exile were chosen as a sentence in keeping with the enormity of the crime.

The promptness with which the whole procedure was gone through might have served as a warning to wiser men. But this was not the case with our gambler-robbers. Next day they appeared in camp very drunk and very noisy, vowing dire vengeance on their punishers. Such ignorance and insolence was too much to ask any respectable forty-niner to stand, and at a mass meeting of righteously indignant miners, hastily convened, the decision to hang the men was made. This sentence was carried out as promptly as the previous one. The crowd marched down the street to a big oak tree, and there with a dozen husky pioneers at the long end of each rope the bad men met their fate. Thereafter the miners said "Hangtown" when they referred to the little Sierra camp.

Somewhat Hurred.  
"Gen. Fred Grant says the Filipinos are quick to see a joke." "Well, those who did the running while the general was there must have been quick about it or they couldn't have seen it at all."  
—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

## ROOSEVELT and HANNA

The Relations of the Two Republican Leaders Pleasant

Men who judge persons and events solely by outward appearances and without intimate knowledge of them think President Roosevelt harbors some resentment toward Senator Hanna because for a time the latter attempted to prevent Col. Roosevelt's nomination for Vice-President at the Philadelphia convention, says a Washington correspondent. He does not, and never did. When Col. Roosevelt was in Washington a few weeks before the meeting of that convention he exacted from Senator Hanna a promise that he would make Roosevelt's nomination for Vice-President impossible. The senator did his best to keep his word. There never was any misunderstanding between them about it.

When the popular demand for Roosevelt's nomination became too strong to be longer resisted Col. Roosevelt agreed to leave the matter to Senators Hanna and Platt and Mr. Odell, now Governor of New York. They consulted and agreed that Roosevelt should be nominated and that Hanna should nominate him. It was all amicable and without the slightest rancor on anyone's part, and as everyone now knows (though not all could see it at the moment, least of all Col. Roosevelt himself) it was the wisest and strongest thing that could have been done.

President Roosevelt and Senator

Hanna have always been warm friends. They have a sincere affection for one another, as men of their bold, frank type are prone to have.

Failings of an Emperor.  
His Imperial Japanese Majesty Mutsu Hito, the 123d mikado of the empire, always wears a simple uniform, and never goes about alone. When the mikado had his first photograph taken he exclaimed that if he was as ugly as it represented him to be he would never sit for his portrait again. At the emperor's request the Japanese legations in other countries refused to issue his picture. In truth, the mikado is a plain man, somewhat bow-legged and pigeon-toed, but he has an air of majesty none the less. He has shown himself a wise, good and able ruler.—Chicago Journal.

Steel Plant to Cost \$1,500,000.  
Should the plans of a big southern steel concern be carried to completion, there will in the near future be erected at Thomas, near Birmingham, Ala., a steel plant to cost \$1,500,000. The site for the plant, which it is proposed to use in conjunction with two blast furnaces now operated at Thomas by the concern, has been chosen and there's every probability that work on the mill will soon be begun. It will be one of the finest plants of the kind in the south.

## ROYALTY TO VISIT US.

KING LEOPOLD OF BELGIUM PLANS A CRUISE TO THIS COUNTRY.

The Brother of the ex-Empress of Mexico to Come Over in His Yacht—Little Prospect of a Generous Reception by Polite Society.

During the winter this country is to have a royal visitor in the person of King Leopold of Belgium. Leopold is to make a yachting cruise in American waters and it is his intention to visit New York, Washington, Annapolis and other points of interest in North and South America.

King Leopold is a great European traveler and spends a good deal of his time in gay and wicked Paris. Perhaps it is because the French capital is gay and wicked that Leopold is attracted to it, for he is sportively inclined. He travels freely about without any official protection more than is bestowed upon the ordinary citizen. He affects the society of actresses and though in his 66th year is always ready for a lark. Once in spraking to a newspaper representative on the subject of police protection he said: "Precautions have ever proved ineffectual. All the prominent men killed were surrounded with precautions. I prefer going about this way, is unguarded as you are. Besides, I would just as lief be killed as feel that detectives were constantly all about me."

King Leopold was born in 1835 and ascended the throne in 1865. Beside being ruler of Belgium, he is the absolute ruler of that vast region in Africa known as the Congo Free State. His sister is the hapless ex-Empress Carlotta of Mexico, widow of Maximil-



KING LEOPOLD II.  
ian, who was shot in Mexico. She has been insane ever since that tragic event.

### Lightning Superstitions.

It is well known that lightning plays some truly remarkable tricks, and the recent thunderstorms in France have called attention to the different ways the French peasants have of preserving themselves from its disastrous effects. Some, like the ancient Romans, believe that a skin confers immunity from lightning, and it is reported that the peasants of the Cevennes twist the cast-off skins of snakes round their hats to preserve themselves from danger. Some believe that silk will do the trick, and the idea that a garment made of silk exerts some influence upon the matter is rather borne out by a catastrophe which once occurred in a church at Chateaufort-les-Montiers, when two out of three priests who were officiating at the altar were severely injured during a storm, while the third, who was dressed in silken garments, remained quite untouched. Some believe in sleeping on a pile of mattresses heaped in the center of the room; some retire into the cellar of their houses, and many farmers at the commencement of a storm immediately proceed to put all their milk out of doors, knowing from experience that thunder turns milk sour.

### Troubles of Physicians.

People expect of physicians charitable deeds much more numerous than those required of ordinary mortals. Here is the naked statement made recently by a prominent physician: "I am old now," said he, "approaching the age of 70 years. The other day I was reviewing my career and going over my account books, carefully preserved from the beginning of my practice. I found on those books debts amounting to \$104,000, for the whole of which I would accept 14 cents. The public would cry out indignantly upon a doctor who refused his art to those unable to pay him, and every doctor has worthy patients who take the best of his time and skill perhaps, and pay him nothing, but there are hosts of people who seem to think themselves justified in imposing upon him. Some of those who owe me money ride past my door in carriages."

### The Birds of Ireland.

The bird fauna of Iceland is credited by Henry H. Slater with 163 species. Of these 3 are residents, 27 summer migrants, 21 occasional visitors, and 11 rare stragglers. The land birds are few, including only 7 residents and 5 that come in summer to breed, but the most interesting birds now probably are the northern wren, the great northern dove and the Iceland falcon. Singing birds are few. There are 16 species of ducks and geese, and 7 birds of prey, but the rock ptarmigan is the only game bird.

The 50 miles between Milan and Varese, Italy, are covered in 50 minutes by the third rail system.

## LOST HOUSEHOLD ARTS.

English Women Ignorant of Domestic Economics of Former Times.

It is a general complaint among the housekeepers of England, where domestic help is drawn largely from the country villages, that on entering service the servants are mostly incapable of doing the simplest household work without supervision and that only a small proportion ever learn.

The reason is not far to seek. A couple of generations ago half the cottages in England were schools for the teaching of the domestic arts. These are no longer taught because they are no longer practiced. Baking and brewing, cutting out and cutting down clothes, darning and fine drawing, the care of poultry and economical use of food—all these will soon be lost arts, as far as the cottage is concerned.

Women used to be able to make their husband's shirts. Give nine cottage women out of ten nowadays a couple of dozen yards of cotton and they could no more turn it into shirts than they could turn a lump of pig iron into a dinner knife. Cooking, even in its simplest form, is being supplanted by the use of tinned provisions. To boil potatoes and bacon or to fry a bit of meat in the pan is about as much as the housewife can do.

The cottage woman of today has her pride, but it is not in the home. She slaves to save her girls from what she and they alike have learned to regard as degrading drudgery—the necessary work of a house. All she can save goes on their backs. "Look at them when they go out," she says, "you couldn't tell them from the Miss Sweetstones themselves." But when they go to service they have learned next to nothing. Least of all, have they learned to learn.

## HUMAN LIFE LENGTHENING.

Death Rate Decreased 3.4 Per 1,000 Since 1900—What It Means.

In 1890 the death rate in 271 cities of 5,000 or more population was 21 per 1,000; in 1900 the rate was 18.6 in 361 cities of 8,000 population and upward, a reduction of 2.4 per 1,000. Another statement of special interest and significance just now is that deaths reported as due to consumption, including general tuberculosis, decreased from 245.9 per 100,000 of population in 1890 to 190.5 in 1900, a very large reduction, due, the census authorities believe, to the better knowledge of the disease and the measures adopted for its prevention. To add nearly two years to the average of human existence is a wonderful achievement. Its full significance it is not easy to grasp. Applying it to the population of the United States alone, now over 70,000,000, it means not less than a total of 140,000,000 added years of human activity and productiveness. This stupendous total, divided by the years of the average human life, with the recent increase included, means practically the same as an increase of 4,000,000 to the healthy adult population of the nation. Regarded from the standpoint of the economist, it means also an enormous increase in the wealth-producing factors of the country. Healthfulness, vigor and high vitality among a people are the most valuable assets that any nation can have, says Leslie's Weekly, especially for the coming years, when the struggle for commercial and industrial supremacy throughout the world is certain to grow more and more intense and absorbing. Where other things are equal, the country that grows the strongest, hardiest and longest-lived men is the country that will lead the world.

### A Good Lincoln Story.

A characteristic anecdote of Lincoln dates back to the time when there were so many fires at the national capital that suspicion of incendiaries was entertained, and various northern cities began to offer the services of special fire brigades. The authorities of Philadelphia in particular were most urgent and sent a special committee to wait on the President and urge him to accept the services of such a brigade. The committee was tedious and long-winded, and the President was anxious to get back to the public business which demanded his attention. Finally, seeing no prospect of a termination of the interview in the usual way he interrupted one of the orators in the midst of a grandiloquent flight by saying:

"Ah, yes, gentlemen, but it is a mistake to suppose that I am the head of the fire department in Washington. I am merely the President of the United States."

### The Right of Defense.

In the course of a trial an English judge is reported to have said: "The laws of God and man both give the party an opportunity to make his defense, if he has any. I remember to have heard it observed by a very learned man upon such an occasion that even God himself did not pass sentence upon Adam before he was called upon to make his defense. 'Adam,' says God, 'where art thou? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldst not eat?' And the same question was put to Eve also."

### Paderevski a Lover of Billiards.

M. Paderevski, like other mortals of less note, has his hobby—namely, billiards. He plays nearly every day when he can spare time from practicing and composing, and is a very fair one. "I think I like billiards," he says, "because it not only exercises my eye and hand, and keeps them in training even when I am amusing myself, but it also produces in me the delicate and refined artistic feelings which I have so often to express on the piano, as when, for instance, I play my favorite Chopin."