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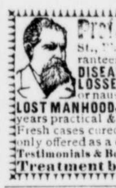

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LOVE'S POETICAL FLIGHTS.

Sometimes verses which were written for only one sweet pair of eyes are dragged to light in the unsympathetic atmosphere of a court of law, and are read amid roars of laughter. One poetic swain, who in a recent breach of promise case, said that he was "well up in poetry and verses," was inspired to this elevated pitch:

Will you be my hollyhock?
Will you be my pansy?
Will you let me kiss those
Tulips just beneath your nose?

The jury made him pay $500. They ought to have made it $1000, and $500 extra for this one, which is also his:

I'm in love, as you may be;
I love but one, and you are she.

One lover, whose preference for a Scottish maiden cost him $500 and costs, wrote:

English maids are sweet as roses,
Irish maidens are fair to see,
But earth hides no lovlier maidens
Than the Scotch—so Scotch for me!

He should have stuck to high balls.

In another breach of promise action, "Drake vs. ——," many gems of humorous verse were produced for the inspection and amusement of the court. Among them was the following graceful fancy:

In matrimony some folks say
There is but little luck;
But you at least, my darling Maud,
A richer vein have struck;
For even when you're Mrs. Drake
You'll be "a little duck."

Alas! this tempting prospect was never to be realized, and the lady received $1,250 as compensation for her disappointment in having to forego the role of "little duck."

Here is one addressed to a Miss Gould:

I am like a lucky miner,
Who has turned up wealth untold;
For I'm going to leave my "diggings"
Now that I've secured my "Gould."

But he changed his "Gould," and she got $1,000 of his gold as a result.

Perhaps the most amusing and ambitious of these amorous verses is the following, addressed by an analyst to his fiancee, who bore the rather prosaic Christian names "Anne Eliza":

When a man's on wedding bent
His wife should be his aggrandizer;
And this will be your fate, my dear,
For you will be my "Analyzer."

However, he was her aggrandizer instead, as he had to pay her $1,500.

THE THINNING OF PEACHES.

A circular from the Delaware College Agriculturial Experiment Station on the important subject of growing peaches strongly recommends the thinning process, the principal advantages of so doing:

1. It makes larger and more uniform fruit.
2. Large fruit exhausts the tree and soil less than an equal amount of small fruit.
3. It insures more regular crops.
4. The fruit brings higher prices.

The thinning should begin when the peaches are as large as small cherries and should end before the pit hardens, as thinning done after that period does not seem to increase the size of the remaining fruit. In Delaware it should begin by the first week in June when the curculio-stung fruits, and the unfertilized and weak fruits, which later fall in the "June drop," can be detected. Of the remaining peaches, no two should stand closer than six or eight inches, and it is sometimes profitable, especially in years of general heavy bearing, to thin Elbertas and other large sorts to ten or twelve inches. Spurs should generally carry one peach and seldom more than two. Peaches have to be thinned by hand. No mechanical means of thinning is efficient or advisable.

Most varieties overbear. The tree endeavors to form a large number of seeds while the peach grower wants large fruit. The two processes are opposed to each other. Seed or pit production exhausts the tree and causes it to bear small fruit, while it is the aim of the orchardist to grow the largest possible bulk of peaches with the smallest bulk of pits. A bushel of large fruit exhausts the tree less than a bushel of small fruit. The bigger peaches have a greater proportion of the flesh, which is principally water.

In 1901, the Experiment Station made a critical study of peach thinning in Michigan where the practice is general, it was found that a profit of one to five dollars was realized by many of the best peach growers for every dollar expended.

A Billville Meeting.

(From the Atlanta Constitution.)

"Hain't seen you sence Sunday. How's all?"

"Jest so-so."

"Craps good?"

"Jest middlin'."

"Feelin' well yerself?"

"Right peart."

"Any news stirrin'?"

"Nothing but the measles, an' the whoopin' cough, an' the yaller janders, an' a sprinklin' er chills an' fever!"

A Wretched Manager.

MRS. BLACK—What a good husband you have!

MRS. GREEN—Yes! But he's such a wretched manager. If you'll believe it, he went and paid the premium on his life assurance policies last week, when he knew well enough I was just longing for a bicycle.

IN THE WINTER.

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