

THE DUCAT AND THE FARTHING.

BY MARY HOWITT.

A ducat and a farthing had just been counted in the great mint where all the gold, silver and copper pieces are made. The two lay close, side by side, clean and beautiful, and the clear sunlight glittered upon them.

'Thou raganuffin!' cried the ducat, 'off with thee! Thou art only made of vulgar copper, and art not worthy to be shone upon by the sun. Thou wilt soon be black and dirty, and no one will think it worth while to pick thee up from the ground. I, on the contrary, am of a costly gold. I shall travel through the world to the end—to princes and kings—I shall do great things, and even at length, perhaps, become a part of the king's crown.'

At the same moment, a great white cat, lying near the fire, arose up, and turning round on her side, remarked:

'The under must be uppermost to make all even.'

And the fate of these coins was somewhat the same.

The gold piece came into the possession of a rich miser, who locked it up in a chest among a great number of other gold pieces. The miser, fearing that he should soon die, buried all his gold in the earth, so that no one should possess it after him; and there lies the proud ducat till this present time, and it has grown so black and dirty, that no one would pick it up if they saw it.

The farthing, however, traveled far through the earth, and came to high honor; and this is how it occurred:

A lad from the mint received the farthing for his wages, and the lad's little sister admiring the bright coin, he gave it to her.—The child ran into the garden to show her mother the farthing, and an old lame beggar came limping up, and begged a piece of bread. 'I have none,' said the little girl. 'Give me then a farthing, that I may buy myself a bit of bread,' said the beggar.—And the child gave him the farthing.

The beggar limped away to the baker's. Whilst he stood in the shop, an old acquaintance, dressed as a pilgrim, with his cloak, staff and bag, came up the street, and gave the children pretty pictures of saints and holy men, and the children dropped pence into the box which the pilgrim held in his hand. The beggar asked 'where are you going?' The pilgrim replied, 'many hundred miles, to the city of Jerusalem, where the Lord Jesus was born, lived and died; I am going to prey at his holy grave, and to buy the release of my brother, who has been taken prisoner by the Turks. But first, I am collecting money in my box.' 'So take my mite,' said the beggar, and gave him the farthing.

The beggar was walking away, hungry as he came; but the baker, who had looked on, gave the poor old man the bread he was about to have bought.

Now, the pilgrim traveled through many lands, sailed over the sea in a little ship, and at length reached the city of Jerusalem. When the pilgrim arrived, he first prayed at the sepulchre, then presented himself to the Sultan, who held his brother captive. He offered the Turk a great sum of money, if he would only set his brother free. But the Turk required more. 'I have nothing more to give thee,' spake the pilgrim, 'than this common farthing, which a hungry beggar gave me out of compassion. Be thou also compassionate and the farthing will also reward thee.'

The Sultan put the farthing in his pocket, and immediately released the prisoner, and soon forgot all about it. The Emperor of Germany came to Jerusalem, and waged war against the Sultan. The Sultan fought bravely, and was never wounded. Once an arrow was shot straight at his breast—it hit him, but fell back without having wounded him. The Sultan was much surprised at this, and after the battle his clothes were examined, and in the breast pocket the farthing was found, against which the arrow had struck. The Turk held the farthing in great honor, and had it hung with a golden chain, to the handle of his scimeter. Later on in the war, the Sultan was taken prisoner by the Emperor, and was forced to yield up his sword to him, and thus the farthing came with the sword into the Emperor's possession.

Whilst the Emperor sat at the table with a beaker of wine in his hand, the Empress said she would like to see the Sultan's sword; and it was brought. As the Emperor exhibited it to the Empress, the farthing fell from the golden chain into the beaker of wine. The Emperor perceived this, and before he placed the beaker to his lips, he took out the farthing. But the farthing was grown quite green. Then every one saw that the wine was poisoned. A wicked attendant had

poisoned the wine in order to destroy the Emperor. The attendant was condemned to death; but the farthing was placed in the Imperial crown.

Thus the farthing had delighted a child, had procured a beggar bread, had released a prisoner, had saved the life of a Sultan and of an Emperor. Therefore it was set in the Imperial crown, and is there to this day—if one could only see the crown!

In 1853, and 1854, Mr. Simms studied the Science of Man, which is now his speciality, with Professor L. N. Fowler, of New York, who on his leaving gave him this note: 'Mr. J. Simms has taken a thorough course of instruction on Phrenology from me, and is qualified to give examinations, charts, and to advise as to business qualifications. He is an honest, moral, worthy man.' Since then Mr. Simms has lectured with



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No amount of sneering skepticism, can alter truth; and phrenology and physiology are the names of the sciences, which treat of the natural truths of human existence. That some persons who profess to expound the physical and mental mysteries of the nature of man, may be only ignorant pretenders, while others are at once learned and profound, is not an argument against the physiological philosophy of man's nature becoming a popular study, but is only a suggestion that the pretender or charlatan should be avoided, or guardedly listened to. How is he to be known? Is it best to test all professors of those sciences as true philosophers, or all as pretenders? We think the least learned of them, if he has studied his subjects at all, can tell something worth listening to; while they who know the most, who are at once keenly perceptive, profoundly analytical, and widely experienced in the practical developments of man's physical and moral nature, and social life, are teachers whose vocation is of the highest service to individuals and to society.

We have heard so much that is favorable to the personal reputation of Professor Simms, that after due consideration it is decided to give his portrait, and a brief memoir a place in these columns. And the reason for such decision is, that if we did not do so, he would still lecture on physiology, examine heads, and give charts of phrenological developments. It is better that the public should know all that is necessary to be known of their popular teachers, we have therefore collected the following particulars about this gentleman.

Professor Simms was born in Otsego County, State of New York, September 3rd, 1833, of parents whose ancestors came to America, from the South of England. His father was a hat manufacturer, a respectable worthy man, and on the mother's side the family were of strong constitutions, temperate, industrious. At twelve years of age the Professor states that he had learned little but mischief; although a kind mother's care and a father's advice had been marking his footpath. From twelve to eighteen he underwent a course of physical and mental education. He was then employed as school teacher in New Jersey and several of the Western States; and during School terms lectured on Physiology and Phrenology, and subsequently studied medicine with a medical gentleman, whom he accompanied when giving professional lectures in the States of Vermont, New York, and Massachusetts.

approval and success in the Eastern and Western States, and since January 1863, in Canada. His prelections are well spoken of by the Press, as moral and instructive.—In supporting Christianity and the bible, Mr. Simms is a favorable exception to some others who have treated of the Science of Man. His apparatus enables him to make his illustrations additionally interesting. We have no reason to doubt that his career in Canada will continue to be as it has been, a success.

Agricultural, AND GARDEN MEMORANDA.

THE delightful and busy season having arrived, the following hints relative to the culture of the principal garden crops will be found useful.

TO PROVE SEEDS, place a few in a pot of earth and keep it warm and moist. Onion seed tied in a cloth and put first into cold water then parboiled half an hour, will sprout in that time if it is any good. So says a Toronto Gardener's Catalogue; but the parboiling test seems rather a burster.

TRANSPLANTING should be done just at evening, or immediately before or after a rain. Make the holes with the dibble, hold the plant in one hand, and with the other bear the point of the dibble into the ground by the side of it, and press the earth closely to the bottom of the root, taking care not to bury the heart of the plant. Give each plant a gill of water about the root, and shade with a shingle in sunny weather.

WATERING.—The best time to water plants is at sunrise or just at evening, and always use rain water when to be had. If well water must be used it should be exposed to the sun a day or two, until it rises to the temperature of the air, before applied. Water may be given to the roots at any time, but never should be sprinkled over the leaves in a hot sun.

THINNING is a very important operation. Everything ought to be thinned very early, even in the seed leaf if the plants stand too close. Another thinning may be necessary when they are more advanced, to give them room to grow stocky. All plants when crowded together, run up tall and slender; such never succeed so well.

THE ROTATION OF CROPS ought to be regarded in planting a garden. Fusiform or carrot-shaped roots should follow fibrous-rooted ones, and every succeeding crop should be as dissimilar to the preceding one as possible. Onions are an exception.

INSECTS are troublesome and sometimes destructive. Plaster of Paris, snuff, ashes, or soot sifted on Cucumbers and Squashes when wet with dew, is very useful against the striped bug. Lime, road dust, ashes, or snuff, scattered over young Cabbages and Turnips, will sometimes prevent the ravages of the black fly. Rolling the ground after sowing, answers a good purpose, but the best preventive is a thorough sprinkling of the plants just at night with whale oil soap suds, in proportion of one pint of soap to seven and a half gallons of water. This will kill cabbage lice and all other aphides. It is sure death to all tender insects when forcibly applied with a garden syringe or rubbed on with a brush. For the want of the whale oil soap, strong soft soap suds may be used.—Salt is sometimes sown in the drills with onion seed to drive away the grub. Fine salt strewn broadcast over Cabbages is the best application we know of for destroying the little green cabbage worm. Ducks, chickens, and toads destroy a host of insects, when suffered to inhabit the garden.

HOEING AND WEEDING.—It ought to be remembered that it is easiest to kill weeds when they are small, and that it is better to hoe for this purpose soon after, rather than immediately before, a rain. It ought also to be remembered that Cabbage, Cauliflower, and Brocoli, require deep, and that Onions and Turnips require shallow hoeing; that Beets, Carrots, and Parsnips will put out side roots and grow scraggy if hoed deep after they are nearly grown; and that earthing up is more proper for fibrous than for carrot-rooted plants.

BLOOD BEET, LONG AND TURNIP should be sown in a good, rich, deep soil, in May. Draw drills about a foot apart, and one inch deep; sow moderately thick; when the plants are up strong, thin them out the distance of six inches from each other in the rows

BROCOLI AND CAULIFLOWER require a deep rich soil, of a clayey nature, and highly manured. To produce early Cauliflower or Brocoli, the seed ought to be sown in a hot-bed early in March. When the plants are quite strong and hardy they may be planted out any time in May. Plant in rows two feet square. The kinds that will do well in this climate are the Early London and French Cauliflower, Purple Cape and Walcheren Brocoli.

The most suitable ground for growing CARROTS is a deep, rich soil that has been well manured the previous year. Sow any time in May, in drills one foot apart and one inch deep. When the Carrots are up, thin them out four inches apart, and keep the ground free from weeds. The kinds that are generally sown in gardens are the Early Horn, Long Orange, and Red Surrey; for field culture the White Belgian and Altringham. The produce of one acre of Field Carrot, when properly cultivated, may be rated at from 800 to 1000 bushels. In cultivating them on the field system, the drills ought to be two feet apart, and the Carrots thinned out at least 12 inches apart.

MUSK AND WATER MELONS may also be sown at the same time, taking care to sow the different kinds a good distance apart from each other, as they are apt to mix. Plant in hills, six feet square, leaving only three plants on each hill. When the plants have grown about six inches, stop or pinch out the top of the leading shoots, which will make the plants throw out lateral shoots, on which you may expect to have fruit.

SOW NASTURTIUM OR INDIAN CRESS in May or early in June, in drills about an inch deep. The tall kind near fences or poles on which they climb and have support; if left to trail on the ground, the fruit is apt to be injured.

ONIONS.—The yellow and large red Onions are the best for a general crop. The ground for Onions should be well prepared, by digging in plenty of well rotted manure. The seed may be sown from the middle of April to the middle of June. Sow in drills one inch deep and twelve inches apart. When the young Onions are up, thin them out to the distance of three inches apart.

PEAS.—A light dry soil, not over rich, suits the Pea. If they grow too vigorously, and show no sign of bloom, run a spade along about eight inches from the row straight down, and thereby root prune them. Do this each side of the row, and they will bloom in a few days. Plant as early as the ground can be worked, and again every two weeks for succession through the season. Plant in single or double rows from four to six feet apart, according to the different heights, about an inch apart in the row, and three inches deep; hoe often. In dry weather Peas should be soaked in soft water five or six hours before planting, and if the ground is very dry, it should be watered in the hills.