

had died at one o'clock that morning. "That was the time," Clement said, "my watch was beside me and I glanced at it. There is a theory that the instant the soul leaves the body it can be in whatever place and visible to whom it desires, no matter what the distance may be, but whether Ysonde's spirit really was visible to Clement at that moment or whether it was merely his imagination that pictured her form, must remain a mystery.

Clement always adhered to the conviction that she had come in the spirit to bid him adieu and to show him that she was always true to him however appearances had been against her. Though I am a little skeptical in such matters, I can scarcely help believing that it was so.

If Ysonde had lived I am sure Clement would have had vengeance of some kind upon George Kedston. Probably they would have met and one or the other fallen, as it was nothing was said.

We lived on as usual for a few more years, Clement coming down whenever his work would permit, and once he came down and never went back again. He was seized with a fever from which he never recovered.

I had lost my son as well as my daughter.

I am a lonely old woman now and have outlived all that made life sweet in the past. I have seen my husband, who was my life and my better self, laid away in the cold earth, then my daughter almost as soon as I had found her, and lastly my son. Surely I have been taught it is vanity to place our affections on the things of this world.

"For the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are unseen are eternal."

Time heals a great many wounds and resignation comes after some years. I think I am resigned now, but there is a difference between resignation and content. I am not so old in years yet, though my hair is silvery white, only three score of my allotted three score and ten have been accomplished. I suppose I must say cheerfully as Mary Somerville did at eight, that 'the blue Peter is flying at the foremast and I must soon expect the signal for sailing.'

But alas I can feel truly that

"Those I loved are gone and I alone in life  
To wait, and wait, and wait, till death shall end the strife,  
Until once more I join the friends that loved me best,  
Where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest."

It has made me sad to tell of this. Some day I will tell you a brighter story of my life long before these things happened.

Annapolis, N. S.

J. L. C.

## JOSH BILLINGS ON MARRIAGE.

There is a great moral grip to marriages—it is the mortal that holds them together.

But there ain't but darn phew folks who could set down and give a good written opinyun why on arth tha come to did it.

There is a great proof that it is one of them natural kind of axidents that must happen jist as birds fly out of the nest when tha have feathers enuff, without being able to tell why.

Sum marry for buty, and never discover their mistake; this is lucky.

Sum marry for money, and don't see it.

Sum marry for pedigree, and feel big for six months, then very sensibly come to the conclusion that pedigree is no better than skim milk.

Sum marry bekaws tha hav been histed sunwhare else; this is a cross match, a bay and a sorrel; pride may make it endurable.

Sum marry for love, without a cent in their pockets nor a friend in the world, nor a drop of pedigree. This looks desperate, but it is the strength of the game.

If marrying for love ain't a success, then matrimony is a dead beet.

Sum marry bekaws tha think wimin will be scarce next year, and live to wonder how the crop holds out.

Sum marry to get rid of themselves and discover that the game was one that two could play at and neither win.

Sum marry the second time to get even, and find it a gambling game—the more they put down the less they take up.

Sum marry to be happy, and missing it, wonders where all the happiness goes to when it dies.

Sum marry they can't tell why, and live they can't tell how.

Almost everybody gets married, and it is a good joke. Sum think it over carefully fust, and then set down and marry.

Both ways are wright if they hit the mark.

Sum marry rakes to convert them. This is a little risky, and it takes a smart missionary to do it.

Sum marry coquettes. This is like buying a poor farm heavily mortgaged, and working the balance of your days to clear off the mortgage.

Married life has its chances, and this is just what gives it flavor. Everybody loves to fool with chances because everybody expects to win. But I am authorized to state that everybody don't win.

But after all married life is full as certain as the dry goods business.

No man can tell exactly where he will fetch up when he catches calico.

No man can tell just what calico has a mind to do.

Calico don't always know herself.

Dry goods of all kinds is the child of circumstances.

Sum never marry, but this is just the same with another name to it.

The man who stands on the bank shivering and dassent is more apt to catch cold than he who pitches his head fust in the river.

Marry young is my motto.

I have tried it, and I know what I am talking about.

If anybody asks you why you get married, say you don't recollect.

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