

### Meditations of Samwell Wilkins.

A Book of Combined Sense and Nonsense, Poems, Parodies and Burlesques. Bound in cloth and gilt, good print, finest paper, fanciest contents. Price \$1. For sale at the FARM TRADER'S OFFICE. Written by the author of the "WILKINS' COLUMN." Call and see it. By mail, postpaid, for price.

### WILKINS' COLUMN.

By Samwell Wilkins.

#### THE LITTLE FLY.

I've heard it said by men of brains,  
And men who ought to know,  
There's naught created without cause,  
Upon this earth below.  
So I have searched, but searched in vain,  
To find a reason why  
In the wisdom of His Providence,  
God ever made a fly.

#### NEVER.

"Daddy, if I'm calm and meek  
And go where people shove me,  
If I bottle up my cheek  
And kneel to those above me,  
And do as people say I should  
Will I be happy, ever?  
Will they love me 'cause I'm good?"  
"Never, Johnny, Never."

"Daddy, if I shun all strife  
And show a sweet submission,  
If I live a martyr's life  
Suppressing rude ambition  
With all the world in sweet accord  
So meek, and good, and clever,  
Will I reap a rich reward?"  
"Never, Johnny, Never."

"Daddy, if I'm bad and mean,  
And haven't any feeling  
If I'm tricky, sly and keen,  
And crooked in my dealing,  
If I cheat my feller men  
And dodge and lie forever,  
Will I'er be happy then?"  
"Never, Johnny, Never."

"Daddy, if I'm a race I run  
For honor, love, and station,  
If I work for Number One  
But with consideration,  
If I use my ears and eyes  
And watch and labor ever,  
Will I ever fail to rise?"  
"Never, Johnny, Never."

#### THE BLESSED ROSE.

What ails our lovely little Rose?  
I'd like to know  
What makes him snarl where'er he goes  
And bluster so?  
He talks about his bric-a-brac,  
His father's ancient jumping jack  
What point described doth Rosy lack?  
I'd like to know.

Oh, wherefore always smirched with dirt,  
Dear little Rose?  
Didst ever see a clean white shirt  
Or tidy clothes?  
Why did thy father build that jay?  
Thy charming face could win the day  
And scare the last Jim Crow away,  
My pretty Rose.

Dost think 'twould bring thy stalwart race  
Down to the grave  
If thou shouldst wash thy pretty face  
And get a shave?  
Didst ever think how strange 'twould be  
To get from smut all pure and free?  
Dost know what soap might do for thee?  
Sweet little Rose?

Why let thy temper get so riled  
Dear little Rose?  
Thou'll get thy disposition spiled,  
Just like thy nose.  
Remember, it is Heaven's decree  
All men should sweet and lovely be;  
Remember, that applies to thee,  
Sweet little Rose.

#### THE BALLOON WOMAN.

At Charlevoix, Michigan, dwells a lady who flourishes under the cognomen of the "balloon woman." She does not derive this title from any aerial explorations that she ever indulged in, but she does bear that name, and thereon hangs a tale. The lady's name is Vosberg—Mrs. Vosberg. She is a lady of some fifty summers, and large hoops. She is about five feet and a half tall, and about three feet and four inches square. She is not altogether such a lady as one would select for the heroine of a love story. She resides on a farm, about three miles from the Charlevoix Summer Resort, and supports herself by the combined proceeds of selling garden vegetable to the resorters and of telling their fortunes. Mrs. Vosberg is very prepossessing in appearance—that is to say, she prepossesses a good deal. She is a lady of dress—a great deal of dress. She wears large hoops, and an ample linen duster. She wears a large straw hat, tied down over her cheeks and fastened with a large bow of green ribbon under her chin. Her chariot consists of a buck-board, drawn by a little black mustang pony. When Mrs. Vosberg seats herself upon the buck-board, gets her pony under way, the wind puffs out her linen duster, the big hat flaps, and the green ties flutter, and she bears down upon the resort under full sail—there is a sight for gods and men,—hence the name "balloon woman."

Mrs. Vosberg is a genius, she can tell any one's past history with surprising accuracy. I recollect her telling one gentleman his fortune in a way that made him howl. During the interview she said "Oh, you be fast, you be, and you drink, you do, and-and there be a young lady that you ought to go and—" but he was up and off in high dudgeon. An other, a lady who, they told her was an old maid, was examined. Mrs. Vosberg looked at her a moment and then said, "You ben't no old maid. You've been married at least twice." All of the above facts were substantially correct as aforesaid, but how did she know? Anyone visiting Charlevoix should be sure to make the acquaintance of Mrs. Vosberg the Balloon Woman.

#### A BAD FIX.

On the Niagara river where the Michigan

Central railroad runs right along by the river for several miles there is a little indentation, or bayou, which runs up into the land, and this the railroad crosses upon a trestle. The little bayou is free from any current, and has a smooth, sandy beach sloping away gradually into the deep water. It is a secluded spot, with thick foliage all around the three sides, and some miles distant from any habitation of man. Here, to this secluded spot, came a middle-aged gentleman one Sunday morning, with his horse and carriage. He drove into the water up over the carriage hubs, and then disrobing himself and leaving his clothes in the carriage, he combined the pleasure of a swim and the labor of washing his carriage. He was just thinking what a lovely secluded place it was there, and was quietly swimming a rod or two away from his carriage, when he heard a slight rumbling, and looking up, saw the down express train just entering upon the trestle-work, the car windows lined with people and the train moving, of course, very slowly. The horse discovered the train at very nearly the same time that the gentleman did, and the people in the train discovered the gentleman in the water. The horse began to rear and plunge, and the gentleman recognizing the fact that his clothes were in the carriage, made a grab at the reins, and finally climbed up into the carriage. He grabbed the reins with one hand and some articles of his raiment with the other, and frantically endeavored to stop his horse and to robe himself at the same time. He succeeded in getting his undergarment over his head, and just so that he could see out at the upper end thereof, but there it stuck and there he stood, first yanking the horse, and then the shirt, while the people on the train, entering into the spirit of the occasion were furnishing him with excellent advice, such as "Push on the trestle!" "Pull down the northeast corner of that sail!" "Look 'im in the eye!" "Take a reef in your collar button!" "Put on your hat!" "Keep calm!" "Hoist the mizzen topsail!" "Haul in the jib!" "Steady on the gangplank!" etc.

#### EGGS ACTLY.

A gentleman on the West Side set a hen last Thursday, and Monday last the same aforesaid hen made her appearance with an air of maternal pride and two chickens. The hen was very prompt in her duty, and the West Sider says that the facts are egg-actly as above narrated, only that five days is the shortest time for hatching chickens he ever knew in all his eggexperience.

#### GALL.

All gall is divided into three parts. Of these the cheek inhabits one, the lip another and the third is inhabited by that which in their language is called bravery, and in our language impudence.

There is the gall that helps a man through this world of tears, and stands by him like a beautiful guardian angel when he is oppressed, and then there is the gall that makes a man a shame to his friends, a joy to his enemies, and a terrible nuisance to himself. There is the gall that teaches a man to be a self-assured, easy gentleman, and there is the gall that teaches a man to overstep everything and make a well-made geese of himself. It is in the ability to distinguish between these kinds of gall that lies the difference between a successful Pharisee and Balaam's ass. To cultivate an insurmountable gall, and without losing one's sensitiveness, or one's appreciation of the finer and more delicate things of human character—that is the great end we should strive for—that is the kind of gall to cultivate. A man who never gets embarrassed or disturbed anywhere, and yet is always considerate of the finest points of delicacy—that man has my deepest and most profound respect.

Gall is a great thing. It is a noble, good thing. The term may signify more than is usually supposed. Gall means spunk, sand, courage, backbone, independence of character, and a big long list of other terms, more or less slangy. A lot of good, clean, polished gall will be better property to a young man than many tufers. It will admit him to any society he has the backing to stay in, it will be as a guardian angel to him in business, it will shield his more sensitive nature from the pain of hard knocks, it will be to him a comfort, a pleasure, and a sword and shield. If I had the choice of the possession of four town lots or a good unmitigated gall, I'd take the gall every time. Young man, hang onto your delicacy, cherish your finer sensibilities, but cultivate your gall. It is a great thing.

#### The County Court.

Armstrong vs Rort, demurrer sustained to amend declaration.  
Dumond—Chleveski vs Siniski, judgment against defendant for costs. Perry et al vs Dumont, by plaintiff Cooper vs Cartwright, by plaintiff.  
Continued—Suell vs Green Hartie vs Sweetzer.  
McManus vs Madden et al, verdict for plaintiff.  
Dagan vs Conlin, replevin, verdict for the plaintiff.  
Buttler vs Helm, defendant defaulted, damages assessed by the court at \$294.80 and judgment.  
Duncan vs Conlin, judgment on verdict against defendant for costs.

#### Probate Court.

Report of Accounts—Est of William Reddick Geo W Armstrong executor Est of Elizabeth Reddick, G W Armstrong executor Est of Abner Boyle, E H Boyle admr.  
Petitions—Est of John Selyer, executor of Nicholas Selyer to report and file bond Est of Ole Clark, petition of Lerena Oaks to have probated Est of John Kilner, incompetent, C W Pomeroy conservator, petition for action to show cause why he should not be removed.  
Other orders of the Court—Est of Joseph Swift, L Swift admr, inventory filed Will of Joseph Wyman, Charles Knoll petition, probate of will, and letters testamentary.

Real Estate Transfers.  
The following is the list of the principal real estate transfers in La Salle county for the week ending May 26.

Milton Knickerbocker to Mary A Hogan, lots 13 14 31 and 32, Crotty Underhill out lots, Bruce's Subd, also 2 1/2 acres Lot 13 Sec 19 Town 35 R 2 \$1400.  
William H Fell to Oranda Fell, undivided 1/4 N W Q Sec 15, T 31, R 1, \$100.  
Owen C McCord to Mars Olson E 1/4 N W Q Sec 7, T 32, R 1, \$1641.  
Lawson Scott to Louis Eckert, undivided 1/4 W 29 feet, E 54 feet, lot 5 block 36, Wests add to Mendota, \$2500.  
John Connor to Henry Mayo blk 34, Ottawa \$1000.

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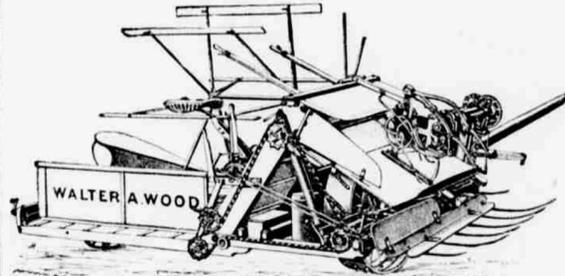
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