

The Provincial Wesleyan.

Poetry.

The Winter Wind.

Hush! moaning wind, that murmured past,
With low, sad wailing filled;
Peace! peace to the voice of the mournful blast,
Wind, lonely wind, be still!

Some spirit of sadness thou must bear,
O wind! on thy rushing wings;
And this is the wailing sound I hear
When that sorrowing spirit sings.

Thy voice is not that of the gentle breeze,
That breaths of the blushing spring,
That sports 'mid the flowers, and laughs 'mid
the leaves

Where the birds of the summer sing:
Nor the whirlwind's breath in its gathering
might,
By the wings of the tempest borne,
When the lightning gleams through the clouds
at night,
O'er the sky, where the storm rolls on.

But thine, O wind! is the chilling breath!
And that voice so full of sadness!
It speaks to the heart of grief, of death,
Of all—yes, of all! gladness.

And it minds us too of the cold, dark tomb,
Where sleep the silent dead;
Of life, when 'thine rest of its beauty and bloom,
And its joy and its brightness have fled.

Thou art not heard when the spring is seen
To come with her laughing showers,
When she decks the earth in a robe of green,
And weathers her brow 'mid the flowers.

But thy voice is heard 'mid the naked trees,
When the bright flowers, all are gone,
And thou comest to scatter the withered leaves,
When the summer birds have flown.

Thou followest pale Winter's icy feet,
And thy voice is moaning keen,
When the earth, like the dead in their winding-sheet,
In her cold, white mantle sleeps.

Thou sing'st o'er the grave where the lowly rest,
Where no murmur comes but thee;
Thy voice is heard on the ocean's breast,
Far, far, o'er the deep, dark sea.

And sad must sound that dreary wail
Around some silent wreck,
As howling through that tattered sail,
It sweeps the lonely deck.

That sigh, too, is heard 'mid the dashing surge,
For the sleepers' neck the wave;
That mournful blast is the only dirge
Above the sea-bay's grave.

—Knickerbocker.

Miscellaneous.

The King of Naples.

A low cunning, which Caligula so well
deceases as roundabout reality, is per-
haps the most conspicuous among the dis-
tinguishing instincts of the strangely com-
plicated Tyrant of Naples. With the craft
of a Jesuit, he unites a gross pleasure-
seeking agreeable to the baser sort of court-
iers, and, like the simulating Jew in the
old Scripture, loves to stab with a smile.
Short and fat, a great eater, like most of
the Bourbons, he yet lacks the "bowels of
compassion." Though he speaks fluently
the principal languages of Europe—the
Italian—yet he never speaks a word of
English, and expresses himself only in the
base Neapolitan, while his familiar flatter-
ing manner, in which there is not a particle
of the sovereign sense of responsibility,
and to mask the utter insincerity of his char-
acter. What could be expected of such a
man—whose narrow education, while it
has been from infancy the possessor of
a number of Courts where cunning is ac-
counted wisdom, where civility supersedes
morality, where religion is vicious, where
pride and honor are words to conceal
ideas? Just what revolts the world in the
Napoleonic policeman of the Neapolitan ty-

Plattered and capuled by the scullions of
the palace, he is popular only with the scur-
ry swarms of the lazzaroni, whom he rallies
in snubs at every murmur of resentment
among the people. These creatures of his
favor participate also in his pastimes, and
it is yesterday that we read of a half of the
city, and the Emperor's exults in the igno-
ble spectacle. Such mockery is of course in-
compatible with any regard for the crying
wants and sufferings of the country, and we
are there to see at all surprised that while
this *assoluta Padrona*, the lazzaroni ap-
propriates a million and a half of the na-
tional treasure for a single cherished object of
his superstition, the church of St. Francis,
the patron of beggary, he can accord only
three thousand to the education of poor
students and the encouragement of letters,
and this miserable pittance is not all
expended!

The caprice of despots is a familiar les-
son, but it would be difficult to find in all
the memoirs of old despots a more whimsi-
cal compound of the ape and hyena.
He plays with his minions as a cat plays
with a mouse, with the same aptitude,
the same subtle ferocity, the same capricious
reluctance to the execution of his orders.
The recent decastration of the Prince In-
chella is characteristic and illustrative.
After a friendly interview at the palace the
other day, the dissembling "Padrona" re-
minded his add-camp on paring, with the
customary caustic shake of the hand,
of the next morning of the Ministry. On
opening the Court Journal after dinner of
the same afternoon, the Prince was sur-
prised to learn that "His Majesty had been
graciously pleased to relieve him of the
portfolio of the War Department!"

As all respect for the monarch is not
entirely dead in the service, the beheaded Minister
has not been so far from a half of the na-
tional treasure for a single cherished object of
his superstition, the church of St. Francis,
the patron of beggary, he can accord only
three thousand to the education of poor
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"My dear Marquis, you are fond of the
chase; they tell me that in woodcock
(beccaccia) abound just now, and I would
like to join you in a hunt. Pray arrange it
for Wednesday."

Enchanted by this familiar mark of favor,
the Marquis hastened to make the necessary
preparations in the midst of which he re-
ceived a note by a royal serenade experi-
enced a paper, trembles, and vanishes. In eight

days after the old courtier is dead of the
malady that kills disgrace.

When Mr. Gladstone's famous letter, ex-
posing the imperial ambition and corrup-
tion of the government appeared, the royal
Secretary (Leopold Coria) sought to conceal
the copy received, from his master, who was
fully informed of the excitement they had
awakened by his Minister in London (Prince
Cassatella). The timid Secretary con-
fessed his delinquency for the royal let-
ters the evening after, during a private ex-
amination in the presence of the Queen,
"the most pious" of Austrian women:

"Popo, (a fond diminutive of Leopold)
enough for the present: come in the morn-
ing at an early hour, as we have much to
do."

"I will be here at 6 o'clock, if your Ma-
jesty desire."

"Eight will do; but be punctual: ap-
proach; I am just sent some choice dried
fruits from Palermo: your wife I know is
fond of them; tell the butler to send a
box with my name, and take another
from the children."

Popo, filled with delight, seizes and kisses
the royal hand fervently: "Very well,
very well, dear Popo; you may now retire,
but don't forget 8 o'clock."

The delighted secretary hastens home
with the fruit, and while thinking of the
box in his family for so good a
master, receives a document from the grand
domo of the palace. It was the dismissal
of "dear Popo."

Such perfidious abuse of power is perfectly
in keeping with the most cowardly truck-
ing in presence of danger. All the world
knows that the family for so good a
master, receives a document from the grand
domo of the palace. It was the dismissal
of "dear Popo."

No one need be surprised to learn that
superstition, or an affection of piety, is the
natural fruit of so detestable a charac-
ter. The most minute practices of devotion
—masses, fasts, and prayers, are among the
most habitual royal occupations; and all
this is by an almost nervous sequence ac-
companied with a hatred of dread of learn-
ing, and men of letters. The Italian Em-
peror, now in exile, had a whim to be
presented. The king asked him his
name, age, and occupation; and on receiv-
ing the answer, turned upon his heel with the
pious sneer: "There are already too many
historians, and you had better think of the
salvation of your soul than to occupy your-
self with such trash!"

Such is Ferdinand II., who rules the
destinies of eight millions of people in the
fairest region of the globe—such is the man
who has undertaken the hard task of perpe-
tuating despotism by torture and the bas-
tard—*Curr. of Newark Daily Ad.*

The Danubian Principalities.

Now that the fall of Sevastopol and pro-
bable conquest of the Crimea, promises a
new field to the activity of the allied army,
the eyes of politicians turn to the Moldo-
Wallachian states as the true Gordian knot
of the situation. As they were the real ob-
ject of the war, their fate at its close will
form a main element in deciding with what
result the three most powerful states of mod-
ern civilization have made such unprece-
dented sacrifices of life and treasure. And
who does not see that states equal in size
to the British isles, occupied by a race,
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