

## A Brother's Keeper.

### A WOMAN'S WORK OF LOVE AND DUTY.

BY MARY HARTWELL CATHERWOOD,  
AUTHOR OF "CRADLE OF DOOM," "STEPHEN  
GUTRIER," "THE LOVE MAN'S  
CARE," AND OTHER STORIES.

The man took several steps beside Phoebe before either of them spoke. She drew her shawl close around her and shrunk off from him, but she did not look directly at him, but glanced sidewise, puckering her face in anguish.

He was a grotesque creature, with the various pieces of his clothing shabby and unmade; but the most skillful of tailors could scarcely have made him in garments suitable to his face. He was emaciated and withered, though neither by disease nor age. One corner of his mouth twisted downward as if in a continued jeer, and nervous spasms came and went over every atom of countenance which could be moved and distorted. Whenever he became excited in talk, this singular infirmity played faster and faster like evil lightning over his face.

"Well!" said Phoebe, in a high, agitated tone. "All right," said her companion. "You saw me beckon to you through the window." "You know I saw you."

"You were a long time getting out. If you hadn't come pretty soon I'd bolted in and asked for you."

"I knew you would. What do you want now?" "That do I want now!" mimicked the twisted mouth. "When you ain't seen me for two years. Where's Thorney?"

"He's near me, of course," replied the shaking girl. "Why can't you let us alone?" "What should I want to let us alone for. Ain't I got my rights?"

"Your rights," said Phoebe, fiercely. "O, you wicked millstone; you want to drag us under forever. You know when I was sorry for you and tried to help you. But you can't impose on me any more. And I'll defend Thorney against you."

"Oh, you will!" Phoebe began to sob aloud, swallowing pitiously, and using her hands against her throat to press back the explosive sounds.

"You look like defending any thing!" laughed the man. "Don't do that, now. You never made any thing believing at me. Didn't you know I'd drop around some day?"

"Oh, yes, I knew it—you always do—there's no help—and no escape!" "Well, then, shut up your doleful racket. I ain't going to hurt you."

"No; I'm past being struck with your fist now—but never past being robbed and shamed."

"How he broke off a bit of bark and chewed it, he kept pace with her. Phoebe inquired. "How much money have you?"

"You'll get money and me just the same if I give it to you. I've bought you off for the last time."

"You'll give me what money you have. I'm on my feet. If you don't I'll make a man of the way you despise, and I'll take Thorney."

Phoebe faced about, and they stood still, with the path between them. "There's a hundred other things I can do," added the man, grinning. "You know you don't want to own me around here."

"Not a drop of my blood owns a drop of yours," burst out Phoebe. "I have lived a blameless life. You do your worst. I won't give my earnings, and you'll leave my brother Thorney alone, too."

She walked rapidly ahead into the dusky woods. He was at no pains to overtake her, but let the space widen between them, thrusting his hands into his pockets and breathing a crook-mouthed whistle on his chin.

Phoebe, feeling frozen in her last mood, and carrying her defiant head erect, entered the famished room where Mrs. Holmes was rocking the baby to sleep. She entered as one who heard the cry of wolves behind her, and knew the wolves might yet burst in and claim her, notwithstanding an able-bodied man like Gurley was at hand to defend her.

"Mr. Gurley has called to see you," said Mrs. Holmes. Phoebe had stopped at the sight of Toddie going to sleep. It hurt her to remember how lately she had rocked him herself, feeling almost as safe and happy as if well through with the world.

a hold had his garments on each other's support; and his hay-colored hair hung over a silly face which expressed nothing but an appeal to his sister. His sprawling boots were heavy with such moist earth as he had been able to collect upon them during his tramp across the hollow; but barnyard odors rather than breath of the spring woods saturated his presence and spread around him. The black wool hat, which had gathered dust undisturbed since Phoebe brushed it last, was worried down to his ears and propped by them; and his hands appeared well along on their journey toward his knees in yawning trouser pockets. Thorney's chin, evidently put on as an after-thought and scarcely belonging to his face, hung in moments of vacancy toward his breast; but just now, feeling the presence of unexpected society, he made successive efforts to hold it up and swallowed audibly in the struggle.

Gurley thought he had never seen a more repulsive creature. But if Thorney had been a shining and firm angel, Phoebe could not have run to him with swifter change of countenance and manner. She turned him towards Gurley maternally, as both vouching for him and challenging his opponents.

"This is my brother, Mr. Gurley," she said. "Well!" said Phoebe, in a high, agitated tone. "All right," said her companion. "You saw me beckon to you through the window."

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"THIS IS MY BROTHER."

said. "My good little brother, though he is older than I am and looks so tall." Gurley advanced his hand and greeted this good little brother.

"Shake hands, Thorney," prompted his sister, in a quick, low tone, "and say 'how do you do!'" They shuffled forward a step and thrust his moist and dirty hand into Gurley's palm with a mumble, but without taking his eyes off the floor.

"He's so bashful," explained Phoebe, in the tone a mother uses when she says "he's cutting his teeth." And she added a swift admonition to Thorney to keep his hands out of his pockets and stand straight.

"He's worse than McArdle," inwardly remarked the young gentleman. "Poor little mother bird. What unnatural chicks she has to scratch for!"

"And what was it, Thorney?" inquired Phoebe. "I'm going out this evening to stay until after our bed-time. You won't mind coming to the school-house to-morrow after school, will you? We can talk it over."

Thorney, perhaps, had his attention occupied by the disposal of his hands; or he was too dull to see how she hastened to bar his telling what it was. Thrusting one fist under his chin, to support it, and sliding the other behind him, whence it soon wandered to the familiar pocket, he complained that Thane was around again.

"Never mind," exclaimed Phoebe. Thorney muttered that he did care though. "Come after school," repeated his sister. "I have very much to say to you, Thorney. And you can tell me all about it then. But go home now, won't you? And don't stop to speak anybody in the woods; don't linger around where anybody can get hold of you."

"Waylay you?" "As if she were admonishing Red Riding-hood," thought Gurley. "What prowler would want this beautiful object?"

Thorney, however, absorbed all the solitude his sister could pour over him, and departed then as if his injuries were but half healed. Phoebe leaned forward in the phantasm as it turned from Holmes' gate to watch his slowly figure plodding into the woods.

"But Mr. McArdle," said Phoebe, returning to Gurley. "Her mind reverts to her other dependent chick," thought he.

"Miss Fawcett said he was to bring me and take me back." "There's my slip betwixt the cup and McArdle's lip."

"I don't believe you like him," she observed. "I have noticed you taking him up short."

"Taking him up short only! Consider how virtuous that is of me when I suffer to beat and kick him!" "And he's so inoffensive," laughed Phoebe. "He never injured you any way, did he?"

"No," replied Gurley, "I wish he would." McArdle, in dress-coat and pumps, was the second person Phoebe greeted on entering Miss Fawcett's parlor. He stood talking with a young girl, one hand resting on his side, and the other hanging gracefully by his side, and self-consciousness radiating from him. No other member of the class was in evening attire.

that stiffness. Oh, do all the girls and young men in Greensburg stand up like that and freeze each other's marrow for politeness' sake when they meet at an easy social?" "I am afraid they do," responded Gurley. "They never used to do it," mourned Psyche.

"We're trying to be polished," said Gurley. "And when we don't dance we pose and drop an occasional word to each other."

"Dance! If they only would. But you told me half the men are divinity students and not dancing men at all."

"Besides," added Gurley, "we are in some awe of our present hostess. We believe she comes straight from courts, and occupies herself comparing us common clods to duchesses and counts and so on."

"What shall I do! I would actually get upon a table and cut a caper if that would make them comfortable."

"Try it." "Is this the way you help me?" exclaimed Psyche, flashing her rings as if through them she discharged her surplus electricity. "I would just love to bite you like I used to when we first fought each other."

"Yes, I carry the engraving of your lovely fingers under my right ear yet," observed Gurley, with enjoyment. "But I was going to say that when we Greensburgers want to relax and limber ourselves thoroughly we take to charades and tableaux."

"Oh, how easy," said Psyche. "Why didn't you say so before?" "And then we end with college songs and go home blessing our entertainers."

The company was accordingly soon divided in twain, one section chatting expectantly on rows of chairs, the other wrangling and sager in a green-room to which the house wardrobes were made tributary. Psyche's aunt, a quiet lady who scarcely impressed one's memory, was made manager of stage-properties.

Miss Fawcett and Phoebe, who were to appear as the captive Queen of Scots and one of her Marys, remained together, while the rest of their company went forth to open the act.

When they had completed their own fantastic adornment they set down to wait, and Psyche smiled at Phoebe. "These piles of old clothes look like the wreck of generations. And that's what they are. There's even my uncle's dressing-gown the one I told you about, who ran down the young gentleman. 'Poor little mother bird. What unnatural chicks she has to scratch for!'"

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## FARMS AND FARMERS.

### SHORT TALKS WITH MEN WHO GUIDE THE PLOW.

Many Questions About the Farm, Answered by Dr. W. L. Jones, Formerly of the Southern Cultivator.

It is now too early to plan and begin preparation for fall crops. It will not do to defer breaking land for them till just before they are to be started, because rain is so uncertain. Only at intervals, and for very short periods of time at this season of the year, is land condition to take the plow. Land lying uncultivated through the summer is apt to get very hard and dry; the subsoil after even copious rains remaining unfit to receive the plow. Much of the water which falls upon its hard surface runs off instead of being absorbed, and this contributes to its dryness. Break, therefore, what you can after each rain.

That which is broken will absorb the rainfall better than the unbroken; the moisture will penetrate deeper, giving a deeper seed bed. One of the great troubles in starting fall crops is that even after quite a good rain it is the surface soil only of unbroken land that is wet, and when this dries out, as it will do rapidly, there is no moisture below to rise up and take its place, and the young plants frequently perish for lack of water.

Not so with land that has been broken some time in advance, which has been catching and holding the rains as they fell. If, therefore, one wishes to be sure of starting a crop of clover or lucerne or grass or turnips, in September or October, let him begin to break his land at once, and continue to break, roll and harrow till seeding time. All experienced farmers know that this is the plan to get a stand and raise a crop of turnips. It is equally applicable to success with grass and other crops named.

It is not alone for the sake of securing moisture that the above method of procedure is recommended. It is equally important to provide a good supply of available plant food in the soil, in order that the young plants may make good growth and become firmly established before cold weather. Frequent stirring of the soil promotes disintegration, decomposition, nitrification, and all the processes that generate plant food. It will, also, to incorporate with the soil in advance of seeding any manure to be given the crop. There is little danger of loss from leaching at this season of the year, and manures act better after they have been distributed through the soil by plow and rain-water. To render this distribution probable, at a time when rainfall is scanty, application of manure should be made a month or two before seeding time.

After the land is brought into fine tilth it should be somewhat compacted, either by rain or by roller. Small seeds do not germinate well and young plants do not grow thrifty on very loose soil. The soil should be neither too compact nor too loose. If too compact the roots cannot permeate through it; if too loose they cannot establish close connection with the soil, an essential condition to the absorption of moisture. We have a good illustration of this in turfy soils.

It is urged upon all farmers who have not already done so, to experiment in a small way with these fall crops. Especially would we urge the planting of a patch of lucerne. It will not cost much to do this, and then you can judge for yourself whether it will pay or not. Take all proper precautions and do it right, so that if failure results it will not lay at your door. You might try it on light and on heavy soils, and see which succeeds best. Such experiments cost little, but are very hopeful.

W. L. J.

Farm Question Box.

J. N. B., Fort Mill, York county, S. C.: I have a most excellent cow of the ordinary scrub stock, from which I get, on an average, four gallons of milk and one pound and a half of butter per day. She has formed the habit of "holding up" part of her milk for her calf. I have tried often to get all the milk without letting the calf to her, but have never succeeded. If I wear the calf, will I ever succeed in getting all the milk, and will it not cause her to go dry sooner?

It is hardly probable that a cow "holds up" her milk by a distinct act of her will. The flow of milk is the result partly of emotion and partly of the handling of the teat. When a cow has been separated from her calf, and the latter comes in sight and cries for its mother, the secretion of milk is excited and a tendency to flow from the bag developed. A woman will relate a similar experience when, after being separated from her infant for awhile, she suddenly hears it crying. When the calf is killed, or permanently taken from the cow, some milkmen have a stuffed and mounted calf to place before the cow when being milked, to excite her maternal instincts and promote the flow of milk. In the second place, the manipulation of the teat has a marked effect on the flow of milk. The ducts or tubes through which the milk passes out of the teats are surrounded by a circular muscle, which is ordinarily contracted enough to prevent the escape of milk. But when the maternal emotions towards the calf are aroused, these muscles relax and the milk is easily drawn. The presence of the calf and his manipulation of the teat develop these emotions. Similar manipulation with the hand has a similar effect, but not altogether so much as when the milker approaches the teat of the calf, the more freely the milk will flow. It is this manipulation which constitutes the difference between a good and a poor milker. A poor milker seems to irritate the circular muscle of the teat and makes it contract. One who milks with a "stripping" movement seems to do this very quickly, and then the cow, as it is said, "holds up" her milk. A slow milker does the same thing by the prolonged manipulation. Therefore, a cow should be milked very rapidly and not with a stripping motion. Excitement, worry, anger, all militate against the development of the emotions which relax the muscle and promote flow of milk. A cow should be dealt with

kindly and gently, some choice food given to keep in a good humor, and as soon as the flow of milk begins under gentle manipulation of her teats, she should be milked very rapidly. Now to apply these considerations to your inquiry: It is probable that your cow being accustomed to have her calf suck, would miss it if kept from her and be worried about it, and the flow of milk be lessened. You might halter calf and place it within reach of head of cow so she could caress it. Also give her during the latter half of the milking some food she is particularly fond of, and have her milked by a very rapid, good milker. By persevering in this course you might possibly get all her milk and prevent decrease in yield. With a first-rate milker you could wean calf and keep cow from going dry.

F. W. S., Plains, Ga.: Would like to have some information regarding forage plants. 1. When should turnips be planted, and what value for winter feed? 2. Have a piece of Golden Dent corn on fair average land that will be gathered about the 15th of July. What would you advise as a forage crop to plant after it? Will it be too late for amber cane or Kaffir corn? 3. Have some amber cane that will be fit to cut in a few weeks. How shall I sow it, and does it do it make a good mule feed? 4. From the middle of July to the middle of September, the rutabaga, which is the best for stock feed, should be planted early, at any time when the ground is in favorable condition from the middle of August. In our hot, uncertain climate it is well to make several successive sowings: if one fails another may succeed. From the 10th to the last of August sow Aberdeen, yellow globe and other globes and seven-top. From the 20th of August to the middle of September sow cowhorn, redtop and flat dutch. The richer the soil the later mowings be made. In our experience, it is better to have the land very rich and very thoroughly prepared and sow late. The turnip succeeds best in cool, moist climates, and does not thrive with us until the weather begins to get cool. For variety's sake, and for supplying succulent food in winter, when stock are kept so much on dry food, turnips have some value—not very great, however. Ensilage will accomplish both the purposes mentioned and much more cheaply. A combination of peavine and corn forage is greatly superior to turnips and can be raised much more cheaply. Both of these crops are adapted to our climate; turnips are not. Turnips require very rich soil and one plowed over and over again until brought into the finest tilth. Corn and peas are not so particular. 2. The middle of July will not be too late to plant amber cane; can't speak so positively about Kaffir corn, but think it would get through if the weather is not too dry. Peas would have ample time to make forage, if sown then, and you can find nothing better. You might sow a mixture of peas and amber cane—a bushel of peas and a peck of amber cane to the acre. 3. Whenever practicable it is better to feed sorghum before it is cured, cutting up and feeding stalks, blades and seeds together. It is rather too laxative for most horses, but mules do very well on it, and so do cows and hogs. If set up under shelter it will remain green a long time. We should be glad to hear from others on this point.

G. W. S., Vine Hill, Ala.: Please tell me what is the matter with my tomatoes. They grow up and begin to fruit; they begin to wilt, just as if hot water had been poured on them. What can I do to prevent it?

Cannot tell without personal examination. It may be due to some insect attacking the stem underground, or it may be due to the manure used. It is not usual for tomatoes to fall thus.

J. W. M., Arcadia, Ala.: I have a mule six years old. This spring she became a little lame in the shoulder. I rubbed it with liniment and the lameness went away, but the shoulder began to shrink and then I began to doctor for swellings. I tried every remedy I could hear of, among them one from you in The Constitution as follows: one ounce camphor, three ounces alcohol, and three ounces spirits turpentine, and all to no effect. The shoulder is completely shrunken away, but she does not limp at all and one cannot tell that there is anything the matter from her movements; and now the other shoulder is beginning to shrink, but she does not limp at all in that. She has ploughed forty acres of land this year and is in very good condition and eats heartily, but she will eat all the dry dung in the lot and has rumbling in stomach. I have written thus that you might know the condition of the mule. Please give me a remedy for shoulder, also for that rumbling in bowels.

If there is no lameness, and the animal is capable of doing full work, we should let her alone. These shrinkages of the shoulder are obscure things. When there is lameness from any cause, whether in foot, knee joint, or elsewhere, so the animal does not use freely the muscles of the shoulder, the latter will get smaller from not being used, and this brings about the appearance of shrinkage. Shrinkage sometimes results from inflammation of the tissues of the shoulder. We cannot say what is the cause of the trouble in your mule. The unnatural appetite comes from some disorder of the stomach or bowels. Open the latter by occasional half pint doses of linseed oil with a teaspoonful of turpentine mixed with each dose. After a week of this treatment give daily a drachm each of copperas, gentian and ginger.

CONDITION OF THE CROPS.

The Monthly Report of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The Department of Agriculture makes the July general averages of the condition of the crops as follows: Cotton 86.7, winter wheat 75.6, spring wheat 95.9, corn 93, oats 95.2, barley 91, winter rye 85.1, spring rye 96.3, tobacco, manufacturing, 85.

COTTON.

Cotton is later than usual in every State. There is a generally medium stand. Cultivation has been somewhat retarded by local rains, and part of the area is in grass—notably in the district west of the Mississippi. The plant is

generally in vigorous condition and growing rapidly. The State averages are: Virginia 81, North Carolina 85, South Carolina 86, Georgia 90, Florida 90, Alabama 92, Mississippi 92, Louisiana 91, Texas 76, Arkansas 90, Tennessee 90.

WINTER WHEAT.

Winter wheat has been harvested in the South and yielded below expectation in the Carolinas, Georgia and Alabama. It has improved slightly in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. A marked improvement is noted in Michigan. Reports from the Pacific coast are also more favorable. The general condition has advanced from 73.3 to 75.6. The average of the principal States: New York 80, Pennsylvania 85, Ohio 80, Michigan 75, Indiana 82, Illinois 83, Missouri 72, Kansas 93, California 83.

SPRING WHEAT.

Spring wheat has improved in a large portion of the breadst seed, and is promising a large yield, minus possible future drawbacks. The general average has advanced from 92.8 to 95.9. The State averages are: Wisconsin 91, Minnesota 94, Iowa 97, Nebraska 95, Dakota 98.

CORN.

The area of corn, as reported, has increased over four per cent., making the breadth nearly 76,000,000 acres. There has been much replanting in wet districts, from non-germination and from destruction by cut-worms. The land is now moderately good and the crop is growing finely. The condition by principal State is: Ohio 96, Indiana 95, Illinois 93, Iowa 89, Missouri 91, Kansas 99, Nebraska 91, Virginia 91, North Carolina 88, South Carolina 87, Georgia 94, Alabama 96, Mississippi 98, Louisiana 95, Texas 95, Arkansas 97, Tennessee 93.

TObACCO, POTATOS, ETC.

A preliminary investigation of the area of manufacturing leaf tobacco makes an increase of 18 per cent. over the greatly reduced crop of last year. There is an increase of 4 per cent. in the area of potatoes. The condition averages 95.7.

The European report for July makes the wheat crop late and unpromising throughout Europe, Russia excepted. The rye crop will be short in central Europe.

Condition of the State Crops.

The State Department of Agriculture furnishes the following information regarding the condition, etc., of the crops, July 1, based upon 245 special reports, covering every county in the State:

The seasons during the last two weeks in June were favorable for cotton, and a decided improvement in the condition of the crop during that time resulted, but it has not recovered from the injurious effect of the unfavorable seasons in May and the early part of June. The crop is "spotted." In some sections it is in fine condition and all the rain needed has fallen, while in places the rains have been excessive, and in other localities the crop has needed rain badly. Generally, it is two weeks later than usual, the plant is small but healthy, clean and well worked. Favorable seasons during July will possibly bring the condition up to an average. Nine of the counties, producing 14 per cent. of the crop, report the condition higher than on June 1st, three report it the same, and the remainder, 22 counties, report it lower. The condition on July 1st is: In upper Carolina, 81; middle Carolina, 82; lower Carolina, 89; average for the State, 84; against 80 at the same date in 1887 and 86 on the first of last month.

In some sections corn on bottoms has been destroyed by floods, and in other localities it has suffered for lack of rain. With these exceptions, the reports show that the prospects for an average crop are good. The condition in upper Carolina is reported at 85, middle Carolina 82, and lower Carolina 85; average for the State 84, against 97 at the same time last year and 86 on the first of June.

In portions of the lower counties continued freshets damaged rice that had been planted and prevented proper preparation of land for late planting. There is some complaint of poor stands, but the crop has steadily improved during the month. In the ten lower counties, where 95 per cent. of the crop is produced, the condition is reported at 89; in the upper counties at 92.

The small grain crop was harvested in fine condition. Wheat was badly injured by rust, some of the correspondents reporting that the loss on the crop from this cause was greater than has been known for many years, the damage being estimated at twenty per cent. The yield is estimated at average yield, or about two-thirds of average yield. The total product is reported at seventy-seven per cent. of the product of 1887. The quality is reported better than last year by eighty-four correspondents and inferior by 104.

The yield of oats is estimated at fifteen bushels per acre. Fall sown yielded eighteen and spring sown twelve bushels per acre. The total production is estimated at six per cent. greater than last year's crop, while the quality of the grain is better.

The smaller crops are reported in good condition—sorghum at 90, sugar cane 90, sweet potatoes 94 and Irish potatoes 95.

Ten Millions Saved to New York City.

Judge Wheeler of the United States Circuit Court, yesterday rendered a decision by which the city will save nearly \$10,000,000. It was in the suit of Christopher C. Campbell against the city to recover payment for the use of a relief valve used on fire engines to prevent the bursting of hose and the loss of water. This valve was invented by James Knibbs. The defense of the city was that the valve had been in use before it was patented, and that the patent was invalid. After a long trial, Judge Wheeler decided in favor of the plaintiff, and referred the case to Commissioner Duell to determine the amount due Campbell. The latter presented a claim for \$2,500,000, and proved it. In the spring of 1886 the Supreme Court of the United States rendered a decision in a similar case which was directly opposite to Judge Wheeler's opinion. The Judge then retried the case and decided that the patent was invalid. Corporation Counsel Beckman yesterday, in speaking of the large amount of money saved by this decision, said that the valve had been in use on all the steam engines during the past seventeen years. Messrs. Lockwood & Post appeared for the plaintiff and the Corporation Counsel for the city.—N. Y. Star, July 11.

## THE FARMERS' COMMITTEE.

### A MEETING IN COLUMBIA TO PREPARE FOR THE STATE CANVASS.

Captain Tillman Appointed to Attend the Different Meetings—Other Matters Considered.

COLUMBIA, July 10.—This evening was the occasion of the meeting of the executive committee of the State Farmers' Association. There were twelve or fifteen prominent members present. Among them were Capt. Tillman, H. E. Thomas, D. K. Norris, E. T. Stackhouse, J. W. Beasley. Several persons, not members of the committee, but in sympathy with them, were present. One of these was Capt. Sligh, of Newberry, who was invited to attend the second meeting and took advantage of the invitation.

The committee met at 9.15 in the Grand Central Hotel. President Norris occupied the chair. It was understood early in the evening that the object of this meeting was to formulate some plan of aggressive campaign.

The first question taken up was whether the Association should make an aggressive fight and put canvassers in the field, who would attend all the Congressional district meetings and make opposition speeches to the Governor and Lieutenant Governors. Capt. Tillman did not advocate this. He said that while they had good sound men on their side, they had not the "gift of the gab," and the politicians would "get away with them." Mr. Tillman further believed that a "combine existed between all the present officers to pool their strength and stand or fall together."

President Norris called upon a number of those present to make reports upon the following questions: "How is the farmers' movement in your