

IN THE HEART.
He kindly thought or word
We can give, some soul to bless...

GRANDPA PINNEY MOVING

BY DELICE G. GREENE

His dear, Abner! ex-
claimed Mrs. Rodgers to her husband one May morning...

When the peddler called yesterday he was setting quiet as a lamb by the stove, with the cat in his lap...

Abner, who was sitting by the table looking over a lot of garden-seeds for the spring sowing...

"Now, Abner," said his wife, reproachfully. "Don't say you'd send grandpa to the poorhouse! Think what a good man he's been, and what a smart man...

"I can't hire help at present; we can't afford to, not while we have such an expense going on in the family."

"The father, when he came to live with him, had made over to Abner the old homestead, the 'Pinney Place,' as it was called. It was a good farm lying adjacent to theirs, but the house was old and of little value...

"I don't care," said Abner, "I sha'n't hire help at present; we can't afford to, not while we have such an expense going on in the family."

"I hope he won't go. I hope he's forgot all about it," she said, anxiously. "I tell you, Abner, it isn't safe and it isn't respectable for an old man like father to sleep on floors in a tree! Seem as if I couldn't have him do it again."

"I do wish I could ever learn to hold my tongue, complaining to Abner," she exclaimed, bitterly. "He always blames everything off on to grandpa, and that's all the good it does. It's a burning shame I can't have help through house-cleaning; but if grandpa'll only give up his May-mov'ing this year I won't say another word—not if I work my fingers to the bone!"

Two years before, when the spring came round, Grandpa Pinney had taken a queer freak into his head. An Abner expressed it, "he got crank on air." When the weather got warm, and the trees leaved out and the birds began to sing in their branches, the old man became strangely restless and uneasy, talked incoherently about "stiffing" and "smothering," and insisted on having all the doors and windows in the house wide open.

Later on, he seemed unwilling to stay in the house at all, and moved his armchair out under the great twin oaks across the road. There he spent most of his time, reading his large print Testament or watching the birds and looking contentedly off over the pleasant fields.

They had had work to get him indoors for his meals. The idea of sleeping outside, however, had not then occurred to him.

the trees, he built a sort of rude platform around them, just below where the main branches joined the trunks, and made some steps to lead up to it. Then on the last day of May, which was unusually warm for the season, in spite of his daughter's coaxing and scolding, he insisted on dragging his bed and bedding up there. A single chair and his Testament completed the furnishing.

From that time on, not only did he spend his days in the tree chamber, but he actually slept there at night. Nothing but a smart shower could drive him into the house.

What seemed strange, no harm came to him from the exposure. He did not get the terrible colds and rheumatism that Belinda had feared; on the contrary, he seemed to grow stronger and happier every day. And she found she could accomplish twice as much work. It was true, as Abner had said, "he was out of her way"; still, she did not feel quite easy about him.

It seemed a dreadful thing to have her old father sleeping out there alone in the darkness of the night! But she anxiously hoped that he would not think of going this year.

But a few days after the recorded conversation, Belinda came home from an errand to a neighbor's house, to find that the "May-mov'ing" had taken place. Abner, who had been a witness to the proceeding, only said, "careless."

"I'm sure, he's all right; nothing happened to him last year," she said. "What finally reconciled Belinda more than anything else was a remark her father made in his rambling way, which gave her new insight into his feelings."

"Belinda, dearer," he said, "Don't hinder me. Everything is free out-of-doors, free and welcome."

She knew then that he realized how goodly the house was and fed. His withdrawal from the house seemed but a natural instinct, the protest of his self-respect. After that she could not oppose him further. She allowed him the most perfect freedom to come and go as he liked.

"God'll take care of him, as He does of the birds and the rest of His creatures," she said to herself, trustfully.

One day Abner came in very much elated. "Belinda!" he exclaimed, "what should you say to an offer of four thousand dollars for the old place! What kind of an offer is that, hey?"

He wanted on excitedly to tell her the particulars.

"I should say it was a bouncing offer, and you'd better take it," said his wife.

"I know it would be a feast here with me," he explained simply. "Thieves don't never look up in the trees for money."

They built the new house, and grandpa's room was the largest and best room in it. Mary and the baby came home to live with us, ain't we? You know you've promised," reminded his wife, bent on taking all possible advantage of her unusual opportunity.

both awoke with a terrible feeling of affection. The room was full of smoke! They sprang out of bed, to see the flames already bursting through the door opening into the parlor.

"The money! the money!" screamed Abner, frantically, and rushed into lanes, only to be driven quickly back.

He few outdoors, and round to the parlor window, hoping to gain entrance there; but he was too late. The whole house seemed to be in flames; it burned like tinder.

Before any of the neighbors were roused, before Abner and his wife thought of anything but the money, the whole house and all it contained was gone—money, furniture, clothing—everything gone in a night!

At first the thought of his loss drove Abner almost wild. He raved like a madman, and his wife looked into his face in speechless agony.

What could she say? How was she to comfort a man like her for the loss of his property? She did not think of herself for a moment; she only felt for him.

But all she could do was to pray silently that God would mercifully help him to bear his grief. And as if in answer to her humble prayer, a miracle began then and there to be worked in Abner's sordid soul.

He sat on the great chopping-block in the doorway, in the midst of the ruin of his hopes, gradually his misery seemed to abate.

The sun had risen, the birds were twittering in the trees, and by and by the cows came up the lane one by one of their own accord to the milking.

"I forgot the creatures," he said, slowly. "They're left to us—and there's the land. If we only had the money to build the new house with I wouldn't care."

"Never mind; we shall get along somehow. I reckon the Lord'll provide," she answered cheerfully.

"Belinda," said Abner, tremulously, "the worst of it is I deserve it all. And see here, hesitating and speaking with evident effort, "I'm afraid I've got nobody but myself to blame for my own hand that set that fire. You see I went into the parlor just at dusk to make sure the money was safe before going to bed, and not contented with feeling it, I lit a match to see."

As they looked upon him, the thought of what would probably have been his fate had he been sleeping in the house, made their blood run cold.

"I should have forgot him—and we couldn't have saved him, anyway," they said.

While they stood there he awoke. Seeing his unusual visitors, he sat up in bed and rubbed his eyes, a little bewildered; then suddenly a wonderful bright expression illumined his dim old face, and he laughed aloud.

"I know, Belinda, I ain't forgot!" he chuckled, and slipping his hand under the pillow, he drew out the bundle done up in the bandanna that they had hidden in the parlor cupboard, and delivered it over to Belinda.

THE JOKER'S BUDGET.

TESTS AND YARNS BY FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

Her Tender Solitude--The Act of a True Friend--The Monarch of the Place--A Remedy, Etc., Etc.

HER TENDER SOLITUDE.
Young Wife--My dear, there is a gentleman waiting in the other room. He wants to speak to you.

THE ACT OF A TRUE FRIEND.
Does this new photograph of mine do me justice, love? said Miss Giddy to her dearest friend.

IN THESE DEGENERATE DAYS.
Of the twenty-six barons who signed the magna charta three wrote their names and twenty-three made their mark. This is all changed now. Every baron can write, but only a few succeed in making their mark.

A REMEDY.
Ah, doctor, my son is so poorly and jaded he never gets to sleep before 8 o'clock. Cannot you do something for him?

THE MONARCH OF THE PLACE.
The two drummers were sitting in the office of a Chicago hotel, descending upon the manners of the clerk, who did not altogether please them when a man came in and the erstwhile haughty clerk became all obsequious.

Look at him, how will you? said one; "he's polite enough to that party; I guess it must be the head clerk."

"Not much," dissented his companion; "it must be the landlord."

Or the owner of the house. Suppose we ask him, and they approached the clerk, in suppliant attitude.

Was that the head clerk? asked the older drummer.

"Was it the landlord?" "Was it the owner of the house?" "Course not; what you take me for? That's the man that holds the mortgage on the whole shebang."

MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES.
"I understand," said Chapple to Cholly, "that Willie Wibbles has gone into twade."

"Impossible," replied Cholly. "Dreadful, isn't it? Do you think we can propably associate with him any more?"

FISHERMEN'S SUPPLIES.
An enterprising-looking old countryman with a large basket full of fine brook trout, was standing in the doorway of a railway station.

THE RESULT.
Willie Wilt--Do you know, I fancy I have quite a literary bent.

A COMPLICATED MENTAL STATE.

Tom--I notice that since Muggins said he'd thrash you you don't go near his place. Are you afraid?

NOT A RETORT COURTEOUS.
Old Taffiegh--A very sweet reflection, my love.

KEEP HIM AWAY.
Bingo--How did my wife look at the reception yesterday?

NO ONE CAN TELL MY AGE, DEAR GIRL.
I declared to my lady fair; And the sum of her years I made me bold.

OPPORTUNITY FOR EXERCISE.
"Who in the world should a happy young girl like you think of marriage?"

A REPEATERS.
"I say, Fenilworth, you know that ten I owe you?"

THE MODERN MAID.
"Did you tell the hired girl that you couldn't put up with her work?" asked Mr. Simmons at the dinner table.

COLD TO SOME PURPOSE.
May--What a cold manner Miss Elva has!

MATILDA'S SACRIFICE.
A Dutch paper publishes the following significant advertisement from a disconsolate wife: "Adolphus. Return to your Matilda. The piano has been sold."

RELENTLESS TIME.
"Will keep," I asked, "thy birthday?"

ONE OF THEM--There goes young Jack O'or. They say his income is so large he can't get rid of it!

ESTABLISHING AMICABLE RELATIONS.
New Missionary--I hope that our new relations may be pleasant.

THE WEASEL.
Game eggs and small birds alike are the objects of the fox, furred and feathered, who comes behind man.

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FARM AND GARDEN.

COST OF FEEDING POULTRY.

A well-fed hen should lay ten dozen eggs in a year. Some will do better than this. One dollar a year will supply the hen with ample food, and less if the wastes of the house are kept for them.

BEGIN WITH CALVES.
A cattle feeder insists that as a preparation to the desired end--the production of cattle large and fat at the least expense--feeding should begin with the calves.

PLANTING STRAWBERRIES.
In the majority of cases, the spring of the year is the best season for planting strawberries.

BEANS AND PEAS.
There is need in our farming rotation to use more fully the leguminous plants, such as clover, peas, beans, lupines, etc.

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THE LABOR WORLD.

THERE are 30,000 union musicians.

STRAUCHE, N. Y., has a labor temple.

LODOSORBIEN has thirty unions.

NEBRASKA has a State Federation of Labor.

BALTIMORE musicians have refused to join the national union.

MEXICANS and SLAVS are working under guard at Bohris, Col.

FLINT glass workers of America meet at Montreal, Canada, in July.

DETROIT unions are agitating municipal operation of street railways.

HOSIERYMEN have just held their national convention at Washington.

AUSTRIA contemplates revising her trade laws and establishing labor tribunals.

THE coal miners' strike caused a large decrease in the output of iron manufactures.

MISSISSIPPI farmers have raised \$20,000 to test the constitutionality of the law fixing eight hours as a day's work for women.

FALL RIVER (Mass.) weavers' carders, spinners and loom fixers' unions may amalgamate.

PRESIDENT McBRIDE, of the Mine Workers' Union, has served four terms in the Ohio Legislature.

ENGLISH DEAS says the victory on the Northern Pacific was won because the employees were united.

EAST LIVERPOOL (Ohio) striking potters have bought a large tract and will run it on the co-operative plan.

impossible to make a fine article with them. The instant cream or fresh butter comes in contact with them, they take all the life and fine flavor out of the fresh article.

The first necessity is that the stables are clean, with no smell of rotting manure about them. Then use nicely scoured tin buckets to milk in.

It is the most dangerous of all the dairy utensils, and must be aired as much as possible up to the point of cracking it with too much drying out.

When the weather is cold, and the ground has become firmly frozen, the plants should be covered with leaves, clean straw, or corn fodder.

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