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Poetry.

THE TRUTH.

An arrow shaft of lightning flame,
Forth from unlettered lips it came;
Whence came it and the songs of birds;
It clove its way in burning words,
And, on a holy mission sent,
Through languages and lands it went.

Some heard it, but they did not heed,
Some welcomed it and performed its deed,
Some fought it and were stricken dumb;
They knew not what it power had come;
And, struggling to eclipse the light,
Were crushed by its resistless might.

It barbed the hero's scorn of wrong,
The poet shaped it in his song;
It nerved the speaker on the stage,
With it the author warmed the page;
And hoary error shrank away,
Dazzled and blinded by its ray.

O, spark from heaven! touched by thy light
The farthest hills with day are bright;
New forms of love and beauty rise,
New splendors tell the arching skies,
The ancient words that vex us cease,
We feel the thousand years of peace.

A Gushing Love Story with a New Ending.

The Montreal "Witness," a religious daily, gives the following very curious international love story in one of its latest issues:

According to the facts given by this New York authority, there arrived in Montreal from New York, about a year ago, a wealthy young widow, whose notable independence of character had not fully maintained itself under the first local associations of memory following her husband's death. In other words, the city in which she had known the greatest happiness and bitterest sorrow of her brief married life was unendurable to her earlier months of widowhood, and, wishing for as great a change of scene as was practicable to her without crossing the ocean, she repaired to Canada, as above related, upon a visit to a matronly friend there residing.

Like herself, this friend was a widow, but had a son whose youthful nature was more calculated to excite sympathy for himself in his sentiment toward such a guest than to offer the same disinterestedly; and, ingenious, selfhearted, more boy of barely twenty years' verdant growth in life; the feminine beauty that might have been perilous enough for him in smiles was instantaneously fatal to him in tears, and before either his mother or their visitor was aware of his passion the poor lad was ready to die of it.

Of course this climax was ridiculous, not to speak of its indecorum; and as it had been previously understood that the offender should go to one of the Western States, where a merchant friend of the family had offered him a business situation, he was now hurried off from home lest his folly should become too conspicuous. This happened before he had summoned the daring to make any verbal revelation of his very obvious infatuation, and the fair object of the latter had so much excuse for feigning unconsciousness of the cause of his sudden banishment.

It was but poor feigning for the lady, however, and if the whole truth must be told at once, the love-sick exile was no sooner gone than she began rebelling at the conventionalisms which had compelled his departure. She was scarcely out of the first year of her widowhood, and he several years her junior; yet such fresh impetuous devotion as his did not deserve contempt, and she could not help dwelling upon it sympathetically. Under these circumstances, her earliest "independence" of character came back to her, and not only did she remain with her widowed friend in Montreal, but also wrote boldly to her departed lover, telling

him, in effect, that the unspoken cause of his abrupt alienation from home involved nothing that prevented his speedy return!

The mother knew nothing of the same extraordinary writing until the overjoyed young man was once more at the door, and then the meeting between him and the visitor left nothing to be explained. What the maternal feeling was there is not told; possibly the prospect of having a rich daughter-in-law quieted the old lady's first protesting inclination.

In the pecuniary element of the affair, however, there was an unforeseen wreck for the whole romance. The event described and the ensuing form of courtship occupied nearly a year; and when, not many days ago, the young widow wrote to her friends and the executors of the husband's will, that she was about to marry again, she received the appalling responsive information that, by the terms of the will aforesaid, her resumption of wedlock must cause the reversion of her late husband's whole fortune excepting a comparatively small annuity to his blood relations. In her first distracting grief and succeeding distracting new love, she had never thought of this posthumous provision, and upon being reminded of it now her feeling underwent what fine writers are wont to call a "great revolution."

Having been unwomanly in her manner of bringing her second suitor to her side, it was not, perhaps, illogical in nature that she should, at the very altar's verge discard him for money. At any rate, that was what she did, according to the credible witness of the catastrophe, and returned cordially to New York. And now respectable social circles in the two cities are questioning whether a custom allowing women to take the initiative in matrimonial proposals would be likely to secure nobler and more genuine affections in love than are generally attained in the old-fashioned way. Such an illustration certainly favors the negative, and is worth some study in the interest of the immemorial habit of honorable men and womanly women in all chivalrous and gentle relations.

Origin of the African Diamonds.

Dr. Toit's Pan, Bulfontein, and the New Rush appear to be immense volcanic craters filled with slates and shale. Mr. Dunn, an Australian geologist, paid a visit to the Diamond Fields, and thus describes Dr. Toit's Pan: "The Pan" is formed entirely in shale, and may readily be accounted for by the presence of the horse-shoe shaped dyke surrounding it. The shale where close to the dyke is undisturbed, but on the South side of Bulfontein it is contorted, broken, and mixed with decomposed, intrusive rock. The shales are usually of a fine arenaceous nature, bluish grey, black or yellowish in color. In sinking the wells around the Pan, there were found of fissile sandy shales, stained yellow and red by iron oxide. Underneath this in most wells there was a stratum of black sandy, carbonaceous shales, generally having a strong bituminous odor, the joint covered with black varnish (bitumen). In No. 1 well a seam a quarter of an inch thick of veritable coal was found. He is evidently much puzzled how to account for the diamonds being present here, as he favors the idea that they have been transported by the rivers from distant mountains; and until these inland discoveries were made I believe but few were found away from the beds of streams and rivers. Now Dr. Toit's Pan is twenty-four miles from the River Diggings. In this dilemma Mr. Dunn gives it as his opinion that the diamonds "were blown there by strong North-West winds." Fortunately for him, these winds do blow strongly, and also come from the Vaal River mines; but it is the height of absurdity to suppose the gems, large and small, would all be transported just so far. It is evident the little ones have a better chance of floating than the big; still they all bring up very kindly in four distinct spots, each of circular shape and circumscribed dimensions. The theory of their being washed from the mountains is no doubt a correct one as regards the river mines; but for inland deposits of such magnitude as those of Dr. Toit's Pan and the New Rush we can only arrive at the conclusion that they are the original receptacles of the gems, and that before they came there their existence was as gaseous bodies. ["New Dominion Monthly" for June.

Fatal Encounter with a Tiger.

A fearful story is told in the Madras papers of an encounter with a tiger, in which Mr. Joseph Gay, son of Mr. Gay, Controller of Public Works Accounts in the Nizam's Territory, lost his life. The tiger had committed numerous depredations in the Chauderphat district in Hyderabad. Several persons had been killed, and the work of the Public Works Department interfered with. Mr. Marrett, the district engineer and a successful sportsman, went out with young Mr. Gay to shoot the animal. Mr. Marrett and a shikaree were posted under a tree; Mr. Gay placed himself on the lower branches of the tree to watch, while the beat-

ers surrounded the lair. The tiger appeared so suddenly that Mr. Marrett could only fire, wounding the animal in the jaw, before he was knocked down, and the tiger, Mr. Marrett, and the shikaree rolled over together. Mr. Gay, at this moment, in trying to shift his seat so as to get a clear shot, lost his balance, and fell on the back of the enraged tiger. Mr. Marrett had swooned, and the mail eater turned on his new assailant, mangle him fearfully. The beaters then succeeded in driving off the tiger to the jungle. Mr. Marrett was not badly hurt, and the shikaree was unhurt, but young Mr. Gay died of his wounds six hours afterwards.

Postal Changes in the United States after June 30, 1873.

- 1.—Franking Privilege abolished.
- 2.—Postmasters supplied with Official Stamps.
- 3.—Official Stamps must not be used except for Official business.
- 4.—Stamp of one Department cannot be used for correspondence of another.
- 5.—No matter can pass through the mails free.
- 6.—Postage must be collected on Newspapers published in the county where delivered.
- 7.—Exchanges not free. Publishers must pay postage on each exchange received.
- 8.—Postal cards uncollected for are not sent to Dead Letter Office.
- 9.—Postal cards cannot be used a second time.
- 10.—Ordinary cards can be transmitted through the mails by affixing one cent stamp, provided the entire message is printed. The address may be written.

POSTAGE.

LETTERS.—Three cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof.

DROP LETTERS.—Where delivered by carriers, two cents for each half ounce or fraction thereof. At other offices, one cent for each half ounce or fraction thereof.

PRINTED MATTER.—One cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof. Seeds, Bulbs, Cuttings, Roots, Spoons, Chromes, and Engravings are charged with Printed Matter.

MERCHANDISE.—Two cents for each two ounces or fraction thereof, limited to twelve ounces. When any of the above matter is mailed wholly unpaid, and, by inadvertence, reaches its destination, double rates should be charged and collected.

Great Scientific Discovery.

THE LONDON correspondent of the "Daily Advertiser" writes:—"For some time the scientific world has been startled and rejoiced by any very great discovery, but at the present moment we are on the eve of the publication of one of the greatest scientific discoveries of the present age. The happy man who has struck on a new and rich vein of scientific truth comes from the Granite City, and is a very distinguished alumnus of the University of Aberdeen. Dr. Ferrier, who was some time ago appointed successor to Dr. Guy in the Chair of Forensic Medicine in King's College, London, has just completed the study of years by a most happy and brilliant series of experiments. Dr. Ferrier was a successful student of philosophy, and gained the Ferguson Scholarship in Glasgow before he studied medicine. It was probably his acquaintance with Professor Bain's psychology that led him to give special attention to the physiology of the brain, and his graduation thesis on the brain, for which he obtained a gold medal, proved that he had already entered on the study in which he is destined to acquire enduring fame. He has never lost sight of the subject to which he attached himself so early, and has been for a considerable time thoroughly up to the most advanced knowledge. About a month ago his plans were so far complete that he was ready to begin his experiments with the Ecton Brown he went to Wakefield, and was amply provided with cats, dogs, and other animals for his experiments. The results obtained hitherto, and it is not too much to say that during the last month more has been discovered regarding the action of the brain than in the preceding knowledge. Physiology is therefore on the eve of an extraordinary advance. What Gall and Spurzheim groped after in a loose and empirical fashion is now established on the sure grounds of experiments. The modus operandi is new and ingenious. The animal to be experimented on is first put under chloroform. The next thing is to cut away the skull and expose the brain. This, it will be understood, is a difficult and delicate operation, but is done, and the animal may live from three hours to four days. All this has been done, often before, but the difficulty was to get some mode of raising parts of the brain into activity without injuring the parts. Here Faraday comes in. Such is the way of scientific discovery—every step leads to the next. Without Simpson and chloroform the operation could not have been usefully attempted;

without Faraday the operation might have been performed a thousand times without leading to any result. The process employed by Dr. Ferrier is what is known as faradizing. After uncovering the brain, he applies the point of an electrode to the convoluted surface of that part, and thereby to show the activity of that part, and the first experiments disclosed the part that is employed in wagging the tail. Soon after the centres engaged in supplying the limbs, the mouth, head, &c., were discovered, and already Dr. Ferrier has succeeded in almost completing a map of the brain with all its organs, distinguished by the sure and rigorous test of experiment.

Nothing could surpass the interest of these experiments. On the table before us is the dog with its skull removed. All seems, but for the breathing and movement of the brain, an inert mass of dead matter. The doctor applies the electrode, and presently the tail begins to wag. All else is motionless. Another touch, and its forepaw is stretched out; and another, and its head is erected; and another and its mouth opens. Again the magic wand touches the brain, and the animal seems convulsed with fear and rage, and so on the experiments go. Once the divining rod has been discovered it is comparatively easy for an expert visitor to use it. This discovery, so simple once it is known, will effect a great revolution in physiology. Hitherto it has been looked on as an axiom that you cannot experiment with the brain—that it is too near the seat of life to be tampered with. Now experiment has been introduced into a region where we had reconciled ourselves to the vague and uncertain light of observation. There can be no doubt that we shall soon know the particular use of every convolution of the brain. Phenology from the stage of empirical observation will become a science. One of the chief results attained by Dr. Ferrier is the belief that each convolution is a separate organ, although occasionally several may be conjoined for common work. He also finds that the great motor centres are collected in the front part of the brain; a result that shows the phenologists were not far out in that quarter. It also has demonstrated that the nerves moving the muscles of the jaw are just above the ear, where the phenologists place gustatory centres. But other experiments make still better known the locality of many of the experiments is now proving one of the main uses, if not the sole one, of cerebellum is to supply the muscles of the eye. This is an extraordinary confirmation of one of Professor Bain's most characteristic views. But the most important immediate effect of Dr. Ferrier's discovery will be an improved treatment of diseases of the brain. It has found out why considerable portions of the brain may be diseased without interfering with sanity, and why other slight lesions produce epilepsy. It has succeeded in artificially producing epilepsy in a dog.

This is a most wonderful part of the discovery, and proves the truth of the conjecture of Dr. Howlings Jackson, that epilepsy arises from a lesion between two convolutions of the brain. Dr. Ferrier has also found out the origin of chorea or St. Vitus' dance, and has been able to make his animals show all the symptoms of the disease artificially. He has caused tetanus and other peculiar and difficult states of the muscular system. Although the discovery opens a new path in the treatment of disease, and cannot fail to produce the most important benefits. It will also give us a real scientific phenology; and, curiously enough, Dr. Ferrier's discovery coincides with another almost essential to its practical success. Anatomists have warned phenologists that they erred in taking the outward shape of the skull as indicating the shape of the brain. The skull varies considerably, and it is impossible to say of any particular part that the brain is such or such a distance below. Nevertheless, a young anatomist has recently shown that there is a relation between the shape of the skull and of the brain and that it is possible to know what is in the inside of the head without breaking it open. This is most important, for when Dr. Ferrier has mapped out the brain it will be possible to diagnose a man's faculties as easily as to tell his shape. We are glad to learn that, at the instance of Professor Huxley, the Royal Society has come handsomely forward and voted a grant to Dr. Ferrier to carry out his experiments on monkeys. The monkey is the nearest approach to man in the animal kingdom, and it is of course out of the question to experiment on man, the monkey will form an adequate substitute. Altogether, it is likely that Dr. Ferrier's discovery, beyond any discovery of the present generation, will enlarge the circle of human knowledge, and contribute to the happiness of mankind.

A THRILLING ADVENTURE.—The following is from a California paper: Millie Cayan, aged about 10 years, and daughter of George M. Cayan, general manager of all the mines in and about Lost Camp, was assisting some of her younger sisters over the sluice boxes,

in the mine known as Wood's Ravine, when she missed her footing and fell into the boxes through which was running at the time about 500 inches of water. She was swept for a distance of 1,600 feet through the sluices as though she had been a feather. It appeared that she passed through the boxes in a sitting position, and during her terrible race tried repeatedly to rescue herself from what in 99 cases out of 100 would have proved fatal to the strongest man. Even while going at the rate of a railroad train the girl exhibited presence of mind enough to let her head fall back into the water to escape a piece that was nailed over the boxes, and against which, but for the precaution taken, her brains would certainly have been dashed out. After being carried a distance of 900 feet she was washed over a "dump," 12 feet high, falling into another sluice box, 700 feet long. Passing through the latter, she was swept over another "dump," 20 feet high, falling among rough, jagged rocks. Here she managed to crawl out a few feet from under the heavy body of falling water, and was shortly after rescued by Mr. Bartlett, foreman of the mine. It was found that she had sustained severe injuries on the left knee, hip and side. Her face was also scratched and swollen, but fortunately neither will permanently disfigure her.

A NEW IDEA IN BUILDING.—Wire netting for plastering is being rapidly introduced to take the place of laths. It takes less labor to place on the walls; is more continuous, and will not burn. Coarse netting, with one inch mesh, and made of strong wire, is found to answer best. For ornamental cornice work it is especially valuable, for it can be bent into any desired form. Secured to iron studs in a brick building our greatest danger on account of fire would be removed altogether. A still further application of this plan is to make round bags of wire, resembling barrels, and coat them inside and out with cement. When it hardens they resemble stone barrels. Filled with sand and sunk in rows and masses, they make excellent building material for breakwaters. Another extension of the idea has been tried with success in England. It consists in making iron framed buildings, covering them with wire netting and spreading concrete on both sides. It is claimed that as houses—walls, floors, door, partitions and all—has been built that is strong, firm and absolutely incombustible. Various applications of the use of wire netting and plaster or cement readily suggest themselves and the matter is worthy the attention of mechanics and builders.

SIGNS OF DEATH.—Dr. Hugo Magnus, assistant physician to hospital at Breslau, suggests that the tying of a tight ligature round one of the fingers will determine whether a person supposed to be dead is so in reality. If life be not extinct the extremity of the finger soon becomes red, the depth of the color increasing to dark red and violet, while the skin above the ligature remains white. This is easily understood, as if there be any circulation of the blood, the ligature prevents the return of the venous blood, while the arteries still continue to convey it to the capillaries. A test so simple can be applied without difficulty, and seems to be quite decisive. [Editors Scientific Record, in Harper's Magazine for June.

WELL, father Brown, how did you like my sermon yesterday? asked a young preacher. You see, parson, was the reply, I haven't a fair chance at them sermons of yours. I'm an old man now, and have to set pretty well back by the store; there's old Mrs. Smith, n' Widder Taff, n' Mr. Ryan's darters n' Nabby Bird, n' all the rest, setting in front of me, with their mouths wide open, a swallerin' down all the best of the sermon; n' what gets down to me is pretty poor stuff, parson, pretty poor stuff!

A sad accident occurred in Eastport Tuesday morning, at the gas works. Repairs were to be made at the works, and a young man named Lawrence went down into the gasometer to let off the water, and the gas overcame him and he fell from the ladder into the water. His brother Edward went down the ladder to get him out, and he too was suffocated and fell. Another brother, James, the manager of the works, tied a rope around his body and was lowered down but he too had lost his senses, and now lies in a dangerous condition. The other two were taken out. Edward leaves a wife and four children. If man was recently married.

Tohy Candor estimates that there are six thousand manufacturing establishments in Maine, with an aggregate capital of forty millions, giving employment to fifty thousand laborers. There are over one thousand saw mills in the State; running nearly five thousand saws, employing nine thousand hands, with an invested capital of seven millions, and yielding annual product of not less than eleven and a half millions.