

POETRY.

MY WIFE.

She tied the new cravat
Which she so kindly made me;
Then smoothed with care my hat,
And with her arms delayed me;
She brushed my "glossy hair,"
And said "it was so early!"
While going down the stair,
She cried, "Come home, dear, early!"
How happy then was I,
With all I'er desired;
I fortune could defy
While thus I was admired!
We parted at the door—
Her smile deserved a sonnet!
"Dear love, but one thing more:
I want—a new spring bonnet!"

Wit and Humour.

Why is a kiss like scandal?
Ans.—Because it goes from
mouth to mouth.

Why is snuff like the letter
S? Because it's the beginning
of sneezing.

The man finishing the Brick
Church steeple observed, "It's
vane to a spire."

Labor Lost.—An organ-grinder
playing at the door of a deaf
and dumb asylum.

The young woman that was
lost in thought, after wandering
in her mind, found herself at
last in her lover's arms.

An Irishman, trying to put
out a gas-light with his fingers,
cried out, "Och, murder! there's
mver a wick in it!"

"What is the best attitude for
self-defence?" said a pupil to a
pugilist. "Keep a civil tongue
in your head," was the reply.

The individual who was ac-
cidentally injured by the dis-
charge of his duty is still very
low.

If the father is the Head of
the family, what is the eldest
son? Ans.—Why, the Heir,
(hair) to be sure.

The moon seems the most un-
steady of all celestial lumina-
ries; she is continually shifting
her quarters.

Why is a damsel with reddish
brown hair like a prisoner in one
of the New York State prisons?
Ans.—Because she is under Au-
burn locks.

Why is Alison's History like
the prevalent fashion of crino-
line? Ans.—Because, says an
historical critic, it is in a round-
about style.

The obligations we owe to
parents, form a running account
which is paid to the next gener-
ation. Old maids and bachel-
ors, of course, in doubt.

Women are called 'softer sex,'
because they are so easily hum-
bugged. Out of one hundred
girls, ninety-five would prefer
ostentation to happiness—a dan-
dy husband to a mechanic.

"What is the matter?" "De
sorrel wagg on has run away mit
the green horse, and broke de
axe-tree of de brick house what
stands by de corner lamp post
across de telegraph.

Mrs. Partington says she did
not marry her second husband
because she loved the male sex,
but just because he was the size
of her first protector, and would
come in so good to wear his
clothes out!

I put outside my window a
box, filled it with mould, and
sowed it with seed. What do
you think came up? Wheat,
barley, or oats? No, a policeman
who ordered me to remove it.

The use of Crinoline.—A lady
who began to weary of the criti-
cisms on crinoline, exclaimed,
"So long as hooped skirts keep
foolish people at a convenient
distance, just so long will they
be tolerated."

A fellow was told at a tailor's
shop that three yards of cloth, by
being wet, would shrink one
quarter of a yard. 'Well, then,'
he inquired, 'if you should wet
a quarter of a yard, would there
be any of it left?'

It is related that Dr. P—, of
Boston, was once invited by a
friend to visit the theatre and
see a new play. The friend
proposed taking seats near the
orchestra. 'Oh, no,' said the
doctor, 'I have a slight cold, and
doubt the propriety of sitting
near these wind instruments!'

When my lady sees master
pig munching and wallowing in
a ditch, she curls up her nose
and lifts up her shoulders at his
nastiness. And lo! when the
same pig's leg, fragrant with
sage and patriarchal onions,
smokes on the board, she sends
her plate three times. Such is
life!

An Irishman, driven to des-
peration by the stringency of the
money market and the high
price of provisions, procured a
pistol and took the road. Meet-
ing a traveller, he stopped him
with, 'Your money or your
life!' Seeing that Pat was green,
he said, 'I'll tell you what I'll
do. I'll give you all my money
for that pistol.' 'Agreed.' Pat
received the money and hand-
ed over the pistol. 'Now,' said
the traveller, 'hand back that
money, or I'll blow your brains
out.' 'Blaze away, my honey,'
said Pat; 'nary a drop of pow-
ther there's in it.'

No Time for Swapping.

An Indiana man was trav-
elling down the Ohio, in a steam-
er, with a mare and a two year
old colt, when by a sudden care-
en of the boat all three were
tilted into the river. The hoosier,
as he rose puffing and
blowing above water, caught
hold of the tail of the colt, not
having a doubt that the natural
instinct of the animal would
carry him safely ashore. The
old mare took a "bee line" for
the shore, but the frightened
colt swam lustily down the cur-
rent, with its owner still hang-
ing fast. "Let go the colt, and
hang on the old mare," shouted
some of his friends. "Phree,
booh!" exclaimed the hoosier,
spouting the water from his
mouth, and shaking his head
like a Newfoundland dog, 'it's
mighty fine you'r telling me to
let go the colt; but to a man
that can't swim, this ain't exact-
ly the time for swapping horses.'

The following dialogue took
place on the Ohio Railroad:—
'Hullo, stranger, you appear
to be travelling?'
'Yes, I always travel when
I'm on a journey.'

'I think I have seen you
somewhere?'
'Very like. I've often been
there.'

'Mightn't your name be
Smith?'
'Well, it might—if it wasn't
something else!'
'Have you been long in these
parts?'
'Never longer than at present
—five feet nine.'

'Do you calculate to remian
here some time?'
'Well, I guess I'll stay till I'm
ready to leave!'
'I reckon you were born in
New England?'
'Well, my native place was
either there or somewhere else.'

'You travel as if money were
plenty to you?'
'Well, I might have more,
and be richer.'

'Have you anything new?'
'Yes, I bought a whetstone
this morning.'
'I thought so; you're the
sharpest blade I ever saw on
this road.'

Retraction.

The following anecdote is told
of a distinguished lawyer of
Massachusetts, who, but a few
years ago, went 'the way of all

flesh." He had been engaged
in a cause in Roxbury,
where he believed the jury
had done injustice to his client.
Declaring against the verdict
he said:

'The whole of them might
have been bribed for a peck of
beans!
'What is that?' said the
Judge. 'You dishonor yourself
and the court, as well as the
jury by such an impeachment.'

'I meant no disrespect to the
court, your honor; and as for
myself—
'You will see the propriety, I
hope, of retracting the words.'

'With all due deference to
your honor I cannot see the pro-
priety of unsaying what is true.'
'Do you intend to aggravate
the offence by repeating it?—
Let me tell you, sir, this is not
to be suffered, unless you retract
forthwith, we shall deem it ne-
cessary to strike you from the
rolls of the court.'

'Well, since the court insists
upon it, I suppose I can do no
less than retract.'
'And in very ample terms,
too.'

'Certainly, your honor; and
on second thought I do it with
great pleasure. I am convinc-
ed, now, that I wronged the jury
in saying they could be bribed
for a peck of beans; and thus
openly and publicly, I retract
the assertion. I hope the court
and jury are satisfied.'

They expressed themselves in
the affirmative, when the law-
yer rejoined:

'But may it please the court
and jury, had I said half a bush-
el instead of a peck, I would
have been hanged before I would
have retracted.'



Agriculture.

Look out for Insects.

Owing to the decrease of birds
and perhaps to other causes, in-
sects are now alarmingly on the
increase. Their mischief is
usually discovered too late to do
more than prevent the possibili-
ty of their multiplying, by pick-
ing up and feeding out, or cook-
ing the punctured fruit, and
thus destroying the worm lodg-
ed in the heart. This is a tedious
operation however, and
hardly practicable with peaches,
plums and cherries.

The parents of all these mis-
chievous worms are winged in-
sects, which flutter about among
the trees, and lay their eggs
either upon the surface of the
tender fruit, or puncture it and
deposit the eggs beneath the
skin. Again, most of these
winged insects, or millers, are
either naturally night fliers, or
can be brought out by a strong
light. Now, every one has ob-
served that millers are so attract-
ed by light as to fly directly in-
to the flame of a candle. It is
well to take advantage of this
weakness, and kindle low fires
about the orchard and fruit gar-
dens in the evening, and thus
catch the trespassers. The best
part of June is the proper sea-
son to commence this war of
extermination, which, if vigor-
ously entered into by a neigh-
borhood, would destroy vast
quantities of them in the very
act of providing for their progeny.
Remember, too, that with every
parent moth, from fifty to one
hundred little white maggots
are destroyed. Follow this prac-
tice up night after night, for two
weeks, and an immense num-
ber of insects will be cut off.—
Tie old rags upon short sticks,
and dip them first into tar, and
then in saw-dust or powdered
charcoal, until of a large size.
These will burn with a bright
light for a long time, dazzling
and attracting the unteky
moths or millers from some dis-
tance around.—American Agri-
culturist.

How to make Spruce Beer.

As the season is at hand when
pleasant summer drinks, free
from undue alcoholic influence,
are frequently brewed by the
housewife, or the well-brought-
up daughters, who are taught a
little of everything in the way
of household duties—we append
the following receipts, which
are claimed to be excellent:—

1. Take three gallons of wa-
ter, of blood warmth, three half-
pints of molasses, a table spoon-
ful of essence of spruce, and the
like quantity of ginger—mix
well together with a gill of yeast;
let stand over night and bottle
in the morning. It will be in
good condition to drink in 24
hours. It is a palatable, whole-
some beverage.

2. Those who prefer mead
have only to substitute honey
for the molasses named above,
and for one-third the ginger use
allspace. Half the quantity of
yeast will be found sufficient,
and the bottling should occur
the second day instead of the
next morning. It will be fit to
drink in four days after being
bottled, and will keep for many
weeks. A small quantity of al-
cohol is formed during the fer-
mentation, and this prevents the
acetous fermentation so com-
mon to spruce beer. The es-
sence of spruce is of course left
out in the making of mead. The
alcohol formed from the fer-
mentation of honey, resembles that
found in metheglin, while the
alcohol from the fermentation
of molasses is rum. Those who
imagine that they can make ei-
ther spruce beer or mead with-
out forming any alcohol, are
mistaken.

3. Prepare a five or ten gal-
lon keg, in proportion to the size
of the family—draw a piece of
coarse bobinet, or very coarse
book-muslin over the end of the
faucet that is inserted into the
keg, to prevent its choking, a
good tight bung, and near to
that a gimlet hole, with a peg to
fit it tight.

Corn Planting.

The preparation of the corn
ground will now be pushed on
as urgently as possible. Bear
in mind the necessity of closer
planting than is usual, to give
you a full crop of corn. While
five feet square will give about
1,700 hills, four feet each way,
will give 2,700, and three and a
half feet each way, more than
3,700 hills. With manure
enough and proper working, this
number will grow as well with-
out firing and burning as that
first named. But you must not
put off working it until July—
You cannot go with plough or
cultivator into corn six to eight
feet high—the roots branching
through every inch of the soil,
without doing it irreparable
damage. We say therefore a-
gain work your corn before it is
planted, and work it immedi-
ately after it is planted, plant close-
ly, and 'lay by' early, if you ex-
pect to make a full crop.

Get on quickly now with the
planting—rolling the dry corn
in tar till each grain is coated
slightly, and sprinkling with
gypsum or dry ashes to separate
the grains.

Thin out the Plants.

Most persons allow their plants
both vegetables and flowers, to
grow too near together. Beets,
onions, carrots, parsneps, etc.,
should be thinned out very soon
after they appear above ground.
Cucumber, squashes and melons
need similar treatment. Three
plants left to grow in a hill are
sufficient.

So of flowering plants, raised
from seed. They are too often
left to grow in a dense jungle or
bunch, where they crowd each
other, become weak and spind-
ling, and never attain their na-
tive beauty. Annuals may
sometimes be grown in masses,
but even then they are much finer
if the individual plants stand
several inches apart. Where it

is not wished to mass them,
such flowers as Candytuft,
Phlox Drummondii, Asters, Bal-
sams and Stocks should stand
at least one foot asunder. We
now recall the sight of a single
plant of white candytuft grown
in our garden last Summer,
which was shaped like a bee-
hive and covered with a profu-
sion of flowers in every part, and
looked much better than if mass-
ed. It sometimes requires a
good deal of courage to pull up
vigorous young plants and throw
them away, but it must be done
if one would have a valuable
garden of vegetable or flowers.
—Ib.

Questions about Potato Rot.

For several years past my po-
tato crop has been an almost
entire failure. I had planted
the same seed year after year,
and on old ground. By reading,
studying, and attending discus-
sions, I was induced to try a
different course. I procured
my seed 15 or 20 miles distant,
and planted without manure on
dry pasture land, broken up in
the Spring. When the potatoes
were in bloom, I sowed broad-
cast on the tops three or four
bushels of ashes, with one-tenth
part lime, per acre, repeating it
in six or eight days. This was
done during damp weather. An-
other piece was old mowing
ground broken up, with straw
manure applied in different
ways. Both produced good
crops, while many pieces in the
neighborhood were nearly de-
stroyed by rot.

We know the potato vine is a
great absorber of moisture. When
other leaves are wet, those of
the potato are often dry. Now
does not this absorbing power,
which the potato possesses in a
great degree, cause a super-
abundance of water at the bulb
in wet, foggy weather, stopping
the healthy growth of the tuber,
and does not the action of the
heat which frequently follows,
produce the same effect that
moisture and heat would on any
other vegetable matter, viz.,
cause it to rot? Do not strong
manures, by increasing the
growth of the tops, extend the
surface of the leaves, and conse-
quently the absorbing power,
and thereby increase the liabi-
lity to rot?

On the other hand, if straw
or coarse manures are used,
which do not rot quick enough
to force a rapid growth of tops,
and increase the absorbing power
beyond a proper equilibrium;
or if old pastures are used, and
the animal and vegetable man-
ures do not exceed the mineral,
does not the bulb keep pace with
the top in growth, and need all
the moisture absorbed by the
tops in order to produce a health-
y potato? Will not ashes and
lime, sown on the leaves, make
an alkali which, being absorbed
by the leaves and carried to the
roots, neutralizes or prevents the
acetous fermentation, which
otherwise would take place and
destroy the potato?—Cor. Amer.
Ag.

Sheep Shearing.

Sheep shearing should be at-
tended to in due time, to avoid
loss of fleece, and to relieve the
animal from the oppressive cov-
ering as warm weather advan-
ces. It is made a question now,
as to washing the fleece on the
back of the sheep, whether it is
not attended with much more
injury to the flock, than advan-
tage to the fleece. Give careful
attention in shearing, to prevent
clipping and gashing the flesh,
as well as to have the wool neat-
ly and carefully taken off.

Remedy for the Bronchitis.

Having seen it stated that drier
mullen leaves smoked in a
common pipe would cure bron-
chitis, my wife concluded to test
the matter, and after a few moth-
er's use she thinks she is cured.

New Goods.—If you have new goods to sell,
let the people know it—Advertise!

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