THE SPENDTHRIFT.

Lustrous and silken haired he swept
The blackthorn silver loose and leps
Into the leafless lane;
His pleasant minstrelsy began;
Torrents of music riot ran
Across the haze girt plain;
He flung the fields new liveries
And green slashed doublets to the tree

Then, stooping, from a lily bowl Drank of the sweetness of her soul And madly sprang away. In marshes and moist meadows he Sundered the stately fleurs-de-lis; Kingcups in gilt array
He tossed amid the tasseled reeds
Quiv'ring and bent with crystal beads

And ever in his thoughtless flight
About him danced in vestures bright
His minion butterflies.
His plunder was the rose hid dew,
Rose leaves the largesse that he three
At random to the skiess
Nor ceased he till he havoc made
Amid the jasmine's starry braid.

So was his rich inheritance Ruined and lost. With swift advance And stern in russet gown
Came autumn, of the spendthrift youth
By bitter bonds devoid of ruth,
Demanding summer's crown.
Her from the corralled yews alone
The robins mourn his broken throne.

## THE TWO **FATHERS**

\*

\*

The mother was a widow, an industrious woman, who worked late and early in order to support her child, a little girl between 4 and 5 years old, pretty as a fairy, full of fun, affectionate and coaxing as any happy child

On the opposite side of the landing of the fifth floor on which Mme. Ettenne and her daughter Lillie lived was the door of the apartments inhabited by two brothers, cabinet makers by trade and bachelors either by choice by two brothers, cabinet makers by trade and bachelors either by choice

heat necessitates the door being left open in order to get a current of air, the prettiness of Lillie attracted the child who has made our happiness up and adored children in their quality of approaching old bachelorhood. From that a sort of intimacy sprung up be-tween the widow and her neighbors. tween them. They sometimes made a party of pleasure on the Sunday. So well did they get on indeed that one day the eldest of the two brothers said

to the other:
"That child would want a father

"That is my opinion also."

"Would you have any objection to my asking the mother to marry me?"
"Why should 1? In fact, I was think-love us ing of doing the same myself. But since you have spoken first follow the notion up, but on the condition that you will let me see Lillie as often as 1 like. I love that child as much as if

she were my own."
"Forsooth! You will live with us." The question agreed upon, the two brothers, dressed in their best, went to call on Mme. Etienne, whom, how-ever, they found confined to bed. The before she had run in order to take some work back to the shop in time; on returning she had caught a chill, passed a feverish night and was not able to rise in the morning. She begged her neighbors to go for a doctor. It was no time to speak of

marriage.
Inflammation of the lungs carried away the poor woman in ten days.

Thanks to the two brothers, she had not to go to the hospital, and until last she was able to see her little Lillie, whom she earnestly recommended to them. They swore never to abandon

"If you wish, we will never get mar-

They went to live at Vincennes so that Lillie might have plenty of good nir and take walks in the wood. were very proud of their adopted daughter. When people stopped to look at them and asked in a casual way which was her father, they replied, "Both of us."

the other and called them Uncle John and Uncle James.

When she grew a little older they put her to school—to a young ladies' school be it understood—taking her there every morning and calling for her in the evening. So Lillie grew up be-tween these two affections without ever feeling the want of father or

She cost the brothers a great deal of money, did the little one, but bah, they went no longer to the cafe and worked a little more than formerly. These supplementary hours were voted to the pleasure and toilet of ma-

When she was 15 years of age, she was the first to suggest that she should stay at home for the future, at which, of course, the brothers were enchanted. What a charming little house-keeper they had then and with what joyful tenderness she greeted their return every evening! To say the spoilwould be saying too much, but at least 'glad to have met you' on leaving a ed child never abused their goodness she seized every available opportunity

of pleasing them. Two years passed over so quickly for

Seventeen years old! Is it possi- care if we never meet again."

But, yes, it was possible. And James and John thought so much about it like to meet you again, suh." that it made them anxious and un-

It was the younger who said one evening to the other;

"Do you know that Lillie is getting

more beautiful every day?"
"Eh! Yes, I know it well. And others know it too. There must be a good many admirers prowling around here after her." "And it is certain one of them will take her away from us before very

long.' "Poor little thing!"

"Yes, if she were to get a bad hus band! "Oh, I should kill any man who

would treat her badly!" "There is only one way of escaping

that. "Ah!" said the elder brother, without making any addition to the exclamation.

"And then," continued the other, "think how sad it would be for us to part from Lillie - never again to see her trotting about the house, never to hear her merry voice singing after we return from work of an evening."

"I have been thinking of all that for a long time, my dear John

"It must be put an end to." "And your plan?" "It is very simple if it pleases you.

I shall marry her before she gets fond
of any one else."

"Zounds!" The elder brother stood up, almost

threatening. "I also have thought of that plan. I was often going to speak about it, but always held back."

"Because I wanted to marry Lillie myself.

The two brothers looked at one other far from amiably. Then the younger said:

"This is the same as with the mother

you very young." or by chance, no one knew.

One of those days when the intense below stairs. Lillie was coming back

the prettiness of Lillie attracted the attention of the two brothers, who were already past their first youth between us. Let her choose which and saderal children in their carelling. one she likes best."
"All right," said the other. "That is

quite fair." Lillie entered, took the two men by Little reciprocal services passed be the neck, kissed them and, drawing a

chair between them, said:
"I wish to speak to you seriously." The face of the young girl looked

quite joyous. "I wish to get married." "John and I were just speaking about

"But you have not found me a hus-

"As a matter of fact we have. You love us very much, say?" "Like father and mother at once."

"That is why we wish to propose to you to choose between us."
"Why choose?" "Which of us you will marry.

The young girl burst into a fit of laughter so joyous, so prolonged, that the two brothers remained quite dum-founded. Then, brushing the tears from her eyelashes:

wanted to speak to you seriously. You mustn't joke. I have a sweetheart."

"Now, you must not be angry. I am so fond of him, and he is coming tomorrow to see you."
"Like that! All at once! And us, Lil-

lie?

Athens and the Goat.

startling cry, with a "g" whose gut-tural quality is unattainable by adult learners and usually unperceived by When a customer comes to the door, he strips the desired quantity into the proffered receptacle before her vigilant eyes, selecting one of the goats and paying no attention to the others, who understand the business as well as Lillie seemed to like one as well as he does. Patiently they stand about, ous doorsteps. When their master moves on, they arise and follow, more

faithful than dogs.

The obvious and well nigh overpowering temptation to which the milkman is subjected affects him in Greece as in America. In Greece it is taken for granted that he cannot resist, and he is therefore obliged to take his animals with him. But even thus he is not above suspicion, for they tell of a rubber water bag carried inside the coat and provided with a tube reaching to

met you.' "Indeed, suh? Wherefore glad? It

must take little to make you glad, suh. "It does." "Hah! Well put. But every one says new made acquaintance, and none

means it." "Mere figure of speech. To tell you all of them that on the day the two the exact truth would hurt your feelmen brought a cake and bouquet to ings, major. Only hypocrites can be celebrate Lillie's birthday they exsir, I am sorry I met you, and I don't

Why, hang it, suh, you are getting to be an honest gentleman! I should

"Never, if I happen to see you first, major. Ta-ta."

Bo the raspy old soldier had some thing to think about.—New York Press.

he Home

SOME MEAL HINTS. Housekeepers grow weary in planning the meals, for it should be re-membered that this same work has to be gone through with three times each day, and frequently when there is but a slender pocketbook from which the necessary supplies may be furnished. Beefsteaks and chops are, of course, the prime favorites with the majority of men, and it is pathetic to see the look of despair upon the faces of the holders of the foresaid stender pocketbooks, when, through sheer desperation, the lords of creation are appealed to to furnish hint as to the next day's breakfast 'Why, I don't care; give me a fine portershouse steak if you run short, and his lordship speaks as confidently as though the poor, harassed wife of his bosom need only go to the back door and pick that fine steak off the

Beefsteaks and chops are, indeed, all very well, but they are among the gar. most expensive of meats, and not to be thought of by the holder of the slender purse. There are many dishes that are appetizing that may be had for one-quarter of the money, that, if judiciously presented, the steaks and chops need not be brought forth only on the rarest occasions and will not be missed.

Let us suggest a very simple break-fast that need not cause anxiety to the worried housekeeper, and will, we are sure, cause great satisfaction in the household. For a family of four, cat a fine Kinarred herring, which are sure, cause great satisfaction in the household. For a family of four, get a fine Kippered herring, which may be had for 15 cents. Broil it carefully and serve hot, garnished with parsley. With the Kippered herring serve some country fried potatoes. Put a tablespoonful of lard in a pan, and when quite hot add to it four largesized potatoes cut into dice. Turn frequently until the potatoes are cooked through, when they will be in quite small pieces. Now brown them, and serve steaming hot. With some rolls, hot coffee and some fruit you will find that John will want it repeated. It will cost scarcely half as much as the steak alone.

At the present low price of eggs serve an omelet with a little of the cold ham left from yesterday or a little quince or crabapple jely in it, some corn muffins, an orange and coffee, and your breakfast will be entered.

some corn muturs, an orange and cor-fee, and your breakfast will be en-joyed. Stewed kidney with a very little sherry wine as flavoring, some wheaten gritz and some bakers' rolls will tempt the family another morn-

will tempt the family another morning.

Ask your butcher to chip you some beef from the round. Have it cut just as carefully as the salted or dried beef is cut. Have the frying-pan very hot, and just a tiny piece of butter, and when it is melted put the beef in the pan. Cook it for about five minutes, then add a half pint of milk. Stir until the milk simmers, then thicken slightly with a lump of butter the size of a wainut rubbed in a heaping teaspoonful of flour. Cook until the gravy is of the consistency of rich cream, remove and serve at

"No nonsense, my uncles. I said I wanted to speak to you seriously. You mustn't joke. I have a sweetheart."
Neither replied.
"Now, you must not be angry. I am to fond of him, and he is coming to norrow to see you."
"Like that! All at once! And us, Lilie?"
"You will always be my two fawers."

"You will always be my two fawers."

until the gravy is of the consistency of rich cream, remove and serve at once. Season with salt and pepper, Some buttered toast and stewed potatoes are a delightful accompaniement to this dish.

Try to so manage your meals that the left-overs dovetail. In this way many little dishes may be served without taking the slender allowance.

PRETTY BEDROOM SLIPPER. Your genuine Athenian believes the comfortable slippers crocheted from wool and sewed to fleece lined animal, and he regards the cow in this soles are familiar to most women and connection about as we Americans do the mare. The milkman takes his ani-weather. "Motherhood" explains a the child.

The funeral over they took charge of the little one, kissing her. They of the little one, kissing her.

They of the little one, kissing her.

"Gala!" he shouts, a quick, "Gala!" he shouts, a quick "Gala!" he shouts weather wear which is entirely new. It is made from gray linen macreme cord in simple single crochet. Each stitch is taken up in the back of the loop. Begin at the toe of a number three slipper by making a chain of 11 stitches and in the centre of each alternate row add two stitches to widen until there are 43. Commence the side by taking up 12 stitches, and after knitting seven plain rows, begin to widen at the top for the heel, which must be four stitches higher than the sides.

After widening sufficiently for the loop. The loop is precised with a produce after "Coriolations and in the control of the loop. Big Producers.

It is made from gray linen macreme to Ulysses.

Mr. Haddon Chambers has finished a ference in favor of the best 12 sorts of 7 bushels 9 pounds per acre. Some of the heaviest yielding potators, average of six years' trial, are: No. 1, Everett, early, pink; 2, Carman No. 1, medium early, white; 3, Rochessister Rose, early, pink; 4, American Wonder, late, white; 6, Late Purltan, medium late, white; 6, Empire State, medium late, white.

If farmers would choose the most produced after "Coriolations" in London this spring and in New York next fall. It is by Fergus Hume, author of many sensational novels.

After widening sufficiently for the heel, which must be done very gradually, knit two rows without widening, and decrease in the same proportion until there are but 12 stitches. Knit seven plain rows and crochet fast to the other side. Of course the work must be measured and graded according to the sole that is to be used.

ANOTHER ILLUSION DESTROYED.

I wish you hadn't had your hair cut so short, Harold! exclaimed the young woman, turning from him involuntarily.

What difference does it make, dearest? \*fasked Harold. with tender anx-After widening sufficiently for the

and provided with a tube reaching to the palm of the hand. Each time the milkman closes his hand over the udder he presses the bag between his arm and his body.—Scribner's.

Agreeable Parting.

"Well, major, goodby. Glad to have met you."

kin till tender and quite dry. Rub it perfectly smooth. To one quart of pumpkin add one pound of sugar, a teaspoonful of butter, one quart of milk, the beaten yolks of three eggs, and one teaspoonful of cinnamon. Beat with a rich crust, and pour in the pumpkin; bake in a moderately hot oven.

Apple Pic.—Quarter and

Apple Pic.—Quarter and pare eight apples. Cut the quarters in two and apples. Cut the quarters in two and fill a deep pie plate. If the apples are quite sour use two-thirds of a cup of granulated sugar, if only moderate ly so, thalf a cup. One teaspoonful of cinnamon. Roll the under crust very thin. The upper crust should be punctions.

tured for the escape of steam. After moistening the under crust around the edges fold the upper crust un-der it and press them together to keep in the juice. Bake in a moder-ate oven from half to three-quarters of an hour.

Cranberry Jelly .- Cook one quart of cranberries with one cupful of water in a porcelain saucepan for ten minutes; add two heaping cupfuls of light brown sugar, and cook ten min-utes longer. Press through a sleve, pour into a square, shallow mold and set in a cold place to harden. Serve in dainty blocks or cubes. The use of the light brown sugar instead of the white gives a most delicate flavor.

Indian Pudding .- Scald one and a Indian Pudding.—Scald one and a half cupfuls yellow cornmeal in two quarts of milk, add salt, one table-spoonful of ginger and let it stand twenty minutes. Then add one cupful of molasses two eggs and a piece of butter the size of a wainut. Bake slowly from two to three hours, serve with cream.

Beef Haricot .- One and one-balf pounds of round steak; dredge with flour and brown in two tablespoonfuls lard. Into this pour one pint of boiling water and add one teaspoon sait, one-half teaspoon pepper one turnip one carrot three stalks of celery chopped fine one tablespoonful vine-gar. Cover tightly and cook forty minutes, adding more water if ne-

SOME OLD TIMERS

Dr. Jesse C. Green of West Chester Pa., 84 years old, is said to be the oldes active wheelman in the country. Daniel Wark, a Dominion senator from redericton, N. B., is said to be the olde

legislator in the world. He was 97 or Feb. 19. Former Governor Boutwell of Massa clusetts is the only living man who was the executive of a state 59 years ago He was only 31 years old when in 1851 he was inaugurated governor of Massa

chusetts. Former Chief Judge Logan E. Bleckley of Georgia has matriculated at the State university for a course in mathematics. He is 76 years old and engaged on a book, part of which treats of a branch of mathematics in which, as he says, he has "grown rusty".

"grown rusty."

Timothy T. Sawyer, the president of the Bunker Hill National bank of Charlestown, Mass., is the oldest bank president in New England. He has been connected with the institution over 50 years and has been its president since 1884. He is now \$4\$, but attends to all his duties at the bank.

George W. Putnam, a descendant of the famous Revolutionary general, is said "grown rusty.

the famous Revolutionary general, is said to be the oldest railroad mail clerk in the country. He was appointed by Lincoln in 1861 and has been in the service ever since. His home is in Westfield, O., but his "run" is between Ashtabula and Oil City, on a branch of the Lake Shore road. City, on a branch of the Lake Shore road.

During a recent speech in congress Senator Morgan, with a brief intermission, was on his feet for six hours, talking steadily. He is 77 years old; but, to quote his own language, he is not as rapid in his action and speech as his colcague, Senator Pettus, who is 80 years old. "I cannot keep up as closely with the procession," he said. "I only stagger along."

BILL OF THE PLAY.

Charles Frohman is interested in nine New York theaters.

Paul Potter has never seen a recen performance of any play from his pen.

The new play for Andrew Mack, "Tom
Moore," has been completed and adopted. Kyrle Bellew will visit America as a star next season and for two years fol

lowing.

Olga Nethersole has sailed for England, having given up all hope of playing again for a year at least.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are rehearsing in London a comedy by Egerton Castle called "The Secret Orchard."

In the short space of 11 years Clyde Fitch has written 24 dramatic compositions, and all of them have been produced.

ANOTHER ILLUSION DESTROYED. the average crops of the country.

You-you have destroyed an illu sion, she sighed. That is all.
You didn't think I was a poet did
you, Clara, because I were my hair
long?
No, I never suspected you of being

a poet. Nor an artist?

FARM-FIELD AND GARDEN

SPRAYING IN FULL BLOOM.

What Bee Men and Others Have to Say About It. At the recent New York state con ention of beekeepers Professor B of Geneva made an address on the matter of spraying trees "while in full bloom," and of this E. R. Root, the bee man gives a resume in American Bee Journal: In the experiments conducted it was

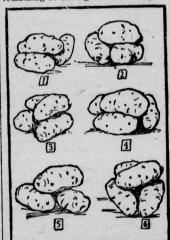
found that the blossoms that were sprayed just at the time they were in full bloom were either killed or injured. If the spraying were administered only during the blooming time, the poison-ous mixtures did not go the right spot in a good many cases, for the simpl reason that no cluster of apple blossoms, for example, opened out at one and the same time. Some blossoms would be closed and impervious to the effect of the spraying liquids, and if no more spraying were administered after blooming time then these blossoms that were not open would not receive the benefit, and the fruit eating insects would then get in their work. The proessor brought out the point clearly that if spraying were applied before blooming and after the leaf cating insects in the other would be destroyed. He further showed that the spraying mixtures are exceedingly harmful to he development and growth of the delicate pollen.

A certain set of trees was set apart and sprayed while in bloom, and only then, and others were not sprayed. Even though the bloom was exceeding ly abundant, it was found that those trees that were not sprayed during blooming time yielded from a third to a bushel and a half more of fruit. In some cases they sprayed a half of one tree several times during blooming time, leaving the other side of the tree not sprayed. There was a marked dif-ference in the setting of the fruit on 'e two sides of the trees, and that difference was decidedly in favor of the side not sprayed.

A certain fruit man who believed that spraying during blooming time was the right thing to do estimated. after he had sprayed his whole orchard at such time, that he had lost nearly a thousand dollars. He had had enough of that business.

POTATOES THAT PAY.

Heavy Yielders, Including Carman No. 1 and Empire State. Sixty-two varieties of potatoes have een under trial for five or six successive years at the Canadian experimental farms, and, while the 12 most productive sorts have averaged during that period 352 bushels per acre, th remaining 50 have given an average of



doubt result in a material increase in

The vitality of all seed corn should be thoroughly tested before planting. To do this satisfactorily fill an ordinary china dinner plate a little over ter on the sand until the fluid runs out of it, after which the extra free water can be drained off. After shelling off the tips and butts of the cars of seed corn pick out one kernel from near the top, one near the middle and another near the butt of the ear. Mix these kernels from all of the ears togethe and press 100 in the plate of sand. Turn another plate over the first to prevent too rapid evaporation and set in a warm place near the stove. Examine from day to day. Do not let the sand dry out, but keep it thoroughly moistened. At the end of seven days all of the kernels should have sprouted. If less than 95 sprout, discard the seed and secure other seed that will test 95 per cent or more, recommends A. D. Shamel of Illinois university.



VALUABLE SECRET.

One Family Has Furnished Stamp Cancelers For Sixty-five Years. Since 1835 all the machines by which postage stamps are canceled and en-velopes marked with the name of the postoffice, the date, etc., have been nade by one family. In the year nam ed the postmaster general entered into contract with Benjamin Chambers, a citizen of Washington, to furnish a device by which postage stamps might be canceled so that they could not be used again, and, although there have been a multitude of competitors on several occasions, that contract has been renewed year after year for 65 years with Mr. Chambers, his son and his with AIr. Chambers, his son and his grandson, who have a secret process by which the dies are made of malleable iron and carbonized into steel at a cost of from 50 cents to \$2.75 each. It is certainly the only government contract and probably the only con-tract in the United States that has been renewed so often and continued so long. The department buys about \$25,000 worth of new cancelers every year. Bids are advertised for annuand every now and then some am it a good thing offers a proposal, but the Chambers family are invincible. They have improved the cevice until it is

now almost perfect.

The stamper is a circular cast steel box with a screw thread, one end of which is closed, and is provided on the outside with a square secure it to the hard wood handle. The cover of the box is a disk of steel. A portion of its thickness enters the box by means of a screw thread around its periphery of almost 20 threads to the inch. This permits of a space between inch. This permits of a space between the inner face of the die and the bot-tom of the box, while the remaining thickness of the disk forms a finnge with the edge, which is coarse milled, so that the disk may be turned with the hand or a wrench. On the outer face of the disk are characters of the body of the cylindrical die. These cor bine the marking and the canceling devices, one being on one side of the disk, inclosing the name of the post-office in a circle. There are three slots for removable type, for months, dates, hour and half hour. Diametrically op-posite the circle is the canceling device, the side of which is parallel with the edge of the disk. Any required number or letter is cut in relief in the center, while three grooves are cut in-taglio. The removable types are of steel and have on the ends opposite their faces projections from their outer edges, so that when inserted in the slots the projections can be clamped

and held in place. Until 1880 Captain Chambers manu factured the cancelers here in Wash ington, and he is still required to main tain a repair shop in the neighborhood of the postoffice department, but he moved his factory to Northumberland county, Va., on a leg of land at the mouth of the Potomac, where he has a little village composed exclusively of his employees and their families. No one can enter his grounds without per mission, and those who have been there say it is quite an ideal little vil lage, safe from the spies of competitors who would like to get the con tract away from him.

Eggs That Will Keep.

It is said that a carload of evaporated eggs, valued at \$14,000, was lately shipped from Springfield, Mass., for San Francisco, where it will be placed on a steamer bound for Cape Nome. The eggs were put in one pound screw top cans, 60 cans in a case, and will answer any purpose in the culinary line except boiling. The moisture being taken out of them when they are prepared leaves nothing to boil.

The largest egg evaporating establishment in the world is located a Springfield. The process of evaporating is done with hot air, and it takes eight hours to thoroughly evaporate an egg. About four dozen are equal to a ound of the preparation. The Spring field factory en.ploys 75 people, and its capacity for consuming eggs is abou

400 cases a day.

The goods are shipped to all foreign countries, and in Europe especially there is a big demand, as the English government has placed the preparation n the hospital supply list. The Klon dike country is a heavy user of this brand of evaporated eggs, as no matter what the price of the fresh hen fruit may be or how scarce it is the evapo rated egg retains its old price and is al ways on hand and ready for business.

Fond of Pomp.

It is said that no monarch has even

and such a genius for the organization of pageants as the present emperor of Germany, and the recent celebrations of the bics tenary of the creation of the kingdom of Prussia have been very impressive as well as very gorgeous. The order of the Sack Eagle is a modern institution of chivalry compared to the Garter or which wants the the two decorations which mank the highest of all the great orders of Chris tendom. But no order of knights has such an impressive ceremony at gathering as the highest one of the Prussian kingdom. The heir uniform of the pattern establish ed 200 years ago, the fanfares on the ed 200 years ago, the fanfares on the great silver trumpets, the king of Prussia. for the kaiser for the moment sinks the emperor in the king, scated on the golden throne, with his scarlet clocked knights ranged before film in secret council—all this has the true ring of the traditions of chivalry. CON

Backache ar Conquered

Since Pasteur oculation to pre the bite of mad the new anti-to: was proved, th witnessed so gr Dr. Arnold's T deservedly won the only way th esse. They sim robes that ca counteract or s poisonous prod Now, as all die it stands to rea ed the disease

J. Jones, 2 says: "I have ! weakness from gravel a's 'sure cures,' t Arnold's Toxin sound and well E. J. Howel says: "I endu from Bright's I the medicine I I started takir They effected

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