The South-Western.

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TERMS.

THE SOUTH-WESTERN is published weekly at THREE DOLLARS per annum, payable in advance—four dollars if not paid at the time of subscribing. Persons wishing to discontinue must give two weeks' notice. No paper stopped, except at the option of the publishers, until all arrearages are paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS inserted at the rate of ONE DOLLAR PER SQUARE for the first insertion, and FIFTY CENTS for each subsequent one. TEN LINES, or less, constitute a square. Liberal deductions made to those who advertise by the year.

J. P. BENJAMIN,

ATTORNEY AT LAW, No. 49 Canal street, New Orleans. Will also practice in the supreme court of the United States, Washington.

C. ROSELIUS,

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, Custom-house street, New Orleans.

CHAS. V. JONTE,

ATTORNEY AT LAW, and commissioner to take testimony for Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Arkansas, and every other State in the Union, corner of Camp and Common streets, (opposite the City Hotel,) New Orleans.

A. D. DONOVAN. JNO. G. M'LEARN.

DONOVAN, McLEARN & Co.,

COTTON FACTORS, Commission and Forwarding Merchants, 59 Carondelet street—Union row—New Orleans. oct1

GEO. W. MUSE. F. J. WINBURN.

G. W. MUSE & Co.,

COMMISSION, FORWARDING, PRODUCE Merchants, and Steamboat Agents, No. 12 Gravier street, New Orleans. sep10-3m

JOHN HALL. EDWIN W. RODD. JAS. M. PUTNAM.

HALL, RODD & PUTNAM,

Cotton and Sugar Factors,

No 8 Customhouse street, between Chartres and Old Levee, New Orleans.

GIVE their undivided attention to the sale of the above articles consigned to them, and to the purchase of plantation supplies, bagging, rope, etc. oct10

THOMAS L. WHITE,

No. 105 CANAL STREET, (second door below the Mechanics' and Traders' Bank,) New Orleans,

Bookseller & Stationer,

LAW, Medical, Miscellaneous and School Books, Writing Paper, viz: cap, letter and note. Wrapping paper of various qualities; quills, steel pens, ink, and a general assortment of BLANK BOOKS. Country merchants and teachers are requested to call and examine the stock. j26-1y

OCULIST!

DR. GUSTINE'S OFFICE

For the Treatment of Diseases of the EYE and Imperfections of Vision, No. 135 ST. CHARLES STREET, opposite Lafayette Square, New Orleans. All surgical operations upon the Eye attended to. Such as Cataract, Squinting, the insertion of Artificial Eyes, etc., etc. jan 1, 1856

J. West, Practical Dentist,

112 ST. CHARLES STREET, near the corner of Poydras, would respectfully inform ladies and gentlemen visiting New Orleans that he performs all operations on the teeth, in a most skillful and satisfactory manner.

The superiority of J. W.'s Artificial Teeth above all others, have been long well known and appreciated by hundreds who are enjoying the benefits of them. Persons desirous of availing themselves of such, would do well to call and examine his specimens.

Dental depot for the sale of Teeth, Foil, Instruments, etc. Office and residence 112 St. Charles street, near the corner of Poydras. feb1, 1856

WM. BRAGG,

CARPENTER AND BUILDER,

No. 169 Camp street, corner of Girod, New Orleans.

CISTERNS of all sizes constantly on hand. Sash, Doors, Blinds, etc., made to order. ap25

TIRRELL & BATES,

Manufacturers and Wholesale Dealers in

BOOTS, SHOES AND HATS,

No. 9 Magazine street, New Orleans. Manufactory, at South Weymouth, Mass. march 12

CYRUS FLINT. J. H. JONES

C. FLINT & JONES,

Wholesale and retail dealers in fashionable cabinet

FURNITURE,

Chairs, feathers, moss and hair mattresses, curled hair, hair cloth, varnish, etc., Nos. 46 and 48 Royal street, New Orleans. nov.9, 1855

NEW FURNITURE STORE.

Nos. 171 and 173 CANAL STREET, NEW ORLEANS.

THE undersigned having opened a large and splendid assortment of **New Furniture,** is prepared to supply the trade and families on the most liberal terms. This being the ONLY ENTIRE NEW STOCK in the city, purchasers will find it to their advantage to call and examine the goods and learn the prices before purchasing elsewhere. Will keep constantly on hand Mahogany and Walnut

Bedsteads,	Bureaus,
Armoires,	Centre Tables,
Chairs,	Sofa do
Sofas,	Card do
Tete-a-tetes,	Extension do
Easy Chairs,	Washstands,
Secretaries,	Book Cases,
Ottomans,	Lounges,
Canopies,	Cribs,

Feathers, Looking-Glasses, spring, hair and moss mattresses, together with a great variety of every article usually found in a furniture warehouse.

oct24 CHAS. A. STEWART.

D. KELHAM,

FURNITURE STORE,

Nos. 43, 45 and 48 Bienville street, NEW ORLEANS.

KEEPS constantly on hand a large assortment of Furniture, such as mahogany and walnut

Bedsteads,	Bureaus,
Armoires,	Centre Tables,
Chairs,	Sofa do
Sofas,	Card do
Tete-a-tetes,	Extension Tables,
Easy chairs,	Washstands,
Secretaries,	Book Cases,
Ottomans,	Lounges,
Canopies,	Cribs,

Feathers, looking-glasses, spring, hair and moss mattresses, etc. D. KELHAM.

New Orleans, April 9, 1856.

Drugs, Medicines, &c.

THE subscriber having recently been supplied with a large and fresh stock of Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Perfumery, etc., would respectfully notify all country merchants, planters and physicians that every thing in my line will be sold at very small advance for cash, or city acceptances. Below are a few of the articles on hand:

900 ozs sulph: quinine,	300 lbs pow'd rhubarb,
100 " sulph: morphine,	200 lbs ipecac,
100 " strychnine,	500 lbs senna,
100 " nitrate silver,	2000 lbs gum arabic,
15 bbls refi'd camphor,	600 lbs tartaric acid,
100 kegs sup: carb: soda,	300 lbs blue mass,
10 bbls cream tartar,	300 lbs calomel, E.&A.,
20 bbls epsom salts,	1000 lbs indigo,
20 bbls copperas,	2000 lbs madder,
15 bbls castor oil,	50 lbs chloroform,
20 bbls linseed oil,	20 gross scid'z powders,
20 bbls sp: turpentine,	20 " yeast "
20 bbls alcohol,	25 " soda "
40 kegs salt petre,	40 gross sugar lemons.

2000 bxs druggists' glassware, patent medicines, perfumery, medicine chests, instruments, etc., etc.

G. N. MORISON, Wholesale Druggist,

dec 27, 1854 12 Magazine st., New Orleans.

LOUISIANA

PLANTATION CLOTHING

MANUFACTORY,

118 Canal street, between Royal and Bourbon, NEW ORLEANS.

THE undersigned having completed his arrangements for the manufactory of

Plantation Clothing

on a very large scale, takes pleasure in informing his country friends and the southern planters generally, that he is now prepared to supply them at the shortest notice with

Ready-Made Negro Clothing

of the best material, and cut to fit each individual, at as low prices as articles of inferior quality of northern manufacture. P. A. HEBRARD,

Wholesale and retail Dry Goods Store,

118 Canal, between Royal and Bourbon sts.

New Orleans, April 2, 1856.

McFarland's Ploughs.

We are agents for the above favorite Ploughs, and have now on hand a large supply. For sale by

jan23 E. & B. JACOBS.

PLOUGHS.

500 Hall and Spear Ploughs, just received per steamer Runaway.

feb22 OGLESBY & GRISWOLD.

New Orleans & Texas U. S. Mail Line.

Every Sunday and Thursday.

LOUISIANA, Captain W. H. Talbot.
MEXICO, " John Lawless.
PERSEVERANCE, Capt. Henry Place.
CHARLES MORGAN, Capt. J. Y. Lawless.

One of the above new and magnificent steamships will leave for Galveston, Indianola and Matagorda Bay every **Sunday and Thursday,** at 8 o'clock, A. M., punctually.

For freight or passage, (having elegant accommodations,) apply to HARRIS & MORGAN,

Foot of Julia street, opposite steamship landing.

nov 15, 1855.

W. A. BROADWELL & Co.,

(Successors to A. J. Wright & Co.)

COMMISSION MERCHANTS, No. 120 Gravier street, New Orleans.

We shall give special attention to executing orders for family and plantation supplies, and to the collection and remittance of money.

In pursuing a strictly commission business, we have adopted the policy of accepting no bills, furnishing all our accommodations by direct cash advances.

As we receive BAGGING and ROPE direct from the manufactories, we shall have pleasure in supplying planters without charge of commission for purchasing.

We are agents for **Griswold's Improved Cotton Gins,** which are delivered free of charge, and fully guarantied, at $3 50 ⅌ saw.

The services of Mr. A. J. WRIGHT will be given to the interests of the house. dec12

WM. P. CONVERSE. T. M. CONVERSE. W. P. CONVERSE, JR.

CONVERSE & Co.,

GROCERS

And dealers in Western Produce,

Corner of Fulton and Canal streets, and corner of Common and New Levee streets, (Opposite the Steamboat Landing,) NEW ORLEANS.

HAVE constantly for sale on the most accommodating terms, a large stock of TEAS, WINES and GROCERIES generally; together with every description of Western Produce. January 4, 1856-1yis

H. P. BUCKLEY,

(Late Young & Co.,)

8 Camp street, New Orleans,

Watchmaker, Jeweller & Silversmith,

Importer of fine Watches for ladies and gentlemen, of the most celebrated makers of England and Switzerland, made to his own order expressly in heavy cases (gold and silver,) and warranted standard fineness.

Ladies' chatelaines and neck chains;
Gent's guard, fob and vest chains, seals, keys, etc.
Finger rings, ear-rings, breast-pins, cuff-pins, etc.
Diamond pins and rings,
Spectacles for every age, in gold, silver, steel and tortoise shell frames;
Silverware, warranted pure as coin, consisting of table, tea and dessert spoons;
Silver table and dessert forks, ladles, butter knives, mustard and salt spoons, sugar tongs, etc.
Plated ware, consisting of castors, candlesticks, waiters, etc.

Having been always engaged in the mechanical part of the business, all watches sent for repairs will have the strictest personal attention; and having every facility for making any portion of a watch, he will be enabled to work on very reasonable terms.

☞ Jewelry made to order and repaired. Diamonds reset in the latest style. Canes mounted in gold and silver. nov 15, 185

House Furnishing Goods,

Wholesale and Retail

Nos. 73 & 75 CAMP STREET, NEW ORLEANS.

DETERMINED to reduce our stock of Goods, we will hereafter sell at **Lower Prices than has ever before been offered** in this city. Those in want of the following articles will do well to call:

Queensware, Gloss and China Ware,
Bohemian Ware;
Birmingham Ware;
Rich China Vases and
Fine Silver-Plated Ware.
Parlor and Hall Lamps and Girandoles;
Rich Tea Trays and Waiters, in sets or single;
Fine Table Cutlery, and
Housekeeping Hardware;
Enameled and Hollow-Ware;
Britannia, Planished Tin and Japanned Ware;
Wooden and Willow Ware;
Feather Dusters, Brushes, of all kinds;
Paper Hangings and Borders;
Door Mats;
Window Cornishes, Cords and Tassels;
Curtain Bands and Curtain Pins, etc.

HEATH & MILLER,

Successors to Miller, Harris & Waldo.

WATER COLORS.

Newman's,	Ackerman's,
Reeves & Son's,	Osborne's.

JUST received a large stock of the above COLORS, in cakes and in mahogany and rosewood boxes, with lock and key. Also, **German Colors,** in cakes and boxes, a fine assortment.

Oil colors, in tubs---English and American;
Canvases for Portraits in frames of 8x10 to 42x56
Canvas in rolls, from 36 to 66 inches wide;
Stretchers for canvases, of all sizes;
400 doz fine sable and camel-hair pencils;
160 " paint and varnish brushes, all sizes;
80 packages gold and silver leaf;
100 bundles of duck metal---white and yellow;
Tin foil, in sheets and books;
Tinsel of all the usual colors.

☞ French and American PAPER HANGINGS.

Doors, Window Sash and Blinds, of all sizes and description, for sale cheap.

.....WINDOW GLASS, &c.....

5000 bxs American Window Glass, all sizes;
700 do English and French, from 8x10 to 33x65
300 lights fine Plate Glass;
120 bxs double thick American, from 8x10 to 20x30
1000 lights colored glass;
100 Glazier Diamonds;
500 bundles glazier tins;
10 tons White Lead, in 25 to 700 lb kegs;
5000 canisters and kegs colored paints, in ½ oz to 100 lb packages;
2500 lbs fine French Green, dry and ground in oil;
1000 bbls Whiting and Paris White, of my own manufacture, fire dried.

Paint Mills of all sizes and every article usually kept in a general Paint, Oil and Color Store, will found at

R. CLANNON'S,

nov 2, 1855 98 Canal street, New Orleans.

LEEDS' FOUNDRY,

CORNER OF DELORD & FOUCHER STREETS, NEW ORLEANS.

Is prepared to furnish vertical and horizontal Steam Engines, Sugar Mills, Vacuum Pans, Sugar Kettles, Clarifiers, Filters, steam and horse power Draining Machines, Saw Mills, Gin Geering, Iron Columns and Fronts for buildings Furnace Mouths, Grate Bars, etc., and all machinery required for the South.

They respectfully call the particular attention of the planters of Louisiana and the adjoining States to their style of Steam Engines, Sugar Mills, Vacuum Pans and Draining Wheels, which for strength, durability and convenience, have not been excelled.

New Orleans, February 8, 1856.

Phila. Saddlery Warehouse.

[Sign of the Golden Horse Head.]

No. 6 Magazine, near Canal street,

NEW ORLEANS.

MAGEE & KNEASS,

Dealers in Saddlery, Harness and Trunks, Leather Materials and Findings for saddlers, coach, trunk and shoemakers. Saddlery, Hardware, Whips, Tin Ware and Brushes.

MILITARY GOODS AND TRIMMINGS.

We are agents for the sale of India Rubber Packing for steam joints and boilers, belting for machinery and other articles. Peacock and Candy PLOUGHS, on commission. Regalias and Jewels for the Masonic, I.O.O.F. and S. of T. orders. Prices as low as any other house. dec 21, 1855

Just Arrived.

A COMPLETE assortment of Hardware, Cutlery, Glassware, Queensware, Crockery, Woodenware, etc., for sale at the lowest rates by

march26 E. & B. JACOBS.

Combs.

TUCK, side and dressing combs, round India rubber combs for misses, pocket combs, etc. For sale at [m12] WM. BALL's Drug-store.

BOOTS, SHOES AND BROGANS, of every description and quality, for gentlemen, ladies, misses, boys and children. A fresh stock, just received and for sale very low by

march26 E. & B. JACOBS

3.000.000 BRICKS are wanted on the line of the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Texas Railroad, and proposals for furnishing the same are solicited. The brick must be delivered on the line of the road between Shreveport and the Texas line. Contractors may propose to furnish hard burnt or salmon brick. Apply to

july 9 S. F. CULBERSON.

PAPER AND STATIONERY WAREHOUSE,

Nos. 53 and 55 Common street, New Orleans.

E. R. STEVENS & Co.,

INVITE the attention of merchants and others visiting New Orleans, to their extensive stock of

Printing, Writing and Wrapping Papers,

BLANK BOOKS, PLAYING CARDS, INKS, &c.,

which for variety and extent cannot be surpassed by any other house, and are offered at the lowest prices.

6000 reams Printing Paper, of all sizes used;
4000 — Foolscap do ruled and plain,
5000 — Letter do do do
10,000 — Fancy Note do do
3500 — Straw and rag Wrapping Paper, all sizes
1500 — Hardware and bag do do
2000 — Manilla do do
1000 gross Playing Cards, all qualities;
500 boxes Black Writing Ink;
1000 dozen Webster's Spelling Books;
500 — McGuffy's Readers;
500 — Webster's Dictionary,
400 — Walker's do
500 Family Quarto Bibles, common and fine.

ALSO—A large assortment of full and half-bound **BLANK BOOKS,** consisting of record books, day books, journals, ledgers, writing books, etc.

Copying Presses, Envelopes, and Stationery of every description.

Wade & Butcher's pocket Cutlery, Razors and Scissors, of direct importation, at very low prices.

☞ BLANK BOOKS MADE AND RULED TO ORDER, of any pattern. april 25

CARPETING.

J. D. DAMERON & Co.,

26 Chartres and 27 Customhouse street, New Orleans,

HAVE constantly on hand a large and choice assortment of Velvet Wilton Tapestry Carpeting;

Brussels Tapestry Carpeting;
Three-ply and Ingrain do
Matting, rugs, baizes, door mats;
Stair and hall Carpeting, etc.

Floor Oil Cloth,

from 3 feet to 24 feet wide, which we cut to suit any size room or hall

Together with window cornices, curtain pins, transparent window blinds, etc. april9

JED'H. WATERMAN. CHAS. M. WATERMAN.

J. WATERMAN & BROTHER,

HARDWARE MERCHANTS,

Corner of Common and Magazine streets, New Orleans.

HAVE on hand and are daily receiving by foreign and domestic arrivals, a general assortment of articles, comprising in part as follows:

Hardware, Cutlery, &c.

Iron, Steel, Nails, Rope,
Axes, Chains, Scythes,
Carpenter's Tools, complete,
Cooper's Tools, complete,
Anvils, Vices, Bellows,
Stock and Dies, Screwplates,
Ploughs, Hay Cutters, Corn Shellers,
Agricultural Implements,
Mill, Cross-cut and Pit Saws,
Ox Yokes, Bows, Singletrees,
Turning Lathes,
Platform Scales,
Corn Mills, Cob Crushers
Hoes, Hames, Shovels and Spades,
Andirons, Fenders, Shovels and Tongs,
Copper and Iron Coal Hods,
Single and double barrel Guns,
Coffee Heclas, Chafing Dishes,
Chinese Gongs, Iron Bedsteads,
Britannia and Plated Ware,
Meat Cutters, Sausage Stuffers,
Stock Kettles, Portable Forges,
Seines, Fishing Tackle, etc etc.

nov 15, 1855

FRESH IMPORTATION

For Summer and Fall Trade, 1856.

WM. B. MILLER,

Wholesale and Retail

DRUGGIST AND BOOKSELLER,

TEXAS STREET, SHREVEPORT,

Is now receiving and opening a large and fresh stock, recently purchased from Manufacturers and Importers, in New York and Philadelphia, particular attention has been paid to making the assortment as complete as possible, and to the selection of **Pure Drugs,** which can be recommended and GUARANTIED to my patrons. The following list comprises a few of the articles on hand and to arrive.

700 ozs Powers & Weightman's Quinine	2000 lbs sup: carb: soda
225 ounces Rosengarten's Quinine	1000 lbs copperas
250 bbls salts of morphine	350 lbs salt soda
150 lbs Powers & Weightman's chloroform	500 lbs Epsom salts
150 bbls Powers & Weightman's strychnine	200 lbs roll sulphur
75 bbls Powers & Weightman's precipitat bark	500 lbs flour sulphur
20 lbs iodide potassium	400 gallons alcohol
125 lbs best E&A calomel	150 do castor oil
125 lbs do do blue mass	320 do lard oil
200 lbs spts nitre dulc:	400 do linseed oil
200 lbs aqua ammonia	150 do varnish
50 lbs Turkey opium	200 do train oil
60 lbs blistering ointment	8000 lbs pure and extra white lead
450 lbs cream tartar, pure	2000 lbs putty in bladders
10 gross Scotch & Macaboy snuff	1000 lbs Spanish whiting
600 bxs asst window glass	100 books of gold leaf
200 gross bottles, phials and jars, assorted	6 gross paint brushes
250 doz assorted liniments	800 lbs assorted soap
300 doz do vermifuge	600 lbs star candles
300 do spts turpentine	4 gross Ky mustard
	250 lbs chrome and Paris green
	10 reams sand paper
	25 gross lucifer matches
	100 lbs potash
	500 lbs saleratus

150 gross assorted patent medicines, embracing Jaynes Radway's, McLane's, Bull's, Wright's Lowden's Moffat's, Dalley's, Ayer's, Graefenburg's, Bragg's, Fahnestock's, Farrell's, Townsend's, Sand's and Christie's preparations.

175 reams letter, cap and note paper. 100 reams wrapping paper; 25,000 envelopes; 150 gross steel pens 50 doz. blank books; 6 gross assorted inks.

A large and varied new stock of **School Books,** late novels, in cheap form; poetical, medical and miscellaneous books, in great variety.

Fine pen and pocket knives, razors and strops, scissors, pencils, fishing tackle, toys, tooth, hair, cloth, shaving and other brushes, musical instruments and appurtenances, gun caps, pipes, combs; notions and fancy article in great variety, French, English and American perfumery, toilet articles generally, surgical instruments, botanic medicines, medicine chests, physicians' saddle bags, tea, spices, dye stuffs, best brands of chewing and smoking tobacco, brandy, wines and spirits for medicinal use, powder, shot, starch, vinegar, wrapping paper, lanterns, parlor and store lamps, willow baskets, blacking, etc., etc, etc.

The following are my own preparations, are highly approved and recommended to the public:

Miller's Astringent Balsam, for cholera, diarrhea, cholic and derangement of the bowels from change of water. Eight years experience has satisfied me that this is the best general remedy for the people extant, and I do not hesitate to recommend it to be kept by every family and traveler, as a means of safety and protection against cholera.

Miller's Effervescing Magnesia Aperient, acts gently on the bowels, corrects acidity and flatulance, is highly recommended for the cure of dyspepsia, sick headache and costiveness, is a very agreable cooling drink. Ladies who have used this remedy, find it peculiarly useful and salutary, if not indispensable. Beware of the imitations of this medicine, sold elsewhere.

Miller's Superior Yeast Powders, put up in 1, 2 and 4 lbs. cans, for family use, for making light, sweet and nutritious bread, equally adopted to loaves, hot biscuits or rolls; buckwheat and other griddle cakes, gingerbread, and sweet cakes of all kinds; the bread made with this yeast is free from all objections, it is wholesome, disgestible and economical.

Orders from physicians, merchants and planters will be executed with fidelity and dispatch, and at as low prices as possible. Fresh additions will be made to the stock during the year. WM. B. MILLER,

April 30, 1856. Druggist and Bookseller.

Patent Circular Saw Mills.

THE subscriber, agent for Lee & Leavitt, Cincinnati, offers for sale their Saw Mills, with the improved head blocks, enabling one man to move the log on the ways with ease and with the greatest accuracy, thereby saving one man's wages, and making better work than mills with the usual screw-head blocks.

PRICES:

48 inch saw mill, carriage		25 feet long		$400
50	—	— 25		410
52	—	— 25		455
54	—	— 25		475
56	—	— 25		500

Larger sizes in proportion.

Extra saws from 4 inches up to 72 inches. The saws to these mills, as well as the other parts, are made by L. & L., and are in general use in the west and south. They have no superiors.

Horse-powers and steam engines are furnished when ordered, made by L. & L., and adapted to these mills. Two mills in store and for sale by

L. J. WEBSTER,

Corner of Magazine and Lafayette streets,

march26 New Orleans.

VACCINE MATTER—Fresh scabs and quills, for sale at WM. BALL'S

m12 Drug-store.

The Three Ghosts.

Round a cheerful wood fire, in a quaint, old country house, three sisters sat talking in the twilight. The bright blaze illumined the walls, on which a few portraits were hanging, and cast grotesque shadows from the old-fashioned furniture. The ruddy glow lighted up the three lovely faces of the sisters, who were enjoying its cheerfulness.

Very charming were they all, but very different in their beauty.

Margaret, the elder—she who sits to the right of the fire, with head thrown partly back, while her hands are crossed upon her knees—is about twenty-two. She is tall, stately, and proudly beautiful. Sophie, "pretty Sophie," sits opposite, on a sofa, with the head of little Rose, who is reclining, on her lap.

Little Rose, the youngest, with neither Margaret's queenly grace nor Sophie's brilliant beauty, was what ladies call "a darling"—that is, she was lovable, charming and innocent. In fact, she was fresh and sweet as a hawthorn blossom.

These young girls were singularly situated.

They resided in the old homestead where we have found them, alone, except for the servants who attended them. Father and mother were both dead within a few years, and as there was no relation to supply, even in a measure, their places, the orphan sisters clave yet more closely to each other, and continued to live in their desolate home, like birds who nestle together in the old nest when the parent birds have left them.

Thomas, an old and faithful man servant, and Kitty Cork, a person, notwithstanning her juvenile name, of middle age and tried fidelity, were their only domestics; but they sufficed, for their labors were performed in the spirit of love and willingness.

Such was the little household of the sisters, and there they were settled—for life. For, be it known to you, oh, incredulous reader! that each of the fair sisterhood was under a solemn vow of celibacy.

When their father died and left them all alone in the world, they took each other's hands and solemnly promised never to desert each other, but to live and die together.

Three years had passed since that time, and though their loveliness attracted suitors even to their quiet, lonely home, no whisper had ever been breathed by any one of the sisters of a wish to break that vow.

On the contrary, they often applauded their wisdom in devising it, and swore fealty to it anew.

Some such conversation had taken place on the very evening I have chosen to introduce them to my readers. Indeed, they were more than usually vehement in their denunciations of any treason to their code. Margaret's eyes had flashed indignantly at the very thought of such treachery. Sophie had painted most touchingly the lonely state of the other two, should one be base enough to desert, and little Rose had declared—

"That even if prince Charming himself should come flying into the room in a golden chariot, and were to fall at her feet, all crowned with diamonds, she would not waver the least mite—but should just say very coolly, 'Rise, prince Charming, you can't have me. I have promised my sisters never to marry.'"

Margaret and Sophie laughed at little Rose's sally, and the greatest unanimity of opinion appeared to prevail.

While they sat over the fire discussing this subject, Kitty Cork entered with a basket of chesnuts, saying—

"If ye plase, leddies, Thomas bids me give yees them nuts. He's rather pickin' thim hissel; and he sais as it's Hallow Ave, ye'll be thryin' yer fortunes, good or bad—and it's wishin' ye good look and good husbands he is."

"Does not Thomas know——?" began Margaret, with a frown.

"Oh—ay—he knows," interrupted Kitty, with a slight toss of the head—but immediately repenting this imprudent gesture, she added, with roguish demureness—

"Och, but Thomas is a quare, headstrong, auld body, purr auld soul, he has ay his cranks and whims—an' one is, ye'll all three o' yees be married before the year's out. Unfortunate, demented craythor that he is, to take sic an a crazy fancy."

"Crazy, indeed!" said Margaret, with dignity; but yet, when Kitty was gone, the girls began, "just for fun," to try the nuts on the hot shovel in the good, old-fashioned manner.—True, no names were mentioned aloud, but that did not prevent each maiden from mentally designating her nuts as she pleased; and certainly the most intense interest glowed in each youthful face, as it watched the antic manœuvres of the mimic lovers in the symbolical pantomime.

Kitty returned to find them engaged in this most inconsistent amusement; but like a wise damsel, she took no note of trifling discrepancies. She, on the contrary, proposed that, as they were trying Hallow Eve games, they should, at a later hour, before going to bed, try the famous old one of sowing hempseed by moonlight.

"What is it? how do you do it?" cried the sisters, and Kitty went on to explain, how that the girl who would look into the future as to her fate, must go by night, alone, and beyond the hearing of her friends, and scattering hempseed in the moonlight, must say:

"Hempseed I sow,
Hempseed must grow;
Whoever will be my true love, come after and mow."

And then, on looking over her right shoulder, she should see the man she was to marry coming after her with a great scythe, mowing—and who would most surely overtake her and cut her heels off with that weapon, if she paused too long to look.

"You forget, Kitty, we are never going to have any husbands," remarked Sophie, when Kitty paused in her explanations.

"Oh, well then, no harm done," was the response—"if yees to have no husbands, no husbands will come, ye'll no risk yer heels."

The sisters were in a humor for a frolic, and would have adventured a trial on the spot, but the all-important Kitty stopped them.

"What an a time is this for sich a thing? it's no yet eight o'clock, and the mune's no up—the earliest hour ever I seen it tried was ten o'clock, and the midnight hour is better still."

The girls consented to wait a more propitious hour, and returned to their fire-side chat. Kitty retired to the kitchen, where she whispered a long tale in Thomas' ear. The latter listened—nodded his head sagaciously—took up his hat and went out.

Ten o'clock at length struck, and the sisters, as eager as ever for the frolic, called Kitty.—She appeared after a little delay, bringing with her three baskets of hempseed, one of which she gave to each fair adventurer, with renewed instructions. Miss Margaret was desired to issue from the front door, Rose from the back, and Sophie from the side. They were about to set off, when Thomas, who stood silently observing all, said gruffly:

"That's wrong, Kitty—Miss Rose is to go by the side, and Miss Sophie from the back."

"Thrue for you, Thomas, and me heart's in me very mouth at fright at me blunther."

"Why, Kitty, what difference can it possibly make?" inquired the girls.

Kitty made no intelligible answer, but something she mumbled like—

"Gae the right gait, and ye'll meet the right guist," as the three girlish figures flitted away in the darkness.

Five—ten minutes elapsed, and Margaret rushed breathless into the sitting room; an instant more, and Rose and Sophie joined her. They all looked excited and frightened.

Each looked at the other inquiringly, and Margaret began:

"I have really seen something very extraordinary—very strange. I do not know what to think. It could not have been a spirit—but oh, how frightened I am! I will tell you all about it. I had scattered my hempseed and repeated the rhyme as Kitty directed, when, looking behind me, I saw actually a figure in white, advancing towards me with a scythe, just as had been predicted. I was so taken by surprise, and so frightened—for, of course, I did not believe Kitty's nonsense—that I had no power to run or move. I stood motionless with terror, while the figure approached nearer and nearer. It advanced step by step, as a man does in mowing, and yet I had no power to stir. At last it was behind me—close—I felt its touch and its breath on my cheek—and a voice whispered in my ear:

"'Beware how you cast from you the love and devotion of a faithful heart. Young Alderthorn truly loves you—make him and yourself happy.'"

The sisters were silent. Margaret added, "What makes it stranger is, that I know well the voice that spoke—it was Alderthorn's—and I know none but a spirit could imitate those tones so as to deceive me. But tell us, Sophie, what happened to you? you are as pale as a lily."

Sophie held up her hand, on the third finger of which glittered an opal ring, which she had never worn before.

"Listen!" said she. "I did just as you did, Margaret; and looking over my shoulder as directed, I too saw a vision. It was not moving as that you describe; but it held a scythe in its hand, and when I first saw it, it was already by my side. It was clad in some kind of a white mantle, and its features were quite visible in the moonlight. Sisters, it was the face of lieutenant Morton! He—or it—took my hand, and put this ring on my finger, saying solemnly, as he did so:

"'With this ring I wed thee,
In death or in life,
This token doth bind thee
Forever my wife.'"

Margaret shuddered. What if her sister were wedded to a demon? She had heard of such fearful things—and did not her own experience forbid her to be incredulous? With a sickening sensation of a superstitious horror and apprehension, she turned towards little Rose.—What had befallen that poor child?

"I too have seen a ghost," Rose began.—Margaret clasped her hands, and closed her eyes. Her pale face grew even whiter than before. Rose continued—"I had sown my hempseed, as you did, sisters, and when I looked behind me I saw the reaper coming after me with great strides. I started to run, but in my fright I stumbled and fell—and the ghost instantly sprang forward and raised me up, and—and——"

"And what, Rose?" asked Sophie and Margaret, eagerly.

"And it was Robert Bloomley," said Rose, abruptly.

"How do you know? what makes you think so?" asked the sisters.

"Because he kissed me," cried Rose hastily. Then, overwhelmed by her own blundering speech, she hid her blushing face in her hands.

Margaret and Sophie were aghast. Here was a discovery.

Rose tried, awkwardly enough, to profit by the silence to amend her error.

"Ghosts don't kiss, you know," she timidly remarked.

"And Robert Bloomley does," cried Sophie, laughing. "Oh, Rose, you little traitor, who would have expected this from you?"

She looked keenly at Margaret as she spoke. Margaret met her glance with a look at once conscious and suspicious.

A light was beginning to break in upon them. They began to see that Rose was not the only traitor in the camp. They began also to suspect Kitty and see through her devices.

At last Sophie broke into a merry laugh.—"The fact is," she said, "that mischievous Kitty has been playing us a trick, very saucy, but very clever. I understand it all now, and she has evidently understood us all this long time. How say you, Margaret? Are we justified in keeping our vows, when three ghosts come from their graves to bid us break them?"

Margaret turned aside her stately head, with a blush and smile, and made no explicit answer. But I fancy she, as well as the other sisters, were more satisfactory in their replies the next day to "three ghosts" who appeared 'in propria persona' to plead their suits.

I need scarcely say that, as Sophie had suggested, Kitty was at the bottom of these simple mysteries. Having, with her usual shrewdness, discovered the secret of each sister, she had despatched Thomas to summon the lovers in time to play the ghostly parts assigned them.

Finally, I would merely remark, that that "quare, headstrong, auld body," Thomas' prediction came perfectly true. All three sisters were married within the year.

Margaret entered with her husband into possession of a noble estate in the neighborhood. Sophie accompanied lieutenant Morton to distant lands. But Rose, with her honest-eyed farmer, settled down in the dear old homestead.

Kitty, now more important and more indulged than ever, and faithful old Thomas, of course, remained with her.

Once a year, as often as it is within the bounds of possibility, the sisters meet under the old roof-tree. Every Hallow Eve they assemble, as of old, round the cheerful wood-fire, not perhaps roasting chesnuts, and talking girlish nonsense, but recalling scenes of past pleasures, and speaking of present happiness, and future prospects.

This is the season when colds are more liable to be caught than in almost any other.—The atmosphere out of doors is damp, without being very cold, which tempts people to dress less warm than they should. Moreover, when heated with walking persons very frequently sit down in a chilly parlor or sitting room, for houses generally have a lower temperature during this month than exists without. The remedy is to dress with sufficient warmth to resist the damp atmosphere; to maintain enough fire in dwellings to expel the dampness and to avoid throwing off overcoats and shawls on coming home unless the temperature of the room is sufficiently high to warrant it. Many thousands of persons, especially females, have laid the foundation of fatal diseases of the lungs by neglecting these precautions. "An ounce of preventive," says an old proverb, "is worth a pound of cure." Three-fourths of the persons who die prematurely fall victims to some violation of the laws of health. To keep well and enjoy long life, it is only necessary to be careful, unless, indeed, constitutional and hereditary disease interpose, and even then existence may be greatly prolonged.

We often hear it said that two women cannot live agreeably in the same house. It is not so. It is a slander upon the fair sex. We are satisfied, however, that there are some men in the world who cannot live agreeably in the same house with their wives. It strikes us that if they could they would spend more time at home.

THE SMITH OF RAGENBACH.—In the principality of Hohenlohe, Lauenburg, is a village called Ragenbach, where about twenty years ago the following heart-rending but also heroic event took place. One afternoon in the early spring or autumn, my kind informant did not exactly know which, in the tavern room of Ragenburg, several men and women having assembled from the village, sat at their ease, none anticipating what would happen on that eventful day. The smith formed one of the merry company, a strong, vigorous man, with a resolute countenance, and daring mien, but also with such a good-natured smile upon his lips, that every one who saw him admired him. Every evil disposed person shunned him, for the valiant smith would allow nothing wrong in his presence, and it was not advisable to have anything to do with him except in a proper manner. His arms were like bars of iron, and his fists like forge hammers, so that few could equal his strength of body.

The brave smith sat near the door chatting with one of his neighbors, I know not what; all at once the door sprang open, and a large dog came staggering into the room, a great, strong, powerful beast, with a ferocious, frightful aspect, his head was hanging down and his eyes bloodshot, his red colored tongue hanging half way out of his mouth, and his tail dropped between his legs. Thus the ferocious beast entered the room, out of which there was no escape but by one door. Scarcely had the smith's neighbor, who was bath keeper of the place, seen the animal, when he became deathly pale, sprang up and exclaimed, with a horrid voice, "Good Heavens, the dog is mad!"

Then rose an outcry! The room was full of men and women, and the foaming beast stood before the only entrance; no one could leave without passing him. He snapped savagely right and left, and no one could pass him without being bitten. This increased the horrible confusion. All sprang up and shrank from the furious dog with agonising countenances. Who should deliver them from him? The smith also stood among them, and as he saw the anguish of the people, it flashed across his mind how many of his happy and contented neighbors would be made miserable by a mad dog, and he formed a resolution, the like of which is scarcely to be found in the history of the human race for high-mindedness and nobleness. Certainly his brown cheeks paled a little, but his eyes sparkled with divine fire, and an elevated resolution shone from the smooth brow of the simple-minded man.

"Back all!" thundered he, with his deep, strong voice, "let no one stir, for no one can vanquish the beast but I. One victim must fall in order to save all, and I will be that victim; I will hold the brute, and whilst I do so, make your escape." The smith had scarcely spoken these words, when the dog started towards the shrieking people. But he went not far. "With God's help!" cried the smith, and he rushed upon the foaming beast, seized him with an iron grasp, and dashed him to the floor.

Oh, what a terrible struggle followed! The dog bit furiously upon every side in a most frightful man