

The Cackling Hen.

We have read of Maud on a summer day
Who raked, barefooted, the new-mown hay.
We have read of the maid in the early morn
Who milked the cow with the crumpled
horn;
And we've read the lay that the poets sing
Of the rustling corn and the flowers of
spring;
But of all the lays of tongue and pen
There's naught like the lays of the Canuck
hen.
Long, long before Maud raked her hay,
The Canuck hen had begun to lay;
And ere the milkmaid stirs a peg,
The hen is up and has dropped her egg.
The corn must rustle and flowers must
spring,
If they'd hold their own with the barnyard
ring.
If Maud is needing a hat and gown,
She does n't hustle the hay to town;
But goes to the store and obtains her suit
With a basketful of fresh hen fruit.
If the milkmaid's beau makes a Sunday
call,
She does n't feed him on milk at all;
But works up eggs in a custard pie,
And stuffs him full of a chicken fry.
And when the old man wants a horn,
Does he take the druggist a load of corn?
Not much! He simply robs a nest,
And to town he goes—you know the rest.
He lingers there and he talks, perchance,
Of true reform and correct finance;
While his poor wife stays at home and
scowls,
But is saved from want by those self-same
fowls.
And while her husband lingers there,
She looks in the barn and everywhere,
And gathers eggs, and eggs she'll hide
Till she gets enough to stem the tide.
Then hail, all hail to the Canada hen,
The greatest blessing of all to men!
Throw up your hats, and make Rome howl
For the persevering barnyard fowl!
Corn may be king, but 'tis plainly seen
That the Canada hen's the Canadian queen.

The Comfort of the Horse.

More and better work can be done
with less worrying of the animals if
care be taken to make the horses as
comfortable as possible. One import-
ant item is to have the harness fit right,
so that the horses can work in it with-
out distress. In all parts it should be
made to fit so that it will not gall. Bad-
ly fitting harness not only often causes
sore shoulders, but it wears the hair off
from various parts of the body. The
bridle should be long enough to bring
the bit down to the angles of the lips,
and not so short as to draw them up an
inch or two above their natural position.
On the other hand, it should not be so
long as to permit the bit to hang so low
that the animal can get his tongue over
it. The reins should be long enough
to allow the animal to carry his head in
an easy, natural position. If reined up
too tight, in a short time the holding of
his head in an unnatural position will
tire him; and if his neck be made tired
by tight reining, he will be a tired horse
all over. A horse pulling a heavy load
or going a long journey should not be
checked up at all. He will be more
sure-footed with his head free, while, if
he should stumble, he will recover him-
self better if he can throw his head
down, and thereby relieve his fore legs
of a part of the weight of his body un-
til they get in place again. The traces
should be of the same length, so that in
pulling the collar will bear upon each
shoulder equally. The hames should
fit snugly into the collar, and, with the
collar, should be fitted so that in pulling
they will bear equally on all parts of
the shoulder, rather than on the point,
as they so often do. Care must be taken
to keep the collar and shoulders
clean. A very little dirt allowed to ac-
cumulate on any part of the collar or
shoulders may gall the shoulders in a
very short time, especially if the weather
is warm. See that the back band is
of a length that will make the traces
pull straight from the hames to the sin-
gle-tree. If the back-band is a little
too short, the traces, in pulling, will
pull it down on the back and soon cause
a sore; and a sore on a horse's back is
hard to cure. He will drink more com-
fortably with his bridle off and with his
crupper unfastened. If the day is hot,
the collar should be pulled away from
the shoulders when stopping for a rest.
When brought in from work at night
the shoulders should be bathed in cold
water, and after he is cooled off should
be carefully groomed. He will get a
great deal more benefit from his night's
rest if he can be cleaned up and provid-
ed with plenty of dry bedding, than if
the dust and dirt accumulated during
the day are allowed to remain on him.
He should be fed and watered regularly.
Going without either food or water be-
yond his accustomed time is certain
to cause him more or less discomfort.
In nearly all cases it is not so much the
steady, hard, everyday work that in-
jures a horse, as it is the neglect to
make him comfortable while he is do-
ing it.

Don't beat the cow because she kicks.
Just tie her legs together, and thereby
avoid further trouble.

Don't leave the stove-wood out in
the rain, and then scold your wife if
breakfast is not ready.

Don't give your boy a colt or a pig
as a reward of merit, add then sell it
on the first opportunity and pocket the
money.

The Dog That Owned Jorkins.

CANINE IS TYRANNICAL AND MRS. JOR-
KINS IS THE SUFFERER.

Jorkins owns a dog, or, to be more
explicit, the dog owns Jorkins, and they
both live with Mrs. Jorkins in a flat,
much to the discomfiture of that good
woman, who does not, as a general thing,
tolerate dogs.

"Piper has more sense than most
people," Jorkins says, when expatiating
on the virtues of his favorite.

"Yes," Mrs. Jorkins adds, sarcastic-
ally. "He knows enough to come in
when it rains, because he hates to get
wet."

Piper is a dog of parts—part terrier,
with a strain of bird dog and a dash of
water spaniel. He dislikes to get his
feet wet, and is afraid of a gun. He
seldom barks at night, and would wag
his tail at sight of a burglar and accom-
pany him through the house noiselessly.
He has one accomplishment, and only
one. He goes down three flights of flat
stairs every morning to bring up the
daily paper, which Mrs. Jorkins gets
from him by strategy in the course of
the day, after he has chewed it to pulp.

Jorkins has often intimated to Mrs.
J. that it is no trouble to bring up a
canine hybrid by hand, and believes
that now, when he is brought up and
they can neither sell, lose him nor give
him away, that her ministrations should
continue, and that if she cannot go out
and take Piper with her, it is her duty
to stay at home.

The other day Mrs. Jorkins struck.
She had often threatened to, and on one
occasion had struck—the dog. She now
refused to attend to Piper's diet another
hour. She declared she might as well
live in a rice field as to be eternally
cooking rice in the flat kitchen for that
dog. She said that Piper ate a gallon
of boiled rice per diem.

"I'll see him further," she said to
the astonished Jorkins, "before I'll turn
myself into a Hindoo cooking rice for
him. Try it yourself and see how you
like it!"

Jorkins was crushed. He asked meek-
ly where the rice was kept, and spent
the rest of the day cooking it, while his
wife retired with a bad headache. He
filled every tub, pan, pail and basin in
the flat with boiled rice, the proportions
of which appalled him. Hiding as
much of it as he could, he took in a
steaming mass to give Piper, who had
concealed himself under Mrs. Jorkins'
lounge.

"You can't give a dog red hot food,"
said his wife. "You must cool it for
him. I always do."

Her husband looked at her with ad-
miration. He was beginning to think
her a martyr. He took the rice and
the dog into the kitchen, whither Mrs.
J. presently followed him. She found
him on his knees, with his bicycle pump,
hard at work. He was cooling the rice
while Piper sat by and howled.—*Chi-
cago Times-Herald.*

How It All Happened.

He was in doubt. There was no par-
ticular reason why he should be in doubt,
but, of course, that had nothing to do
with the case. Up to a certain point in
the courtship it is the privilege of every
lover to be in doubt, and if he were not
we would be tempted to believe that
something was wrong. On this particu-
lar evening he had made up his mind
that he would reach the point where
doubt ends or know the reason why.
Thus he got a little closer to her than
usual when he found that they were sit-
ting side by side on the sofa.

"Did you ever think about marriage?"
he asked.

"No," she replied.

Of course that was a lie. Of course
he knew that it was a lie, and she knew
that he knew it. Consequently she
wished that she had not answered so
hastily, but that is so customary in a
woman that it attracts no attention.

"If I were a woman like you," he
said reproachfully, "I would think of it."

"Would you?" she inquired careles-
sly.

"Yes, I would," he answered.

"Perhaps," she suggested, tantaliz-
ingly, "you wouldn't mind telling me
just what course your thought would
take—if you were a woman like me."

"I don't know that I can give the ex-
act course of reasoning," he answered,
fearful that he might be getting beyond
his depth, "but if I were a woman like
you I feel pretty reasonably sure that I
would marry a man like—er—like me."

"You do?" she said, coloring a little,
but still speaking in the same tantalizing
tone.

"Yes, I do," he returned doggedly.

"Well, if I were a man like you," she
asserted, "I wouldn't expect a woman
like me to do anything of the sort until
a man like you had asked her to."

It is no trick at all to hold the course
of true love after the mariner once gets
his bearings, so long as the signal lights
continue to burn, and thus it happened
that their bark sped merrily on its way.
—*Chicago Post.*

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INTERESTING
IN THIS SPACE
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FOR IT.

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answer the law), when a subscriber does
not take his paper out of the office and
state the reasons for its not being taken.
Any neglect to do so makes the postmaster
responsible to the publisher for payment.

2. If any person orders his paper discon-
tinued he must pay all arrearages, or the
publisher may continue to send it until
payment is made, and collect the whole
amount, whether it is taken from the office
or not. There can be no legal discontinu-
ance until the payment is made.

3. Any person who takes a paper from
the post-office, whether directed to his
name or another, or whether he has sub-
scribed or not, is responsible for the pay.
4. If a subscriber orders his paper to be
stopped at a certain time, and the pub-
lisher continues to send, the subscriber is
bound to pay for it if he takes it out of the
post-office. This proceeds upon the ground
that a man must pay for what he uses.

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