

into years by Messrs. J. and G. Thompson and others. The builders have no responsibility beyond that of following the plans and specifications which are delivered to them by the Company, and in which the most minute points of detail are provided for with a care and knowledge which are the results of more than 40 years of an experience unequalled in its extent and its variety, and unsurpassed in the liberality by which it has been guided, and in the wisdom with which its teachings have been applied.—*The Times*.

A Charming Romance.

A SINGULAR MATRIMONIAL ALLIANCE AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

[From the San Francisco Bulletin.]

It is a popular saying that "all the world loves a lover," and it may hold true that all the world loves to read of lovers. Some years ago there appeared in the *Chicago Inter-Ocean* a sketch of a singular marriage. It was related that the bride sailed for Italy and the bridegroom started for Arizona, within two hours after the wedding ceremony was concluded. The sketch, widely copied at the time, was true in substance and detail, but the romantic coloring of the marriage, so to speak, was in its first blush. The lapse of time and the changes of fortune having brought one of the parties of the singular wedding to California, and placed the other well on the road to historic fame in Italy, it is now in good time to give the continuation of the romance. Briefly told it is this: About four years ago, a young army officer, Lieutenant Philip Reade, who by the way, is a nephew of the immortal Ben Butler, attended church in Topeka, Kansas. There are living witnesses to this assertion, however singular it may appear that an officer of the army and a nephew of Old Ben's, found his way to the sanctuary of grace. He did go, and while there one voice of the choir impressed him as sweetly sympathetic. The music touched his soul, and his heart went out to the rustic vocalist. He sought her acquaintance, obtained an introduction, and for months whiled away the hours unconsciously in the cheerful sunshine of her presence. He learned of her ambitions, and listened with all the fervour of a youthful enthusiast to a recital of her aspirations. She longed for fame in the great world of the opera, but there stood poverty that twin companion of obscurity and enemy of genius, interposing obstacles in every path promising to lead to the goal of her ambition. Yet she did not despair, and had planned a girlish way of her own to reach Italy and study under the inspiration of great masters in the land of poetry and song. She had already begun to give music lessons, and even had saved a few dollars, as the beginning of the fund. The young army officer admired the heroism and applauded the daring pluck of the noble little woman. He had faith likewise in her future, believing that her talents would some day engage the attention of the song loving world. Richer in purse than most army officers and generous withal, he proffered her the money to commence her musical education which she in proper pride declined. However, she obtained means by singing in local concerts to pursue her studies in Boston, and little was heard of her until the Eastern papers, as already intimated, announced the wedding of Lieut. Philip Reade, U. S. A., and Miss Minnie Beale, of Topeka. It may be inferred that the mar-

riage was the condition of her accepting money to pursue her studies in Italy, and it is true that more than three years' time has elapsed since the matrimonial event, and neither one of the pair has seen the other. In the meantime she applied herself with all the patience and diligence of feminine nature to constant study under renowned teachers, finally making her debut and winning words of praise from the most eminent critics.

In a recent letter from Italy to her husband, who is now in San Diego, in charge of the military telegraph lines, the lady herself tells the rest of the story in the charming candor of girlish simplicity.

Although permission is granted to give the exuberant epistle in *extenso*, for the edification of our readers, the substance thereof will suffice for the purpose. The letter is dated at Milan, Italy, June 12, and after the customary and very appropriate greetings of Mrs. Lieutenant Philip Reade to her husband, opens with the announcement that she had just signed an engagement, for four years, at a splendid and increasing rate of salary, with Scalapini a celebrated Italian impresario. The *debutante* opens at the Poglieno Theatre, Florence, in Auber's new opera of the *Prodigal Son*, produced for the first time in Italy. After this season she is to appear successively in all the leading theatres of Italy, and will thence extend her triumphant travels to other parts of Europe, probably visiting the United States before the expiration of the present engagement. Other evidences are given of the marked success of this deserving lady, and a brilliant future is before her. Her finishing instructions were received from Signor Gi'li, a famous Italian teacher. Such are the ultimate results of the pious turn that incidentally befel a nephew of old Ben Butler on Sunday morning, and led him to intrude into a quiet sanctuary of worship in Kansas town.

Burning of Goliath.

The *London Daily News* of the 23rd of December gives the following account of the burning of the British training ship Goliath:

A terrible disaster occurred on the River Thames yesterday morning, the Goliath, a school ship, lying off Grays, and having 400 boys on board, being destroyed by fire. The full extent of the calamity cannot yet be measured, but many of the boys and one of the officers are missing, and no thought either to have been drowned or perished in the flames. The Goliath was an old wooden line-of-battle ship, which carried eighty guns, with engines of 400 horse power. Some years ago, after lying by in ordinary, she was lent by the Admiralty to the Poor Law authorities of the metropolis in order to try the experiment of training the poor boys of London for the sea, and was placed for administrative purposes under the care of the managers of the Forest Gate School. She was a large ship of nearly 3,000 tons burden, and, lying solitary in the light of the river off Grays, was an object of interest to excursionists on the river. At a few minutes to eight some were preparing breakfast and others cleaning the ship, while the bulk of the lads were below, many of them undressed. The lamp room, in the fore-castle of the ship, was the scene of the outbreak. The lamps used to light the vessel after dark are fed with petroleum oil, and it appears to have been the rule to collect them every morning in the lamp room for the purpose of having them clean-

ed and retimmed. It is said that one of the lamps was accidentally dropped by a lad, and the petroleum ignited and spread in liquid fire all over the deck. The alarm was instantly given, but so rapid was the spread of the fire that when Captain Bouchier, Royal Navy, the officer in command was called from his cabin, the whole deck was in flames. A terrible scene ensued. "The horrified children rushed up from below through the various hatchways, which were with difficulty kept from being choked up by the crush and struggle, and as fast as they got on deck they hurried to the side of the ship nearest land as the point of escape. Unfortunately it was the most dangerous side of the ship, for a strong southwesterly wind was blowing full upon her broadside and rolled the smoke and flame over in the direction of the shore. The lads, however, climbed over the bulworks and hung in the chains and wherever they could get hold for hand or foot, and the boats of the ship being instantly at hand, proceeded to take them off as fast as possible. One or more were swamped, and as many of the lads clinging to the ship were compelled to drop one after another into the water there was ample occupation for the other boats which came to the rescue to pick up those who were swimming or drowning. The ship lay only about a hundred yards from shore, and a good many leaped overboard and swam to land, amongst whom were two young ladies, the daughters of Captain Bouchier. The boats of the training ships *Arethusa* and *Chichester*, lying at Greenwich, came down in a flotilla to help, in command of Captain Walters and several others, and were instrumental in saving many lives. Captain Bouchier was the last to leave the burning ship, and it was his belief that all the lads were saved, but there is too much reason to know that he was mistaken, for two bodies have already been washed ashore, and the schoolmaster, Mr. Wheeler, is said to have sunk. As the survivors were taken on shore, the people of Grays, a small town of some three thousand inhabitants, turned out *en masse* to receive them. The school-rooms, places of worship, hotels, and private houses were placed at their disposal, whilst all the coppers and kettles that could be obtained were pressed into service to get breakfast for the four hundred, less those who were missing. Kind-hearted people brought clothing for the half-naked little ones, many of whom were to be seen throughout the day clad in garments of all sizes and of both sexes. An attempt was made to make a muster of the lads in order to find out who were missing, but they were so scattered about the town that the process was unsatisfactory, besides which some were picked up by ships passing up and down the river, and carried to unknown destinations, while others it is believed, have taken advantage of their liberty to abscond, so that it may be some days before the actual results will be known.

REMITTANCES Received to Subscription of THE VOLUNTEER REVIEW up to Saturday the 15th Inst. :—

Brockville, Ont.—Lt. Col. Jackson, D.A.C., to Jan. 1877, 25 00
Cobourg, Ont.—Major C. Gifford, to April 1876, 2 00
Peterboro' " Capt. W. Johnston, to May 73 2 00
Stratford, " Mr. Jas. Wilson, to May, 1876 1 00
Toronto, " Cap. R. B. Hamilton, to Jan. 76 3 00
The following per Capt. & Adj. Bland:

Halifax N.S.—Capt. Hestlin, to July, 1876 4 00
Capt. Hart, 68th, to Sept. 1876 4 00
Capt. Walsh, 68th, to Jan. 1876 2 00
Maj. Reeves, 68th, to April, 1876 4 00
Maj. Murray, 68th, to July, 76 4 00
Lt. Col. Mitchell, to May, 1875 4 00
Lt. Col. Anderson, to Jan. 1877 4 00