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IT is often said about our SHOES. We carry a very large stock of Shoes, and can please almost anybody. We don't mark them \$3.00 when we are going to sell them for \$2.00 or \$1.50 when they are to go at \$1.25.

"WEAR RESISTERS"

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Ladies' Shoes and Oxfords. Our trade in these has been better this year than last, but owing to the fact that we carried over a big lot from last year, we are heavily stocked up, and are offering some extra values.

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FANS. A thousand fans ranging from 3c. to 50c. KID GLOVES are selling well with us. Contemeri's are the best; don't forget them. Elbow-length White Kid Gloves at \$1.50.

We are determined to maintain the high standard we have set in all our business, and will make good to you anything we sell that does not come up to our recommendation.

IRWIN & CO.

N. B. If you have an account of long standing, please favor us at once with a settlement of it.

\$33.00 WILL BUY A NICE BUGGY

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Wagons, Plows, Harrows, and Everything the Farmers Need in this Line.

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Corner Main and Henry Streets. Ask for our "Treaties on Stock." Free.

In addition to our complete line of Hardware



we are carrying all kinds of farming Implements and Machinery.

We are agents for the following well-known machines: Deering Harvester Co.'s (Binders, Mowers, and Rakes).

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In the way of Implements and Tools we have the Keystone Corn Planter, Five Tooth Cultivators, Single and Double Shovel Malt Plows, &c.

Be sure and see us before you place an order. We can furnish you bottom prices on anything in our line. Respectfully, The Owen Hardware Company, LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA.

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Best Location in the city—adjoining New City Hall and Capitol Park. Table unsurpassed by any in the South. American or European plans.

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Has removed his fresh meat market to the corner of Washington and Jefferson streets (old stand of D. Welsh & Co.) and has consolidated the fresh meat business with the grocery business formerly carried on by D. Welsh & Co.

Welsh, Deaver & Co. Full stock of all kinds of fresh meats. The best quality and greatest variety that can be had.

SPRING LAMBS, MUTTON, PORK, BEEF, AND VEAL. We had spring lambs killed on the 24th of March. That was earlier than ever before in this market.

We make the best SAUSAGE in town—no adulteration in seasoning, no strings in sausage. Will have a fine lot of cattle first of month bought of G. W. Elinger. They are the best in the county, none excepted.

Will have Dressed Chickens all the year around. Fresh Fish and Oysters are received daily except Monday.

We have from 8,000 to 10,000 pounds of Bacon of our own curing, and will have a nice lot of Welsh's Canned Ham on the market in a short time. Don't forget we sell Pure Country Lard, our own make.

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Cook Book—telling how to prepare many delicate and delicious dishes.

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J. R. C. COMPANY, Roaring Run, Botetourt Co., Va. "I take pleasure in saying to those who want good, clean tomatoes, that I have never seen any canned more cleanly than at the factory at Roaring Run, Va."

200,000 Brick For Sale Apply to JOHN SHERIDAN, mch9-3n Lexington, Va

WANTED—Several good families with a number of girls to work in canning factory. The men can get land for farm, or can get work at J. R. C. COMPANY, Roaring Run, Botetourt County, Va. Feb 23 1898

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA. Letters, Science, Law, Medicine, Engineering. Session begins 15th September. Tuition in Academic Schools free to Virginians. For catalogue address P. B. BARRINGER, Chairman.

THE MEPHISTO CAP.

Oh, yes. And I forgot to tell you. You know your old flame is to be married in May?

Is it? Which? You had a good many, I didn't you? Well, guess!

Let me see. Madeline Barney. Oh, you tell me, sister. I'm a tired to guess. That railroad has done me all o' pieces in the last hundred miles.

Well, then, if you're too tired to exert your mind—Edna Barsom! Oh! And she marries—

Bob Bristol, of all men. Old enough to be her father, isn't he? Correll had been away five years in the West, and had just made a long journey in order to spend two or three weeks at home with his mother and sister.

He had come back, it seemed to him, much more than five years older than he was when he left. There was upon him now the steady pressure of large responsibilities, for he was very near to being the head of a large business enterprise.

All that he saw—even the faces of his mother and sister—reminded him of what he had been when his eyes last fell upon those scenes and those faces, and he found himself, as he stretched at full length on the lounge, wondering how he could ever have been so frivolous, and joyously careless of consequences in everything, as he had been in the days that now seemed to him to belong to the dim distance of history.

So woman can forget sometimes, you see, his sister was continuing her talk. Bob's thoughts were wandering back to the past. Presently he exclaimed somewhat suddenly, 'By jingo! Clara, I believe I had some thing. Let me see. When do you say Edna is to be married? May?'

'Middle of May, I believe.' 'And this the middle of April. By jingo! I wonder whether I ought to take it to her, or send it?'

'That's your second 'by jingo' in one minute. Send what? Wedding present—'

'Eh? Yes, of course. I must send a wedding present. I love Bristol quite well. He's an older man than I am, isn't he?'

That evening Calvin Correll unpacked a big leather trunk in the privacy of his own room. He took out a tin box that looked as if it had been designed originally to hold cash. He unlocked that box and took out package after package of carefully tied up papers—receipts, cancelled notes, memoranda of many kinds. Under all these was a leather-cased daguerrotype of his mother. Last of all, under the case, was some tissue paper, and neatly folded in the tissue paper, was a pair of very much faded kid gloves.

Correll took out the tissue paper package, replaced the daguerrotype, the various bundles of memoranda, cancelled notes, receipts, and other business documents, locked the tin box, and sat down to think.

He laid the faded gloves on the little writing table before him, drew up a chair, resting his elbows on the table, and supported his head on his two hands. As the faint odor of the disintegrated gloves came to his nostrils, a smile half of amusement, half of tenderness played over his face.

'But the question is, how the deuce am I to do it?' he said aloud to himself after some minutes of this brooding.

The smile on his face grew more and more tender. Presently he sighed, and then he spoke again to himself. 'That has nothing to do with now, old man. That was long ago. Yes, you can't keep these things now. You've got it to do.'

Edna Barsom certainly had been a little disconcerted when the news came to her that her sweet heart of five years before had suddenly made his appearance in the town just at the time when her engagement to Bristol had been made public. She was not vividly conscious of any feeling for Calvin Correll that could have been construed as disloyalty to her fiancé, but she knew only too well how recklessly tongues will wag in a small town, where each man's—r woman's business is the business of all and, considering many things, Correll's sudden appearance just then, after continuous absence of five years might very plausibly be made to bear a significance that would disturb the smooth current of her engagement. There had been rumors that Mrs. and Miss Correll would, some time or other, go West to make their home with Calvin, but no one had expected

GETTING READY

Every expectant mother has a trying ordeal to face. If she does not



got ready for it, there is no telling what may happen. Child-birth is full of uncertainties if Nature is not given proper assistance.

Mother's Friend

is the best help you can use at this time. It is a liniment, and when regularly applied several months before baby comes, it makes the advent easy and nearly painless. It relieves and prevents "morning sickness," relaxes the overstrained muscles, relieves the distended feeling, shortens labor, makes recovery rapid and certain without any dangerous after-effects.

Mother's Friend is good for only one purpose, viz.: to relieve motherhood of danger and pain. One dollar per bottle at all drug stores, or sent by express on receipt of price. Full Book, containing valuable information for women, will be sent to any address upon application to THE BRADFIELD REGULATOR CO., Atlanta, Ga.

to see him back in his former home. Edna sat before the fire two days after Calvin Correll's arrival, and was meditating over these things, when Correll himself entered. She was looking for a visit not from him but from Bob Bristol. Nevertheless she found little or no difficulty in meeting him with conventional ease.

At first, that is. Her old friend—or sweetheart—lost but little time in coming to the particular business of his call, and it certainly startled her when he said, 'I am very glad I found you alone.'

'Glad?' she said. Oh, yes. 'It is nice to be able to have a little chat. Tell me about your life out there.'

'I can tell you about that at some other time,' said Correll. 'Just at present I have to discharge a duty. Oh, yes. It wouldn't be right. I wouldn't like it, if I were in Bristol's place.'

'Like what?' said the girl. 'This—And he took a tissue package from his pocket. Edna opened the package, wondering. When she saw the old gloves, lying there, with the marks of wear of many years ago upon them, but also marked with the folds of many other—later—years of careful keeping, a whole procession of memories passed before her mind. She was silent for some moments.

'What ought I to do—with them?' she asked. 'I don't know. Tell me.' Not the least doubt of it, the whole affair was excessively silly. It was thoroughly in keeping with the rest that now this young woman, on the eve of marriage into which no one had forced her—should be looking with a look of pitiful appeal in her eyes, and with tears at a man who had flirted with her five years before. Still, silly as it was, it was so.

Correll, on his part, looked extremely uncomfortable. He may have been wishing that he had sent the old gloves by mail, or by messenger; but then again, he may not have been altogether sorry to see that appealing look and those swimming eyes.

'I—I don't know,' he stammered. 'Perhaps I ought not to have brought them. But I don't see why not. I don't see how I could have kept them, could I?'

'You might have burned them mightn't you?' Edna said, with a rather mischievous smile. 'So I might,' Correll answered quickly. 'I give you my word, Miss Barsom—I beg you to believe me—I never thought of that.'

The manifest sincerity with which this was said and the ingenuous blush that accompanied the explanation were irresistible. Edna Barsom burst into a hearty laugh, which Correll was not long in taking up.

But at that moment the street door was opened, and then the door of the library, where these two stood laughing over an old pair of gloves, and the servant girl, in her directed and distinctive manner, pronounced, 'Mr. Bristol!'

There was nothing really embarrassing in the situation; the embarrassment was only apparent. The event might have been different if all the persons concerned had looked at the case as it should have been looked at. But while the girl, with characteristic

can't or, saw only the reality, Correll was for some reason, impressed chiefly by the appearance. Bristol, perhaps naturally, reflected only Correll's view.

'How are you, Br'stoll?' Correll said, holding out his hand. 'I hope you haven't forgotten me.'

The worst of it was that Edna was still laughing. And there were the gloves. Bristol appeared to think that the situation demanded a display of quiet dignity.

'I remember you perfectly, Mr. Correll,' he said, bowing slightly. 'May I ask again what amuses you so much?'

Edna became serious in a moment, and as she became serious he became angry.

'It isn't very much of a joke, Mr. Bristol,' she said. 'If you insist on having it, however, Mr. Correll has just found an old pair of gloves of mine. I have brought them to me, because it wouldn't occur to him to put them in the fire. Isn't it funny?'

'Hardly think so,' Bristol answered. 'Perhaps I might appreciate the joke better if I knew where Mr. Correll found these gloves.'

As Correll opened his mouth to make some answer to him, Edna, putting up her hand, said: 'This is my business. I'm afraid you will not have an opportunity of fully appreciating the joke, Mr. Bristol, until you manage to get yourself into a better humor for that sort of thing.'

She very carefully folded up the gloves and laid them behind the clock on the mantelpiece, while Correll stared at her and Bristol stood biting his nether lip.

Then there was an awkward pause for some moments, until Correll said something about going.

'Why, I've hardly had ten words with you yet, Mr. Correll,' Edna said, with a wicked glance at the other man. 'Please don't go yet. Perhaps—perhaps I may find something of interest to show you, if you'll wait a little longer.'

'Then perhaps I had better call at some other time,' Bristol said. It was a very awkward situation indeed. Bristol could not stay after this last observation of his, and Correll could not run away after Edna's pressing invitation.

Half an hour later Correll said. 'What do you mean by saying that you might find something interesting to show me?'

'Did I?' said Edna. 'Do you hold me to it? It occurred to me suddenly. Wait here.'

She ran out of the room and after a little while came back holding something behind her.

'Do you recognize this?' And she suddenly produced an old faded red velvet smoking cap. It was a Mephisto with sides pulled down and an absurd brush at one side.

'By jingo?' Correll exclaimed. 'Yes,' said Edna. 'You had to go home bareheaded.'

'It was that night, wasn't it, after we had all been to the mill—'

'Remember the water rats?' 'And you would pull off your gloves and try to reach pond lillies.' Edna nodded. 'And you would not give them back to me.'

'Jack stole my cap, didn't he?' 'Yes and I made him give it to me—to keep in pledge for my gloves.'

'When did you find that old cap, Miss Barsom?' 'About a week ago,' Edna said, looking a little confused. 'I didn't know you were coming home then.'

'Of course you were going to send it to me?'

'Of course I was.'

'By the way, didn't it occur to you to burn it?'

Then both burst out laughing once more.

As for the story that Bristol and Correll had high words after that, and that mutual friends with difficulty prevented them from fighting a duel there never was anything in it. Bristol was a sensible man at bottom, even though irascible at times. He made some sort of apology to Edna Barsom for his exhibition of temper.

But the Bristol-Barsom wedding was postponed in a quiet way. It never came off. The Correll-Barsom wedding came off instead, though not until a year after the incident of the Mephisto cap.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER. The Royal is the highest grade baking powder known. Actual tests show it goes one-third farther than any other brand.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

Topic, June 12: Christian Courage; Examples from Books or Life—Mark 10: 32-34; Acts 21: 10-14.

Some one has well expressed the difference between mere physical bravery and true courage by saying, "Bravery lies in the blood, courage in the mind." There are certain people who instinctively are indifferent to hardship and ignorant of fear, but this quality is likely to predominate in rash, unthinking natures. A good illustration of the difference between the traits is afforded by the story of two soldiers going into battle. One, noticing the pallor of his companion, said jeeringly, "You are afraid." "Yes," returned the other quietly, "and if you were half as afraid you'd run." Lacking natural fearlessness, he had the courage to defy the danger he thoroughly realized.

There are people who endure pain like heroes, but who wince before a scornful smile. Some men could face a cannon without flinching, but are afraid to speak the simple words, "I do not think it is right."

Christian courage is not a matter of temperament. Peter acted naturally when he ran away from danger and with oaths denied any knowledge of his Master. But not many days later, he faced the throngs which filled Jerusalem, to tell them that with wicked hands they had crucified the Son of God, and the thing which caused his hearers the most wonder and perplexity was his marvelous boldness.

Christian courage is not foolhardy, but it never holds back when duty points forward. It has a chance to express itself in the little things of life as well as in the greatest. It inspires to a brave endurance of all kinds of bodily discomfort, and this it is which makes many a sick-room seem a gateway into heaven itself. It demands that we shall bravely meet calamity. It necessitates a complete disregard for all scorn and censure which is undeserved. It means that when danger threatens, we shall still be undismayed.

Down through the ages come the ringing words, "Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee."—Young People's Weekly.

SMALLPOX CURE

It is said the worst case of smallpox can be effectually cured in three days simply by cream of tartar. This is the sure and never failing remedy: One ounce of cream of tartar dissolved in a pint of boiling water, to be drunk when cold, at short intervals. It can be taken at any time, and is a preventative as well as a curative. It is known to have cured in a hundred thousand cases without a failure. It never leaves a mark, never causes blindness, and always prevents tedious lingering.—Exchange.

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THE HIGHLIGHTS OF SYRUP OF FIGS is due not only to the originality and simplicity of the combination, but also to the care and skill with which it is manufactured by scientific processes known to the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. only, and we wish to impress upon all the importance of purchasing the true and original remedy. As the genuine Syrup of Figs is manufactured by the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. only, a knowledge of that fact will assist one in avoiding the worthless imitations manufactured by other parties. The high standing of the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. with the medical profession, and the satisfaction which the genuine Syrup of Figs has given to millions of families, makes the name of the Company a guarantee of the excellence of its remedy. It is far in advance of all other laxatives, as it acts on the kidneys, liver and bowels without irritating or weakening them, and it does not grip nor nauseate. In order to get its beneficial effects, please remember the name of the Company—CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.

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