

#### THE TELEPHONE.

Child though I am of an clusive race, Yet subtle is your human thought to reach.

And now ye build me bridges o'er the space

That else would drown your speech.

By paths ye point along the vold I go
To do your will with feet that never tire;
Love's charmed cadence, musical and low,
Sings down the siender wire.

And then, the messenger of dull despair, I lift a word that chills me with its weight, Or serpent tongues come hissing thro' the

And I am hot with hate. Sometimes a greeting flies to match the

Of one who waits from all his kind apart, And then across a continent I speed To move a nation's heart.

The very deep your clever cables span, so round and round this little globe I run To bring man nearer to his brother man And make the nations one.

I am; yet what I am has no man learned.
A spirit, winged and shod with sliver
flame? Ye seek my face, and lo! I have returned To that from whence I came

Of old in vision did the poet-seers Discern the shadow of a thing to be. They knew and named me for the coming

years—
I atill am Mercury.
Alloe Lena Cole, in Youth's Companion.

# Horseless Elopement &

By BENNET MUSSON

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AJ. FITZGIBBON sat on the veranda of his house in the little city rayton, in central New York, and watched a large steam roller which rumbled ponderously and complainingly over the unoffending macadam of the broad, tree-lined avenue. This roller typified the manner in which the major, since his emigration from Georgia, 30 years before, had walked rough-shod over the complainant inhabitants of

The major's love for the south was coupled with an enterprise whichmingly at variance with the southern character—had enabled him to dominate the small northern city commercially. The great factory which bore his name, and employed 500 workers, entitled him to be considered a magnate.

Fanciful comparisons were far from the major's mind as he watched the roller doffle the crisp May air with puffs of which he fingered his imperial indicated

comething serious in his thoughts. The twist increased in violence as handsome young man stepped briskly through the front gate and along the

path which led to the veranda. The major rose with exaggerated courtesy. "Good morning, Mr. Ingalls," he said. "I have ventured to-" began the

"Permit me to offer you some freshment, sir," the major interrupted,



OR DID YOU NOT. SAY THAT I MUST BE AN IMPOSTOR?"

ringing a hand bell, to which an old darkey responded.

"Thank you, I-" Ingalis hesitated as the major's steely blue eyes fixed him piercingly-"I don't care if I do," he concluded, lamely and colloquially.

When the servant returned and set out a decanter, a carafe, and glasses, and the preliminary courtesies of greating were over, the most uncomfortable half hour in Frank Ingali's 25 years of life

The major's only daughter, Helen, was the subject of the interview, and although the old man knew that some day he must lose a girl of her beauty and attractiveness, he did not propose to give her up to a man for whom he entertained small regard, and principal cause of lack of esteem-whose father had accompanied Gen. Sherman on his march to the sea.

When the interview had passed from formality to incisiveness, then from heat to recrimination, the major rose and faced his guest.

"Did you, or did you not, say, sir, that I must be an impostor, because there was no surviving officer of the confederacy under the rank of colonel?" he demanded, with dynamic politeness.

"In my younger days, before I knew and loved Helen, I may have made some such foolish remark," Frank replied, angrily, "but I apologize for it now. Not on your account, but on my own," he added, as the major smiled con-temptuously. "As for your daughter, allow me to tell you that she is a north-era woman by birth, sympathy and tem-perament, and add marry her in spite

which resentment and admiration were

strangely mingled.

For the two days that followed, the manner in which Maj. Pitaglebon conducted a large manufacturing business and frustrated the attempted meetings between Helen and Frank showed a prescience that was almost uncanny. His daughter's open defiance had rather aroused his regard, although he denounced it as unfilial and unsouthern.

On the third day, after the interview the young people contrived a clandestine meeting. Helen arranged to slip from her window that night, and repair with Frank to the house of the Unitarian minister, who, in addition to being a man of spirit and independence, was Frank's

At midnight Frank waited under a certain window in the Fitzgibbons' house until Helen appeared, clad in a blue traveling dress and an air of caution, and the moon obligingly retired behind a cloud while the couple went toward the

As they reached the sidewalk there was a crash behind them of another window being flung violently open, and a crunching sound as two square-toed boots landed in a gravel path. Ingalls glanced back as he hurried the trembling Helen toward the main street, and the approaching boots ground the gravel om-

As Frank again turned his eyes forward a huge, ghostly object loomed before him in the road. It was the steamroller, covered by an enormous rubber cloth. Dashing to it, Frank pulled un the rubber cloth, lifted Helen into the cab of the machine, climbed in himself. and the folds of the cover had barely settled in place when Maj. Fitzgibbon clattered by, in futile pursuit.

As the pair drew a few breaths of relief, tinctured with the odor of machine oil and coal gas, a responding sigh came from the inky darkness. This was followed by a slow grunt, then a voice of protest.

What ye want?" it demanded. "Why, there's someone here!" Helen cried, softly.

"'Course ther' is. What-"continued the voice. "Sh!" whispered Frank. "Who are

you?" "Bill Dustan, the engineer. Who are

As the man rose from the narrow seat the tiny cab was filled to overflowing with a faint scent of alcohol which sug-

gested a reason for his presence. Frank laid a friendly hand on the shoulder of Bill Dustan's coat and hastily told his story, while his mind worked rapidly in another direction. His other hand crept into one of his pockets, and when it was extended to Bill it contained

"You have a fire?" Frank asked, as the engineer fingered the money.

"Keep 'er up a little," answered the "Can you run the roller with it?"

a bank note

Frank demanded. Bill grinned appreciatively in the darkness. "Soon fix it so I kin," he said. "But it will make an awful noise." objected Helen, on whom the situation was

dawning. "I kin run 'er kind er slow an' quiet," Bill said, hopefully.

"Besides, your father is probably stirring up the police and the railroad people, and he won't be back soon," Frank said to Helen: "It isn't likely that he anywhere else he won't dream that we

are in it." Bill Dustan lighted a lantern, casting dim glow on a complication of wheels, levers and valves; attended to the fire and in a few minutes the roller was in motion. The engineer lifted the forward part of the rubber cloth, protruded his head and steered the machine to the Unitarian minister's house.

Even a magnate may not annul a marriage, and Helen and Frank departed for their honeymoon, leaving the major prey to gloomy emotions, which they wisely forebore to interrupt for two weeks. During that time the love and sympathy Helen had for her father suggested the best course for a reconcilia-

"He likes actions that are bold and straightforward," she said to Frank. And the major got what he liked, for one morning, early in June, when he was again seated on his veranda, reading his paper before starting for his fac-

tory, he was aroused by a noise in the

An enormous steam roller turned in at the major's gate and moved ponderously along the driveway. At the throttle was Bill Dustan, and behind him, on the narrow seat of the machine, were Helen and Frank. From all parts of the roller fluttered streamers and bows of bridal rib-

bon.

After gasing fixedly at the shy but confident couple, and at the abashed engineer, Maj. Fitzgibbon glanced back at his house, in which he had spent a lonely fortnight, and stroked his imperial with a soft, caressing movement. Then he a soft, caressing movement. Then he tering. If you do not pay it at once I walked slowly to the machine, lifted his am instructed to bring suit and will arms, and Helen leaped lightly into do so this afternoon if necessary." them

As Frank alighted and smilingly watched this scene, Bill Dustan turned the steam roller, which, with a triumphant toot of its small whistle, rumbled dignifiedly away.

Uniust.

Faultfinding Customer-Those eggs are a week old, to my certain knowledge, and yet you've kept that sign "Fresh Eggs" sticking up in the basket all that

Grocer's Clerk (righteously indignant) You're mistaken, ma'am. I change that sign every morning.—Chicago Trib-

at Fraternal hall on Franklin avenue. ment; Invalle stalked angrily from the The only extravagance he indelged in yard, and the major, who liked an outwas to hire a carriage to take him sould foe, followed him with a look in home after his night's arduous labors. THE KID AND THE WOLF.



Find Man Who Is Watching.

A Kid, mounted upon a high rock, bestowed all manner of abuse upon a Wolf on the ground below. The Wolf, looking up, replied: Do not think, vain creature, that you anney me. I regard the ill language as coming, not from you, but from the place upon which you

MORAL.—To rail and give ill language is very unbecoming, not only in gentle-men in particular, but men in general; nor can we determine whether courage or manners are most wanting in the person who is given to use it.

#### FLUENT UTTERANCE.

Of Its Kind It Was All Right, and It Immediately Settled the Bill.

Hockley has mounted to business success despite the handicap of a pronounced stutter. Though he is conclous of the credit to which he is entitled for not "lying down" on account of his infirmity, it does not follow that he would not willingly part with it. guests know that the new arrivals have on which he had been curied up asleep, In fact he has made several efforts to had plenty of opportunity to get themfind some method of regaining normal selves into condition to look their best fluency of utterance, relates the Chicago Daily News.

A year ago Hockley saw in an advertisement what he conceived to be his opportunity. It was a Boston concern which promised to cure stammering in three months or no money would be required. Hockley sent for circulars, which duly arrived and proved to contain an abundance of testimonials setting forth in a most convincing manner that Blobber's stammer cure had effected wonderful results and could be absolutely relied upon.

Hockley was encouraged to forward his name for enrollment and then he confidently began the treatment. For a time he was even able to persuade himself that he was making progress -that is, until his partner took him aside one day and remarked, confidentially:

cially the last two or three weeks.

But Hockley was not easily discouraged. He kept faithfuly at the course until the three months were up. He even gave it an extra two weeks for good measure; then he dropped it.

Promptly from Boston came a letter expressing pleasure that he had been cured and intimating a desire that he should send a testimonial. A bill for 50 for his treatment was inclosed. Hockley sent the testimonial

"For the benefit of other sufferers who may be seeking relief," he wrote, "I am glad to give my experience with Blobber's stammer cure. When I first began I stuttered about every fourth sentence. After only three months and were well dressed. two weeks' faithful pursuance of directions I am now able to, and do, stutter even my friends avoid me. Anyone addressing me can obtain further information, and to those who call upon me I shall be glad to express myself with a great deal more emphasis than my modesty will permit me to employ through this medium.

"You have my fullest permission to print this testimonial."

After several emphatic requests from Boston for the \$50 there was a lull and Hockley almost forgot the matter. Then one day a lawyer with whom he was not on friendly terms walked into Hockley's office.

"Mr. Hockley," he began with show of sternness, as he pulled a par from his pocket, "I have here a bill for \$50 from the Blobber Stammer Oure institute for curing you of stut-

Hockley arose and glared feroclously at his visitor for a moment. His lips moved as if he were rolling a marble bout in his mouth.

"D-d-d-dod-g-g-g-ast y-y-y-you!" he blurted out. "Y-y-y-ou-you-you-"
The lawyer looked alarmed and dis-

"Oh, well, Hockley," he said as he pocketed his paper and turned toward. the door, "let it go. If you got into court I couldn't hope to get judgment against you in a thousand years." And that was the last Hockey heard of the Blobber institute.

Force of Habit. Towne-There's a new baby out at Popley's, isn't there? Browne-Yes; and it's a shame the way the boys are teasing Popley.

Women at Summer Hotels Are Closely Inspected and Judged by Their Dress.

CLOTHES THE MAIN THING.

The new arrival at the summer hotel always finds the second day more difficult than any other. The first is usually occupied in arranging the rooms, unpacking the trunks and getting ready for the campaign. By that time the So there is no reason why they should not look all right by the second day, says the New York Sun.

They know that the inspection will begin seriously when they go down to breakfast that morning, and will continue at intervals during the day. After awhile they will be accustomed to it.

"Nice looking people," remarked one two daughters appeared. They had arrived the night before.

"I haven't had a chance to look at their staring hard at them, "but I like their only clothes. The three advanced with an effort to

appear at ease. They were followed down of flesh. Three chickens dressed before the piazza by the eyes of the women gathered here in groups. Mid-August had eight pounds and eight ounces, their brought new arrivals to the mountain hotel, and there were many unfamiliar and the edible meat two pounds six gowns to be inspected and classified.

yours? I have been noticing it espe- new party, which seemed as a whole to pounds four ownces, and the edible meat have made a good impression.

"Yes," assented another, who was able to get a closer view as the two sat down next to her. "Their clothes are all right. But isn't it curious that they have no personal ornaments on. Not one of them has even a stickpin."

. The plazza buzzed with discussion of the new arrivals. Their progress had Farmer. started it. As one group after another was passed, the talk began before the women were out of hearing. Their plain dresses bore the unmistakable ear marks of good style. It was decided that such a beginning was promising. But it was necessary to wait until evening before it was possible to decide whether they

That night they came through the ordeal with triumph. They wore rich gowns every time I attempt to speak, and smartly, they were not overdressed, and their simple jewels put to confusion the woman who had commented on their lack of "personal ornaments."

The three were sitting on the plazza again that night when some tired travelers landed from the little steamer in front of the hotel and passed up the steps into the office.

"Aren't you glad, mother," said one of the two girls, "that other women have arrived to-night. They'll have to be looked over in the morning."

Nothing so much inflames the ordinary feminine interest in dress as hotel life: In the summer it is the most engrossing topic, and in the winter hotels it comes next to bridge. In her home woman sees dress and change of it much less frequently. In hotels there are twice as many women as she sees ordinarily about her, changing their clothes twice as many times. It takes a strong-minded woman not to have her thoughts directed altogether to the subject of soc-

tume. Hotel life as a permanency has been considered disadvantageous from the point of manners before this. One of der's eggs under a decayed stump, the importance that young girls are led to lay on dress. If the amount of discussion they heard made them tasteful and careful in dress, its harm might ent from the downy darlings which be mitigated, but, as a rule, there is she had previously reared, but the merely the tendency to overdress that faithful bantam accepted her trust and survives.

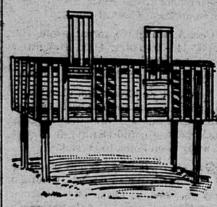
Many of the persons who live permanently in New York's hotels find their only opportunity to wear elaborate dress. whie they sit in the corridors or the gowns before an audience. The same in which they were hatched. say: "Sh!" and he immediately be of the most richly dressed women at clucking of their foster mother.—N. Y. on poles about the poultry runs.—Farm to walk tiptoes."



#### COOPS FOR FATTENING.

They Enable Poultry Raisers to Double the Weight of Fowls in a Short Time.

Although the cramming machine, in he hands of an expert will probably give the best results in finished product, small coops for fattening chickens will be found the most profitable by most chicken raisers. These coops are used very largely in England and have been adopted successfully by the Canadian government. The accompanying illustration shows a coop divided into three parts, which will hold a dozen chickens. These cops are built of lath and oneinch square pieces for the framework.



SLATTED FATTENING COOP.

Each part is two feet long, 16 inches wide and 20 inches high, which experiments have shown to be the best size.

The coops are placed out of doors in the shade, either under trees or in an open shed, but in severe weather should be placed in a closed building. A small V-shaped trough is used to hold the feed, and water is supplied in a cup, which may be fastened to the slats. Young chickens from four to six months of age are commonly used for fattening. About four are placed in a coop, where they are fed three times daily, as much as they will eat of ground grain, chiefly oats. At or near the end of the period of fattening, which lasts from four to six weeks, a little tallow is added to the feed, which at all times is mixed with skim milk.

In a trial with 100 chickens, Prof. James W. Robinson, of Canada, found that they almost doubled in weight in 36 days of feeding. For every pound of increase in live weight they consumed woman on the plazza as a mother and 5.44 pounds of ground oats and 6.43 pounds skim milk. At one dollar per 100 pounds for ground oats and 20 cents per 100 pounds skim milk, the cost was faces," said the other woman, who was nearly 6% cents per pound gain for feed

While the increase in weight was nearly 100 per cent., this gain was mostly fattening weighed, with feathers off, bones weighed one pound two ounces. ounces. After this period of fattening, "Say, old man, do you know you're getting lots worse with that stutter of on," said one attentive observer of the three chickens, of the same quality at the start, weighed with feathers off 16 seven pounds six ounces. Not only was there a gain of about 200 per cent. in edible meat, but it was of much better quality. If all fowls when fatted for the market are confined for a month in coops of this kind and fed in a similar manner, they will return a much higher price and greater profit.—Orange Judd

## FATTENING CHICKENS.

Six Points Clearly Established by Tests Conducted by Canadian Government Experts.

The results of experiments in fattening chickens for market in Canada are given as follows, by the chief of that division. He says:

1. That pure-bred or high-grade chickens can be reared more cheaply in the fattening crates, and present a better market appearance than do common chickens or "scrub" chickens. 2. That there is more profit in placing

well-fatted chickens on the market than in marketing lean chickens. 3. That four months old is the mos

profitable age at which to market chickens. 4. That heavy chickens are not gen-

erally as salable as medium weight ones. 5. That the type of chicken desired in Canada or Great Britain is a young, plump bird, with a broad, full breast, white-colored fish, white or yellow colored legs, without feathers or spurs, and with a small head.

6. That crate fattening of chickens is the farmers' business; that it does not require a large outlay to fatten 100 or 200 chickens; that the chickens are fed from troughs, and that machine feeding is not necessary.

Bantam Hen Raises Snakes.

Several weeks ago one of the real

dents of Smoky Hollow found 13 adits least admirable influences must be and, placing them under a bantam hen, awaited results. In due time the clucking mother hatched out 13 striped adders. The brood was differdid the best she could under the circumstances. Several of the strange brood fell a prey to the family cat, and others receded from civilization and took to the woods, but six of them "palls rooms," that were presumably in-rented for the purpose of allowing the about the premises in the daytime and guests the opportunity to wear their "Whenever they see him hurrying restricted opportunity to exhibit their wriggling brood have become sufficient they sneak up behind dresses is all that is available to many ciently domesticated to respond to the

### ABOUT GUINBA FOWLS.

into That Should Be Remembered by All Who Are Engaged in

Guinea fowls have dark colored flesh,

out it is very palatable.

for them by the mothers.

Inbreading results in rendering the birds tender and reduces their size.

The young of birds given their freedom are hardy and will follow their mother as soon almost as they are out of the shell; at least they are good trampers after they are a day old. The young live on bugs and seeds discovered

In the early laying season the birds will lay their eggs anywhere, and several will deposit their eggs in the same locality. When about to sit they seek separation and lay a dozen or more eggs in a hidden nest, where they incubate them.

The guineas differ from common fowls in that the males are as anxious about the brood as is the hen, and helps take care of them during the day time, forsaking them at night.

·Guinea hens and their broods forage in a body, the old males helping to keep up the laggards of the line. At night each mother collects her own brood.

The young at a very early age learn to roost in the trees, even before they can reach the branches by flying. They balf fly and half run up the trunk of the tree. Guinea eggs are very fertile, and a arge percentage of the birds hatched live if they are permitted to run wild

with their mother. Like the turkey, the guinea prefers the open tree top to the secure poultry

#### SUCCESSFUL HENHOUSE.

How to Secure All the Returns That Could Be Reasonably Expected from Good Hens.

The following considerations for the comfort of fowls and the convenience of their caretaker should always be observed in the construction of a good henhouse. In their natural state fowls do not breed in large flocks, and they never lay well in large flocks. No matter how many hens one may keep, not over 20 should be kept in one room, and the henhouse should be divided into as many compartments as is necessary to accommodate the flocks on this basis. Moreover, the hens in these compartments should never be crowded. Six square feet of floor space should be allowed for each hen intended to be kept in the compartment. In caring for hens they should be disturbed as little as possible, if a large egg yield is desired. It is, therefore, very important to build



A USEFUL HENHQUSE. the house so that this can be accomplished. The house should be built lengthwise east and west and facing the passage for the attendant should be built and all the arrangements made for caring for the fowls from this passage The nest boxes should project partly into the passage with a lid on top on that side. Above the nests inside the compartment should be a platform with roosts above, separated from the passage by a swinging door hinged at the top. Below the nests there should be slatwork large enough for the hens to get their heads through easily. Just outside this the troughs for soft food and water are placed, so that the hens are not disturbed by changing this, nor by collecting the eggs or the droppings. The floor of the henhouse should be of wood covered by six or eight inches of straw litter, into which the grain food should be scattered. On the south side of the henhouse there should be large, square windows, with the dust boxes directly under them, where the sunlight can fall directly into the boxes. These boxes should contain dry earth or ashes or both with about a quarter of a pound of dry sulphur mixed in. Every compartment should contain a small box full of shell making material such as plaster, grit, oyster shells or pounded broken crockery. Such an environment supplemented by proper food and care should produce all the returns that could be reasonably expected or desired from good hens.—Prairie Farmer.

# POULTRY YARD PICKINGS.

Do not allow litter in coops to beco damp during a rainy season. Fowls must have dry houses.

Utilize the wastes about the farm and economize in salable foods, but never feed poultry on offensive offal. Many a person puts the money into fancy buildings and furnishings for his

hen-house that ought to go into the poultry. Keeping up the feed and keeping down the lice will go a long way toward keeping up the profits from the poultry

end of the farm For hens in confinement there is no green food that is more nourishing or more acceptable than clover that has been chopped very fine.

If the brood coops are not cleaned up, whitewashed and put away under shelter, there is one job yet for you to do at

the first opportunity. Watch the markets and if prices are good sell whenever your birds are ready. This reduces your risks and gives a bet-

ter chance for what are left. Anything that will glisten in the sun as it swings about will frighten hawks and crows. Suspend glass, tin or mice.