

been covered with brandy. The brandy is then set on fire, and while it is burning the raisins are plucked out with the fingers.

A rite in ancient use was that of going alone with a candle to a looking-glass and eating an apple before it, combing one's hair all the while. During this process the face of one's future partner would be seen in the mirror as if peering over the shoulder.

Those who resorted to this and other spells for making apparitions appear were regarded as very presumptuous, and cases are known of such persons having lost their reason either through the effects of their own highly wrought imagination, or the practical jokes of incautious friends.

We recall a Halloween at the house of a Scotch gentleman, when the merry-making narrowly escaped a serious termination. The servants and some of their friends had assembled for the usual sport, and we all went to the kitchen followed by a pet dog with long, silky hair, who stood quietly by and looked with wonder at the unusual proceedings. The genial master of the house entering into the spirit of the occasion, took his turn at ducking, and deftly speared an apple with the fork. After taking several raisins from the flaming brandy, his eye fell upon the little dog, and catching him up, with the dog's paw he drew out a raisin. It was quickly done, but not so quickly as to prevent the fine, soft hair from taking fire, and poor Fisk's paw was in a blaze, much to the distress of his mistress. The fire was speedily extinguished, however, and the little dog, frightened though quite unhurt, quickly left the room, evidently having learned all he cared to know of Halloween.

Put Up Your Bill and Sing.

You stupid bird! don't be absurd,
And miss so good a chance;
Will your sweet mate for ever wait
Upon that near by branch?
For every Jack there there is a Jill,
And once a year it's Spring;
You can't be rash for love or cash—
Put up your bill and sing!

You simple youth! why worship truth,
And ever toil and spin;
Learn cunning ways and claptrap phrase,
And join the side to win.
The right man should the right place get,
For that's the proper thing;
And if you plan to be that man
Put up your bill and sing!

I'm told there's naught that can't be bought
For the proper sort of song—
Votes, honor, place; a handsome face—
The list is pages long.
For every bird there is a note
That stops or starts his wing;
Learn by the rote, puff out your throat,
Put up your bill and sing.

—James Hunter MacCulloch

A dog at Mitford, Pa., got tired of working a churning machine, and let the rope encircling his neck strangle him to death. When at liberty he was full of play. He had tried once before to commit suicide on the machine.

OUR GEM CASKET.

"But words are things, and a small drop of ink
Falling like dew upon a thought produces
That which makes thousands, perhaps millions, think."

Simple duty hath no place for fear.

A false profit—Money made by deception.

The perfectly contented man is also perfectly useless.

Do not allow yourself to lose temper or speak excitedly.

About the only troubles that come single are fussy old maids.

Half the ills we hoard in our hearts are ills because we hoard them.

Drink your favorite claret during a calm. "Any port will do in a storm."

He that hath light thoughts of sin never had great thoughts of God.

The period of the fly for the present season has about come to a full stop.

What is generally called fast living is really nothing but dying as quickly as possible.

Idleness is hard work for those who are not used to it, and dull work for those who are.

Love's sweetest meanings are unspoken; the full heart knows no rhetoric of words.

The Rev. Mr. Henn is a minister in Georgia. An exchange adds, "Probably a lay preacher."

Divine love is a sacred flower, which in its early bud is happiness, and in its full bloom is heaven.

The boy who bit into a green apple, remarked with a wry face, "Twas ever thus in childhood—sour!"

Deliberate with caution, but act with discretion; yield with graciousness, or oppose with firmness.

The beginning of faith is action; and he only believes who struggles, not he who merely thinks a question over.

A Frenchman is teaching a donkey to talk. What we want in this country is a man who will teach donkeys not to talk.

The only drawback which many a deserted husband finds to the felicity of having his wife elope with another man is that she did not take her mother with her.

A firm faith is the best divinity; a good life the best philosophy; a clear conscience the best law; honesty the best policy, and temperance the best physic.

A Texas owl mistook a sleeping man's head for a chicken, and fastened its claws into his hair and scalp. "Well! what's the matter now, old woman?" said the assailed, as he awoke.

"What is the infinity of silence?" asked a philosopher of a married man. "I don't know; but I should think it would be what a man had to say to his wife when she caught him trying to kiss the hired girl."

We know in part; the other part

Is hid in God, and only shines

In points of glory on the heart

That moves towards him in Love's straight lines—

The truly virtuous do not easily credit evil that is told them of their neighbor; for if others may do amiss, then may these also speak amiss; man is frail, and prone to evil, and therefore may soon fail in words.

A western paper, announcing the illness of the editor, piously adds: "All subscribers who have paid cash in advance are requested to mention him in their prayers. The others need not, as the prayers of the wicked avail nothing." This is pretty rough on the clergymen who had been getting free copies.