

JOINT HEIRS.

BY MISS M. E. SANISTER.

There came a precious meaning
Into the world to-day—
A waft of sweetness from the land
That is not far away.
A thought so pure, so high, so strong,
That in my heart of heart
I kept the measure of a song,
And bore me free from spot.

Joint heirs with Christ the Blessed,
The Father's only Son,
So lifted into equal place
With that beloved One,
So given rights of sonship
Before the Father's face,
So made the heirs of all things,
By heaven's most royal grace.

Not as the younger children
Who forth from home may fare,
But as the firstborn of the line
The birthright I shall share.
In the presence of the Father,
Uplifted by the Son,
I shall be loved as Christ is loved,
And dwell near His throne.

Dear thought that bids me cherish
To-day the hidden name
Which will be mine when Jesus
His own shall come to claim;
Dear hope that bids me glory
In a charm o'er daily care,
And give me joy and freedom
Oft as I kneel in prayer.

Joint heir with Christ the Blessed,
The Christ-life mine to live,
And every day some sacrifice
Of mine own will to give,
Some trial to endure for Him,
Some brother's load to ease,
Or in the quiet home routine
Some little child to please.

Joint heir with Christ in heaven,
Joint heir with Christ on earth,
Made equal in the Father's sight,
Divinely precious birth.
A waft of precious meaning
Comes floating from that word,
A harp note from the ceaseless strain
By saints and angels heard.

THE HOME.

Home Life.

The infinite difference between a lodging house and a home is felt by every properly constituted individual. It is usually the indolent and frivolous who prefer hotel life. Even the most luxurious hotels, with all the comforts that modern luxury throws about them, are barren and devoid of rest to one who has known and felt the refining influence of home. The table of the hotel, with its variety of food, cooked by the very best methods, soon becomes tiresome and monotonous, while the home table, if properly kept up, seldom falls upon the taste. Strange as this seems, it is literally true. Whether it is because the food at a hotel is cooked in a mass, and acquires in that way a monotonous flavor, or not, it is certain that one soon becomes tired of it, and after a long experience one never returns to a hotel table with the same expectation of good things to come as one returns to home fare, plain and humble though that home may be. It has been said in disparagement of the French that they have no word that is equivalent to the Anglo-Saxon word "home." "At the house of my friend" is quite a different thing from "at the home of my friend." His house may be his lodging-house or any temporary abiding-place. A great deal of the domestic trouble of this world arises from the failure of people to appreciate the difference between a lodging-house and a home. To a coarse worldly person there is no essential difference. Providing he is fed and lodged, he is satisfied.

The only objection to-day to co-operation is the fact that it destroys the home. It is only where our individual tastes are catered to, where our individuality is recognized, our personal fancies and even our whims regarded, that we can have a genuine home. Such a thing as this cannot be done in a wholesale way. The cut and cooking of beef that will satisfy Mr. Brown may be wholly unsatisfactory to Mr. Smith. The particular way of dusting and other methods of work which may suit one housekeeper may be entirely distasteful to another. The house of an American or an Englishman is his castle. It is the place where he has the right to have his meat served to him in the way that best suits him, whether it be the orthodox or the heterodox method. But above all, it is in the home that there is always the atmosphere of trust and love. Those within it are joined by the strongest ties—the ties of love, trust, loyalty and a common interest. Their parlor and their hearts are in common to themselves alone. Their cares and their joys are shared together. It is a little kingdom by itself, which knows no higher laws beyond its own present will, and it is all the happier if conducted on a purely republican basis, with no household tyrant within its precincts. Probably the most desirable feature of the servant-girl problem is that it drives so many households to hotel or boarding-house life. And it needs no sage to tell us that none of the features that make home life beautiful can be ever conceived as existing in the arrangements of boarding-house or hotel.

Coffee.

It is difficult for a nation of coffee-drinkers, such as we have certainly become, to realize that coffee was introduced into Europe but a little over 200 years ago. It came brought from Turkey by a certain Mr. Edwards, about the same time that tea was introduced by the Earl of Arlington and Oseory from Holland, where it was obtained by the trade of the Dutch with the Chinese. The introduction and consequent popularity of these two drinks was the greatest movement in favor of temperance that has ever been made. The ale-house or the tap-house was the regular resort in the olden time for gentry and commoner, and the coffee houses which were established with the introduction of coffee were immediately conducive to temperance and refinement of living. At these houses coffee, tea, chocolate and tobacco were sold, but no liquor of any kind could be obtained. The great change this made for the better in the general life of people in England could hardly be appreciated to-day. The wine-room began to be looked upon for the first time as a disreputable place where

gentlemen might be ashamed to be seen, though no such odium attached to the saloon in those days as does to day in the minds of all refined, well-bred people.

The increasing popularity of coffee in this country cannot be better tested than by the number of patents granted yearly for improvements in the coffee-pot, and the liberal sale which such inventions always find. While coffee is a native of Arabia, it grows all over the tropical parts of the world. Mocha coffee comes from Arabia direct, though comparatively little of genuine Arabian coffee ever comes to our market. The island of Java furnishes the next best coffee, of which there are two kinds, the plantation Java and the Government Java. The latter brings two or three cents a pound more than the former, because of the security, which its name is supposed to bring. Government Java is in bonded Government warehouses for full seven years. As a matter of fact, about three-quarters of the coffee that comes to America comes from Brazil, whatever name is given to it. The immediate effect which the failure of the coffee crop in Brazil has upon the trade in this country shows conclusively that the market does not depend upon a supply that has been stored for seven years, as all properly cured coffee should be. A great deal of coffee in market is not properly cured, and it furnishes from the year's supply. If housekeepers would take the trouble to buy coffee by the bag and store it in a dry, clean place in their own home, they would not only experience an improvement in the flavor of the coffee but would save about 25 per cent. in the cost. A wild coffee properly cured and properly browned and ground when it is used is superior in flavor to the finest growth of plantation coffee which has not been cured, but has lain in open chests where it had been browned, as coffee so often does in ordinary grocery stores. The moment coffee is browned it is ready for use. While it improves with keeping before it is browned it loses flavor after. It should, therefore, be kept in an air-tight vessel. Where one purchases his coffee from a grocery store, where it must have laid after being browned for several months, and often in an open or loosely covered tub, one is certain of obtaining inferior coffee, no matter what price the grocer has paid for it or what country it came from. The superiority of coffee made in Germany over that of coffee in other countries is due to the care the German house-mother takes to buy her coffee in the green berry, brown and grinding it at home, and preparing only enough at a time for the day's supply. The German housewife also makes her coffee in an earthen coffee-pot. She would not hear of a coffee-pot of silver, much less to one of tin or baser metal. It is really a trifling trouble to brown enough coffee for a week's supply. The coffee should be roasted about twenty-five minutes in a cylindrical roasting machine such as comes for this purpose. The family roasting machine which holds about a pound cost \$1.50 to \$2. They are arranged to fit over a stove hole. There is a handle which must be turned slowly till the coffee begins to throw out aroma. Then it must be turned more rapidly so that the coffee is kept up to burn. As soon as the coffee is a rich chestnut brown, remove it from the roaster, and spread it out on a broad flat dish of any kind. Beat up the white of an egg with a tablespoonful of melted butter. Stir the coffee in this mixture so that the beans will be thoroughly coated; then cover it up and let it remain until it is perfectly cold, when it should be shut up in an air-tight canister. It is not positively necessary to coat the coffee as thus, but it is a good thing to do with an egg and butter, but it tends to preserve the aroma of the coffee when as much as a pound is browned at a time. If the coffee is browned from every day it is not desirable to use such a coating.

—Deborah, the wife of Benjamin Franklin, was as industrious and frugal as her husband. She willingly helped him in his business by tending the shop, stitching pamphlets, buying old linen rags for paper-makers, etc. Their food was plain and simple, and the furniture of their home of the cheapest kind. For a long time their breakfast was bread and milk eaten from a two-penny earthen porringer with a pewter spoon. But luxury will often enter a family in spite of principle, and one morning Dame Franklin served her husband's breakfast in a china bowl and with a spoon of silver! It was an entire surprise to him, as the new articles had been purchased without his knowledge and he had not the means to pay for them. She defended this extravagance by saying that she considered her husband had as good a right to a silver spoon and china bowl as any of his neighbors.—*Ex.*

—Strength of character is shown quite as much by what one is content to leave undone as by what one does. There are virtues, as well as sins, of omission. A bright woman lately said that she feared her epitaph would be not "She hath done what she could," but "She tried to do what she couldn't." Not merely the thousands of foolish women who are endeavoring to dress, to entertain, to travel, to live on a high plane, and who also than their time and means allow, but also many sensible, intelligent women betray this one weakness of not knowing where to stop. Never were the temptations greater. The attractions and opportunities of social and club life, the claims of charitable and church work, together with business opportunities of which women of a former generation never dreamed, appeal to the wife, the mother and the housekeeper. It is quite as important, therefore, to choose intelligently and to refuse decisively as it is to be diligent in business and unselfish in our ministry. A good work becomes a very evil work for us if it necessitates the overtaxing of our strength, the undue strain of our nervous system or the neglect of more important duties.—*Sed.*

—Do not fail to send a note of sympathy to friends in bereavement or trouble of any kind. Some neglect this duty from a mistaken notion that it is an intrusion upon one's grief. Especially in the face of some overwhelming sorrow do they feel that any words they may proffer will seem like mockery.

Of course a formal letter of condolence full of stereotyped cant phrases does little good. But even the briefest message, if it be a spontaneous expression from a loving heart, will be gratefully remembered afterwards though it make no deep impression at the time. We recently saw a model note of this character which contained scarcely half a dozen lines. To be silent toward a friend in trouble is a greater mistake than to send him an inadequate note. Remember, too, that these tokens of sympathy are doubly comforting if repeated several weeks or months after the shock of bereavement. The loneliness and loss are always more keenly felt after life has settled back into its old routine and friends, busy with their own interests, seem to have forgotten your changed circumstances. Then it is that friendship can show forth her most gracious and thoughtful deeds.—*Select.*

THE FARM.

Healthful Influence of Forests.

The hygienic value of forests is thus set forth by a German medical journal: Forest air has a favorable action on health on account of its greater oxygen contents; its value resides in purity, freedom from dust and smoke, and the small quantity of injurious vapors and gases contained in it. Forest air, just as sea and mountain air, is poorer in bacteria; even the air in city gardens shows this difference. Besides this, forest air is rich in oxygen, and the species of the same dangerous nature as city air. The air in the skirts of a forest, as well as over the crowns of the trees, is richer in ozone. In the interior of the forest ozone is taken up by combining with the decomposing matter and the products of the forests. Forests are acting also as protection from strong atmospheric currents, especially from the rough air currents, which easily cause inflammatory diseases. For this reason, sanitary stations should be located in the neighborhood of forests on southern declivities protected from cold winds, high above the bottom of the valley.

Big Churn Brings Butter.

Mr. Edwin Montgomery, of the Southern Stockman and Farmer, persuaded a dairywoman with twenty-two cows to substitute for her 10-gallon churn one of one-third greater capacity. Result: "Last churning with old churn, 17 lbs. of butter; with new churn, 17 lbs. 2 second churning, 19 lbs. She attributes the increase entirely to the new and larger churn, which is true, as the larger churn being more roomy, the concussion is greater in churning, and hence there is not so much likelihood of so much butter-fat being left in the buttermilk. But, if with the smaller churn she had returned the buttermilk, she would have secured the balance of the butter, but the quality of butter from second churning would have been very much inferior to that of the first."

Rural and Farm Items.

—What is an "inch of rain"? It means a gallon of water spread over an area of merely one square foot, or a fall of about 100 tons on an acre of ground.

—The thoroughbred cow, says Hord's Dairy, will degenerate into the scrub if you give her scrub feeding and harsh treatment. She is a millennium beast!

—Do not allow the sheep to be out long in cold, rain or snow. When the fleece gets filled with either, it takes a long time to dry out, and this requires extra feed to keep up. A heavy fleece thoroughly saturated with water is a heavy load for the animal to carry about.

—Winter is a good time to apply manure to the ground, says the *American Cultivator*. It will have soaked down into the soil before spring, and as the trees have formed their fruit buds, the manure will go to increase the size of the fruit and to promote new growth of wood.

—A polished knitting needle dipped into a vessel of milk and immediately withdrawn in an upright position, will tell you whether your milkman is honest or not. If the milk is pure, a drop of the fluid will hang to the needle, and the needle will be covered with a film of water will prevent adhesion of the drop.—*Norwich Bulletin.*

—A low vehicle is more handy for nearly all uses than a high one. The extra leg in loading up comes after we have breaded up the basket of potatoes, apples, or corn, to empty them over the high box. And more easily can we put the hay, stalks, or bundles on a low rigging. The draft of trucks, to be sure, is a little heavier for the horses, but the occasions are rare when we need to favor the horses on this account. A person who has a "drop-down" can be devised, and thereby get a low bed and retain the high wheels.

—Mr. George R. Scott saw at a farmhouse in New England, a rooster and three hens standing on a cake of ice, each with one leg tucked away out of sight. "They didn't seem to be enjoying the situation," he went, "but I saw, supplying any material for omelet. Another witness writer mentions a woman who threw skimmilk on the ground, 'they having killed their pigs.' Instead of warming it for the needy poultry. These experiences suggest that of the foolish countryman chronicled by the late lamented N. C. Meeker, whose fowls roosted in trees during the storm of winter, while he, 'wiping his nose on his coat-sleeve,' the while person who complains because he 'got no eggs.'"

—The well is too often an unsuspected source of sickness and disease. And yet the spring may be pure. The lining may be open and the covering not sufficient to keep out small animals, which carry the cool, dampness, drop into the water and pollute it. There is but one way to make a safe well, namely, to use cement pipes for the lining, raise the top one foot above the surface, and bed a flag-stone covering in cement. This stone, if it may be brick covering, should be made perfectly tight, so that not a worm can find its way into the well. It is not necessary that a well be ventilated; it is better not. The clean earth purifies itself, while the air brings in innumerable germs that must pollute

the water. Some carbonic-acid gas may gather in a well, but it is in no way injurious, unless it be breathed. All water contains this gas to some extent, and it improves the taste. And it will always stay at the bottom because it is much heavier than the air, and the water will be continually absorbing it. But the smallest animal that gets into the water poisons it and makes it unfit for use.

—The American Shorthorn Breeders and the Illinois Swine Breeders' Association have both petitioned that the Chicago World's Fair be closed on the Sabbath, the latter setting forth that Sunday opening "would deprive the animals of the rest which is in accordance with the laws of nature, and which is so much needed in order that they may appear at the best on the remaining six days."

—For several years I have tested the hog-scalding water by the unfailing thermometer, and always have the heat precisely at 180 degrees. The hog put at this temperature and kept in thirty seconds, being moved a little, continually, to insure contact with the hot water, will slip the hair perfectly. No lower or higher heat has ever made a good job in my experience of thirty years.

—Overfeeding cattle results sometimes in a dry, husky cough as if some obstacle were in the throat. Remove the cause and the effect soon ceases. Recovery will be hastened by giving a dose of one pint of oil with a teaspoonful of ginger and a few meals of bran mash. A regular supply of oil is helpful to the digestion and should not be neglected. No dry food will replace grass for summer feeding, and the want of grass is apt to produce indigestion. Where there is no pasture, fodder corn will serve.

—A good many people will think decidedly that the Florida Experiment Station professors can hardly expend any part of their annual \$15,000 or \$20,000 of Government funds in a worse way than by making and reporting tests of tobacco cultivation. Raising this weed is not "agriculture" in any sense. Its production wastes soil-fertility, for whose proper employment man is accountable; it demoralizes everybody who has anything to do with its growth or manipulation, and most of all the people who smoke or chew the "finished" product. Let the hard-earned money of patient taxpayers be devoted to the welfare of the public, not to its degradation. Were Horace Greeley alive he would put an emphatic "ditto" to this statement.

Life After Forty.

The best half of life is in front of the man of forty, if he be anything of a man. The work he will do will be done with the hand of a master, and not of a raw apprentice. The trained intellect does not see "men as trees walking," but sees everything clearly and in just measure. The trained temper does not rush at work like a blind bull at a haystack, but advances with the calm and ordered pace of conscious power and deliberate determination. To no man is the world so new and the future so fresh as to him who has spent the early years of his manhood in striving to understand the deeper problems of science and life, and who has made some way toward comprehending them. To him the commonest things are rare and wonderful, both in themselves, and as part of a beautiful and intelligent whole. Such a thing as staleness in life and its duties he cannot understand. Knowledge is always opening out before him in wider expanses and more commanding heights. The pleasure of growing knowledge and increasing power makes every year of his life happier and more hopeful than the last.

—It is surprising to notice how many persons recent being turned out of their pew in church to accommodate strangers. Usually the usher is taken to task in private for allowing the intrusion, but it sometimes happens, as recently at a prominent church here in Boston, that those who "profess and call themselves Christians" are rude enough to manifest an ungracious manner to the unoffending visitors. The conduct of these selfish people affects the reputation of the church to which they belong. The members, as a whole, may delight in showing hospitality by yielding their seats to visitors, but one sin in this matter destroys much good. It is curious, too, that the few owners who are habitually late are the greatest sticklers for those who consider their "rights." It is humiliating to see such exhibitions in the house of the Master who "pleased not Himself." They are violations of both good manners and good morals.

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—A fat woman entered a crowded car, and, seizing the strap, stood on a gentleman's toes. As soon as he could extricate himself, he arose and offered her his seat. "You are very kind, sir," she replied, "it's not kindness, it's self-defense."

—John McLeod, merchant, Charlottetown, P. E. I., is boasting K. D. C. about ten days and in that time have gained five pounds. I can safely recommend it to any one suffering from indigestion.

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"Yes sir."

"How many tins?"

"At least fifteen."

"Anything of your own make?"

"Yes, sir."

"Something you can warrant?"

"I can."

"Well, to be square and honest, would you advise me to take for this cough?"

"Um! Well, if you put it on that ground, I recommend a bottle of Hack-nore, which is sold everywhere."

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