

them in a ruinous condition, being deserted since the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty, and the imposition of heavy duties on coal in the States. There is beauty about ruined churches and ivied castles, but none about deserted cabins in a coal district. There is something of poetry even in the pig as he goes about the door, in the consciousness of possession, but none about a cabin sinking to ruin amid dust and dirt—where gentle and beautiful things are never seen, and where flowers make but poor attempts to bloom, vexed to death at having their pretty dresses always soiled and smirched with smoke and colly. Here roses are no longer white or red, pansies are no more pied. All put on the crape of coal as, though they mourned for the dead. Better houses, of Superintendent and officials are at a little distance, presenting an agreeable contrast to the general aspect, but these bring out the greater poverty of the miners' huts. The grimed men who reside in there may be happy. Fancy is not strong in them, and even if it were, would not elevate them above their condition. Poetry however in its lowest form, has here tried its wing rather unsuccessfully on a sign board that reads :

James Clish lives here,
Sells good ale and beer,
Pass ye east or pass ye west,
If you pass here you pass the best.
Also liquor of all kinds
All good quality ye'll find.

The tourist may visit James Clish or the mines. The descent to these may be made from the outcrop by an inclined plane of, say 15 or 20 degrees; boys with oil lamps light you through the long descent. The other course is to go down the shaft in the bucket—by far the easiest mode. Once at the bottom of the shaft you hear the coal trucks coming along the tram-ways, and see the lights which the miners carry in their fronts, and visit the horses which are sleek and fat, and contented though they have not seen the light of the sun for years. Having explored some of the leads, you are glad to come to light again, which you can do as readily as by the elevator of the Victoria Hotel. By this time you are ready to proceed to