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NO. 9

THE BIRD OF WINTER.

BY S. B. M'MANUS. A leanin' on the bar post, an' athinkin' for a

When I cut for the cornfiel' for a lonesome day a huskin', sreely get a shook throw'd down fairly ter begin,
Fore the jay birds cum a tearin's if they's jest

An' they holler at each other—keep whoopin an' a yelpin',

And makes me chirk an' cheerful, which is good a'most as helpin'.

Rf I c'ud write some verses handy, like I've seen them printers.

An' make a tune as nice fer them as Mrs.

Jinny Lind,

They sh'u'd both be bout the jay bird, a loafin' through the winters.

An' mixin' up their yawpin' with snow an' freezin' wind.

It's easy 'nough in summer, when the sky is blue an' glowin'

Ter be singin'—but it's different when the same is black an' snowin'.

A DOUBLE SURPRISE.

In a large square, old fashioned house lived Philip Manson and his sister Esther. Philip had reached the mature age of forty, me see—there is Miss Preston; she might do."

No, I don't think she will suit him at all, said Esther with a spirit which considerably surprised her brother. 'She knows very little about housekeeping."

"Why I thought you and Miss Preston were friends," said Philip a little puzzled. "Well, so we are," returned Esther in her usual tone; "but I—I hardly think she would suit Mr. Bigelow."

"Perhaps not," he rejoined.

The gentleman continued his visits.

On one of these occasions, Mr. Bigelow after a little visible embarassment, said "I would like to ask your advice, Miss Esther, on rather a delicate subject, and one of great importance to myself. There is ene thing I wish to secure to make my establishment complete, but I hardly know in what manner to ask for it."

"What is it you refer to?" asked Esther unsuspicionsly.

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of the late Mr. Wellfleet? I have heard that It was for sale, and from the description I have heard of it, judge it will suit me."

"It is the next house on the left, sir,"

"It is the next house on the left, sir," answered Esther.

Two days afterwards Esther heard that Mr. Wellfleet's estate had been purchased by a stranger, named Bigelow. She at ence conjectured, and rightly, that this was the same with her visitor. A few days elapsed, and Esther Manson received another visit from the gentleman.

"I have a favor to ask of you, Miss Manson," he commenced (it seems he had accortained her name) "I am aware that are alight acquaintance will hardly justify it,

tained her name) "I am aware that or alight acquaintance will hardly justify it, but I trust time will remove this objection. You must know," he added smiling, "that I am a bachelor dependent in many respects upon my housekeeper, who though a good woman in her way, I am afraid is not reliable in matters, of taste. As my furniture has arrived, but has not yet been arranged, I would esteem it a real service if you would give me your opinion in same little matters respecting its proper disposition. My carriage is at the door ready to carry you over."

"But," said Esther a little hesitatingly, "I do not claim to have much taste. I fear I shall prove no more reliable in that respect than your housekeeper."

than your housekeeper,"
"I have but to look about me," said Mr.
Bigelow politely," to be fully satisfied upon
that point," It was not without a little conscion

It was not without a little consciouspess of the singularity of her position, that Eather found herself riding by the side of a gentleman with whom she had scarcely exchanged half-a-dozen woold.

The distance however, was but short, and she had little time for reflection.

The furniture which, by the way, was new and handsome, had been arranged in the rooms after a fashion, but Esther was able to point out several changes for the better, with all of which Mr. Bigelow professed himself delighted; he, moreover, asked her advice as to the proper place in which to hang several fine pictures that he had picked up in the course of his travels.

This was accorded with some hesitation.

Mr. Bigelow would not be satisfied without showing his new-found acquaintance all

mistress, surely?"

"Yes, but he is always ridiculing the idea of marriage, and I couldn't venture to tell him." him."

"No need of it. Let's run away to New York and get married. You know," he added gaily, "we are both young and romantic, and it would be quite in character."

After some demur Essher consented, and that day week was appointed for the department.

ture.

Meanwhile, if Esther had not been so ex-

Meanwhile, if Esther had not been so exclusively occupied with her own affairs, she might have noticed that a change had come over Philip.

He was often absent evenings, and when is thome was silent and abstracted.

The former she readily attributed to the cause which he assigned, namely, a pressure of business.

The latter she did not observe, her mind being preoccupied.

We, who are in the secret, may follow him on one of his business calls.

It was at a neat cottage, from whose front door dangled an immense knocker, that Philip Manson knocked.

The door was opened by the same Miss Preston who, some months before, he

Preston who, some months before, he thought "might do" for Mr. Bigelow.
"Good evening, Maria." was his salutation as he entered.

After a brief conversation about the veather, the crops, and other standard to-



Bigelow will not be looking out for a wife before long?"

"I—I don't know," said Rather, and in her embarassment dropping half-a-dozen stiteties for om the stocking which she held in the bride-elect.

"A cond idea."

"A cond idea."

the bride-elect.

"A good idea. We will go. When you be ready?"

"Next Monday morning."

So next Monday morning was agreed up It so happened that Eather was to so on Monday for the same place, with same purpose in view.

The reader will please go forward a we By this time the respective parties "Not that I approve of marriage—at least in my own case," said Philip, not noticing this demonstration, "but it may be different with Mr. Bigelow. He has no sister to superintend his establishment. I don't know however whether there's don't know, however, whether there is any-body likely to suit him in this village. Let

The reader will please go forward a war By this time the respective parties is reached New York, been united in the bonds of matrimony, and are now leg husband and wife.

On the morning succeeding the two riages, for by a singular chance they hap ad on the same day, Mr. Bigelow and Estarted out for a walk down the street. It so happened that Philip and his were at the same moment walking up street. The two parties met.

"Good Heavens! my sister!" exclaim Philips.



"Merciful goodness! my brother!" retu

"Merciful goodness! my brother?" rewirned Eather.

"What bring you here with Mr. Bigelew?"
"Nay, how happens it that you are here with Miss Preston?"

"Miss Preston is now my wife."
"And Mr. Bigelow is now my husband,"
"But I thought you were much opposed to matrimony."

"A wife," was the significant reply.

Instantly a deep crimson flushed Esther's cheeks. She did not trust herself to speak.

"Need I say that you are the one whom, of all ethers, I would seek to place in that position?"

He took her unresisting hand and kissed it with all the gallantry of a young lover.

But what will my brother say?" inquired Esther, when she found voice to speak.

"What should he say? You are your ewn mistress, surely?"

matrimony.

"And I supposed you were equally so."

"My friends," interposed Mr. Bigelow,

"this is a day of surprise, but I trust of such a nature that we shall all be made the happier thereby. My regret, Mr. Manson, at robbing you of your housekeeper is quite dissipated by the knowledge that you have so soon supplied her place."

The sensation excited in the village by the return of the two brides with their respective husbands may be imagined.

written to the Times in regard to the Irish question. Earl Cowper says:

Home rule, for its own sake, is not desired by the Irish. Any one can see by a perusal of the Irish newspapers published during my own term of office in Ireland that they do not reveal a single mention of the home rule scheme, but are solely involved in discussing the question of rents. The late Isaac Butt, who may be called the originator of the national and home rule movement, and Wm. Shaw, who was a member of the home rule league, but withdrew from that body in December, 1881, failed to attach the Irish people to their schemes, and Mr. Parnell will meet with the same fate, except is an appeal to their pockets. The strike against the payment of rent will soon be a bigger difficulty for the government to deal with than was ever the home rule question, and must eventually interfere with imperial interests.

(Bangor Commercial)

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

Like all other industries, that of raising stock has reached a magnitude simply astonishing. It is estimated by Commissioner Colman that there are now in the United States 45,000,000 head of cattle. Thirty-five years ago there were about 17,800,000 head, a gain of 27,200,000, or nearly 153 per cent. The pork industry of the United States is being overdone, and unless there is a call from abroad for some of the large surplus on hand, prices must rule low for some time to come. Pork packers are doing a much larger business than last year. The amount packed during the first two weeks in November, was 590,000 barrels, which is 240,000 barrels

SUFFERED FOR MONTHS

Among the Icebergs in Hudson's Straits. ARDSHIPS EXPERIENCED BY A SHIPWRECKED URBW IN THE LAND OF THE ESQUIMAUX—

PORTLAND, Jan. 4. - Rev. F. Southworth, astor of the Bethel church, the spiritual ly sent to his home in Massachusetts a sailor was sent here from Bangor, and to Bangor from St. John. While here he was enter-tained by Mr. Southworth to whom he told and final rescue from the privations that

and final rescue from the privations shall follow a wreck, and winter's sojourn on the foy shores of North Bay, Hudson's strait. He shipped, he said, on board the whaling brig Isabella, Capt. Wm. Lewis. He had an idea that he might make \$1,000 or so in the course of eighteen months, and at the same time have thrilling adventures enough for a lifetime. He did not make the money, but

For some time all went well, and they had secured oil to the value of about \$2,000, when they found themselves among the ice. Capt. Lewis made for Hudson's strait, and when off North bay the brig was caught in the ice and held fast. Orders were given to get out the provisions and load the boats, but for the time the ice gave way, the Isabella was in clear water and the provisions were put back. Had the brig met her fate then and there, it would have been much better for Capt. Lewis and his crew. As it was, it was but a stay of the proceedings that was obtained. A few hours later the ice closed about the luckless brig, and it was evident that she must go down. There was no panic, all on board worked well, but vainly, for the Isabella went down in fifteen minutes, leaving the twenty-seven persons minutes, leaving the twenty-seven persons to whom she had been a floating home on the ice, with only a few articles of provision, and some fifteen miles from the shore, to which with great difficulty they drew their one boat. They had a few guns, and that was about all they did have except the gar-

THE WANDERING ESOUTHATTY who manifested a disposition to render all the assistance in their power to the ship-

hand, prices must rule low for some time to come. Pork packers are doing a much larger business than last year. The amount packed to the country, tar is used pretty freely about sheeps' noses to prevent the gad-fly from depositing its eggs, which produce grubs that find their way into the sheeps' head. the far litter which, by the way, was more and handsceme, had been arranged in the profit of the state of the proper place in which to hang several ability. The state of the proper place in which to hang several dailing the profit of the proper place in which to hang several dailing the profit of the proper place in which to hang several dailing the profit of the proper place in which to hang several dailing the profit of the proper place in which to have good the profit of the profit of

Manure for garden crops should be applied would not have it that he had become an old man.

in the fall.

Well-cured corn-fodder is proving a very good food for stock, and in New Eugland is receiving more attention than ever before.

Look after all the chances by which the manure pile can be enlarged and bettered.

In the winter, eggs are worth in market about double the price in summer. An important matter in the poultry man's business is to produce eggs in winter. Early hatched birds, warm, dry quarters, and plenty of good food, are important factors in the production of eggs.

cost of growing beef, dairy productions.
raising hogs, grain, etc? While the opinions
and experiences of others are valuable in the
solution of this problem, every farmer will
find his electronstances a little different from

others, and must act accordingly.

The way to improve the hay field is to improve the atock; and the way to improve atock is to improve the hay field. They go hand in hand, and each is dependent on the

other.

The economic and profitable feeding of stock is now figured down to a nice point; but no specific rule can be given for feeding any creature, till experiment has demonstrated what it requires. Different animals require different treatment; and the farmer should study and practice to ascertain what kind of feed is best adapted to the needs of each animals.

strated what it requires. Different animals require different treatment; and the farmer should study and practice to accertain what kind of feed is best adapted to the needs of each animal.

Bogus butter is exciting a great deal of interest all through the dairy portions of the country. It can be met on two grounds, on sither of which its manufacture can, and ought to be, made a crime. One on the basis of injury to health, the other fraud.

Shrinkage of beef cattle when butchered is about 33½ per cent; hogs will shrink 25 per cent; and sheep about 50 per cent. The better the animals, the less they will shrink.

From the various reports on stock for beef, we conclude grades are quite as profitable as thoroughreds, and some more so.

Crosses in sheep and swine often prove a great advantage to the farmer.

California has produced a squash which weighs 222 pounds, and stands just four feet high.

It used to be considered that the pumace

It used to be considered that the pumace from cider mills was worthless as food for stock, and so it was left in piles around the mills to decay. But now it is made a better use of by feeding it to cattle, as they eat it

quite as well as ensilage.

Grow a piece of oats and peas every year.

Ground together and fed to cows in milk it is an excellent ration, and you need not look for any better. It is a valuable food for all kinds of stock, and for fattening hogs it is doubtful if it can be beaten.

It is true sheep husbandry does not year so

man.

Verily, a diamond in the rough. As a child he sat in the shadows of poverty; as a youth he had no advantages of education; as a man he must selve the problem of life with brawn and muscle. And so he came to the public a diamond in the rough, but he brought with him such a big heart, such good nature, and such a fund of sympathy for the erring and unfortunate that the men and women and children of America forgot his rough points and became his friends and de-

And he is dead !

And he is dead!

A thousand lost children have been taken kindly in his arms, their tears of fright wiped away with fatherly hand, and his soothing voice has said to them:

"I will take you home to mother."

Women whose lives have been a struggle with poverty and despair have come to him for kind words and for bread, and not ene has ever been refused. Men who have been unfortunate have found in him an honest sympathizer and a kind adviser. In his goings and comings his cheerful voice and big heart made the whole world better.

And today he lies in his last resting place

were not afraid, will be heard no mere en earth. If he did not profess Caristianity—if not found upon his knees among praying men—if his voice did not sing the hymns of salvation—he had in his heart charity, sympathy, forgiveness. That was the record he took with him into the valley of the shadow—across the dark river to the brighter shere. By it he will be judged, and a thousand hearts will plead: "May he find peace."

INTERESTING ARCTIC RELIC BROUGHT NOME

"And Mr. Rigolow's sace my inhamad."
"And In Rigolow's sace my inhamad."
"And In Rigolow's sace my inhamad."
"And I spood you were captured by the comment of the states o

Dominion, said:

There have been times of boom, there have been times of commercial excitament, there have been times, it may be, of larger profits, there have been times when fortunes were more rapidly made, but he believed he was right in saying that there never was a time when business was more carefully done and when people were looking forward with greater confidence to the future than they were at this moment.

In 1878 the Mackenzie government put into the speech from the throne a declara-

They marvelled much at this, and they whispered together, but it was only when his honor rose up with tears in his eyes that the truth was known.

Bijah was dead.

Our Bijah—yeur Bijah—the gool old janitor whose name was a household word in every land where the English language is aideration.

And just now the Grit organs are out in favor of anything but uniform legislation. It would be such a terrible interference with