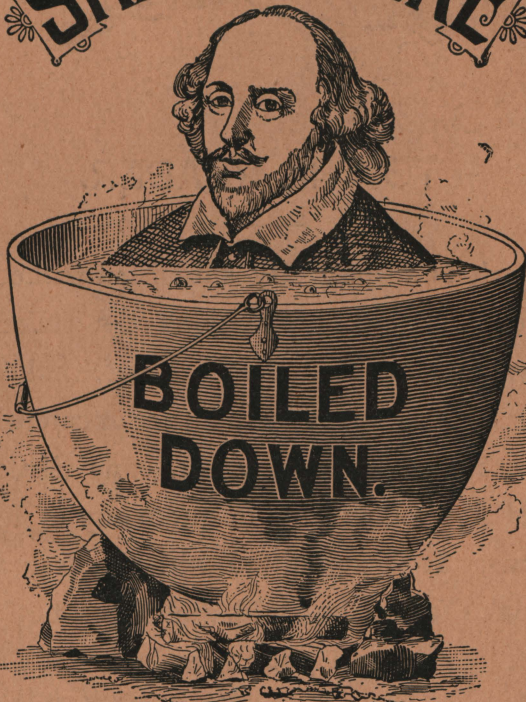


SHAKESPERE



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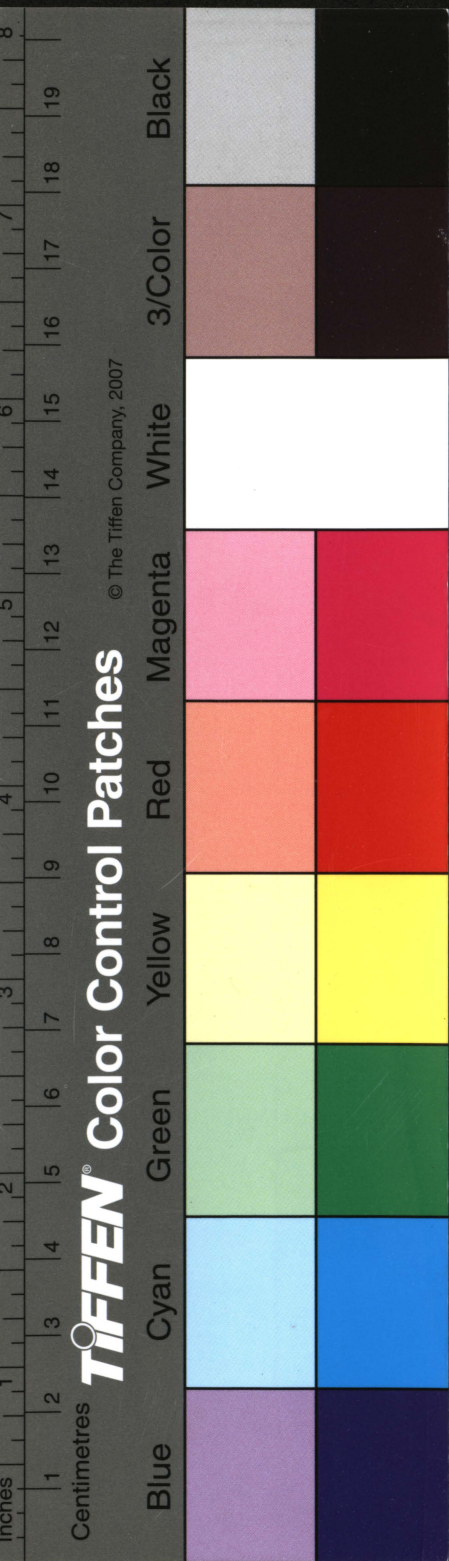
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CHICAGO, ILL.

W. F. ELWESS,

687 Wabasha St., ST. PAUL.



TO THE READER.

This work is respectfully submitted without asking you "to overlook errors, omissions or mistakes." The writer has tried to relate the stories of Shakespeare in few words, as they appeared to him after careful reading. He has not tried to be eloquent, copy Shakespeare's unequalled style of writing, or quote any of his quaint expressions. It is submitted with the assurance that he has done the best he could, and if you find the work interesting, please tell your friends to get a copy. If not, we must ask you to read copies of Shakespeare's original works, for there only can you get the full meaning and beauty of his writings.

NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE CO.,
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SHAKESPEARE BOILED DOWN

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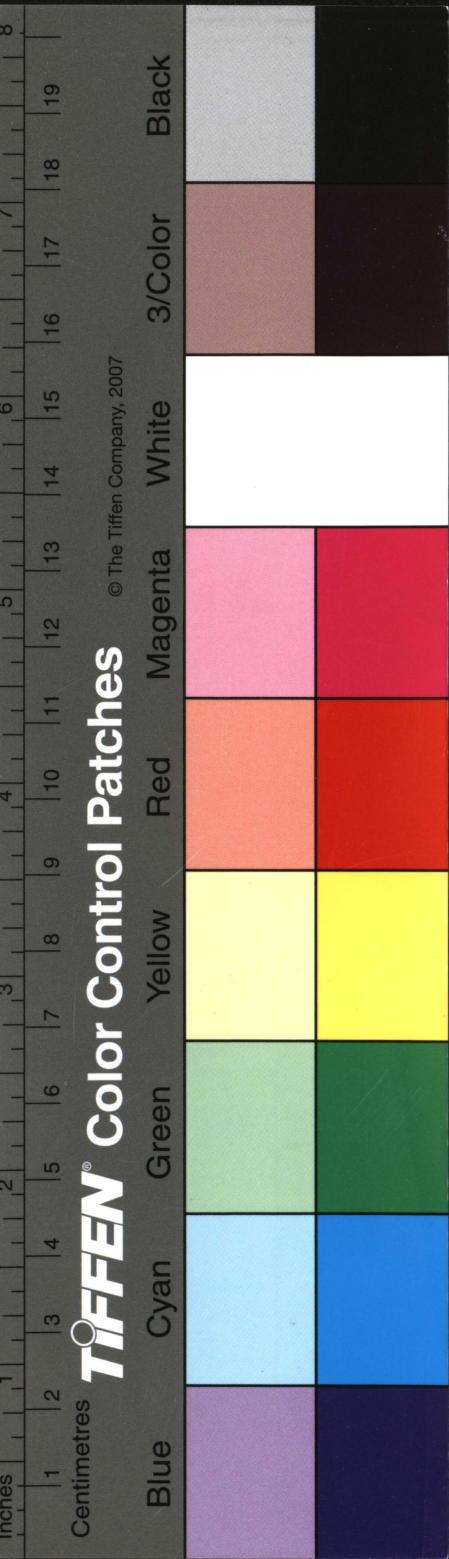
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MERCHANT OF VENICE.

Shylock, the Jew, lived at Venice. He had amassed a large fortune by loaning money at usurious interest to christian merchants. He exacted the payment of the money he lent with such severity that he was disliked by all good men and particularly by Antonio, a young merchant of Venice. Shylock hated Antonio just as much, because he used also to loan money to people in distress and would take no interest for the use of it. Antonio was exceedingly kind, and indeed was unwearied in his efforts to do good. He was greatly beloved by his fellow citizens, but his dearest friend was Bassanio, a noble Venetian, who, having but a small patrimony, had already nearly exhausted it by living beyond his means. When Bassanio wanted money Antonio always assisted him. One day Bassanio told him that he wished to marry a lady, the sole heiress of a large estate, but not having sufficient money to press his suit in a befitting manner he besought Antonio to lend him three thousand ducats. Antonio not having the money at the time, but expecting every day the arrival of some ships with merchandise, went to Shylock to borrow the money on the credit of these ships. Shylock was much surprised that Antonio should come to him, for he (Antonio) had spoken many an ill word of him. He consented to give him the money, but intended to make it the opportunity of getting even with him. He made it a condition that Antonio should sign a bond that, were the money not repaid within the stipulated time, he should forfeit to him a pound of flesh, which Shylock should cut off from any part of his body that he might determine upon. Bassanio tried his utmost to dissuade Antonio from accepting such outrageous terms, but he, feeling confident that his ships would have arrived long before the money was due, insisted upon doing so. The rich heiress that Bassanio wanted to marry lived at Belmont, a place near Venice. Her name was Portia, and she was famed for her excellent qualities. Bassanio, now having the money, set out for Belmont in a special train, accompanied by his friend Gratiano, and was so successful in his wooing that she consented to become his wife at an early day. He confessed that he had no fortune and that the only qualification he could advance was his noble birth. But she professed that she loved him purely for his noble qualities; in proof whereof she gave him all her possessions along with a valuable ring as token of her sincerity. He was deeply touched by her goodness and vowed never to part with the ring. Gratiano had, meanwhile, successfully wooed Nerissa, Portia's waiting maid, and it was agreed that they should all be married on the same day. Now it was that the happiness of the lovers was sadly marred by the arrival of the news that Antonio's ships had all been lost at sea, that he had forfeited his bond, and that he could not live and at the same time lose a pound of flesh; he therefore begged his old friend, Bassanio to be present at his death. Bassanio explained the whole circumstance to Portia, and she urged upon him to go at once to Shylock and tell him that he should have twenty times the amount of money before Antonio should be allowed to die. To give him the legal right to her money she insisted that they be married that same day; and, as previously arranged, the double wedding took place. Bassanio and Gratiano then departed for Venice, where they found Antonio in prison. The day of payment being passed

the Jew would not accept the money from Bassanio, and insisted upon having his pound of flesh. A day was fixed to hear the case before the Duke of Venice. Portia, fearing for the safety of her husband's friend, wrote to a relative at Venice, named Bellario, for advice and also for the costume worn by a counsellor of law, intending to go there herself, and, if necessary, speak in his behalf. Bellario, a learned counsellor himself, gave his opinion and also sent her everything necessary for her equipment. Portia dressed herself and Nerissa in man's attire, and putting on the counsellor's robes, she took Nerissa along with her as her clerk. The case was about to be begun on their arrival at Venice. Portia entered the court-room and presented a letter from Bellario to the duke excusing himself for not being able to attend and requesting that the young Doctor Balthasar (so he called Portia) might be permitted to conduct the case. The importance of the case nerved Portia to her task, and addressing Shylock, she enlarged on the noble quality of mercy; but all her endeavors were useless, and he insisted upon having his pound of flesh. Seeing that further parley was useless, she addressed the Jew thus:—"Tarry a little, Jew; there is something else. This bond here gives you no drop of blood, but only a pound of flesh. If, in cutting off that pound of flesh, you shed one drop of christian blood, your lands and goods are, by the law, to be confiscated to the state of Venice."

Shylock, now finding himself beaten, said he would take the money; but Portia stopped him and pointed out that his wealth was forfeited to the State for having conspired against one of its citizens, and that his life lay at the mercy of the duke. His life was spared, but the duke forfeited one-half of his wealth to Antonio, and the other half to the state. Antonio agreed to give back to Shylock his half, if he would sign a bond handing it over to his daughter at his death, whom he had disinherited for having married a christian named Lorenzo. The Jew agreed to this and asked to be let go home. In dismissing him the duke told him that if he repented of his cruelty and turned christian the state would suspend the fine. The duke now released Antonio and highly complimented Balthasar (Portia). Portia could not be prevailed upon to accept a money consideration, but asked Bassanio for a gold ring which she espied on his finger. Bassanio was much distressed and replied that he could not part with it as it was his wife's gift. Antonio prayed him to let her have it, and not wishing to appear ungrateful, he sent Gratiano after Portia with the ring. The clerk, Nerissa, saw her chance and prevailed upon Gratiano to give her his ring. Portia and Nerissa returned home and were soon followed by their husbands, accompanied by Antonio. The congratulations were hardly over when they noticed Nerissa and her husband quarreling, which proved to be about the ring. Portia, being informed that Bassanio had also given away her ring, she pretended to be very angry. Antonio explained, and Portia, relenting, took a ring off her finger, and handing it to Bassanio, told him to guard it better than the other one. Bassanio at once saw it was the ring he had given away, and this led to an explanation of their misunderstanding. It was later discovered that the rumor regarding the loss of Antonio's ships was false, and in time they arrived safely. So the past misfortunes were all forgotten in the present great joy.

PERICLES, PRINCE OF TYRE.

Pericles, being cognizant of a shocking deed which Antiochus, the wicked emperor of Greece, had committed in secret, became a voluntary exile from his own dominions in order to save himself and his subjects from the wrath of Antiochus, who threatened to sweep down and kill them on learning that Pericles knew his secret. He left the government of his people to his able and honest minister, Helicanus, and set sail for Tarsus. On his arrival, he found the city reduced to the utmost distress, caused by a famine, and his ship being heavily laden with provisions, he gladly distributed them among the starving inhabitants. Pericles had not been here many days when he received letters from his faithful minister warning him that it was not safe for him to remain longer, as Antiochus had discovered his hiding place and had sent secret emissaries to take his life. Pericles put out to sea again, but had not proceeded far on his voyage when the ship was overtaken by a dreadful storm, and every man on board perished with the exception of Pericles, who was cast upon an unknown shore. The fishermen told Pericles the name of their country was Pentapolis and that their king was the good Simonides. He also learned that Simonides had a fair daughter, and that to-morrow being her birthday, there was to be a grand tournament, where many princes and knights would assemble to try their skill in arms for the fair Thaisa. Having discovered his armor on the beach, he determined to be present at the bout, and so distinguished himself therein by vanquishing all comers that Thaisa took him into her especial favor and regard, and after a short time they were duly married. Pericles had not been many months married to Thaisa when he learned that Antiochus was dead, and he resolved to forthwith return to Tyre and resume his lawful rights. The sea was no friendly element to unhappy Pericles, for before he and his wife reached Tyre another dreadful tempest arose, during which Thaisa gave birth to a daughter and died the moment her little babe was born. The fury of the gale increasing, the sailors approached Pericles and told him that as long as a corpse remained on board the storm would not abate and they would surely all be lost. Pericles, being dazed by his sudden bereavement, humored the superstitious sailors, and himself carefully placing the body of his beloved wife in a chest, amid sweet-smelling spices, and placing beside her her jewels and a paper telling who she was, he threw the chest overboard. When the storm was over, Pericles fearing the babe would not live, ordered the sailors to make for Tarsus, and there left it with Cleon, the governor of the city, and his wife, Dionysia. Both the governor and his wife promised to take every care of the baby and bring it up in a way befitting its rank. Before parting, Pericles named the child Marina, because she was born at sea. After that tempestuous night when Thaisa was thrown into the sea, as Cerimon, a gentleman of Ephesus, and a most skillful physician, was standing by the sea-side, his servants brought to him a chest, which they said the sea-waves had thrown on the land. He ordered it taken to his house, and opening it found it to contain the body of a young and lovely lady. Seeing the

paper, he discovered it to be the dead wife of Pericles, prince of Tyre, and he felt sorely for the great loss the prince had sustained. On looking closely into the face of the lady, he perceived that she had not the color of death and ordered a fire to be made and proper cordials brought. Thaisa had never died, but after the birth of her little baby had fallen into a deep swoon, and by the care of this kind gentleman she regained consciousness. After learning all that Cerimon could tell her regarding the past, and believing her husband and baby dead, she decided to retire to the temple of Diana and there pass her days as a priestess to that goddess.

Pericles arrived safely in Tyre and settled in the quiet possession of his throne.

By the time Marina was fourteen years old she had become wonderfully beautiful and her learning and attainments were far beyond those of anybody in the land. This fact caused Dionysia to become very jealous, for her daughter, who was of the same age, lacked these attractions just as much as Marina excelled in them. She resolved, therefore, to kill Marina, and engaged Leonine, one of her attendants, to commit the act. Following her to the sea shore, Leonine would have then carried out his mistress' wicked orders, but some pirates happening to land at that moment, seized her and bore her off as a prize to their ship. She was taken to Mitylene and there sold for a slave. She deported herself so admirably, and being of such rare and exquisite beauty, her praises, which were in everybody's mouth, soon reached the ear of Lysimachus, a young nobleman and governor of Mitylene. He thought her such a miracle of sense, so virtuous and so good, that he wished to marry her. Meantime Leonine, fearing the anger of Dionysia, told her he had killed Marina; and Pericles, who soon afterwards went to Tarsus with the view of taking his daughter home with him, was overwhelmed at learning that she had died. The shock was so great that a heavy melancholy seized him and he refused to speak a word to anybody. Pericles then started for Tyre, and on the way stopped at Mitylene. It became known that Pericles, prince of Tyre, was suffering from some malady; that he had not spoken for three months, during which time he had only eaten enough to keep him alive, and Marina determined to go on board his ship and see if she could not comfort him. Pericles, on seeing her, was struck by the strong resemblance to his dead wife, and after each had related their stories he was satisfied that she was his daughter. There was great rejoicing, and Lysimachus was accepted as Marina's future husband. Shortly after this, Pericles dreamed that he should meet with some rare felicity if he would declare the story of his life at the temple of Diana. This made such an impression upon him that he, accompanied by Marina and Lysimachus, repaired to the temple. In front of the altar stood a priestess, and when he spoke and told his story she (for it was Thaisa), recognized him as her husband. Their joy was unbounded on being thus all united again. They returned to Tyre, and there, amid great rejoicing, Marina and Lysimachus were duly married.

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CYMBELINE.

Cymbeline, king of Britain, had by his first wife three children—two sons and a daughter. Imogen, the eldest, was brought up in her father's court, but the two sons were stolen from the nursery when quite young, and Cymbeline could never discover who had stolen them or what had become of them.

Cymbeline married again, his queen having a son, Croton, by her former marriage. Although she hated Imogen, yet she wished to marry her to this son, as by this means she hoped to place the crown on his head. This design was prevented by Imogen secretly marrying Posthumus, a dependant at her father's court. The secret being discovered, Posthumus was banished, but before leaving he gave his wife a bracelet, while she gave him a ring, as tokens of everlasting love and fidelity. He reached Rome, where he would often talk to his friends of the virtue of Imogen. Iachimo, being incredulous of this incessant praise of her fidelity, entered into a wager with Posthumus that he would win her affection, and prevail upon her to give him her bracelet. The wager was for a large sum of money, and in addition, if Iachimowas successful, he was to get the ring which Imogen had given Posthumus as a love token. Iachimo reached Britain and was warmly greeted by Imogen as a friend of her husband, but when he began to make professions of love to her, she repulsed him with disdain. To win the wager he resorted to strategy, and bribed her attendants to have him conveyed into her bed chamber concealed in a trunk. When she was asleep he silently stole out of the trunk and carefully noted the peculiarities of the bed chamber, and stole the bracelet off her arm. Next morning he set out for Rome and told Posthumus that he had won his bet. He described to him his wife's chamber, but Posthumus still doubting, Iachimo produced the bracelet, and he recognizing it, had no more doubts of his wife's infidelity, and forthwith handed Iachimo her ring. Incensed beyond measure, Posthumus now wrote Pisanio, who was one of Imogen's attendants, and a fast friend of his, and telling him of his wife's disloyalty, desired him to convey her to Milford-Haven, in Wales, and there kill her. He also wrote to Imogen desiring her to go with Pisanio, for, longing to see her, and as he could not return to Britain, he would meet her in Wales. Pisanio and Imogen commenced their journey, and when nearing their destination he disclosed to her her husband's orders, at which she was much affected. He assured her that he would not obey her husband, and, as Imogen would not return to her father's court, but insisted on making her way to Rome, she attired herself in the dress of a page. Before leaving her Pisanio gave her a vial of cordial, which he had got from the queen, as a remedy for all disorders, she believing it to be poison, while it was really only a sleeping draught.

Providence strangely directed Imogen's steps to the dwelling of her two brothers, who had been stolen away in their infancy. Bellarino, who stole them away was a lord in the court of Cymbeline, and having been falsely accused of treason and banished from the court, in revenge he stole away the two sons of Cymbeline, and

brought them up in a forest, where he lived concealed in a cave. He soon began to love them tenderly and spared no efforts in their education. At the cave where these youths dwelt it was Iachimo's fortune to arrive. She had lost her way in the forest through which her road lay to Milford-Haven. Bellarino and the two brothers of Imogen now returned home. They were greatly surprised at seeing her, but on her explaining how she came there they welcomed her warmly, and begged her stay there till she was well rested. Imogen, acting the part of a page, had assumed the name of Fidele. A very strong friendship sprung up between these young folks and many pleasant days were spent together. The brothers going on a hunting expedition asked Fidele to accompany them, but being unwell she declined their invitation. Left alone she bethought herself of the vial which Pisanio had given her, and which he said would cure all disorders; and drinking it off she fell into a death-like sleep. Bellarino and her two brothers having returned from their hunting expedition, thought Fidele was dead, and amid much weeping, buried her in the forest, according to the custom at that time, which was to lay the corpse on the ground and cover it with flowers. Imogen had not long been left alone when the effect of the opiate wore off, and, throwing aside the flowers that covered her, she looked around, and, not knowing where she was, imagined she had been dreaming, and again set out on her weary way to Milford-Haven, for her thoughts were always with Posthumus.

But great events were happening at this time, for a war had suddenly broken out between the Roman Emperor, Augustus Caesar, and Cymbeline. A Roman army had landed to invade Britain and was advancing into the very forest where Imogen was journeying. Posthumus, still believing Imogen false to him, and also believing her to be dead, had joined the army of the Roman Emperor, not caring whether he be slain or put to death for returning home from banishment. Imogen fell in with the Roman army and became a page to Lucius, the Roman general. Polydore and Cadwal, the two stolen sons of Cymbeline, joined the king's army. A bloody battle was fought, and had it not been for the extraordinary valor of Posthumus and Bellarino and these two youths, not only would the day have been lost, but Cymbeline himself killed. When the battle was over, Posthumus, not finding the death he sought for, surrendered himself to one of Cymbeline's officers, hoping to find death for returning from banishment. Imogen and her master, also Iachimo, her old enemy, were brought before the king as prisoners; Posthumus was brought in to receive sentence of death. Bellarino with Polydore and Cadwal were also present to receive the great reward due for their services. Pisanio was also present. The Roman general was the first to speak, and, though knowing he must die, explained to Cymbeline how it was that Imogen came to join the Roman army and adding she was Briton-born, and entreated that he spare the handsome page's life. Cymbeline not only consented to spare the life of Imogen, but agreed to grant any request she might make. The request was as singular as it was successful, for she asked

that Iachimobe forced, under penalty of death, to relate how he came by the ring he wore on his finger. Iachimo then made a full acknowledgement of all his villainy. Posthumus was prostrated with the disclosure. Imogen could not see her beloved husband in such distress without discovering herself, and the great joy that Cymbeline and Posthumus felt, the one in discovering his wife and the other his daughter, can be better imagined than expressed. Cymbeline forgave

Posthumus and acknowledged him as his son-in-law. Bellarino now came forward and made his confession and presented the two youths to their rightful father. Cymbeline forgave old Bellarino, and, at the intercession of Imogen, pardoned Lucius. A peace was concluded between the Romans and the Britons, and from that time on, nothing occurred to mar the future lives of our friends.

KING JOHN.

Arthur Plantagenet was the rightful heir to the throne of England, but his uncle, John, who up to this time had been acting as regent, refused to give up the reins of government. Constance, the mother of young Arthur, persuaded King Philip of France to force John to abdicate and allow the rightful heir to assume his just position. With this end in view, Philip sent Chatillon to King John's court in the hope of persuading him to retire in favor of his nephew. John, however, could not be persuaded, and accused Philip of undue interference. Chatillon, seeing that it was useless to waste words, told him that if he would not abdicate voluntarily, the King of France would force him to do so. John told him that he could give war for war, and so bade him return whence he came.

Meanwhile the King of France awaited with no little impatience King John's answer, and before Chatillon, who was detained by reverse winds, had returned, King John with his army was on his way to Angiers. Even as Chatillon spoke, the drums were heard heralding the approach of the English, and presently the two kings confronting each other, Philip personally addressed John, and pointed out to him the lawful claims of Arthur; asking him to save bloodshed and permit Arthur to ascend the throne. John emphatically refused, and both kings calling their soldiers to arms, a contest ensued. It was not, however, a decisive one, for the armies seemed equally matched. The citizens called for a truce, and proposed that Blanch of Castile, King John's niece, should be given in marriage to the French dauphin, and thus John and Philip would be united by the ties of relationship. So it was settled, and the fair lady's uncle said that he would give up many of the territories he held in France as a dowry for her. In the general satisfaction caused by this proposed marriage, Philip forgot his promise to Constance, but John assured him that the ill-feeling could be healed by making Arthur Duke of Bretagne, Earl of Richmond and Lord of Angiers. Constance was sorely distressed when she learned the news, and wept bitterly. Hardly had King John got himself out of one trouble than he got into another, for on returning to England he was confronted by Pandulph, the legate of the Pope, who demanded that Stephen Langton be no longer kept out of his lawful position of Archbishop of Canterbury. John had sworn before and now declared again that Stephen Langton should not "take title or toll" in his dominions. The Pope, foreseeing this ultimatum, had instructed Pandulph to command Philip to uphold the dignity of the Church; the result being that war was again declared

between the the two Kings. A bloody battle was fought, in which Philip's army was completely routed and young Arthur was taken prisoner, and placed under the strict watch of one of his Lords, named Hubert. Constance was prostrated with grief on learning that her son was in the hands of his cruel uncle.

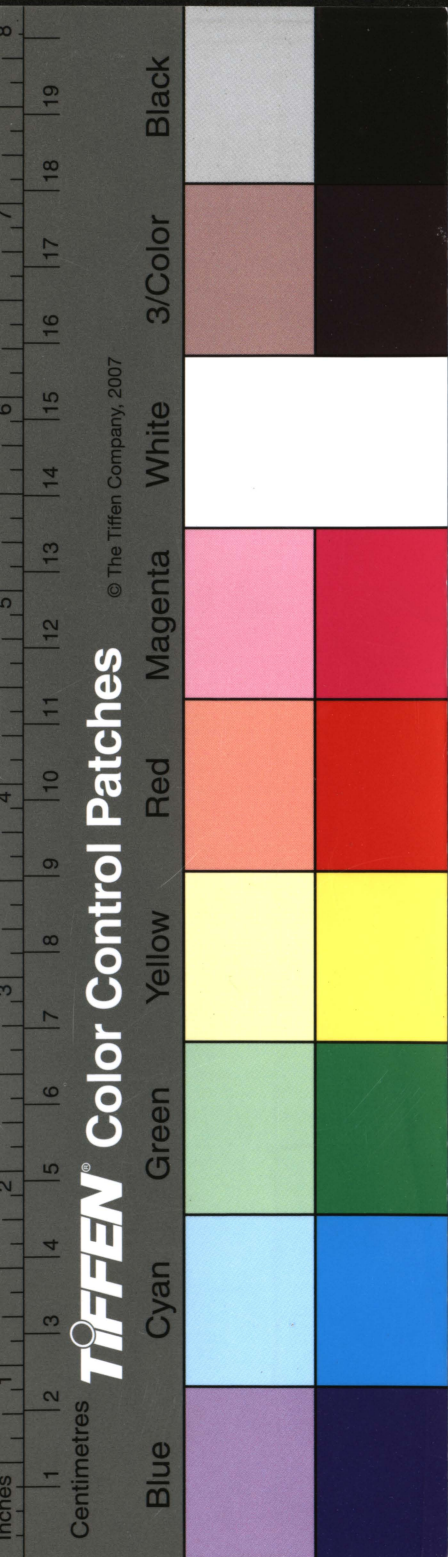
The poor little prisoner was conveyed to Northampton, where King John decided to have him put to death. But so cruel was he that he ordered Hubert to take a red-hot iron and put out his eyes. In one of the rooms of the castle two attendants were making preparation for this terrible deed, and telling them to await his signal, Hubert called the unsuspecting Arthur to him. The young Prince was seized and bound, but Hubert being of a kindly nature, could not stand by and see such an outrage committed and ordered the attendants to free him. In the meantime, in the belief that it would make his throne more secure, John had been crowned a second time, and while the King was conversing with the Earls of Pembroke and Salisbury, Hubert arrived to say that Arthur was dead. Both Earls cast suspicious glances at their sovereign, as if believing that he had not been guiltless in the matter, and left to inquire into the cause of the child's death. Hardly had they departed ere a messenger arrived to tell the news of the arrival of a large French force under command of the dauphin. It was bad news for the King, and as he pondered over it, Hubert again entered to enlarge on the manner in which he had carried out the King's instructions in putting Arthur to torture and death. John, thoroughly uneasy in his mind at the approach of the French, and fearing the result should it be known that he had ordered Arthur's death, accused Hubert of influencing him in the matter. Seeing him in this mood Hubert told him that Arthur was alive and he sent him after the angry Lords with all haste to tell them the news.

Arthur in the meantime attempted to escape from his prison, and jumping from the high walls of the castle was so injured that he died there upon the hard stones. The two Earls finding the body of Arthur bruised and bleeding believed he had been murdered, and, though Hubert, who then arrived on the scene, swore he had left him alive and well, they could not be shaken in their belief. A great battle ensued between the two powers, in which John was disastrously defeated.

Hated by his nobles, forsaken by his friends, and sorely troubled by his guilty conscience, he was attacked by a fever and shortly afterward died at Newark Castle.

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HAMLET, PRINCE OF DENMARK.

King Hamlet, of Denmark, having died suddenly, Gertrude, his widow, in less than two months after his death married his brother Claudius. Claudius was suspected of having murdered his brother in order to gain the crown, in the place of young Hamlet, son of the late king. This prince venerated the memory of his father and sorely took to heart the unworthy conduct of his mother. He was greatly troubled over the uncertainty connected with his father's death. Claudius gave it out that a serpent had stung him, but Hamlet had shrewd suspicions that Claudius himself was the serpent. A rumor reached Hamlet that his father's ghost had been seen for several nights by the soldiers stationed at the palace, and he determined to solve the mystery himself. When night came he took his stand with Horatio and Marcellus at the place where the apparition was accustomed to be seen, and in due time the ghost appeared. Hamlet was struck with fear at the sight of his father's spirit, but gradually regaining courage, called him by name and conjured him to tell the reason why he had left his grave. The ghost beckoned Hamlet to follow him to a more secluded place, which he did; though his companions tried to prevent him. When they were alone the spirit told him that he was the ghost of his father, and that he had been poisoned by Claudius. The spirit having narrated the circumstances of the murder adjured Hamlet to avenge himself on Claudius, but to do no violence to his mother. This interview with the ghost so affected Hamlet's nerves, that fearing Claudius would become suspicious of him, he feigned insanity. So successfully did he counterfeit the madman that the king and queen were both deceived and they concluded that his malady was caused by love. Before his affliction Hamlet had loved Ophelia, daughter of Polonius, the king's chief counsellor, but latterly he had neglected and often acted rudely toward her. While Hamlet was devising means for carrying out his revenge on Claudius, a troupe of players came to the court, whom he had formerly known. Having heard that a murderer had been known to confess his guilt on seeing a representation of the murder produced upon the stage, Hamlet conceived the idea of getting these

players to produce a play, founded upon his father's death, before Claudius. The play was produced and Claudius being so affected, could not see it out; which satisfied Hamlet that the words of the ghost were true, and that it was no illusion he had seen. At this time the queen sent for Hamlet to attend a private conference, where she informed him that his past conduct had caused great uneasiness. Polonius, at the king's command, was secreted behind the hangings to overhear and report to him the conversation. Hamlet taxed his mother with her own conduct, and words running high she called for help. Polonius from his hiding place re-echoed the call and Hamlet drawing his sword thrust it through the hanging and killed him, thinking it was the king who was eavesdropping. Hamlet discovering it was Ophelia's father he had killed, was much distressed. After this event the king banished Hamlet to England, but the ship conveying him thither was attacked by pirates, and he was captured, but knowing him to be the prince, they returned him to Denmark. The first thing that met his eyes on his return was the funeral of Ophelia, whose mind was so much affected by the death of her father, at the hands of her lover, that she drowned herself in a brook. Hamlet only discovered it to be Ophelia's funeral through the act of her brother, Laertes, who, calling her by name threw himself into the open grave.

Sometime after this occurrence Hamlet and Laertes met in a fencing match, which had been arranged by the wicked king to bring about Hamlet's destruction. Laertes used a poisoned foil and mortally wounded Hamlet, who discovering the treachery, in the scuffle that ensued, wrenched Laertes' foil away from him and gave him his death wound. Before he died Laertes acknowledged the treachery and accused the king of being the instigator of it, whereupon Hamlet suddenly turned upon his false uncle and thrust the point of the poisoned weapon to his heart. Thus he fulfilled his promise of revenge which he had made to his father's spirit. In the meantime the queen having drank from a bowl of poisoned wine, which the king had prepared for Hamlet in case he should become fatigued during the bout, was also dead.

TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA.

There lived in the city of Verona two young gentlemen—Valentine and Proteus. They were fast friends, pursued their studies together, and their hours of leisure were always passed in the company of each other, except when Proteus visited a lady with whom he was in love. These visits to his fiancée and the passion of Proteus for the fair Julia were the only cause of any disagreement. Valentine not being himself a lover was weary of hearing his friend so talk. One day Valentine told Proteus that they must be separated for a time, for wishing to see more of the world, he intended to depart for Milan. They parted in true friendship. When his friend had left him Proteus wrote a letter to Julia, which he gave to her maid to deliver. Julia loved Proteus as much as he loved her, but thought it becoming to her modesty not to be won too easily, so she affected indifference and caused him much uneasiness in consequence. When the maid handed the letter to Julia she tore it up, but as soon as she was left alone, gathered up the fragments

and placing them carefully together, studied Proteus' words of love. But having difficulty in making out the whole, and being vexed at her imprudence in destroying such a loving letter, she wrote Proteus in a much more tender strain than she had ever done before. Proteus was delighted at receiving so favorable a reply. In the midst of his raptures he was surprised by his father demanding of him the writer of the letter. Proteus, greatly alarmed, told a falsehood and said it was from Valentine, who urgently requested him to come to Milan. The father at once said it should be so, and told his son to prepare with all speed for an early departure.

Julia no longer pretended indifference, and she bade her lover a sorrowful farewell with many vows of love and constancy. Valentine, notwithstanding his assertion that he would never love, had become greatly enamored of Sylvia, daughter of the Duke of Milan, at whose home he was a constant visitor. At sight of Sylvia Proteus forgot Julia, and

tried to supplant Valentine in her affections. The duke, being unaware of Valentine's attention to Sylvia, had already promised her in marriage to his friend Thurio. Proteus seeing no chance of winning Sylvia's love while Valentine was present, revealed to the duke a plot which Valentine had confided to him for an elopement. The duke intercepted Valentine and took from under his cloak a rope ladder, which he was in the act of conveying to Sylvia. The duke banished him from his domain, and in his wanderings he fell in with bandits, who made him their captain. While Proteus was enjoying himself at Milan, Julia, in the meantime, at Verona, was greatly feeling his absence, and her love for him at last so overcame her sense of propriety that she resolved to leave Verona and seek her lover at Milan. As a precaution for safety on the road, she disguised herself and her maid in men's attire. She took up her abode at an inn, and to gain information of Proteus, engaged in conversation with the landlord. He, to help remove her melancholy, offered to conduct her to hear some fine music with which a gentleman was to serenade his mistress. She accepted the offer, hoping she might chance across Proteus. Much to her surprise and grief she recognized her own Proteus, in the serenader doing his utmost to favorably impress Sylvia. Sylvia was displeased with him and ordered him to play for Julia. Through the kind medium of her host, she was engaged by Proteus as page, and was often sent

by him with billet-doux to Sylvia. Sylvia gave him no encouragement, and, to escape marrying Thurio, fled, in the hope of finding Valentine. While passing through the woods she was beset by bandits, who proceeded to convey her to their cave, but Proteus, who, with Julia, had followed her, effected a timely rescue. Proteus renewed his suit, with Julia, still incognito, listening. At this moment Valentine appeared on the scene, having been informed by his men of the capture and recapture of a lady. Proteus was surprised and abashed to be thus discovered by Valentine, but Valentine forgave him, and offered to give up Sylvia to him. At this Julia fainted and on coming to herself made herself known and was recognized by all. Proteus now relinquished all claim to Sylvia and begged Julia's forgiveness. There were general congratulations taking place, when Thurio, accompanied by the duke, appeared on the scene in pursuit and claimed Sylvia as his bride. Valentine defied him to approach, and being a thorough coward, Thurio said, "None but a fool would fight for a girl who loved him not." The duke, who was a brave man, turning to Valentine, applauded his spirit and said he should have Sylvia, for he well deserved her. Valentine took this opportunity to beg forgiveness for his band of robbers, who were glad to return from banishment to an honest life. The pardon was granted, and the four lovers returned to Milan, where their nuptials were solemnized amid much feasting and merry-making.

HENRY VIII.

Henry VIII of England had been married for many years to Katherine of Aragon, when he conceived a fancy for Anne Boleyn, a young lady of the queen's court. This infatuation became so strong that he decided to find means of getting rid of Katherine. Anne feigned pity for the queen when the situation began to be whispered about the court. Cardinal Wolsey, who was at this time high in favor with Henry, suggested that there was an illegality connected with his marriage with Katherine which could be the means of nullifying it. Henry was pleased with this opinion, seeing in it an opportunity of furthering his desire for a marriage with Anne Boleyn. A commission was brought from Rome to try the point. Katherine appeared before the court, and begging of the King to be acquainted with the charge against her, accused Wolsey of being her enemy. To this he (Wolsey) replied that he was only acting under warrant of the commission from Rome. The queen thereupon refused to accept the decision of the court and resolved to appeal to the Pope direct. Katherine retired to the palace of Bridewell, where she sought what diversion she could to relieve her over-burdened mind of its many sorrows. Wolsey, with another cardinal, followed her there for the purpose of getting her to consent to a separation, and to withdraw her appeal to Rome. She, however, steadfastly refused. Hitherto, Wolsey had not been aware of the King's preference for Anne Boleyn, but on finding it out was quite indignant and privately wrote the Pope re-

questing him to stay proceedings for a time in the matter of the divorce. This letter by accident fell into Henry's hands and he immediately sent for Wolsey, and telling him how he came by the letter, dismissed him from his high office and ordered him to retire to Esher, until his pleasure concerning him should be made known. Cromwell, Wolsey's servant, subsequently brought him the news that Sir Thomas More had been appointed Lord Chancellor in his place; that Cranmer was Archbishop of Canterbury, and Anne Boleyn had become Henry's queen. Soon after this, Katherine's marriage with Henry was dissolved by his desire. Katherine retired to Kimbolton, where, crushed with her own troubles and the news of Wolsey's death, she fell sick and shortly afterwards died. Prior to her death a messenger arrived from Henry to inform her that he was much grieved to hear of her sickness. She wrote him a letter of farewell in which she commended to his care their daughter, Princess Mary, and bade the messenger who conveyed it, inform Henry that she forgave and blessed him. Sometime after this an august assembly took place in the palace at Greenwich, the occasion being the christening of the Princess Elizabeth, infant daughter of Henry and Anne Boleyn. Cranmer, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was there to perform the ceremony, foretold for this princess a great and glorious future, and, as a special mark of appreciation for the good graces of the mother, presented her with a New Home Sewing Machine.

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KING HENRY IV.

Henry had been delayed from various causes from making his intended pilgrimage to Palestine and waited with great impatience for the arrangements which his privy council were to make for this expedition. The Earl of Westmoreland came to him one day and informed him that while assembled to discuss the matter the council had received information from Wales that Mortimer in leading the men of Herefordshire against Owen Glendower, had been taken prisoner. Henry wanted to know if this would interfere with his projected pilgrimage, and Westmoreland informed him that it probably would. He also informed the king that there was discouraging news from the North, as Harry Percy, generally known as Hotspur, was fighting the Scots, the result being unknown. Henry had previous to this been much pleased with Hotspur's success in making prisoners of several of the Scottish earls. Young Henry, the king's son, was of a very wild disposition, which caused his royal father no little concern. Prince Henry, who was known as Harry Madcap, was at this time amusing himself with Sir John Falstaff and other friends, who frequently, much against his will, led him into unlawful frolics.

Percy called upon the king to redeem Mortimer, who was his (Percy's) brother-in-law, from the Welsh, and on Henry refusing to do so Hotspur became indignant and took his army over to Glendower and the Scots. Alarmed at this desertion, Henry sent for his wild son and reasoning with him on the folly of his ways, it was arranged that Prince Harry should lead the imperial forces against his enemies.

KING HENRY V.

When Henry V had reigned for a time in England, he recollected the claim of Edward III to the throne of France, and made up his mind to prosecute it. He sent a message by the Duke of Exeter and requested the king of France to divest himself of his borrowed glories. The dauphin, anxious to enter into a war with England, informed his father that if he consented to this demand he himself would dispute it. Exeter's mission being unfruitful, Henry, with a large army, sailed from Southampton, and entering the river Seine attacked Harfleur, a strong fortress near the mouth of that river. For five long weeks the place held out against the besiegers, but at last it was forced to surrender. After this victory the French king sent a herald to Henry informing him that he himself would have attacked him at Harfleur, but preferred to delay doing so in order that when the time came the English defeat might be more severe. Henry, although his army had suffered severely before Harfleur, was nothing daunted and replied that while he did not wish to provoke a battle he would not avoid one. He accordingly led his men across the river Somme to Agincourt, where the French king had massed his forces. Knowing the odds were greatly against him Henry sought solitude and prayed to the God of battles for success, whilst the king of France, on the other hand, was holding high carnival, being confident of success on the morrow. At daybreak, when he was about to lead on his men, the constable of France sent a herald to Henry conjuring him to agree to a peace rather

Sir Walter Blunt conveyed to them a message of peace, but Hotspur and his companions mistrusted it and resolved to fight. A battle took place near Shrewsbury in which the king's forces were victorious and in which Prince Harry slew Hotspur. After a time a truce was agreed to, and the prince returning to London again fell into his reckless way of living.

Henry's health failing, he became subject to fits. On one occasion he was carried to bed and the crown, at his own request, was laid beside him on his pillow. While he slept the prince came and sat beside him and seeing the crown set to thinking of the many cares of royalty. Believing his father to be on his death-bed, he took up the crown and left the chamber, but the king awakening asked who had removed his crown. When informed that it was his son, he upbraided him for rejoicing at the prospect of being king. This the prince denied and informed his father of his true feelings in the matter. His son's explanations awakened his father's affection for him and he acknowledged he had been somewhat harsh in his previous judgment.

The king soon afterward expired and the young prince having succeeded to the throne, became as sober and wise as his father could have wished. One of the first things he did was to appoint Sir William Gascoigne his lord chief justice. In Harry's wild days this judge had once committed him to prison, showing that royalty was equally amenable to the law as were people of lesser degree, and the general opinion was that the new king would cherish resentment against him accordingly. This, however, was shown not to be the case.

than receive certain defeat. Henry would agree to no such terms, but led on his men and fighting all day himself in the thickest of the fray, vanquished the French host with terrible loss, though the losses in his own army were comparatively small. Henry, upon returning to England, was given a royal welcome by his subjects.

Two years later he was again in France, and gaining many victories, was enabled to dictate his own terms of peace. One proviso was that the hand of Katharine, the French Princess, should be given him in marriage. While the king and queen of France, with their counsellors, retired to consider the terms demanded, Katharine was left with her royal lover. They had difficulty in conversing as Katharine knew little English whilst Henry knew less French, but he told her that if she loved him well he could listen to it in broken language. She asked him if he thought it possible that she could love the enemy of France, to which he replied that in loving him she should love the friend of France, for that he loved it so well he would not part with a single village of it. Adding:

"When France is mine and I am yours,

Then yours is France and you are mine."

The king and queen with the French and English lords now entered the apartment and it was announced that the terms of peace were fully agreed to. In handing over his daughter the French king expressed the hope that a lasting peace would continue between the two countries.

KING HENRY VI.

Charles, the dauphin of France, had become hopeless and dispirited over the many victories the English had achieved in France. The English troops were now laying siege to the town of Orleans, and as Charles was pondering in his mind how he could most effectually raise the siege, a messenger entered and informed him that a maiden had just arrived who claimed to be sent by God to rid Orleans of the enemy, and

"Drive the English forth from the bounds of France."

She went on to explain that she had, by a vision sent from Heaven, been told to leave her base vocation and free her country from calamity. This maiden's name was Joan of Arc, and finding she had awakened the dauphin's interest, and inspired him with new hope, she drew a long two-edged sword, exclaiming that with this she meant to fight.

The English had never for a moment thought that Charles could drive them from their position, and they were greatly surprised to see a large and powerful army marching against them with a woman as leader. The English sentinels had deserted one of the gates and through this opening Joan led the French troops, and driving the English before her like so many sheep she fulfilled her promise and completely routed the enemy. This wonderful victory gained for her the name of "Maid of Orleans." The dauphin knew no bounds to his extravagant praise of the fair shepherdess. Bells were rung, bon-fires lighted and feasting indulged in, in the open streets.

Their joy, however, was not destined to be of long duration, for the English finding the French guard asleep scaled the walls and retook the town. Charles laid the blame to Joan, who, however, told him that it was the guards who were at fault; and she advised him not to wrangle, but rather set on foot a plan to repair the mischief. Away in London a different scene was taking place. There the earls of Somerset, Suffolk and Warwick were convening with Richard Plantagenet and others. Henry VI every day showed signs of his unfitness to reign, and Richard, Duke of York, and Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, were struggling

for the protectorship. Each called upon those present to declare which side they favored. Those favoring Somerset were to wear a red rose and those advocating the claims of Warwick a white one.

Meanwhile, in France, the English under Talbot had been driven from Rouen by the Maid of Orleans, but the next day the town was recaptured.

Henry was now crowned again in Paris, and during his stay there he constantly wore a red rose, which caused no little comment. He made York his regent in France and in a battle that ensued he took Joan of Arc prisoner, and completely routed her forces. Margaret of Anjou, on the condition that Henry would cede to her father the provinces of Maine and Anjou, accepted the King in marriage. This arrangement caused great vexation among the English, and the Duke of York deemed his chance of the crown greatly strengthened. Margaret proved to be a very haughty and arrogant queen and was the cause of the murder of Gloucester, and indirectly that of Suffolk. These troubles so injured the King's health that York was proclaimed protector, but upon Henry's recovery he lost his power, Somerset taking his place.

Now began the famous war of the red and white roses, and in the battle of St. Albans, the Lancashires were defeated. York went to London and demanded the crown. A compromise was effected by which York should reign for the balance of his life and then the crown should revert to Henry's son. Margaret was so incensed at this arrangement that she called upon the Plantagenets to help her regain the crown for her son. A bloody battle was fought at Bosworth Hill, where the red roses came off victorious and York was killed. The triumph of the House of Lancaster was short lived, for the North of England alone remained faithful to Henry. Battle succeeded battle, and in the end the House of York triumphed. King Henry was taken to the tower, where he died, as is generally believed, a violent death, and his haughty Queen was banished to France.

THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR.

There was a famous hostelry in Windsor, kept by one Page, who, with the assistance of his amiable wife and charming daughter Anne, succeeded in making the place a great rendezvous for the better class of sports that used to be typical of England in years gone by. Now the fair Anne had many suitors; among them being Doctor Caius, Master Slender, Fenton, and the irrepressible Falstaff. The last named, however, had many irons in the fire, and was determined to have a wife if possible. At this time, although he was making love to Anne, he secretly wrote two letters, one to Mistress Page and one to Mistress Ford, in both of which he made a proposition of marriage. Now it happened that Misses Page and Ford were friends, and they each showed the other the letter they had received. A servant of the gay Falstaff also informed the respective husbands that he (Falstaff) had been writing love letters to their wives. Mistress Quickly brought Falstaff word, in answer to his letter, that Mistress Ford would be

pleased to see him on the morrow. In the meantime Ford himself had a large basket, also two powerful men, secreted in his wife's room, his object being to teach Falstaff not to meddle with other men's wives, and this is how it came about: Falstaff, true to appointment, entered the apartment of Mistress Ford, who feigned to receive him with great pleasure. Hardly had they commenced to converse when a messenger told Mrs. Ford that Mrs. Page wanted to see her. Mrs. Page told her that Ford had heard that a man was in the house, and that he was coming with all the officers to search the house. Mrs. Ford feigned great terror, and told Falstaff he must hide himself somewhere. "Get into that large basket," she said, "and I will cover you over with clothes." This he did, and then Mrs. Ford ordered the two men, who had been previously secreted, to take the basket to the laundry at Datchet-Mead. Falstaff said nothing, thinking this was Mrs. Ford's kind way of getting him out of danger. The men trudged along

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with their burden, and when they arrived at the ditch they toppled it over, sending Falstaff sprawling in the shallow water and mud. Now, the merry wives were not satisfied with having been instrumental in the ducking of Falstaff—they wanted to teach him a still stronger lesson. So Mrs. Quickly, was sent down to tell him that Mrs. Ford wished to meet him at midnight at a place called Herne's Oak, and that for safety's sake he had better assume the attire of the legendary Herne, the hunter, with rough deer-skin garments and a pair of antlers on his head. Falstaff believing that Mrs. Ford really loved him, consented to this proposition. In the meantime Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Page arranged with Anne and a few more young people to dress themselves as fairies and elves, and to suddenly rush forth, pinch, burn with their tapers, and otherwise generally frighten him, demanding how he durst come there to interrupt their revels. In the confusion which was sure to ensue his disguise was sure to be torn from him, and one and all should chase him back to the inn for the people of the town to see and mock him. In the meantime Master Fenton had not been idle, and so faringratiated himself into the affections of Anne that they became engaged, though nobody but themselves knew it.

The eventful night proved dark and ere long Falstaff with his buck's head on reached the try-

ting place. Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Page instantly joined him, but hearing a noise they ran away. Before the stout knight could follow their example he was surrounded by the pretended elves, who pinched him and cast their burning tapers in his face. Falstaff was so overcome with fright that he fell helpless to the ground. Then the fairies, under the direction of Queen Quickly, danced around him singing a scornful song, denouncing his bad character.

Now it had been arranged by Master Robin, a young lad full of fun, to lead the lovers of Anne a fine dance on this night. He told Doctor Caius that Anne was willing to run away with him and that he must look out for a girl dressed in green. He told Slender the same except that the girl was dressed in white. Anne, however, being already betrothed to Fenton had told him how she would be attired so while the fairies were dancing around Falstaff Dr. Caius rushes in and seizes a girl in green, Slender one in white and Fenton secures his Anne, with whom he hastens to a priest and is forthwith married. Master Fenton and his bride soon reappeared on the scene and though Dr. Caius and Master Slender were much chagrined over their loss, they decided to make the best of a bad job and they all returned to the inn, where Falstaff was subjected to much chaffing and railery especially at the hands of the merry wives of Windsor.

RICHARD II.

Bolingbroke, Duke of Hereford, and Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, were at enmity, each accusing the other of high treason to his king. Richard II. commanded that they should be confronted and have their say. Bolingbroke, who was the king's cousin, accused Norfolk of having appropriated to his own use money which had been given him to disburse among the king's soldiers; that he had planned the death of the Duke of Gloucester, and that every treason that had occurred in England for a number of years had originated with him. Norfolk denied these charges and challenged his opponent to combat, and by the king's sanction the duel was to take place at Coventry on the Feast of St. Lambert; but on the day the king forbade the fight and banished them both from the kingdom. Ireland at this time was in rebellion. The exchequer being very low, and the king being badly in need of money to defray the expenses of his army, seized upon the lands and effects of John of Gaunt (Bolingbroke's father) who had recently died. Richard set off for Ireland, and Bolingbroke, who in the meantime had placed himself at the head of an army, returned to England to claim his estates. The Duke of York made an attempt to raise an army to obstruct his advance, but having much difficulty in doing so, owing to the king's absence, arranged to remain neutral. Meantime, Richard, who had heard the news, returned, but finding that most of his subjects had enrolled themselves in Bolingbroke's army, and the majority of the castles had surrendered to him, fled to Flint Castle. Bolingbroke appeared before the castle walls and offered to throw down his arms if his sentence of banishment be repealed. The king consented to this and was conducted with mock-

ery of respect to London, and there Bolingbroke, learning of the murder of the Duke of Gloucester, of which he concluded Norfolk to be guilty, set enquiries afoot regarding it. Aumerle, the Duke of York's son, was charged with the crime, but denied it and demanded that he should be confronted with Norfolk. Now came the ceremony of deposing Richard, and Bolingbroke was proclaimed king under the title of Henry IV. That it might be chronicled that Richard was justly deposed, a document was drawn up showing the various wrongs he and his followers had done, and he was thrown into the tower. Richard's queen placing herself in the road he had to pass on his way to the tower. Bolingbroke changed the sentence and had him moved to Pomfret Castle, while the ex-queen he banished to France. While confined there, and hearing of the pomp and splendor attendant on the coronation of Henry IV, Richard's keeper entered with a covered dish and bade him eat. Richard, being suspicious, declined to do so, unless the keeper would first taste of the food, but the keeper declared that Sir Pierce Exton, governor of the castle, had forbidden him to do so. Losing his temper, Richard struck the man, and in the scuffle which followed, Exton, who had appeared upon the scene, killed the late king with his sword. Believing that it would please Henry IV, he had the coffin containing the corpse conveyed into his presence, but instead of rejoicing, Henry was alarmed at the crime, and as a penance for his share in it declared his intention of taking a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, as an atonement for his sins, and to obtain relief for his overburdened conscience.

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RICHARD III.

Edward IV, King of England, had two brothers, Richard III, Duke of Gloucester, and George, Duke of Clarence. Richard's brain teemed with plots, the object of which was to excite and foster enmity between his brothers. An ancient prophecy had foretold that the king would be murdered by one of his heirs whose name would begin with the letter G. Richard saw in this a means to advance his schemes, and secretly insinuated that possibly his brother George might be meant. His whispers bore fruit in the arrest and imprisonment in the Tower of the Duke of Clarence. Richard feigned the utmost surprise and sorrow, though at heart rejoicing. Almost immediately afterward Lord Hastings announced to the crafty Gloucester that the king was dangerously ill. This was gratifying to Richard, but he resolved that George must first die in order that he might be sole heir. Accordingly, he dispatched two messengers to the Tower with instructions to Lord Brackenbury, the Governor, to deliver Clarence into their hands. Clarence begged these men to go to his brother Richard, who would pay them well to release him, but the messengers better knowing the facts turned a deaf ear to his entreaties, and after stabbing him, threw him into a butt of wine.

The king, perceiving death approaching and desiring to reconcile Gloucester with the family of the queen, for whom he knew that he cherished deep hatred, sent for Queen Elizabeth, Lord Rivers and Richard, and bade them swear friendship in his presence. The hypocritical Gloucester complied, at the same time announcing and be-

wailing the death of Clarence, grief for whom hastened Edward's death. Richard now assumed the reins of power under the title of Protector. He professed great affection for Edward's young son and heir, though privately seeking how he might compass his death. Under pretence of having the young king crowned, Richard had him conveyed to London, and at the same time caused the arrest and imprisonment of Lords Rivers and Grey. The queen upon learning this betook herself and her two other children, the Duke of York and his sister, to Westminster, claiming sanctuary, a right which was held inviolate. Richard went thither and persuaded the little Duke of York to come and visit his brother, who, he said, was pining for him. Having obtained possession of his person he at once threw him into the Tower, where young Edward was already confined. Richard next sent thither two desperate men, Dighton and Forrest, with instructions to murder both the princes, his nephews, which they did. For this cruel deed he was upbraided by Queen Elizabeth and by his mother, who also charged him with the death of Clarence.

Popular indignation now began to run high against the usurper, and Henry, Earl of Richmond, resolved to unite the houses of York and Lancaster by marriage. The celebrated battle of Bosworth Field, where Richard was defeated and slain, his body being removed to Leicester and interred in the church at Greyfriars, ended the "Wars of the Roses."

JULIUS CÆSAR.

After his defeat of Pompey, Julius Cæsar was about to make a triumphal entry into Rome. On the day appointed, the streets were crowded with people waiting to see the pageant. The Tribunes, Flavius and Marcellus, adherents of Pompey, were much displeased. As Cæsar passed along, accompanied by a great train of Roman nobles and ladies, the shrill voice of a soothsayer was heard bidding him beware of the Ides of March. Brutus, esteemed a friend by Cæsar, was with him, but took little part in the rejoicings. A great noise was heard, and Brutus said to Cassius, that he feared the populace was about to crown Cæsar king, declaring that he (Brutus) did not wish it so. Thereupon, after being urged to disclose his secret thoughts, Cassius confided to Brutus his secret jealousy of the great conqueror, who, he said, was no greater or better man than Brutus himself. The latter, thus encouraged, admitted that he had himself at times cherished similar thoughts, and at this point the conversation was interrupted. Meanwhile, at the games, a crown had been thrice offered to Cæsar, who had each time put it from him with the back of his hand, his action calling forth cheers from the people. Cassius learned of this and resolved to use it as the means of fanning the dormant hatred of Cæsar, which he had discovered in Brutus' breast. A few days later he met Casca who told him that on the morrow the Senate would make Cæsar king, with the right to wear his crown on sea and land, except in Italy. "Then," said Cassius, "I will know where to wear this dagger." It required little argument to win over Casca to his way of thinking, and the two determined, first of all, to induce Brutus to join the conspiracy. Accordingly, they prepared an un-

signed communication, which they contrived should fall into the latter's hands, bidding him awake and redress the wrongs of Rome. The receipt of this by Brutus was followed by a midnight visit to his house by the conspirators, who had meantime added fresh recruits to their numbers. A conference followed in which it was agreed to assassinate Cæsar on the following day, which would be the Ides of March. Later in the night two other noble Romans presented themselves and offered to join the conspiracy.

At the same time there was disquietude in Cæsar's palace. His wife implored him not to go to the Senate-house on the morrow, and the augurs confirmed her advice. For a time Cæsar wavered, but finally decided to disregard the omens. On his way to the Capitol a warning letter was offered to him, but he refused to accept it. After Cæsar had taken his seat and business had begun, one of the conspirators knelt at his feet and made some request of him. The others gathered around him. Casca first stabbed him in the neck, and the rest buried their daggers in his body. Cæsar defended himself until he recognized Brutus, when he exclaimed, "Et tu Brute," then folded his cloak about him and expired.

Great confusion then prevailed. Marc Antony, Cæsar's friend and ally, pronounced his funeral oration, in which he artfully incited the populace against the conspirators. Cæsar in his will had adopted his nephew, Octavius, as his son, and the soldiers urged the latter to avenge his uncle's death. The battle of Philippi followed and the conspirator's forces were routed.

Brutus was taken prisoner, but preferring death to the disgrace which he knew awaited him, fell upon his sword and died.

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MACBETH.

When Duncan reigned as king of Scotland there lived a great thane or lord called Macbeth. This Macbeth was kinsman to the king, and was held by him in high favor on account of his many valorous deeds.

As Macbeth and Banquo, another victorious general, were returning from the scene of a bloody battle, in which they had defeated a rebel army with terrible loss, they had occasion to cross a heath or moor. Here it was that they were met by a strange apparition in the shape of three old women with beards. Macbeth hailed them, which seemed to cause them anxiety, and each made a motion for silence. The first saluted him as Thane of Glamis; the second as Thane of Cawdor; and the third said, "All hail! king that shalt be hereafter." Then turning to Banquo, they predicted him to be less than Macbeth, also greater; not so happy, but happier. And predicted that though he should not reign, yet his sons should be kings of Scotland. Banquo made light of this prophecy, and advised Macbeth to take it *cum grano salis*. The Thane of Cawdor, being at this time in rebellion, had forfeited his title and estate, and the king conferred them on Macbeth in recognition of his bravery. This sudden fulfillment of one of the prophecies worked greatly upon Macbeth's superstitious nature; and he began to think that he would yet be king. He communicated the facts to his wife, who was a very wicked woman; and she planned a visit from the king and his sons to her castle. She drugged the king's attendants with wine, and stole unobserved, at night, to his chamber, intending to stab him with a dagger. Her courage failed her, however, and she urged upon Macbeth to do the deed, which he did. As soon as the murder was discovered, the king's sons fled from the castle; the elder (Malcolm) to England; while the younger (Donalbain) escaped to Ireland. Though suspicion pointed towards Macbeth, it was charged to the king's two attendants with whom the dagger was found, and whose faces had been smeared with blood by Lady Macbeth, while under the influence of her narcotic. Macbeth, as next heir, was now crowned king. Realizing that the prophecies of the witches had so far come to pass, and fearing that Banquo's son, instead of his own, would succeed him, Macbeth caused Banquo to be waylaid and murdered; but his son, Fleance, escaped. Thoughts of his wicked deeds, and the faces of his victims, so

haunted Macbeth that he had no peace of mind. He visited the witches, who, at his request, summoned the spirits, and one of them called him by name and cautioned him to beware of Macduff, the Thane of Fife. Another spirit, in the form of a bloody child, told him that "None born of woman could have power to harm him." The third spirit arose in the form of a child with a tree in its hand, and comforted him against conspiracies, saying he should never be vanquished until the wood from Birnam to Dunsinane Hill should come against him. Macbeth then asked, if they could foresee so much, if Banquo's issue should ever reign in his kingdom? The sound of sweet music was now heard, and eight shadows resembling kings passed him, with Banquo last. By this he knew that these were the posterity of Banquo who should reign after him. From this time the thoughts of Macbeth were all bloody and dreadful. After hearing the witches, the first news that reached the ears of Macbeth was that Macduff had fled to England to join the army which Malcolm was raising to take his kingdom by force. To add to his discomfort, Lady Macbeth died (supposedly by her own hand), and being thus deprived of his partner in crime he became reckless. His attention, however, was soon called to the near approach of Malcolm's army. Soon a messenger informed him that the woods of Birnam were moving against him; and he, thinking of the witches' prophesy, was filled with misgivings. He comforted himself, however, with the assurance that "None of woman born" could harm him. The woods were actually moving, for Malcolm, to conceal his approach, had ordered each soldier to carry the branch of a tree in front of him. As they drew near, Macbeth went out with his army to meet them. He fought with desperation until he came face to face with Macduff, when his courage forsook him and he refused to fight, but boasted that he had a charmed life, which would not yield to one of woman born. Macduff replied that he was never born, as the ordinary manner of man is; but that he came untimely into the world. Macduff taunted Macbeth until he brought back his courage, and they crossed swords. After a severe struggle Macduff overcame him, and, cutting off his head, presented it to Malcolm, the rightful heir to the throne, who in due course assumed the throne of his father, amid great rejoicing.

TROILUS AND CRESSIDA.

Priam, king of Troy, one day received word that from the isles of Greece a fleet was sailing and that its object was to ransack the city. The cause of the quarrel was that the lovely Helen, wife of Menelaus, had bestowed her love on Paris, a son of Priam, and the Greeks demanded that she be given up to her rightful husband. Hector, also a son of Priam, was for giving up Helen and thus averting bloodshed. Paris, however, could not be persuaded to look at it in that light and swore that he would fight as long as he had life left in him. Troilus, another son of King Priam, said that 'twas not for Helen's sake that he desired war, but simply to maintain the glory of the Trojans. In the Grecian camp there were gathered Agamemnon, Ulysses, Nestor, Ajax and Diomedes. While the battle raged Troilus sought Cressida, the daughter of Calchas,

a Greek who dwelt in Troy, and confessed his great love for her, begging she would accept him as her lover. Cressida, who had been secretly in love with him, accepted and Pandarus, the uncle of Cressida, who chanced along, was witness to their vows of constancy. Now it happened at this time that Calchas deserted from the Trojan army, his adopted country, and joined the army of Agamemnon, telling that great warrior that he could not fight against his own countrymen, saying he had abandoned Troy, incurring the name of traitor, suffered many inconveniences and now besought reward. Agamemnon asked him to name his reward and he answered that a certain Antenor, a Trojan prisoner now confined in the Grecian camp, be exchanged for Cressida, his daughter. This Agamemnon agreed to, bade Diomedes to see to the exchange and bring Cres-

sida to the Grecian camp. It now came about that Hector, representing the Trojans, and Ajax, representing the Greeks, were to meet in single combat. To Ajax, therefore, as well as to the Trojan hero, Achilles sent an invitation to his tent and procured a safe conduct for Hector from Agamemnon. In the meantime Diomedes had entered the city of Troy that he might receive Cressida in exchange for Antenor, the prisoner of war. The parting between Troilus and Cressida was very sad. They swore to be eternally true to each other and Troilus told her that he would soon be at her side again. So in giving her a sleeve which she should wear and receiving in exchange from her a glove, they parted. The combat between Ajax and Hector was soon over, Hector declaring that as Ajax was his cousin he did not want to spill his blood. It so came about that Achilles asked Hector to his tent that night and on the morrow arranged to fight in single combat.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM.

During the ducal reign of Theseus the law of Athens compelled a daughter to marry the man of her father's choice, and upon her refusing to do so, empowered the father to cause her to be put to death. This extreme, however, though often threatened, was seldom resorted to. There dwelt at this time in Athens one Egeus, who sought to enforce this law in his daughter Hermia's case, by complaining to Theseus that she, whom he commanded to do so, refused to marry Demetrius, an Athenian noble, because she loved Lysander. Hermia pleaded in excuse that Demetrius professed love for Helena and that Helena returned his love. Theseus, though a merciful prince, had not the power to alter the law, but granted Hermia four days for consideration, at the expiration of which, should she still remain obdurate, she must then die. Hermia related her plight to Lysander, who suggested, that as the law did not extend beyond the city, they flee to the house of his aunt, there to be secretly married. They were to meet at the fairies' wood outside the city. Hermia confided her plans to her friend, Helena, who, girl-like, told Demetrius. Demetrius started out to intercept Hermia, and, in despair, Helena followed.

Oberon and Titania, king and queen of the fairies, reigned supreme in the wood, but at this time were quarreling over a changeling boy, whom Titania had adopted and whom Oberon wanted to secure for his page. Oberon, knowing his queen's great aversion to ridicule, decided, in order to gain her consent, to put her under the influence of a charmed flower, the juice of which, when applied to the eyelids of one sleeping, had the effect to make that person fall madly in love with the first object viewed on awakening. To assist him, he summoned Puck, his favorite counsellor, and ordered him to fetch the flower. Oberon, while waiting the return of Puck, observed Demetrius and Helena enter the woods, and, being always friendly to true lovers, felt great compassion for Helena. When Puck returned with the flower Oberon said to him: "Take a portion of this flower; there has been a sweet Athenian lady here in love with a disdain-

Troilus, who had followed Cressida, was hovering round the tent of Calchas where she had been taken and could plainly hear her talking words of love to Diomedes. He was indeed shocked. The day of the great battle arrived and the Trojans and Greeks met face to face, the grand line of the opposing forces covering much ground. Upon the field of combat Hector and Troilus now did their part, for Troilus longed to vanquish those who had taken from him the Lady Cressida. The battle was hot and Ajax had taken the Trojan general Aeneas prisoner. Presently the sound of drums and shouting announced some victory. Hector had indeed fallen and by the hand of Achilles.

Thus with the humiliated and crestfallen Trojans Troilus hastened from the sight of the victorious enemy, but his last words were angry threatening of future retribution.

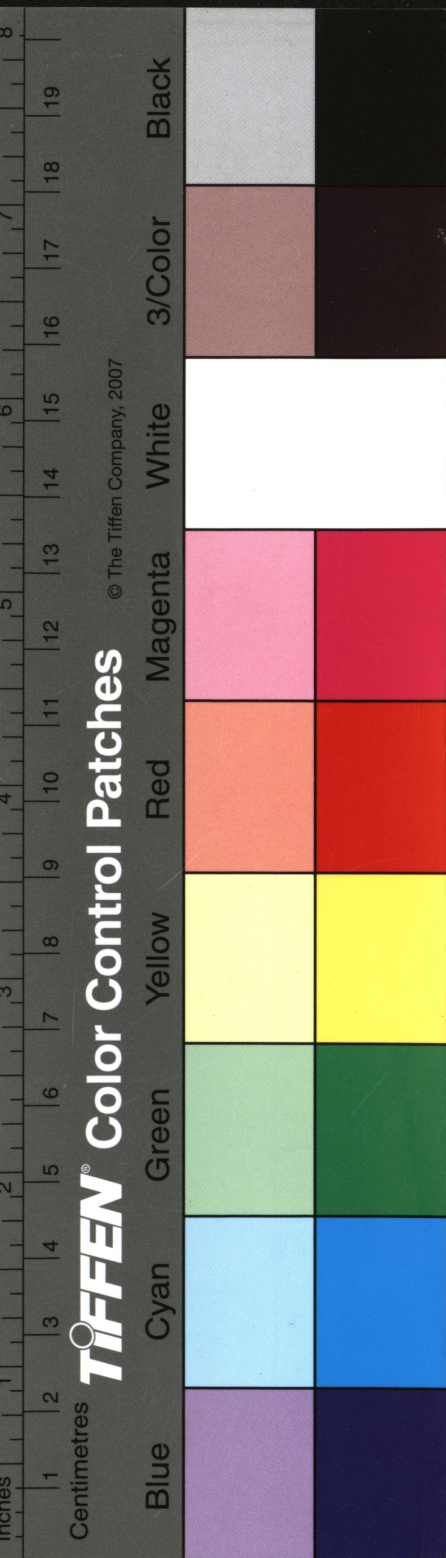
ful youth. If you find him sleeping, drop some of the love juice on his eyelids, but contrive to do it when she is near, so that she may be the first object he beholds on awakening. You will know the youth by his Athenian garments." Puck, starting out, meets Lysander, and, mistaking him for Demetrius, applies the charm on his eyelids. Oberon, learning of the mistake, seeks Demetrius and applies the juice to him, the result being that Lysander and Demetrius awaken at the same moment, and Helena being the first object visible, they both profess the greatest adoration for her to the consternation of Hermia. Helena accuses Hermia of making a jest of her. Lysander and Demetrius come to blows, the maidens in the meantime running away, and finally the youths, overcome by their exertions, again fall asleep. Oberon, sympathizing with Hermia, applies an antidote to Lysander. Hermia and Helena, having settled their quarrel, go in search of their recreant lovers. They find them asleep on the grass, lying at some distance apart. Helena rests by the side of Demetrius and Hermia watches over Lysander. In time they awake, and Lysander, having regained his natural senses, renews his love for Hermia, while Demetrius, being still under the spell, continues his love for Helena, which is just as it should be. Egeus appearing on the scene at this time, in search of his runaway daughter, seeing how matters stand, relents and forgives his daughter.

In the meantime, Oberon having applied the charm to Titania, she awakes to find before her a clown with the head and shoulders of an ass, and, under the influence of the spell, she falls madly in love with this monster. Oberon discovers her with this ungainly object asleep in her arms, and commences to ridicule and belittle her to such an extent that she willingly agrees to hand over the changeling to him for a page if he will but break the spell. This he does, and peace and happiness once more reign supreme.

Should any be incredulous about fairies and their pranks, none need be offended with a Midsummer Night's Dream.

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THE TAMING OF THE SHREW.

Katherine, eldest daughter of Baptista, a rich gentleman of Padua, had such a fiery temper that she was known by no other name but Katherine the shrew. It seemed unlikely on this very account that she would ever be married. Baptista refused many excellent offers made for the hand of her gentle sister, Bianca, giving as his excuse that the elder sister should be married first. Petruchio came to Padua purposely to look for a wife, and hearing Katherine was rich and handsome, resolved upon marrying her and taming her into a meek and dutiful wife. He asked Baptista for permission to woo his gentle daughter, as he was pleased to call her. Her father, though he wished her married, had to confess that Katherine would ill answer that character. Petruchio was, however, urgent in his request, and to get down to business, wanted to know what dowry he would get with her. Baptista informed him that he would give her twenty thousand crowns as a dowry and half of his estate at his death. Petruchio decided to woo her with spirit; a strange courtship he made of it. She in her angry speech demonstrating to him how she had won for herself the nickname, while he, on the other hand, praised her sweet and courteous words. Baptista entering, Petruchio told him that his daughter had received him kindly and had promised to marry him the following Sunday. Katherine denied this, and reproached her father for wishing to wed her to such a madcap ruffian. Petruchio would not be gainsaid, and told Baptista to provide the feast and invite the wedding guests and he would go to Venice and buy jewelry and fine apparel against their wedding day. On the Sunday the guests were assembled, but they waited long, for the bridegroom appeared not, and Katherine wept for vexation to think that Petruchio had only been making a jest of her. At last, however, he came, but brought none of the finery he had promised. His own clothes were shabby and travel-stained, and he would not be persuaded to change his dress, saying Katherine was to marry him and not his clothes. They went to the church, where he swore so loud that he frightened the priest, who dropped the book, and for his tardiness he knocked him down. The high spirited Katherine trembled with fear. Baptista had provided a sumptuous marriage feast, but Petruchio, taking hold of Katherine, declared his intention of carrying her home at once, and he allowed no remonstrance of his father-in-law, or the angry words of his enraged wife, to change his purpose. Petruchio mounted his wife, himself and his servant on poor, jaded steeds, and when Katherine's horse stumbled, he would swear at the poor beast. At length they arrived home. Petruchio resolved that his wife should neither have food nor rest for that night. Supper was served, but pretending to find fault with every dish, ordered the servants to remove it, which he said he did in love for Katherine. He found fault in the same way with the bed and compelled her to sit on a chair, where, if she chanced to drop asleep, she was awakened by his swearing at the servants. All the next day he pursued the same course, but that she might not be quite starved, he brought her a small portion of meat, which,

with loving words, he informed her he had dressed himself. Before his wife had more than tasted of it, he ordered the servant to take the dish away, saying that he should be repaid with thanks before she should touch the meat. Katherine, being so overcome by hunger, reluctantly thanked him. He then permitted her to make a slender meal. He now concluded to return to her father's house and revel in it with the best, and in order to make her believe what he said, he called in a tailor and haberdasher, who brought with them some fine clothes he had ordered for her. When these tradesmen presented their goods he began to storm afresh, and vowed they were unfit for her to wear. Katherine thought them charming, but he said she should not have them until she was gentle. At this she became much enraged and spoke angrily to him. He would not hear her, and, following out his original scheme, pretended to take an opposite meaning out of her words. Having privately ordered the tradesmen to be paid for their goods, and excusing himself to them for his strange conduct, he informed his wife they would go to her father's house in the mean garments they then wore, but he meant that she should be so completely subdued that she should assent to everything he said before he took her there. Katherine was forced to practice her newly found obedience, and he brought her to such perfect subjection that she dared not remember there was ever such a word as contradiction. They arrived in Padua to find a large company assembled to celebrate the wedding of Bianca and Lucentio. Baptista welcomed them to the feast. There was also present another newly married couple. Lucentio and Hortensio, the other bridegroom, could not forbear sly jests at the shrewish disposition of Petruchio's wife, the result being that when the ladies retired after dinner a wager of one hundred crowns was entered into between them as to who had the most obedient wife. Lucentio first sent his servant to desire Bianca to come to him, but she sent for answer that she was busy and could not come. Next Hortensio ordered his servant to go and entreat his wife to come to him, but she replied that he had some jest on hand and would not do so, and bade him come to her. Then came Petruchio's turn, and he instructed his servant to go to his mistress and tell her that he commanded her to come to him. To the surprise of all, Katherine immediately appeared and meekly said to her husband, "What is your will, sir, that you send for me?" He asked what the other two wives were doing, and she replied that they were conferring by the parlor fire. He ordered her to fetch them in, which she forthwith did. Katherine's father was so overjoyed at this reformation in his daughter that he informed Petruchio that as he had won the wager he would increase the dowry by a further twenty thousand crowns. To test her still further, Petruchio ordered Katherine to instruct the other ladies in the duty they owed their husbands, and to the wonder of all present the reformed Katherine spoke eloquently in praise of the wifely duty of obedience. It is unnecessary to say that she was no longer known as Katherine the shrew.

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AS YOU LIKE IT.

During the time that France was divided into provinces or dukedoms, there reigned in one of these provinces a usurper who had deposed and banished his elder brother, the lawful duke. The duke who was thus driven from his dominions retired with a few faithful followers to the forest of Arden, where they lived a happy and contented life. The banished duke had an only daughter named Rosalind, whom the usurper retained in his court as companion for his own daughter, Celia. These two were fast friends. One day Celia asked Rosalind if she would like to witness a wrestling match. The participants were a large, powerful man, well versed in the art of wrestling, and a youth, who, from his inexperience in the art, the spectators surely thought would be killed. The duke was loathe to see him killed and told Celia and Rosalind to try and persuade him from participating in such an uneven contest. The young ladies did their utmost to dissuade the young man, and Rosalind spoke so kindly to him that it only made him the more anxious to distinguish himself before this lovely lady's eyes. He refused their request in such modest and graceful words that they felt still more concern for him. The match began and he performed wonders and completely conquered his antagonist. The duke, being much pleased with his skill and courage, demanded his name, and on learning that he was Orlando, the youngest son of Sir Rowland de Boys, who, when living was a true subject and a dear friend of the banished duke, all his interest in him vanished. Rosalind, on the other hand, was delighted to hear that her new friend was the son of her father's friend, and in appreciation for his bravery, and because she had secretly fallen in love with him, she took a chain from around her neck and handed it to him. Orlando was greatly pleased at receiving the gift, for he, too, had fallen in love with Rosalind. The duke being enraged that this youth proved to be the son of his brother's old friend, and wanting to rid himself of all associations of his brother, he ordered Rosalind to instantly leave the palace. Celia tried to prevail upon her father to let her friend remain, but the duke was obdurate. She therefore decided to go with her, and they left the palace that night together. Considering it unsafe that they should travel in their rich clothes, they decided to adopt the garb of the country folk. Rosalind wore the dress of a young countryman and Celia that of a country lass, and agreed to pass for brother and sister. Rosalind assumed the name of Ganymede and Celia that of Aliena. Taking their money and jewels with them they started out for the forest of Arden in search of Rosalind's father. After an uneventful journey they at last came to the forest. Here they became lost, and, being tired out and hungry, might have perished had not a woodman chanced along, who led them to the house of a shepherd near by, and they being gladly welcomed, decided to remain in this hospitable abode till they could learn some tidings of the whereabouts of the duke. Ganymede (Rosalind) would often think of her dear Orlando, but little knew that at that time he was also in the forest of Arden. And this is how it came about: On the death of Sir Rowland de Boys, Orlando was left to the care of his elder brother Oliver. Oliver proved an unworthy brother, and disregarding the dying words of his father, never put him to school and kept him at home entirely neglected. Notwithstanding this Orlando grew up to be a splendid specimen of

manhood, and Oliver so envied his dignified manners that at last he wished to kill him; and with this end in view he arranged the wrestling match—the result of which is already known. Failing in this attempt he plotted to burn him to death in his bed, but Adam, a faithful servant of the family, overhearing the plot, warned Orlando, and he (Adam) and Orlando made their escape, and in their wanderings came to the forest of Arden. Being terribly pressed for food they fortunately came across the banished duke, who provided them with ample food; and on learning that Orlando was the son of his old friend he took him and Adam under his protection.

Ganymede and Aliena were much surprised to find the name "Rosalind" carved on many trees, and love sonnets fastened to them; and while wondering how this could be they met Orlando with the chain Rosalind had given him. Ganymede asked him who it was that haunted the forest and spoiled the young trees by carving "Rosalind" upon their barks, and added that if she could find him she would give him some good counsel that would soon cure him of his love. Orlando, not recognizing Ganymede, confessed that he was the culprit, and asked how he was to be cured. She answered that he should feign to court her, and imitating the fantastical ways of whimsical ladies she would soon spoil him of his love. After this he was a constant visitor at the cottage, but it does not appear that Ganymede made any progress in curing him of his love for Rosalind. In this manner many days passed pleasantly, good-natured Aliena taking in the fun. One morning as Orlando was going to visit Ganymede he chanced across his brother, asleep on the grass, and also saw a lion crouched down ready to spring on the sleeping man. He killed the lion, and his brother being full of remorse for his past conduct at seeing Orlando thus risk his life for him, begged for forgiveness. Orlando forgave Oliver, and having received an ugly wound in the arm from the lion's paw, told Oliver to go to the cottage and tell Ganymede of his accident. Thither he went, and his sincere sorrow for his past offences so touched Aliena that she fell in love with him. Oliver made this visit a very long one, and before he left he and Aliena had become engaged. Ganymede went in search of Orlando, and in the course of conversation told him that if he really loved Rosalind as well as he professed to, that he would cause Rosalind to be at his brother's wedding on the morrow, and then he could marry her. This he explained he could easily bring to pass by the aid of magic, which he had learned from his uncle. Orlando now explained matters to the duke, and it was arranged that they should all be married before him on the morrow. The next morning Oliver, Aliena and Orlando came into the presence of the duke and everything was ready for the double marriage, but for the absence of Rosalind. Ganymede entered and asked the duke if he would consent to his daughter's marriage, and receiving an affirmative reply, he, in company with Aliena, left the room. Rapidly changing their attire they re-entered, and after explanations and mutual congratulations, the two happy couples were married.

The usurper, regretting his past conduct, became a true penitent and passed the remainder of his life in a religious house. The rightful duke had his possessions restored to him, and everything ended happily.

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The emperor of Rome was dead, and Saturninus and Blassianus were each loudly setting forth their claims to the throne. Tribunes and senators were assembled to hear their stirring appeals. But one, Marcus Andronicus, now entered bearing the disputed crown. He came to forward the interests of his brother, Titus, who, in the war with the Goths, had done great service to the state. He asked who there was among them that had such a claim to the throne as Titus, who, after ten long years, had returned a conqueror, having made his name and his nation famous. Blassianus was the first to reply, and, allowing the truth of Marcus' remarks, dismissed those friends who espoused his cause, and agreed to abide the decision of the people. Saturninus followed his brother's example, and left it to the people to decide. They then entered the capitol, and as they did so, a coffin was brought in containing the body of a son of Titus, followed by Lucius and Quintus, the sons of Titus. Young Lucius called to his father to give him the proudest prisoner among the Goths that he might slay him the same way his brother had been slain. Titus gave the eldest son of Tamora, the captive queen, and though she begged hard for the life of her son, Titus would not listen to her, and he was ruthlessly slain.

While the streets of Rome were alive with an angry mob demanding that the laws be modified and that the poor be treated with equal consideration to the rich, and at the time when the tumult was at its highest—the mob seeking Caius Marcius on whom to avenge themselves—Menenius Agrippa made his appearance and commenced to talk to the masses in a conciliatory manner, concluding with the announcement that the Volscians had taken up arms against them and were now advancing under the generalship of Tullus Aufidius. Virgilia, the wife of Marcius, was filled with sorrow and fear over the prospect of a war, but Volumnia, the mother of Marcius, a brave and courageous woman, was of the opinion that it was much better for a man to fight and die for his country than to live in idle luxury. So it was that Marcius, accompanied by Titus Lartius, fought their way to Caroli, the capital town of the Volscians, and after a long and bloody battle captured the town and put the Volscians to rout. The Roman general, Cominus, was so well pleased with the great bravery displayed by Marcius that he insisted upon him receiving a tenth part of the spoil as his reward. Marcius, however, being of a naturally modest

In order to avenge himself on Titus the empress had Bassianus waylaid and murdered, and Lavinia seized. She told her husband that he had been murdered by those wicked Andronici. So Lucius and Quintus were seized and cast into prison to be eventually subjected to the greatest torture. Titus pleaded hard for his two sons, but the emperor said they must die. They were accordingly executed in the presence of the poor old father. Metrius, another son of Titus, was at the execution and tried to rescue his brothers, for which act he was banished.

Titus, enraged beyond endurance, was for a time beside himself. In the meantime Metrius marched against Rome with a large army to avenge the death of his brothers. Now it was that Saturninus pleaded with Titus to intercede for him with his son Metrius, and cause a peace to be signed. Feigning to comply, Titus prepared a grand banquet, at which Metrius and Saturninus were to meet. To humor a mad Titus dressed up as a cook. A fit of frenzy seizing hold of Titus, he entered the room and thrust his sword through his wronged daughter, Lavinia, and also through Tamora, who both fell dead. Saturninus rushed at the fanatic and killed him (Titus) on the spot, and Metrius returned the compliment by killing him (Saturninus).

After the disturbance had quieted down, Metri-
us was crowned king, and lived to commit many
acts of charity.

CORIO LANUS.

was that Coriolanus, leaving his wife and mother in Rome made his way to Antium, a Volscian town, where he offered Aufidius his services to lead an army against Rome. When the Romans heard that Aufidius, joined by Marcus, was leading a powerful force against them, they were greatly alarmed. Emissary after emissary was sent to him to beg of him to withdraw his forces and not destroy the town, but he gave no ear to their supplications. As a last resort the Romans persuaded Virgilia, Coriolanus' wife to intercede on their behalf and after much per-

LOVE'S LABOR'S LOST.

Three of his lords, Birón, Dumaín and Longaville had taken oath to be the sovereign's fellow students for three years. They were to take no food on a certain day in each week, and only one meal on other days, were only to sleep three hours, and under no pretext whatever were they to receive the visits of ladies, who were either friends or relatives. It was also ordered that no woman should come to court under pain of losing her tongue, and that if any of the students were caught conversing with a lady he should be punished by enduring every possible shame his companions could inflict. After a while the monotony of this irksome life became unendurable, and as a source of amusement, Costard—a most amusing clown—was retained at court for the diversion of the students. Presently Armado, a highly accomplished Spaniard, came in with the news that Costard had been seen talking to Jaquenetta, and as punishment for this breach of the law, he was sentenced to fast for one year on bran, and Armado was to have special charge of him.

him. Now, Armado was himself in love with Jaquenna, and was much troubled that he could not communicate with her under the terms of his agreement with Ferdinand to serve three years with the other students. At this time the French princess came over to the court of Ferdinand on important business. Ferdinand was greatly in love with her. Hearing that no woman could enter the court for three years, she sent Boyet to summon the king to her. Now, the princess had three maids with her, each of whom had some acquaintance with the three lordly students. Boyet, who soon returned, said the rule was to be dispensed with, and ere he had finished speaking the king and the three lords arrived to bid their royal guests welcome. The princess handed the king a document, demanding from him the sum of 100,000 crowns, being a debt due the king of France. Ferdinand repudiated the debt, and the princess, waxing wroth, said she could show the true documents on the morrow.

By this time Armado and the clown were pulling well together, and one day he sent him with a message to Jaquenetta, promising him his freedom if he proved a faithful servant. As he was about to start he was accosted by Biron, who told him to take a letter to Rosaline, one of the maids of the princess, and with whom he was greatly enamored. The princess, with her lords and

suasion she prevailed upon her husband to give up his intention of attacking Rome. Thus was peace maintained. On the return of Coriolanus to Antium, Aufidius denounced him publicly as a traitor to the Volscians, won by the tears of women to deprive them of their expected triumph over Rome. As Coriolanus approached to state the honorable terms on which he had made peace, a tumult ensued and several voices cried "Let him die; let him die for it!" Swords were drawn, one of which pierced the heart of Coriolanus and he fell lifeless to the ground.

ladies, were walking in the park, when the clown approached, saying: "I have a letter from M. Biron to one Lady Rosaline." Boyet advanced, and taking the letter opened it, and saw that it was a lengthy epistle to the fair Jaquenetta. The letter was returned to the clown, as it came from one not known to the ladies there. He then went to Jaquenetta and gave her the letter signed Biron, intended for Rosaline. Ferdinand and his three lords, all of whom were in love, were talking about their different fancies, when the clown, with Jaquenetta, entered and handed Biron's letter to Rosaline, to the king. Biron openly confessed his admiration for Rosaline. They then decided to release themselves from their foolish vow and to set about and woo these maids of France, "and win them, too," the king replied. So the king and the three lords set about a most amorous wooing, but the maidens not wishing to be so easily caught, they decided amongst themselves to disguise and the one to pass for the other. Rosaline represented the princess and she Rosaline. Maria and Katharine likewise. Barely had they assumed their masks when the king, with Biron, Longaville and Dumain, at tired as Russians, entered. They chatted fondly together, each believing he was making love to his real lady. The ladies now quickly threw off their masks, and only just in time, for Ferdinand, with his lords, who had thrown off the Russian disguise, entered. Ferdinand begged the princess to come to the court, saying that they had broken the vow, but she refused, averring that she was perfectly contented to remain where she was, adding that they had had great fun with some so-called Russians. Then Rosaline told the king what he had said in her ear. The king denied it, feeling sure it was to the princess he had been whispered those words of love. While explanations were going on amongst much merriment, a messenger entered to say that the king of France was dead. The princess was overcome with the sad news and decided to depart at once. The king and lords could not let them go thus, and begged, "grant us your loves." The princess agreed to marry Ferdinand if he would submit to a severe penance for a year. He accepted the terms. The same injunction being put upon the others by the three fair maids, they likewise ac-

Then came the clown, after the final adieux had been said, and chanted in a loud voice :
 " For spring would come and winter must go before the king of Navarre and his faithful lords should meet their lady-loves again."
 'Twas indeed, " Love's labor's lost."



THE COMEDY OF ERRORS.

The states of Syracuse and Ephesus being at variance, the law of Ephesus ordained that should any person from Syracuse be found in the city of Ephesus he should be put to death unless he could pay a thousand marks as a ransom. Ægeon, of Syracuse, being found in Ephesus, he was taken before the duke either to pay this ransom or to receive the sentence of death. He had no money, but before passing sentence the duke commanded him to acknowledge the cause which prompted him to enter the city. Ægeon said he did not fear death, but that the heaviest punishment that could be meted out to him would be to narrate the history of his unfortunate life. The story briefly ran as follows:—He had married a lady of Syracuse with whom he lived very happily, but having to go to Epidamnus, where his business detained him longer than he expected, he sent for his wife, who, soon after her arrival, became the mother of two sons. These twins were so exactly alike that it was impossible to distinguish one from the other. About the same time two other boys were born in the inn where he lodged, and these twins bore as strong a resemblance to each other as his own sons did. Their parents being poor he bought the boys and brought them up to attend upon his own sons as slaves. His wife wishing to return home, in an evil hour they got on board ship, but had not gone far when a violent storm arose which caused the sailors to desert the ship, leaving him and his family on board. He tied his youngest son and the youngest of the twin slaves to a spar, while his wife fastened the other children in a like manner. She thus having the care of the two elder children and he of the two younger, bound themselves separately to these spars with the children. The ship foundered and they were cast to the mercy of the waves. His wife and the children with her were rescued by a boat from Corinth while he in turn was picked up by a ship from Syracuse. From that hour he lost all trace of his wife and eldest child. When his youngest son was eighteen years of age, he and his young slave started out in search of his mother and lost brother. Ægeon was now in search of his youngest son, which was the cause of his being in Ephesus. The duke, pitying this unfortunate father, said that if it were not against the law he would freely pardon him, and instead of dooming him to instant death, he allowed him that day to try to get the money for his ransom. This seemed no great favor to Ægeon, for he was not aware of any acquaintance in Ephesus, but at that very time, as it turned out, both of his sons were in the city. Ægeon's sons, besides being exactly alike in person, were both called Antipholus, and the two slaves were also named Dromio. Ægeon's youngest son, Antipholus of Syracuse,

with his slave had arrived at Ephesus the same day that his father did, but meeting a friend who warned him of his danger, he passed as a merchant of Epidamnus. The eldest son, Antipholus, of Ephesus, had lived at Ephesus for twenty years and was wealthy. He and Dromio were sold by the fishermen of Corinth to Duke Menophon, who carried the boys to Ephesus, where the Duke of Ephesus, becoming attached to Antipholus, on his growing up made him an officer in his army and married him to Adriana, a rich lady of Ephesus, with whom he was living when his father came there. Antipholus of Syracuse, dispatched his slave with some money to the inn where he intended to dine, and was left to roam about. Dromio, as he imagined him to be, returned, and, wondering why he came back so soon, Antipholus asked him where he had left the money. Now it was not his own Dromio, but the twin brother that he addressed. The great similarity in likeness between the two Dromios and the two Antipholuses was the means of causing the remarkable complications which occurred on this memorable day. Antipholus of Syracuse, was repeatedly mistaken for Antipholus of Ephesus and *vice versa*, and so were the two Dromios. Not the least important of these mistakes being that Adriana mistook he of Syracuse for her husband and insisted upon his dining with her and her sister Luciana. So thoroughly was she convinced of his identity that she refused admittance to her real husband during the course of the meal. The situation became so serious that Antipholus of Syracuse, and Dromio, his slave, had to seek shelter in a convent. Meantime Ægeon's day of grace was passing away. The place of his execution was near this convent and here he arrived attended by the duke in person, so that if any one offered to pay the money he might be at hand to pardon him. Adriana stopped the procession and begged the duke for justice, telling him the abbess refused to deliver up her husband. While she was speaking her real husband and his servant approached the duke to demand justice for his unfortunate position, and in the midst of this perplexity the lady abbess and her refugees appeared on the scene. The wondering Adriana now saw two husbands and two Dromios standing before her. When the Duke saw two sets of twins so exactly alike he at once took in the situation, for he remembered the story Ægeon had narrated to him in the morning. An unlooked-for joy now completed the history of Ægeon, for he not only found both of his sons, but also their mother, for the venerable lady abbess made herself known to be his long lost wife. Ægeon was duly pardoned. Antipholus of Syracuse married Luciana, the sister of Adriana.

The New Home Sewing Machine has more friends than any other machine, because it does not get out of order, and gives so little trouble. All kinds of work capable of being made on a sewing machine can be made on a NEW HOME.

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637 Wabasha Street,
ST. PAUL.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.

There lived in the palace at Messina two ladies, whose names were Hero and Beatrice. The former was the daughter and the latter the niece of Leonato, the governor of Messina. Beatrice was of a lively temper and full of sprightly sallies, while Hero, on the other hand, was of a more serious disposition.

At the time the history of these ladies commences, Leonato received a visit from Don Pedro, the Prince of Aragon, his friend, Claudio, and the wild and witty Benedick, who were just returning from the wars. Being well acquainted, they were all soon engaged in busy conversation. Now, Beatrice on former visits had always selected Benedick to make her merry jests upon. Benedick being excellent at repartee, generally gave her a *quid pro quo*, and consequently the situation between them was somewhat strained, the one not liking the cutting sarcasm, and the other not by any means relishing the sometimes cruel rejoinders. This meeting was no different from the others; as soon as they saw each other the war broke out afresh, and the sarcasm of Beatrice's jests hurt Benedick deeply.

The prince, who had been talking with Leonato, and at the same time watching the actions of Benedick and Beatrice, conceived an idea to try and make these two fall in love with each other. He told Leonato of his intentions, who merely laughed and said they would talk themselves mad in a week. Claudio became greatly infatuated with Hero, and asked permission of Leonato to woo her. His affection was returned by Hero, and an early day was fixed for the marriage. The prince told Claudio of the plot he had concocted to try and make Beatrice and Benedick fall in love with each other, and he (Claudio) fully entered into the spirit of the thing. It had become a custom of Benedick to spend much of his time in an arbor, and to this place the two conspirators went, and finding Benedick there, as they surmised, commenced to talk in tones loud enough to be heard by him. They expressed great concern for Beatrice, saying she was madly in love with Benedick, and would surely die if he did not show some signs of reciprocity; but they dare not hint this infatuation to him, lest he should wound her more by making jest of her love, etc. Benedick began to think of what they had said, and resolved to take pity on Beatrice, and if he really found it true that she loved him, he would marry her. Hero also being taken into the plot, now undertook her part and caused Beatrice to be secretly informed that she and Ursula (her gentlewoman) were in the arbor talking about her. Beatrice at once stole into the garden and listened to the dialogue prepared for her benefit. She received it pretty much in the same way as Benedick did, and resolved that if he

were really in love with her she should meet him half way. Beatrice and Benedick soon met; the plot worked, and each thinking the one was languishing for the other, they became engaged. Don John, the half-brother of the prince, arriving on the scene, and becoming envious of the renown and good luck of the prince and Claudio, determined to mar their good fortune if possible. His plan was to make Claudio think that Hero was untrue to him, and by the complications that would ensue, he hoped to raise a general rumpus in which there would be bloodshed, and possibly the prince and Claudio be killed. He had not long to wait to put his vile plot into execution. He persuaded Borachio, his servant, who had fallen in love with Margaret, Hero's waiting maid, to prevail upon her to assume the costume of her mistress, and from her window feign to hold a conversation with him. Don John then told Claudio and the prince that Hero was in the habit of receiving callers at midnight, and to substantiate his statement, offered to show them so with their own eyes. They concealed themselves in sight of Hero's chamber, and they beheld Borachio talking (as they supposed) to Hero. Claudio's love for her vanished, but he determined to say nothing until before the altar, on the morrow, when he would denounce her before all present. This he did, but the blow was too much for Hero, and she was taken away insensible and reported dead. Beatrice, as a trial of his love, urged Benedick to challenge Claudio and avenge Hero. Leonato threatened the prince and events were fast shaping for a copious flow of blood. Borachio, being overheard telling of how he and Don John were the cause of all the trouble, was seized and taken before the prince. He confessed his guilt. Claudio now begged Leonato's forgiveness, and being truly penitent, he said he would forgive him if he would marry Hero's cousin, his next heir. Claudio said he would do anything that Leonato commanded, and the wedding was at once arranged. The bride entered heavily veiled and Claudio offered himself as her husband. Throwing off her veil, she revealed her identity, and Claudio beheld Hero standing before him. Benedick and Beatrice now came forward and asked to be married with them. Claudio fearing the joke might become serious, told them how each had been deceived in believing that the one was madly in love with the other. A true affection had, however, sprung up between them, and they proposed to see the joke through and the wedding took place without further delay. Thus were these two mad wits reconciled. Don John, the contriver of the villany, was captured and brought into the wedding feast to witness the great joy and happiness of those whom he had contrived to wrong.

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The embroidery made on the NEW HOME (without extra attachment) closely resembles hand work, but is much superior, and is so easily and quickly done that any one can make table scarfs, banners, pin-cushions, and other useful and ornamental articles, without any previous experience in embroidery.

637 Wabasha Street,
ST. PAUL.



ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL.

At the death of Count Rousillon, his son Bertram succeeded him. The count was a great favorite of the King of France. Helena, the daughter of the celebrated physician, Gerard de Narbon, since her father's death, had been living with the dowager countess, who was much attached to Helena, as was the latter also to Bertram, though she greatly feared that her love was not returned by him.

The King of France, as a mark of friendship for his old friend, sent Lafleur to conduct Bertram to the court, there to grace him with his special favor and protection. The countess was very loath to part with her son and wept many bitter tears. Lafleur told the countess that the king was in very poor health, and she thereupon explained to him that Gerard de Narbon, on his death-bed had left his daughter, as a legacy, some prescriptions of rare and well-proved virtue, almost sovereign in their efficacy. Amongst the rest there was one that had been set down especially for the malady, under which the king at that time languished, but then it seemed most unlikely that what had been called incurable by the court physicians, could be remedied by a poor unlearned virgin, if she should offer to perform a cure. After the departure of Bertram, Helena could not conceal her love for him and was overheard planning to follow Bertram to Paris and to there undertake the cure of the king. The countess being pleased to learn of the love that Helena bore her son, and also having faith in her prescriptions, aided her with money and servants and she started for Paris to offer her services to the king. At first the king was not inclined to try her remedies, but learning who she was, and by the fact of her offering to forfeit her life if she did not cure him within two days, he consented to her appeal, and within the specified time he had regained his natural health. So pleased was the king with her that he caused to be assembled before him all the noble youths of the kingdom, and he told her that she might choose any of them for a husband. She selected Bertram, and though he was much displeased, he dare not disobey the king and the marriage ceremony was at once performed. When alone, Bertram told Helena that she should never call him husband until she could get the ring off his finger. He ordered her to return to his mother, and, obtaining leave of absence, he left France and went to Florence. He there entered the army and soon made a great name for himself through his bravery. Helena returned home and was kindly received by the countess, but

knowing that Bertram would never return home as long as she was there, and from pity for the mother who wanted to see her son so badly, she secretly departed and undertook a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Jacques le Grand, leaving a letter to the countess saying she would never return. Her journey led her through Florence and by chance she happened to stop at the house of a lady, whose daughter Diana was much annoyed by the persistent endeavor of Bertram to form her acquaintance. Diana's mother knowing Bertram to have a wife in France refused to allow him to visit her. When Helena discovered this state of affairs she made herself known, and together they planned that Helena should impersonate Diana and allow Bertram to visit her, the mother in the meantime giving it out that Helena was dead. He became a constant visitor and was so captivated by her manners and conversation, and believing Helena to be dead, proposed a hasty marriage. Helena played her role so well that she had little difficulty in getting the ring from his finger, which he had said she must have before he would call her wife. Helena now in possession of the ring returned home, accompanied by her hostess and Diana. It happened that the king, learning of the supposed death of Helena, was paying the countess a visit. At the solicitation of the countess the king pardoned Bertram. He had secretly followed Helena, and, on hearing of his pardon, caused his presence to be made known. The king at once recognized the ring on Bertram's finger as the one he had given to Helena, which she had vowed never to part with unless she sent it to him as a signal of distress. Diana and her mother now entered and asked the king to compel Bertram to marry Helena, showing Bertram's ring which he had given her in exchange for hers. Bertram swore that he had never given her the ring, and the king becoming suspicious, caused the whole party to be arrested, believing that they had conspired and foully dealt with Helena. Diana asked permission to be allowed to bring the jeweler from whom she got the ring, and soon returned with Helena. Everybody was much surprised, and none more so than Bertram, to find that it was his own wife he had been making love to, and he said that could she prove that she was the Diana that he had talked to, and to whom he had given the ring, that he would gladly acknowledge her. This was accomplished, and Helena became the Countess of Rousillon amid much rejoicing. So, after all, "all's well that ends well."

TWELFTH NIGHT; OR, WHAT YOU WILL.

Sebastian and his sister, Viola, a young gentleman and lady of Messina, were twins, and they resembled each other so closely that, but for the difference of their attire, they could not be known apart. They were shipwrecked on the coast of Illyria. The captain of the vessel and a few of the sailors were saved in a small boat, and with them they brought Viola safely to land. She greatly mourned the loss of her brother, but was comforted by the captain, who assured her that he had seen him lash himself to a mast, and afterwards saw him borne upon the waves. Viola was much consoled by this hope, and now began to wonder what she was to do for herself in this strange country. The captain told her, in answer to her questions that, Illyria was governed by

Orsino, a noble duke, who, dame rumor said, sought the love of the fair Olivia, daughter of a count who had died twelve months before, leaving her to the protection of her brother, who shortly after died also. Olivia, it was said, for the love of this brother, had abjured the sight and company of man. Viola suffering from a similar bereavement felt a great desire to live with this lady, but this was impracticable, as Olivia would not admit anybody, not even the duke himself. Viola then formed the idea of donning man's attire, and in this attire, serve the duke as a page. The captain promised to assist her, and procuring clothes of a similar texture and color to those worn by her brother, succeeded in getting her introduced to the duke under the assumed name of

Cesario. Orsino made her one of his pages, and in course of time revealed to Cesario his love for Olivia. Viola soon learned to love the duke as much as he did Olivia. The duke used to send Cesario with billet-doux to Olivia, and in a short time she became quite attached to the handsome page. And she did not hide her liking for him, but Cesario, dissembling with her, told her that he would never love a woman. One day Cesario, after leaving Olivia, was challenged by a gentleman (a rejected suitor) to fight a duel, but her woman's nature predominating, she was in a quandary whether to run away or disclose her true character when a stranger came upon the scene and took the quarrel upon himself. Before Viola had time to thank this stranger, the officers of justice arrived and apprehended the stranger for some offence he had committed before. His name was Antonio, and it was he who had rescued Sebastian. These two had become fast friends, and the former was persuaded to come to Illyria, though he knew he ran considerable danger in so doing, for he had formerly got into an altercation with and wounded the duke's nephew. It was for this offence he was now arrested. Mistaking Viola for Sebastian, he accused him of be-

ing the cause of his arrest, and demanded of him his purse, which he had recently given him to make some purchases with. Viola being at a loss to understand his meaning, handed him her purse, with what little money it contained. Meantime, Olivia meeting Sebastian, and mistaking him for the page who had recently left her, invited him into her house and there renewed her professions of love for him. Sebastian, himself becoming enamored, consented to marry her and the ceremony was performed there and then by a priest attached to the household. Antonio was brought before the duke to answer for his offense, Viola, as the duke's page, being in attendance. Antonio, still imagining Viola to be Sebastian, continues his accusations against him, and Olivia appearing on the scene and seeing Cesario, addresses him as her husband, much to the astonishment of the duke. Explanations now ensue. The duke seeing that Olivia was beyond his reach, and being as much pleased with Viola as a maiden as he was with Cesario as a page, he fell in love and married her on the afternoon of the same day that Sebastian was wedded to Olivia.

THE TEMPEST.

There was a certain island in the sea the only inhabitants of which were an old man, named Prospero, and his daughter Miranda, a young and beautiful maiden. This Prospero had been formerly Duke of Milan, but, being much given to study, had left the management of his estate to his younger brother, Antonio. Prospero, buried amongst his books gave his entire time to mental culture, while Antonio, having full sway, began to imagine himself the duke indeed. The opportunity thus afforded created the ambition to deprive his brother of the dukedom, which, with the assistance of the King of Naples, who was the duke's enemy, proved a comparatively easy task. These two concocted a plot to seize Prospero and his daughter, intending to set them adrift in an open boat, extorted, frustrated, as Gonzalo, a friend and lord of the duke's court, managed to smuggle into the boat, food, water, wearing-apparel and books pertaining to the Black Art, or witchcraft, and thus when the boat was cut loose, instead of starving to death, as was anticipated, they drifted to this island. Here they took up their abode in a cave, and when not occupied with the education of his daughter, Prospero would devote most of his time to the study of witchcraft. By the aid of that art he soon located and released many good spirits who had been imprisoned in rocks and trees by the witch Sycarox. Of these Ariel was the chief and so grateful was he for being released that he voluntarily became the slave of Prospero.

Prospero, through his magic art, learned that Antonio, and the King of Naples with his son Ferdinand, and his old friend Gonzalo were in a ship not far distant. He summoned Ariel, who raised a tempest which caused the ship to drift on to the rocks. Ferdinand soon followed, and each guided and protected by Ariel, reached the island in safety. Ariel also piloted the vessel to a safe harbor.

Miranda had not seen a human being other

than her father since leaving Milan, and being too young to remember those whom she had then known, was naturally somewhat timid at seeing a gaily dressed and handsome young man standing before her. This was no other than Ferdinand, who had been enticed to the cave by Ariel. Prospero purposely kept out of the way, for he wanted them to fall in love with each other, which they naturally did. He now made himself visible and claimed Ferdinand as his prisoner. Ferdinand drew his sword and tried to resist such treatment, but being placed under a spell became powerless, and obeyed. To try Ferdinand's metal, Prospero set him to carrying heavy pieces of wood. Miranda would very often keep Ferdinand company and many pleasant hours were spent in this way. Prospero anxiously watched them to see if Ferdinand would propose to Miranda. He had not long to wait, and Prospero said to himself: "My girl will be Queen of Naples, and I shall have my estates and title restored to me."

In the meantime Ariel had waylaid the king and Antonio and upbraided them for their gross misconduct toward Prospero, and his words carried such weight that they both saw the enormity of the sin they had committed and were filled with remorse.

Prospero now caused Ariel to bring in the king, Antonio and Gonzalo. The two former begged the forgiveness of Prospero for the wrong they had done him, and promised to make full restitution. The meeting was a joyful one, especially so, when those who supposed themselves shipwrecked found their ship and crew all safe and sound. The entire party set sail for Milan under the protection of Ariel, who caused favorable winds to blow and arrived in safety at their destination. Ere many days had sped, the marriage of Ferdinand and Miranda was celebrated with great pomp and splendor. Prospero was given possession of his estates by his brother; Ariel was given his freedom, and everybody made happy and contented.



THE WINTER'S TALE.

Leontes, King of Sicily, and his queen, the beautiful and virtuous Hermione, once lived in perfect happiness and contentment; so much so that she strived to leave no wish of his ungratified. Sometimes, however, he would be troubled with a great longing to see his old and valued friend, Polixenes, and especially anxious was he to present him to Hermione. At last Polixenes was persuaded to pay Leontes a visit, and he commended him to Hermione's especial care. They talked over old times and many an almost forgotten event was unearthed. After a lengthy stay, Polixenes concluded that he must take his leave. Then it was that Leontes, having failed himself, spoke to Hermione, telling her to try and persuade his old friend to prolong his stay. After much persuasion she prevailed upon him to remain. And now began the queen's sorrow, for Polixenes, refusing to remain on Leontes' invitation, was prevailed by the queen to do so. Upon this, although Leontes had long known the honorable principles of his friend, as well as the irreproachable character of his wife, he was seized with an ungovernable jealousy. He sent for Camillo, a lord of his court, and telling him of his suspicion, ordered him to poison Polixenes. Camillo, being a good man and knowing that the king had no foundation for his jealousy, instead of poisoning Polixenes informed him of his master's orders and agreed with him to escape from the king's dominion. Polixenes, with the assistance of Camillo, arrived safely in his own land, where they soon became fast friends. Polixenes' escape still more enraged the jealous Leontes, and he had the queen thrown into prison. Mamillius, their son, though but a very young child, grieved over his mother's treatment so much that he drooped and pined away. The king then consulted the oracle at the temple of Apollo whether his queen had been unfaithful to him. Shortly after Hermione had been put into prison, she gave birth to a daughter, Paulina, a friend of the queen, when she heard of the birth of the child, went to the prison and persuaded the queen to allow her to take the child and show it to its father in the hope that the sight of the child would cause him to relent. The king was obdurate and ordered Antigonus to take the child to sea and leave it on a desert shore to perish. The king being so firmly convinced of the guilt of Hermione, would not wait the return of the ambassadors whom he had sent to consult the oracle, but brought her to public trial. When the judges were assembled the ambassadors returned with the answer from the oracle, Leontes commanded the words of the oracle to be read aloud, and this is what it said: "Hermione is innocent; Polixenes blameless; Camillo a true subject; Leontes a jealous tyrant, and the king shall die without an heir if that which is lost be not found." The king would give no credence to these words and commanded the judges to proceed with the trial. While Leontes was speaking a man entered and told him that his son was dead. Hermione fainted, and at the sight Leon-

tes relented and ordered Paulina to remove her and use means for her recovery. Paulina returned shortly to inform the king that Hermione was dead. Leontes, hearing this, now repented of his cruelty and would willingly have surrendered his kingdom if he could but find his daughter, being now without an heir.

The ship in which Antigonus carried the infant princess to sea was driven upon the coast of Bohemia. Here he landed and left the child. Antigonus never returned to Sicily so the whereabouts of the child was unknown. A shepherd passing saw a bear kill Antigonus, and finding the child took it home. He appropriated some of the jewels to his own use and purchased therewith large flocks of sheep, and thereby became wealthy. Years now passed and the lost child, Perdita, was now a lovely maiden. Florizel, the son of Polixenes, on one of his hunting expeditions happened to pass the shepherd's house and seeing Perdita, fell instantly in love with her. He made frequent excursions to this place afterwards. Polixenes, wondering what was the attraction that took his son so often in this direction, disguised himself, and one day followed him to the shepherd's house, where he found a sheep-shearing feast in progress. To his great amazement he beheld Florizel and Perdita sitting in a place by themselves making love. Florizel, seeing his father, whom he mistook for a guest of the shepherd, called upon him to witness his promise of marriage. At this his father threw off his disguise, and warned his son that if he was ever caught in the company of Perdita again, whom he called "the sheep-hook," he would have both her and the shepherd put to death. Camillo, knowing that Leontes had repented of his former rash acts and that he would be forgiven if he returned to Milan, proposed to Florizel and Perdita to elope and go with him to Milan, which they did, accompanied by the shepherd, who took with him the remainder of the jewels, and also a piece of paper which he found pinned to her dress. They arrived safely at Milan, where it was eventually discovered that Perdita was the long-lost child of Leontes, all doubts being overcome by the shepherd producing the clothes and the jewels, which were recognized by Paulina as being those she had put on the king's daughter. Paulina now proposed to the king to show him a statue of his dead wife, but which in reality, was Hermione herself arrayed as a statue. After gazing at the supposed statue for some time in amazement, Paulina told him that she could make it walk and speak, and having ordered it to come down from the pedestal, it did and threw its arms around Leontes' neck, who thereupon recognized his wife and begged for her forgiveness. Polixenes now arrived in pursuit of his son, but on finding Perdita was the daughter of Leontes, instead of a "sheep-hook," he gave his consent to the marriage, which was celebrated with great pomp.

All wearing parts of the NEW HOME are made adjustable, so that "lost motion," from long usage, can be easily taken up. This will save the expense of duplicating parts. The machine cannot be put out of time unless some part is broken.

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687 Wabasha Street,
ST. PAUL.

ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA.

As Cleopatra, the beautiful Egyptian Queen, with Antony, the Roman triumvir, who had long been held captive by her charms, were seated in a room in the palace at Alexandria, a messenger arrived from Caesar, at Rome, informing him of the death of his wife, Fulvia; also that Pompey had declared war, and commanded him to return at once to Rome. When Cleopatra heard the news she was very much troubled, and begged Antony not to leave her. However, his purpose remained unshaken, and he took his leave, promising that wherever his footsteps led him the remembrance of her would ever go with him. The first meeting of the triumvirs was not altogether amicable. Caesar accused Antony of remaining away, a slave to the charms of the Egyptian Queen. He also said that his dead wife Fulvia, through her jealousy, had stirred up ill-feeling and brought about a civil war. Warm words ensued, and it would probably not have ended there had not Agrippa (a close friend of Caesar) proposed that a reconciliation be effected, and that Antony marry Octavia, Caesar's sister, and thus their union be strongly cemented. The proposition was accepted both by Caesar and Antony, and the marriage was forthwith celebrated.

The days passed heavily with Cleopatra during Antony's absence, and nothing would comfort her. One day a messenger arrived from whom she learned of the inconstancy of Antony in marrying Octavia. Her fury knew no bounds and she would have killed the bearer of the news had he not made his escape.

Caesar and Pompey did not come to actual battle, a peace being signed upon the former conceding Sicily and Sardinia on condition that the latter would send a specified quantity of wheat to Rome, and also rid the sea of pirates. So that, instead of a bloody battle, a friendly banquet was held on Pompey's galley.

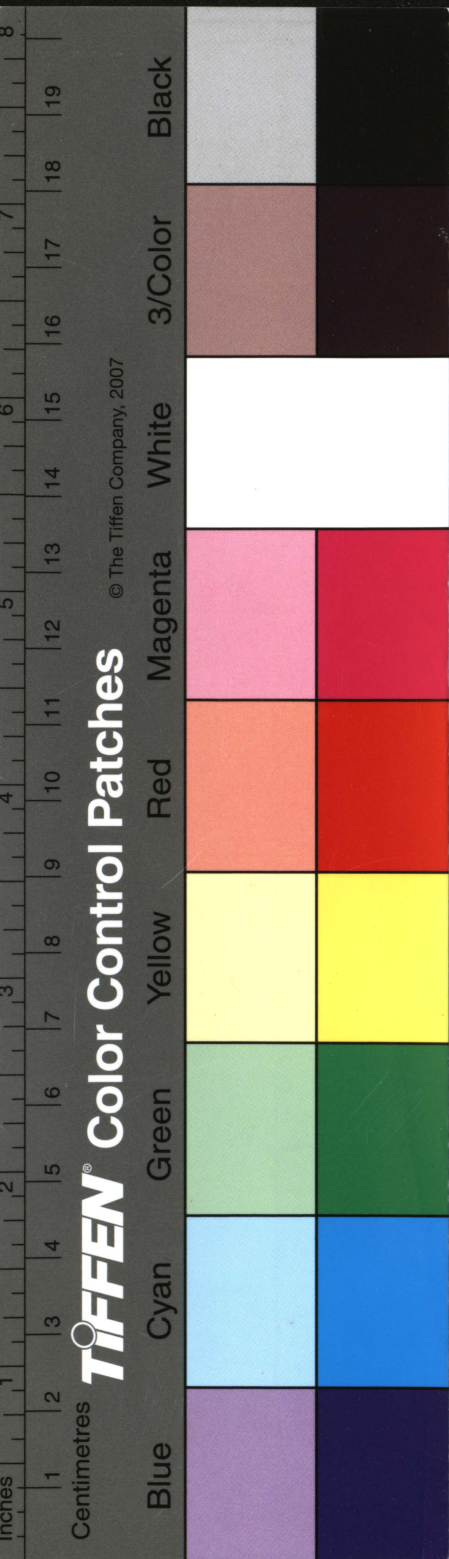
Antony now started with Octavia for Athens, but in the meantime messengers were constantly going to and fro between Cleopatra and Antony, and it was not long before she had again gained her power over him. Octavius Caesar learning of this became very wroth and threatened to take up arms against Antony. Octavia was greatly distressed over this and entreated her husband to let her go to Rome and try and bring about a reconciliation. Caesar was very much chagrined over the unceremonious manner in which his sister arrived in her native state, and when she spoke of her husband as being in Athens, the angry brother, who had secretly learned that Antony was again with Cleopatra, told her the truth and she was intensely mortified. Antony lost all self-control, and while basking in the smiles of this fascinating lady, publicly display-

ed himself, and made her absolute Queen of Lower Syria, Cypress and Lydia.

Cleopatra rejoiced at the idea of war, and proposed to accompany the ships in person. Antony tried hard to dissuade her, but to no avail. Antony not being able to keep away from her took command of the fleet, while Canidius generalled the foot soldiers. The result of the battle was a most disastrous defeat for Antony, and bitterly did he lament not taking command of the land forces himself, for had he done so he felt sure the result would have been different. Cleopatra seeing his deep dejection, tried her utmost to comfort him, but Antony would not be consoled. A school-master was dispatched to Caesar suing for peace. Caesar would not listen to Antony's petition, but offered to grant Cleopatra an audience if she would either drive him from Egypt or else take his life there. Antony was so enraged at this message that he challenged Caesar to another combat, for although his ships in the last battle were mostly all destroyed, yet in his land forces were comparatively intact. In the first encounter Antony routed Caesar's forces, but alas, in the second one, through the strategy of Caesar, he was terribly beaten. Antony accused Cleopatra of treachery (for his soldiers had deserted him on the battle-field) and refused to allow her to come into his presence. In the hope of moving him to tenderness she concealed herself in a monument and told her maidens to tell Antony that she was dead. Antony on learning this cried aloud and commanded Eros (his faithful soldier) to kill him. Eros could not bring himself to do this, and being reminded that he had sworn to do whatsoever he was commanded, drew his sword and instead of striking his master, threw himself on the point, and instantly expired. Antony seeing that he could not die as he had wished, threw himself on his own sword. Cleopatra was wild with grief and made immediate preparations to leave the palace. Caesar, on learning of the death of Antony, was greatly moved, and while he was still eulogizing the good qualities of his former friend, Cleopatra entered and was favorably received by Caesar. Caesar laid before her his plans for having her conveyed to Rome, but she paid little heed, knowing how she could frustrate them by a plan she had already determined upon. When left alone this unhappy Queen attired herself in her most gorgeous robes and placed the crown on her head. In a basket of figs she had secreted some poisonous asps, and she and her two maids took farewell of each other and applied the asps to their arms. In a few moments they were all three dead, and Caesar entering and seeing this beautiful Queen dead before him, ordered her to be buried alongside of her Antony.

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KING LEAR.

Lear, King of Britain, had three daughters—Goneril, wife to the Duke of Cornwall; Regan, wife to the Duke of Cornwall, and Cordelia, a young maid, for whose love the King of France and the Duke of Burgundy were joint suitors, and were at this time making stay for that purpose at the court of Lear.

The old king being eighty years of age, and worn out with the fatigues of government, determined to abdicate in favor of younger hands. With this object in view he called his daughters to him to learn from their own lips which of them loved him best, that he might divide his kingdom among them in proportion to their affection for him. Goneril, the eldest, professed that he was the only object in life she had any love for. This pleased the king so much that he gave her one-third of his kingdom. Regan, the second daughter, as deceitful as her sister, professed that she loved him even more so, and she also got a third share. Cordelia, knowing that her sisters were insincere and being disgusted with their falsehood, when her turn came informed her father that she loved him according to her duty, neither more nor less. The king was shocked with her apparent ingratitude and requested her to consider her words. Cordelia said that she loved her father sincerely, but that she could not frame her mouth to such fine speeches as her sisters had done, and promise to love nothing else in the world. This apparent indifference enraged Lear so much that he gave away the remaining third of his kingdom to her two sisters and their husbands and invested them jointly with full power, only retaining for himself the name of king, and stipulating that he, with a hundred knights for his attendants, was to be maintained by monthly course in each of his daughters' palaces in turn. The Earl of Kent was the only one of his courtiers who spoke a kind word for Cordelia against this preposterous division. The king became so enraged at his temerity that he ordered him to leave the kingdom within five days. The King of France married Cordelia and made her queen of his beautiful land, the Duke of Burgundy relinquishing his suit when he learned she had forfeited her dowry. Cordelia had no sooner left than the true dispositions of her sisters began to show themselves, and the king soon discovered the difference between promises and performances. Goneril, every time she met her father, frowned on him, and always made an excuse to absent herself, and otherwise made herself objectionable. So

obnoxious did she become that he resolved to visit her sister in the hope of receiving better treatment. But there, also, he was sadly disappointed, for Regan treated him even worse than Goneril. So much disgusted was he that he took his departure, and being overtaken by a thunderstorm had to take shelter in an old hut occupied by a beggar. He was accompanied by the good Earl of Kent, who, since his banishment, had acted as a servant, under the assumed name of Caius, and unknown to the king. Lear, now showing symptoms of insanity consequent on the ill-treatment of his daughters, the Earl of Kent now showed his loyalty by removing him to his castle at Dover; and, leaving him there, himself embarked for France to inform Cordelia of the turn things had taken. Cordelia was so incensed that, obtaining permission from the King of France, she sailed to England at the head of a large army, determining to forcibly restore to her father his kingdom. Lear, having by chance escaped from his keepers, was found by some of Cordelia's train wandering about near Dover in a pitiable condition and stark mad. With the aid of physicians Cordelia succeeded in restoring him to his right mind. Meantime his cruel daughters proved unfaithful to their husbands, both becoming infatuated with Edmund, the natural son of the Earl of Gloucester, who, by treachery, had disinherited his brother, Edgar, the lawful heir. Regan's husband having died, she declared her intention of marrying Edmund, which aroused her sister's jealousy to such an extent that she found means to poison her. Being detected in the act and imprisoned by her husband, the Duke of Albany, for this deed, and for her guilty passion for the earl, she, in a fit of disappointment and rage, took her own life. Thus the justice of Heaven at last overtook these wicked daughters. But the melancholy fate which subsequently overtook Cordelia is an instance of the awful truth that innocence and piety are not always successful in this world. The forces which Goneril and Regan had sent out against Cordelia, under this bad Earl of Gloucester, were victorious, and she ended her life in prison, for he did not like that any should stand between him and the throne. Lear did not long survive his kind daughter. Edmund was slain in single combat with his brother, the lawful Earl of Gloucester, and Goneril's husband, the Duke of Albany, ascended the throne of Britain at the death of King Lear.

MEASURE FOR MEASURE.

The duke of Vienna, a good-natured and easy-going ruler, had allowed the citizens to act as they pleased, and consequently law and order were set at defiance. It became necessary that some decisive step be taken. Not being willing to appear as tyrannical and capricious he decided that the best way to bring this much needed reform about was to absent himself and appoint a citizen to act in his absence, who was to have the laws carried out rigorously. To this end he appointed a lord named Angelo, and after bidding his subjects farewell, he started on his journey. It happened, however, that instead of going away he disguised himself as a friar and thus awaited the hoped for reformation. The first act that

Angelo did was to have a certain Claudio seized and cast into prison and there he ordered him to be beheaded.

The time drawing nigh for the execution, Claudio asked one of his friends to inform his sister Isabella, who was in a convent, and beg her to intercede on his behalf. It was at this time that the duke, disguised as a friar entered the prison wherein Claudio was confined, his friar's dress making his admission an easy matter.

In the meantime Angelo although already betrothed to one Mariana, resolved to win Isabella's love. So when Isabella came he began to make love to her. This Isabella promptly

spurned and refused to accept his love even to save the life of her brother. Sadly and wearily Isabella walked to the prison to tell her brother that she could not save him. She found the disguised duke in conversation with him, but he withdrew on her approach, yet remained within hearing distance. Isabella told Claudio just what had happened. On leaving the prison she was accosted by the duke who told her about the shameful way that Angelo had deserted Mariana and said that it would be a kindly act to try and bring the two together again. The plan was that she (Isabella) was to appoint a meeting with Angelo once more, but instead of meeting him herself Mariana was to go in her stead. This she did and being heavily veiled Angelo supposed he was interviewing Isabella and gave her a pardon for Claudio. But fearing Claudio might seek revenge as soon as liberated countermanded the pardon by ordering Claudio's head brought to him before 5 o'clock next a. m. The duke now made himself known to the jailor, ordered him to shave the head of a man that had died the previous night and send it to Angelo representing it to be that of Claudio. At this juncture the duke had word sent to the people that he had changed his plans and would return to Vienna on the morrow. Casting off his assumed robes he attired himself in his ducal garments and went to meet his people at the city gate. Happy indeed was the meeting, but hardly had Angelo handed over to the duke the reins of

government ere Isabella sprang forward crying for redress for her wrongs. The duke told her to address herself to Angelo, who merely suggested that her brain had been turned by her brother's death and she was removed by the guards, the friar who advised her to make the petition being in the meantime sent for. But now another suitor for justice appeared, Mariana, who declared herself betrothed to Angelo. The duke bade Escalus and Angelo sit in judgment on these two offenders and punish them for such gross slander. In the meantime he retired, in order to again assume the friar's garb. Hardly had the trial begun when two men entered, having found the friar. He was so outspoken in his testimony that Escalus told the guards to throw him into prison and in the scuffle that ensued his cowl was thrown back and the result on the assembled crowd can be better imagined than described. The duke now ordered a priest to immediately marry Mariana and Angelo, and then ordered him to be beheaded. Mariana now appealed to Isabella to plead in behalf of Angelo, and for her sake Angelo was pardoned. Claudio now came forward and was immediately married to Juliet.

The Duke now offered to make Isabella the Duchess of Vienna. Each having forgiven the other and the duke having granted measure for measure by pardoning all concerned, nothing remains to be said except that all were exceedingly happy.

TIMON OF ATHENS.

Timon, a lord of Athens, in the enjoyment of a princely fortune, affected a liberality which knew no bounds. His unlimited wealth could not accrue so fast but he poured it out faster to the benefit of all sorts and degrees of people. Not only the poor, but also the great lords tasted of his bounty. These lords were, for the majority, only his friends in name, their sole object being to fleece him. Timon was of such a prodigal disposition that if one of them made him a present he was sure to return it twenty-fold. He was of so generous a disposition that he even paid the debts of these assumed friends, who in consequence found it easier to live on his bounty than to make any exertions on their own behalf. He also feasted them to such an extent that many of them ate no food but what they received at his table. Not that Timon's wealth all went to enrich these wicked flatterers; he could do noble and praiseworthy actions. For the most part, however, false friends, whom he did not know to be such, had the command of his fortune. The result being that, before he knew where he was, he found himself an abject beggar. In this extremity he applied to his friends for assistance, but, much to his disgust and disappointment, they all went back on him. Now was Timon as much avoided in his poverty as he had been courted in his riches. Timon once more, to the surprise of all, proclaimed a feast, to which he invited all his accustomed guests. They came, protesting their sorrow at not being able to assist him when called upon, but Timon begged them not to think of such trifles, for he had altogether forgotten them. Upon the feast being served and the dishes uncovered Timon's drift appeared, and, instead of the dainties that were expected, there was nothing but a little smoke and lukewarm water. Before they could recover from their surprise, sprinkling it in their faces that they might have enough, and throwing dishes

and all after them, he hurried them out of the house in great confusion. This was Timon's last feast and he therewith took farewell of Athens and the society of men. He retired to the woods, stripped himself naked and lived in a cave, after the manner of a beast, eating wild roots and drinking water. One day, when digging for roots, he discovered a heap of gold, but, as he had resolved never more to associate with the world, he decided to keep it, waiting a chance to use it in the destruction of his former friends. The opportunity soon offered, for a body of soldiers passing through the wood, Timon hailed their captain and gave him the gold on condition that he would lead his men against Athens, and destroy the city and kill the inhabitants. The city being besieged, a deputation of the senators waited upon Timon and beseeched him to return and save the city, he having formerly been their chief adviser in time of war. He absolutely declined to do so, but told them, as he had a tree near his cave which he was about to cut down, any of them that wanted to escape from the soldiers, might, in the meantime use it, meaning that they might come and hang themselves on it and escape affliction that way. This was the last courtesy Timon showed to mankind, and this the last sight of him which his countrymen had. Shortly afterwards a tomb was discovered on the sea-shore with an inscription on it marking the grave of Timon, who, "while he lived, did hate all living men, and dying, wished a plague might consume all catiffs left." Whether he died of violence or not is not known, but some there were who fancied a conceit in the choice he had made of the sea-shore for his place of burial, where the sea might forever weep upon his grave, as if in contempt of the shallow tears of hypocritical and deceitful mankind.



OTHELLO.

Brabantio, a senator of Venice had a daughter, the gentle Desdemona. She had many suitors on account of her virtuous qualities and rich expectations, but would have none of them, and strange to say, bestowed her affections on a Moor, a black, who often visited at her father's house. He was a general in the Venetian army and was much trusted by the State. Othello had been a great traveler, and Desdemona would listen for hours at a time to the adventures he had to relate. These *tele-a-tele* finally devolved into love, with the result that they were privately married. Their marriage could not long be kept a secret and Brabantio appeared before the Senate and accused Othello with using witchcraft to gain the affections of his daughter. At this time, as it happened, the State had occasion for the services of Othello, information having been received that the Turks were about to make a raid on the Island of Cyprus. So that Othello, now summoned before the Senate, stood there at once as a candidate for State employment and as a culprit charged with a capital offense. Brabantio conducted his case with so much intemperance that Othello had simply to relate the plain story of his courtship to win for himself the good-will of the duke who acted as chief judge. Desdemona herself corroborating his statement, her father with much sorrow, but as an act of necessity, bestowed upon him his daughter. This difficulty being overcome, Othello was appointed to the management of the wars in Cyprus, and Desdemona went with him to that island. On their arrival there they heard of the total destruction of the Turkish fleet by a tempest.

Among the general's friends, Michael Cassio, a gay young Florentine, was the chief. He had greatly assisted Othello in his wooing of Desdemona, and consequently was on very intimate terms with her. Othello had lately promoted Cassio to be the lieutenant, a place of trust nearest his person. This promotion gave great offense to Iago, an older officer, who thought he had a better claim to it, and who hated both Othello and Cassio in consequence. In revenge he conceived a scheme to involve Cassio and Desdemona and the Moor in one common ruin. This scheme was to make Othello jealous of Cassio and thus lead to the death of one or perhaps both of them. One night Cassio had direction of the guard and Iago took the opportunity to ply him with wine so that when under its influence he was easily induced to engage in a brawl with a fellow that Iago had set on for the purpose. A riot becoming general, news of it soon reached Othello, who, finding out its cause, deprived Cassio of his lieutenantcy. Cassio, when sobered, now lamented to his seeming friend, Iago, that he should have

made such a fool of himself, and was advised by him to ask Desdemona to intercede for him. Cassio did so and easily won her over in his favor. Desdemona set about it in earnest and soon won a promise from her husband to reinstate him, subject to the proviso that she should leave the date with him. Othello and Iago happening to enter the room where Desdemona was, just as Cassio was leaving, Iago took the opportunity of insinuating to the Moor that a very strong intimacy existed between them. With such art did this villain raise suspicions in the heart of Othello, that when Desdemona referred to the reinstatement of Cassio, he was overcome with an uncontrollable jealousy. Iago advised Othello to put off his reconciliation with Cassio, and in the mean-time note with what earnestness Desdemona should intercede in his behalf. Othello, being now wrought to distraction between love and jealousy, demanded from Iago the proof of his wife's guilt. Iago, feigning indignation, informed him that he had seen a handkerchief belonging to his wife in Cassio's hands, which was motive enough to cause Othello to pass sentence of death upon them both without once inquiring how Cassio came by it. Now Desdemona had never given Cassio this handkerchief, for Iago, as a part of his plot, had persuaded his wife to steal it from her, and drop it in Cassio's way so that he would find it. Othello soon afterward meeting his wife feigned headache and desired his wife to lend him this particular handkerchief to place on his temples. Of course she could not find it, and informed him that she had lost it. Othello now openly accused her of being unfaithful, which so stupefied her that she was forced to retire to her chamber where she soon fell asleep. Othello entered the room intending to put her to death and kissing her for the last time, as he said, she awoke, when he bade her prepare for death. His innocent wife begged to know her fault. He told her of Cassio and the handkerchief, which (he said) she had given him. As the lady was proceeding to clear herself, he covered her up in the bed clothes and stifled her to death. At this very time Cassio was brought into the house, wounded by one of Iago's men, who had been engaged to assassinate him, and who failing in his object, was himself killed by Iago to prevent discovery. In this fellow's pockets were found letters which made the guilt of Iago and the innocence of Cassio clear beyond all doubt. On this discovery Othello was so stung with remorse that he fell upon his sword, and, throwing himself upon the body of his wife, expired. Nothing now remained for Othello's successor but to put the utmost censure of the law in force against Iago, and he was executed with great torture.

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ROMEO AND JULIET.

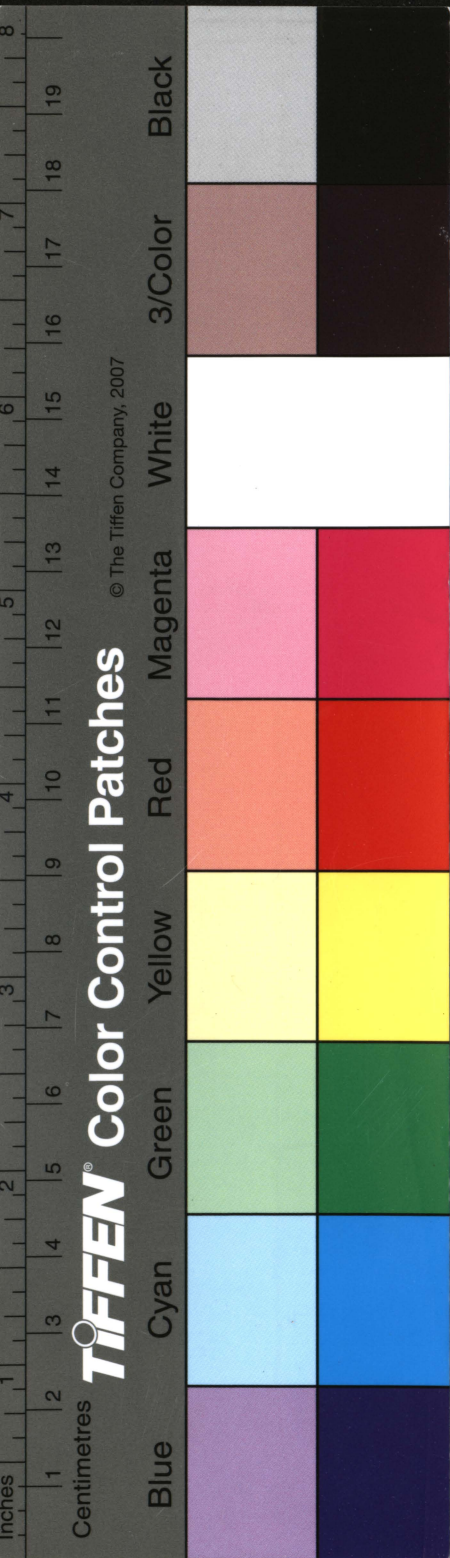
The rich Capulets and Montagues, the two chief families in Verona, had long been at deadly enmity with each other. To such an extent did this enmity exist that it was carried on by their retainers and followers. Old Lord Capulet gave a grand supper, to which many fair ladies and noble guests were invited, and all comers were made welcome if they were not of the house of Montague. At this feast of Capulets, Rosaline, beloved of Romeo, Lord Montague's son, was present. Although it was dangerous to be there, yet Benvolio, a friend of Romeo, persuaded him to go with him and Mercutio to this assembly, masked, that he might compare his Rosaline with the other ladies present. Old Capulet bade them welcome, making a trivial remark about their masks. Romeo was suddenly struck with the great beauty of a lady there. While he was uttering her praises, he was overheard and recognized by Tybalt, a nephew of Lord Capulet. Tybalt would have struck Romeo dead, but for the interference of his uncle, who would not have a scene at the feast, out of respect to his guests. Tybalt, however, swore revenge. When the dancing was over, Romeo sought out this lady and under cover of his mask addressed her in mild tones of love; but when he discovered that she was Juliet, the daughter of Lord Capulet, he was greatly distressed that he had given his heart unknowingly to his foe. Juliet herself had as little rest when she found that he was Romeo, and a Montague, for she reciprocated the same hasty passion for him. Retiring to an orchard, at the conclusion of the festivities, Romeo saw Juliet standing at an open casement, and heard her utter warm sentiments of love for him. On his discovering himself to her, they swore eternal love for each other. At daybreak, when they parted, Romeo repaired to the monastery of Friar Laurence, and besought him to aid him in the furtherance of his suit. The good friar was greatly appalled at Romeo's request; but thinking that this union might be the cause of settling the feud between the two families, consented to marry them. So Romeo and Juliet were accordingly married in the friar's cell. The same day Benvolio and Mercutio, passing through the streets of Verona, encountered a party of Capulets, headed by Tybalt. Tybalt accused Mercutio of associating with a Montague, and a quarrel was beginning, when Romeo himself appeared on the scene. Tybalt turned on Romeo and called him a villain. Romeo, for Juliet's sake, avoided a quarrel; but Mercutio, not knowing of Romeo's secret motive for peace, renewed the altercation and fell by Tybalt's sword. Ro-

meo, being no longer able to control his temper, engaged with Tybalt and slew him; the result being that Romeo was banished from Verona by the prince. After the fray Romeo fled to the cell of Friar Laurence, where he was made acquainted with the prince's sentence. The news distressed him much. The friar counseled him to go that night and secretly take leave of Juliet, and thence straightway proceed to Mantua, there to remain till he (the friar) found fit occasion to publish his marriage. Romeo had not been many days gone when old Lord Capulet proposed a match for Juliet with Count Paris. This greatly frightened her, and she made many excuses against it; and in her extremity applied to the friendly friar, who gave her a phial, the contents of which she was to swallow on the previous night to her proposed marriage to Paris. The effect of this potion was to make her appear for a time as though dead. Juliet followed out the friar's instructions, and on Paris going to the house on his bridal morn, he was horrified to find her a lifeless corpse. And now all the preparations that were made for the wedding were made to do service for the funeral. The news of Juliet's death reached Romeo, before a messenger dispatched by the friar reached him with the actual facts. He immediately started out for Verona, but on the way bribed an apothecary to give him some poison. He reached Verona at midnight, and was discovered by Paris forcing an entrance into the tomb of the Capulets. Paris challenged him. Swords were crossed and Paris fell. Romeo, entering the tomb, found Juliet; and thinking her dead, kissed her lips and swallowed the poison he had provided himself with, expiring instantly. The friar learning that the message he had sent to Romeo had miscarried, and Juliet's awakening being at hand, he came himself to the tomb, with a pick-ax and lantern, to deliver the lady from her confinement; and was surprised to find a light already there, and Romeo and Paris lying breathless by the monument. Before he could do anything Juliet awoke, and seeing him, asked for Romeo; but the friar, being frightened by the noise of people coming, fled. When Juliet saw the cup in her true lover's hand she guessed that poison had been the cause of his death, and she fain would have swallowed the dregs if any had been left. Hearing approaching footsteps she quickly unsheathed a dagger which she wore and stabbing herself, died at the side of Romeo. The outcome of this tragedy was, that mutual explanations took place, and peace was made between the two families.



THE END.

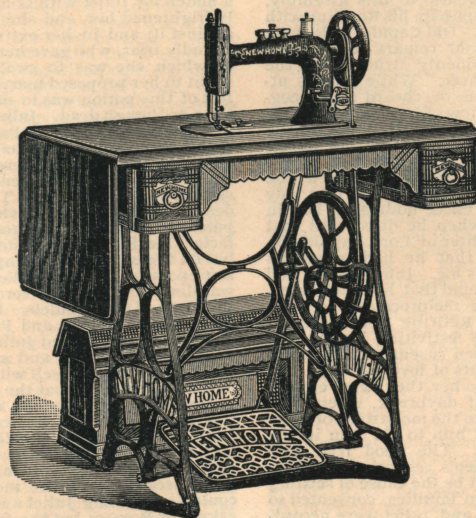
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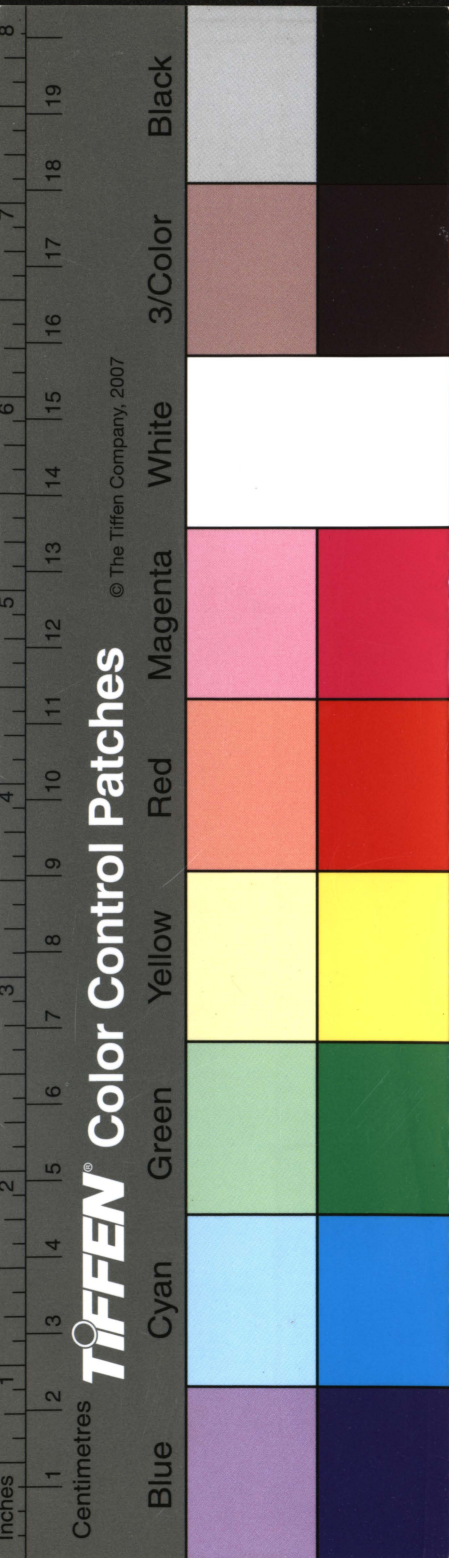
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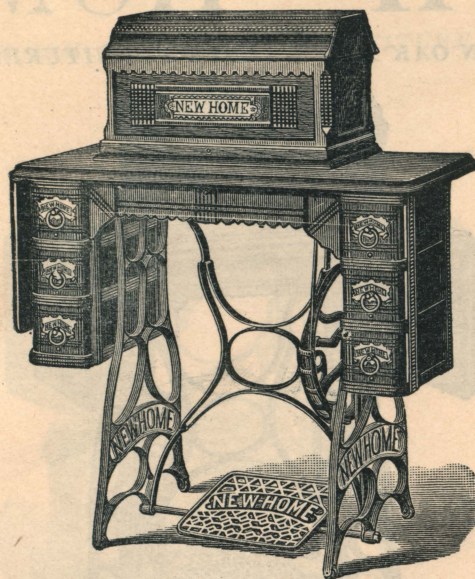
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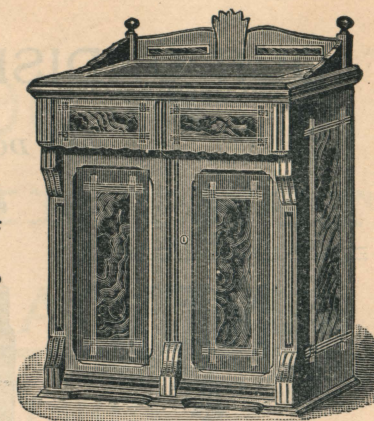
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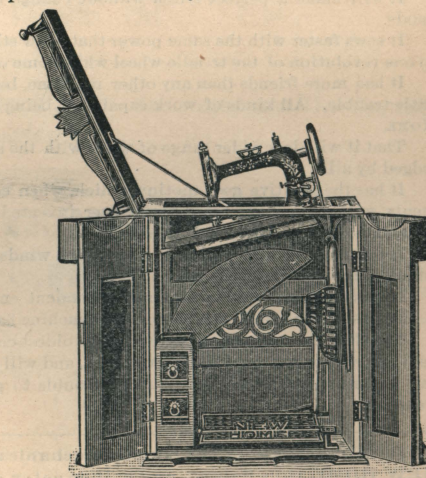
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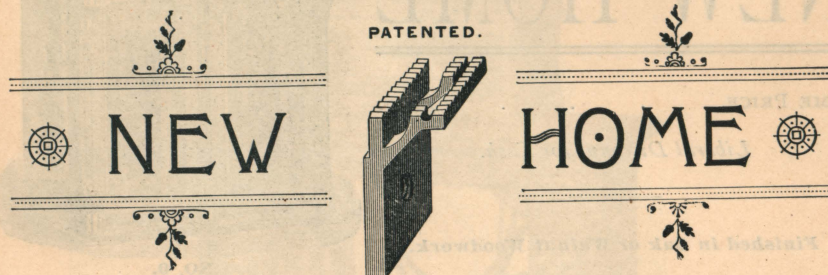
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The New Home excels in embroidery work, which is made by threading the shuttle with arrasene or wool, or any material desired, and following the patterns without the use of any extra attachments. It has a stitch regulator which can be set for any desired length of stitch without any guess work.

It has a SELF-SETTING NEEDLE.

It has an oil cup on the needle bar to prevent oil from running down and soiling the work.

It will make a perfect stitch without change of tension with long or short stitch, thick or thin goods.

It sews faster with the same power that slow stitch machines require, making four full stitches to one revolution of the treadle wheel while some others make only three.

It has more friends than any other machine, because it does not get out of order, and gives so little trouble. All kinds of work capable of being made on a sewing machine can be made on a New Home.

That it will do a wider range of work with the attachments furnished by the company is acknowledged by all.

It has the positive gear motion, which, when combined and properly balanced with other movements, will outwear any other device ever invented, and is to-day used on all machinery where accurate and positive movement is required.

It has an automatic bobbin winder which winds the bobbin evenly, also the AUTOMATIC TENSION, which secures an even tension.

It has a positive feed motion not dependent entirely on a spring, and has a double feed alike on both sides of the needle, which no other machine has.

The New Home Company is one of the oldest companies in the sewing machine business, and have held their warranty good during the past, and will continue to do so in the future, and purchasers can be assured that they will have no trouble to get parts or attachments to replace any that may wear out.

On account of the simple mechanical devices employed in its construction, the NEW HOME runs lighter, and with greater speed than any other machine.

687 Wabasha Street,
ST. PAUL.

IF YOU WANT THE BEST SEWING MACHINE

MONEY WILL BUY

... GET A ...

NEW HOME.

THERE IS NOTHING BETTER.

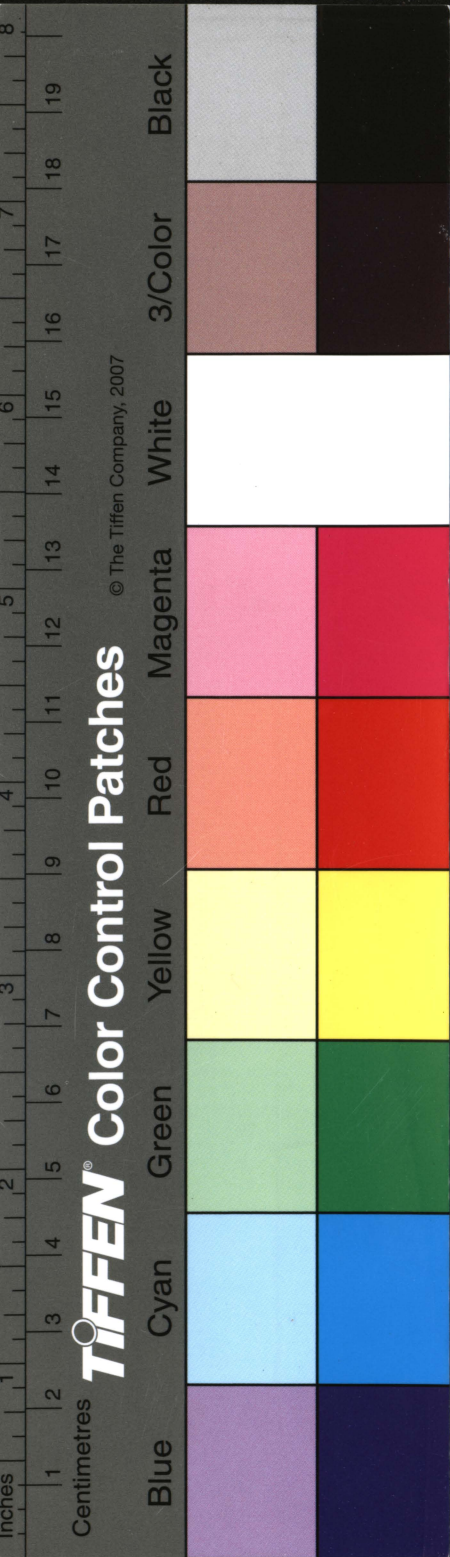
It is for sale by dealers everywhere on reasonable terms and prices.

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NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE CO.
CHICAGO, ILL.



"JUST OUT"

Antique Oak.

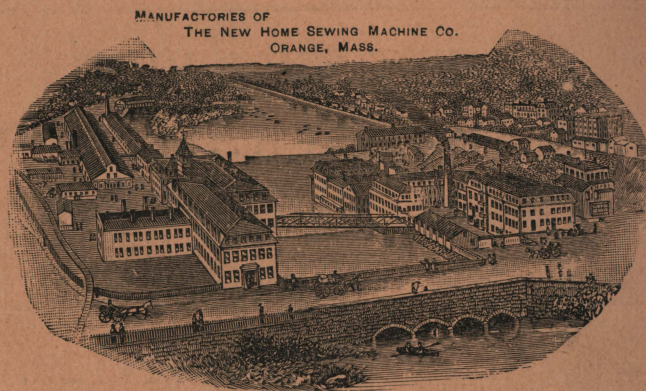
Cherry.

Mahogany.

Birds Eye Maple.

LIGHT RUNNING

Combination Furniture.



A LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE

NEW HOME SEWING MACHINE CO.,

In any of the following places will receive prompt attention:

ORANGE, MASS.

28 UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK. CHICAGO, ILL. ST. LOUIS, MO.
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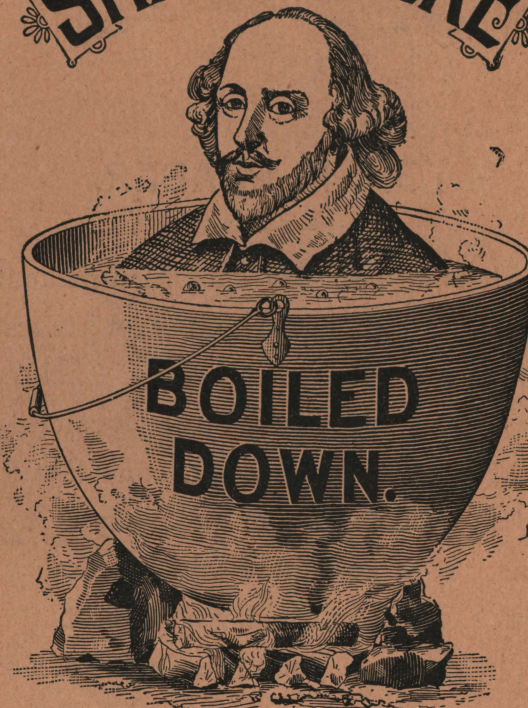
If you have a New Home Sewing Machine and it does not give perfect satisfaction, **WRITE**. If you want instructions, needles or repairs, **WRITE**. If you want the Agency for the New Home, **WRITE**. If you want anything in the Sewing Machine line, do not fail to **WRITE**, and learn what we can do for you.

W. F. ELWESS, Ag't,
687 WABASHA ST.,

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CHICAGO, ILL.

W. F. ELWESS,

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