

SHOPPING HEADQUARTERS

SHOP

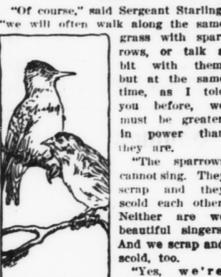
PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

EARLY



MARY GRAHAM BONNER

THE MRS. PIGS.



"Of course," said Sergeant Starling, "we will often walk along the same grass with sparrows, or talk a bit with them, but at the same time, as I told you before, we must be greater in power than they are."

"The sparrows cannot sing. They scold and they scold each other. Neither are we beautiful singers. And we scold and scold, too."

"Yes, we're very fond of very fond of the sparrows. Just as the sparrows are fond of us. We build nests in the caves of buildings, and do not care at all if the city we're in is dusty or noisy or dirty. We don't mind anything like that, and neither do the sparrows."

"We won't let them put up with anything which we can't put up with, for we must be more powerful than they are, and we are fast winning out!"

"We're greenish-blackish purple in color and we're larger than the sparrows. We're about the size of the robin. But we're not like the robin in any other way, gracious, mercy, goodness, no!"

"We can get the best of the sparrows, and we must. Of course, while I said we weren't beautiful singers, I meant we weren't great singers."

"We can do better than the sparrows with our voices, though. Yes, we are better than they are in this respect!"

"We can warble and gurgle, and whistle like people, too. That is smart of us!"

"Our wings are very long and they are black and green in color."

"Our lady starlings decorate themselves a bit with white spots. We have short tails and long yellow bills."

"Several little broods of starlings hatch out each year, and in each brood there are at least seven precious, naughty little starlings who break open their shells and who say, 'We're going to do our worst, too!'"

"The precious dears that they are!" All the starlings who had been listening to Sergeant Starling whistled delightfully at his talk.

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MARY GRAHAM BONNER

THE MRS. PIGS.

"Of all the Mrs. Pigs," said Mrs. Pink Pig, "I'm the prettiest and the nicest."

"Nonsense," said Pinky's mother, "I am."

"I am," said Mrs. Black Pig, who had come along for a talk.

"Grunt, grunt, I am," said Mrs. Pink Pig. "I know Mr. Pink Pig thinks so. He looked over all the pigs in the barnyard and then he looked at me and he said:

"I admire all pigs and I think they're all very fine, but you I admire the most of all."

"Ah," said Pinky's mother, "but I heard why he thought you were the best of all, or rather, why he admired you the most of all."

"That's a great compliment," said Mrs. Pink Pig. "I know of some creatures who'd rather have other compliments, but that one suits me perfectly."

"Just as well it does," said Pinky's mother, "for it's about the only one you'll ever have."

"I said I was the prettiest and the nicest of all the Mrs. Pigs," said Mrs. Pink Pig.

"So did I say so of myself," said Pinky's mother.

"And that was what I said of myself," said Mrs. Black Pig.

"But I am right, squeal, squeal," said Mrs. Pink Pig.

"None of you are pretty and none of you are so wonderfully nice," said Miss Ham.

"You're not members of a beautiful family in the first place and in the second place you aren't even particular of how you look and creatures must be neat to be pretty."

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"None of You Are Pretty."

talk of anything important, for it takes one's mind off the thought of food."

"And that would never do," said Pinky's mother.

"It would never do," said Mrs. Black Pig.

"We might just as well grunt and squeal about anything as long as it is so nearly meal time," said Mrs. Pink Pig. "It's not worth our while to start a talk about anything important."

"It most certainly is not worth our while to do that," said Pinky's mother.

"Most assuredly not," said Mrs. Black Pig.

"What do you consider important, besides food, in the way of talk?" asked Miss Ham.

Was Feeling Better.
Anxious Mother—Are you better this morning, darling?
Small Invalid—I don't know. Is there any more jelly?
Anxious Mother—No, dear; you ate the last of it yesterday.
Small Invalid—Then I guess I'm well enough to get up.