

These soft enchantments from above—
 Pray tell me true, can this be love?
 Is love a power that binds the heart
 To one companion, ne'er to part?
 Blest then indeed we both should be,
 If thou enjoy'st its bonds like me;
 Thy pledge will let me call the mine,
 And I thy vanquished Valentine!

M.

RESPONSE.

May love, esteem and friendship crown thy days,
 With joys to guilt unknown, from doubts
 secure;

While heavenly Truth inspires the voice of
 praise,

And bids that praise beyond this world endure
 Through life to sacred virtue's dictates true,
 Be such thy joys as angels may approve:
 Such as lead on to raptures ever new,
 To endless peace and purest bliss above!

J.

RECIPROCATION.

May we forever dwell in virtue's bower
 And innocently pass life's gayest hour's!
 Returning dawn shall teach the lark to sing;
 Years shall revolve with fresh returning spring.
 And may religion ever crown our home:
 No ills o'ercome the heaven-protected dome;
 No baleful star strikes down a deadly ray,
 Heaven guards by day and night the souls that
 pray.

All nature blooms around in field and grove,
 Rural the scene most fit for youthful love;
 'Twas there that Daphnis wooed the Sylvan
 maid,

'Twas there that Sylvia virtuous love displayed.

RETROSPECT.

Indulge these pastimes of a youthful pen;
 Such pastime ceases at the age of men,
 When graver years move solemn o'er the dome
 Where order dwells in ever-peaceful home,
 But in our youth, our studies and our care's,
 All must allow that pleasure ought to share.
 Such truthful lines my recreation make,
 When from my toil, sweet rural walks I take.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

LORD SALISBURY has resigned office, and
 Mr. Gladstone (who voted with the Par-
 nellites) is again forming a cabinet.

BRITAIN AND AMERICA begin to see that
 Liberty must not be allowed to degenerate
 into Licence and Insolence. It is high
 time to break the neck of Lawlessness, or
 it will break the neck of Britain and
 America.

FRANCE'S wicked ways in Madagascar
 and Tonquin have already led to the fall

of two French Cabinets, and the end is
 not yet.

GREECE AND SERBIA are still fiercely
 covetous of slices of land from Turkey and
 are growling like cats over the moribund
 "sick man."

VAST changes of climate have occurred
 this winter far and near throughout the
 world. Canada has had fine moist weath-
 er, while Europe has had bitter cold and
 storms. The United States have had still
 more terrible blizzards, down to Mexico.
 Cattle and fowls are frozen by hundreds
 and thousands, and men and women have
 perished with cold by dozens. It seems
 as if the world were "turning upside
 down," not only politically and religiously
 but even in climate and phenomena.

THE highest authority in Britain has
 decided that the Liquor License question
 pertains to the several Provinces and not
 to the Dominion Parliament. This is a
 decision which we trust will turn to the
 advantage of the Temperance Reforma-
 tion.

MONTEVIDEO, the capital of Uruguay,
 with a population of 125,000 has twenty-
 three daily newspapers, more than any
 other city in the world—three times as
 many as London, and nearly twice as many
 as New York. Buenos Ayres, the capital
 of the Argentine Republic, across the Rio
 de la Plata, has twenty-one daily papers
 for a population of 400,000. Other cities
 in South America are equally blessed, ex-
 cept those of Ecuador, Bolivia, and Para-
 guay, in which no daily newspapers are
 published. The South American news-
 papers are not issued so much for the dis-
 semination of news as the propagation of
 ideas. They give about six columns of
 editorial to one of intelligence, publish all
 sorts of communications on political sub-
 jects, furnish a story in each issue, and
 often run history and biography as serials.
 One frequently takes up a daily paper and
 finds in it everything but news, so that
 last week's issue is just as good reading as
 yesterday's.

THE Arabs are again becoming trouble-
 some and aggressive against Egypt.

Abdel Kader Pasha, Minister of War,
 formerly governor of the Soudan, in a
 recent conversation on the Egyptian ques-