

SOCIETY PROVERBS.

By a loose tongue men show their wit,
But sense is shown by holding it.

Give of your bounty to a friend,
But if you want to lose one, lend.

Nobility is power and love combined:
It needs not title, for 'tis self-defined.

When woman apes the ways of man, and imitates his dress,
The more she gets like him, be sure, that he'll like her the less.

A costly gem oft lies in costless casket,
Whilst addled eggs repose in gorgeous basket.

When the tale is all sin and woe
Woman doth reap what man did sow;
But when it is all peace and bliss
The sowing's hers, the harvest his.

With live women and men to be found in the world,
Live with sorrow and sin, live with pain and with passion.
Who would live with a doll though its hair should be curled,
And its petticoats trimmed in the fashion?

Who drowns his grief in waters strong
Its ghost will haunt him his life long.

Play, church nor opera is worth a pin
Unless there's such a crush you can't get in.

He oft offends who thinks he pleases most,
Dark malice lurks in a pleasant toast.

When the summer winds do blow,
Country friends we oft remember,
Change the season, bring the snow,
And who is thought of in December?

GOSSIP ON GLOVES.

In the "Fair Maid of Perth" Simon Glover, aggrieved at Henry Gow associating his calling with that of a cordwainer or shoemaker, upholds the pre-eminence of the occupation by which he had gathered wealth, and from which, as with many gloves of our own day, he had derived his surname. "B think you," says he, "that we employ the hands as pledges of friendship and good faith, and the feet have no such privilege. Brave men fight with their hands, cowards employ their feet to flight. A glove is borne aloft, a shoe is trampled in the mire; a man greets his friend with his open hand; he spurns a dog, or one whom he holds as mean as a dog, with his advanced foot. A glove on the point of a spear is a sign and pledge of faith all the wide world over, as a gauntlet thrown down is a gage of knightly battle; while I know of no other emblem belonging to an old shoe, except that some crones will fling them after a man by way of good luck, in which practice I own myself to entertain no confidence."

The glove was truly, as Jonathan Oldbuck, the antiquary styles it "a sign of irrefragable faith," and so exemplified truth and trust, that they came to be sworn upon as if they were relics or holy things. This security and its outward sign makes more than ever infamous the prelude to the massacre of St. Bartholomew, when the Queen Dowager of Navarre was believed to have been poisoned by a pair of gloves, given as a pledge of safe conduct. Not the only instance of the kind, for Conan, Duke of Brittany, was also poisoned in 1066 by means of his gloves, at the instigation, as is suspected, of William the Conqueror.

In Brand's "Popular Antiquities" is asked "can the custom of dropping or sending the glove, as the signal of a challenge, have been derived from the circumstances of its being the cover of the hand, and therefore put for the hand itself. The giving of the hand is well known to intimate that the person who does so will not deceive but stand to his agreement. To shake hands upon it would not, it should seem, be very delicate in an agreement to fight, and therefore gloves may possibly have been deputed as substitutes." It is most probable that gloves did thus act as deputies, pledging the hand and binding the action of those who proffered them. To offer the bare hand was formerly a symbol of hostility; the gloved hand of peace and friendliness to which we may trace the requirement of modern courtesy, that the hand in greeting should first be ungloved, even though the observance has been diametrically altered. It was held wrong, and contrary to courtly usage, to wear gloves in the presence of the sovereign. To throw, send, give, or bite the glove have been marks of defiance and challenge from time immemorial. Instances of this association occur very frequently in our literature, and it was often worn by headstrong young gallants, to parade their courage and offer in mere bravado, much in the same way that a Milesian would trail the tail of his coat in a fair. Perhaps the most ancient instance of the custom is where Entellus, in the "Æneid," throws not only one but two

pond'rous gauntlets on the field
Which mighty Eryx did in combat wield.

Shakspeare in his Henry V. makes the king disguised take a glove as a gage from one of his soldiers. Rebecca in "Ivanhoe" challenges her accusers to wager of battle, through a glove. Bonthron in the "Fair Maid of Perth" attempts to cover his murder of Oliver Proudfe

by offering at the ceremony of the ordeal in the high church of St. John in Perth, "the combat to any man who says I harmed that dead body," and according to usual form, he threw his glove upon the floor of the church. Henry Smith stepped forward, amid the murmured applause of his fellow citizens, which even the royal presence could not entirely suppress, and lifting the ruffian's glove, which he placed in his bonnet, laid down his own in the usual form, as a gage of battle." Champions in these combats were often hired like lawyers, and were indeed properly those who took up and defended another's cause. The authority of a judge was required to allow of substitutes, but once accepted they were taken into custody, and held safe until the day appointed for the battle, when their heads were shaved, they made oath that they believed their retainer's cause to be just, that they would defend it to the utmost of their power, and that they bore no charm or spell about them. After this they proceeded to engage in a combat which commenced curiously with railing, and giving each other ill language, and proceeded to blows at the sound of a trumpet. In case of defeat, both champion and client were in some cases executed. Other ceremonies peculiar to these occasions are recorded in a passage of Booth's "Nature and Practice of Real Actions," relative to a dispute occurring in the first year of Henry VI.: "In a writ of right for the manor of Copenhaw, in the County of Northumberland, battle was joined upon the mere right, and the champions appeared. And it was commanded by the court that the champion of the tenant should put five pennies into his glove—in every finger-stall a penny—and deliver it into court; and so the demandant should do the same, and the judges received the gloves. The champions being on their knees, the council for the parties were asked by the lord chief justice why they should not allow the champions, and why they should not wage battle, who answered they knew no cause why the duel should not proceed, An old romance of about this date—"Amis and Amoulin"—notifies this custom:—

Yea, sayd the duke, wilt thou so?
Durst thou into battle so?
Yea, certes, sayd he the,
And here my glove give I thereto.

In the "Vision of Piers Plowman," a satirical poem, generally attributed to William Langland, a priest who lived in the middle of the fourteenth century, is a similar reference of the glove being offered to clench a quarrel.

And then gan a wastoure to wrath him, and wold have fought,
And to Piers the Plowman he profer'd his glove.

Among the northern people the practice had high place, and the gage was held sacred. By the glove actions of their rude life were scrupulously ruled. Did one of them break faith? The surest remedy was for the injured person to appear at the next common meeting place, and ride through the assemblage proclaiming the penalty with a glove borne aloft on the point of a lance. The symbol roused so keen a sense of right, so fervently appealed to their rough justice, that the offender was often slain by his own clan to wipe out the disgrace brought upon them. In the rare "Life of Bernard Gilpin," the fearless border apostle, it is recorded that he observed a glove hanging up high in the church to which he was attached, which was placed there in consequence of a deadly feud prevailing in the district, and which the owner had hung up in defiance, daring any one to mortal combat who took it down. He requested the sexton to remove it. "I dare not," was the reply. Gilpin then called for a long staff, took down the emblem of enmity and placed it in his bosom. In a flourish which followed, he inveighed particularly against the barbarous custom of challenges. "I hear," said he, "that there is one among you, who, even in this sacred place, hath hanged up a glove to this purpose, and threatened to enter into combat with whosoever shall take it down. Behold," producing the glove, "Behold, I have taken it down myself."

Challenging by the glove was continued down to the reign of Elizabeth, as appears by an account given by Spelman of a duel appointed to be fought in Totfield fields in the year 1571. The dispute was concerning some lands in the county of Kent. The plaintiff appeared in court and demanded single combat. One of them threw down his glove, which the other immediately taking up, carried off on the point of his sword, and the day of fighting was appointed. This affair was, however, adjusted by the queen's judicious interference. The last instance of defiance by the glove was made so recently as the year 1818, in a trial (Ashford versus Thornton) which took place in the King's Bench—Michaelmas term. The report runs thus: "Abraham Thornton was attached to answer William Ashford, who was the eldest brother and heir of Mary Ashford, deceased of the death of the said Mary Ashford, etc., of which choking, suffocating and drowning, she, the said Mary Ashford, then and there instantly died. And the said William Ashford, who was eldest brother, and is heir of the said Mary Ashford, deceased, is ready to prove the murder and felony against him, the said Abraham Thornton, according as the court shall direct, and hath found pledges to prosecute his appeal.

"The appellee being brought into court, and the appellant being also in court, the count was again read over to him, and he was called upon to plead. He pleaded as follows:—'Not guilty; and I am ready to defend the same by my body;

and thereupon taking off his glove, he threw it upon the floor of the court.' The trial did not proceed to battle, and the statute permitting the practice was shortly repealed.

R. W. BRICK.

ECHOES FROM LONDON.

London, June 30.

HAD the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill been passed in the Lords, it is said that there would have been a majority of 150 in favor of it in the House of Commons.

ONE of the most *outré* ideas has seized some householders at the West-end, namely to hearth-stone their steps in color, the strawberry and cream mixture, of course. Art has some absurdities to answer for of late.

THE Metropolitan Railway Company have decided upon lighting their system from Aldgate to Nottinghill-gate by electricity. Various kinds of lamps will be employed, but the majority will be of the incandescent type.

THE announcement from across the Atlantic is that the "Dudine" has put in an appearance; she is the female of the "Dude," and with the like peculiarities. The "Masherine" was never thought of by our brilliantly fast-and-loose people.

THE trustees of the British Museum have decided to have an exhibition—in rooms 8, 9, and 10 of that institution—of coins, medals, and prints. These rooms formerly contained natural history specimens, now removed to the new Museum.

THERE is a good deal of grumbling on the part of Sunday rowers at being kept in such quantities and so long in the Thames locks. When they are locked up they are safest. If they don't like it there are open seats in most of the places, which, we presume, must not be mentioned to them.

SOON the little bit of railway will be complete that links the underground connection between the Tower of London and the station nearest to the Mansion House. It is a most difficult job to do, and being done at an expense which might make a Vanderbilt look aghast, namely, two millions and a half.

SOME ladies have latterly been wearing a gold cross, like an order of knighthood, on their evening dress. With the red ribbon it looks well. Questioned as to the origin, and for what achievement it was given—if for beauty, wit, or sweet benevolence of nature—the reply given was, "They are the fashion, you know."

THERE is no little grumbling about the shabby figure which Ministers have made us play about the Ashburnham collection. The unrivalled assortment will now probably fall into the hands of the Germans or Americans, who are not afraid of the expenditure of a few thousands in matters of enduring historical national interest.

MR. CARNEGIE, the Scotch American of Pittsburgh, who holds one of the biggest fortunes in the world, is taking the Liberal side in politics, and is not unlikely presently to stand for Parliament. Scotch by birth, he makes England his home, and should he elect to remain here, he will be one of our largest capitalists. He is as generous as he is rich, and as true-hearted as he is generous. He goes nowhere without his mother, who shared with him her poverty, and who now is made happy by his wealth.

THERE has been of late a great deal said about the army going, or indeed having gone, to the dogs, and the Government have been alternately implored and commanded to furnish an opportunity for debate. The other night whilst Lord Eustace Cecil was delivering a criticism on the state of the army there were fourteen Conservative members present, a number reduced to five before he had been on his legs twenty minutes, nor did they at any time show signs of flaring up. The House was empty throughout the night, and the consequence was that an unexpected measure of progress has been made with votes.

LORD ROWTON is spending a few days in town, and looks very well. Much notice has been attracted by the remarkable article in the *Times* the other day, from its still more remarkable Paris correspondent *apropos* of the anniversary of the Berlin Conference, retelling a good deal of personal gossip about Lord Beaconsfield and Prince Bismarck at the Conference. This despatch was the outcome of a breakfast conversation the great Blowitz had with Lord Rowton in Paris the other day. Lord Rowton, with the fastidiousness of a literary man, is disappointed at the way in which some of the circumstances are set forth in the glowing pages of Blowitz; particularly there is a long sentence in which Lord Beaconsfield is described as having expressed his preference for assassination as compared with imprisonment.

ECHOES FROM PARIS.

PARIS, June 30.

THE regrettable fact is announced of the sister of the Duke de Morny's death, the young Countess de Corzani. She was only twenty-four years of age.

ANOTHER daily Anglo-American paper is to be brought out in Paris. The gentlemen who run it were on the staff of the *New York Herald*, and some clever business-like arrangements have been made.

THE Countess R. de Salles has issued invitations, for a Sunday in July, to a grand *bal costume*, founded on the principle that the costumes are all to represent one or other of the ancient provinces of France.

THE great difficulty has been settled and no life has been lost about it. The ladies of fashion have agreed that the seas de ornaments for daytime are to be of Arachon mother-of-pearl and lava of Vesuvius, while at night pearls and coral are to be worn.

A BRILLIANT marriage is that of the Prince de Rubempré and the Princess Nathalie de Croz Dalmé. The three sisters of the princess are married, one to Prince Paul Esterhazy de Galantha, the second to the Archduke Frédéric of Austria, and the third to Count Adhémar d'Outremont de Duras.

A NUMBER of students at the Ecole des Mines will, during the summer, make an excursion to the Arctic regions. A steamer, in charge of a Norwegian Arctic hunter, will bring the party to Thronhjelm and Hammeffest, and thence to Spitzbergen, which will be examined during a fortnight's stay. The Naturalist Museum of Paris sends two *savants* with the party.

MR. and Mrs. Mackay will pay a visit to England, and, it is probable, in the autumn return to New York for a time. The precious art treasures Mr. Mackay has collected in all countries, and latterly in England, and destined for his American home, will alone require some looking after. His residence in New York is advancing towards completion; when it is finished it will be a sight of grandeur, and of lavish outlay on art works which will astonish the "States men."

THERE is a proposal to build a monster American hotel in Paris. It is singular that the U. S.ians cannot be satisfied with the splendid French establishments. The especial wants of our relatives are, we gather, embraced in the following items:—A fixed tariff per diem, with gas in every bedroom, with good American elevators, a spacious public drawing-room, an abundant supply of iced-water, and a choice of American dishes at each meal; buckwheat cakes, waffles, and other such delicacies to figure constantly on the bill of fare.

VARIETIES.

THE Channel was pitiless towards Mme. Julie when she crossed it recently. The fair actress was so ill that she might have repeated Forrest's famous declaration when he was on his way to New York from San Francisco, namely, "If that kind of thing went on much longer he would throw up all his engagements."

ONE of Raphael's most precious pictures, the Madonna della Staffa, has narrowly escaped destruction by the heated air of the gallery in which it hangs. After belonging to the Staffa family for three and a half centuries, the picture was bought by the late Czar for 12,400*l.*, and given to the Empress, who bequeathed it to the Art Museum at the Hermitage in St. Petersburg. Lately it was found that the heat had split the pine panel on which the picture was painted, and the work has now been successfully restored in most ingenious style. The face of the painting was first supported with linen, backed by a slab of marble, and a Russian artist then gradually rubbed away the panel, first with files and then with powdered glass, finally managing to mount the thin film felt on canvas. He also discovered that the Madonna originally held a pomegranate instead of the book at present seen. Talking of Raphael, the Paris Louvre has bought the "Apollo and Marsyas," belonging to Mr. Morris Moore, of Rome, the work of which the authenticity has been so warily disputed. The pedigree of the picture could not be traced further than 1787, and Mr. Moore bought it in 1850 for seventy guineas, but the work is now widely believed to be a genuine Raphael, and has cost the French Government 8,000*l.* Raphael's initials are to be seen on the quiver at Apollo's feet. The work shows the satyr Marsyas sitting on a flower-grown mound, and playing on a reed to Apollo, who stands listening attentively, and leaning on a long staff. Mountains and valleys fill the background, with a few scattered buildings and a bridge over a stream.

DON'T BE ALARMED

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