

INTANGIBLE.

In all the notes that Nora writes—
Those little notes not one effusive—
Some sentence stands and thought invites,
And yet the what I seek's elusive;

For, be it thanks for flowers sent
Or slight request that she indites,
I try to fathom loves intent
In every note that Nora writes.

A cryptogram of each I make
And try to reason out the signs—
A blot, a word crossed out, a break
In sentence e'en between the lines.

The answered question, yet unasked,
I seek to find, the truths, the plights,
And hope to catch her heart unmasked
In every note that Nora writes.

Roy Farrell Green in Truth.

Surprised.

The young reformer was a superlatively feminine creature whose soul abhorred sounds harsher than those that come from the harp, but her sympathies had been aroused and she had entered her name on the roll of Friendly Visitors. She felt that she could no longer face her dear society friends without being able to tell of her experiences in reforming somebody.

Arming herself with disinfectants she started on her errand. Climbing a stairway in the tenement district, she travelled a dark hall, feeling an imaginary dampness creep through her shoes and thinking of cough drops for the morrow.

Entering one of the rooms, she found herself unexpectedly in the presence of pale, poorly dressed woman, and concluded she would begin her work of reform by reminding her that cleanliness is next to godliness, and an inspection of the premises was in order.

Turning cautiously toward the unmade bed, suspicious of seeing "the terror which creepeth by night," her eyes rested upon a woman with a newborn babe at her side.

"I did not know that you had others living with you," remarked the visitor. "She does not live here. She is my neighbor."

"Why is she in this room and in your bed?"

"Well, lady, you see I have a window and a bit of carpet, and I invited her to come because I thought it would be a decenter place to be born in than her house is, and it was for the sake of the little baby I did it."

The reformer apologized for her call and hurried out of the presence of a greatness of soul which was a revelation she is not likely to forget.—Youth's Companion.

The Writers.

Ouida recently refused to give facts for a biography of her, saying: "My works are there for all to read. With me individually they have nothing to do."

"One man does not make a newspaper," nor, for that, does one man make a magazine. But when James Payn wrote "Lost Sir Massigberd" for Chambers' Journal that magazine went up 20,000 copies every week.

Count Tolstoi, when he has a great work in hand, writes nearly all day and some times far into the night. Even in the summer, during the children's holidays, he rarely leaves his desk to spend a few moments with them.

W. E. Henley, one of the most conspicuous journalists in London and also poet of no mean quality, has been honored by Mr. Balfour with a pension of \$1,000 a year. A like sum was allotted to Tennyson in 1846, and the late laureate lived to draw it 47 times.

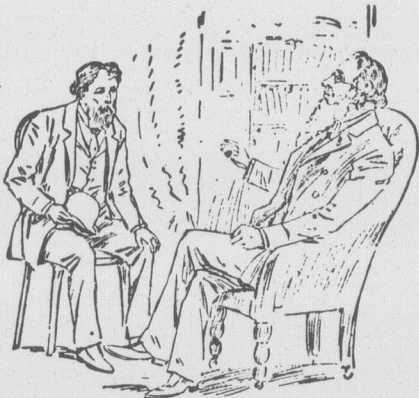
Household Hints.

A chemist says that medicine stains usually yield very quickly to an application of alcohol. For the obstinate iodine stains ether is recommended.

To rejuvenate your leather-covered chairs rub them frequently with a small, strong Turkish towel. Something in the fibre of this material gives to leather, when vigorously rubbed, quite a brilliant polish.

Upholstered furniture should be beaten with a rattan beater, then wiped with a thin cotton duster. All grease spots can be removed easily by using ether or chloroform for silk or the best turpentine for woollen stuffs.

Gilt frames for mirrors or pictures can be washed with white of an egg or with weak liquid ammonia and warm water, lightly applied with a sponge. The water in which a large onion has been boiled is also good for this purpose.



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