

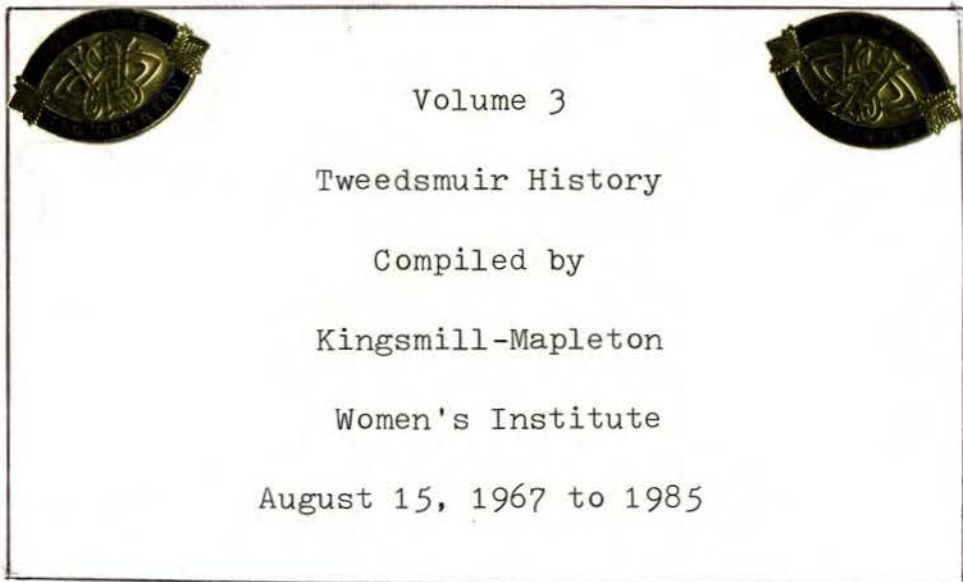
**TWEEDSMUIR BOOK**

**KINGSMILL - MAPLETON BRANCH**

**W. I. OF EAST ELGIN**



The Events of To-day  
Become  
History of To-morrow



Volume 3

Tweedsmuir History

Compiled by

Kingsmill-Mapleton

Women's Institute

August 15, 1967 to 1985

I N D E X - 1967-1985

TWEEDSMUIR HISTORY

(Compiled by Kingsmill-Mapleton Women's Institute)

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INSTITUTE FOUNDED

The Women's Institute was founded February 19, 1897  
in Stoney Creek, Ontario; by Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless.



ADELAIDE HUNTER HOODLESS- 1858-1910 to Oct. 1971.

Adelaide Hunter Hoodless, was born in Brant Co. 1858, the youngest of the family of twelve. Records do not tell us much about the other members of the family. It is known that some of them received excellent educations and the mother set high standards for the quality of the home environment. Adelaide went to a nearby public school completing the course of studies there; She may of studied for a few months at the Ladies College when she was visiting a married sister. Her further education was acquired through reading and home study. She probably took advantage of all opportunities to acquire knowledge since, we are told in later years she was a skilled and influential speaker and an interesting conversationalist.

In Feb. 19th, 1897 when Adelaide was 39 years of age it was then, when the first Women's Institute of the world was founded at Mr. Erland Lee's residence, Squire Hall of Stoney Creek, Ontario. Adelaide must of known of the inequalities in the rights of women, the various stirrings and unrest. We have no record that she took any part in any movement until her concern about education in Household Science was kindled by the death of her son at the age of eighteen months, due to her lack of knowledge of food and nutrition.

From then on Adelaide had a crusade and she pursued it fearlessly till her death in 1910. She once said, "that a nation cannot rise above the level of its homes".



The Hunter Hoodless Homestead in early spring.

The Adelaide Hunter Hoodless, Home-  
stead consisting of 3 acres is situated 1/2  
mi. from highway 24 near the village of St.  
George in Brant Co., 1 mile from the  
junction of highway 5 near St. George and  
Paris. The nearest cities are Brantford  
and Galt but Stoney Creek is close to the  
city of Hamilton, Ont. Great many people  
sometimes, busloads from another part of  
Ont. travel to Stoney Creek, the birthplace  
of Women's Institutes, expecting to find  
the Hunter Hoodless Homestead there. Hence,  
the accompanying diagram shows the location  
of "the homestead", the house where  
Adelaide Hunter was born in 1858 and where  
she lived until she married John Hoodless

in 1881. The Hunter Hoodless, Homestead was purchased in 1960 by the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada for a Historical site in memory of Adelaide Hunter Hoodless, founder of the Women's Institute movement. At present, the whole property has been renovated, refurnished and decorated according to the time of Adelaide Hoodless during the period of 1850-1881 when she married John Hoodless. All articles have been gifts from groups and interested individuals, some of the most prized donated by the "Hunter" family and now, coming back to the old home. Articles must be in good condition with transportation costs prepaid and the history of the article attached for recordings.

Winter of 1963 the following were required; Chest of drawers with bonnet boxes on top, small blanket box, whatnot corner, cane seat rocking chair, kitchen rocking chair, pine kitchen chairs, pine kitchen table, pin wooden box, pine dry sink, flour bin, iron fire place equipment, diningroom stove, willow ware dishes, small loom, coal oil lamps, hooked or braided rugs (can be new), cushions for 2 bedroom ladder backed chairs, livingroom cushions, baby buggy accessories (shawl, blanket, pillow, Etc.) cradle accessories (mattress, pillow, blanket & quilt, kitchen cupboard, iron or tin kitchen utensils and childs rocking chair.



MOTHER BRANCH  
VISITS  
HOODLESS HOME

Mrs. John Charlton, left, shows the visitors an old-time wooden and wicker baby carriage recently presented to the Hoodless Homestead by a local pioneer family. Centre, Mrs. Chester W. Nash, president of Stoney Creek Institute, and (right) Mrs. George Glidden, a charter member of Stoney Creek, the first Women's Institute in the world.

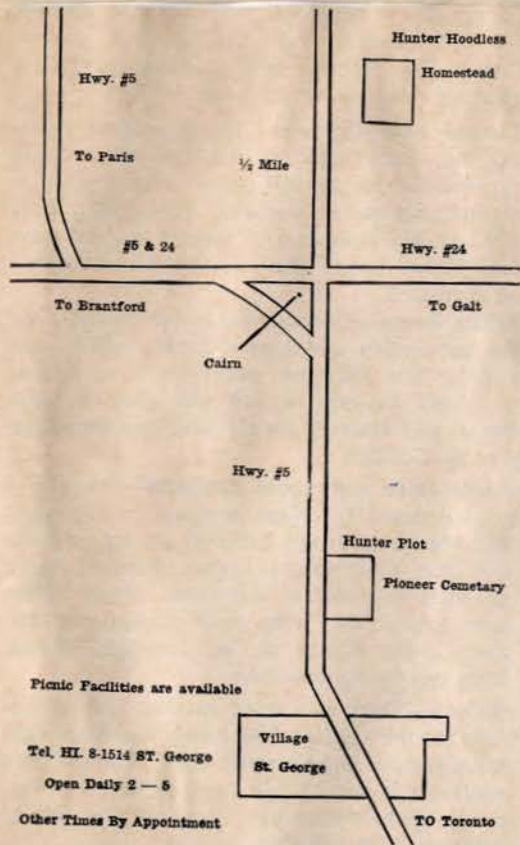


Lace curtains drape the parlor windows. The eighteenth century grandfather's clock was a gift from the late Mrs. Hugh Summers.



Many Institutes in England celebrate their fiftieth anniversary in 1965 and several wrote to the "Mother Institute" Stoney Creek, asking for information, pictures and other items to use in anniversary displays. "Stoney Creek Stall".

# To Find the Hunter Hoodless Homestead



The Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead where Adelaide Hunter, later Mrs. Hoodless was born and where she lived as a girl.



SUMMER 1963

Features of interest in the girl's bedroom are the rose-sprigged wall paper, the spool bed with crochet spread and pieced quilt from the Hunter family, the wash-stand with pitcher and basin, and the stove-pipe drum for better heating of the room. This room was furnished by the Institutes of Brant County.





A corner of the parlor and a glimpse of the parlor bedroom in the Adelaid Hunter Hoodless Homestead, showing the Franklin stove, walnut furniture upholstered in black tapestry with a rose design. Axminster and braided rugs, steel engravings, four-poster bed and log cabin quilt from the Hunter home.



This booth at Saffron-Walden Festival was also labelled "Stoney Creek" and apparently the idea was to furnish it with articles used in 1897. Mrs Nash says: I did not send any of these. They have used their own imagination here.



The "library" stored in a black painted combination desk and bookcase. At the left is a picture of Mrs. Hoodless.

others. One rare book in the collection is Queen Victoria's Journal 1848-1861. Another, "Wee Willie Winkie", donated by Mrs. Miller McLeod was written by "Marjorie Gordon and her Mother." The Mother was Lady Aberdeen, the woman who had so much to do with the founding of the Associated Country Women of the World and for whom the A.C.W.W. scholarship was named. Mrs. McLeod had once lived on a farm in the North West Territories and she explains in a note that came with the book that "life in the Territories at that time was pretty grim, and Lady Aberdeen, wife of the Governor General of Canada at that time, with her concern for country women used to send parcels to the area. The book was in one of the parcels, a book written mostly for children of this frontier who could not get to school in the wintertime. Too much cannot be said for the work of the local committee in charge of the homestead: Mrs. John Charlton, Mrs. Harry Nixon and Mrs. Hunt. Their latest investment is a large coffee-maker, a large teapot, spoons and unbreakable dishes for the use of picnic parties of Institute women visiting the place this summer. These will be set up in the basement; and there will be park benches on the grounds. The homestead will be open to visitors from two o'clock till five, daily. A permanent hostess will be Mrs. Lockman, has her living quarters in the house and can be reached by telephone: HI 8-1514 St. George.

On October 7th, 1937 a cairn to the memory of Mrs. Hoodless was erected at the junction of Highways 5 and 24, by the Women's Institutes of Brant County. In June 1962 the National Historic Sites and Monument Board in co-operation with F.W.I.C., placed a plaque on the homestead bearing this inscription:

"Adelaide Hunter Hoodless 1858-1910"

Adelaide Hoodless was born in this farm house and lived here until she married John Hoodless in 1881. On February 19th, 1897 she organized at Stoney Creek the world's first Women's Institute. It was her belief that in this organization rural women could discuss their problems and work together to improve their standard of homemaking and citizenship. The movement spread rapidly throughout Ontario and later to other provinces. Mrs. Hoodless, a natural leader and forceful speaker, introduced the teaching of domestic science in Ontario schools and obtained funds for the building of Macdonald Institute at Guelph."



The silver tea service that belonged to Adelaide Hoodless, some silver flatwear and her favourite cup and saucer, all now on display at the Homestead. From left- Mrs. Ewart Hunt, Mrs. J.S. Holden holding a Tweedsmuir History and Mrs. Frank Tottle, all F.W.I.O. Board Directors from Subdivision 19.

PORTRAIT OF MY MOTHER - Margaret E. Bruner

My mother was not one who cared for flowers  
 As many did--- she chose the hardy kind:  
 Perennials that stayed.... but many hours  
 She tended vegetable, nor did she mind  
 The toil, for these meant sustenance to feed  
 The hungry mouths; these homely plants arrayed  
 In rows, to her, were beauty- were a creed  
 Of usefulness, a pledge that she had made.

Always she liked the elemental things-  
 The quaint old ways of doing work by hand;  
 She liked the fields- the song a wild bird sings,  
 Theirs was a language she could understand....  
 She liked the tunes- the poems learned in youth,  
 And all her long life through she revered truth.

After the Hunter family left the old white house, had many tenants approximately, from 1881 when Adelaide married until 1960 when the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada took it over as a Historical site in memory of Adelaide Hunter Hoodless, founder of the World's Institute movement. It was a sturdy little house but in need of considerable repair and refurnishing.

As renovations are made and furnishings added, the Adelaide Hunter, Homestead becomes more and more truly, a replica of Ontario farm homes of the period when Adelaide Hunter was born there in 1858 and lived there until 1881.

On October 7th, 1937 the Brant County, Ontario Women's Institutes erected at the Junction of Highways 24 and 5 a "Cairn" in memory of Mrs. Hoodless. From 1960-70 there were 25,628 visitors to the Adelaide Hoodless, homestead.

The first work done was to build front and back door stoops, remove old shrubbery that has grown wild and make a start on new planting. The 3 acre lot has a grove of trees and recently, the Township (South Dumfries) bought the adjoining 2 acre lot which will be developed as a "Park" The house has been repainted entirely, in white as no coloured trim was used 100 years ago and washrooms have been installed at the rear of the house.

Points of interest in the parlor (to-day called living room) are the Axminster carpet, Franklin stove, walnut sofa, chairs upholstered in black tapestry with a tiny rose design, two walnut horsehair chairs, a grandfather's clock made in the eighteenth century, donated by the late Mrs. Hugh Summers, an old desk, rocker, lace curtains, some steel engravings- one of them a picture of Queen Victoria approximately, her coronation. Several pieces of furniture from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts in Paris contemporaries of Mrs. Hoodless, a number of articles donated by the Hunter family including, (a framed picture of Mrs. Hoodless mother, her Dictionary, Bible and pewter candle holders. The parlor bedroom and the girls' bedroom have beds with rope "springs" and straw mattresses (a maple four-poster in the parlor bedroom, a spool (bed in the other) old time bedroom china and old fashioned pictures and religious mottoes. There are pieced quilts, a log cabin quilt and a crochet bedspread from the Hunter family. The "drum" in the stove-pipe in the upstairs bedroom (an old time contrivance to increase the heat from the pipe attracts a great deal of attention from visitors and also, the wall papers in the rooms that have been done over. The furnishing committee tried to find papers of the style used on parlors and bedrooms a century ago.

Three rooms have been partially finished. The front hall from the front door and the stairs to the second floor are carpeted with rag carpet donated by the Women's Institute of North Waterloo. There is a hat-rack and <sup>the</sup> Canadian Home Economics Association is providing a lectern for the Visitors' Book while the book itself was donated from Home Economics Service.

As several rooms have been completely furnished the committee is confident the restoration would be completed by 1967 as this was one of the Federated Women's Institute of Canada projects. All articles have been gifts from groups and interested individuals, some of the most prized donated by the Hunter family and now coming back to the old home.

The grounds have been landscaped in keeping with the character of the home. After, the South Dumfries, Township Council purchased 2 adjoining acres of land to the Homestead they gave the F.W.I.C. the privilege of using them as a parkland, in addition to the 3 acres of the site already, owned by the national organization and utilized for a picnic area.

The Homestead is opened every afternoon during the season from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. and at other times by appointment with the hostess, Mrs. Horace Lockman, St. George, Ontario.

Due to ill health, Mrs. Lockman has resigned as hostess, so the new hostess is Mrs. Loveless from St. George, Ontario.



Mrs. Loveless

A NEW HOSTESS - Mrs. Loveless, who has recently been engaged as the hostess at the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead at St. George, Ont. is of Scottish ancestry and was born and raised on a farm. She was a Junior Women's Institute member in Scarborough. She was a chartermember of the Wexfords Women's Institute and was made a Life Member at the time of a family move to St. George in 1941. In St. George Branch, Mrs. Loveless has twice held the office of president as well as holding many other offices. Mrs. Loveless is married and has a family of two girls and two boys.

Announcement was made that the name of Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless has been presented for a place on the Expo 1967 Honour Roll of deceased Ont. Women of renown along with the accompanying sketch: 1858-1910. Adelaide Hoodless, born in Brant County, Ont. was in the vanguard of many movements in the interest of women including, the Victorian Order of nurses. She will be the longest remembered for the founding of the Women's Institute by which led to the establishment of Mac Donald Institute and the Department of Household Science at the University of Toronto.

The Women's Institutes have carried on to make the 100th Birthday of Canada 1967 and the 70th Birthday Anniversary of the Women's Institutes a memory to Mrs. Hoodless.

Through an application by F.W.I.O., a portrait of Mrs. Hoodless in 1963 was considered worthy of a place in the Agricultural Hall of Fame on the Royal Winter Fair grounds. The cost membership and the portrait will come from a legacy left to the Ontario Women's Institutes by the late Mrs. Margaret Pennell Baldwin. This will be the first place of a women to have this place of honour. The F.W.I.O. Board made the arrangements regarding the painting of the portrait.

The Adelaide Hoodless scholarship fund established at the 50th Anniversary in 1947 celebration had an investment fund of the Women's Institutes of Ontario that totalled 51,427.89. From this fund, 5, F.W.I.O. Entrance awards to the Mac Donald Institute were recommended.

The scholarship committee recommended that after 1967, six girls receive 100.00 Entrance Awards, one from each of four regions and 2 at large.

In 1967 in recognition of the 70th Birthday of the Women's Institutes and Canada's Centennial, it was recommended that 15 Mac Donald Institute, Entrance awards of 150.00 be given from this investment fund to include both Spring and Fall semesters.

From Provincial units, there are 3,000 branches membership-approx. 58,000 - 200 Societies in 56 countries- 1967 total membership 6,500,000.

Stoney Creek celebrated its 70th Anniversary, Wednesday Feb. 15, 1967. because the actual date Feb. 19th, 1967 came on a Sunday. The Federated Women's Institute of Ontario-(office 5th floor,) 1200 Bay St., Toronto 185, Ontario. The Federated Women's Institute of Canada - Room 28, 46 Elgin St., Ottawa 4, Ontario.

The Associated County Women of the World, (A.C.W.W.) 17 old Court Place, 40 Kensington, High Street, London, England.

OUR HERITAGE IN MACDONALD INSTITUTE

The Ontario Women's Institutes naturally feel that they have a heritage in MacDonald Institute after Adelaide Hoodless persuaded Sir William MacDonald for funds to build the school for Home Economics which was then called Domestic science and even then she had a triple purpose in mind.

1. First, she wanted a school where farmers daughters could study Home Economics for the betterment of their own homes.
2. Second, she could foresee the need of trained teachers to carry home-making education to the Women's Institutes as there were only a limited number of Home Economics available in the Province that had received their training in the United States or what was called Ontario Normal School of Domestic Science and Art. In 1900 this school had been opened in Hamilton through the influence of Mrs. Hoodless with the Y.W.C.A., the Hamilton City Council, the Ontario Department of Education and a number of wealthy friends. (The school later merged with MacDonald Institute.
3. Thirdly, Mrs. Hoodless was also crusading to have Domestic Science taught in Public Schools. A beginning began in the Hamilton schools and if this was to be extended, numbers of Domestic Science graduates would be required as teachers. Here again, a school was needed for a teachers training ground. As difficulties arose in financing the Hamilton institution, Mrs. Hoodless looked for other possibilities. As her son was a student at the Ontario Agriculture College at Guelph, she knew the President, Dr. James Mills, so she discussed her problem with him. Dr. Mills encouraged her to try and find funds for a building which could be located at the O.A.C., Hence, Mrs. Hoodless took her appeal to William Christopher MacDonald, millionaire tobacco manufacturer, Montreal. The funds were provided and MacDonald Institute was opened in 1903.

At this time, Miss Mary Watson of Ayr, Ontario was principal of the Hamilton school of Domestic Science and Art, so she moved with the School to Guelph to become the first principal of MacDonald Institute as she had an extensive education with post graduate studies at Columbia University. Miss Watson was gifted with Home Economics, made high standards for her pupils and progressive outlook. After her retirement in 1920, she expressed special interest in the expansion of practical education in home management and child study at MacDonald Institute.

In 1921 when Miss Olive Cruickshank of Wingham, Ontario, the second principal came to MacDonald Institute, there was a growing demand for graduates of more professional training. Some shorter courses were discontinued and most of the students entered the two year Associate Course. An outstanding piece of Miss Cruickshank's work was the

development of streamlined food laboratories which was much in advance to other Home Economics schools at that time. In 1941 the MacDonald Institute was closed to provide accommodation for the Air Force and Miss Cruickshank took a war-time position with the Dominion Government until her sudden, untimely death in 1948.

When the Institute re-opened after the war, Miss Dorothy Lindsay, now Mrs. Frank Walden, came as an Associate Director. She had the heavy duty of helping to get the building renovated after its military occupation. In 1946-47, there were no professional courses, only a one year Diploma Course but the staff worked with an Advisory Committee to plan a 4 year Degree Course which was introduced in 1948 with Dr. Margaret McCready as principal. Ontario Women's Institute members are familiar with Dr. McCready's progressive program for MacDonald Institute. Because of the special need of professional Home Economists in increasing variety of fields and limited accommodation at the Institute, the one year diploma or "Homemaker" course, was transferred to Kemptville Agricultural School a few years ago. Accommodation is still inadequate for many applicants, but this is not news to Institute members. Many have daughters who are MacDonald graduates, and many others know the disappointment of having a daughter rejected because of this necessity. Ontario Institute Women have other links with the MacDonald Institute. For years we have enjoyed the hospitality of the "O.A.C." now known as Guelph University, for conventions and conferences. The campus seems like home to us. We feel we have a stake in the school because the founder of the Women's movement was also, co-founder of the MacDonald Institute, Mrs. Hoodless for even then in 1910, she could visualize the two working together for better homes and a better family life. She could scarcely have imagined how far this would go with Institute women and Home Economics graduates carrying on our present program for girls, 4-H Homemaking Clubs.

So, the Women's Institutes are not unaware of the heritage that is theirs in MacDonald Institute. Now, that the whole University in Guelph is campaigning to raise funds for the expansion, it is not surprising that the Institutes want to do something for that part of the University that seems especially their own, the school of Home Economics, MacDonald Institute.





Mrs. Russel Saunders President and Mrs. Earl Ward Secretary examining the Tweedsmuir History of the Whitby Branch of the Women's Institute, the second Institute, at their 70th Birthday party in 1971.

At Whitby, 2nd Institute of the World, Organized June 29, 1897

This meeting of the ladies of South Ontario, County was convened by Mrs. J. L. Smith for the purpose of organizing a W. I. Thus, we have an authentic record of its founding of being, the second W. I. in the world from the 1900 Report, of the Farmer's Institutes which tells us that on Oct. 12, 1897 the first regular meeting was held in the council Chambers at Whitby, The President, Mrs. S. L. Brown explained the objects of the Association and carried out the provided programme.

Miss Meen of Whitby read a paper on "Window Gardening". Laura Rose (Stephen) presented 2 addresses "Bread Making" and Butter Making. Officers of the 2nd W. I. were, Honourary President Mrs. J. L. Smith, President, Mrs S. L. Brown, Secretary- Mrs. Wm. Anderson, Treasurer- Mrs. J. B. Mitchell.

The Whitby Branch of the W. I. is still active.

Kemble, 3rd Institute of the World, Organized Aug. 1897

The farmers Institute meeting at Kemble included both men and women with the late Mrs. James Gardiner as Guest speaker and her subject was, "Man Works From Sun to Sun, but Women's Work is never Done." She expressed the idea of women meeting monthly, as it would be a boon to Rural women to discuss home making problems and exchange ideas.

In August 1897 Mrs. Gardiner called from home to home inviting the women to a meeting in the Library Hall to organize a Womens Institute, similiar to the one formed at Stoney Creek, a clause in the first Constitution shows that the first idea was to promote better architecture and sanitation in the homes and to study food and fuel values.

At this meeting the out come was that Mrs. J. S. Smith of Whitby organized the 3rd W. I. in the World. The first officers were Honourable President, Mrs. J. S. Smith, of Whitby, President Mrs James Gardiner an office she held for ten years, Secretary Mrs. Franklin Wilcox, Treasurer Mrs. Geo. Beckett,

The Kemble W. I. are proud of their long history work and their Tweedsmuir History up to date.

THE PATCHWORK QUILT - By Natalie Whitted Price

Did Gran'ma ever tell you about the patch-work  
quilt

That lies across the sofa in her room?  
It is made from scraps of dresses that she wore  
when she was young,  
And some of them were woven on a loom.  
Sometimes when it is raining and I can't play out of doors,  
She lets me spread it out upon the floor,  
And as I choose the pieces I'd like to hear about,  
She tells me of the dresses that she wore.

It isn't the dresses that Gran'ma tells about,  
It's the things that happened when she had them on,  
And almost ev'ry piece that's in that dear old patch-work quilt,  
Holds the mem'ry of a sorrow or a song  
Oh, things were very wonderful when Grandmama was young,  
You ought to hear her tell about it all.  
The ladies all were beautiful, the children all were good,  
And the men were all so gallant and so tall.

My Gran'ma told me once that life is just a patch-work quilt,  
Of births and deaths and marriages and things;  
and that sometimes when you're looking for a lovely piece of red,  
You only find a knot of faded strings.  
But she says the red is reader when it's by a piece of brown,  
And gray is not so gray by sunny gold;  
Oh, I hope I'll have a lovely patch-work quilt like Gran'mama's,  
To show to little children when I'm old.