

My bonus in advance ; it tends to make
 The final payment easy : it will be
 A pleasing thing, when it is due, to see
 (The heart, however sad, will be elated)
 One half the debt already liquidated.

The Tea Party.

Mrs. A, Mrs. B, Mrs. C, Mrs. D,
 Are invited to tea by their friend Mrs. E.
 Discoursing an hour of this and of that,
 There came a brief pause in the gossiping chat,
 Which furnished the chance she desired, for A
 To complain that her John came home tipsy to-day;
 And declare that his cruelty certainly would
 Have shattered her reason if anything could.
 Then spoke Mrs. B, who was very well known
 As the shield of all husbands on earth but her
 own :—

“ You really confound me, my dear Mrs. A,
 I can't, won't believe that you mean what you say;
 That your husband has faults, I indulge not a
 doubt,
 (Can you find such a thing as a husband without?)
 But I've known Mr. A since my earliest years,
 And though man is not always just what he ap-
 pears,