

## MY FASHIONABLE MOTHER.

Who feared my birth might her annoy,  
Did many sinful arts employ,  
My embryo being to destroy?  
My fashionable mother.

And who, at fashion's stern behest,  
Kept me from her maternal breast  
And in a wet-nurse's arms to rest?  
My fashionable mother.

Who left her pleasures twice a week,  
Who dignified my nursery realms to seek,  
And coldly kissed my rosy cheek?  
My fashionable mother.

And who, through all my early days,  
Ne'er mingled with my childish plays,  
Or hushed my cries with nursery lays?  
My fashionable mother.

Who dressed me, fashion's whims to please,  
In frocks much shorter than my knees,  
Which caused my limbs to nearly freeze?  
My fashionable mother.

Who taught my childish lips to pray  
That I in beauty day by day  
Might grow, and lead in fashion's sway?  
My fashionable mother.

Who taught me with maternal care  
Of every sutor to beware,  
Unless he was a millionaire?  
My fashionable mother.

And now my charms begin to fade,  
If I remain a lone old maid,  
Whom shall I blame for hopes delayed?  
My fashionable mother.

— A 4½ pound potato at Virginia City is surpassed by a seven pound one in California.

— Nicholas Kiger, a Kentucky negro, has been fined \$1,000, with one year's confinement in the State prison, for marrying Mary Williams, a white woman.

— A billiard player, in an English paper, suggests that if billiard balls were made of glass or steel, they would be more apt to run true, and would be cheaper than ivory.

— The Eastern papers say there is trouble in the camp of the Strakosh Opera troupe. Nilsson exacts her "pound of flesh," and refuses to yield anything to "hard times."

— Two butcher stalls are now in full blast in Hillsboro, Oregon. One claims superiority of stock on account of a side of bacon hung up. The other is equally positive that his is the best because he has a half salmon and two mackerel in his.

— The horse which, being captured by a party of soldiers nearly ten years ago, returned home the other day of its own accord to its owner, had probably just found out that the war was over. The horse in that case showed a good deal more intelligence than some politicians.

— Mr. Clarence Cook writes to the London *Athenæum* that the sentence in "Lothair," "You know who the critics are. The men who have failed in literature and art," was penned by Balzac as far back as 1848. The *Athenæum* thinks it occurs in some earlier English work.

— If it is difficult for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of heaven, it is not at all hard for them to attain the next thing to it, honorary membership in the Young Men's Christian Association. Even stocks are no disqualification; money is the "one thing needful."—*Oakland Transcript*.

— The Mobile *Register* says a jury of eight whites and four negroes, in Sumpter county, in a civil suit for \$500, returned a verdict of manslaughter. The foreman explained that it was intended to render a verdict of murder, but, as nobody was killed, the jury concluded on manslaughter.

— A little boy who appeared to be very much excited ran across the room to where his mother was busily engaged in sewing, exclaiming, "Ma! Ma! are they going to sell my pa?" "No, no, my dear," said the mother; "why do you think so?" "Because, ma, I saw a large government stamp on his back." "You poor little goosey," said his mother, "it's only a strengthening plaster."

— This is the way to talk—As a fountain of water cannot be purer than its source, so the laws which govern a community must partake of the character of those who framed them. If we demand good laws, we must elect good men to make them. If we desire their impartial execution, we must elect men who are above reproach, whose integrity has been tried, and whose sense of justice cannot be influenced by bribes or threats, fear or favor.

— Presbyterians are sometimes called "blue." "The epithet," observes a religious exchange, "arose in this way. The distinct dress of the Scotch Presbyterian clergy was a blue gown and a broad blue bonnet. The Episcopal clergy, on the other hand, either wore no distinctive dress in public services, or else wore a black gown. From this arose the contrasting epithets of 'Black Prelacy' and 'True Blue Presbyterianism.' So says Dean Stanley, in his lectures on the history of the Church of Scotland."

— The present aspect of the visible Christian church is neither consolatory to the earnest believer nor likely to impress favorably the minds of outsiders. Instead of the halcyon days of which Tertullian tells us when heathens said, "Behold, how these Christians love one another," the "odium theologicum" has passed into a by-word, while, in Bishop Warburton's words, "orthodoxy is my doxy, and heterodoxy is every other man's doxy."—*Oakland Transcript*.

## Aristocratic Pauperism.

Aristocratic pauperism is quite a popular element in all large cities. It spreads out in the most surprising manner, and has the habit of being contagious. It steals upon one, like consumption, and generally stays by until annihilation comes to the rescue. You meet with aristocratic pauperism daily, and don't know it. The penniless fops, the needy aristocrats, and indigent fashionables are somewhat numerous. These admirably two-faced individuals make life one continual struggle. They are one thing, and appear another. Pride and vanity are indulged in at the cost of truth, honesty and principle. Every iota of manhood and womanhood is sacrificed for elegant surroundings and sumptuous living, and all this home splendor wears such a lordly mien that lookers-on never suspect it's only gloss and show, a kind of silver-plated arrangement. Time betrays the well-guarded secret. Gilded poverty, like murder, will come out, and the penalty paid for all this sham way of living is exceedingly severe. City life is full of calamities; perhaps there is none so distressing as the joys and sorrows of briefless millionaires. These elegant parasites are generally men selfish, cold, heartless, and destitute of business tact. They begin the world wrongly, and keep on doing the same thing until they butt against the law.

Now the smash-up of family and character takes place, and Mr. Respectable is all aloft—a desolate woe-begone, and subsisting at the expense of the State. All this wretchedness daily grows and flourishes because civilization has become so high-toned, so æsthetic, and so magnificently voluptuous and woefully extravagant. It is laughable and yet pitiable to notice the ins and outs, the ups and downs, of aristocratic paupers. How frantically they work to keep up appearances.

For example, there is Mr. Exquisite. He does something in a bank. When he took his situation he was quite an innocent boy, and indulged in many hopes for future greatness. Exquisite, at fifteen, scorned telling a lie; at twenty-five he considered truth unworthy of his notice. At fifteen, Exquisite loved work. At twenty-five, he absolutely adored luxurious ease. At fifteen the boy figured up how grandly he could live and support a family when he should amass a fortune of \$100,000. At twenty-five he figured up that he could play the gentleman quite to his satisfaction if he was worth a million. Exquisite has been very industrious and very saving, and at twenty-five he was worth \$10,000. Exquisite has an idea how a gentleman should live. He becomes disgusted with boarding-house comforts, and sighs for the luxury of a "brown-stone-front" home. Exquisite has studied to be genteel, and tried very hard to edge himself into fashionable society, and so, without perceiving it, he has grown aristocratic, and looks upon all common things with sublime aversion. Exquisite marries, rents a large house, and has it magnificently furnished; hires a French cook and quite a small army of servants. Mrs. Exquisite likes to wear costly jewelry and Parisian-made costumes; dinner parties, receptions, and soirees are liberally given to crowds of admiring and gossiping friends. Of course the Exquisites keep their horses and carriages and phaeton. The family spend the summer at Long Branch, Saratoga or Newport. Everybody respects the Exquisites, and many a poor mechanic and sleek-looking clerk envy the family their luxurious home. But would the world smile and bow to the Exquisites if they knew that the family were only aristocratic paupers? For years poor Mr. Exquisite has had his head filled with figures, speculating schemes, and plans to get out of embezzlement difficulties; and all because he has lived far beyond his income. This trying to keep up appearances is one of the most ruinous fashionable follies of the times. There is the small salaried clerk who must wear fashionable clothing and live in a fashionable boarding-house. He pays a fashionable price for all he has, and so drifts into the catalogue of aristocratic paupers. If Mr. Clerk remains single and heart-whole, he stands a chance of dying without getting into debt and defrauding Tom, Dick and Harry. There is too much elegant destitution for poor gentlemen to get married.

This genteel poverty is alarmingly fashionable. Everybody in New York city strives to "live in style." The tenement-house people measure their respectability by the first, second, third, fourth and fifth floors. The first floor tenants are people of considerable pretensions, and feel themselves far too civilized to associate with the families on the fourth and fifth floors. Little Maggie, who lives in the "sky parlor," wonders if she will ever be so rich as to live like Katie, on the first floor, and have a piano and pretty dresses. Maggie's parents are working like all possessed to make a genteel home such as the first-floor people have. And these lower-region tenants are contriving every way to keep up appearances, and to get a home like the people who rent a whole house. Two-thirds of the population in a large city are fighting desperately to live beyond their means. In the various grades of society there is an abundance of sham glitter and empty greatness. And too often we behold great frauds, and even foul murders, as a consequence of launching out in life with too lofty notions of self, and too high an appreciation of luxurious ease.

The results of toadyism are not wonderfully beneficial to poor, struggling humanity. This foreign, genteel vice appears to find favor in democratic America. Society wears a fascinating charm, irresistible, and said to be perfectly harmless, since the *beau monde* has the knack of getting into print. It is all innocent amusement, this gossiping about the Noodle family going to Europe and the Fitz Golds' brilliant silver wedding. The information that Miss Silver is betrothed to Mr. John Henry Banker is certainly important news. We learn with admiration that Mrs. Lucy Snob was seen driving in the park. Some kind friend, or society journal, informs us that Miss Nellie Grant attends the church that her father is a member of.

Toadyism is not exactly a baneful element in society, yet its influence cannot be said to exercise any very lasting good. This desire to be noticed is one great cause of the people trying to keep up such brilliant appearances upon nothing—living beyond their incomes and becoming slaves to the fashionable follies of the times. C. O. D'E.—*N. Y. Commercial Advertiser*.

## The Celibacy of Women.

The conditions of life are more fatal to men than to women. Although the proportion of boys born in any civilized community is 104 or 105 to every 100 girls, a greater number of the latter survive to reach maturity. In fact, in nearly all countries there is a surplus of women. In England there are 103 women to every 100 men, and in America the excess of women is fully 5 per cent.; while in certain parts of the United States, such as Massachusetts, the emigration of young men has made a far greater disparity in the numbers of the sexes.

From this surplus of women there would naturally follow the enforced celibacy of the more unattractive of the sex. There are, however, other causes which also tend to produce the same result. Prominent among these is the lack of chastity among men. According to Mr. Greg, whose "Literary and Social Judgments" has recently attracted much attention, this latter cause is more powerful than all others in producing the celibacy of so large a number of English women. His remarks on the subject can be applied with equal truth to the condition of things in this country, and we therefore quote them, leaving the moral to be drawn by our readers. Mr. Greg remarks:

"If every man among the middle and higher ranks were compelled to lead a life of stainless abstinence till he married, and unless he married, we may be perfectly sure that every woman in those ranks would have so many offers, such earnest and such rationally eligible ones, that no one would remain single except those to whom nature dictated celibacy as a vocation, or those whose cold hearts, independent tempers, or indulgent self-hood made them select it as a preferable and more luxurious career. Unhappily, as matters are managed now, thousands of men find it perfectly feasible to combine all the freedom, luxury, and self-indulgence of a bachelor's career with the pleasures of female society and the enjoy-

ments they seek for there. As long as this is so, so long, we fear, a vast proportion of the best women in the educated classes—women especially who have no dowry beyond their goodness and their beauty—will be doomed to remain involuntarily single. How this sore evil is to be remedied we cannot undertake to say. When female emigration has done its work, and drained away the excess and the special obviousness of the redundancy; when women have thus become far fewer in proportion, men will have to bid higher for the possession of them, and will find it necessary to make them wives instead of mistresses. Again, when worthless appearances and weary gayeties and joyless luxuries shall have lost something of their factitious fascination in women's eyes, in comparison with more solid and more enduring pleasures, they will be content with smaller worldly means in the men who ask their hands, and as they become less costly articles of furniture they will find more numerous and more eager purchasers. Ladies themselves are far from guiltless in this matter; and, though this truth has been somewhat rudely told them lately, it is a truth, and it is one they would do well to lay to heart."—*N. Y. Graphic*.

## IRRIGATION RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions, adopted at the late session of the California State Grange, have been embodied in a petition to be presented to the legislature of that State—

"First, Recognizing the natural division of our seasons into dry and rainy, and that the farmers of the State are wholly dependent for remunerative crops on a sufficient supply of water—and recognizing, and looking full in the face, the further fact that nearly all of the inland waters of the State, available for the purpose of irrigation, are now, under, either the practical or asserted control of private corporations, or confederated capital in some form; they hold that the inland waters of this State, its lakes, rivers and streams, are, and of right ought to be the property of the State, or of the people thereof, and subject to the use and control of the people through their creature, the Legislature of the State, and that each inhabitant of the State is, of right, as much entitled to the use and benefits of an equitable proportion of the inland waters of the State, as he is to a sufficiency of the free air of heaven.

Second, That the asserted proposition that a few, or any number of men can, under the forms or privileges of a corporation, joint stock, or other association, lay claim to and hold, as private property, the first right, or exclusive privilege to use, for their own gain to the impoverishment of the general public, any of the inland waters of this State, is false. That it is indefensible in reason, law or justice, and an unblushing outrage upon the people, and especially upon the farmers of this State.

Third, That it is not only the right, but it is the duty, of the Legislature of California, to at once take and retain the control of all the inland waters of the State, and by a general law provide the mode and means of dividing the whole State into irrigation districts, and for distributing, under fixed, equitable rules, the waters of each district among the land and mine owners thereof, whose mines and lands are susceptible of being advantageously supplied with water. That the State should defray the expenses of laying out and surveying the several districts. That the lands and mines of each district, susceptible of being advantageously supplied with water should pay, by taxation, for constructing and keeping in repair the canals and other means of conveying the water, and for that purpose each district should be authorized under a general law to issue its own bonds.

Fourth, That in order to secure the people of this State their right to use the inland waters of the State, the legislature to which this petition is addressed, should, before its adjournment, provide a way for condemning every and all, actual, asserted or pretended prior rights, privileges or franchises, to or in, the use of any of the inland waters of the State, whether held by individuals, associations or corporations, and the same should be condemned to the public use of supplying the lands and mines of this State with water, and the price of the thing

condemned should be paid out of the State Treasury."

## AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

**FATTENING PIGS.**—One of the best pig breeders we know is W. Smith, the well-known master of the Marine Meat Market in Detroit. He has a taste for keeping the best hogs that are to be had. Few can excel him in the fineness of purebred Suffolks, Essex, Berkshires and Polands which he breeds. He has the faculty of making the most out of the pig that can be made. One of his points in fattening a pig is the use of the penstock to wash it clean, and the curry comb to keep its skin in a perfectly healthy condition; he is also particular to have it fed regular every day, always at the same time to a minute. He changes the food from time to time, and when once the pig has to get fat it is never allowed to go back.

One of the best kinds of food to start pigs with consists of peas or beans mixed with the offal of the dairy or the buttery, with a little fine corn-meal thrown in. Barley-meal is excellent, or crushed oats, but no food is equal to peas for a food to start on. Both peas and corn should be steeped in water, the hotter the better, and allowed to stand and soak up all they will. We notice this is the treatment that makes Smith so successful.

Some of his pigs when started will gain three pounds a day; and we have seen in his stalls Essex and Suffolk crosses that would dress 380 pounds at ten or eleven months old. But one of the fattening processes was a bath, with a flexible hose, at least twice a week. The hogs get so used to this that they like it, and seem to know when they are to enjoy this luxury, for they will come out and lie down as quick as the water begins to play upon them.

It is the quick fattening that pays, and hogs thus treated make as profitable a return, even with pork at 5 to 6 cents, as any part of the farm produce.

Then again a hog should have a dry place to lie in; in fact, a good, well sheltered pen, with a dry plank under him, where he can sleep without disturbance, somewhat dark and shady, with no drafts of wind penetrating through it, rather low in the roof, so that the animal heat he generates will surround him with a temperature that is pleasant; and when accustomed to be fed regularly there is no animal more punctual in its appearance at the trough. Then he should be fed all he will eat—not an ounce more. No food should remain in the trough after he gets through, and then it should be thoroughly cleaned out.

When put up to feed in this wise the hog does not need any exercise, nor does he require space for it. His whole comfort is in returning to his lair, and having a good opportunity, undisturbed by outside affairs, to increase in weight, and to make an ample return to his owner for the food he has enjoyed. Occasionally a little sulphur, a little salt, a handful of ashes, or a quart or so of charcoal may be put in his trough. But clean styes and such feeding as we have mentioned, are the true secret of fattening hogs quickly.—*Michigan Farmer*.

## FEEDING SWINE.

1. Avoid foul feeding.
2. Do not omit adding salt in moderate quantities to the mess given; you will find it to your account in attending to this.
3. Feed at regular intervals.
4. Cleanse the trough previous to feeding.
5. Do not over-feed—give only as much as will be consumed at the meal.
6. Vary your bill of fare. Variety will create, or at all events, increase appetite, and it is further most conducive to health, let your variations be guided by the state of the dung cast; this should be of medium consistency, and of a greyish brown color; if hard, increase the quantity of bran and succulent roots; if too liquid, diminish or dispense with bran, and let the mess be firmer; if you add a portion of corn, that which is injured, and thus rendered unfit for other purposes, will answer well.
7. Feed your stock separately in classes according to their condition; keep sows in young by themselves; stores by themselves—and bacon hogs and porkers by themselves. It is not advisable to keep your stores too high in flesh, for high feeding