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**THE OLD, OLD STORY.**

I chose him out from all the rest—  
 My Tom—he had three lovely brothers;  
 But—well—he seemed to like me best  
 Of all the girls. Oh, there were others  
 That wanted him, but, somehow, he,  
 Right from the first, took after me.

He was so splendid! Big and kind  
 And calm, and full of mischief very.  
 A romp seemed always to his mind,  
 While I was rather prim than merry.  
 Yet, when he was my own, I felt  
 How fond a lover near me dwelt.

Alas! There came a time of change;  
 He cared no more for home nor quiet.  
 His moods were reckless, wild and strange;  
 Night after night he spent in riot,  
 Returning when the dawnlight came  
 Quite heedless of reproach or blame.

And so it went, till months were past.  
 I was too proud to bang or beat him,  
 Or pull his whiskers—yet, at last,  
 He left me. Now, I sometimes meet him;  
 He has grown ugly, old and fat—  
 My handsome Maltese Tam is cat.

—Madeline S. Bridges in the May Ladies' Home Journal.

**Annexation of Hawaii.**

A Washington despatch reports: It is practically certain that before two weeks have passed Hawaii will be annexed to the United States, not at this time by act of congress, but by the military occupation. The Hawaiian congress having passed the resolutions of annexation, the United States government, it is officially stated, feels it absolutely necessary to annex the island for military purposes, to be used as a base of supplies and for a coaling station. Later on, it is asserted, the Hawaiian islands will be regularly annexed as a part of the United States, just as the territory of Alaska is.

Montreal Star:—It is becoming apparent that responsible Liberals are growing frightened at extravagance of their own Government. The growl of the rank and file, who cannot forget so soon all the sound teaching they once received as to the necessity of public economy, is beginning to be heard even at Ottawa. Happily individual thinking in politics is common enough with us now to render it somewhat risky for a party to swallow itself with brazen frankness; and there is a laudable realization at Ottawa when they realize what it looks like to the contrary to see this Government, which want in to office pledged to reduce expenditure, actually increasing it. Still the malignant influence which have compelled the increased expenditure, are yet in force at the capital; and it is useless to tug on the reins if the bit hangs harmless in the hard mouth of mercenary partyism.

Andrew Nelson and wife, aged respectively 71 and 56, were murdered last Thursday night at his home near Black-earth, Wis. The robbers are supposed to have secured \$400.

**The Texas Girl.**

Chivalry used to be described as a southern virtue, and though we do not wish to imply that the men of the north are unchivalrous it is quite possible that in the south women are still regarded with a greater degree of formal reverence than elsewhere. A native of Texas describes with enthusiasm the women of his state and shows why they cannot fail to excite admiration. "They are," he declares, "sweet, polite, gracious and courageous; they do not curse or swear; they do not use slang, and are not drunkards. Most of them ride well on horseback and can use the six shooter, but do not want to take away a man's job or position." Could a more engaging picture be drawn? These lovely compounds of sweetness and strength know their power, but do not abuse it. They may resent injury in the most effective fashion, but they are not mean. They will hesitate before shooting a man who has a family dependent upon him. They are no mere amazons. The fact that they do not curse and swear shows that they possess also the gentler domestic virtues. Those who are in search of the ideal girl should purchase a ticket for Texas.—Providence Journal.

**The Odor of the Opera.**

The confirmed opera goer drew a long breath. "That would make me happy if it blew over my grave," he murmured blissfully.

The woman with him looked at him doubtfully. "What's blowing?" she asked unsympathetically.

"It's the perfume," he explained.

"One always gets it when the curtain rises on the second act. The house is full by that time and the odors of the flowers and perfumes have grown heavy. The air is close and oppressive during the entr'acte, but when the curtain goes up the draft sweeps out and catches that indescribable odor and whirls it up here to the dress circle. It's not like anything else. No theater has it. It's the essence of opera flowers and laces and jewels and beauty and music. I'd recognize a whiff of it in paradise. Just ask any old chap who has been coming here for years about it. He'll know what I mean."—New York Sun.

**Celebrating His Deliverance.**

"Herbert," asked the young wife timidly, "is this the kind of mince pie your mother used to make?"

"No, dear," answered the young husband. "My mother never made mince pies. She was a health reform lecturer."

And Herbert helped himself to a second cut.—Chicago Tribune.

Opening of straw matting at Paton & Co's.  
 New English walking hats, Tom O'Shantera.—Paton & Co.



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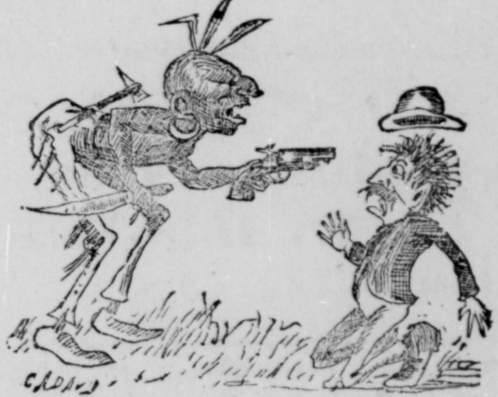


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in our repair department—That is how it is with us at present,  
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**P. E. ISLAND ELECTRIC CO.**

Notice is hereby given, the annual general meeting of the stock holders of the above company, will be held at their office, in Charlottetown, on Wednesday, the 11th day of May next, A. D., 1898, at hour of twelve o'clock noon.  
 Dated the 2nd day of May 1898.  
 JAMES W O'DELL, Supt