

# THE STAR OF THE NORTH.

By Weaver & Gilmore.]

Truth and Right—God and our Country.

[Two Dollars per Annum.]

VOLUME 2.

BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1850.

NUMBER 2.

C. Adams

**THE STAR OF THE NORTH**  
published every Thursday Morning, by  
Weaver & Gilmore.  
**OFFICE**—Up stairs in the New Brick building  
on the south side of Main street, third  
square below Market.  
**TERMS**—Two Dollars per annum, if paid  
within six months from the time of subscri-  
bing; two dollars and fifty cents if not paid  
within the year. No subscription received  
for a less period than six months: no discon-  
tinuance permitted until all arrearages are  
paid, unless at the option of the editors.  
ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding one square,  
inserted three times for one dollar, and  
twenty cents for each additional insertion.  
A liberal discount will be made to those who  
advertise by the year.

**BEAUTIFUL LINES.**  
We clip the following beautiful lines from  
the selections in Willis' Home Journal,  
where they were without credit. The speak-  
ers are a dying girl and her lover. The  
ardent passion manifested by the youth,  
suggests to the girl several images under  
which she supposes that he will personify  
her after death. The stanzas are in the form  
of a dialogue—the girl suggesting the par-  
ticular images in succession, the lover re-  
sponding.—Pittsburg Post.

"Even as a flower?"  
"No, fairest; be not to me as a flower;  
The uncertain sun calls forth its odorous  
breath;  
The sweetest perfume gives the speediest  
death;  
The spot and victim of a summer hour,  
Fairest, be not a flower!"

"Even as a star?"  
"No, brightest; be not to me a star,  
Of one of millions, and the hurrying cloud  
Of wings the glittering splendor in a shroud.  
Morn pales its lustre, and it shines afar,  
Brightest be not a star!"

"Even as a dove?"  
"No, purest; be not to me as a dove,  
The spoiler of breaks in upon his nest,  
Robbing the downy joys of his soft nest,  
And plunging silence through its native  
grove,  
Fairest, be not a dove!"

"Even as a rock?"  
"No, my most faithful; be not a rock,  
It mocks the embracing wave; or stands  
aloof  
In loveless gloom; its dreary waste unknown,  
Senseless alike to fortune's smile or shock,  
Changeless, be not a rock!"

"Even as myself?"  
"My soul's best idol, be but as thyself;  
Brighter than a star, fairer than a flower,  
Purer than a dove, and in thy spirit's power  
Steadier than rock!  
Yes, be thyself, thyself—only thyself!"

Written for the Star of the North  
**Perplexities of a Man with a Family.**

BY "EXPERIENCE."

CHAPTER I.

When I was a young man, it ever now and  
then occurred to me that I ought to provide  
for myself a helpmate. I thought my char-  
acter and position in the world would entitle  
me to look for a lady with at least a dower  
of grace and talents. Miss Ashton, the par-  
son's prettiest and youngest daughter, would  
do; but she was garrulous, trifling, and too  
thoughtless. Jane Siddon was pretty and  
sensible, but then her seven sisters were the  
wildest, harum-scarum set that ever moral  
endured to troop around him; her brothers  
were professed gamblers, and if I married  
Jane, the whole family would be a life-long  
annoyance, chagrin and disgrace to me—  
Mary Forsyth was of a fine and wealthy  
family, but stupid and a little the shortest  
of female mortals, while I measured six feet  
three in my stockings. Miss Rank was con-  
fessedly the "smartest" of our village ladies,  
but it was very easy to discover that she was  
a prude, brim full of coquetry and affectation.  
Ellen Wray, the landlady's daughter,  
always met me pleasantly, but then the com-  
pany of her mother was not to be endured,  
and her father was a villain and a drunkard.

But I was young and full of romance. I  
could not dislike any body on account of  
discreditable relatives. I argued to convince  
myself a thousand times over that the sins of  
the parent should not be visited upon the  
child. I was an enthusiast in everything,  
and believed most sincerely in what my pre-  
ceptor, Doctor Gordon, called the perfectibil-  
ity of human nature. I commenced court-  
ing the favor of Ellen Wray, and much as I  
despised her father, avoided quarrelling with  
him. I believe she reciprocated my attach-  
ment for her, and so we continued to meet—  
I to live faster and happier—she to become  
every day more amiable, agreeable and lov-  
ing. The Doctor hinted that I neglected my  
studies, and some of my friends teased me  
about Old Boniface, but I cared for neither.

The retired parlor of her father's  
house was where on most interesting meet-  
ings took place. I had made her gifts of some  
valuable books, and allowed Old Boniface  
to swindle me out of all my pocket money;  
for I was then yet a credulous, simple soul,  
inexperienced in the plots of the world. One  
day I came into the back parlor at Wray's  
when no one was in. Setting down at the  
table I entertained myself by looking over  
the books, paintings, drawings, &c. In lay-  
ing aside an album, a loose sheet accidental-  
ly fell out, and feeling myself a privileged  
person, I had the curiosity to glance at it, for  
at first I thought of no such thing as reading  
a note discovered as this had been. But  
since I have learned more of the frailty of  
human nature I venture to say that no young

man ever accidentally found an open note  
addressed to his lady love, which he did not  
read if he was alone when he first touched  
it. And so, being only mortal, when I saw  
that I had in hand a note marked to "Miss  
Ellen Wray," curiosity convinced propriety  
that reading it would not be an unpardon-  
able sin. I easily convinced myself, (I think  
I took it as an axiom,) that a wife should  
have no secrets from her husband, and from  
this, in some way, I deduced the conclusion  
that I might at least read one open note di-  
rected to Ellen, when I had found it where  
there was not the least evidence that she her-  
self had intended it to be strictly private. So I  
read the note. It ran thus:

DEAR ELLEN—  
I have just arrived here with my  
sister, and will greet you with a kiss to-mor-  
row evening; if you will meet me at Mrs.  
Jay's, and if Mr. Poe can spare your compa-  
ny. I am sick to see you, and he must not  
be jealous of my love, since I have the oldest  
claim. FRANCIS EATON.

Rural Retreat, June 20th, 1848.  
Another sheet was folded along with the  
first, and upon it I just glanced at the sen-  
tence—"I shall be so happy to meet you"  
and saw Ellen's signature to her writing.  
The top of the sheet was torn off, and a blot  
upon it; but there was proof enough that  
this was the answer to her lover's epistle,  
and that she had sent him a clean copy of it.

I threw down the letters and was frantic.  
"Fool!" exclaimed I, and rushed into the  
street. Strolling along and using the ivory  
head of my cane as a socket, I muttered—  
"Who the devil can Francis Eaton be? It  
could not be a trick, for the note was writ-  
ten in a large heavy hand, and certainly not  
by Ellen. The villain, to talk of a kiss to  
her, and to make sport of doting me! I  
did not swear exactly to shoot him or to  
drown myself, but I was beside myself.  
Meeting my young friend and fellow student  
Jones, he accosted me with—

"Well, Poe, they say that girl Ellen of  
yours is a great one to be letting every nice  
young man kiss her in the dark." I felt as if  
I was in a pillory.

At the dinner table Doctor Gordon's lady  
tauntingly it seemed, adverted to the charms  
of Ellen Wray, and when I smothered my  
annoyance by sullen silence, she closed by  
saying in a sly way—

"And I've heard several young men com-  
pliment her, as having the finest, pouting,  
and most tempting lips of any young lady in  
the village."

Well, thought I, so then I'm a fool and  
every body knows it. I counted upon how  
often I had met young Harvey, and how of-  
ten Mr. Linn alone in her company in the  
back parlor. I sat down to write a letter  
upon business, and when attempting to pen  
the date, involuntary wrote—

"O vanity of vanities, all is vanity!"

I tried another sheet, and this time in a  
mistake wrote—

"O frailty, thy name is woman!"

I counted upon the very contents out of  
which Old Wray had swindled me—went  
down street—quarrelled with him like a pi-  
rate—called him a scoundrel and a villain,  
and about half threatened to flog him.

I thought of becoming a hermit, a recluse  
to escape the corruption of the world. I  
thought of writing a book upon the depravity  
of mankind. And, in fact, I thought of ev-  
ery thing to make me wretched.

In the evening, for relief from the misery  
of solitary reflection, I went over the way to  
spend an hour with Mr. Sine and his family  
I had just got into an earnest conversation  
when two ladies were ushered into the room  
and, before I could recognize faces, I heard  
the voice of Ellen Wray—

"Mr. Poe, allow me to introduce you to  
my cousin Miss Frances Eaton. She  
wrote to me a few days ago that she would  
be at Mrs. Jay's this evening, and I have  
insisted upon her going down to our house  
to see the rest of her cousins."

I have never since been jealous, but I make  
all my children learn to write plain and dot their  
i's.

**The Retort Discourteous.**

At a convention of clergymen, not long  
since, it was proposed by one of the mem-  
bers, after they had dined, that each man  
should entertain the company with some in-  
teresting remarks. Among the rest, one drew  
upon his fancy and related a dream. In his  
dream, he went to heaven, and he described  
the golden streets, the river of silver, &c.  
As he concluded, one of the divines, who  
was somewhat noted for his penitence and  
money saving habits, stepped up to the nar-  
rator and quired jocosely—

"Well, did you see anything of me in  
your dream?"

"Yes, I did."

"Indeed! what was I doing?"

"You were on your knees."

"Praying, was I?"

"No—scrapping up the gold!"

**The California Constitution.**—The liberal  
principles of England speak in terms of  
great praise of the constitution recently ad-  
opted by the Californians. They say that  
it is one of the most judicious instruments  
of government ever devised; and that its pro-  
visions, with the exception of those which  
limit suffrage to the white man, are marked  
with the highest wisdom.

**Practice.**—Madam you said that your son  
was a physician, has he much practice?  
"Why, yes, sir, that is, he has a practice of  
smoking cigars."

For the Star of the North.  
**BENTON AND HERESY.**

As your excellent paper is the political cy-  
noscure for the region of country where it is  
visible, every little aberration in its revolution  
(for the pole star actually revolves about a  
centre) should be explained, or some small  
barque that guides its course by its light  
might be wrecked by a trifling variation in  
its course. Now, that bright little luminary  
occupied a place when last visible a little out  
of its true position. In discounting very sensibly  
upon the proper use and misuse of  
Legislative instructions, an error, to the writ-  
ers understanding, was committed, which, as  
he was placed in a position a little differ-  
ent from the editor, to enable him to detect  
the mistake, he feels bound respectfully to  
note. Mr. Benton is spoken of, as being the  
object of unmerited attack from the legisla-  
ture of Missouri and as being assailed im-  
properly by a large portion of the citizens  
of that State, and hence under the necessity  
of stumping the State to vindicate himself  
against a factious attack. Now the writer of  
this communication has no doubt of your  
sincerity in writing the editorial alluded to,  
but respectfully believes its author to be la-  
boring under a misapprehension. Mr. Ben-  
ton, as the writer understands, has within the  
last two years changed his position, and from  
a radical democrat, which character he has  
so well and proudly borne for the last thirty  
years, become a latitudinarian—as wild and  
wilder than any Whig or Federalist—advoc-  
ating the "free soil" heresy, which is only  
another name for abolition—and the most ex-  
travagant schemes of internal improvements  
by the Federal Government—getting up  
schemes of rail roads across the Rocky moun-  
tains, more than 3000 miles in extent, one  
line of which is estimated at 20,000,000 of  
dollars, all of which must be made and up-  
held by the old tax-ridden States, and other  
extravagant schemes, all of which expenses  
in the end will have to be footed by the old  
solid States of the Union. Besides Mr. Ben-  
ton's sons-in-law are retained and employed  
in highly important stations under the ad-  
ministration of General Taylor, which fact alone  
proves that Col. Benton's family are receiving  
at least, aid and comfort from the enemy of  
democracy. Besides, General Atchison, his  
colleague, and as sound a democrat, the writ-  
er believes, as breaths the air of Missouri,  
has taken directly opposite grounds to that  
assumed by Mr. Benton. The writer knows  
that the name of Benton carries with it, from  
his past labors, a power and weight—but no  
man's past reputation should give him a  
claim on the support of the Democratic peo-  
ple when he abandons the principles upon  
which his former popularity was built—  
Henry Clay commenced a pure and radical  
democratic career—but he abandoned that  
bright career—changed sides of the great po-  
litical contest that always has and always  
will be waged between Aristocracy and De-  
mocracy—and the democrats left him—for  
they loved the principles of freedom and jus-  
tice better than fickle man. They kept their  
eyes steady on the pole star of the democra-  
tic cause and let Mr. Clay go and reap the  
reward of his inconstancy. So let us reason  
in respect to Mr. Benton and any other frai-  
lor democratic principles while they are prospe-  
rous and then abandon them when danger  
seems to threaten, or unmanageable passion  
prompts to revenge. The writer believes that  
the Legislature of Missouri and the people of  
that democratic commonwealth are vindicat-  
ing the integrity of the democratic cause and  
igniting the flagitious attacks of Col. Benton.

**Dry Goods.**

The following incident occurred, as we  
learn from good authority, in one of our  
stores the other day.

"Buy any butter here?" said a country  
customer who walked into a dry goods' store  
on Market square, and looked much like a  
character who knew a vast deal more about  
himself than he cared to tell.

"No sir," replied the merchant, "we don't  
wish to buy any."

"Want to buy any eggs?"  
"No sir, we keep a dry goods store here."

"So! Well then, may be you'd like to buy  
some chickens—fat as pigs and a mighty  
sight nicer too?"

"No sir, I tell you we don't deal in any  
thing but dry goods."

"Couldn't I sell you a nice hind quarter of  
pork?"

"I tell you sir, we deal in dry goods exclu-  
sively here."

"Wal, what'll you give for dried peaches?"

**TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR.**—The Mirror says:  
A queer typographical error occurred very  
lately, which shows how great a change a  
type may make. The editor was warily  
eulogizing the official conduct of a public  
man and said that he had "lived down his  
enemies. The compositor, however omitted  
the e, so that the sentence read he had  
"lived down his enemies."

A lady told her servant girl to look at  
a vane upon a steeple near her house, and  
said which way the wind was. The vane  
had been taken down, for the purpose of re-  
pairing it; but the girl obeyed her mistress  
and beholding nothing but the rod upon  
which she had been accustomed to see the  
vane, told her mistress that "the wind was  
right up and down."

**Never regret what is irretrievably lost.**

For the Star of the North.  
**MATTER OF TASTE.**

BY SECRETARY.

N. P. Willis is a most singular fellow, hav-  
ing very peculiar notions on most things, and  
just as singular a manner of telling them.—  
Not long since, I came across an article from  
his pen, in praise of fat, large women. And  
in spite of having a very bad case, he does  
certainly invest them, with particular charms  
and makes them absolutely bewitching.—  
Now I thought this a most unaccountable  
pendant; but possibly, Mr. Willis thinks that  
the more of a good thing, the better.

Now, George Gordon Noel Byron says that  
of all things, he hates a dumpty woman. For  
the sake of nationality I should like to agree  
with Mr. Willis; but my own unbiased indi-  
vidual opinion coincides with that of Lord  
Byron. In taking a wife my motto would be,  
unless I alter my notion, of two evils,  
choose the least. No doubt all this is a mere  
matter of taste, and the imagination may cer-  
tainly invest the earthly goddess, whether  
she be fat or lean, with every thing neces-  
sary to constitute a man's happiness.

But notwithstanding what I have said upon  
this subject, upon second thought I believe  
that Shakespeare, at least by implication, is  
against me; supporting Mr. Willis, with the  
whole weight of his character; for it will be  
recalled, that Desdemona was a woman,  
full of most blessed conditions. Now, if a  
woman were large, and thus blessed, she  
would unquestionably have the advantage  
over any, who might serve as an emulga-  
tion of old King Pharaoh, lean kind. Still,  
considering the risk one has to run in a case  
of this kind, I mean getting a wife, a medi-  
um would be perhaps the safest.

After all, I love a neat, nice, tidy, little  
woman. One of those pretty, petite, fairy-  
like creatures, who flutter round you with a  
smile, and presently leave you sigh. There  
is a happiness coupled with this misery.—  
Ah! I feel that I love the very sand in which  
are imprinted her delicate little foot-marks.  
The dew, brushed from the grass by her, in  
her morning work, is blessed above all other  
dews. The sun, as he rises over the moun-  
tains, joys to see her sweet morning face, and  
presses, as I should like to do, a burning  
kiss upon her ruby lips—gives a brighter  
lustre to her eyes, and I will quote, I will  
quote, I shall have all the little girls in love  
with me.

**One of the G'hals.**

We were, not long since, much amused  
by a couple of Hoosier girls who came on  
board the steamer, — at the little town of  
Mt. Vernon, Ia. They had evidently never  
been a thousand miles from home, and were  
making their first trip on a steamer.

At dinner our ladies were honored with  
a seat at the head of the table, and the eldest  
one, with her usual independence, cut her  
bread into small pieces, and with a fork re-  
turned over and enrolled each mouthful in the  
dressing of a plate of beef steak before her.  
The passengers preserved their gravity dur-  
ing this operation by dint of great effort.—  
Perceiving that her sister was not very for-  
ward in helping herself, she turned round  
to her and exclaimed, loud enough to be heard  
by half of the table—"Sal dig in the gravy—  
Dad pays as much as any on 'em!" This was  
followed by a general roar, in which the cap-  
tain led off. The girls arrived at their place  
of destination, before supper, and when they  
left the boat all hands gave three cheers for  
the girls of the Hoosier State.

**On! for a Boot-Jack.**—A countryman re-  
cently arrived at one of our third rates hotels,  
late in the evening, and inquired for a boot-  
jack. "Boots" soon appeared with one of the  
cast-iron pattern.

"How do you s'pose I'm going to get off my  
boots with that thing?" ejaculated the coun-  
tryman.

"Boots" eyed the countryman's pedlar extren-  
ities for a few moments, and then scratching  
his head, said:

"Dat am a fact! he, he, yaw!" he shouted.  
"What the mischief are you laughing at,  
you thunder-clod?" demanded the country-  
man.

"Nuffin—nuffin—only I advise you to go to  
de crotch ob de street, and dar you can pull  
off dem boots! Yah! yah! yaw!" and the  
darkie vanished.

**INCORRIGIBLE.**—A lad named John Meyers  
was brought before Alderman Buchanan, on  
Saturday, charged upon the oath of his moth-  
er, with having become associated with  
such evil company as to render him entirely  
beyond her power of correction, and at times  
so incorrigible that he was only fit to be left  
alone in the street. The magistrate sent him  
to the House of Refuge.

Never believe that which seems improb-  
able.

Never expose your disappointment to the  
world.

Always speak well of your friends; but of  
your enemies, speak neither good nor evil.

Sell at small profits—for cash—and make  
it known through the newspapers.

Be ashamed of nothing but your own er-  
rors.

Let the business of all others alone and at-  
tend to your own.

**MR. AND MRS. BATTLE;  
OR, MOUSE vs. RAT.**

Mr. and Mrs. Battle, were a fond and lov-  
ing couple in the town of N—, who, for  
about a twelvemonth had dwelt as "one  
flesh" in law matrimonial, and whose union  
thus far, if a shade less blissful than that of  
the turtle doves, had afforded an example of  
conjugal felicity as edifying, to say the least,  
as the generality of matches. It happened  
one winter evening that, having exhausted  
all their usual theme of chit chat, they had  
been sitting in silence for some ten minutes  
together, luxuriating in "uncommunicating  
muteness" of fishes, when suddenly, with  
piercing shriek, Mrs. B. sprang from her  
chair, and jumped upon the side table, cry-  
ing out at the top of her lungs, "Lord of  
Mercy! Oh, that horrid being! Kill him, Mr.  
Battle, kill him!"

The husband quick as thought, seized the  
poker, and though half frightened out of his  
senses, raised it firmly over his head and  
placed himself bolt upright in an attitude of  
defence. For some moments he stood  
speechless, with mingled wonder and awe;  
then casting a glance at his wife, who stood  
leaning against the wall, pale, shivering and  
half frantic with terror, he at length recov-  
ered his wife and the use of his tongue so  
far as to ask, in a voice somewhat faint and  
husky—

"Who—where—what is he?"  
"There! there! husband, don't you see?  
There! no man—it's a horrid great  
mouse. Oh dear, I shall faint away, certain!  
There he comes again this way. Merciful  
heavens! Oh! oh!"

Mr. B. breathed a little more freely, for  
this last piece of information, for to say the  
truth, he was by no means a Hercules in  
strength of stature, being only four feet  
even in his boots, and weighing but just one  
hundred and five pounds, even after dinner,  
and as he supposed it some house robber or  
cut-throat who had hid himself in the room,  
that had caused his wife's fright, his knees  
had begun to knock together a little, a la  
Belshazzar; notwithstanding his great show  
of bravery. But now regaining with mar-  
vellous quickness the use of all his limbs and  
faculties, he advanced boldly in the direc-  
tion indicated by Mrs. B's finger, and with a  
courage and presence of mind worthy of an  
Alexander, succeeded by the aid of the po-  
ker in stretching a most ferocious looking  
rat lifeless on the floor.

After a few moments, peace and order  
were again restored, and Mrs. B. having  
succeeded, by an astonishing degree of self-  
control, in quieting her nerves, was again  
seated at her work table, busily plying her  
needle, when a loud tinkling of the door  
bell was followed by the announcement  
of Mrs. Fry. Fry had popped in, as he said,  
see how they all did and have a little  
social chat; but as it turned out (unfortu-  
nately for the peace of our excellen-  
tary couple) he was just in season to hear  
from Mrs. Battle's relation of what she cal-  
led her 'frightful adventure with the mouse.'

"No, my dear," interrupted Mr. B., "a rat."  
"Excuse me, my love, but 'twas a mouse."  
"But I do assure you madam, 'twas a rat."  
"I beg your pardon, sir; notwithstanding  
you assure me, I am quite sure it was  
a mouse."

"Don't tell me, Mrs. Battle; do you think  
I'm a fool, not to know a rat from a mouse,  
and in my own house too?"

"Keep cool, Mr. Battle; don't get huffy be-  
cause I spoke a word. Some how or other,  
lately, I can never open my lips before you,  
but you must fly into a pet. And then you  
must be twit—twit—twitting me always  
about your house, as if you were lord of ev-  
ery thing here, and I were only your humble  
servant. I declare Battle, you are cross as a  
Bear, and as unreasonable as you can live."

"Mrs. Battle, you are enough to provoke a  
saint. Three times you have contradicted  
me, and—"

"All because I said a mouse wasn't a rat.  
A mouse ain't a rat, and you know it Bat-  
tle."

"Mrs. Battle, there's no standing this—No!  
—nor I won't stand it any longer. I will  
have a divorce, if there's one to be had in  
the country. I won't live with such a ter-  
ragant. No I won't Mrs. Battle, and that's  
the long and short of it."

Here Mrs. Battle fell back in her chair,  
and burst into a flood of tears. Fry, finding  
matters getting a little too hot; crept slyly  
out of the room, and ran for home as if  
from a hornet's nest. Mr. Battle paced the  
room hurriedly to and fro, for the space of  
five minutes or more, with blanched cheek  
and lip quivering with rage, and finally seat-  
ed himself by a window, and with an air of  
affected concern began to whistle Yankee  
Doodle. He had been seated but three or  
four minutes, when his wife, suddenly rais-  
ing up, came across the room, threw her  
arms affectionately about his neck and bur-  
ied her head in his bosom.

"My dear husband."  
"My dear wife."  
"I have offended—deeply offended you.  
Can you forgive me?"

"Yes dear, a thousand times."  
"How foolish I was to dispute with you,  
dear one, about such a trifle."

"Yes, it was very foolish in both of us.  
But never mind thank Heaven; we've come  
to our senses again. Kiss me darling—there  
all's made up. Ain't we happy now?"

"Yes, my love. Clouds will come some  
times, but thank Providence they are all  
gone now. We couldn't have expected sun-  
shine always. Oh, won't we have the pre-  
cious times together, hereafter loving each  
other so tenderly! There—it does seem to  
me as if I were at this moment perfectly  
happy."

"Blessed wife, kiss me again, darling.  
There—we've had the last of our quarrels—  
haven't we dear one?"

"Yes, dearest. And if we were going to  
quarrel again—which never can be—it would  
be about something of more importance—  
wouldn't it, love? The more I think of it,  
the more foolish it appears, quarrelling about  
so trifling a thing as a mouse."

"You forgot, my dear; a rat, you mean?"  
"No my dear, I mean a mouse."  
"How can you, over and over again, 'twas  
a rat? D'ye think I've no eyes?"

"I say what I mean, Mr. Battle; and I  
mean, just what I say. To say that was a  
rat, is the most absurd thing I ever heard. A  
rat, indeed!"

other so tenderly! There—it does seem to  
me as if I were at this moment perfectly,  
happy.

"Blessed wife, kiss me again, darling.  
There—we've had the last of our quarrels—  
haven't we dear one?"

"Yes, dearest. And if we were going to  
quarrel again—which never can be—it would  
be about something of more importance—  
wouldn't it, love? The more I think of it,  
the more foolish it appears, quarrelling about  
so trifling a thing as a mouse."

"You forgot, my dear; a rat, you mean?"  
"No my dear, I mean a mouse."  
"How can you, over and over again, 'twas  
a rat? D'ye think I've no eyes?"

"I say what I mean, Mr. Battle; and I  
mean, just what I say. To say that was a  
rat, is the most absurd thing I ever heard. A  
rat, indeed!"

"Absurd or not, Mrs. Battle, I tell you, you  
are a simpleton. You don't know beans  
from a broomstick!"

"Then it's because I've lived so long with  
you, Battle, I don't believe you ever saw a  
rat. Every-body knows they have round  
tails, like a file. But I'm an abjure woman,  
and I won't put up with such treatment any  
longer. I'll go home to my father's. We'll  
see then, how some folks will get along.  
And I will tell you, Battle, it was a mouse."  
"And I tell you, Mrs. Battle, it wasn't a  
mouse."

"'Twas a mouse."  
'Twas a rat."  
'Twas a mouse."  
'Rat."  
'Mouse."  
'Rat."  
'Mouse.' 'Rat.' 'Mouse.' 'Rat.' 'Mouse.'

Just at this moment a stage coach drew  
up before the door and the appearance of an  
old and long expected friend, who, after a  
long absence, burst suddenly in the room,  
and put an end to hostilities, and threw both  
parties into a temporary good humor. To  
this day, however, the cause of Mrs. Bat-  
tle's right has never ceased to be a prolific  
source of contention. Mr. Battle insisting  
most strenuously that it was a rat, and Mrs.  
Battle protesting with equal pertinacity that  
it was a mouse. A hundred times they have  
squabbled till almost ready to broomstick  
each other, and a hundred times they have  
joked and laughed again, and asked each other's  
forgiveness, when an unfortunate allu-  
sion by one of the parties to the cause of  
their quarrel has caused all the smothered  
fires of indignation to break forth afresh.

**Butter Making.**  
Scene up in Vermont—(Aunt Deborah sal-  
ting butter. Enter Mrs. Noodle.)  
Mrs. Noodle.—Now, then, aunt Deborah,  
that is just like you, for all the world. You  
salt the butter that you sell better'n what  
you eat. Why, Mr. Noodle always tells me  
that salt costs money.

Aunt Deborah.—So it does, but our Bill is  
pretty cute and he says, when salt don't cost  
mor'n a cent a pound down in Boston, and  
we get twenty-five cents a pound for it in  
butter, we can afford to put in some.

**Ugly Looks and a Good Heart.**—A lady with  
eyes that resemble peeled onions—and a  
nose as crooked as a politician's creed—a  
chin like a hoe, and a mouth stretched from  
ear to ear, and opening like a jack-knife, will  
be sooner respected and beloved by those  
whose opinion is worth one's pains to secure,  
if she possesses a good heart and a kind dis-  
position, than if she were as beautiful as  
Milton's Eve, with a cork-screw disposition  
and a heart of lead.

**PAY FOR "LOBBYING."**—Hugh W. Evans, a