WAITED 27 YEARS TO WED.

Then Married in Dark That Marks of Age Might Be Less Apparent.

Judge Zell Roe left his bed the other night at 12 o'clock to speak the words which bound together Ragan B. Bagbard and Lou Fairn, aged 47 years, says the Des Moines News. The couple walked into the city from opposite directions to reap the reward they had waited twenty-seven years to receive and then asked to be wed in the dark.

The groom arrived about 11 o'clock and "hung around" the front yard until the arrival of the bride. They met in the moonlight and approached the house hand in hand. It had been a long time since they had last met.

Judge Roe thrust his head from the door without the formality of dressing or striking a light.

"Please don't strike a light, squire," pleaded the groom in a husky voice. "I reckon Lou ain't as purty es she was twenty-seven years ago. Kain't you tie us up in the dark so we ken think we air es young es we used t' be?"

When it was over they told a pathetic story of humble submission to fate. Each had watched tenderly over the last declining years of father and mother. For twenty-seven years they had slaved to ease the path of invalids in the separate homes. A few days ago the death angel flitted away with the soul of an aged mother in one home and a father from the other. The angel opened wide the door which has been barred these long twenty-seven years.

Judge Roe will not deny that he felt a thrill of joy as he watched them wandering arm in arm down the moonlit road.

NAILED DEER TO TREE.

If You Don't Believe It You Can See its Skin.

The open season for deer in New York closed with a remarkable hunt by Sam Van Inwegan, Will Crane and Ed Van Inwegan, accompanied by the veteran hunter, Zeke Rosecrance of Big pond.

They had failed to bag anything when they heard the report of Rosencrance's gun in the distance. They hurried to the spot and found the old man lying on his back rubbing his head. His gun had almost kicked the life out of the hunter.

They had failed to bag anything when 100 feet away standing at a tree. All raised their guns to fire, when the old man said:

"Boys, that buck is just waiting for me, he won't run a step." Rosencrance informed them he had nailed the buck to the tree.

"You see," he said, "I never use nothing to hunt with but hoss and shingle nails, and that buck passed the tree just as I fired."

The hunters examined the deer, and, sure enough, the nails used by Rosencrance had passed directly through its body, nailing it fast to the tree.

Its skin is on exhibition at Gregg Porter's livery stable with the marks of the nail holes in his skin.—New York World.

Don't Look Back.

In climbing up the trail of life, though troubles may embarrass thee,
Though clouds of disappointment may obscure your mortal vision,
Though thorns lie hidden in the path to wound your feet and harass you,
And hostile winds may blow retarding dust into your eyes,
Keep holding on with steady nerve; if you should fall just rise again,
If you should for a moment stray, get back onto the track;
Keep praying that the coming day may bring you sunny skies again,
Your eyes fix on the beacon light and don't look back.

The beacon way up yonder gleams though clouds at times may curtain it,
The light of hope is shining on the summit of success,
Though it may sometimes vanish from your sight you may be certain it
Again will flash its cheery rays to banish your distresses.
The gaunt wolves of adversity from gloomy lairs may howl at you
And clinging fears your bosom may most mercifully rack,
The grim fiends of discouragement from darkened nooks may scowl at you,
But hold a grip upon your nerve and don't look back.

When rest the darkest clouds of life the cheery sun will shine again,
The fiercest storm will spend its force and leave a smiling sky;
Around the winter-fettered oak the flowering vines will twine again,
The longest lane of woe will have a turning by and by.
If you should slip and lose some ground, strive hard to gain your place again,
Be not appalled when obstacles confront you on the track;
If wearied, stop and blow a bit, then strike the same old pace again,
And set you teeth and buige ahead and don't look back.

—Denver Post.

Influence of Emerson.

No writer so quickens the pulse of generous youth; so makes his brain throb and reel with the the vision of the world that is yet to be, writes Henry James, Sr., in the Atlantic. It is as if the spotless feminine heart of the race had suddenly shot its ruby tide into your veins, and made you feel as never before the dignity of clean living. Undoubtedly your first necessity always was to report yourself personally to this mystic shrine without delay, to know what the hierophant might have been commissioned to say to you specifically * * * Mr. Emerson was an American John the Baptist, proclaiming tidings of great joy to the American Israel; but, like John the Baptist, he could so little foretell the form in which the predicted good was to appear, that when you went to him he was always uncertain whether you were he who should come, or another. And, naturally enough, you were liable—unless, as I have already said, you were uncommonly free from personal vanity—to return.

A Chic Retort.

Mr. Choat's quickness at repartee is well illustrated by the following story: During a "week end" at an English country house his neighbor at breakfast one morning chanced to be a pretty American who had come to misfortune in trying to manipulate her egg in the English fashion. With face full of dismay she turned to him:

"Oh, Mr. Choate, what shall I do? I've dropped an egg!"

"Cackle, madam, cackle," answered the ambassador.—Lippincott's.

England Buys Swedish Butter.

The import of Swedish butter into England during the first six months of 1904 amounted in value to $2,748,643, against $2,698,609 during the same period last year.

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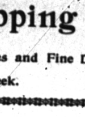

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