

# THE FLIGHT OF MRS. BODGE

At the solicitation of her eldest daughter, after the death of Mr. Bodge, his widow, the little house she had entered as a bride years before and went to visit Mary Trimmer's family.

At first she was quite contented. Her room was favored with sunlight, a fact that led the little Trimmers to adopt it for their playroom after their first shyness wore off. Mary Trimmer provided her mother with a basket of work, then went every morning to pay long neglected social calls, leaving the grandmother surrounded by her grandchildren.

Their shrill voices forced the old lady's ears. How her stiff fingers added with the dozens of articles she hemmed.

Mrs. Bodge longed at times for her own easy chair in her far-off home, where she could read "Farm Progress" undisturbed. Her loneliness was compelling her to leave the Trimmers when the youngest child was taken ill. No one could strike the flushed forehead with such tenderness as grandma. Her ministrations were constantly demanded by the little sufferer.

When the child was convalescent, Mrs. Bodge would have turned her face homeward, but for the arrival of a premonitory summons from her second daughter, Maria Flint.

The Flint was a fashionable people, deriving their chief amusement from worldly pleasures. Mr. Bodge shrank from Maria Flint's frivolous glances, white waiting for the return of the expressman to fetch the modest trunk. Maria had not put on mourning for her father. She held it to be an error to don black mourning in the case of those who, as she expressed it, "had departed to Isles of Immortal Bliss."

The disapproval of her mother's black shawl and gown was a sore thorn in Maria's Flint's face. When she arrived at the imposing mansion, Mrs. Bodge was assigned to a room that promised respect. An overladen couch covered by embroidered pillow beckoned the weary little grandmother. The latest up-to-date arrangement of buttons just below the gas fixture near the bed permitted telephone calls at any hour of the night. In a moment of bewilderment, the unfortunate guest pressed the burglar alarm, bringing a hurried throng to her door.

Maria Flint tried to moderate her mother by giving her new gown to the lady of simple tastes. Suggestions were made for an improved style of dress, all of which Maria Flint refused. Mrs. Bodge most uncomfortably. She tried to please her daughter, yet never caught a changed reflection of herself in the mirrors without a stifled half of guilty conscience. Being disrespectful to the memory of her husband. She remained firm on one point; she refused to discard mourning.

Maria issued invitations to a few friends to meet her mother. Mrs. Bodge found their society unbecomingly and, truth to tell, was puzzled to understand how Maria could enjoy them. Their chatter was a noise to her. The commonplace things of life. It was a distinct relief to the little countrywoman to meet one unassuming guest, who, in the frank manner, begged for her recipe for porky turnip tea.

On one of Maria Flint's mornings devoted to general repairs to her manse, the unhappy visitor crept downstairs to inspect the kitchen. There was only a couple of hours before noon, yet there was absolutely no task for hands unaccustomed to idleness in that spotless room with its modern appliances for time saving. Mrs. Bodge returned to her room, longing for a glimpse of her stable hills whose uplift had helped her in times of loneliness in the past.

The message Maria was written after the new dress had been laid aside. At last the little grandmother was ready for departure in the plain garments she wore the day of her arrival.

"Maria," she wrote in a firm handwriting, "I'm going back to live the life I've always known in the house that's been a real home to your father and me. I don't need the outside life. You'll find the stylish dresses in the closet. The hair rats are in the bureau drawer. Mother."

When Maria Flint discovered her mother's dicta, she was indignantly rebuffed. Reestablished in her familiar niche, busy with her commonplace tasks again after the excitement of the little lady was content. The Flint had never forgiven her for her flight; had never communicated with her.

The garden gave promise of bloom in the early summer days; the little house had been repainted; it had never seemed so good a place to Mrs. Bodge as when she sat in her pleasant porch within sound of the call of birds that came each year to nest in the elm near her porch. She decided to invite her daughter to return her visits. To be sure there were no fashionable diversions such as Mrs. Flint loved, but the little Trimmers could run and expand their lungs healthily in the Bodge meadows.

## EDUCATING THE FARMER.

Farmers' colleges in this country have been sticking pretty closely to their functions as experimentations and schools for teaching soil bacteriology, intensive agriculture, horticulture and stock tending. It is the belief of President Butterfield, of the Rhode Island College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, that they must widen and "socialize" the work. Nor will the agricultural college have realized its usefulness until it has developed, to a far greater extent than now, the idea of university extension. It must manage farm lectures, provide lectures, direct the work of rural clubs, distribute farm literature. Its instruction must be brought within reach of all those who cannot go to college. The plan of the empirical stage of American farming is passing, and the indicated leader in the movement toward a more careful, studious and social period is the agricultural college.

## MAN AND THE FASHIONS.

In there not another, and a truer view of the outcry against woman's extravagance in dress, her so-called slavish devotion to fashion. It is not the too, as much as the devoted husband or father who pays, the victim of the social system we have erected, which is based on heresy and superstition. The Philadelphia Record stresses the point that the American man is responsible for his wife's extravagance. He is, therefore, manifestly unjust. The American man is responsible for her from many motives—pride in her appearance, which he considers a reflection on himself, and, finally but not least, policy. Indeed, it is often the woman who holds a tight rein over a generosity that threatens to degenerate into riotous extravagance.

## JAPAN'S CAUSE AND TRIUMPH.

Japan went to war because Russia would not recognize the rights of China in Manchuria and her own interests in the Far East. She has destroyed, captured and driven into neutral ports every Russian warship available for service in the Eastern seas. Russia is a maritime power. She has demonstrated by frequent victories in the field that Russia with all her resources cannot wage a successful war against the sea power of the Trans-Siberian against one Asiatic Power that controls the sea and has a large standing army which can be ferried across a strait in such numbers that it would be a military disaster to Japan. Japan has also demonstrated that the fighting units of her army are greatly superior to those of the Russian army and that in every branch the latter is hopelessly inferior.

## REFORM IN CRIMINAL LAW.

The editor of Leslie's Weekly discussing this question says: "If laws could be made to conform to the half of guilty conscience. Being disrespectful to the memory of her husband. She remained firm on one point; she refused to discard mourning."

## FEMALE IMPERIALISM.

The motto of this century according to the Ribet in an article printed in the Paris "Nouvelle Revue," is "The world for Americans." It appears that this really means "The world for the United States." The world for Americans means that we get away from these small specifications. Our army is kept up to full numbers because the feminine enthusiasm for a uniform inspires American boys. Our navy exists to order to exchange hospitalities with the gracious women of Newport and Barb Harbor. The ambition of our bright married women is to see the world, to see business and embark on a public career at Washington. It is the embattled women of this country who are conducting "The American Invasion" of the world.—St. Louis Republic.

## WRONG CENSURE OF WEALTH.

"Our rich people are, to be sure, not to their wealth as they are to the world's wealth. They play with it for a while, and it will in a few generations slip back through their feeble fingers to its original home, or else what is related will have to lose its novelty that it can become a habit to its owners and a strength to the nation. Wealth, after a time, will bring with it natural responsibilities. The more call of things will still be caused by it, and the great necessities of the poor and of education and of the development of science will be more intelligently ministered to."—our Baltimore Sun.

In practice campaigns the German troops are going to use Japanese field maneuvers. The Kaiser is bound to show the world that he is up to date.

# Market Report

The fruit market is active in nearly all lines and leads. Peaches are plentiful and the apple deal is not quite so firm as it was a short time ago, although prices are no lower. Potatoes are easy at the recent decline and the market is liberally supplied. The market is firm in all lines of berry products and offerings are not large. Sugars are easy and lower.

**Fruits.**  
PLUMS—\$1.25 to \$1.50 per bu.  
COCONUTS—\$90 per doz.  
PINEAPPLES—\$3.25 to \$4.50 per case.  
Lemons—\$3.50 to \$4.50 per case.  
GRAPE FRUIT—Florida, \$6.50 to \$7 per box.  
CRANBERRIES—\$6.25 per bbl. and \$2.95 per bu.  
QUINCES—\$6 to \$7 per bbl. and \$2.25 per bu.  
APPLES—No. 1, \$3.50 to \$3.75 per bbl.; No. 2, \$2.25 to \$2.75 per bbl.  
MELONS—Arizona, Rocky Fords, \$1 to \$1.25 per case; Osage, \$1 to \$1.25 per case.  
PEARS—Bartlett, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per bu.; Duchess, \$2.25 to \$3.50 per bbl.; Kent, \$2.25 to \$3.50 per bbl.  
**CALIFORNIA FRUITS**—Plums, \$1.25; grapes, \$1.50 to \$1.75; pears, \$3 to \$3.25; peaches, \$5 to \$6 per box.  
CHERRIES—West Michigan choice, \$1.25; fancy, \$1.40 to \$1.50 per bu.; AA, \$1.25 to \$1.35; A, \$1 to \$1.15; B, \$60 to \$65 per bu.  
GRAPES—Delaware, 4-lb. baskets, 20c; Niagara, 4-lb. baskets, 20c; Concord, 23 to 25c per 8-lb. basket.

## Farm Produce.

CHESTNUTS—25c per bu.  
CABBAGE—\$2 to \$2.25 per bbl.  
TOMATOES—Home grown, 90c to \$1 per bu.  
POTATOES—In bulk, 60 to 65c per sack; 60 to 70c per sack for car lots.  
ONIONS—\$1.25 per bu.; Spanish, \$1.40 per crate.  
HONEY—Choice to fancy new, white comb, 16 to 18c; amber, 10 to 11c; extracted, 7 to 8c per lb.  
SWEET POTATOES—Virginia, \$1.50 to \$2 per bbl.; Jersey, \$2.25 per bbl., \$1.25 per bu. and \$1 per hamper.  
LIVESTOCK—Broilers, 14c; hens, 14c; No. 2 hens, 12 to 13c; roosters, 10 to 11c; turkeys, 17 to 18c; geese, 10 to 11c; ducks, 14 to 15c per lb.  
CHICKENS—White, 12 to 13c; Michigan, 13 to 14c; broiler cream, 17 to 18c; Swiss, 14 to 15c; imported, 15 to 16c; domestic, 16 to 17c; long horns, 17 to 18c per lb.

## Vegetables.

Beets, 75 to 85c per bu.; cauliflower, \$1.50 to \$1.75 per hamper; mint, 30c per doz.; egg plant, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per doz.; green beans, 10 to 12c per lb.; peas, 21c per lb.; leaf lettuce, 50 to 60c per doz.; head lettuce, \$1.30 to \$1.75 per doz.; cucumbers, 40 to 50c per doz.; watercress, 20 to 25c per doz.; green beans, \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bu.; green peas, \$2.75 to \$3 per bu.; carrots, 75 to 80c per bu.

## Jobbing Prices.

HIDES—No. 1 cured, 15c; No. 1 green, 13c; No. 1 cured bulls, 12 1/2c; No. 1 green, 10c; No. 1 cured, 10c; No. 1 green, 8c; No. 1 cured, 8c; No. 1 green, 6c; No. 1 cured, 6c; No. 1 green, 4c; No. 1 cured, 4c; No. 1 green, 2c; No. 1 cured, 2c; No. 1 green, 1c; No. 1 cured, 1c; No. 1 green, 1/2c; No. 1 cured, 1/2c; No. 1 green, 1/4c; No. 1 cured, 1/4c; No. 1 green, 1/8c; No. 1 cured, 1/8c; No. 1 green, 1/16c; No. 1 cured, 1/16c; No. 1 green, 1/32c; No. 1 cured, 1/32c; No. 1 green, 1/64c; No. 1 cured, 1/64c; No. 1 green, 1/128c; No. 1 cured, 1/128c; No. 1 green, 1/256c; No. 1 cured, 1/256c; No. 1 green, 1/512c; No. 1 cured, 1/512c; No. 1 green, 1/1024c; No. 1 cured, 1/1024c; No. 1 green, 1/2048c; No. 1 cured, 1/2048c; No. 1 green, 1/4096c; No. 1 cured, 1/4096c; No. 1 green, 1/8192c; No. 1 cured, 1/8192c; No. 1 green, 1/16384c; No. 1 cured, 1/16384c; No. 1 green, 1/32768c; No. 1 cured, 1/32768c; No. 1 green, 1/65536c; No. 1 cured, 1/65536c; No. 1 green, 1/131072c; No. 1 cured, 1/131072c; No. 1 green, 1/262144c; 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