

POETRY.

HARD TIMES.

"How goes the times?" asked neighbor Brown Of one complaining Joe; Tremendous hand in our town; The mill's shut down you know; No money stirs—the times are dull, And everybody's waiting; But one thing helps us in the lull, And that is first-rate skating.

SELECT STORY.

COUNT OF MONTE-CRISTO.

REVENGE OF EDMUND DANTES.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

VALENTINE.

VALENTINE was expecting Morrel. Un- easy and almost wandering, she seized his hand and led him to her grandfather. This uneasiness, amounting almost to wildness, arose from the fact that Morrel's adventure had made in the world; the affair of the opera was generally known. No one at Villefort's doubted that a duel would ensue from it. Morrel could read an indescribable joy in the eyes of his beloved when he related to her how the affair had terminated.

daughter whom Valentine had seen; they had been ushered into Madame de Villefort's room, who had said she would receive them there. That is why Valentine passed through her room, which was on a level with Valentine's. Madame de Villefort received them with great solemnity. Valentine entered at the moment and the formalities were resumed. "My dear friend," said the baroness, "Eugenie and I are come to be the first to announce to you the approaching marriage of my daughter with Prince Cavalcanti."

"Each time you have applied to me," said the doctor, "it has been too late; still I will go. But let us make haste, sir." "Oh! this time, doctor, you shall not have to reproach me with weakness. This time I will know the assassin, and will pursue him."

Meanwhile Villefort and D'Avrigny had made all possible haste. Valentine had not stayed from her father's side on their arrival, and the doctor examined the invalid with all the care the circumstances demanded, and with an interest which a knowledge of the secret doubled. At last he slowly uttered these words: "She is still alive!"

When leaving his home at Springfield, Ill., to be inaugurated president of the United States, made a farewell address to his old friends and neighbors, in which he said, "WISCONSIN OVE YOUR BOYS A CHANCE." These words come with as much force today as they did thirty years ago.

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