

A TROCK AT THE DOOR

AT THE HEART

Some one knocking at the door,
Banging, tapping at the door;
Only fancy, it is no me,
I shall think of it no more.

I am comfortable, happy,
All my hours I gay and glad;
"Y," but, say the voices softly,
"You are happy, others not."

God you hath given pleasure,
But to so few he giveth pain;
See that no humble brother
Calls to you and waits in vain."

Aye, that knocker speaketh truth,
Listen to its pleading voice!
You may feign, but if you know
it,

Burdens I hardly cannot rejoice.

Else there set the dove while open
As the echoes die away;

Say "thou'rt me, some weight of
sorrows

Still be lessened much this
day."

And then tell me, ivy or pleasure
Smaller than it was before;

Or on the round times the rooster,

Shall that knocking at the door,

Revolves?

AMBITION.

"Ahas, we are told, exclaimed—"Give me a lever strong enough and I can move the world. Just to what other region of space our globes with its towering millions would have been shifted we know not, if in the nature of things, the wish of that old legendary character had been granted, but a nineteenth century people basing in the sunshine of civilization do know that some mighty lever has thrust them forward away from the depressing influence of the dark skies of ignorance and barbarism into a state of being where shine upon them in all their brilliancy, the glorious luminaries of education, refinement and advancement, and that lever—Ambition."

England, whose proud boast it is that on her broad dominions the sun does not set, is to come, and on ambition's shrines lay the tribute of gratitude for her high position among the nations.

Back in the world's history, when our rude forefathers, the ancient Britons, roamed the forests of their island home, known than glorying in the title "chieftains of the world," whose very name was the synonym for strength and power because the greatest foreign possessor of their sea-girt land.

To what influence was she indebted for the peerless gift.—To the ambition of a Caesar.

Did he know as if by an inspiration, the dazzling lustre of his fingers would bestow on his ocean gem; that under the rough exterior lay hidden what to-day the world calls Britain's greatness.

His desire to conquer the famous Britannia of the present, and the conquest followed in quick succession; untutored tribes fell before the superior power opposing them; resistance was in vain; the gallant sons that their rude independence was now a thing of the past and they a conquered race, lost their bitterness as they saw the benefit conferred upon them by Roman civilization.

It is a truism that there is no nation however barbarous but possesses in its character some degree of refinement; in the case of the aborigines of Britain, the truth of the adage is tested.

The desire to emulate their own peers led to the abandonment in a great degree of their own fierce mode of life and the adoption of the more graceful dress, gentler speech, and manners of the Romans.

But time, that great charioteer, draws on apace; in his train came the strong armies of other nations, and Rome, once the mighty of the earth, compelled to abdicate her proud position.

Other kings strove for the possession of the crown with its mighty fiefs; yet had none as

long, and the air rang with the din of battle; the shout of victory and the groans of defeat mingled their discordant tones together.

But above the keen cries of war, and the clash of arms was heard the "still small voice" of peace; its gentle pleadings did not reach all ears, but some weary of strife responded to its call—felt the breath of new inspiration to swell that sweetest of cords "Peace on earth, good will to men," until it should reverberate through all the land.

In yonder cloister cell where the sun and moon rule the world comes not, a man is seated with pale face and bent form (the victim's triplism now) one of the noble few who in these days of turbulence owned the motto "love for humanity."

Learning is first ennobled there, and an earnest, devoted nurse the host. Earnestly the writer pens the words whose rise is the elevation of his fellow.

Human nature has not yet

reached that point of perfection

where self is entirely sacrificed,

and if the desire to leave foot-

prints on time's sands mingled

in his philanthropic sentiment,

will we question it.

"Knowledge is power," counts the paths open to her followers. On the shores of Genoa's blue bay a man is walking, soon gazing on the beautiful panorama spread before him, now with downcast eyes undrooped head seems pondering the unspoken language of the glowing picture. The western gates of Italy's blue skies are open, the king of day stands before them about to take farewell for a season of the realms over which he had wielded his shining sceptre. Around him gathered a glittering pageant of his claudian courtiers arrayed in their most gorgeous attire. Yonder bright group respond in gold and crimson; here a little band of the sky's celestial daughters, fairy-like in their sapphire-hued garments and tresses of pearl-cladets. All have come to do their sovereign honor; he beams upon them his own bright smile, and the dancing, rippling waters catch its radiance and gleam and sparkle for joy.

Does this man fancy from that skyey court-room a voice wafted on the gentle breeze and speaking by the murmuring waters the words—follow me, my sceptre will point the way, or is it his own heart that dictates the command?

Longhad the term "dreamer" been the world's epithet for him whose name is immortalized in the discovery of the New World, and now Columbus must show his countrymen that his dream of something yet unknown in the distant West must be fulfilled.

Action now must be his watchword.

At the feet of Royalty he asks assistance and

does not sue in vain. Forth

from their shining casket come

the most precious jewels of the Spanish queen. The people's eyes are upon the act, her influence is not ineffectual, others sympathise in the movement, all obstacles have been thrust aside, and as the little fleet and its noble commandant leave their native home, they go amidst the blessings of the assembled multitudes.

Away from the blue skies of sunny Italy he sails alone on the trackless Atlantic; he reposes his trust on Him, "who holds the waters in the hollow of his hand."

All the agonies of "Hope deferred" are his, but now the harvest of his hopes is about to be reaped, as a land transfiguring in beauty the highest flight of his imagination burst on his view. For the first time the proud Atlantic is consecrated as the Grand "Te Deum" sung by voices swelling with gratitude is wafted over its mighty waters. They reach the shore "Prest, ride, riot," is acted over again in the world's history.

The acme of his ambition has

been reached and Columbus is ready to meet the world with the tribute of gratitude and prestige while the pulses still beat life and the heart filled with longing for appreciation, o'er which over the lifeless body it cannot words "dust to dust" have been uttered, when joy and sorrow are alike powerless to gladden or make sad the spirit, then the bells of public sentiment ring out their chimes, rich in their sonorous bursts of praise, and the voice of the people shouts with one accord "Praise the wreath of snow flowers for the pale, cold brow that might have worn so proudly the chapter of honor and fame. Raise high the stately monument! Inscribe on its granite sides the record of a noble life, cause, come chant your sad requiem for our departed son, Unavailing efforts all to atone for past neglect. Consoling thought, however, that a grand life's work out-lives the roll

of the world.

Thousands are the vessels with their precious freight of humanity that have followed in the path of the great pioneer. Thousands, ambitious to be kings of the broad acres stretching from Atlantic to Pacific, then the strong right arm, and the indomitable will are the chief requisites to insure possession. The land of their adoption is reached; the trees, proud guardians of the soil from primeval ages, must yield to the axeman's blow. The soldiers' sons must know from personal experience that knowledge is power, and in the wild forest depths find her votaries, who build in her honor a rude temple wherein their children may learn how to use their mind's forces and become disciples of that noble creed "Ecclesiastes."

Time passes; an epoch in the history of the old long house has arrived. The reverend old man who has seen his children in study grow in mental stature is about to lose a son. The boy is an aspirant for fame; he has drawn deeply from learning a fountain in his woodland home, its waters are exhausted, and his thirst yet unquenched, but out in the great world, whither his steps are bent, there are inexhaustible springs of truth. To-day he takes farewell of his respected teacher and the old surroundings. As the two stand together before the lowly building endeared by so many associations, they form a picture on which the rays of the evening sun linger lovingly. The head of the old man with its crown of silvery hair bent tenderly over the boy, the whiteness of whose lofty brow gleams underneath the riven tresses. An artist might have painted it, bestowing the name, "Past and Future." Soon the cracked wall, lowly ceiling and smoke browned rafters will be exchanged for the lofty corridors and grandeur of Alma Mater.

A few more years glide into the past—the University's spacious hall is filled with a large assembly of the learned of the land; they listen in breathless attention to a valetudinary delivered with speaking gesture and impassioned eloquence. The speaker finishes his oration—and the deafening applause is merited by the country boy. The world is now before him. A "cry from Macedonia" comes over the blue waters, the voice finds an echo, and he makes one of that noble hand of whom it is said "Blessed are the feet of them that bring glad tidings." His eloquence might have awed congregations of the most cultured minds; he chooses rather to proclaim "the good news" to the poor benighted ones whose ears have never listened to the joyful sound, and away in the distant West where the Rocky Mountains lift their towering heads, the untaught sons of man learn from him the glorious truth "that Jesus died."

Noblest of all ambitions to aid in hastening the time "when he knew, o' God shall cover the earth as the wat'rs of the great deep"—fitting quondam for such a work. "They ... turn away to the heathen" then to "atheists" then "Atheists."

FRIENDLY CRITISM.

DR. BROOKSBY.—The March number of the *Christian Worker* is not bad, and it is, as usual, brim full of good things. Your reference to me as one "thickened with soul-sleeping drowsiness" is very amusing. The appellation "soul-sleep" is a very singular, but not amusing expression. I suppose it was borne of the same parent stock as the word "Campbellite," and has just about as much meaning and force

as "dust to dust" and ask the brethren to gather with us around the grave of Jesus and then learn and fully realize the answer to the question of all question "if a man die will he live again?" and let the result Christ answer!

You're in the hope of the gospel.

E. EVANS,
Tom-wand, Mar. 25th, 1849.

PATENTS

Were the last 1000 patents for 1848 given to individuals, corporations, or associations? If so, give names and addresses of inventors, and the date of issue.

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