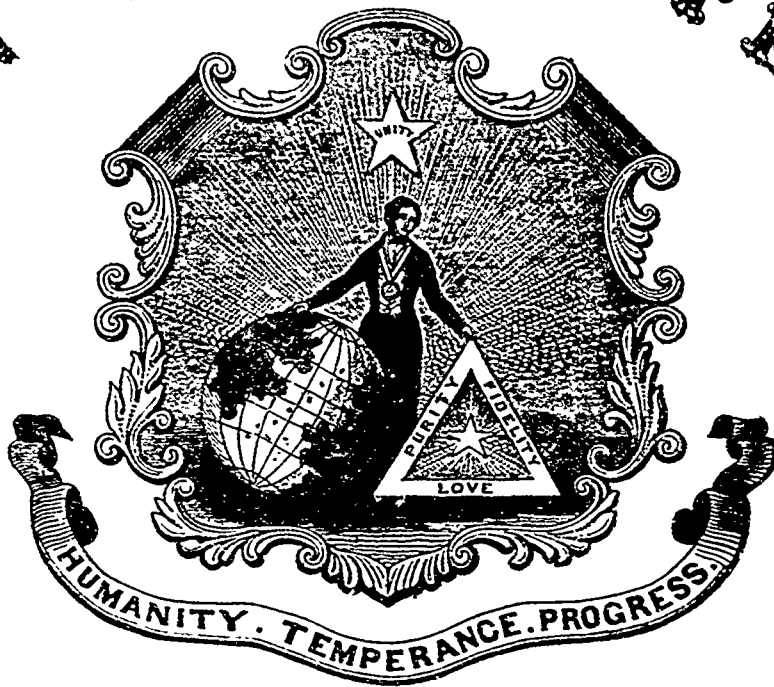


# ADAMSON OF THE BRANCH



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### LOOK UP.

BY M. TROWBRIDGE

Look up! look up! can ye not see  
Some promise of a better time—  
The dawning of a day to be  
Free from the stains of wrong and crime?  
Soon shall the people shout aloud,  
From out the depths of their despair,  
And hope, within her silver cloud,  
Shall answer them their earnest prayer.

Look up! look up! from out the sky  
See the pale angel faces lean;  
All heaven seems full of melody,  
While God's great shadow moves between.  
And harps whose strings are starlit rays,  
Gush after gush their music fling;  
While a great promise seems to blaze,  
Filling man's soul with wondering.

### EXCAVATIONS IN POMPEII.

The little difference that exists between the habits and customs of our time, and those of the folks who lived very eighteen centuries before us, may be gathered in the following account: of that old Italian city, which the Rip Van Winkle, went to sleep—what a fearful nap it was!—in the first century, and woke up in the sixteenth.

The streets of Pompeii were, as you may remember, narrow—not more than fifteen feet wide, and few as then that—the widest thirty; with raised side-walks about two or three feet wide, raised as much as a foot and a half above the central carriage way—higher than the city. In these usages, the descendants of the Pompeians in the modern Italian cities have failed, unwisely imitate them, which are all without side-walks. The remains are of the same large, every-way-shaped flatness, which are found in the ancient streets of Rome. The shops are small, which still is characteristic of Italian towns and cities. Many of the dwelling houses of

the better sort are extensive, as those called houses of Diomed, Sallust, Pansa. That of Diomed is of three stories or flats; the lowest consisting of subterranean arches, fifty feet perhaps each way, and overhead, a square court, which serves as a garden, with a large basin of water in the middle, and around chambers and rooms for common use, then the usual vestibule, the atrium, impluvium, triclinium, in the universal way in Pompeii. It was interesting to see the baker's establishment, the stone mill for grinding his grain, and the oven, which might be used to-day as well as ever. So the shop for selling wine, with its five or six earthen amphoræ set in the brick counter, with a marble facing, on which are visible still the circular marks of drinking vessels. In the corner of one of the rooms is shown the remnant of a broken square of glass still sticking in its place. Glass windows to dwelling houses seem not to have been common. The rooms and chambers were lighted from the inner court of the house, either by the doors, or by openings defended by wooden shutters—that is the common statement, though it is not easy to see why, in all such cases, there should not have been glass; and also in the fronts of the shops, where there is always a wide opening in the wall, just where a window of glass ought to be, and would be so convenient. So with the houses of the first class, it is not easy to see how they could have been inhabited with comfort, or in any elegance, without an extensive use of this substance. And the occurrence of it in a single instance, in an obscure corner of a small tenement, would seem to prove with sufficient strength, that it was a material as common as with us, and would be used in the same way, and for like purposes. The fragment I saw was thick and smooth and looked more like our heaviest plate glass than our common. Its transparency had been obscured by time, or by being ground, or, like so much modern plate glass, from having been badly compounded. But besides this, I find on inquiry that in one of the baths, a window was discovered nearly three feet square, of a single pane, two-fifths of an inch thick, and ground on one side, to prevent persons on a neighboring roof from looking in. Another window of a large size was found, the single frame set in a bronze frame secured by screws of the same metal, so that it might be removed at pleasure—or it might have been only the usual way of setting.

In regard to the common use of glass for windows, however, it is to be remembered that in the climate of Naples it could be considered hardly at any time as ne-

cessary for the exclusion of cold; and accordingly, if it were a substance more costly than with us, or if the manufacture of only the heavier kinds was understood, it would have been employed with comparative infrequency, which may explain why more was not found. Shutters of wood for warmth, or fixed windows of linen cloth would be used instead. Glass, except for a few months in the year, is hardly needed more in Naples than in the West India Islands. In a word, there is scarce anything in common use, and convenience now, and here, which was not in use among the Romans of Pompeii in the 79th year of our era. Doors were found to have been made of wood, as with us; the wood more commonly used, the fir; they were hung not upon our butt hinges—though I do not know that even they have not been found among other things but more usually, at any rate, they revolved upon pivots, like our barn doors; they were fastened with bolts hung by chains and at night closed with shutters. Bedsteads were found sometimes of wood, at other times of iron, stone, earthenware, for both common and religious uses, trumpets, bells, grinders, colanders, saucers of bronze, some lined with silver, kettles, ladles, moulds for hot jelly and pastry; urns for keeping water hot, on the principle of our modern tea urn; lanterns, with horn lights; spits, and every various article for kitchen use, with almost the single and singular exception of forks, chains, bolts, locks, and scourges; portable fireplaces, with a contrivance for keeping water hot, dice, some found loaded, a complete toilet, with combs, thumbes, rings, &c. paint for the cheeks, with the proper brushes for laying it on, cosmetics, ear-rings, but no diamonds, almonds, dates, nuts, figs, raisins, grapes, cherries, loaves of bread, with the name of the baker stamped upon them, iron stoves, apothecaries' drugs of all sorts; among other things a box of pills gilded, surgeons' instruments, of all kinds, much such as are used at the present day, play-bills, quick advertisements, notices of heights and shows posted up at the corners of the streets—according to Johnson in "monstrous bad Latin" opera tickets on ivory, bits for horses, cruppers and stirrups, candelabra, and other lamps of the most graceful, delicate and ingenious designs, and which to-day serve as models for articles of the kind in present use.

These, and other objects of a similar kind, more than could be easily enumerated, crowd the halls and shelves of the two museums at Pompeii and Naples.