

The Girl Who Drove the Cows to Pasture

A Story For St. Valentine's Day By SARAH BAXTER

"Grandpa, won't you tell us a valentine story?" said a miss of fourteen. "You told us a story for Christmas, and I think you might do the same now that St. Valentine's day has come around."

There was a girl who lived half a mile up the road from Jim, who drove her father's cows to pasture every morning and back to the barn every evening. One evening Jim was up that way and passed her on the road while she was driving the cows. She was about fifteen years old, straight as an arrow and wore her dress to the top of her boots. Her hair and eyes were black. There was something about the way she carried herself that took Jim's fancy, and he hoped that when she came near him she would take enough interest in him at least to look at him.

THE GIRL WHO WORE HIS COLORS

Romance That Came of a Broken Shoe Lace.

A girl with an umbrella in her hand and a reticule on her arm was vainly endeavoring to tie her shoe on a crowded sidewalk. "Will you permit me?" A young man spoke the words in a well modulated voice and with a deft hand he took the shoe from her and fastened it for her. "Thank you," she said, and went on her way. "From one of them he drew a corn-colored ribbon that had found its way into the shoe-string. Alas, it was broken in the middle. If an untold shoestring in the street had been a fortune, a broken shoestring in the street would have been appreciated but for that reliance on the sterner sex to get over the difficulty without the least concern for herself about it. The girl, seeing the shoe in the street, thought rapidly, then plucked her hands into each of her pockets. From one of them he drew a corn-colored ribbon that had found its way into the shoe-string. Alas, it was broken in the middle. If an untold shoestring in the street had been a fortune, a broken shoestring in the street would have been appreciated but for that reliance on the sterner sex to get over the difficulty without the least concern for herself about it.

Persimmons as Food.

The only fruit, says a bulletin of the department of agriculture, which equals the persimmon in its value as a food is the date. Nevertheless many persons with fine persimmon trees in their possession, are allowing the fruit to go to waste, either through ignorance of the many uses to which it may be put or through prejudice. There is a saying in the persimmon country that persimmons are "good for dogs, hogs and possums." This, however, is declared to be a gross injustice to a very valuable product. One reason for the neglect of this fruit is the mistaken idea that persimmons are unfit to eat until they have been touched by frost. As a matter of fact, much of the best fruit is lost every year because it ripens and falls to the ground, where, not being touched by frost, it is left to rot. Such persimmons are not edible before frost comes as a late variety of the fruit, and the reason that they pucker the mouth is because they have not yet ripened. In general, the best fruit is that which ripens just before the leaves fall.

Remembering Faces.

Hotel clerks have a way of recognizing guests as soon as they step a register. The most successful hotel keepers have this power of remembering the faces of their guests and all about them or they would soon lose their custom by the mistakes they would make. Bank cashiers carry in their memories the faces and signature of most of the customers of the bank. Detectives, too get into the habit of remembering the faces of every one with whom they have to deal, whether criminals or not. "I don't think I have ever forgotten a customer," a clerk in one of the big safe depositories recently said. "There are hundreds of safe deposit boxes rented in our vaults, and I can generally remember, without referring to our books, the name, number and password of each customer." Exchange.

Charley Horse.

"Charley horse" dropped by bill players, is an ailment consisting of displacement and rupture of the muscles of the leg, often the saddle muscle. The trouble is commonly brought about, not by running, but by quick stopping at bases. The player who stops on his feet is almost certain to acquire the ailment in a short time. The overworked muscle, slipping out of place, knots itself into a great lump and exerts pressure on the surrounding muscles, producing lameness. Massaging will bring the muscle back to place, but the trouble returns at the next serious strain. When you see a player make a long slide which appears unnecessary, the reason is that he prefers to scrape off a little skin rather than take chances on "horsing" himself by stopping standing up. Exchange

Luminescent Illumination.

There are several substances that become luminescent after long exposure to the rays of the sun, although none of them emits a brilliant light. It is believed that this luminescence could be greatly increased, if the problem were investigated, with as much energy that given to the development of the incandescent gas mantle. It has been suggested that if a luminescent paint were spread on buildings exposed to brilliant sunshine they would give off stored sunlight during the night and thus preserve one element of the radiant energy of the sun. One authority remarks: "The general use of such a paint would enable the more powerful methods of artificial illumination to be limited to special locations and confine the use of existing systems to indoor service and to spots where little daylight penetrates." Washington Star

The Word "Derrick."

The word "derrick" for a machine used to lift heavy weights is curiously derived from a London handman in the beginning of the seventeenth century whose name was Theobald, and who is often mentioned in old plays. He drew a cart with the devil, and Derick is just his name with the "t" dropped. The name of "Londrick" is also derived from the same source, corrupted after the fashion of the applied by an ass's translation to the gods and later used to any form of contrivance resembling it in shape.

No One to Do It.

You say you have three small children. Can't you find work? The man with the three boys' beard and the ragged trousers whined away a year.

Life is but a Light Dream.

Life is but a light dream, which soon vanishes. To live is to suffer. The sincere man struggles incessantly to gain the victory over himself. Napoleon

New Acquaintances.

If a man does not make new acquaintances as he advances through life he will soon find himself left alone. A man should keep his friendship in constant repair. Johnson

An Artist.

Mr. Banks—Don't you think my wife paints very nicely? Miss Milburn—Charming! It makes her look so much younger, I think.—London Telegraph

God sends a new duty to conquer each new pain.—Adelaide Procter.

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