THY VOICE IS A COMPLAINT.

I dwell amid the city,
And hear the flow of souls in act and speech,
For pomp or trade, for merry make or folly,
I hear the confluence and sum of each,
And that is maloucholy!
Thy voice is a complaint, O crowned city!
The blue sky covering thee like God's great

pity.
-Mrs. E. B. Browning: "Soul's Travelling."

TOODLES.

I felt like a lady that morning. I was a lady, I thought after all; quite as much so as Mrs. Jones, who lived in the great cupola house on the hill. Quite as much of a lady, I said to myself, briskly, as I dusted up my little shop, and arranged the sheeny ribbons and striped goods in the window. The window was hung with pretty lace curtains, and there was a globe of gold fish in it that sailed about as courteously and busily as though they were getting their living as head clerks.

It was a sweet soft autumn morning, the village street was grassy and quiet and I hummed a tune as I glanced cheerily out at little Toddles, flitting about in her scarlet ribbons under the old willow outside. Bless her little rosy face! why shouldn't I be happy when I have her to ook after?

I was happy, and I hummed again that 'd snatch of a tune, and nodded gayiy Toddles, wondering vaguely to myself hat was going to happen that I felt so Nothing - simply neannily bright. nothing; things were done happening me long since. My way was straight and narrow, my days quiet and unevent-

As I sipped my coffee that morning 1 remembered that I held the cup up to the light, and I felt a certain sense of satisfaction in the translucence of the rare bit of china. It is so pleasant to know that one's own election may keep one aloof from the ugliness and squalor of poverty.

It doesn't take much to keep one person, of course, and I den't count Toddles for anything. It needs but the odds and ends of things-a bowl of bread and milk, a cup of coffee, with now and then a tively bit of ribbon-to keep the little one going famously.

Yes, I always wanted to be a lady And as I sat in my bright little room I half felt inclined to forgive Richard Gray for the heart-break he gave me long ago. And, oh God! it was a heart-break. But if he had married me, perhaps he would have shut me up in some gloomy city house, to be a lady after his fashion, to stifle for want of a bit of fresh air, to walk softly under a thousand petty conventionalities, and to cease being my own mistress. Ah! that I never could endure. So it is, perhaps, as well that Richard left me and went off somewhere-God knows where.

You see, I like it-my little shop. There's something so delightful in seeing the pretty girls of the village, with now and then a fine lady, hanging over my dainty wares and trying the tints of scar- gotton. let and blue and orange with many a laugh and many a glance in the mirror. I call it my reception when they pour in of a holiday afternoon. I love colors: I love grace and beauty; and perhaps I might have been a bit of an artist, in my way, if I'd ever had an opportunity Richard used to say so. But ah! he said many a flattering thing and many a false thing in those old days And if I ever dreamed of any higher life than contents me now-well, I've given up dreaming.

time for building air castles. thing, curled up in a heap on my doorstep when I went to open the shutters. Wherever she came from I never knew. Toddles never explaine 1: she just stretched up her little fat arms to me and gurg led 'Tod-od doddle," and that was her sue introduction.

been dropped by some traveling circus passing through the town, and I had excellent neighborly advice about putting the treasure in the foundling hospital.

To tell the truth, I grew so attached to the child that I should even have been wicked enough, I fear, to regret any one's turning up to claim it. But that's not at all likely; no more likely now, after so should ever meet again in this world. fate.

And that—that is among the things that

"E can never happen.

It was on this wise our parting: Richard's mother was ctd and feeble and miserely. She'd spent a good deal of money on him-sent him to college, and expected, folks said, to "make some-thing of him." She always expected to get her money's worth out of her transactions. Richard held her in a sort of awe somehow, though she was a little wizened old woman that he could have lifted with his left hand. But I liked him for respecting his mother.

day we two were sitting at twilight talking of the future dreamily, as was our wont.

his arms about me; "it half seemed too bright to ever be. "Ever be!" I echoed. "Oh, Richard, if you talk that way it will never be."

Richard smiled, but his face grew overcast. I felt that a storm was coming. "Well?" I queried, seeing that he sat

brooding and silent. "Darling" he said, soothingly, "I knew it would come hardly to you; but how can I go against my mother? Her poor old heart beating against mine. He had heart is bound up in me, Jeannette, and saved her. And I looked at Richard she will never hear to-to anything Gray, and put my hand in his.

that"-"That seems to lower you," I added, in a steely voice that seemed to cut its way out of my heart like a keen, cold

"O, I am a coward—a poltroon! cried Richard, wringing his hands. "I was born to bring trouble on those I live. Who, who shall I leave to suffer for me

"The one who will say least about it," answered, hardily. My heart was throbbing heavily, like the clock that ticks the hour of execution; but I made no outcry, and we parted in that final parting silently. And I have lived silently ever

One year af er that I heard that Richard's mother was dead, and then that he had married: who, I knew not—who, I knew nother who, I knew nother who and the knew nother One year af er that I heard that Rich-

thrive. Then, two years later, came my to feel as if bundled up in a lot of rags. little Toddles to me, sitting like a lily There were so many that nights they on my door step, as if some angel of peace had dropped her there. I have height. named her Theresa, but Toddles has always been her own pet name for her-

self, and I like it because it is hers. The child has brought me peace. And I feel Lo vengeance against any one now. Nor do I rejoice that Richard's wife is said to have turned out ill, and spent the

wealth she brought him. But I had forgotten the shop in all this reverie and reminiscence.

There was a sharp twang of the little bell, and I heard a heavy step in the dcorway. I set down my coffee-cup hastily, and hurried in to confront reat muscular fellow with a big beard and a slouched hat, whose presence seemed tairly to wipe out the little shop. This was rather a different type from my usual customers, and I was a little

shy of him. He hesitated, and seemed bewildered when I spoke to him-men never do get used to shopping-and it was some time before I quite made out what he wanted. It was some scrt of woolen goods-a scarf or a kerchief, I think. These were not very salable stock just now, and had put the box containing them out of sight somewhere. While I rummaged about, the stranger stood in the doorway, watching me in a way I did not like; perhaps he wanted to steal something. He looked needy enough, and shaboy enough.

"Oh, here they are at last," said I, eagerly, handing down the package from high and dusty shelf. The man did not seem to hear me. He

was looking at Toddles, darting about like a butterfly outside. "Whose child is that?" said he, ab

It was an impudent question, and I felt my blood flush up hotly for a moment looked wayworn and weary; perhaps he "distress" nad come a long journey, and left a little not made.

child like this at home. "It is my child," I said pleasantly. "Yours:" he repeated. "Or at least," said I, "if not mine,

was left with me to be cared for." "Left with you," echoed the stranger. 'Aye, so I have heard, Left with you by the wretched man, the outcast, the degraded, who knew none else on who n to thrust his burden when his tinseled wife fell from the tight-rope, and died there, groveling in the sawdust-knew none other of whom to seek the charity than the woman who had loved him

I listened as one stupefied with opium What did this man know or guess con cerning me and mine? What object had he in view in lingering about the shops But I said coolly, "That is a story that needs to be proved."

The stranger stooped and looked keen ly at me. "Verily," said he, with a low, sardonic laugh, "he has reaped his reward, it seems: he is both dead and for-

me.

I pointed sternly at the door. "Sir said I, "i. you are satisfied with the goods I beg you will take them away. I have other things to attend to."

For a moment after the great hulking figure disappeared through the doorway of my little shop I covered my face with my hands, and all the past of my life rushed entirely over me, I had not outlived it yet, after all. For there's Todales, so round and sweet and soft and real. She leaves me little

Suddenly I remembered Toodles, and hastened to the door to look after her. You see, I love the child as if she were My customer had disappeared; the huge thrope." Second ditto-"You're no' like my own. For she came to me one day willow trunk hid the road from view but me, man. My father wiz a collier, and am imost expeditious and perfect manner. about fours years ago a wee little baby I felt relieved for there was my little one a collier too, aithough it's no' the best o' swinging back and forth with the long pendants of the wil'ow. Only one instant I saw her in the sanlight -one instant. Then came a rushing, tearing and tramping, a terrible sound in the air and a great bull, tossing his horns furiously, and with eves glaring madly before him. It was surmised that the child had came snorting and hellowing up the street. The great willow was in his

course, and, oh God! my little Toodles! Then I know not whether I fainted or whether I screamed for help. I saw a But one seldom takes good advice, and I tal figure leap out from somewhere in the very pathway of the mad animal and the next moment Toddles, half laughing, half crying, was nestling in my

The man whom I had sent from my door a few minutes since stood looking many years—no, not at all likely; no on us yearningly—the man who had more likely than that Richard and I snatched my darling from its terrible

"Both dead and forgotten," he said. "Oh Jeannette! Jeannette! do you not know ma?'

The rainbow ribbons in the little shop window spun dizzily round, and all things grew dim before my eyes. For I knew that Richard Gray was come back can—for you will never recover."
to me. Poor and degraded and deserted, If there is ever a time in the lift perhaps, he had come back to me. He lifted his hat, and, stooping, kissed

the little one, who did not resist him. "I brought you my motherless little one years agone. A beggar and a sinner though I was, I dared to pray your charity to my child, whom its mother flying from her home would have left to perish among the gewgaws and clowns in whose "My little one," said Richard, putting company she died. Yea, verily, my punishment has been bitter. And shall l leave you now, Jeannette, you and my child, and depart forever, hateful in you eyes for all years to come-hateful when

not forgotten?" But something filled my heart just then, like the rush of a mighty river. looked back at my quiet life, my bright little shop, the years of silence and of sorrow. I felt Toodle's warm

ce then I have tried what it is to be a lady in the far West -a lady in a log cabin, without China, or carpet, or neck ribbon, and Richard says I have succeeded .-- Harper's Weekly.

New Style of Dress. A correspondent of the New York Graphic: I wish to introduce to your notice a new style of dress invented partly and used by a young lady in New Yo.k. She is anxious that others of her

and wearing.
It consists of three pieces. I mean three garments worn over the other She dresses in three pieces. I mean tha she has on three pieces when she is fully

made a heap on the floor two feet in

I do think women do reed some sort of dress they can get around in. Now half am," woman's strength is used up in carrying clothes. I think this invention should be made known to the world, and I have modestly done the best I could in describ ing it. It is not an easy subject for a young writer to handle.

MOTHER.

The light, the spell word of the heart, Our guiding star in weal or woe; Our tallsman—our earthy chart— That sweetest name that earth can know

We breathed it first with lisping tongue When cradled in her arms we lay. Fond memories round that name are hung That will not, cannot pass away

We breathed it then, we breathe it still, More dear than sister, friend or brother; The gentle power, the maoic thrill, A wakened at the name of mothe

WIT AND WISDOM.

The linen duster is just beginning to get the laugh on the army overcoat. Water that has stood over night in as open vessel should not be used for cook-

No horse-car conductor is too bashful to ask a male passenger to nelp him lift the car on the track. A man's curiosity never reaches the female standard until some one tells him

his name was in yesterday's paper. Counsel to witness-"Rou're a nice sort of feliow, you are!" Witness-"I'd say the same of you, s'r, only I'm on my oath."

It is a positive fact that the poet who But I reflected that this man will coolly and deliberately make "distress" rhyme with "mistress' is born.

> This is an imitation of Mr. Norristown Williams: A medical exchange says sealskin caps are so warm that they cause the hair of the wearer to fall out. This is probably the reason most editors are baldhaded.

> "Oh, ma, if Jesus is God's son, where "God's wife? I-you-why, Charles-God's wife-" That boy wouldn't budge. 'Yes, where is God's wife?' "God's wife, my son-he-God was a widower.' That satisfied him. A philosopher says that women do not

> like to remember. He is wrong. They ake exquisite delight in remembering where their husbands leave their slippers and in taunting the poor creatures as they go rooting under the bed after the truant feet-coverings .- Rockland Courier

A handsome and witty Parisian lady, at her last reception, observed a journalist | ing which period their wares have betaking notes of her bon mots, ful," she said, "these things are not to be I began to feel afraid of this man, who written down. Words are like birds seemed cent upon insulting or alarming which pass while singing. If you try to catch them they never come back again

The other day a provincial imposter was taken up by the police of Paris and idly gained favor with farmers, that, condemned to two years' imprisonment for selling charms, such as the ace of clubs, to be worn in the heel of a boot. A liberal editor complains of this sentence, because there is hardly a gambler in Paris who has not his fetiche.

First friend (over a glass of beer)-Weel, John, tae tell the truth, my father wiz a cosmopolitas, but am a misan-

What is an editor? An editor's bizness is to write editorials, grind out poetry, sort manuscripts, keep a mighty big waste basket, steal matter, fight other people's battles, take white beans and apple sass for pay when he can get it, work nineteen hours out of twenty-four, and be damned by everybody .- Billings

A French Colonel, on tour of inspec tion, addressing a soldier--Are you con tent with your food? The soldier-les The Colonel-How do they Colonel. divide the rations? Does it not often happen that some of you get a large portion, and others a small one? The soldier-No, Colonel; al' the portions are small.

When, just ten years ago, Hector Berlioz came back from St. Petersburg suffering severely from his disease, he went to Nelaton

The great physician examined him, and asked, "Are you anything of a phil-"Yes," said the patient.

"Then you'd better get all the consolation out of your philosophy that you

If there is ever a time in the life of the washerwoman when her heart is made to beat with joy, it is when she finds a diamond stud in the unwashed shirt of the young man who owes her a year's wash-Then she laughs to herself and says: "He'll pay that bill before he gets that back, as sure as my name is Matilda Jane."-Rome Sentinel. And the young man laughs and says to himself: "There's a \$10 wash-bill paid with a 25 cent diamond."

A refractory Irishman in jail named Dennis McGinnis, refused to work. The keeper said to him: "McGinnis, you go to work or the pump." "Niver," replied the Irishman. A second time the keeper ordered McGinnis to work, but he refused to budge an inch. "Now for the last time, McGinnis," exclaimed the keeper, "you go to work or to the pump."
"Niver, sir," said McGinnis, straightening up to the full dignity of a man. "Be-

dad, sir, I'll lave the jail first." A young lady was sitting with a gallant captain in a charmingly decorated recess. On her knees was a diminutive niece, placed there pour les convenances. In the adjoining room, with the door open, were the rest of the company. Says the little niece in a jealous and very audible voice, "Auntie, kiss me too." leave you to imagine what had just hap pened. "You should say twice, Ethel dear; two is not grammar;" was the im-

sex should adopt it. She has showed the entire dress, and explained its working THE storms which have lately raged in Germany demonstrate in an unmistakable manner the superiority of subterranean to overhead telegraphs. During the heavy storms of -1876 telegraph-

don't remember me," he said; "I am John R-." "You are?" exclaimed the old man, "You don't mean to tell me that you are John R-?" "I certainly said the visitor, shaking him by abox. the hand, "and I'm very glad to see you again." Well," persisted the old man, "I never did. To think this is you. They tell me you've grown awful rich, John. John admitted that he had "eaved something." "And they say you're the Pres ident of a railroad and get a big salary.' Again John had to admit that rumor spoke the truth. "I'm glad on it, John! I'm glad on it, my boy! It beats all what circumstances and cheek will do for

Origin of Kissing.

a man.

The correspondent of an Indiana newspaper gives the following account of the origin of the osculatory process: "Some Trojans with their wives escaped by sea from Troy when it was taken and sacked. The wives being horribly sea sick, when they landed with their husbands, in order that the latter might, by hunting, provide provisions for the remainder of their journey, to avoid again going to sea and at the instigation of a lady named Roma. burned the ships. The husbands on their return being fiercely angry, to stay the torrent of abuse heaped upon them, their wives pressed their lips to theirs, and clung about them. These lip pressings were the first kisses, and the novelty was so successfully employed that the husbands left off scolding and fell to kissing, until they were kissed by their wives into good humor and complete forgiveness.

This account may be the true one, although it appears to have escaped the notice of the learned Burton, who makes no mention of it in his "Love Melancholy." Ben Johnson evidently approved of kiss ing, although he may not have known its origin, as stated above. He says:

First give a hundred, Then a thousand, then another Hundred, then unto the other Add a thousand and no more

If kissing was invented by the Trojans, is God's wife?" asked a sweet little boy. and not by Adam and Eve, as commonly reported, tt is no wonder that our first parents found the Garden of Eden a slow place, or that Eve galiavanted with the serpent to while away the time.

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For upwards of forty years Messrs. NICHOLS, SHEPARD & Co. of Battle Creek, Mich., have been prominent manufacturers of farm implements and machinery, steam engines, mill machinery, ctc., durcome well known and highly valued throughout the country. Over twenty years ago, they made a fortunate hit by originating the celebrated "Vibrator" Thresher, a machine which has so rapfrom the manufacture of only ten the first year, their sales now largely exceed those of any other thresher factory in the world. And this popularity is founded upon merit, for the machine (which is said to be undoubtedly the original and only genuine "Vibrator,") probably comprises all possible improvements for threshing and separating grain in the As now offered to the public, the machine s the result of long and careful experimenting by persons of genius and skill, with the aid of liberal expenditure, and hence it is not surprising that the "Vibrator should far excel all the old-fashioned threshers in every essential requisite. In great value and success of the "Vibrator" reputation-renders it worthy the attention of all grain and seed growers and threshermen, whether located in the East

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