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POETRY.

THE BIBLE.

Study it carefully,
Think of it prayerfully,
Deep in thy heart let its pure precepts dwell!
Slight not its history,
Ponder its mystery,
None can ever prize it too fondly or well.

Accept the glad tidings,
The warning and chidings,
Found in this volume of heavenly lore;
With faith that's unflinching,
And love all prevailing,
Trust in its promise of love evermore.

With fervent devotion,
And kindful emotion,
Hear the best welcome, respond to the call;
Life's purest obligation,
The heart's adoration,
Give to the Saviour, who died for us all.

May this message of love,
From the Tribunes above,
To all nations and kindred be given,
Till the ransomed shall raise
Joyous anthems of praise—
Hallelujah! on earth and in heaven.

How it happened.—The derivation of many words in common use is exceedingly curious and interesting. Probably few people have any idea whence comes the word "tramway," by which the English denote a horse car track. It is derived from the second syllable of the name Outram. The ancestor of Sir James Outram, a very distinguished general, who died a few years ago, took a leading part in extending horse railroads for drawing coal &c., and his name was called Outram ways, and gradually the first syllable was dropped. Another curious derivation is that in the word "wallop," meaning to beat. "I'll wallop him" is still a frequent expression in rural English. It arises from a complete naval victory of Admiral Wallop, a member of the very ancient family of which the Earl of Portsmouth—who also has the honor to represent Sir Isaac Newton—is now the head.

IRONCLADS.

Discussion concerning the value of ironclads takes a more serious turn in England since the destruction of the Turkish monitor by a torpedo near Braila, on the 26th ult. Several Russian gunboats surrounded the doomed vessel before daylight; four of them were under dangerous fire and one was riddled with balls, but the great guns of the monitor could not be depressed sufficient to hit the boats after their close proximity was discovered. There were 40 men in the gunboats. Lieut. Chestakov succeeded in attaching a torpedo to the side of the monitor. The torpedo was exploded by means of connecting wires after the gunboats had withdrawn to a safe distance. There were 300 men on the monitor; every one of them was killed by the explosion or were drowned when the vessel sank. Mr. Brassey, the great railway contractor, having studied the subject, thinks that every iron clad ought to be accompanied by a number of heavily armed gunboats. He suggests that when an ironclad is attacked by enemies in small boats it will not be prudent to use the great guns, because their smoke would afford a cover for torpedo operations. It appears to be much easier to prove the usefulness of gunboats than of large ironclads. It is worthy of note, moreover, that the torpedo which destroyed the Turkish monitor, was managed practically by a method very similar to that by which the late Lieut. Cushing blew up the rebel ram Albatross. As to the torpedoes of more recent invention, even protecting gunboats could not keep them at bay, since the new contrivances travel beneath the surface.

GRATITUDE.—A bachelor made a will leaving his property to the girls who had refused him: "For to them I owe all my earthly happiness."
"Time softens all things," except the young man who parts his hair in the middle, and whistles on the street cars. Nothing can ever make him any softer than he is.—N. Y. Com.
The Rochester Democrat says Miss Plaster, a young French actress is coming over next season. We presume all the young fellows will be inclined to court Plaster.—Boston Advertiser.

Relief for St. John.

We copy the following from San Francisco Chronicle of the 24th June. It serves to show the love for their old city by St. John men in a distant land. The amount received from San Francisco acknowledged in St. John papers is \$2000. The Chronicle gives a map of the burnt district, with an account of the fire, and a brief description of the city:

The Calsonian Club of this city signalized itself last evening by being the first organization on the Pacific coast to extend aid to the sufferers by the St. John fire. A special meeting of the club was called to consider the subject, and D. W. White offered the following:

WHEREAS, In view of the sad calamity which has befallen our friends in the almost total destruction by fire of the city of St. John, New Brunswick, therefore be it Resolved, That this club tender to the Mayor of that city through our Chief, D. A. Macdonald, \$500 as an offering from the club, to be appropriated by the Mayor of the city of St. John, New Brunswick, for the best interests of the sufferers at large.

Also, Resolved, That the Chief, D. A. Macdonald, be requested to telegraph immediately to the Mayor of St. John the amount appropriated by this club for the benefit of the sufferers.

The rules were suspended and the resolutions were passed by a unanimous vote. The name of W. Lane Booker, H. B. M. Consul, has been somewhat freely used in connection with a relief fund, it being stated that he said that Canada has a relief association on which a draft may be drawn in case of an emergency. A friend of Mr. Booker says that the latter denies saying anything of the kind, but he did say that there being in this city a Canadian society, he presumed action would be taken if there was necessity for it to procure subscriptions for the relief of the people of St. John, and that he would be happy to co-operate. As far as heard from, however, the Canadian society has made no move towards assisting their brethren, and the Calsonian Club takes the first prize. The Western Union Telegraph Company has offered to telegraph the money to St. John free of charge, and it is expected that the Mayor of the latter city will receive it by tomorrow morning. An invitation has been extended to the natives and ex-residents of St. John to meet at 2 o'clock this afternoon, in the house of G. C. Pitt, 531 Toluana street, to take measures to extend relief to the sufferers.

Mr. Brassey put a giraffe round the earth in 46 weeks. His steam-yacht Sunbeam sailed from Cowes on July 6, called at Torbay, Madeira, the Cape Verde, and Rio Janeiro, passed the Straits of Magellan, touched at Valparaiso, Bow Island, Tahiti, Hawaii, Ascension, Yokohama, Hong Kong, Canton, Singapore, Malacca, Aden, Alexandria, Malta, Gibraltar, and Lisbon, and arrived at Cowes on May 27. The number of miles covered under sail was over 20,000 miles; the log covers 35,400 miles. On the coast of Patagonia the voyagers rescued a crew of 15 hands from a bark which had been wrecked. In Japan they were present at the opening of a railway by the Mikado. In a letter to The London Times Mr. Brassey exclaims: "How infinitely easy is the task of the modern circumnavigator compared with the hazardous explorations of Magellan and Capt. Cook, when the chronometer was an instrument of rude and untrustworthy quality, when there were no charts, and the roaring of the breakers in the dard of night was the mariner's first warning that a coral reef was near!" It was certainly a yacht cruise worth taking.

"Yes you may come again next Sunday evening, Horace, dear, but—and she hesitated. "What is it darling? Have I given you pain?" he asked, as she still remained silent. "You didn't mean to, I'm sure," she responded, "but the next time don't wear one of these collars with the points turning outward; they scratch so."—Utica Herald.

THE CEDAR CHEST.

The Reynold's country seat stood on the banks of the Hudson; a more enchanting spot could nowhere be found; with its terraces sloping down to the water's edge, covered by a beautiful green sward resembling velvet. The house itself was a stately old building of grey stone, two sides of which were completely covered with ivy and other graceful vines. The interior was no less beautiful; the rooms were large and handsomely furnished, and the spacious halls, which ran through the entire house, were hung with pictures of the Reynold's ancestors.

Mr. Charles Reynolds, the only surviving member of a large family, had married a beautiful young girl, much younger than himself, but she died a year after the marriage, leaving him an only child, a daughter. Mr. Reynolds adored this child, and well he might, for indeed she was a lovely girl, and beauty was not her only attraction, for she possessed a true woman's heart, and a spirit so brave that few equal her in that respect. At the time we write, Kate was only eighteen, having just completed her education; she had just returned home, but finding it oppressive in the city, they repaired to their summer residence. Kate had invited a school-mate to spend part of the summer with her, and the invitation had been eagerly accepted by Maud Conyngham, for that was her friend's name.

It was late in the afternoon; Kate and Maud were standing out on one of the little verandas, waiting for Mr. Reynolds and admiring the scenery, which indeed was grand. The sun was slowly sinking in the west, casting its redening glow over the water, which lay but a short distance from them. My readers, perhaps if you had been present at that scene you would have paid little heed to the surroundings, for I think your attention would have been attracted to the two maidens, who indeed presented a striking contrast. Kate was a bright sprightly brunette, with dark, flashing eyes and features by no means perfect; but the whole expression of her countenance was so frank and intelligent that she could not but attract admiration; while, again on the other hand, Maud was a perfect blonde, with golden hair rippling in soft, loose waves over her well shaped forehead; her eyes were a dark violet shaded by long lashes, and had such a pathetic look in them that they were often termed "irresistible."

It was nearly dusk, and yet Mr. Reynolds had not returned.

"I do wonder what has kept papa so late? I am afraid he will have to stop in the city to night," said Kate.

"Really, Katie, will it be safe for us to remain in this house by ourselves? The lid is becoming alarming," said Maud, after a short pause.

Kate proposed that they should go in the house, as the air was becoming chilly. They were walking along one of the halls, when Kate suddenly exclaimed:

"Maud, wouldn't it be fun to have an adventure to-night, or something like that, you know, so that hereafter, wherever we go, we should be pointed out as the girls who did so and so, or saved somebody's life, or—"

"Hush, Kate! interrupted Maud, don't you hear somebody walking?"

At that moment the butler approached, and making a low bow to his mistress, asked her permission to go on an excursion, which was to be given that evening. Kate thought for a few moments whether it would be safe to allow the only man servant to leave the premises, but at length she said:

"Well, William, you may go; but don't stay too late, for remember that we are the only ones in the house."

The butler walked off after thanking his young mistress, and the two girls were left alone.

An hour or two passed in which our two heroines had been amusing themselves in various ways; they were about to retire

when they recollected that they had neglected to close one of the windows which projected out at one corner of the house. Kate was about to draw in the shutter, when she felt a hand on her arm, and turning around, she saw Maud standing beside her, pale as death, and trembling like an aspen leaf. Kate led her to one of the sofas nearby, and seating her comfortably besought her to tell what was the matter.

Maud did not utter a word, but pointed in a terrified way to the window. Kate only said:

"Maud, darling, I fear the night air has been too much for you."

Still her companion said nothing, and silence reigned for some moments. Maud at length stirred, and then, raising herself with some effort, she began speaking in a tone so unnatural to the gentle Maud, that poor Kate could only stare round the room in a bewildered way, and wonder what it could all mean. At length Maud said:

"Kate, did you see him?"

"See whom, Maud?" said Kate, trying to appear calm.

"Why, Katie, do you mean to say you do not know to what I am alluding, said the amazed Maud."

Kate assured her that she had not. The most remote idea what she meant, and she sought her to explain the cause of her sudden alarm.

Well, Katie, began Maud, speaking in a scarcely audible tone, when you went over to the window just now, I was, as perhaps you recollect, standing a little aside; and as you were about to close the shutter I distinctly saw the form of a man pass directly under the window and hurry off in the direction of the end room. I am sure he can have no good purpose in being around this time of the evening."

You are quite right, dear, he can, as you say, have no good intention. I, however, am not afraid, and if he is secreted in this building he will not enjoy his hiding place very long.

So saying, Kate sauntered to the end of the room, followed by Maud, who was made stronger by Kate's true courage and brave words. The room mentioned above was very small, devoid of furniture with the exception of a very large chest, which stood in one corner, and at present was empty. Kate's first suspicion was directed to this chest, it being the only place in the house where any one was likely to conceal themselves. Kate and Maud stood in the dreadful room, not daring to utter a word for fear of detection; the beat of their hearts was audible, and Kate who had hitherto been so brave, stood immovable with terror, while Maud was pale and trembling. At that instant, while the girls were deciding what plan was the best to pursue, a creaking sound was heard, and the lid of the chest was slowly raised just enough to show a pair of eyes. It was quickly put down again, but not soon enough, for the girls had already seen the action. Maud gave a piercing cry, which resounded through the building, and Kate, fearing that Maud's alarm would instantly bring forth the culprit, flew to the chest and bore down with all her strength upon it. Kate ever after thought that super-human strength had been sent to her aid, for the constant struggle from within showed that she had a strong arm to contend with; only once did her prisoner gain the advantage, but Kate had called loudly for Maud, and the terrified girl came to the rescue. Then they were safe, for the man was so exhausted that strength failed him and he could do nothing but writhe and pour his useless threats on the innocent girls. It was past midnight and the girls were so overcome with fear and fatigue that their strength and courage could have lasted but a little longer, when Maud suddenly exclaimed:

"Listen, Katie; did you not hear foot steps?"

Yes, Kate did hear some one walking, and before they could conjecture who it was, William, the butler, appeared on the scene of action.

"Thank God! they both exclaimed, in a breath."

Everything was hurriedly explained to the faithful butler. Our heroines then disembarked from the chest, and stood aside while William quickly proceeded to raise the lid of the chest. It was indeed a most revolting sight which met their gaze; for there crouched a man of medium size, with a face so villainous that the girls shrank from his penetrating glance; his eyes were deeply set under a forehead so low that nothing was discernible but a quantity of black, bushy hair. The struggle with his opponents had been so long and fierce that he had become terribly bloated and disfigured. The lid of the chest was not allowed to remain up a sufficient length of time, to allow the culprit to come from his hiding place; for William thought it wiser to let him spend the rest of his night there, and told the young ladies that he would see to him until morning, when he would get the assistance of some of his friends and convey their prize to jail.

Morning came and brought with it Mr. Reynolds, who had been necessarily detained in the city the night previous. The story of the wonderful adventure was told over and over again, and as Mr. Reynolds listened, he looked with unmingled pride and love upon the two girls who had displayed such heroism.

"My dear daughter, he said at length, I have always been proud of you, but never until this day did I realize your true value. And, he continued, turning to Maud, I am truly thankful to see that my Kate has, out of her many school friends, chosen yourself, for you both showed very remarkable bravery."

The girls naturally were very much flattered by this speech, and Kate, declaring her arms about her father's neck, declared there was never a "papa" to equal him.

I am very sure my readers would not care to learn how the prisoner protested on being taken to jail, and how he poured out his curses on the members of that household. It is sufficient to say that he was found to be a noted thief, and the trial ended by his being sent to prison, where he was to spend the rest of his miserable existence.

Years have passed since that eventful night. Maud and Kate are married to wealthy citizens of New York; and as they sit in their pleasant homes they often relate their adventure of "The Cedar Chest."

Masonic Secrets.

Freemasonry, I admit has its secrets. It has secrets peculiar to itself; but of what do they principally consist? They consist of signs and tokens, which serve as testimonials of character and qualifications, which are only conferred after a due course of instruction and examination. These are of no small value. They speak a universal language, and act as a passport to the attention and support of the initiate in all parts of the world. They cannot be lost so long as memory retains its power. Let the possessor of them be expatriated, shipwrecked or imprisoned; let him be stripped of everything he has got in the world these credentials remain. They have softened the asperities of the tyrant; they have mitigated the horrors of captivity; they have subdued the rancour of malevolence, and broken down the barriers of political animosity. On the field of battle, in the solitudes of the uncultivated forest or in the busy haunts of the city, they have made friends of men of the most hostile feelings. The most distant regions and the most diversified conditions rush to the aid of each other, and feel special joy and satisfaction that they have been able to afford relief to a brother Mason.

A young man in a music shop was lately overpowered by a fastidious young lady, who wanted to purchase "Mr. Hoel's"—a song of the—a gentleman's under garment! The young man is still alive.

The only nose left in the crowd after the fight, said Pat, was the tay kettle's nose.

WALKER'S California Vinegar is a Vegetable preparation, and the active herbs found among the Sierra Nevada mountains, California, the medicinal properties are extracted from the roots of the plant. The question is asked, "What is the cause of the success of Walker's Bitters?" The answer is, that they remove the impurities of the blood, and the patient recovers. They are the great blood-purifying principle, a perfect invigorator of the system. The history of the world has on compound possessing qualities of WALKER'S BITTERS sick of every disease man is aware of, a gentle Purgative as relieving Coughs or Inflammation of the Liver and Visceral Organs, etc.

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