

The Wistful Days.

What is there wanting in the spring?
The air is soft as yesteryear;
The happy-nested green is here,
And half the world is on the wing.
The morning beckons, and like balm
Are westward waters blue and calm.
Yet something's wanting in the spring.

What is it wanting in the spring?
O April, lover to us all,
What is so pregnant in thy thrall
When children's merry voices ring?
What haunts us in the cooing dove
More subtle than the speech of Love,
What nameless lack or loss of spring?

Let youth go dally with the Spring,
Call her the dear, the fair, the young;
And all her graces ever sung.
Let him, once more rehearsing, sing,
They know, who keep a broken trust
Till something from the spring be
missed

We have not truly known the Spring.
—Robert Underwood Johnson.

THE AMERICAN GIRL.

Impressions of Her Made on Paul Bourget, Member of the French Academy.

who has heard so much about the American girl is the utter impossibility of distinguishing her from the married woman. The fact that is so often commented on in Europe, that she goes about alone and unattended, is not the only cause of this confusion. The similarity goes much further. They wear the same jewels and the same toilettes, they enjoy the same liberty of laughing and talking, they read the same books, they have the same gestures, the same full-blown beauty, and, thanks to the invention of the chaperone, there is not a theatre or a restaurant party nor tea to which they do not go alone and at the invitation of any man of their acquaintance.

Moreover, the degree of official surveillance to which the young girl is subject is lessened by the fact that she usually chooses the chaperone herself.

The younger this chaperone is the better she is liked. The young widow or the "grass widow"—that is, the young wife separated, divorced or simply living away from her husband—fills the role to perfection. That is to say, three young girls sitting in company with three young men and the said chaperone at Delmonico's, or taking tea with another young man, are as free as if they had no one to answer for except themselves. This habit of governing themselves without control is responsible for their remarkable self-assurance.

One of the nicest men in New York, who is a poet, made a little collection of miniatures, an exhibition, with their permission, of all the professional beauties of the town. I remember, when I examined the glass showcases under which smiled this hundred or so pretty and dainty faces, I tried to guess which of them were married, and I could not. What more would it mean to them when they were married? Duties, a husband to submit to, children to care for and a house to keep.

The young girl has not the weight of these chains. She knows it and makes the most of her time. She does not gain liberty with married life, as the young woman does in France, and she would have fewer opportunities to amuse herself. Therefore, she mostly marries late in life. If it is not altogether an end for her, as matrimony is for the young man in Paris who decides to end his bachelor days, it is still the beginning of resignation.

Most of them do not seek to hide this. "We must amuse ourselves before marriage," one of them gaily said to me, "for who knows what may come after it?"

The divorce suits which the papers publish in full prove that this young person had as much common sense as she had beauty. For my part, and after having studied human conditions closely, I believe that for a young man of 20 or 25 the best chances of happiness are to be born of a good English family and to study at Oxford, but for a young girl it is to be born American, with a father who has made his fortune in mines, railroads or land speculation, and to enter New York or Washington society under the wing of excellent sponsors.

At first sight this absolute liberty gives all the American girls a similar appearance. It is from them we authors have made the classic American type of the novel and the play. We have produced this type in the simplest possible manner—very bad man-

ners on a background of naivete—and you have a walking doll. But it is only a stage figure, and the two elements of which it is made both appear to me to be equally false.

The young American girl when she is over here may appear to us to be badly brought up, because we compare her with our own conventional type of young French girls—a type which, it may be said, is also not a true one. But seen at close quarters in her own home, one finds this liberty associated with food as well as with bad education. After a short while you are able to clearly distinguish from among them those who are "fast" and those who are not, those who lay themselves out to excite interest and to awaken and fan the desire of the men, and those with whom moral familiarities and all the more physical familiarities are impossible.

As regards their naivete, when we use this word in connection with young girls we French people suppose that for the young girl there is only one question, that of love. We admit that it is essential to their existence, as it is essential to every woman. We ask ourselves what they imagine about it, what they know of it, and our gauge of their innocence and purity of soul is contained in the reply.

This rule is not applicable to the American girl, because with her this love question is pushed more into the background. To know whether she will marry for love or not, whether she will have an ideal married life or not, does not often occupy her thoughts.

As for those who seem most to endeavor to please the men and who make the most of their physical attractions—a type which is rarer than the American will admit—this relationship with a man nine times out of ten represents the fact of social life. It is one way of insuring triumphs of amour propre and of becoming what the papers call "prominent people in society" through the number of their admirers.

This coquetterie is not as dangerous for them as it would be for others on account of the reserve of the American man on the one side and of their profound understanding of the masculine character on the other.

They begin to be intimate with men when so young that to them these are as familiar as the horses are to the stableman's children.

One of them, speaking to me about one of our mutual acquaintances, a Spanish lady, married at Rome, who was very unhappy, said, "She does not know how to manage her husband," and began to tell me what the lady's rival, on the other hand, had done to attract and keep the unfaithful husband. The sort of pervert innocence which leads to such reflections is not very intelligible to us.

A young diplomatist, who lived in America many years and to whom I repeated this chat, to see what he thought of it, gave me his own impression of American women. It is severe: "They have the deprivation of chastity," he said.

Was Washington Untruthful.

In an interesting group of Washington's letters in Harper's is one which indicates that, however true may be the story of the cherry-tree, in his more mature life the great general was not above prevarication. Writing to one of his generals he says:

"In addition to the two regiments which are gone from Peekskill, I am forwarding as fast as possible, to join the northern army, Colonel Morgan's corps of riflemen, amounting to about five hundred. These are all chosen men, selected from the army at large, well acquainted with the use of rifles, and with that mode of fighting which is necessary to make them a good counterpoise to the Indians; and they have distinguished themselves on a variety of occasions, since the formation of the corps, in skirmishes with the enemy. I expect the most eminent services from them; and I shall be mistaken if their presence does not go far toward producing a general desertion among the savages. I should think it would be well, even before their arrival, to begin to circulate these ideas, with proper embellishments, throughout the country and in the army; and to take pains to communicate them to the enemy. It would not be amiss, among other things, to magnify their numbers."

Major C. F. Close and Captain G. B. Frith, royal engineers of the British Government, have come over to study our geodetic and coast survey system, which, they say, is far superior to that of Europe.

Queer Names and Initials.

There is a doctor whose initials are D. D. and a minister whose initials are D. D. U. Ketcham and I. Skinnem, the lawyers, are historic. Fairweather & Rain, unfortunately not sell umbrellas, but their paints are waterproof. Heller & Brightly deal in incandescent lights. I. T. Burns is really a coal man. The initials of a certain teacher are B. C. Underwood sells coffins. All Smiths were once really blacksmiths.

Sellers is a common name for merchants. Schloss & Castle are locksmiths. Drinkhouse is a Chicago saloonist. There is also a doctor named Stillwell. Slocus is not an errand boy, but a policeman. Black & White is a well-known firm of lithographers. And Holdfast is a celebrated marrying parson.

Only One "BROMO QUININE." That is LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine. Similarly named remedies sometimes deceive. The first and original Cold Tablet is a WHITE PACKAGE with black and red lettering, and bears the signature of E. W. GROVE. 25c.

Compensations of Spinsterhood.

Harper's Bazar, that champion of women, has taken up the cudgels in behalf of the spinster. In Harper's Bazar, Miss Anne O'Hagan points out as follows some of the modern spinster's advantages:

"There is another way in which the sidetrack of spinsterhood makes those who follow it a slight recompense for what they have missed on the high-road. One of George Meredith's witty old maids stated it. Asked why she had not married, she replied, not with a sentimentalism of lovers lost by death or doubting, but with an epigram. She found more use, she said, for twenty shillings than for a sovereign.

"Now whether or not an unmarried woman really prefers twenty shillings to a sovereign, it is generally possible for her, in this day and generation, to have them. She does not have one man to love and cherish her; but she may have the friendship, the cordial esteem and interest of half a dozen. She does not have one to pay her dressmaker, her hatter, her shoeman, and the rest; but she may have half a score for less serviceable uses—half a score who send her books, flowers, tickets, who walk, play golf, drive, skate, talk, with her. One man does not come to her for the deep understanding of his needs; many may come with their quite serious interests. Her sincere, enjoyable, stimulating, friendly relations with men, as with women, are limited only by her own power of intellectual sympathy—

at any rate, in those circles which admit any basis of companionship between men and women beyond the emotional."

PILES CURED IN 6 TO 14 DAYS.

PAZO OINTMENT is guaranteed to cure any case of Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles in 6 to 14 days or money refunded. 50c.

He—I wonder why girls are always sweeter looking than men?
She—Candy is sweeter than tobacco, isn't it?

PUTNAM FADELESS DYES

Color more goods brighter and faster colors than any other dye. One 10c package colors silk, wool and cotton equally well and is guaranteed to give perfect results. Ask your druggist or we will send postpaid at 10c a package. Write for free booklet—How to Dye, Bleach and Mix Colors. MONROE DRUG CO., Unionville, Mo.

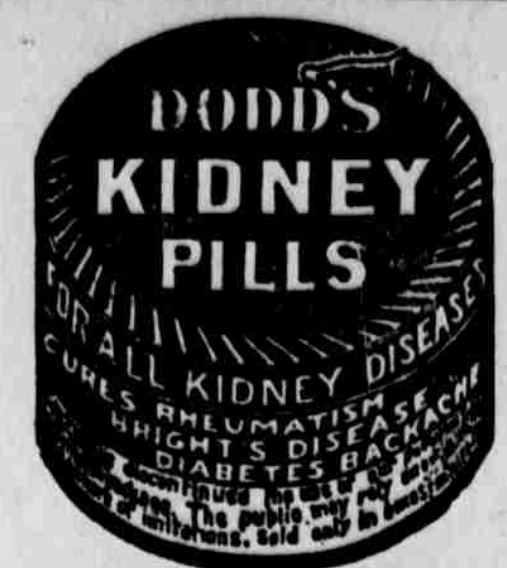
Dobbs—Did I understand you to say that Smith is near-sighted?
Bobbs—When he goes out to the theatre, he always wants to get on the front row.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County,

ss Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

FRANK J. CHENEY, Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free. F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, price 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.



Mr. Harriman is interested in boys. That is his chief fad; it is his pride that he is president of the largest club in the world, the Boys' Club, at the corner of Tompkins Square and Tenth street, New York City. Here is a big building, five or six stories in height, with gymnasium, baths, play-rooms, reading rooms, thirty or forty separate club rooms. Here in the course of the year 8,000 or 10,000 East Side boys have fun.

13 WEEKS FREE
Or 15 Months for Only \$1.00

The Kansas Farmer

The "old reliable" KANSAS FARMER, established in 1863, the best genuine agricultural weekly paper in the West. It solves the problems for the busy farmer. It helps and interests every member of the farmer's family. It has 12 regular departments. Its contributors are expert authorities. It contains 24 to 32 pages each week. Sent on trial three months free. Test it. Clip the coupon below.

THE KANSAS FARMER CO., Topeka, Kansas.
I accept your trial offer to new subscribers to send me the KANSAS FARMER three months free. At the end of the three months I will either send \$1.00 for a full year from that date or write you to stop the paper, and you are to make no charge for the three months' trial.

Name.....
P. O.

The Publishers Newspaper Union, K. C. Mo., Lincoln, Neb. V IX NO. 49

TRY THEM FREE



I want to Prove to You That Trusight Spectacles Are the Best You Ever Wore.

Simply Send Me Your Name.

I will send you my perfect Trusight Eye Tester with which you can test your own eyes as well as the most skilled optician. When you return the tester with your test I will send you a pair of Genuine Trusight Spectacles that will surely fit you on 6 days' free trial. I won't ask for a cent of money—no deposit—not even a reference. You wear the glasses in your own home for six days and if perfectly satisfactory in every way—if they are the best glasses you ever saw at any price—send me only \$1 and the glasses are yours. If the glasses for any reason do not suit you—if you don't believe them to be the best bargain you ever had—return them and you are out nothing. It is because I am so positive that you can see better with Trusight Spectacles than with common glasses that I want to send a pair especially fitted to your eyes on 6 days' free trial. Send for tester today. TRUSIGHT SPECTACLE CO., 623 Ridge Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.

PILES CURED WITHOUT THE KNIFE!

Fistula, Fissure, Bleeding, Itching, Ulceration, Constipation and all Rectal Diseases a Specialty. Cures Guaranteed. Send for Booklet. DR. H. NEY SMITH, Specialist, 814 Pine St., ST. LOUIS, MO. Established in St. Louis in 1888.

COLICKY HORSES and CATTLE

DR. HISOM'S COLIC CURE
GUARANTEED TO CURE THEM OR YOUR MONEY BACK.
ONE DOLLAR. SOLD BY YOUR DRUGGIST.

PUTNAM FADELESS DYES

Color more goods brighter and faster colors than any other dye. One 10c package colors silk, wool and cotton equally well and is guaranteed to give perfect results. Ask your druggist or we will send postpaid at 10c a package. Write for free booklet—How to Dye, Bleach and Mix Colors. MONROE DRUG CO., Unionville, Mo.

Any man who can joke with his wife about her dressmaker's bills must have a keen sense of humor.

Common sense is an uncommonly good thing to possess.

Haunted houses may be curtainless and still have shades.

There is nothing more lasting than a man's love—for himself.

When the opposing attorney offers to compromise it means that you have a good case.

If you show your dislikes very strongly you cannot be accused of being a hypocrite, but people will say you are exceedingly impolite.

Even a cook book may contain stirring passages.

Many a man's idea of hospitality is to bring other men home and have his wife cook for them.

Nell: "Now is the time to buy bathing suits, after the season is over. They are awfully low."

Belle: "Low, eh? Well, no girl will wear 'em if they are below the knee."

In a conflict between two women each struggles for the last word.

Which is there more of in the world: Abuse of men by women and of women by men, or courting?

FARMERS 10 TO 30% PROFIT SOME THING NEW GUARANTEED

To those who use a Wonder Grain Grader for preparing seed. This is NOT A FANNING MILL. Write for Catalog. Endorsed by Farmers and State Universities everywhere. We will tell you where to buy one. Write Dept. B, EUREKA MFG. CO., LINCOLN, NEB.



DR. COE'S SANITARIUM. LOCATED AT 909 W. WASHINGTON ST. ST. LOUIS, MO.

BEST INVALID'S HOME IN THE WEST. Organized with a full staff of physicians and surgeons for treatment of all Chronic Diseases. THIRTY ROOMS for accommodation of patients. Difficult Surgical Operations Performed with Skill and Success when Surgery is Necessary.

PILES PERMANENT CURE Without knife, ligature or caustic. No accepted until patient is well. Special Book FREE. **VARICOCELE** Radically Cured in Ten Days, under a Positive Guarantee. Send for Special FREE Book. New restorative treatment for loss of Vital Power, Hydrocele, Rupture, Stricture, etc.

CRIPPLED CHILDREN CURED by improved methods. Trained attendants.

WRITE FOR FREE BOOK ON Club Feet, Curvature of Spine, Hare Lip, Epilepsy, Catarrh, Stomach Troubles, etc. Patients successfully treated at home by mail. Consultation Free and confidential, at office or by letter. Thirty years' experience. 170 page Illustrated Book Free, giving much valuable information. Call at office or write to

OFFICE, 915 WALNUT ST., DR. C. M. COE, KANSAS CITY, MO.

TAPE-WORM

Expelled alive in 10 days. No fasting. Large pamphlet for free. DR. M. NEY SMITH, Specialist, 814 Pine St., St. Louis, Mo.

PRIVATE HOME

Beautiful grounds and building. Location and surroundings very exclusive. Strictly ethical. For full particulars, address Office 18-19, 1814 Main St. U. S. G. Hughes, M. D., KANSAS CITY, MO.

CONSUMPTION BOOK

A valuable book which tells how to cure Consumption in your own home. Write for it. Free of charge. Tenborman L. Cure Co., 1844 Water St., Kansas City, Mo.

VARICOCELE

A Safe, Painless, Permanent Cure GUARANTEED. 30 years' experience. No money accepted until patient is well. CONSULTATION and valuable BOOK FREE, by mail or at office. DR. C. M. COE, 915 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo.