

HOUSEHOLD TREASURES.

BY MARY HOWITT.

What are they?—gold and silver,
Or what such ores can buy?
The pride of silken luxury—
Rich robes of Tyrian dye?
Guests that come thronging in
With lordly pomp and state?
Or thankless liveried serving men
To stand about the gate?

Or are they daintiest meats,
Sent up on silver fine?
Or golden chased cups over brimmed
With rich Falernian wine?
Or parchments setting forth
Broad lands our fathers held?
Parks for our deer, ponds for our fish,
And woods that may be felled?

No, no, they are not these! or else
God help the poor man's need!
Then, sitting 'mid his little ones,
He would be poor indeed!
They are not these! our household wealth
Belongs not to degree;
It is the love within our souls—
The children at our knee.

My heart is filled with gladness,
When I behold how fair,
How bright are rich men's children,
With their thick golden hair!
For I know 'mid countless treasures,
Gleaned from the East and West,
These living, loving human things
Are still the rich man's best!

But my heart o'erfloweth to mine eyes,
And a prayer is on my tongue,
When I see the poor man's children—
The toiling, though the young—
Gathering, with sun-burnt hands,
The dusty way-side flowers,
Alas! that pastime symbolesh
Life's after, darker hours.

My heart o'erfloweth to mine eyes,
When I see the poor man stand,
After his daily work is done,
With children by his hand,
And this he kisseth tenderly,
And that sweet name doth call—
For I know he has no treasure
Like those dear children small.

Oh, children young, I bless ye;
Ye keep such love alive!
And the home can ne'er be desolate
Where love has room to thrive;
Oh, precious household treasures!
Life's sweetest, holiest claim—
The Saviour blessed ye while on earth—
I bless you in his name!

NEWS.

ASSOCIATION FOR CLEANLINESS.—The committee of the free baths and washhouse establishment in Glasshouseyard, East Smithfield, which has now been in successful operation for nearly eighteen months, have just made an addition to their operations by the gratuitous supply of whitewash to the neighbouring poor, and even whitewashing the rooms where the infirmity of the inmates prevents their doing the operation themselves.

So great has been the decline of Chartistism in England, that only 200 persons paraded the streets of Manchester, in a procession, a few days back, the object of which was to lay the foundation stone of a new Chartist hall.

EDUCATION IN ENGLAND.—From returns recently published, it seems that out of 118,825 persons married in 1842, 56,599 could not write their own names.

FOREIGN SPINDLES.—In all the world, England excepted, there are 10,083,000 spindles now employed in cotton spinning.—In England there are 17,500,000 spindles.

WATER IN NEW YORK.—The Croton river is brought to the city of New York by an aqueduct 40 miles in length. It is received into two reservoirs, one capable of containing 150,000,000 imperial gallons, and the other 21 millions, at the height of 115 feet above the tide. There are 150 miles of mains, four miles of which are three feet in diameter. The water is kept at high pressure in all the streets, at all times, so that it is always on, and the inhabitants have a constant supply night and day. When the New York report was printed, only a short time had elapsed since the opening of the works; but even then 6000 houses and manufactories, out of 30,000, had taken the water, at an average rent of 11 dollars, which, of course, would decrease as the number of consumers augmented. All who cannot pay for water are supplied by public fountains and hydrants, of which there were 600; and the number has greatly increased. "It is impossible to say how much water is supplied per annum, as the hydrants and fountains are in constant use," and "the water issued for all purposes." Fires are chiefly extinguished by a hose attached to fire plugs in the mains, the water being thrown up by the head pressure; and since the Croton water was introduced, the losses by fire have diminished one-half, and insurance premiums have fallen 25 per cent. Philadelphia is supplied on similar principles.—*Health of Town's Advocate.*

AMERICAN VESSELS ON LAKE ERIE.—The number of these is very large, viz: 207 schooners, 55 steamers, 50 brigs, 20 propellers, and 2 men-of-war, of 500 tons each. Number building: 10 steamers, 12 propellers, and 12 square-rigged vessels.

MAKING THE MOST OF HIS TRADE.—In the upper part of the city, says the New York True Sun, we noticed, a day or two since, a wholesale and retail liquor store, and a well furnished coffin warehouse adjoining each other, both kept by the same man. A fine subject for a lay sermon by any one who has time and talent to preach.

HUMAN GRIEV.—There arrived at Hull, England, not long since, a Dutch vessel, navigated by a man, his wife, and four daughters, laden with bones raked from the battle fields of Napoleon, to be sold by the bushel, for manure to grow turnips!

TAHITI.—Despatches have been received in Paris from Tahiti to Dec. 16. Their contents have not transpired; but the *Journal des Hautes* says, that from the information it has been able to collect, the state of distrust and secret hostility which has been so long existing between the French authorities, the natives in their intrenched camps, and Queen Pomare, who was still taking refuge in the Windward Islands, continued to subsist without any improvement. The French occupants, confined to a small portion of the shore, where works of communication and defence protected their position, were almost entirely without intercourse with the interior of the island, and each day their position was becoming more difficult.

MAHOMEDAN LIBERALITY.—Some time since, the Pacha of Egypt liberally granted to Col. Campbell a valuable plot of ground, to form the site of a Protestant chapel for the use of the British community at Alexandria.

ELECTROPHONIC TELEGRAPH.—A letter from St. Petersburg states that Professor Jacob, of the Imperial Academy, has just communicated to that body the invention of an electrophonic telegraph, composed of ten keys, ten different words, and ten conducting wires, by which the letters of the alphabet and words can be expressed by means of sounds. The Academy has pronounced a favourable opinion of the invention.

DROWNED IN TEN INCHES WATER.—A man by the name of S—, who lived in Bath county, Kentucky, near the Maria Forge, on State Creek, was going recently from the village where he had been to make sales of bells, which he manufactured. He had taken too much liquor, and was scarcely able to ride. When he arrived at the creek in sight of his house, he undertook to "water his horse," and fell over the head of the animal into the creek, at that point only ten inches deep; there he died after making ineffectual attempts to crawl up the bank; each time staggering back! He died a miserable death in sight of his own house and family.

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