Poetry.

A Few Short years.

A few short years-and then What changes Time hath wrought! So strange they seem, we scarce can deem The world, our life, ourselves, are aught But one long fitful dream. The clouds that fly Across the sky; Waves tossed upon the sea;

Shadows that pass Before a glass, Our fitting emblems be.

A few short years and then Where are the hopes that shone When youth with flowers inwreathed

And earth had but one music tone Of joys for us and ours? The rainbow's hues, The morning's dews, The blossoms of a day, The trembling sheen On Water seen, More stable are than they

A few short years - and then Where is the adamant chain, That passion wrought, and madly thought Nor time nor change could ever strain, Till life's last strife was fought? A rope of sand

A gossamer band, The filmy threads that e'en The spider weaves Among the leaves. A firmer bond had been

A few short years-and then Where is Ambition's pile, That rose so high against the sky, O'ershadowing all around the while With its proud boast might vie ? A shadow's shade. A card-house made By children for their play ; The air bells That folly swells May vaunt a surer stay,

A few short years-and then Where is the mighty grief, That wrung the heart with torture's art And made it feel that its relief Time's hand could ne'er impart? A storm that's burst. And done its worst, Then left the heaven more clear A nightipare dread With morning fled, These sorrow's disappear

A few short years-and then What of our life remains. The smiles and tears of other years, Of passion's joys, of sorrow's pains, Ambition's hopes and fears?

Miscellaneous.

Life Assurance.

(Extract from a Lecture by the Rev. Dr. Cook, of Quebec, Canada.) It is hardly possible to over-estimate the extent of the calamity, when the head of a family is struck down, and the members of it are left in helplessness and poverty. It is not enough, in such a case, that the affections are crushed and wounded, by the loss of a kind husband or parent. The miseries of destitution are forthwith felt also -there is a dependence on the too often capricious and stinted assistance of others -there is an end of the independence and the comfort of the whole household. Take anch a case in the higher ranks, where a certain style and superior manner of living had been maintained; where certain luxuies had become, by long use, almost necessaries; where a higher education was being imparted to the children; and where the well-directed efforts of the parent who has been taken away, provided the means of elegance and comfort for all. In a moment - and by an event, in itself, and independent of circumstances, the most afflicting -the source of all this comfort and happiness is dried up. And the helpless mourners are made at the same time dependents -perhaps almost or altogether beggars. In the breaking up of the household-in the division of the members of it—in the parting with every superfluous article of furniture, however valued for the associations connected with it—in the feeble attempts to keep up something like former respectability, and the gradual descent to the lowest stage of poverty, there is perhaps as much of misery experienced, as under more substantial privations. The heart in such circumstances, the heart of the widow or the orphan, knoweth its own bitterness-and none else. Surely it becomes him, to whom the affections of that heart have been most devoted, to anticipate the possibility of such a season of trial and privation, and, as far as possible, to provide the means of alleviating it, and soothing its sorrows-if he cannot ward off the stroke of of death, yet by wise precaution, to ward off at least the evils of destitution, and the miseries of dependence. I have spoken now of those in what are called the higher classes of society.-The calamity is not less in what are called the lower. Usually the privation and the absolute want come close upon the very affliction itself which has wounded and bereaved the loving hearts of a united and affectionate family. There is more direct and immediate suffering with them, than with those who had been in better circumstances; and the loss of a father is almost immediately the loss of bread to eat ;-the loss of a husband, is the surrounding a sorrowing widow with children, crying for food which she has not to give, or which she must deal out with stinted hand. I declare to you, nothing to any thinking mind, can be more dreaful or deplorable, than the state of wretchedness to which who e families are thus often reduced, both as regards their spiritual and moral nature. Any one can bear witness to this, who has had occasion to observe from day to day, and from year to year, the privations of the wretched poor in this city. Such a one can tell of whole families crowded into one room; -of the gradual degradation of intellect and feeling which the grinding poverty under which they suffer, produces, with only too infailible a certainty. He can tell how the appetites and instincts of nature are at war with the state of misery in which they are placed, and plead that the nearest way should be chosen for their indulgence. and the delight of pious cotta-Amidst the cravings of hunger-amidst the cries of famished children, while cowering over the half-consumed fuel, which they have no means of replacing-while unable to go out even to beg, without borrowing the garment which is necessary to cover and to shelter them from others that are a degree less wretched than themselves-oh! should it not occur to us to think, how difficult it must be to keep fast hold either of ing as we sailed up the Grand Canal, tell-

the first five minutes no one ever dared to general principle, and of religious duty, to take every competent means to prevent such severy competent means to prevent severy compete ages, determined on, say between 15 and cording to his age, and the sum he wished secured; and then we should have a Mutual this additional feature, that generally men do not insure for one year only (though this is possible,) but for the whole remainder of struck, and they begin paying at a rate

often, simply by renonneing the use of what is superfluous or mischievous. Let them rather say at once,-" Yes, we could by this means, there is no doubt, make provision against the future destitution of our families, and their dependence on the charity of others—we could leave enough to do all this, and to put them in a way of providing honourably for themselves; but the small annual sum that would be required to do this, we will not save from our own enjoyments -- we will rather spend it in superfluities or intemperance." In so saying, they would only appeur the selfish beings which they really are.

At all events, let them not have the folly, or the hypocrisy, to say, as is sometimes said by those who neglect this precaution, that they trust to Providence. What right has any man to trust to Providence to do for him, directly, or through the mediation of others, what it has enabled him to do for himself? The wisdom and goodness of Providence appear, in giving him this pow er, and placing him in circumstances in by neglecting to use that power. Would a crop might spring up, which he should be permitted to reap? Is not the right trust and watering, and then, after all, looking to Providence for the increase? All that our limited power and wisdom can accomplish, it behooves us to do; and after it is done, to whatever length it goes, there will still remain abundant scope for the exercise of trust in the goodness of Providence. The second causes which we can discern, and over which alone we have any sort of influence, are connected with a long chain of others, which are hidden in obscurity from us, and which are in the hand of God alone. The ultimate arrangement of these causes, and so the ultimate disposal of us, and of all that concerns us, must belong ever to him. And the humble, and trustful and thankful recognition of this, is surely consistent with the most energetic doing of all that He has put within the power of our

hands to accomplish. . Chambers Miscellany.

A Note about Samuel Rogers. I saw Rogers several times during the month of June 1825. My earliest interview was at one of his famous breakfasts, Edward Moxon. I had just arrived in commended by any man of high literary England from Italy, and Rogers asked eminence. about familiar haunts of his bygone days. I told him his poem had travelled with me, and he at once spoke of his residence on perfluous abundance which the miserable healthiest year of mental activity. Attempt-

petitioner does so much need—how strong the temptation to put forth an unobserved ing to repeat Young's lines, " At thirty, man suspects himself & fool,"

which is so little to its possessor, but would be so much to him who is in want—how 'Young America against old England!" the penal laws than John Bunyan. Of the be so much to him who is in through instrong the temperation to state, the state of the be said, "comes to see me just now, and I the Restoration, he had passed twelve in An Act to amend Chapter 136 toxication, a temporary longer and passed twelve in ever-pressing evils to which the poor sufferer will relate it, I was walking home one confinement. He still persisted in preachever-pressing evils to which the post send in preaching subject—how difficult it must be to engage evening in the spring of '91, when I saw a ing, but, that he might preach, he was in the exercises and contemplations which crowd clustered about a door by the way under the necessity of disguising himself are essential to the vigour of moral and re- side. 'What is the occasion of this ga- like a carter. He was often introduced are essential to the vigour of information and religious principle in the heart—how the very thering? I said 'Come in,' replied a midligious principle in the heart—how the very thering? I said 'Come in,' replied a midligious principle in the heart—how the very thering? She lid assembly, a

BE it enacted by the governor, council, and assembly, a

follows: care of the body drives out all care of the dle aged woman, 'and see.' She led me smock frock on his back and a whip in his care of the body drives out all care of the into a room were several persons were into a room were several persons were hand. If he had thought only of his own of whom seven, after at least four hours deliberation, may

Assurance Society at once; there being preferred the charming country around Leytheir lives; for which reason an average is Yet it is difficult to believe that the author come Berlin and Stuttgard.

Sketch of John Bunyan.

caulay's History of England.

To the names of Baxter and Home must he added the name of a man far below them in station and in acquired knowledge, but in virtue their equal, and in genius their superior-John Bunyan. Bunyan had been bred a tipker, and had served as a private soldier in the Parliamentary army. Early in his life he had been fearfully tortured by remorse for his youthful sins, the worst of which seems, however, towhave been such as the world thinks venial. His keen sensibility and his powerful imagination made his internal conflicts singularly terrible.-He fancied he was under sentence of reprobation—that he had committed blasphemy against the Holy Ghost-that he had sold Christ-that he was actually possessed by a demon. Sometimes loud voices from heaven cried out to warn him. Sometimes fiends whispered impious suggestions in his ear. He saw visions of distant mountainvidence, but disregard of Providence, and tops, on which the sun shone brightly, but of its plain and manifest design, is shown snow. He felt the devil behind him, pullby neglecting to use that power. Would a man show his trust in Providence by entertaining the expectation, that though he feared he was about to break asunder like neither ploughed nor sowed, somehow a Judas. His mental agony disordered his health. One day he shook like a man in the palsy. On another day he felt a fire shown, by ploughing and sowing, planting within his breast. It is difficult to understand how he survived suffering so intense and so long continued.

At length the clouds broke. From the depth of despair the penitent passed to a journal or a magazine, and dismissed state of serene felicity. An irresistible im- scarcely ever again to be read. Our peopulse now urged him to impart to others ple have impatient stomachs, and will not the blessings of which he was himself possessed. He joined the Baptists and became a preacher and writer. His educa- American Livy, Everything written must tion had been that of a mechanic. He knew no language but the English, as it was spoken by the common people. He had studied no great model of composition, with the exception-an important exception undoubtedly—of our noble translation of public ear and the public patronage. Mathe Bible. His spelling was bad. He fre- gazines, in our, country, are the chief stepquently transgressed the rules of grammar. ping-stones to literary fame, and have made Yet the nafive force of genius, and his ex- very nearly all the reputations of our youngperimental knowledge of all the religious er authors. We are indulged with too passions, from despair to ecstacy, amply supplied in him the want of learning. His rude oratory roused and melted hearers as tasteless, the more simple and fortifying who listened without interest to the labored discourses of great logicians and Hebraists. His works were widely circulated among the humbler classes. One of them, the Pilgrim's Progress, was in his own lifetime, on the morning of the first day in that translated into several foreign languages .month. He was then past 90, and wore at It was, however, scarcely known to the the one of whom may be gracing the Bench, table a dark velvet cap, which partly cover. learned and polite, and had been during and the other the Senate Chamber, while present I remember Alexander Dyce and gers and artisans before it was publicly poor Syntax in his closet had been gather-

At length critics condescended to inquire where the secret of so wide and so durable a popularity lay. They were compelled to the continent with Lord Byron, and quoted own that the ignorant multitude had judged part of his own lines on Venice. "Byron," more correctly than the learned, and that said hc, "repeated them to me one morn. the despised little book was really a mastermoral principle, or of religious truth—how ing me they were very fine, and written, he first of allegorists as Demosthenes is the strong the temptation to the easy falsehood, which is careful and written, he believed, by Southey, forgetting that the real first of orators, or Shakspeare the first of which a careless world almost requires, in order to make it world almost requires, in order to make it world almost requires, in author was by his side." He then began dramatists. Other allegorists have shown author was by his side." order to make it part with some of that superfluous abundance which the minetal author was by his side. He then began

order to make it part with some of that suto speak of oid age, naming 63 as the
able to touch the heart and to make abable to touch the heart, and to make abstractions objects of terror, of pity, and of

hand, to the unlawful attainment of that his memory failed him, and on my continu- It may be doubted whether any English ligous principle in the heart—how the very care of the body drives out all care of the immost an saure, with which it is connected the immost an saure, with which it is connected the proposed of the propose

disposed to associate, for the purpose of making sure that the heirs of all those who died with a synopsis, so that the would only be necessary, in that case, for each person to contribute as much to a common fund as would make up the sum of £150,000—or a thousand time £150—(the number of persons that may be expected disposed to the synopsis, or, in the case of the synopsis, or, in th on Oliver Goldsmith .- Goldsmith was one seven thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight of the very few Saxons who, more than a issued, and this in one country alone. In 60, paying into a common fund, each acceptury ago, ventured to explore the High- the Germanic Confederation, Prussia seems lands. He was disgusted by the hindous to take the lead in book-producing, and lands. He was disgusted by the hindous wilderness, and declared that he greatly preferred the charming country around Leydon, the vast expanse of verdant meadow, and the villes with their statues and grottoes, trim flower beds, and rectilinear avenues.

Leipsic is the German Athens, and the villes with their statues and grottoes, trim flower beds, and rectilinear avenues.

Leipsic is the German Athens, and the chief place of publication, next to which sollowing shall be reduced to Two followings and sixpence.

2 so much of the sixth section as regulates the qualities of Number Two and Number Three, is repeated, and the following shall hereafter be the qualities of those Numbers repetively.

struck, and they begin paying at a rate which will continue the same to the end; the excess of payment in the early years, making up for its smallness in those at the close of life. Such being the common practice, Life Assurance Societies necessarily accumulate large funds, which they require to improve at interest in safe interest.

But a remarkable fact in connection to the best make and of the Deserted Village was naturally inferior in taste and sensibility to the thousands of clerks and milliners, witness in our own country) is the growing importance of the German language, without the sight of Loch Katrine and Loch Lomond. His feelings may be easily explained. It was not till roads had been cut out of the require to improve at interest in safe interest. require to improve at interest in safe investments, in order that the most postponed engagements may be made good in time."

was not till roads had been cut out of the rocks, till bridges had been flung over the courses of the riviluts, till inus had succeded to dens of robbers. till there was as lited to dens of robbers, till there was as little danger of being slain or plundered in the wildest defile of Badenoch or Lochabar as in Cornhill, that strangers could be enchanged by the rainbows which overhung the met to take—say they cannot. They can if they will. They can, if they will exercise, the requisite self-denial. They can, often, simply by renonneing the use of what of the simple state to the the third dause of such section as lite and allowives shall be amended by includent in Russia, 16 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Belgium, 6 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Belgium, 6 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Belgium, 6 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Belgium, 6 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Belgium, 6 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Belgium, 6 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Belgium, 6 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Belgium, 6 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Belgium, 6 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Belgium, 6 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Belgium, 6 in Hungary, 12 in France, 10 in Hungary, 12 in Fr not; yet, from its great plasticity of idiom alone-of all modern tongues rivalling the Greek-it must become the vehicle through which science can most readily address itself to the masses, without sensibly derogating from the necessary terseness of its nomenclature. The German language, in fact, seems destined to take rank next to the English in its progress over the earth, and perhaps, from national idiosyncrasies, it will retain a superiority over all others in speculative and metaphysical literature. We have no statictics at hand, either of England or France, to offset against those of Germany, but supposing the two together to equal this latter in book-production, we shall have from these three countries a grand total of fifteen thousand and odd new works, as an exponent of their intellectual activity for one year. This, too, when con- The Rt. Hon. Earl of Elgin and Kincardine

sidered under the unfavorable influences of a war which more or less directly disturbs Edinburgh, No. 5, George Street, that equanimity of the public mind essential to the cultivation of letters, show us perhaps, better than any thing else, the real progress of the human mind, within the present century, towards a permanent elevation beyond the reach of all serious disturbances. In our own country, the same fertility has attended the labours of the press, though not, perhaps, to the same degree. Book-making, with us, is somewhat dissipated through the channels of daily, weekly, and monthly journalism.-Many a subject which, if passed through the alembic of French or German ratiocination, would find vent only in a stately tome, is, with us, discussed in the columns of a brook long winded treatises. We could endure an American Tacitus, but never an commend itself by a laconic style, especially if belonging to the controversial class.-Hence it follows that writers here must ever strike out new paths, and avoid the ancient ruts of travel, if they would gain the much superficial literature, and like chilviands. It is not so much the fault of our organs as our social atmosphere. A well read man in any of the lay professions is a rara avis in truth, and finds as the most encouraging return for his "twenty years" lucubrations," that he has not succeeded in keeping pace with his porter or his cobbler,

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of the Revised Statutes,

"Of Juries."

(Passed the 18th day of April, 1856)

ing to the Inspection of Fish.

(Passed the 18th day of April, 1856.)

bers, respectively.

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twenty third section of such recited Act, which section

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December 20

test notice.

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