

THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

SELECT POETRY.

(From the Waverly Magazine.)

TO ———.

By H. P. MILLS.

We have met, and we have parted,
And those hours they were most sweet;
But alas! they have departed,
And again we ne'er may meet.
I could tell thee, oh, how fondly
I have lingered by thy side,
And the spell with which thou bound me,
But thou might by tale deride.
I could tell thee how I listened
As the green hills we waked o'er
From the schoolhouse,—and religion
Was the subject thou did'st pour;
'Twas a time for holy thought,—
Sunset's hour had gathered near,
And the twilight sounds it brought
Tell upon the listening ear
Softly as the intonations
Of a deep void, calm and clear,
Speaking of the wild temptation
We are subject on this sphere.
And those words will be remembered
Long as time on earth shall stay;
In my soul they have engendered
Thoughts that ne'er will pass away,—
And when dark temptations meet me,
O'er the soul their spell to throw,
Those holy words shall rise and greet me,
And the tempter overthrow;
And when sunset's hour is flinging
Holiness o'er earth and sea,
Then my memory, kindly lingering
Round thy name, will think of thee.
And when the sound of wave and wind
From Chatham's shores upon thy ear
No longer falls, oh, then remind
Thee of the time when thou wert here;
Of that fair night when thou didst tell
Of southern winds o'er southern states,—
Bringing up magic memory's spell
Of home, and all its joy that wait,—
And, lingering o'er the distant scene,
Let memory sometimes bear thee here
To Chatham's shores, o'er hills of green,
Where the northern song fell on my ear.

HOME INFLUENCES.

The relation of brother and sister in its kindly influences upon the human heart, is scarcely exceeded by those other sacred relations of husband and wife, or parent and child. What more pleasing spectacle can be presented to a contemplative mind than that of a united and affectionate circle of brothers and sisters, assisting each other in their progress, rejoicing in each other's success, and sympathizing with each other's misfortunes.

The influence of an affectionate and gentle sister has saved many a young man from a career of folly, perhaps of crime; for when temptations presented themselves stronger it may be, than he alone could bear, the image of a sister, gentle and confiding comes up before his mind and the idea of what she would suffer in case of his downfall overcomes the temptaion "like a summer cloud. The declaration of a young man who was the pride of a humble home, and of a large circle of brothers and sisters, is well worthy of recording.

"John," said one of his sisters who was about to become the wife of the man of her choice, "there is not a single thing that pains me more than the idea of parting from you; although I cannot say that I love you better than our brothers, yet, on account of our being so much nearer of an age, we have been most together.—You have been almost the only gallant I ever had, and the only one I desired, until I became acquainted with him I am about to marry.—We are all proud of you, for although your chances for an education have not been so good as that of many young men in town, very few of them are better informed on all subjects, or can write a better article than you. No mean or dishonorable act has ever been laid to your charge, and there is not a man, or woman either, of all our acquaintance who would not trust to your keeping their most sacred honor. Father and mother believe you could not possibly be any better than you are, and I am sure no sister need hope or expect a more kind brother than you have always been.

"Sophy," he replied, (and a tear glistened in his eye and his voice trembled as he said it), "I am not half so good nor half as virtuous in myself as you suppose: and the only reason that I have been restrained from doing many an act which my conscience told me was wrong, has been the reflection that my mother and sister would be grieved at it. No intrinsic merit in myself has carried me through temptations which have caused other young men to fall; but I never could endure the thought that you should be put to shame on my account. You remember ———, who has become so degraded? He and I were intimate friends; and he, as you know, was once among the best boys in town. We were both alike tempted, and he was lost. Home influences saved me, for if we had changed places our histories would have been changed likewise. If I am any better than the common run of men, it is because I have had such sisters as you and Marcia as the associates of my early years.

Marriages.—Marriage is to woman at once the happiest and the saddest event of her life; it is the promise of future bliss raised on the death of all present enjoyment. She quits her home; her parents, her companions, her occupations, her amusements, everything on which she has hitherto depended for comfort, for affection, for pleasure. The parents by whose advice she has been guided, the sister to whom she dared to impart every embryo thought and feeling, the brother who has played with her, by turns the counsellor and the counselled; and the younger children, to whom she has hitherto been the mother and the playmate, all are to be forsaken at one stroke; every former tie is loosened, the spring of every hope and action is to be changed; and yet she flies with joy into the untrodden path before her; buoyed up by the confidence of requited love, she bids fond and grateful adieu to the life that is past, and turns with excited hopes and joyous anticipations to the happiness to come.—Then woe to the man who can blight such fair hopes—who can treacherously lure such a heart from its peaceful enjoyment, and the watchful protection at home—who can coward-like break the illusions that have won her, and destroy the confidence which love had inspired. And more than all, tenfold misery should be the portion of him who gains the affections of a trusting woman by appealing to be better than he is, and suffers future time to develop his bad qualities after her fate is irrevocably linked with his.

A Courtship in Puns.—A certain Mr. Par, being smitten with the charms of a certain Miss Ann Marr, a provincial belle, whom he met at Horrowgate, was exceedingly perplexed to contrive how he should open his heart to her. At length he met her, and it was for the last time that season, at public breakfast; and, in the dread of losing her forever, he resolved even there to make a desperate effort to pop the question.—Fortune favored the attempt. It happened, that opposite to the gentlemen there was a plate of Parmesan cheese, and near the lady stood a crystal dish of marmalade. "Will you do me the honor to accept of a little Par, Miss Ann?" said the lover, with a look full of meaning, and moving his hand towards the cheese. "Tell me sir," replied the damsel, with admirable readiness, lifting, at the same time, the top of the crystal, "whether or not you are fond of Marr my lad?" "Above all things in existence!" exclaimed the enraptured youth. The offers were mutually accepted and understood as pledges of personal attachment by the parties, although nobody else comprehended the equivocal, or discovered anything in the transaction but common civility. The treaty thus opened was soon ratified, and Miss Ann Marr was invested with the title of Mrs. Par.

Capital for the Young.—It is a consolation for all right minded young men in this country, that though they may not be able to command as much pecuniary capital as they would wish to commence business for themselves, yet there is a moral capital which they can have, that will weigh as much as money with people whose opinion is worth having. And it does not take a great

while to accumulate a respectable amount of this capital. It consists in truth, honesty, integrity, to which may be added decision, firmness, courage, perseverance. With these qualities, there's few obstacles that may not be overcome.—Friends spring up and surround such a young man almost as if by magic. Confidence flows out to him and business accumulates on his hands faster than he can ask it. And in a few short years such a young man is far in advance of many who started with him, having equal talents and larger pecuniary means, and ere long our young friend stands foremost among the honored, trusted and loved. Would that we could induce every youthful reader of our paper to commence life on the principle that moral capital is the main thing after all.

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