

A BUTTERFLY'S SOUL.

Through the field where the brown quails whistle,
Over the ferns where the rabbits lie,
Pleasant the tremulous down of a thistle;
Is it the soul of a butterfly?

See! how they scatter and then assemble,
Filling the air with the dainty folds,
Delicate atoms that whirl and tremble
In the slanting sunlight that skirts the glade.

There goes the summer's innocent lover
Drifting and wandering, faint and far;
Only bewailed by the upland plover
Watched by only the twilight star.

Come next August, when thickets blossom,
See how each is alive with wings
Butterflies seek their souls in its bosom,
Changed henceforth to immortal things.

—T. W. Higginson in St. Nicholas.

Saved by the Irish.

"I paid a visit to Ireland a few years ago," remarked Judge Noonan, of the Planters' house near New York, "and in going up through Galway I had to make use of a jaunting car. The driver, a thorough specimen of the peasantry, full of native wit and shrewdness, had in some way discovered that I was from America and after eying me keenly for a time, asked: 'Is it from America ye are?'"

"I acknowledged that such was the case, and after a short silence, he asked again: 'How are the Irish gettin' along over there?'"

"Bad," said I, "very bad. They are by far the worst citizens we have. They are worse there than at home even."

"He regarded me with a queer twinkle in his eye, and queried: 'Do you know phwat I think would become of your country if it wasn't for the Irish?'"

"Well, I had not thought," I replied, "but I am curious to know your opinion."

"He leaned over, and, lowering his voice almost to a whisper, he said: 'I think it would be for rint.'"—St. Louis Republic.

Foundlings in Russia.

According to official statements relating to the Russian foundling hospitals at St. Petersburg and Moscow about 1,000,000 newly born children have been given over to them during the last hundred years, most of them illegitimate. Of this large number nearly 800,000 have died in the first months or first year of their existence! The well known authority on statistics, Alexander Von Oettingen, who in his "Moral Statistics" has treated of the state of things in these Russian hospitals, satirically calls it "Chronischer Kindermord auf Staatskosten" ("chronic infanticide at the cost of the state.") It is now asserted that the Russian government intends to carry out a radical reorganization of both hospitals. Probably, says our St. Petersburg correspondent, a number of smaller foundling hospitals will be established in the provinces to take the place of the two large central hospitals, which now receive about 30,000 infants annually.—London News.

A Fiery Plant.

The fraxinella, or, as it is used to be called, false dittany, has a peculiar property seldom noted except by those who make a particular study of plants. The whole plant emits an odor of lemon peel and when bruised it has a strong balsamic smell. This scent is strongest in the pedicles of the flowers, which are covered with glands of a rusty red color, exuding a viscid juice or resin, which exudes in vapor and on a dark night may be seen to take fire. The fraxinella has a strong and agreeable perfume and may be easily cultivated in any ordinary garden soil.—Home Journal.

Packing Fish in Ice.

The simple and obvious device of packing fish in ice for transportation in hot weather was first used in America in the forties. From this country it spread to Europe and is now in general use in all civilized lands. The practice has been common in China from early times. In a book published in Nuremberg in 1680, Erasmus Franciscus refers to the Chinese custom and recommends its adoption in Europe, but his advice was unheeded and it was left for a smart Yankee to rediscover the simple expedient nearly two centuries later.—Deutsche Fischerei Zeitung.

Introduced in Style.

Mrs. Livermore humorously tells this about herself:

"She went to a town in Maine to deliver a lecture. A young minister, who felt greatly his importance in having to introduce so large a light, announced her in these words:

"Ladies and gentlemen, you have all heard of the illustrious man across the water, so beloved by his people, and who is known by the sobriquet of the 'Grand Old Man.' I now have the pleasure of introducing to you a lady beloved in Boston and known there as the 'Grand Old Woman!'"—Lewiston Journal.

A Use for Pugs at Last.

A.—Ferguson is a sharp man.
B.—What did he do?
"You see, his wife never lets him have any money, so he steals her pug."
"Steals her pug?"
"Yes, he has made arrangements with a professional dog stealer. Ferguson hands dog over the fence to dog stealer. Mrs. Ferguson offers reward of \$5. Dog stealer gets reward and divides with Ferguson. Next week dog is gone again. Another reward, and more pocket money for Ferguson."—Texas Siftings.

When the Trouble Began.

"Did you see the beginning of this trouble?" asked the police judge of a witness against a man who had struck his wife.
"Yes, sir; I saw the very commencement of the difficulty. It was about two years ago."
"Two years ago?"
"Yes, sir. The minister said: 'Will you take this man to be your lawful husband,' and she said: 'I will.'"
—Merchant Traveler.

Be rude to none; rudeness harms not even the humblest and poorest to whom it is directed, but it injures the exhibitors.

A Transition or a Craze?

It is not so much a condescension of society to literature as it is a discovery that literature and art, in the persons of those who produce both, may be sources of amusement, or perhaps, to be just, of the enlargement of the mind. The society mind was never before so hospitable to new ideas and new sensations. Charities, boards of managers, missions, hospitals, news-rooms, and lodging houses for the illiterate and the homeless—these are not sufficient, even with balls, dancing classes and teas, of the superabundant energies of this restless, improving generation; there must be more radical clubs, reading classes, study classes, ethical, historical, scientific, literary, lectures, the reading of papers by ladies of distinction and gentlemen of special attainments—an unremitting pursuit of culture and information. Curiosity is awake. The extreme of social refinement and a mild Bohemianism almost touch. It passes beyond the affection of knowing persons who write books and write for the press, artists in paint and artists in music. Charles Dudley Warner in Harper's Magazine.

Railroad Employees in India.

Speaking of railroad wages in India. I find that section men work here for from three to five cents a day, and that the roads can get all the men they want at these prices. Engineers work on time and distance, and they are about the highest paid of the railroad employees. They get about \$70 a month while running regularly, but they can increase this by extra running to \$85 and \$100 a month. The Indian railways have no conductors in our sense of the word. The tickets are collected and examined by men at the various stations, and the guard who manages the trains in other respects has nothing to do with the tickets. Such guards get about \$25 a month, and on the smaller railroads they receive from \$7 to \$20 a month. The most of the guards are natives or half breeds, while a majority of the engineers are English. I don't think the English engineers are as well posted as our American ones. I asked one of them the weight of his engine. He stammered and replied that he did not know. The American engineer can tell you just what his engine weighs, how much steam she carries and all about her.—Frank G. Carpenter.

The Boy on the Wasp.

A wasp is a six legged bird that lives mostly in trees and under the eaves of barns, and you cannot tame him; he is too busy. Never stroke him for the wrong way, for it makes him mad, and when a wasp is mad I don't want nuthin' to do with him. He has what they call a "stinger," and when he goes out a stingerin' boys must keep away from him. I leaned up again once when he was busy, and I jumped much as a feet. Ma had to put a mud pie on the place. I hit a wasp's nest with a stone once, and the boss wasp chased me clean across the lot so fast that when I got over the fence I tore my pants; then pa he spanked me till I wished I had let the old wasp sting me.

Some say wasps make honey, but if their honey is as hot as their stinger in I don't want none. Pa says the stinger in ain't so bad at first as the reekolekshuns of it for a few days. He ought to know, cos me and my brother like got on the roof and poked a big nest from the peak down in the barnyard while pa was milkin'.—Albany Press.

Writer and Actress.

Miss Florence Warden wrote her celebrated novel, "The House on the Marsh," while she was filling an engagement at the Haymarket theatre in London. The book proved a tremendous success and she received a much larger sum from her publishers than had been agreed upon before its appearance. Miss Warden then dramatized the story and starred for two years in the leading part and devoted her hours off the stage to writing other weird and original tales. She had adopted the stage as a profession simply because she was dependent on her own efforts for her support. At first she tried the life of a governess as the only path, according to English precedent and example, open to the young Englishwoman who must earn her daily bread, and she found it a dreary enough round of drudgery to which starvation seemed preferable. Her ambition was to write, and the success of her first efforts enabled her to retire from the stage, and devote herself entirely to literature.—Current Literature.

The Great "Man Milliner."

Worth, the famous "French" dress-maker, is a native born Englishman. He is a man of striking appearance, with a rather Scotch type of face, which is made more noticeable by the Scotch cap he usually wears. His parents intended him for a printer, but he disliked to soil his fingers with printer's ink, and decided for the dry goods trade, beginning in London, and finally going to Paris, where he found favor with the Empress Eugenie, and consequently with the fashionable world which she led. M. Worth has a fine chateau near Paris, where he is very fond of entertaining his friends and customers, among whom a large percentage are Americans.—Harper's Bazar.

A Snake Story.

A few weeks ago a large rattlesnake was killed on a gentleman's plantation in the neighborhood of Baltimore, in the belly of which was found three middle sized rabbits. The snake had ten rattles, and was supposed to be about thirteen years old.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

Here is a text which it will do us all good to commit to memory: "If a man think himself to be something when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."



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SECOND POINT

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NOTES

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FOUR NEW STATES.

South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Washington.

On February 22, 1889, the President signed the bill creating South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, and Washington states of the Union.

SOUTH DAKOTA.—The great Prairie State, to which the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railway has three main lines, reaching Elklands, Aberdeen, Huron, Watertown, and Sioux Falls. Dakota South Dakota via the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railway and goes through St. Paul and Minneapolis en route.

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MONTANA.—TREASURES in her mines of prehistoric wealth in her deposits of coal, iron, copper, and all other important points. It is also the shortest line to Butte.

WASHINGTON.—The country of tall timber, indented by Puget Sound, the Mediterranean of the Pacific. Do not forget that the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railway is the only line which offers a choice of three routes to the Pacific coast. The Manitoba-Pacific route is the only line by which passengers en route for Tacoma, Portland and San Francisco can pass through Port Townsend and Seattle. Free colonist sleepers run through without change or delay. Distance to the Pacific coast is same as by other lines, but prices of tickets are five and ten dollar less. Take the Seattle route.

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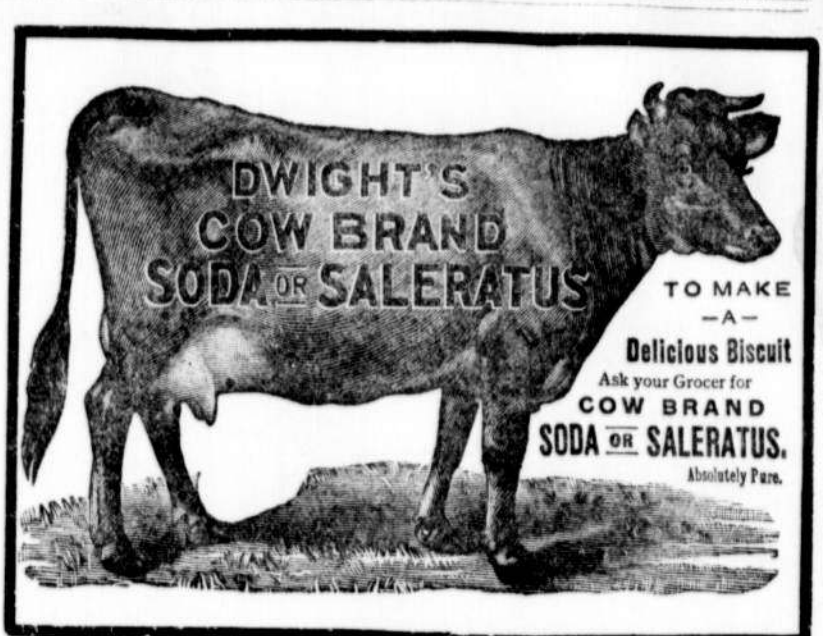
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