

**THE WASHERWOMAN'S ODE.**

WHAT awful power is oft possessed  
By her who turns the mangle!  
The power to make us blithe and gay,  
Or all our hopes to mangle!  
To her who makes a man a man,  
Or can his joys corrode,  
In fear I humbly dedicate  
This washerwoman's ode!

See yonder youth sink down the street—  
The cause? His collar's crumpled;  
He pulls his coat around him, for  
His shirt is wrecked and rumpled.  
The iron mould has left its mark—  
The washerwoman's good—  
Yea! terror would appease her with  
A sweet and soothing ode!

And gratitude as well demands  
Poetical expression,  
For linen makes or mars a man,  
And wisdom and discretion  
Suggest 'tis well to flatter her  
In quite a slavish mode,  
For pause and just remember what  
The washerwoman's owed!



**MISAPPLIED.**

MURIEL: 'Oh! Mamma, Mr Courtley asked me to marry him last night!  
Mamma: 'And what did you reply, my child?'  
Muriel: 'I told him to ask you.'  
Mamma: 'Why, Muriel, how could you—surely you would not have your mother commit bigamy.'

**A MYSTERY EXPLAINED.**

BRIGGS: 'I called on that girl last night that you introduced me to.'  
Griggs: 'Did you?'  
Briggs: 'Yes. And she's a nice girl, old fellow, but she treated me very strangely.'  
Griggs: 'How so?'  
Briggs: 'Will you believe it, she showed me into the dining room, said she really hoped I would excuse her. No other room in order, etc.'  
Griggs: 'Well, that was rather strange.'  
Briggs: 'But that's not the worst of it. In a few minutes in comes her younger sister. We talked a little, and then she got up and went out, leaving her younger sister to entertain me. You can bet I didn't stay there long.'  
Griggs: 'Well, I'm very sorry.'  
Briggs: 'Oh, that's all right. You couldn't help it. But what the mischief did she want to show me into the dining-room for?'  
Griggs: 'I'll tell you, if you won't give it away.'  
Briggs: 'All right. What for?'  
Griggs: 'Well, you see, I was in the parlour.'



**THE RETORT CANDIDE.**

MAMMA: 'I am surprised at you, Ethel, prudent to my mamma.'  
Ethel: 'Perhaps she was nice.'

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