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O HELEN, HELEN DEAR!

How lightly up the winding stair
We ran together, she and I;
And still I see her bonny face
Look backward from the leading place,
For the compass me. Through the gloom
Of the great hall, into her room,
She led me on that radiant day,
In years that fled too quickly by.

I pray you, if you ever pass
This sunken grave within the grass,
Touch tenderly the crumbling stone,
And say, for me, in undertone—
"O Helen, Helen dear!"

How fair she was, how straight and tall,
My Helen is that far off day!
Like living things that longed to go,
The curtains fluttered to and fro,
As up and down the room we waltzed,
Perhaps of love and lovers talked,
As girls have always done, and will;
And nothing whispered "yes" or "nay."

I pray you, if you ever pass
This sunken grave within the grass,
Touch tenderly the crumbling stone,
And say, for me, in undertone—
"O Helen, Helen dear!"

What trifling things the hours will keep!
They seem too mobile to be told.
That day she lifted from its place
A dainty thing of flowers and lace,
And held it as that night she did.
Oh, little minutes, slain to me,
Your ribbon streamers across the sight,
A shadowy stream of pulses gold!

I pray you, if you ever pass,
This sunken grave within the grass,
Touch tenderly the crumbling stone,
And say, for me, in undertone—
"O Helen, Helen dear!"
—Eliza R. H. Gates in Youth's Companion.

The German Empire.

The case of the Grand Duke of Hesse and his brother potentates forms one of the most interesting phases in the German situation of today, and one must know something of it in order to understand the current of German affairs. Germany, as well as the United States, has a dual system of government, though here is in other respects very unlike ours. There the big state of Prussia has three-fifths the area of the whole, and in round numbers about thirty millions out of fifty million population.

Her king is at the same time German emperor. Consequently Prussia is the rock of the walk in Germany, and behind her come tagging along with a more or less degree of dignity some twenty-five states, of which three are kingdoms, ranging in importance from Bavaria, which has the population of Belgium or Holland and the area of both, whose capital, Munich, is one of the finest cities in Europe, down to the principality of Schaumburg-Lippe, which an active Kentuckian could come very near jumping across.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Grave of Penn's Surveyor.

In a little offmup of woods just off the line and to the eastward of the Bustleton branch of the Pennsylvania railroad, one mile from the village of Holmesburg, lies the body of Thomas Holme, the man who, as surveyor general for William Penn, laid out the city of Philadelphia. The little cemetery in which the body of Holme lies is so isolated and so unfrequented that a stranger could not well find it without the aid of a guide. In it, besides the body of the great surveyor, there are a hundred or more graves of those of his descendants.

In the center of this acre and a half devoted by the Holme family to the burial of their dead stands a little white marble monument, erected by private subscription in 1883. The inscription on this monument reads: "In memory of Thomas Holme, died 1695, aged seventy-one years. Surveyor general of William Penn. He drafted the plan and laid out the city of Philadelphia."—Philadelphia Record.

Lightning Doesn't Strike Indians.

In the course of his New Haven lecture Rev. Thomas S. Dana, an educated Indian, made this singular statement: "The Indians never cook anything in the house. They always cook outside, giving as their only reason that if they cook inside the storm will collect in their clothing and draw the lightning. Whether this is truth or not I do not know, but I do know this: No Indian wigwam has been struck by lightning since the dawn of history, and no Indian has been killed by lightning for more than 100 years."

The Value of Walking.

A sharp walk every morning at daybreak is excellent. Indeed walking is the very best form of exercise. It puts all the muscles of the body in play. It is far better in this respect than horseback riding or driving. Carriage riding is not a form of exercise at all. It is merely easy airing. It is good for the health and spirits, but it is no aid to muscular development. Running, jumping, swimming, climbing are all excellent forms of athletic exercise.—New York Tribune.

Imported Negroes.

In the suburbs of Mobile reside a number of negroes, the descendants of and part of the last cargo of slaves brought into the United States in 1861. They have never associated with other negroes, are but partially civilized, still use their native language, and are ruled by a queen of their own choosing. They enjoy a good reputation for industry and honesty, and their colony is one of the curiosities most eagerly viewed by sightseers.—Exchange.

A very pretty curtain in Dresden night will be introduced here. At a well dinner there where the events come on an empty

THE FORCE OF HABIT.

A Story Which Illustrates the Consequences of Getting Into a Rut.

"It's strange what creatures of habit some of us are," said Mr. Grayhair. "There's my friend, Walter Grutebar. Exemplary man; capable and efficient under ordinary conditions; but lost if he departs from his daily routine. He wife is just like him, methodical in everything. They have roast beef for dinner on the same day each week. There is a breakfast bill of fare for each day in the week, and it never varies. Mr. Grutebar doesn't remember the time, for instance, when they didn't have picked up codfish on Tuesday.

"He is so accustomed to these things that his sense of taste now runs in warns, which occur with absolute regularity. It is probable that if picked up canvasback was set before him on a Tuesday morning it would taste to him more like picked up codfish, for that's his codfish morning, and his taste is set for codfish. As a matter of fact, he ate smoked beef for breakfast last Tuesday morning and didn't know it until night. It seemed to him that there was something wrong about that breakfast, but he didn't make out what it was.

"He went to his business at the usual time and began his work in the usual way, but everything went wrong. When noon came he went to the cheap restaurant that he had always been to, stood in the same place at the lunch counter, ate the same lunch that he had eaten for years and was back at work in twenty minutes, as usual, but nothing seemed to go right, and as the afternoon wore on there was added to his other woes a feeling of physical discomfort. His work dragged and he was late home.

"I don't see what can be the matter with me," he said to Mrs. Grutebar. "It can't be anything I've eaten, can it? I ate very little of the codfish this morning."

"Walter"—

"There was a strange tone in her voice, and her methodical, but usually very pleasant and cheerful, face now wore a look of self reproach.

"Walter," she said, "you didn't have codfish for breakfast; you had smoked beef."

"Why, how's that," he said, with a calm face, but with a lighter heart, for he was a rebel him to know what was the matter with him.

"We were out of codfish," said Mrs. Grutebar, and Mary forgot to order it at the grocery."

"And so they had had to eat Wednesday's smoked beef on Tuesday, the codfish day. But they are running according to schedule now, and Mr. Grutebar is himself again."—New York Sun.

Eat Before Retiring.

The wise doctors grow wiser with each year. Time was when they were wise enough to tell us that the chief of sins against one's stomach was to give it work to do before putting it to bed. This was declared to be the fruitful source of dyspepsia and nightmare and other unholy afflictions. They are wiser now, and tell us that so far from being wrong to ourselves to eat before going to bed it is a wise and desirable thing to do, especially in case of delicate persons and growing children, or when the food has had time to thoroughly digest before the sleeping hour.

Many a person has found this out for himself or herself by personal experiment. There are a few persons to on fortunate as to be unable to eat even lightly before sleeping without having a stupid headache the next day. But the majority of people are only the better for a little food at bed time. It should not be rich or of great variety. A few biscuits and a cup of hot bouillon is sufficient; or a glass of hot milk sipped slowly. Cheese, meats, fruits and pastries are not good guides through dream land. They know where the agra dwell.—Omaha World-Herald.

Favorite Candyes.

A little six-year old, pretty as a picture and wonderfully bright, was invited out with a few friends of her own age the other evening. It was at a Cass avenue residence that the little sisters and masters were entertained. After an hour's romp, during which our heroine showed a precocious dignity, dinner was served, the lady of the house giving the matter her personal supervision. When she reached the particular little girl the matron said, "Are you well helped, my little dear?"

"Oh, I'm beautifully helped. Be-yoo-tifully, but what kind of a partner have you given me? He sits here just like a little dummy, and hasn't said a single word since we came to the table."

The small boy slid under the table, the good lady laughed and the pretty little miss capped the climax by declaring that she would be so much obliged if she could be helped to another partner.—Detroit Free Press.

Peter the Great's Motto.

Every one can appreciate the importance of the slight matters spoken of, because the wonderful results are now before the world. But the beginnings of these things were treated with ridicule or contempt. No matter how unimportant a circumstance appears, it is quite possible that great results may come from it. In a small building which was once Peter the Great's workshop in Holland is the inscription, "Nothing is too little for the attention of a great man."—Harper's Young People.

One Fashion Explained.

Little Dot—Mamma says when she was a girl little girls wore white stockings and didn't make their feets all black like those do.

Little Dick—Then we did they begin wearin black stockin's for?

Little Dot (after some thought)—I guess it's because it's easier to wash feets than to wash stockings.—Good News.

Canned Lobster.

Dried lobsters have long been familiar to us as a table delicacy. The Chinese are now canning the fresh fruit at Mayoe for export, and the tin cans, with Chinese and English labels, are to be seen in their shops.—Philadelphia Ledger.

When a lie carriage, if baby is an active child and old enough to amuse himself, place the kiss with something with which he can entertain himself, so that he will not play with his afghan, pull his cap strings, etc.

Women have learned that the discussion of the great questions of the day from different points of view serves to the sentiment what else rather more commonly the person women, a broader outlook and a higher standard of intelligence.

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