

BRAVEST BATTLE.



HE bravest battle that ever was fought! Shall I tell you where and when? On the maps of the world you will find it not; 'Twas fought by the mothers of men.

Nay, not with cannon, or battle shot. With sword, or nobler pen. Nay, not with eloquent word or thought. From mouths of wonderful men.

But deep in a walled-up woman's heart— Of woman that would not yield, But bravely, silently bore her part— Lo! there is that battlefield.

No marshaling troops, no bivouac songs; No banner to gleam and wave; But, O! these battles they last so long— From babyhood to the grave!

Yet, faithful still as a bridge of stars, She fights in her walled-up town— Flights on and on in the endless wars, Then silent, unseen—goes down.

O ye with banners and battle shot, And soldiers to shout and praise, I tell you the kingliest victory fought Were fought in these silent ways.

O, spotless woman in a world of shame; With splendid and silent scorn, Go back to God as white as you came, The kingliest warrior born!

Joachim Miller.

THE WEDDING DRESS.

Barbara and Lettice Maitland were orphans, the children of a doctor whose genius had developed itself more in the direction of spending than of saving, and who at the time of his death had left his family almost penniless.

Now, however, Barbara was earning a modest income as assistant secretary to Lady Glendower, well-known for her philanthropic efforts, and Lettice added to their store by teaching the children of a prosperous linen draper.

Lettice had been for some weeks staying at Broadstairs with her young charges, and Barbara was alone, but much happened during these few weeks—much that Lettice is at present in ignorance.

If we enter their little sitting-room and listen to the conversation being carried on by the two occupants we shall learn the nature of what has taken place. One occupant is Barbara Maitland herself.

The other occupant is a man about 40, dark, handsome, albeit tanned by exposure to wind and weather, as well he may, having only lately returned from his fruit ranch in California. He is Lady Glendower's brother.

"It all seems so strange," said Barbara, "to think that we are actually engaged to each other, and yet that we don't profess to love each other in the very least."

"Yes," responded her companion; then he added: "Barbara, would you not like to know why I first thought of taking a fruit ranch in California?"

"Yes, certainly I would." "That was the cause," and Geoffrey placed in her hand a tiny morocco case, wherein was framed the portrait of a lovely girl, spirituelle, yet full of vivacity, with deep blue eyes and golden hair.

"She died, and now little woman you



"GOEFFRY SELHURST'S BRIDE," know why I told you I could never make love to any woman again. I was nearly mad with grief for a time after I lost her, and I went out to California and plunged madly into work. At first, as you know, things did not prosper, and I lost a lot of money. Now I have regained all I lost, and am a comparatively rich man, but a wife is an absolute necessity to me."

That same evening Lettice arrived. Lettice was 19, and had a tall, supple figure, and a face of wondrous beauty. Her eyes were of that rare blue violet shade; her hair a soft nut-brown. They had finished tea, and Barbara was seated in a low chair by the open window; Lettice on a stool at her feet.

"What, Barbara, a new ring?" cried the younger sister, capturing Barbara's left hand and examining the lovely sapphire flashing on the third finger. "Ah, you are blushing. What have you been doing while I have been away? Come, tell me all about it."

"I have been getting engaged," replied Barbara, demurely. And then, to her sister's great surprise, she told her all about it.

So Lettice was introduced to this new brother, and the new brother and Lettice got on very nicely together. Lettice was just of an age to be fascinated by a man of Geoffrey's age and style, rather than by one nearer to her own age; and Geoffrey was taken by her fresh girlish ways and by her natural, unconventional style.

So it was all arranged—a marriage of mutual satisfaction and esteem, but no love-making.

But the little god was not to be cheated. So two hearts, after one ec-

static bound of passionate joy, as they realize that they are all the world to each other, are plunged in anguish and despair as they also realize that they are both in honor bound never to be more than friends.

Look into Geoffrey Selhurst's room late one evening toward the end of August, as he paces up and down, heedless of the fact that the clock is already registering the small hours.

"Fool—fool that I was!" he ejaculates. "Fool to tell myself that my heart was dead and buried with my lost love, and now it is beating as wildly and with as passionate love for another, and I may not claim her. I am bound in honor to her sister."

"Barbara shall never know it," murmured Lettice as she lies awake in her silent misery through the long night. "I will bear my pain alone. Her life shall not be spoiled."

It was the evening before the wedding; a lovely, still September evening. The three were together in the Maitland's sitting room.

"Bab, you have not tried on your wedding dress," cried Lettice. "It looks lovely. Do go up stairs and put it on. I know that Geoffrey is dying to see it."

"Yes, do," said Geoffrey. "I should like to see it."

"Very well," said Barbara, smiling. "I will gratify your curiosity and my vanity. I will run and put it on."

For a few seconds silence prevails. Then Lettice crosses over to Geoffrey and, taking both his hands, gazes at him with sorrow-laden eyes.

"Geoffrey, you will never let her know; never let her guess? You will be true to her and good to her always, will you not?"

"Lettice, Lettice! I want you. Come and help me put my gown on," cried Barbara's voice from up stairs. "Come and help me, Lettice. Miss Frazier has made a mistake. My gown is much too long and too large. She seems to have made it by your measurements instead of mine. Try it on, Lettice, and let me see."

Lettice consented to array herself in the white silk and lace draperies, and very lovely she looked in them. Her tall figure easily carried off the superfluous inches that had so distressed Barbara, and she looked with pardonable girlish vanity as her sister placed her in front of the glass.

"Did you think I could not guess what had happened, little sister?" said Barbara's sweet, low-toned voice, while her arm stole gently around the amazed Lettice. "Here is Geoffrey Selhurst's bride! Come, let me take you to him."

"But, Barbara, stop! How did you find out? We never meant you to know! I will not take your lover from you."

"Geoffrey is not my lover! and he is only going to marry me because he is too chivalrous and honorable to disappoint me, and though I like him very much and esteem him immensely, I should never fret my heart out about him, as I know a foolish little girl would do, if I had gone away with him and left her in England."

"I say, Bab!" quoth Geoffrey an hour or so later, when the trio were seated at supper, and Lettice was once more arrayed as an everyday maiden, "you must come out with us now."

"I have every intention of doing so," replies Miss Maitland, calmly. "Though I have every confidence in you, if you think I am going to trust my Lettice out there you are very much mistaken."

Six months later there was a wedding out in California, and this time the bride's dress fitted perfectly, and even if it had not done so, she would have gone to church and have been married in it all the same, for Barbara declared that Hugh Denham, the clever doctor, had won her heart and soul completely for himself, and that not even to make Lettice happy would she surrender him.

From an Old Mint.

It is evident that the recent bond sale drew many old stockings containing hoarded gold from their hiding places. In a lot of gold paid into the treasury a day or two ago were five rare old gold coins. They were \$5 gold pieces, and bore the dates of 1842 and 1847, yet appeared fresh and bright.

On the faces of the coins appeared the letter D, the mark of the old mint at Dahlonega, Ga. The mint at Dahlonega was seized by the confederates shortly after the outbreak of the war, and gold coin to the amount of \$27,000 was confiscated. The pieces received at the treasury the other day were probably among those confiscated in 1861. The total coinage of the Dahlonega mint was about \$6,000,000, but few of its coins are in circulation. Those received at the treasury the other day were the first that have shown up there for a good many years.—Boston Post.

SHOE KNOWLEDGE.

Pointed toed shoes are not fashionable. Indians never wear shoes with heels to them. Tanned felt between the soles prevents squeaking.

Newark, N. J., is the great place for making patent leather.

Professional pedestrians always wear thick-soled laced shoes.

Thick-soled shoes are warmer in winter and cooler in summer.

Don't wear a short shoe; a shoe may get wider, but never longer.

One-third of an inch is a size, and one-sixth of an inch a half size.

The New England states make more shoes than any nation in Europe.

Russet leather shoes will be worn much during the coming season.

The soles of shoes need oiling because dampness goes through them.

A heel having small nails will wear longer than a heel with big nails.

If the heel of your shoe is not level, your rubber will soon break in the heel.

Patent leather shoes save their cost in blacking, but do not look better than calf.

When Nature

Needs assistance it may be best to render it promptly, but one should remember to use even the most perfect remedies only when needed. The best and most simple and gentle remedy is the Syrup of Figs, manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Company.

The Rise and Fall of "Old Hutch."

There is now living in Chicago a man who frequently contested the wheat market with Ed. Partridge and usually defeated him. This man is called "Old Hutch." When he forced September wheat up to \$2 a bushel and held it there while the boys stepped to his office and settled, he was regarded as the giant speculator of the age; but the last we heard of "Old Hutch" he was selling wedges of pie for five cents and shoestrings two for five.—Buffalo Post-Express.

Coe's Cough Balsam

Is the oldest and best. It will break up a cold quicker than anything else. It is always reliable. Try it.

Cure of Hiccough.

A female patient presented herself at a French hospital for a rebellious hiccough, which had resisted all treatment for four days. She was asked to show her tongue, and it was noticed that with the putting out of the tongue the hiccough ceased. The same thing has been since tried, and with success in other cases. All that is necessary apparently is to strongly push the tongue out of the mouth and hold it so for a minute or two.

Two Bottles of Fico's Cure for Consumption

cured me of a bad lung trouble.—Mrs. J. Nichols, Princeton, Ind., March 26, 1895.

Bondois on Wheels.

The woman who rushes from one function to another, almost turns her carriage into a dressing-room, in cases of emergency. Ladies' carriages are provided with a fair-sized mirror, cunningly arranged pockets in which are hidden away the comb and brush, powder puff, several fresh handkerchiefs, and a bottle of perfume, to mention nothing else. Fashionable women can renew their complexions as they proceed on their way, and return from a round of visits looking as fresh and dainty as if they had just stepped from the bondois.

Hall's Catarrh Cure

is taken internally. Price, 75c.

Hunting Wild Horses.

It is said that the wild horses and buffaloes have become so numerous in Queensland, Australia, that measures have been taken to keep them down by shooting. It would be interesting sport for a rifleman to hunt them, especially the horses; for, if the wild stallion is like other animals, he would put up a fight for life if slightly wounded which would give a zest to the sport such as is to be had hunting the elephant, the tiger, the bull moose or the grizzly. It might be nearly equal to the man hunt the Indian Territory police find so interesting.

A callon was originally a pitcher or jar, regardless of the size.

A Summer Resort Book Free.

Write to C. S. Crane, general passenger and ticket agent, Washash Railroad, St. Louis, Mo., for a summer resort book, telling all about the beautiful lake region reached by the Washash Railroad.

An illustrated article on the George "Junior Republic," a little commonwealth of city boys and girls who are learning to govern themselves on a farm near Freeville, N. Y., will be given in Harper's Weekly for May 23d. The same number will contain an illustrated article by Arthur Warren on Barney Barnato, the Kafir king; and an important art feature will be the paper on Puvic de Chavanne's new decorative panels for the Boston Public Library.

Harper's Bazar, to be issued on May 23d, will contain among the literary features "Lizzie Lee's Separation," a brilliant short story by Lillian Bell.

All About Western Farm Lands.

The "Corn Belt" is the name of an illustrated monthly newspaper published by the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy R. R. It aims to give information in an interesting way about the farm lands of the west. Send 25 cents in postage stamps to the Corn Belt, 209 Adams St., Chicago, and the paper will be sent to your address for one year.

The Empress Eugenie celebrated her 70th birthday on the 6th of May.

Summer Excursions Via the Washash R. R.

St. Louis June 15th to 15th. HALF St. Louis July 2d. FARE Washash, ten days to 6th. Buffalo July 5th and 11th.

Now on sale. Summer Tourist Tickets to all summer resorts, good returning until Oct. 31st. These Coaches & Excursionists' tours of Europe. For rates, itineraries, sale of Stenners and full information regarding summer vacation tours via rail or water call at the Washash Ticket Office, No. 183½ Jackson St., Easton Bote Block, or write C. N. Clayton, N. W. P. A., Omaha, Neb.

The first of the series of papers on South Africa which Professor James Bryce, M. P., is to contribute to The Century appears in the May number. He corrects the general impression that the country has little natural beauty. Portions of the highlands he compares to Switzerland and the White Mountains, and he says that one can never tire of the charm and variety of color in the landscape. Professor Bryce says that the Boers have retained to this day a passion for solitude that makes them desire to live many miles from any neighbor.

What is life but what a man is thinking of all day.

"Contains More Flesh Forming Matter Than Beef."

That is what an eminent physician says of good cocoa. The Cocoa made by Walter Baker & Co., Ltd., Dorchester, Mass., is the best.

See that Imitations are not palmed off on you.

Ant's Heads in Surgery.

One of the most curious uses to which insects are put was related at a recent meeting in the Linnaean Society of London. It was stated that the Greek barber-surgeons of the Levant employed a large species of ant for the purpose of holding together the edges of an incised wound. The ant held with a pair of forceps, opens its mandibles wide, and is brought near to the cut being treated, so that it can seize the two edges, which are held together for the purpose. As soon as the unfortunate ant has obtained a firm grip of the cut, its head is severed from its body. Mr. Issigoi of Smyrna, who described the operation to the Linnaean Society, said that he had seen natives with six or seven ants' heads held together wounds in the course of healing. A similar observation was made some years ago in Brazil, which fact is interesting from an ethnological point of view, as showing the independent existence of the same custom in countries so far apart as Brazil and Asia Minor.—London Public Opinion.

The New England Conservatory of Music, Franklin Square, Boston, Mass., is undoubtedly the best equipped school of music in the world. Its pupils are always in demand as teachers on account of their superior musical knowledge and their practical readiness in applying it. In addition, the Conservatory offers the best instruction in Oratory and Modern Languages. The charge is extremely small when its advantages as compared with those offered by similar schools are considered. Prospectus sent free upon application.

Fooled His Wife.

A certain married lady on Bernon side sat up till 12 o'clock the other night waiting for her husband to come home. At last, weary and worn out with waiting, she went to her bedroom to retire and found the missing husband there fast asleep. Instead of going down he had gone to his room. She was so mad that she wouldn't speak to him for a week.—Woonsocket (R. I.) Reporter.

The U. S. Patent Office.

Some curious facts were made public last week upon the presentation of Commissioner of Patents Seymour's report to Congress. The report shows that the Patent Office has to its credit in the U. S. Treasury, \$4,529,888.33, a gain of \$173,357.96 since last report. During the year 1895, 22,057 patents were issued, of which 392 came to Iowa inventors; being one patent to every 4,877 population; 151 being issued to Nebraska inventors, being one to every 7,012; while Colorado received 215, being one to every 1,917.

There are twenty-five American inventors each of whom have received more than 100 United States Patents; Thomas A. Edison having issued to him 711 U. S. Patents; Elihu Thompson, the electrician, receiving 394 patents; Francis B. Richards, a famous mechanical expert, residing at Hartford, Conn., who has received 345; Edward Weston, an electrical engineer, received 274; while Maxim, the gun expert, has been granted 131 patents for improvements in fire arms alone.

The Commissioner's report further shows that there are pending at the present time in the patent office 130 patent applications which have been in the office more than ten years and five applications which have been pending for fifteen years. The new rules adopted, however, will compel all of these patents to issue within the coming year.

Amongst the most valuable patents which were issued last week were two granted to the famous Harvey, of Harveyized armor plate fame, the inventions relating to improvements in car wheels, the treads of the Harvey wheel being glass hardened and so last longer than the ordinary tempered car wheels. Albert Bierstadt received three patents for an improvement in cars which outwardly appear like an ordinary freight car, but which when unfolded form a car cottage having three rooms below the full length of the car together with an attic formed by the slanting roof. These cars are arranged so that two of them can be used connected side by side and when fully spread out and open form a good sized hall, the structure being especially intended for the use of small traveling shows who can thus carry their theater with them. A St. Louis inventor receives a patent for a soft tread horse shoe which has a groove or channel adapted to receive a packing or elastic material which can be readily removed and replaced. E. A. Trussell, of Omaha, received a patent for a toy match pistol, which is now being placed on the market.

Parties desiring valuable information free relative to patents, should address Sues & Co., United States Patent Solicitors, Bee Building, Omaha. A copy of any United States patent including all the drawings and descriptions will be mailed for 10 cents.

The letters in the various alphabets of the world vary from twelve to 232 in number.

Faithful to the last—the good shoe maker.

Most of people go to work in the wrong way to cure a Sprain, Soreness, OR Stiffness, When ST. JACOBS OIL would cure in the right way, right off.

Not Always Veal.

An English clergyman was preaching in a country church in Scotland. He had as his subject "The Prodigal Son." "And the prodigal son went away from his poor old father for years and years. But after years and years he came back again, and his poor old father said unto the servants, 'Bring forth the fatted calf which has been kept for my son these years and years.'" An old farmer in the audience could contain himself no longer. "Yer a le'er! it wud hae been a cool!" he exclaimed.—Judy.

The Commissary Department

Of the human system is the stomach. In consequence of its activity, the body is supplied with the elements of bone, brain nerves and muscular tissue. When indigestion impedes its functions, the best agent for insuring a healthy impetus to its operations is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, also a curative for malaria, bilious and kidney complaints, nervousness and constipation.

An oath on the lip shows that the devil is in the heart.

If the Baby is Cutting Teeth.

Secure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Wason's Soreness Syrup for Children Teething.

When a woman wants a wheel she can always find a doctor to recommend it.

NOTE.—All First-class free by Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. No Phlegm, no Brassy Taste, Nervousness, Trembling and Stiffness, etc. For cases, send to Dr. Kline, 283 North 4th St., Philadelphia.

Paris has 2,611,455 inhabitants by the census just taken.

Efficient table, second-hand, for sale cheap. Apply to address, H. C. ARIN, 211 S. 12th St., Omaha, Neb.

Poor Pilgrarlic,

there is no need for you to contemplate a wig when you can enjoy the pleasure of sitting again under your own "thatch." You can begin to get your hair back as soon as you begin to use

Ayer's Hair Vigor.

Patents, Trade-Marks.

Examination and Advice as to Patentability of Invention. Send for "Inventors' Guide" or "How to Obtain a Patent." PATHEK OF PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

A quarter spent in HIRES Rootbeer does you dollars' worth of good.

Made only by The Charles H. Hires Co., Philadelphia. A 5c. package makes a gallon. Sold everywhere. It is omitted with 1 Thompson's Eye Water.



"A Bicycle Built for Two."

Battle Ax PLUG

Five cents' worth of "BATTLE AX" will serve two chewers just about as long as 5 cents' worth of other brands will serve one man. This is because a 5 cent piece of "BATTLE AX" is almost as large as the 10 cent piece of other high grade brands.

The Woman's Bicycle

In strength, lightness, grace, and elegance of finish and equipment Model 41 Columbia is unapproached by any other make.

Columbia

saddles are recommended by riders and physicians as proper in shape and adjustment, and every detail of equipment contributes to beauty and the comfort and pleasure of the rider.

Advertisement for Columbia bicycles, featuring a woman on a bicycle and text: \$100 TO ALL ALIKE. The Columbia Catalogue, hand-drawn art work of the year, is free from the Columbia agent, or is mailed by us for two 2-cent stamps. POPE MFG. CO., Hartford, Conn. Branch Stores and Agencies in almost every city and town. If Columbias are not properly represented in your vicinity, let us know. All Columbia Bicycles are fitted with HARTFORD SINGLE-TUBE TIRES. WE KNOW NO TIRES SO GOOD AS HARTFORDS.