

more than any other act in life the rhyming proverb will apply, which says,

Haste makes waste,
Waste makes want—and
Want makes strife
Between the good man and the good wife.

Still, in marriage, more than aught else, ladies are apt to deceive themselves; and, saith another proverb,

Honey is sweet, but the bee stings.

Considering, then, the state of manner which makes money more necessary than ever, it is no wonder that parents and guardians are anxious that girls under their care should, at all events, get it by the bargain of marriage, want what they may; for it is quite true that, however worthy or handsome a man may be, according to the proverb,

A gentleman without a living, is like a pudding without suet, and it is matter of experience, that married people cannot

Live upon love as larks do upon leeks,

for there are great many that may come afterwards; and, as the Scots-woman sung,

Walie, Walie, bairns are bonnie,—
One's enough, and twa's o'er mony;

at least for the means that many have for doing the poor 'childer' justice. In the common anxiety of parents to get their daughters off their own hands, also, I cannot but think there is much want of consideration, if not actual selfishness; for they must know, from the number of unwise marriages that they see on every hand, that very often the only really happy time that poor women enjoy is, during the free and lightsome days of youth; and it is a miserable proof of the frailty of human nature, to see parents so ready to make merchandize of their children. If men were all good, and tempers were all fitting, and money always plenty, to keep peace in the house, then the sooner young women were married the better; but as all these things are not