

ROBIN'S COME

From the elm tree's topmost bough
Hark! the robin's early song
Telling us and all that now
Merry springtime has begun
Welcome tidings that do bring
Little harbingers of spring:
Robin's come.

Of the winter we are weary,
Weary of the frost and snow;
Longing for the sunshine cheery,
And the brook's sweetling flow;
(Hark!) then we hear the song
The joyful robin of spring:
Robin's come.

Ring it out o'er hill and plain,
Through the garden's lonely bowers,
Till the green leaves dance again,
Till the air is sweet with flowers!
Wake the snowdrops by the hill,
Wake the yellow crocuses:
Robin's come.

Then as thou wert wont of yore,
Build thy nest and rear thy young
Close beside our cottage door,
In the woodbine leaves among;
Hurt or harm thou need not fear,
Nothing will venture near:
Robin's come.

Singing still in vander lare,
Robin answers merrily:
Revelled by the winter's train,
Alas! clasp her hands in gloom,
Falling from the oak-tree bough,
With her soft voice o'er and o'er,
Robin's come.

ABOUT NERVES

"I am so nervous. I tremor at the slightest nervous noise, and jump if I see a mouse run across the floor. I simply cannot control myself."
Dear friend, did you ever try? It is rather a humiliating condition to be that one's nerves are absolutely beyond one's control, as a horse which has run away is too much for the weak hand at the reins. Let us suppose that you that there is an immense gain in holding fast to yourself, and quelling the emotion of the nervous system; refusing to shriek, or to jump or to scream and preserving the appearance of tranquility even if it is difficult, and underneath there is a spiculous "Children are obliged by the mother will teachers and parents to suppress signs of nervousness or fright; a little girl is repressed if she makes a fuss at a harmless beetle or a caterpillar, and if she ventures to cry we are compelled to do for ourselves what our parents do for us in childhood, and it is better for us in the end if we hold a strict guard over our lips, our feet, and all manifestations of excited vehemence. Prayer is a wonderful help. If we know our temptations to be great in this direction, we must be the more alert in guarding against them.

The mother who is nervous and fretful is often so simply because she is too tired. Why attempt so much? I advise the worn-out woman to stop in the very middle of the housecleaning, with carpets up and everything in confusion, and draw a long breath, so that she may wear it on Sunday. Let her wear the old one. It is still very nice, and the child is herself so sweet and dear, and just going home, looks at her clothes, and your anxiety is wholly needless.

I think it must have been for nervous people that the word "nervous" in the Good Book, "As thy day thy strength shall be." And St. Paul bids us, "In nothing be anxious, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God." Mark the clause, with thanksgiving. We are hardly in a thankful frame when we are about to give up a piece with nerves in rebellion. Ah! what true heart rest and mind rest and rest for the body too is there in carrying all our burdens to the Lord and leaving them with him.

FOREST CONSERVATION BY USE.
There are several aspects of forest conservation. Forests are conserved by keeping them from being destroyed by fire. They are also conserved by seeing that the trees when cut are used to the best possible use. This is the reason for the establishment of the Forest Products Laboratories of Canada, under the direction of Mr. J. H. Patterson, Ottawa. A few years ago the wood balsam fir could not be used for pulp wood because of certain of its chemical constituents. Scientists reported how these elements might be got rid of and now balsam fir enters largely into the manufacture of paper. Scientists in solving problems which are too new for any laboratory to solve, undertake and which affect, directly or indirectly, the people of Canada as a whole. Among the investigations which the laboratories are at work on are, the strength and durability of different woods for mine timbers, methods of heating pulp, stability of treated and untreated railway ties, suitability of different woods for paving blocks, the utilization of the waste products of paper-making, utilization of wood waste in factories, decay of timber in buildings, etc. The laboratories answer many hundred inquiries sent in by citizens who are interested in some problem connected with wood in their work.

RESULTS OF BEING TOO ABSORBED IN YOURSELF.
None of us imagine that we can be better than all other people, but the possibility of turning the tables never occurs to us. And yet even the young collegian may be too absorbed in his own brilliant ideas to tell us, or the bright high-school girl may be looked on in certain quarters as a bore. There is one infallible rule for being a bore, and that is to talk about yourself and your interests, regardless of your companions. Scientists who are stated in discussing his researches with everyone he met, would probably bore the average listener nearly to death, though to his brother scientist his conversation would seem most fascinating. Being a bore has nothing to do with intellect, you see. It is really a question of being absorbed in yourself. The most brilliant beings who never give a thought to another's point of view, may be the most deeply bored of all.

OATMEAL.
A harrier was examining a Scotchman's present. "You affirm that when this happened you were just going home to a meal—let us be quite clear on this point because it is a very important one. Be good enough to tell me, sir, with all this preparation as possible, what meal it was that you were going home to?"
"I was like to know what meal it was," said the Scotchman.
"Yes, sir," replied the Scotchman, sternly and impressively. "Be sure you tell the truth."
"Well, then, it was just oatmeal."

THE OLD MAN OF THE BIG CLOCK

Three sons of Mr. Swackhamer enlisted and went overseas during the war. Thankful indeed he is that they all came back safe and sound.

The old spring at the street opposite the Swackhamer place is as old as Adam. It was here when the Adams came. There were lots of good springs then about their property. But as soon as the houses were built, the water to grow this spring became the family well for all the residents anyway near it.

I was thinking the other day, while sitting down in the warm spring, about the old man of the big clock, as young folks at our old-fashioned spelling book and singing school. There were both here and there, and they gave us young folks real good times too. I think many of the young folks of this community became good spellers because of the old spelling contests, and I am of the opinion that these same spelling contests introduced numbers of our young men and women to become school teachers and to fit themselves for other positions in life. Do you know that with all the present advantages of high schools and other modern day opportunities, we had just as large a proportion of teachers and teachers developed in Acton district as are going into professional vocations that the right word isn't it?—to-day. When we think of the numbers of school teachers which came from the families of the Adams and Jordans, and Grants, and Warrens, and Blochis, and Leases, and McDermids, and Kennedys, and Hills, and Camerons, and Smiths, and McDermids, and Douglases, and Mours, and Crowsons, and Hennings, and others in those early days of forty, fifty or sixty years ago, we are bound to conclude that the young folks of this community were not only grandfathers and grandmothers to-day, made good use of their opportunity.

Now, say, bless me, where was I? I really got old times, weren't they? We not only had the fun of these old spelling books, but there was a better fun after you got well acquainted of going home with your girl. Bay, bay, bay, you young folks, you young folks, had easy spelling in those days. Well, here is a sample of some we used to tackle. I got this out of an old-time book I had yesterday. It is agreeable to witness the unparalleled ecstasy of two harassed peddlers on leaving their school, and the sympathy of two peddlers.

And then there were the old-time singing schools. They too, were a lot of fun. I never was a member of one, but I have seen many of them. I never was a member of one, but I have seen many of them. I never was a member of one, but I have seen many of them.

Well, say, I must get back to Main Street again. I'll never get through with these rambling chapters of my recollections. Just think, will you, I'm far into my third year with this scribbling, and I have written even Mr. and Mrs. Swackhamer.

Well, we'll jump across from the big clock to the old man of the big clock. I believe, now—and start in at Brook Avenue. This is of course, was all in the farm property in the early days. "Cobble Hill" and all. Mr. Swackhamer bought the property, but I don't know how long he owned it. It could ever get an approach from the front, but this he accomplished with a series of terraces and steps. He had little difficulty in getting in from the side from Brook Avenue. It did seem strange to me, but when he came to be built up on that side hill, why, when we were boys we used to pick fire cherries on that side hill, and go swimming in the creek where it cuts across the corner of the lot. Well, I suppose this old man of the big clock, Swackhamer's Hill, where "H" was born, than any other available point in town. He was bound to have a home of his own, and to keep the old home, as the "Hill" in remembrance he brought his grandfather's old frame house up there, which he built eight years ago, took it down, brought the materials to Acton and with it erected the first section of the big brick house, one of the guests, hearing some of the main interest, when it stood on Swackhamer's Hill, but in later years he moved to Brook Avenue. It also saw history-making spots in the Swackhamer family. It was here that H. lived when elected a member of the Board of Education. It resided here with his interesting family—a devoted wife, four sons and a daughter. It was here he lived when elected a member of the Municipal Council, then clerked up to the Township, and finally ended his municipal career by winning the Wardenship of the County. It was here he resided when the famous "Hill" bridge over the creek was built. It was here that the old man of the big clock, Swackhamer, was constructed. It was here the saddest event of his family history was recorded, when his wife, Mary Childs, passed away after months of painful suffering.

THE SEEDS OF KINDNESS

A big parade was passing through the city streets. The crowd of spectators following each other for the best places. The small crowd of the best places. The small crowd of the best places.

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ONION CULTURE

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

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RE PRICES

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DO SHOES CARRY IDENTITY OF WEARER?

A New York paper has a new one in the way of shoes indicating personality or circumstances of the wearer. The shoes are made. The shoes are made.

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STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM AND A MORAL.

A small boy who did not like to do "home-work" was being warned by his mother. The boy was warned. The boy was warned.

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AMUING

From the printed report of the Western Pennsylvania Humane Society, we take the following: A woman, apparently not under fifty years of age, was found dead in a certain place. The woman was found. The woman was found.

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