

SLIPPING AWAY.
Slipping away—slipping away!
Out of our brief year slips the May;
And Winter lingers, and Summer flies;
And sorrow abideth, and pleasure dies;
And the days are short and the nights are long;
And little is right, and much is wrong.

Slipping away is the morning time;
It has lost its rhythm and lifting rhyme—
For the grace goes out of the day so soon,
And the tired head aches in the glare of noon,
And the way seems long to the hills that lie
Under the calm of the western sky.

Slipping away are the friends whose worth
Lent a glow to the sad old Earth;
One by one they slip from our sight;
One by one their graves gleam white;
Or we count them lost by the cruel death
Of a trust betrayed, or a murdered faith.

Slipping away are the hopes that made
Bliss out of sorrow, and sun out of shade;
Slipping away is our hold on life;
And out of the struggle and weary strife,
From joys that diminish and woes that increase
We are slipping away to the shores of Peace.

IMPROVING HER MIND.
Having heard and read a good deal
lately about women improving their
minds, I arose the other morning with
an express determination to begin
operations on mine that very day.

My sister left on the morning train to
attend as a delegate a temperance con-
vention, and had no sooner been whirled
out of town than my brother-in-law got
out his fishing-tackle, put on his old
clothes, and declared he was "going
fishing now," just as if I cared, as long
as it wasn't Sunday. The children were
out playing, and had promised they
wouldn't fight, go out of the yard, or
make a noise; the girl was busy with
the dinner; it was a model morning,
with warm sunshine, a cool breeze, and
fragrant silence, and seemed the most
auspicious of times to begin the impor-
tant task of cultivating my mind. So I
took up Shakespeare, turned to
"Othello," drew my chair to an uplif-
ted vine-shaded window, began reading,
and had come where Othello was tell-
ing "How I did thrive in this fair lady's
love and she in mine." Now it seems
he was a good deal like the fellows
nowadays, and accepted her father's in-
vitations, visited them, dined with them,
talked with them, and related his his-
tory, "even from boyish days," and in
a word did everything but propose, and
so one night Desdemona set a nice little
trap into which he tumbled headlong,
of course; that is, one evening she en-
couraged him to tell her of his adven-
tures and dangers, and when he had
finished, as he said,

"She gave me for my pains a world of sighs;
And swore, in faith, 'twas strange; 'twas pass-
ing strange;
'Twas piteous; 'twas vondrous piteous!
She wished she had not heard it, yet she wished
That heaven had made her such a man; she
thank'd me;

And bade me, if I had a friend that loved her,
I should but teach him how to tell my story,
And that would woo her."

"She's all right now."
I turned in amazement, and, sure
enough, there she stood unharmed!
He had simply cut the rope, and I re-
turned to the house more firmly con-
vinced than ever that my mind needed
cultivating.

After that I did not read much, as one
boy who had climbed up on the roof to
hide his dear little brother's kite fell off
and broke his shoulder. We fished
another out of the will barrel, where he
was standing on his head, and a third
one stepped with his bare foot on a red-
hot stove lid, which the girl had just
dropped on the floor; and then, as there
wasn't accidents to go round, the bal-
ance of the children escaped, and we
had dinner.

After we had dined the wounded went
to sleep, the girls to a picnic, the re-
mainder of the boys ran away to the
river to go in swimming and got drowned,
Bridget went to confession, and I seated
myself comfortably and took up my
book, but had scarcely opened it when
a gentleman, well dressed, tall, broad-
shouldered, blonde, and handsome, push-
ed open the half closed door, and, bow-
ing profoundly, said, "A lovely day,
madam, a lovely day."

One glance of my eagle eye convinced
me that he was an agent of some kind,
and saying, coolly,
"I don't want anything," continued
reading.
"I beg your pardon, madam, but I
wish to call your attention to"—
"Then, hadst better have been born a
hog than answer my waked wrath," I
read.

"to call your attention to a little
invention which I hold in my hand, and
which is"—
"O misery!"
"—destined to do more for woman
than any invention that this prolific age
of invention has yet presented to a pub-
lic that was waiting and longing for it,
even as a maiden longs for her lover's
kiss."

"O blood! Iago, blood!"
"It is indorsed by the clergy, the press,
and the entire Democratic party, and—"
"Now, nothing canst thou to damna-
tion greater than this!"
"—and is one that will place the
inventor's name not alone on the top-
most round of the ladder of fame, but—"
"If there be cords, or knives, poison,
or fire, or suffocating streams, I'll not
endure it,"—"but place it side by side
with the most renowned benefactors of
the human race."

"What is't you mean?"
"I mean that I have here a labor-sav-
ing, time-saving little piece of
mechanism which no family should be
without."
"Is't possible, my lord?"
"And, certain of your approval and
admiration, I proudly exhibit to you,
conscious of the good I am to you and
yours, this offspring of inventive geni-
us, this little patent nutmeggrater,
which—"
"Perdition catch my soul!"
"—which you can have for the small
sum of two cents; and"—
"Fire and brimstone!"
"—and you will never regret—"
"Unchain that dog," I shouted; and
the next minute the nutmeg-grater man
passed out the garden gate crestfallen.
Still bent upon accomplishing my
object, I had returned to my book but a
moment when I saw my brother-in-law
coming up the steps. He appeared very
much exhausted; in fact he was so tired
he could scarcely walk; and his face
was so reddened by the sun I feared he
would have a fit of apoplexy.

He threw himself on the lounge, and,
seeing he was very sick, I asked him
"Where he felt the worst, and, if I could
do anything for him?" and he replied in
substance that "He had become ex-
cessively warm while sitting on the bank
waiting for a bite, and had drunk too
much cold spring water," and it was his
stomach," and to "give him something
quick."

Now I did not have the least idea
what he needed, but, scorning to be
called on in the hour of need and found
wanting, I rushed into the pantry,
brought out all the medicine, and offered
him castor oil, extract of vanilla, condi-
tion powders, and Graffenburg pills, but
he was foolishly particular, and would
take nothing until I chanced upon some
Seidlitz powders, which he thought
would be the very thing, and cried,
"Give me some quick, or it will be too
late."

to foam before being taken, instead of
afterwards; that it is useless for a wo-
man who has charge of a man and a
family to attempt to cultivate her mind;
that gentlemen should abandon the
pernicious habit of drinking so much
ice cold spring water while fishing; and
that Shakespeare in the story of Othello
taught the lesson, that any white wo-
man who would marry a black man
ought to be killed.

MRS. LANGTRY AHEAD.

How the Professional Beauty Overdid
a Rival's Pile.
(San Francisco News Letter.)
Every one knows there is a great ri-
valry between Mrs. Langtry and Mrs.
Wheeler—greater between them than
any other of the reigning "beauties"—
and that whatever one can do, so as to
"score" off the other, is done by each.
Mrs. Langtry is known to possess very
beautiful arms, while Mrs. Wheeler's
are thin and scraggy. On the other
hand, the reverse extremities of Mrs.
Wheeler are regarded by those who
have seen them as models of shape and
form, while Mrs. Langtry, though pos-
sessing fairly small feet when "bien
chaussee," can only boast of upward
continuation of a very pipe-stem order.
Well, the season before last, Mrs. Lang-
try set the fashion of the sleeveless ball
dresses, and of course Mrs. Wheeler,
much to her detriment, had to adopt
the style. But she set to work to think
how she would reiterate, and this is
how she did it: At the first ball she
appeared at last season she wore a dress
with a very short skirt. The Prince ad-
mired it, and, as a matter of course, it
became the fashion. But what was
Mrs. Langtry to do? She tried it once,
but the effect, as may be imagined, was
disastrous. Then she set to work to
cudgel her brains, and—happy thought!
—at the next ball, instead of adding an
inch or two to her draperies, as she
had first thought of doing, she had
actually taken a reef in her already
short skirt. But underneath appeared
a pair of a certain article of ladies' lin-
gerie, which on the present occasion
should be otherwise unmentionable, of
Knickerbocker cut, and reaching to her
ankles, where they were decreased in
fullness by a narrow band, and then fell
over her instep in a short founce of
point lace. The effect was immense.
The Prince was more than delighted
with it; and not only did Mrs. Wheeler
find herself completely checkmated at
her own game, but as the wearing of the
additional garment a la Langtry at once
becomes the thing she is of course
obliged to adopt it, and thus conceal
what it had been her motive to subtly
disclose.

CITY BUDGET.
MAYOR'S OFFICE CITY OF BATON ROUGE,
Monday, Nov. 15, 1880.
The following estimates were then read
for the first time and ordered to be pub-
lished in the official journals ten days:

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS 1881.

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Public Landings..... | \$ 1760 00 |
| Steamboat Landing..... | 3500 00 |
| Market..... | 2300 00 |
| Licenses..... | 4000 00 |
| Taxes..... | 10,000 00 |
| Mayor's Court..... | 600 00 |
| Total..... | \$22,150 00 |

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Capital Bonds and Interest..... | \$4414 00 |
| Sinking Fund for back indebted- ness..... | 1639 00 |
| Salaries..... | 5500 00 |
| Charities..... | 1500 00 |
| Contingent Expenses..... | 1000 00 |
| Fire Department..... | 675 00 |
| Streets and Landings..... | 6000 00 |
| Total..... | \$20,781 00 |

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GEO. HENDERSON, Secretary.

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diseases are instantly removed by the
use of Warner's Safe Pills."

Men who talk much about themselves
are supposed to do so because they con-
sider better subjects to be scarce. Un-
fortunately, they are usually alone in
their opinions.

When girls get married they are in-
variably beautiful and accomplished, but
most of them abandon the claim after
a few years.

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Medical attendance and medicines..... 2.00
Total, per month.....\$21.00
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