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2	Prize	3 **	ζώ0	1.000 00
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· THE VOICES OF EARTH.

We have not heard the music of the spheres,
The song of star to star; but there are sounds
More deep than human joy or human tears,
That nature uses in her common rounds;
The fall of streams, the cry of winds that strain
The oak, the reading of the sea's surge, raight
Of thunder breaking afar off, or rain
That falls by minutes in the summer night.
There are the voices of earth's secret soul,
Uttering the inystery from which she came
To him who hears them grief beyond control,
Or joy inscrutable without a name
Wakes in his heart thoughts buried there impearled
Before the birth and making of the world:
—Archibald Lampman, in Scribner's

THE FRONT GATE.

An old and erippled gate am I,
And twenty years have passed
Since I was awung up high and dry
Betwixt those posts so fast:
But now I've grown so powerful weak—
Despised by man and beast—
I'm scarcely strong enough to squeak,
Although I'm never greased,

'Twas twenty years soo, I say,
When Mr. Enos White
Came kind of hanging 'round my way
'Most every other night.
He hung upon my starboard side
And she upon the other,
Till Susan Smith became his bride And in due time a mother.

I groaned intensely when I heard—
Despite I am no churl—
My doom breathed in a single word;
The haby was a girl!
And as she grew, and grew, and grew,
I loud bemoaned my fate;
For she was very fair to view,
And I—I was the gate!

Then in due time alover came, Then in due time a lover came,
Betokening my ruin,
A dapper fellow, Brown by name,
The grown-up baby wooin'!
They sprang upon me in the gloam
And talked of moon and star,
They are married now and live at home
Along with pa and ma.

My lot was happy for a year—
No courting night and day—
I had no thought, I had no fear
Bad luck would come my way.
But oh, this morning—save the mark!
There came a wild surprise,
A shadow flitted grim and dark
Acres my supprishing Across my sunny skies.

A dector with a knowing smile, A dector with a knowing smile,
A nurse with face serene,
A bustle in the house the while—
Great Scott I What does it mean?
My hinges ache, the lock is weak,
Aly pickets in a whit;
I hear that awful doctor speak—
It is another oid. It is another girl.

- Denver Tribune.

A DIVORCEE'S CONFESSION.

A divorced woman has been telling her tale to the N.Y. World: "It was not without some struggle that I came to the conclusion that a divorce was the only way out. I had been brought up to the belief that 'what God hath joined,' etc. I understood, or thought I did, what the fate of a divorced woman might be. And then there was another struggle. I had ceased to love my husband, but not the memory of my love. Do you know the difference? It is as if you possess an ideal that you have worshipped for years, honestly believing it to be pure gold. You may have worshipped for years, honestly believing it to be pure gold. You may have detected flaws here and there—an ugly scam perhaps. Still it is your idol, and on that account must be of gold. Well, one day you discover that it is only a wooden image, or worse, one of clay, and in your fury and anguish you hurl it from its pedestal and leave it lying a shapeless, huddled mass on the floor. And you intend to throw the whole thing away some day. It's worthless. Why should you keep it? And yet, and yet, when your housecleaning day comes and you say, 'Now I will make a clean sweep of it to-day,' you falter, hesitate, stand looking at this fetich and remember when you first possessed it, and ten to one you turn the key of the room in which it lies and go softly away. That, my dear, is what keeps so many husbands and vives together. keeps so many husbands and wives together.

But it didn't hold us. I remember the day when I said 'to' bim: 'I have decided that it will be better for us to live apart.' 'Very well,' said he, carelessly, 'suit yourself.' There was a moment's silence, and then I added. 'I want the separation irrevocable—I wish a divorce.' Do you know I didn't know my own voice? I always think of it such a day as this. The rain dashed against the windows just as it is coming down now, and the fire snapped on the hearth just as that fire is snapping. I heard the clock tick, yes, and my heart beat. He did not look at me as he answered: 'You shall have your heart's desire.'

Then he went out of the room and closed the door behind him, and I felt that the door of my life was shut on an unhappy past. I was exultant, triumphant. I gloried in my courage. 'I shall be free,' I said over and over to myself. I looked at my flushed face in the mirror, and was glad to see how fair it was. 'I am young,' I said, 'life is not yet over.'