

Nights when Josiah has taken off his boots and gone off to his bed, the darling, and I am setting alone by the fire-place, and the wind is a howling and the Banshee a'screeching, my own brave John comes back, and we set and talk of the old days before the war, until Josiah calls, "Come away, Mary, you've been warming yourself long enough."

Mrs. Goodsense—Well, I declare, Mary Kelly, I am ashamed of you. The idea of you, at your time of life, setting up, a dreaming like a girl of 16, and you a grandmother these ten years back; but I really must be going now, I have enjoyed the afternoon very much.

Miss Skinning—Well, I might as well step along, too, it's time the kettle was boiling for supper, and I want to scrub them there back steps down with ashes yet before night.

Mrs. Kelly—Oh, before you go, you remember that quilt I was piecing last winter, I think I'll set it in and have a quilting bee, and have all the folks in to get it out of the frames while my visitors is here, so come on Friday, at 2 o'clock and stay for supper. (Both shake hands and promise to step over and help.)

Mrs. Kelly—Now, I shall just have to step over and see to the chickens, and cow, and put the supper on, then I must run over and take some fresh eggs to poor Mrs. Beggs, who is not well at all, at all, and on the way I'll bid the neighbors to the quilting bee on Friday, then I must get right busy and bake up for it; I think Thomas's wife will come in and give me a hand as like as not.