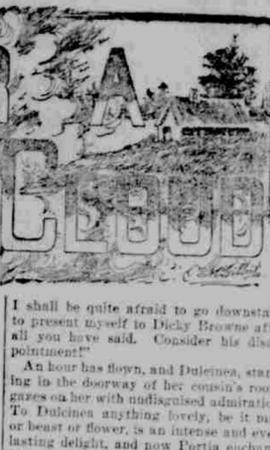


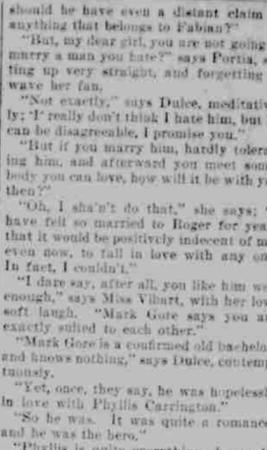


CHAPTER I.

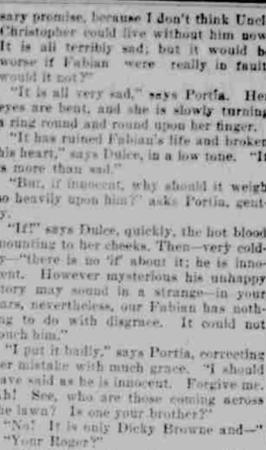
The gates are thrown wide open, and the carriage rolls smoothly down the long dark avenue, beneath the waving branches of the tall elms and the copper beeches, through which the dying sun is flinging its parting rays. The horses, snuffing the air of home, fling up their heads and make still greater haste, until presently, rounding the curve, they draw up before the hall door.



I shall be quite afraid to go downstairs to present myself to Dicky Browne after all you have said. Consider his disappointment!" An hour has flown, and Dulcinea, standing in the doorway of her cousin's room, gazes on her with undiminished admiration. To Dulcinea anything lovely, be it man or beast or flower, is an intense and everlasting delight, and now Portia enchants her.



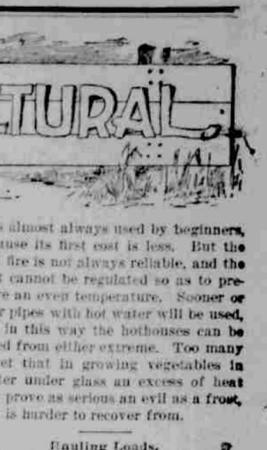
"What, then?" asks Sir Christopher, giving a sudden pull to his collar, and betraying an increased degree of interest. "Nothing like so good looking as you are to-day," retorts she, with a quick smile and a little flicker of her eyelids.



"You are Dulcinea?" she says, questioning. "Yes, I am Dulcinea as a rule, but I have so many other names, that it takes me all my time to remember which one I really belong to. Uncle Christopher calls me Baby! and Mark Gore, when he is here, calls me Duchess, and Dicky Browne calls me Tom, and Roger calls me—"



"I wear petticoats still," says Portia, demurely, with a soft laugh, "and frills sometimes, and often furbelows, I think, though I don't in the least know what they mean, but they sound nice. So, after all, I should be now very much as I was."



"I shall be quite afraid to go downstairs to present myself to Dicky Browne after all you have said. Consider his disappointment!" An hour has flown, and Dulcinea, standing in the doorway of her cousin's room, gazes on her with undiminished admiration.

AGRICULTURAL. It is almost always used by beginners, because its first cost is less. But the coal fire is not always reliable, and the heat cannot be regulated so as to preserve an even temperature.

SUGAR-BARREL GRAIN BIN. row and bling a cover to the wall behind them. A sugar barrel is very commodious and easy from which to dip meal.

WINDOW PROTECTION. Many poultry houses become exceedingly cold on winter nights because of the radiation of heat from the interior through the windows.

Shrunken Wheat for Poultry. There is probably no better nor cheaper food for fowls than shrunken wheat. It is better for them than the plump grain, as it contains all the gluten and mineral nutriment that the plump grain does.

Soil Inoculation. The Alabama Experiment Station has made tests in soil inoculation, and it is announced that the dust blown from a field over another will fit the land for a leguminous crop if such a crop was grown on the field from which the dust came.

Remedy for Plant Mildew. Flowers of sulphur dusted over plants is the best remedy for mildew. It comes from dampness or when the plants are in an unhealthy state.