

MOVING IDYLS.

They were moving, not the ordinary and regular routine of May 1, when distressed families flock from one cramped and inconvenient dwelling into another of the same type, but this was a going

"Out of the old house into the new," and the mother's face was serious, for there was one of the little flock missing, not lost, but gone before into the new home, in the city whose walls lie four square.

Thus it happened that one little room was left to the last, and as a rough workman laid his hand on the door, and pushed it open, the mother cried out as if he had struck her a blow:

"Oh, not there! Not there! I will move these things myself. You cannot touch them!"

"That was baby Grace's room and she died in that little bed," said one of the older children.

The rough workman stayed his foot on the threshold. Then he touched his hat, and his voice was husky as he said:

"If ye please, ma'am, I'll handle them things gently. I've a little one of my own in glory—the heavens be her bed—and it's myself will see them not a bit damaged, and I'll settle it beyond with you."

It was "the one touch of nature" that "makes the whole world kin."

THE HELPING HAND

Men are generally conspicuous by their absence during moving time, and shrewd business men have actually been known to have sudden calls by bonus telegrams to distant parts of the country, not getting home till the new house had been thoroughly warmed for their comfort, or discomfort as they sometimes find. So it usually happens the man of the house at moving time is a woman who drives sharp bargains with craymen and tackhammers and initiate her family into boarding off barrel-head tables. But the woman is not usually an object of pity, because John has given her his mantle of authority to back her and his pocket-book is at her disposal, and she rather glories in a little brief authority. But there is a class of women to be pitied—women who are widows, who must do battle single-handed against insolence and want and a host of evils; whose little children cannot run and "tell papa," as happier children can, when anyone abuses them, who are dependent for every comfort on the one slender, fragile, black-robed figure, who stands between them and distress.

Such a woman moved last week from one plain house with a moderate rent into another that was plainer and more moderate. When the first night found the new family in its strange quarters all was confusion and disorder. The stoves were down, and there was no one but the tired mother to put them up; the beds were not made, there was no supper, and the children, who had exhausted their curiosity over the new place, were hungry and sleepy. Then they all crowded around the poor mother and raised a dismal cry.

"We want to go home! we want to go home!"

And as the mother looked at them she wrung her hands and sobbed.

"Poor children! in all the wide world you have no other home than this."

But that mother heard, as in the whispers of a secret intelligence higher than that of earth, these words that thrilled her soul with new life.

"The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the son of man has not where to lay his head!"

She told the story of the Babe of Bethlehem to her little ones as she undressed them and put them to bed. When they wakened in the morning, hungry but rested, they saw the table set and the room in order. Mother had done it all as they slept but who had helped her? Ah! who? The children only knew that it was mother, and here was home.

DIALOGUE A LA SAISON.

"Are you going to help me put down the carpets, John?"

"S'pose so; where's tack hammer?"

"It's in the barrel of dishes—no, it isn't—yes, it is—oh, I know now; I put it in the band box with your new Sunday hat."

"Just like a woman; never knows where anything is; that ruined, like enough; where is the handle of the hammer?"

"Oh, I packed that up with the chin: set; you'll find it, dear, at the bottom of the box."

"Now, who's going to stretch this carpet, hey?"

"Me, dear."

"Well, stand there. Gracious, I can't pull a hundred pounds of dry goods along with the carpet. Oh, dear, I'm going to have a fit, I believe."

"I'll make you a cup of tea, dear. You can drink it out of your shaving-mug. It'll be just like a picnic."

But when she got back with the tea, John was missing.

"Poor fellow! It was too much for him! He's gone to get the air. He looked pale."

John—at a counter covered with eatables, salads and things: "Two fingers of old crow, and a dash of bitters to begin with. I'm nearly starved! A hot beefsteak will help me out. I tell you, boys, moving is tough work."

Life has its compensations. John's wife sits on a roll of carpet and drinks her tea. "Poor boy! I wish he could have waited for it; it's so refreshing. He'll be half starved by supper time! I know he will!"

Not much, little woman.

The Land Owners of England.

The following fresh statistics in regard to the ownership of land in Great Britain, will prove interesting reading: Twenty-eight dukes in the United Kingdom possess 158 separate estates, comprising nearly 4,000,000 acres. The other members of the peerage, 475 in number, hold 1436 separate estates, embracing about 10,000,000 acres. Of 33,000,000 acres in England and Wales, more than 17,000,000 are owned by a body of men which probably does not exceed £500. According to Hon. Geo. Bodrick, Warden of Morton College, Oxford, nearly half the enclosed land of England and Wales is owned by about 2250 persons.

The largest landed proprietor among the peers, is the Duke of Sutherland, who owns more than one million acres. His rent roll, however, is not so large as that of some peers with much less property; his income from land amounting to only \$656,772, while that of the Marquis of Bute, who owns only 116,000 acres, is considerably more than \$1,000,000.

The Duke of Buccleuch comes second to the Duke of Sutherland in number of acres, and second to the Marquis of Bute in size of income. His land comprises 459,550 acres, and his rent roll is about \$1,100,000. The Duke of Northumberland's rent roll ranks next, being \$850,000, and next to him comes the Duke of Devonshire, with about \$25,000 less. The Earl of Derby and Earl of Fitzwilliam, receive rents amounting annually to about \$700,000. Altogether there are ten peers who each receive over \$500,000 a year from land.

A Cigar Factory.

A journalist writes a letter from Seville describing the government cigar factory of Spain, seven hundred feet long and almost as wide, very dirty, and in the vestibule two hundred and fifty young girls making cigars, all talking as loud as they want to; one hundred girls in the next room doing the same, and on the next floor three thousand women as close as sardines in a box, in a single room, making cigars, some having their babies with them not a month old, and dogs lying on the tobacco stems. The women were divided up into sevens at each table, three on each side, and the mistress at the top. Around each table were shelves against stone pillars, on which lay children's shoes, socks and clothes. There were stone jars of water here and there for drinking, and the air was stifling, and the buzz of conversation only broken by the wail of the babies. The flooring was dilapidated, and it was possible for an incautious visitor to fall through. Two other side apartments one hundred feet long were both packed with laborers. The factory consumes about ten thousand pounds of tobacco a day, and employs over five thousand persons, who receive fifty cents a day for twelve hours' work. The matron at each table gets her pay from the women she commands. The girls and the superintendents had very little manners.

A wife is called man's better half because whenever he does not want to do anything she remarks with significant emphasis: "Well, you better; that's

The Empress of Austria can set type, and the empress of an American farm can set a hen. Customs differ in different countries.

The Revised Old Testament.

The American and English committees have almost finished their labors in the revision of the Old Testament. It is expected that the revision will be published in the course of a few months. The revision is said to have been made with the sole purpose of placing the Bible in a position in which the people may understand every word as the scholars understand them, and as the text stands in its original. To do this many of the beauties of expression have been sacrificed in order to give the true meaning of the original. The poetical forms and the archaisms will be retained to a larger extent than they were in the New Testament. The fabulous beast, the "unicorn," will give place to the willow. "The River of Egypt" will be "The Brook of Egypt." "The Book of Jasher" will be "The Book of the Upright." "The Plain of Morah" will be "The rock of Morah." The children of Israel did not borrow of the Egyptians what they never intended to return, but they asked for and received gifts, not loans. "Joseph's coat of many colors" will be a "long tunic." "Judgment also will I lay to line, and righteousness to the plummet," will be, "I will make judgment for a line and righteousness for a plumb line." "In my flesh shall I see God" will be, "yet out of my flesh do I see God."

Some of the changes in the psalms will be:—

vii. 20. "If He turn not He will whet His sword," (meaning God) will be, "If a man turn not He will whet his sword."

viii. 5. "For Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels," will be, "Thou hast made him a little lower than God." "I will praise Thee, oh, Lord," is often translated, "I will give thanks unto Thee, oh, Lord."

ix. 7. "But the Lord shall endure forever," will be, "But the Lord sitteth as King forever."

xi. 7. "For the righteous Lord loveth righteousness; His countenance doth behold the upright," will be, "For the Lord is righteous; He loveth righteousness; the upright shall behold His face."

xxxviii. 8. "Fret not thyself in any wise to do evil," will be, "Fret not thyself, it leadeth to evil doing."

lxviii. 11. "The Lord gave the word; great was the company of those that published it," will be, "The Lord giveth the word, and the women that bring glad tidings are a great host."

lxxxiv. 6. "Who, passing through the Valley of Baca, make it a well; the rain also filleth the pools," will be, "Passing through the valley of weeping, they make it a place of springs."

xcvi. 12. "Then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice," will be, "Then shall all the trees of the wood sing for joy."

Profits of Great Authors.

Darrah made by his pen £30,000; Byron, £23,000. Lord Macaulay received £20,000 on account of three fourths net profit for his history. Thiers and Lamartine received nearly £20,000 each for their respective histories. Thackeray is said never to have received £5,000 for any of his novels. Sir Walter Scott was paid £110,000 for eleven novels of three volumes each and nine volumes of "Tales of my Landlord." For one novel he received £19,000, and between November, 1825, and June, 1827, he received £26,000 for literary work. Lord Lytton is said to have made £80,000 by his novels; Dickens, it has been computed, ought to have been making £10,000 a year for the three years prior to the publication of "Nicholas Nickleby;" and Trollope in twenty years made £79,000. The following sums are said to have been paid to the authors for single famous books: "Romola," George Eliot, £10,000; "Waverley," Scott, £7,000; "Woodstock," Scott, £8,000; "Life of Napoleon," Scott, £10,000; "Amadate," Wilkie Collins, £5,000; "Lallah Rookh," Thomas Moore, £3,000; "History of Rome," Gibbon, £300; "History of Greece," Goldsmith, £250; "History of England," Goldsmith, £600; "Vicar of Wakefield," Goldsmith, £60; "Decline and Fall," Gibbon, £10,000; "Lives of Poets," Johnson, £300; "Rasselas," Johnson, £100.

A society of women, organized to make up clothing for the poor, is a sew shall club that should be encouraged.

A Hamilton young man who has a red-haired sweetheart appropriately refers to her as his flame.

Prince Leopold's Student Life.

During an interview recently, Canon Duckworth, who was for four years and a half—1866-1870—the Duke of Albany's private tutor stated that the extremely delicate health of His Royal Highness interfered, as might be expected, very materially with the progress of his education. During the whole period named no regular system of lessons could be practised. In fact Canon Duckworth was chosen for the responsible post he occupied in relation to the young prince, largely because his connection with public school life had enabled him to deal with pupils who could not submit to the routine and discipline which robust health permitted.

It was in spite of these drawbacks that His Royal Highness attained the singular amount of culture which his after life displayed. His progress was greatly assisted by a wonderfully retentive and accurate memory. The Canon has seen few youths who equalled him in this respect. His favorite study was history, in which his reading was extensive and thorough. He was also proficient in Italian, French and German literature.

In the general features of his character, and especially in the strength and constancy of his attachments, he bore a striking resemblance, said the Canon, to Her Majesty. He was debarred from the ordinary manly exercises in which his brothers indulged. He could not enter into hunting or shooting, or even fishing. The result was that he was thrown largely upon the companionship of older people than himself, and the naturally contemplative cast of his character was thereby confirmed. Few princes were ever so popular as he was during his stay at Oxford. He entered thoroughly into the spirit of the scholarly life which there surrounded him, and he frequently, after leaving the university, alluded to his residence at Oxford as embracing the happiest days of his life. He had the rare power of discerning and attaching to himself the best intellects among his fellow students, and at his rooms the ablest men in residence were found as frequent guests. To his interest in his fellow-students may be traced much of that interest in social and intellectual questions which pre-eminently distinguished him.

His attachment to Christ Church College may be gauged from the fact that he retained his rooms at college in order that he might at any time renew his old associations of undergraduate days.—London Telegraph.

Good Advice to the Sick.

If the doctors sometimes make us uncomfortable, they can also cheer us up occasionally. If they frequently sadden us by telling us that there is death and disease in the pot, the tea-kettle, the beer-bottle, and the cigar-case, and that most of the things that we eat, drink, wear, or do are unhealthy, they console us by showing us that the human organism is a great deal tougher than is often supposed. Everyone will be gratified to learn from Dr. Mortimer Granville that there is good medical authority for the proper belief that a man is as well as he believes himself to be. Dr. Granville's advice to the sick man is, in brief, not to believe the doctor or anybody else who tells him that he is very ill and likely to die. Even the patient who has an incurable disease, says the doctor rather paradoxically, may live just as long as anybody else. Only let him hope. More things are done by hope than this world wots of. Let a sufferer only firmly make up his mind that he is going to get well, and in many cases his confidence will be justified, and he may throw physic to the dogs. We do not quite grasp the scientific reasons for this; but it is at any rate consolatory to hear it. If the medical men would always talk like this how grateful we should be to them!

A cereal story—The grain report.