

OLD MAIDS VINDICATED.

AN INTERESTING STUDY ON THE SUBJECT.

The Dawn of the Spinster Age and the Reflections it Awakens.

[From one of our Special Contributors.]

There has ever been a wide divergence of opinion as to the exact age that confers the unwelcome title of spinster on a lady hitherto considered an eligible matrimonial candidate.

Longfellow has left us a charming picture of the child merging into maidenhood, and we see her

"Standing with reluctant feet Where the brook and river meet, Womanhood and childhood fleet."

But the reluctant feet become more and more reluctant and tarry a lengthy while when the dim, sequestered lake that laves the lone meadows of spinsterdom is reached, for the maiden stands anxiously scanning the distant horizon, thinking she may catch a glimpse of some belated swain before she takes the fatal step.

This is the most trying moment in the spinster's existence, when she realizes for the first time her solitary position. It may be borne in upon her by some casual incident or word—perhaps the salesman in the store addressed her as Mrs. instead of the Miss she had been accustomed to hear.

The world begins to look kindly on the old maid. The old look of contemptuous pity that used to be the recognition of her state has passed away, and a warm smile of appreciation and respect greets the woman of to-day who walks alone over life's rough path, unsustained by the love and sympathy of some kindred spirit because, as is often the case, she has sacrificed her prospects of wedded bliss on the shrine of parental devotion, or for some other noble and unselfish motive, that, if we could know and understand, would cause us to bow as we pass the hidden heroine whom we only know as the old maid.

Sometimes the old maid is such because she refuses the samples of the superior sex that present themselves before her for selection. Of course, she could be married if she would. Perhaps you smile. But there never was a woman with a straight back that could not have at least one specimen of the genus man for her own particular possession if she was not afflicted with a capricious taste.

A tall, gaunt, thin-tipped creature, with long cork-screw curls around her shimmering or spiteful countenance, is the portrait from past ages of the genuine spinster, and by modifying this picture to suit the fashion of the hour, you will often be able to recognize the given characteristics of the typical spinster in many of her married sisters.

Woman, if she be true to her womanhood, is always charming, let her age be what it will, for though the years may steal the roses from her cheeks, and powder her hair with the snows of time, enough of true beauty remains in the countenance, softened and chastened by life's experiences, and the mind enriched with the treasures grasped from the fleeting years, to win respect and reverence, although life's fitful fever, Love, may be vanished forever.

The old maid of to-day is a lovable mortal without; bright, witty, clever, happy and refined. She well understands the general depression in the matrimonial market, and is content to accept her different lot, and become a blessing to her different lot, and become a blessing to her race, as all her married brothers' and sisters' children will tell you; and her life is often as full and complete when intelligently devoted to some high purpose, as that of her sister who wears the symbol of a husband's authority.

THE Best Yet Offered IN REED ROCKERS \$4.95 Only Regular value \$8.75

We have 5 different patterns equally as good which we will close out at \$1.95 each. Special values in all lines of Furniture for the balance of this month. We will store your purchases free till wanted.

RENAUD, KING & PATTERSON 652 Craig Street.

FOOD SUGGESTIONS. All kinds of flour and meal should be eaten as soon as possible after being ground, as it is then constantly parting with its life elements. All organic material used as food tends to decay after reaching its highest state of perfection, and should be eaten when most highly endowed with the life principle. A monotonous diet is not adapted to the proper development of the race or the individual. Nuts and some kinds of fruits, though they will keep a long time, should never be eaten after the flavor becomes impaired. Milk, water and all fluids, cooked or uncooked, rapidly absorb injurious gases and microscopic germs from the atmosphere if allowed to remain unsealed, especially in warm weather. Each one must, in a large measure, be his or her own judge as to what agrees or disagrees in the line of food, yet we should endeavor to perfect our ideals, and our appetites and desires will gradually conform to them.

"This butter seems strong," said the young husband at their first breakfast at home. "Yes," she answered; "I talked to the market man about that, and he said it was economy in the end never to buy weak butter. He said that even though this might cost a little more people could get along with less of it, and it would last longer."

A Gift of Three Grand Prize Engravings,

For Readers and Subscribers of the True Witness. \$25 for \$3.

Arrangements have been made with the "NATIONAL ART SOCIETY" to present to each of the readers of this week's number of THE TRUE WITNESS three GRAND PRIZE ENGRAVINGS, each being 34 inches by 22 inches and magnificently executed.

1. The Shepherd of Jerusalem,

By P. R. MORRIS, A.R.A. Representing the summit of Calvary after the Crucifixion. The Shepherd, whilst tending his flock, is gazing at the Cross on which Our Saviour suffered and is reading the superscription of plate. The Cross is now a resting place for doves. In the foreground are sheep, while the Serpent of Sin lies in the grass with his head bowed.

2. The Good Shepherd,

By W. C. T. DOBSON. The Celebrated Royal Academician, Represents Our Saviour clad in the simple garb of a Shepherd, leaning back to the distant fold those sheep that have strayed—illustrating the well-known passage: "I am the Good Shepherd and know my sheep and am known of mine." The lowest retail price of the above is one guinea each, and until the NATIONAL ART SOCIETY was established this had never been published under that price.

3. La Madonna Dei Ansdei,

By RAPHAEL. Represents the Virgin and Child attended by St. John the Baptist and St. Nicholas of Bari, and is by common consent one of the most perfect pictures in the world, and is also one of the noblest embodiments of Christianity. Raphael is above all the painter of Motherhood and Childhood—the self-forgetting love of the one and the tender faith of the other—the human relationship which of all others is the most divine. This picture was recently purchased for the British National Gallery for £70,000 sterling, more than three times the highest price ever paid for a single picture.

The National Art Society have, at great expense, secured the only Copper-plate which exists of the above. Even ordinary prints from it have realized from three to four guineas at public auction in England.

The above three magnificent Engravings will be sent to all readers of THE TRUE WITNESS who cut out the Voucher below and forward it, with three dollars, to "THE NATIONAL ART SOCIETY," No. 3, SNOWDON CHAMBERS, 25 Adelaide Street, Toronto.

Or any single Engraving will be sent for \$1.25, to cover the cost of Copyright charges, duty, packing, carriage, and other expenses. N.B.—Applications must be made to the National Art Society as above, and not to the office of THE TRUE WITNESS.

"THE TRUE WITNESS," VOUCHER.

- For One Copy of 1. The Shepherd of Jerusalem. 2. The Good Shepherd. 3. La Madonna Dei Ansdei.

No copy will be given without the Voucher, but readers may, if they wish, call and get the Engravings, orders will be executed strictly in the order in which they arrive, and after the stock at present in this country is exhausted, the National Art Society reserves the right to raise the charges or to return the applicants' money in full.

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price, and Unit. Includes Artichokes, Lettuce, Radishes, Oyster plant, Sprouts, Spinach, Tomatoes, Lemons, Apples, Oranges, Cranberries, Bananas, Almeria grapes, Catawba grapes, Black duck, Blue-bill duck, Teal duck, Mallard ducks, Plover, Quail, Quail, drawn, Snowbirds, Large spring chickens, Small chickens, Fowls, Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, Cock turkeys, Pigeons, Squabs, Print butter, Creamery, Good dairy butter, Mild cheese, Strong cheese, Eggs, Case eggs, Honey, Maple sugar, Maple syrup, Beef, Mutton, Lamb, Veal, Pork, Ham, Lard, Sausages, Bacon, Dressed hogs, Pike, Haddock, Bullheads, Whitefish, Cod, Dory, Halibut, Trout, Smelts, Mackerel, Finnan haddies, Fresh salmon, Black bass, Sturgeon.

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price, and Unit. Includes MEATS, Poultry, Dairy produce, Fish.

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price, and Unit. Includes MEATS, Poultry, Dairy produce, Fish.

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price, and Unit. Includes MEATS, Poultry, Dairy produce, Fish.

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price, and Unit. Includes MEATS, Poultry, Dairy produce, Fish.

Household Hints

New shirt-waists of plain ceru, pink or blue linen have tucked and corded yokes with cords and tucks running the entire length of the blouse exactly in front, and also at the back.

Small collies the color of the lampshades are sometimes used at luncheons, placed at each cover for the bread. When this is done a small individual butter plate is provided.

A new idea for a sauce vessel comes from London. It is of silver of a wide, low pitcher shape, provided with a cover, and is fitted with a tiny spirit lamp, whose office is suggestive of the doing away with cold gravies and sauces.

A beautifully wrought silver bor-bon dish has a slender glass vase in a silver holder rising from its centre, thus combining a dainty service of flowers and sweets.

Two small gastronomic hints are, to put the merest suspicion of peppermint in a French dressing for a green salad, and to grate fresh cocconut over a dish of fish salad.

Steaming the face is now considered harmful, as it enlarges the pores, weakens the eyes, causes eye-lashes to fall out, relaxes the muscles, shrivels the skin and makes it flabby.

Pure pine-apple juice is offered as a remedy in case of croup. Given in small doses, it prevents the formation of the membrane in the throat that causes death.

Stewed bananas are cooked till clear in a syrup made of one cup of sugar, one of water, a bayleaf, and a stick of cinnamon.

The Glen of Aherlow was the scene of a romantic marriage on Shrove Tuesday. The contracting parties were Margaret Nestor, aged 65, who found a fourth husband in a shoemaker of the district, five years her junior. The bride was an old servant in the Massey family of Riverdale, and the young sons of the family, home on vacation, celebrated the event according to their own notions of propriety. Three donkeys decked with evergreens and sleighbells drew the carriage containing the bride and groom to the church, and the two young gentlemen donned their coachman's and footman's liveries and mounted the box. A procession of villagers brought up the rear.

The Only DEPARTMENTAL STORE in the CITY SELLING EXCLUSIVELY for Cash

SPRING OPENING.

NEW SPRING COATS. NEW SPRING SUITS. NEW SPRING WAISTS. NEWEST MILLINERY. RIBBONS, LACES. GLOVES and HOSIERY. New Spring Wash Goods, Wrappers, Underwear, Corsets, Curtains, Draperies, and Fine Upholstery Materials.

OUR BIG CARPET SALE.

This week last year it seemed as though most all Montreal bought their New Carpets HERE, and we've prepared accordingly for this Season. Such a showing as the housewife is most interested in, our exclusive designs, in all the leading makes, are here in all their completeness, and in addition are many short lengths that dwellers in small rooms will find it economical to purchase. The prices we make for this Great Sale are remarkably low. Only a personal examination can possibly demonstrate HOW MUCH BELOW all others.

HAMILTON'S St. Catherine and Peel Sts., and Dominion Square.

MARKET REPORT.

Live Stock Markets.

LONDON, March 22.—The offerings of cattle were again large to-day from the States, but notwithstanding this fact the market was well maintained for choice grades and sales of such were made at 12c. For Argentine stock there was a better feeling and values for choice show an advance of 4c over this day week, with sales at 11c. The sheep trade was not so good as last week, the best being quoted at 12c, which is 1c to 1c lower than a week ago. A private cable received from Liverpool reported the market for Canadian cattle weaker, and noted a decline of 4c per lb. since last Thursday, choice being quoted at 11c and middling at 10c.

MONTREAL, March 22.—The features of the local export live stock trade since our last has been the engaging of ocean freight space for May shipment, and we understand that all the first boats sailing from this port to Liverpool and Glasgow in the first week of the above month have been taken at 45s for the former and at 40s for the latter, without insurance. In regard to Glasgow it is stated that the same conditions will be in force this season as during the past two years, and that is, the quantity of cattle on each vessel sailing will be a limited number. In regard to export cattle there has been a stronger feeling through the country for choice stall fed stock, and prices within the past two weeks have been advanced fully 1c per lb., and it is reported that some extensive buying has been done for May delivery on the basis of 4 1/2c to 5c per lb., live weight. The demand in this market to-day was fair, and about 100 head were bought at prices ranging from 3 1/2c to 4c per lb., live weight. Late advices from Winnipeg indicate that some large buying of cattle has been done for export account.

At the First End Abattoir market the offerings of live stock were 400 cattle; 60 sheep and lambs, 40 spring lambs, and 200 calves. In sympathy with the recent rise in values in the Toronto market and the smaller receipts of cattle here to-day, there was a much firmer feeling in the market and prices show an advance of fully 1c to 1 1/2c per lb. on all grades since this day week. Choice butchers' stock sold at 3 1/2c, good at 3 1/4c to 3 1/2c; fair at 2 1/2c to 3c, and common at 2 1/4c to 2 1/2c per lb., live weight. The supply of sheep and lambs was small, for which the demand was good, and sales were made at 4 1/2c per lb., live weight. Spring lambs were in active demand, and as the supply was short prices ruled higher at \$3 to \$7 each, as to size. Calves were well enquired for, but the quality of the stock was generally of an inferior class, and prices were lower at from \$2 to \$7 each. A few milk cows were offered, which sold at prices ranging from \$18 to \$35 each.

The receipts of cattle at the Point St. Charles Stock Yards were 200 head, but trade was slow, as local dealers filled their wants in the Toronto market last Friday, consequently no sales were made, and drovers forwarded them to the above market. A bunch of 25 sheep and lambs sold at \$5.25 each. The supply of hogs was small, there being only 55 offered, and, in consequence, the tone of the market was stronger, and prices advanced 10c per 100 lbs., the lot being taken for Quebec account at \$5.10 per 100 lbs.

RETAIL MARKET PRICES.

The breaking up of the country and city roads was the means of keeping farmers who live at any distance from coming to the market, consequently the attendance at old Bonsecours this morning was slim, but nevertheless, the supply of grain was quite ample to fill all requirements, and the slight improvement in oats noted last week was fully maintained with sales at 50c to 55c per bag. Buckwheat was somewhat scarce at 65 to 70c per bag. Peas were unchanged at 70c to 75c, and beans were unchanged at \$1.10 per bag. The warmer weather was an inducement for gardeners to come to market, and in consequence the gathering was fair and offerings of seasonable vegetables were larger than usual, for which there was a fair demand and prices in some cases were higher. There was no change in fruit and business was quiet. In game Mallard duck was easier at 80c to 85c, and quails were lower at \$2.40 to \$2.50 for No. 1, and \$1.60 to \$1.75 per dozen for No. 2. Dairy produce was quiet and unchanged.

VEGETABLES.

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price, and Unit. Includes Parsley, Cabbage, Carrots, Turnips, Beets, Potatoes, Cauliflowers, Celery, Leeks, Onions, Parsnips, Rhubarb.

MONTREAL'S GREATEST STORE.

The S. CARSLY Co., LIMITED.

1765 to 1783 Notre Dame Street, MONTREAL.

HIGH-CLASS JACKETS AND CAPES.

The High Standard of Excellence in Quality and Style that we have maintained in this season's Spring Importations of High Class Jackets and Capes has won universal admiration. A Grand Exhibit will be held of the latest conceptions of artistic minds and the daintiest products of skilled hands.

Jacket Novelties

Ladies' New Box Jackets, in fawns, drabs, biscuits and reseda, loose back and front, ornamented with small pearl buttons. Ladies' New Empire Coats, plaited back and front (a yoke) Medici or Lily collar, lined shot taffeta. Ladies' New Regne Jackets, slashed collar, inlaid with velvet, lined with shot and fancy silks.

Spring Capes

Ladies' and Misses' New Colored Cloth Capes in all the latest colorings, perforated on taffeta silk foundations. Ladies' New Velvet Capes, lined with black or shot taffeta, spangled with jets and trimmed with silk, chiffon and moussin de soie ruchings. Ladies' Applique Box Cloth Capes on silk foundations, trimmed with chiffon and moussin de soie ruchings.

HIGH-CLASS SPRING DRESS GOODS.

One great section of the Big Store entirely devoted to this season's latest styles in High Class Dress Goods. The assortment is matchless and the styles indescribable, the large sales giving daily proof of our public's appreciation.

Shot Mohairs

In all the latest changeable effects, very stylish material, 75c. Illuminated Broche Fabric for Costumes, elegant colorings, 80c. Brocaded Shot material, a perfect marvel in very dainty patterns, 90c.

THE S. CARSLY CO., Ltd.

Fancy Figured Fabrics.

The latest triumph in London and Paris; this material is greatly in favor everywhere, \$1.10. DRESS ROBE LENGTH. The styles and colorings revealed in these high class Robe Lengths are marvellous. No two of them alike. Conclusive evidence of our leadership in matters of Dress Goods. Prices from \$10.90 to \$22.40.

THE S. CARSLY CO., Ltd.

A SHIPLOAD OF New BARNSELY LINENS.

Our Spring Importations of Linens would go far to fill a fair sized ship. This sounds "big," but it's just a plain statement of a great fact; and then we do the Linen trade of Montreal and a large percentage of that of Canada. In support of our statement we quote the following:

Linen Table Damask

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price, and Unit. Includes 62 inch Linen Table Damask, 62 inch Fine Linen Table Damask, 72 inch Good Quality Linen Table Damask, 72 inch Fine Quality Linen Table Damask, 72 inch Extra Quality Linen Table Damask, 72 inch Fine Barnsley Linen Table Damask.

THE S. CARSLY CO., Ltd.

Linen Towels

Table with 3 columns: Item, Price, and Unit. Includes Good Linen Huckaback Towels, Strong Linen Huckaback Towels, Extra Strong Linen Huckaback Towels, Very Strong Linen Huckaback Towels, Best Quality Strong Linen Huckaback Towels, Extra Grade Fine Linen Huckaback Towels.

THE S. CARSLY CO., Ltd.

The S. Carsley Co., Ltd. 1765 to 1783 Notre Dame Street MONTREAL.

John Murphy & Co's ADVERTISEMENT.

SPRING NOVELTIES

AT POPULAR PRICES!

Complete Stock in all Lines of DRY GOODS! NEW SPRING JACKETS AND CAPES! All the Latest Parisian Styles.

NEW SILKS For Blouses! NEW DRESS GOODS! NEW GLOVES! NEW HOSIERY!

JOHN MURPHY & CO. 2343 St. Catherine St. CORNER OF METCALFE STREET. TELEPHONE No. 3833. TERMS, CASH

INFORMATION WANTED

Of the whereabouts of Mrs. John Noonan, my sister, whom I have not heard from in 22 years. When last heard from her address was Mrs. John Noonan, Diamond Harbor, Quebec, Canada. Come to this country with her brother, John Sanders, Sarah Sanders, height 5 feet 2 or 4 inches, immigrated from County Limerick, Ireland. Any information of her whereabouts will be kindly received by Mrs. Patrick McMahon, Alden Station, Luz County, Pa.

One Advantage -

Of the new patent Agraffe Bridge in the new scale

HEINTZMAN & CO. PIANOS.

Is that it increases the brilliancy of the tone. None genuine unless stencelled: Heintzman & Co. Toronto.

Sole Representative for Montreal. C. W. LINDSAY, 2366 St. Catherine Street, near Peel Street.

N.B.—Old pianos of all descriptions accepted in part payment.

VIN MARIANI (MARIANI WINE.)

The Ideal and Popular Tonic for BODY, BRAIN AND NERVES. Highly endorsed by the Medical Profession, the Clergy and the Stage.

Your marvellous Tonic needs certainly no further recommendation, as every one is familiar with it, and no one would be without it. I claim Vin Mariani can have no equal, it will live forever.

BERTHELEMY, Theatre Nouveautés, Paris. At Drugists & Fancy Grocers. Avoid substitutes. Lawrence A. Wilson & Co., Montreal. SOLE AGENTS FOR CANADA.

