

Memory Gems Contest.

BY ALLAN B. G. SMITH, NEW HAMBURG, ONT.

I. Among the pitfalls in our way, The best of us walk blindly; So man beware! watch and pray, And judge your brother kindly. -Alice Carey. II. To each his sufferings—all are men, Condemned alike to groan: The tender for another's pain, The unfeeling for his own. -Gray. III. All our acts and words are seeds, Sown o'er the past, whence future deeds Spring up to form our wheat or weeds. And as we've sown, so reap we them. -Argoosy. IV. Nor pass the tattle curious lad Who o'er his book hangs his head, And begs of neighbor's books to read. From hence arise— Thy country's sons who far are spread, Both bold and wise. -Telford. V. He who stops to parley with temptation will be likely to yield. -Astop. VI. What is really wanted is to light up the spirit that is within the boy. In some sense and in some effectual degree, there is in every boy the material of good work in the world; in every boy, not only in those who are brilliant, not only those who are quick, but in those who are stolid, and even in those who are dull. -Gladstone. VII. Let us have faith that right makes might; and in that faith let us, to the end, dare to do our duty, as we understand it. -Abraham Lincoln. VIII. Bless'd work, if thou wert a curse of God, what must his blessings be. -J. B. Selkirk. IX. What though you have found no treasure, nor has any rich relation left you a legacy. Diligence is the mother of good luck, and God gives all things to industry. Then plow deep while the sluggard sleeps, and you shall have corn to sell and to keep. Work while it is called to-day, for one to-day is worth two to-morrow. -Franklin. X. To be of no church is dangerous. Religion of which the rewards are distant, and which is animated only by faith and hope, will glide by degrees out of the mind unless it is invigorated and re-energized by external ordinances, by stated calls to worship and the salutary influence of example. -John Milton. XI. It is observed that a corrupt society has many laws. -Idler. XII. In general, those parents have most reverence who most despise it, for he that lives well cannot be despised. -Prince of Abyssinia. XIII. Pleasure is very seldom found where it is sought; our brightest blisses of gladness are commonly kindled by unexpected sparks. The flowers which scatter their odors from time to time in the paths of life, grow up without culture, from seeds scattered by chance. -Johnson. XIV. A poet should blot from his works any line that does not contain some motive to virtue. -Waller. XV. When I hear of a young man of extraordinary ability, I ask if he works. If I am told that he does not, then I say, "There is no possibility of that young man becoming proficient." -Sir Morell Mackenzie.

SELECTED BY MRS. J. H. OSGOOD, SANZEVILLE, QUE.

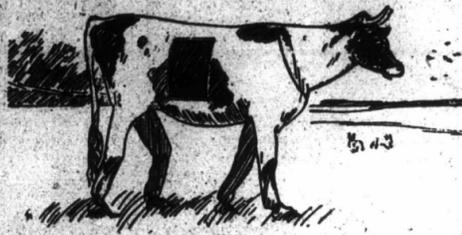
I. Four things a man must learn to do If he would make his record true: To think without confusion, clearly; To love his fellow men sincerely; To act from honest motives purely; To trust in God and heaven securely. -Henry Van Dyke. II. Our thoughts are odors, and we cannot seal them So close with action but they will creep out, And delicately-fashioned souls will feel them, And know them sweet or vile, without a doubt. -Ella Wheeler Wilcox. III. The wise men ask "What language did Christ speak?" They cavil, argue, search, and little prove. O sages, leave your Syriac and your Greek! Each heart contains the knowledge that you seek: Christ spoke the universal language—love. -British Weekly. IV. The great secret of success in life is for a man to be ready when his opportunity comes. -Disraeli. V. It is easy in the world to live after the world's opinion; it is easy in solitude to live after our own; but the great man is he who, in the midst of the crowd, keeps with perfect sweetness the independence of solitude. -Ralph Waldo Emerson. VI. 'Tis not enough to vaunt of good, To pray it be the Master's plan; That all his children should be fed; We need to live true brotherhood, To love and cheer our fellow man, If we would follow where he led. -Emma Playter Seabury. VII. There is no "little" and there is no "much"; We weigh and measure and define in vain. A look, a word, a light responsive touch Can be the ministers of joy to pain. A man can die of hunger, walled in gold; A crumb may quicken hope to stronger breath, And every day we give or we withhold Some little thing which tells for life or death! -Susan Coolidge. VIII. The web of our life is of mingled yarn; good and ill together. -Shakespeare. IX. They enslave their children's children, Who make compromise with sin. -James Russell Lowell.

X. The man who accords To his language the license to outrage his soul, Is controlled by the words he disdains to control. -Owen Meredith. XI. Youth is the only time To think and to decide on a great course. Manhood with action follows; but 'tis dreary To have to alter our whole life in age, The time past, the strength gone. -Browning. XII. He that cannot forgive others, breaks the bridge over which he must pass himself; for every man has need to be forgiven. -Herbert. XIII. For drunkenness, drink cold water; for health, rise early; to be happy, be honest; to please all, mind your own business. -Franklin. XIV. Honor is like the eye which cannot suffer the least impurity without damage; it is a precious stone, the price of which is lessened by the least flaw. -Boswell. XV. I know as my life grows older, And mine eyes have clearer sight, That under each rank wrong somewhere There lies the root of Right. That each sorrow has its purpose, By the sorrowing oft unguessed; But as sure as the sun brings morning, Whatever is, is best. -Ella Wheeler Wilcox.

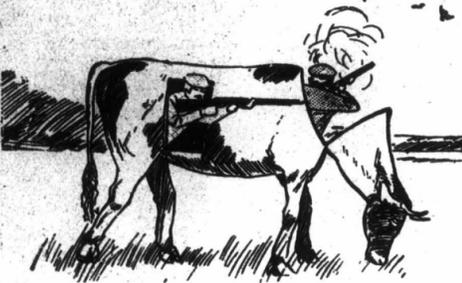
Decoy for Hunters.

WITH THE PERFECT OUTWARD SEMBLANCE OF A COW.

As deceptive and dangerous as the proverbial wolf in sheep's clothing is a patent cow just brought out by an inventive genius. The device presents the perfect outward semblance of a most peaceable and amiable cow, but the fore legs and the hind legs are in fact the legs of two men. These two men are armed with guns, and have a splendid supply of ammunition. The device has a flexible outer shell of canvas or other suitable material, decorated externally to represent the animal in imitation of which the decoy is constructed, and the said shell is adopted to be supported or held in its distended position through the



THE SPORTSMAN'S NEW DECOY.



HOW THE DECOY WORKS.

medium of a collapsible metal framework, which allows the covering and framework of the decoy to be folded into a small space for transportation. In the sides of the frames at suitable points are windows or openings, protected by outward swinging flap blinds, and through these windows the sportsman in the rear may discharge his fowling piece when the game has been successfully stalked. For the firing of the hunter in the front of the decoy there is provided a downward swinging portion, which includes the head and neck of the animal, so that by simply releasing a small catch from the inside of the framework, this swing front portion drops by gravity, and thus leaves the sportsman free.

Contest Prizes Appreciated.

DEAR UNCLE TOM,— I have just received Mrs. Browning's Poetical Works, the beautiful book which you sent me as second prize in the Memory Gem Contest, and for which I thank you. I especially appreciate it as I did not have it in my library. We consider the "ADVOCATE" our best agricultural paper. Your niece— MRS. PHILP. Beamsville, Ont. DEAR SIR,— I have received the prize awarded to me by "Uncle Tom," for which please accept my thanks. I am very much pleased with the selection, as it is a work I have long wished to possess. Yours sincerely, HEBER SHERRIFF. Vankleek Hill, Ont.

MINNIE MAY'S DEPARTMENT.

MY DEAR NIECES,—

I presume that the greater number of you are housekeepers, or at least that you know something of the art by assisting therein. Housekeeping is woman's natural element, if I might so say. Even tiny tots of girls play at keeping house with their toys. Have you not done so yourselves not so very long ago? It is the privilege of us women to make a home comfortable. I do not mean the mere preparing of food, sweeping, dusting, etc.; that is a very small part of the work. The famous Louisa M. Alcott says: "The home-making, the comfort, the sympathy, the grace and atmosphere that a true woman can provide is the noble part, and embraces all that is helpful for soul and body. I wish our girls would see this, and set about being the true housekeepers." Do not let us make the too common mistake that any woman can be a housekeeper—that we are too well educated to descend to such trivial things as preparing dinners. Trivial? It is anything but that. Surely a woman of education ought to be better at such things than one who has had no such advantages. She can bring her training and knowledge of science to bear upon the subject, and so evolve the superior article. She knows why certain foods go well with certain others; that there is a reason for the blending. Take the simple fact that pork and beans go well together. Why? Just because pork is a fatty food and supplies heat, while beans contain more muscle-making food, and so the two assimilate well—the one supplying what the other lacks. So you see that education is a great help towards good housekeeping. The more we read, the more we shall learn—hints about this, and helps in that—all enabling us to become more deft in whatever we undertake. I could tell you of several prominent women who delighted in practicing housekeeping. Some of them not because they had to do so, but out of love for it. Take for example our own beloved Queen Victoria. In her younger days she used to be very fond of cooking dishes, such as omelettes, etc. For the benefit of her own daughters she had a model kitchen fitted up, and they were urged to try their skill in cooking. Even to-day persons who were employed in the royal establishment will proudly tell us about the Marchioness of Lorne (Princess Louise) and her successful cooking. Another royal personage, the Empress Elizabeth of Austria, is a splendid pastry-cook. You have all heard of the famous actress, Mary Anderson. At one time she and her mother were in straitened circumstances, and had a struggle to make ends meet, and so it often happened that the great actress had to bake bread and study her part for the stage at the same time. Other good housekeepers are Madame Patti, the great singer, and Miss Braddon, the novelist. So you see what a crowd of notable women we are among. Let us emulate them, and strive to do our best. Of course, we shall fall over and over again. Who does not? But never mind; we shall do better next time. Sometimes what we call failure is just what is needed to put us right. An extract from Mr. Disraeli says: "A failure is nothing; it may be deserved, or it may be remedied. In the first instance it brings self-knowledge; in the second, it develops a new combination usually triumphant." I remember a remark made by the minister of the Tron Kirk in Edinburgh while preaching: "There is no such thing as failure to the man who lives in earnest." Just change the word man to woman or girl, and take heart and go on again. And so let us read and read, and thereby we shall be better fitted for filling the housekeeper's niche. Read what other women do, think it over, and see if you cannot get some better, or easier, or quicker method of doing things, and so save your strength as much as possible. Just allow me a word more; it is from "Josiah Allen's Wife": "She wuz a good housekeeper and a good cook, so I felt that he would be kep' good-natured the most of the time. For no matter how Romance and Sentiment may scoff at the idee, good vittles play a most important part in the tune of married bliss—sometimes I think it plays the highest bugle in the orkestry." Your loving old Auntie— MINNIE MAY.

Cooking at Farmers' Institutes.

One of the most interesting features of the Farmers' Institute campaign in the State of Minnesota during the past season was the cooking department for the wives and daughters of farmers, conducted by Mrs. T. A. Hoverstad, formerly Miss Mary C. Thompson, of Minneapolis, who spared no pains to fit herself for the important work. Her first lecture dealt with the cooking of all kinds of meats in common use, the second discussed the best modes of making bread, and the third the best modes of preparing vegetables and fruits for the table. She was equipped with numerous charts, and while she talked she cooked on the gasoline stove which formed part of the outfit, samples of the cooked food being distributed to the audience. As indicating the interest awakened by her lectures, no less than 450 ladies gathered in the hall at Faribault to hear her lecture.

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