Poetry.

"Up the Stairs."

I am far from my hame, an' I'm weary
sometimes
For the kiss of my mother, the blessing
of my Father's welcome smiles;
I'll no'er be fa' mitted until my cow
do come home
The gowden gates o' Heaven, an' my
ain country!

The earth is fulsome wi' flowers, mony
tinted, fresh an' gay
But I'm thinking they'll no' be
Father made them one.
When I hear the music singing in my
ain country!

I've His word, a word of promise, that
some gleeksome day the King
To His royal palace His humblest hame
will bring;
Wi' een an' wi' hearts running over, we
shall see
"The King in His beauty," an' our ain
country!

My feet have been sore, an' my
hame weary
But soon they'll no'er mair wander
wearily
For His Spirit MUST make me white, and
He MUST make my way easy
When the angels lift the latch at last, to my
ain country!

Like a hame-bound bird in the gathering
noo birdie
I will fain be ganging noo into my
Saviour's breast;
For He gathers in His bosom wilines
lambs
An' He carries them THERE! to His
ain country!

THEOA KORASUKI

He's faithful that hath promised; He'll
surely come again;
He'll come in the twilight, or
perhaps in the morn;
But He comes! the watchers shall be
watching, and
ready are to be
To gang wi' Him the moment he
comes to my ain
country!

He's thinking, aye an' singing, o'
hame
For the Spirit's been hard
God will make the desert
He will make the
noo
They will sing gang in gladness to our
ain country!

Mayhew, the Millspinner,

THE STOLEN WILL.

Bereft of all—of home, husband, child, friends, and reputation—she went away, no one knew where or whither; and the public, who had sympathized against her husband, seemed to have nothing further to do with her, for which he had schemed. As for Rachel, she wandered away, aimless, broken-hearted, and hoping only to die. In this state she found Dudley, an stone behind which she sat down with indefinite purpose, some time after, in large town promised some employment, where she might die in peace, and hide her unknown grave in which she and her sorrow should be at rest. [illegible]

And so [illegible] passed wearily away, [illegible] forever lying on her back, [illegible] adding sadness settling on her features. [illegible] Dudley did not [illegible] that time. Could not bring about the discovery of her false [illegible], but that she must live out the rest of her days under the stigma of disgrace, and the heavy punishment which the appearance of and belief in her guilt had brought upon her. So, with a heavy sigh, [illegible] farewell to the hard fate, and with patient meek[illegible] —where all falsehood must perish and truth be manifested, and perfect innocence would be [illegible].

[illegible] and her state of earthly hopeless [illegible] when, on the cold January morning, [illegible] brought to her, and [illegible] the astonished and rapturous joy, she discovered that he was her [illegible] child of which Arnold had [illegible] her when he abanded her.

The advent of little Phil had [illegible] wonderfully [illegible] her [illegible] qualities [illegible] Willie, the tender [illegible] had [illegible] in Dudley, [illegible] further up the [illegible] and [illegible] Phil caught sight of the [illegible] and Willie passing down [illegible] out and claimed acquaintance [illegible] when of course mutual explanations had to follow; and though Marah was dreadfully alarmed at first least the whereabouts of Phil should be discovered, and Lotte Briar (she and take him away, her fears were at once allayed when she better knew Willie's character and work. The result was that Ella and Ella spent many an hour in Marah's house. The two children became inseparable, and learned their lessons together, Marah being the teacher of both.

While, on this afternoon Marah sat at the window sewing, Ella and Phil were seated at the floor (assisting their lessons from the same spelling book. Willie had been out several hours playing in the fields, but had left Phil with their mother as often did, for he knew that [illegible] safe and

Ella was clearly dressed, and beautiful as we saw her on a former occasion; [illegible] this poverty-stricken home, this clean, bright, [illegible] well-dressed boy, with glossy [illegible] hair, high, smooth brow, and [illegible] almost rosy complexion! In this [illegible] place, when last we met him, [illegible] dirt, engrained, [illegible] miserable little creature! Yes, it is the same, but changed by love and care into what we [illegible] and satisfied [illegible] place in [illegible] look [illegible] the dirt has [illegible] the rage has given place to a [illegible] smile, and [illegible] being tempted to kiss.

Thus engaged—the children reading and Marah sewing, but occasionally casting a fond glance at her recovered treasure—the door opened and Willie entered, his fiddle under his arm, encased in its green bag. With a joyous cry Ella leaped from the floor and sprang into his arms.

'My dear, darling old Willie,' she exclaimed, flinging her arms around his neck and hugging him with happy fondness.

'My wee pet, my bonnie little [illegible]' responded Willie, as he kissed her, [illegible] with his thin white hand stroked her golden curls.

'Are you tired—have you played much? You should have taken me with you,' she went on, shaking her little head gravely in his face.

'So thyne wearied wi' yer lessons, I hope,' said Willie, in answer to this little speech, uttered in a half reproachful tone.

'Oh, no, I have been very happy; am always happy with Marah and Phil; but you want me to help you, for you know you always get more done when I am with you.'

'Hey? dun, my dearie, [illegible] bonnie little face and winsome ways drove the hankeen from Willie's pockhin, when my sweetest lilts will hardly mak' them stop the blinks. But the weather is owre cauld for ye tae be out yet, my bairnie, and ye are far better bere learnin' yer lessons. The spring is comin' in wee bloo, though, and we'll soon be awa' on oor jeurne. In the country the gowans and the daisies will sune be openin' up, and I'll be strikin' up some o' thee days—

"Bonny pearls for gowns and lei us gang free.
For we canna stay longer in bonnie Dundee."

'But Dundee isn't bonnie,' said Ella. 'It is nothing like the country with its green fields and flowers.'

'Maybe no, my pet, but it aye gies us auld quarters—better than the country wi' the snow in the time o' frost and snaw. 'And see, here is something I hae brought for you, shd Phil—a braw picture-book fu' o' birds and beasts.'

'Oh, a picture-book; a picture-book!' exclaimed the two children in accents of delight, and Ella having secured it, they ran to the window, and were soon absorbed in the contemplation of its interesting contents.

Marah had stood bye a smiling witness of this pleasant scene, and not dreaming that Willie had any object in getting the children's attention fully occupied at the window. But he had an object, and she was quickly made to understand it.

'I saw Luke Briar this afternoon,' he said to her in a low voice, and the communication instantly banished the faint colour from her cheek, and brought an alarmed look into her face.

'Oh, Willie, did you!' she anxiously whispered. 'He is in Dundee, then?'

'Ay; he has never been oot o'it'

'And is he—is he seeking—for the boy?'

'Deed, then, ye may keep yer mind perfectly easy on that score. He has nae desire to seek him or tae find him either. Of coorse I, in an ourely way, asked about the laddie I had seen wi' him when we foregathered at Forgan Kirkyard, when the vagabond thought nae name tae tell me that he had strayed him. It wisna an accident, as we imagined; it was design. He had gotten tired o' keepin' the wee helpless thing, and purposely jinket him on the street that very nicht after we cam' across in the boat, carin' naething aya what micht come o' him.'

'And he knows nothing of what did befall him?' Whispered Marah with breathless eagerness.

'He naether kens nor wants tae ken.'

'Thank heaven,' ejaculated the other, in tones betokening intense relief.

'But oh, Marah, was it no cruel and heartless o' him tae dae sic a thing?' said Willie, with an expression of horror.

'Cruel and heartless o' them baith,' he went on, 'for his wife—at least the woman that travells wi' him—was as bad as himsel'. Hoo could ony o' human kind, hoover depraved, forsake a puir, helpless bairn on the streets o' a strange toon on a cauld winter's nicht, kennin' he had nae hame tae gang tae, an' nae pocer tae shift for himsel'? For a man tae dae that is dreadfu' beyond expression, but for a woman tae join him in it is mair than I could hae believed, if I didna mind that the Bible says a mother may forget even her sookin' infant. Now Becky Briar wasna just sae bad as tae that, for little Phil isna her ain bairn. Natheless, it was a cruel, cruel, hellish thing tae dae.'

'And, thank heaven it is a deed few are capable are committing,' rejoined Marah. 'But, do you know, Willie, I am glad—oh, beyond expression glad—that they did desert him, for it has the means of bringing him to me.

'And o' rescuing him fra a vagabond's life,' added Willie. 'That's true, Marah. God's heart o' love was set on the puir orphan, and He made the deed, black as it was, a channel, for the conveyance o' His ain guidness and mercy. But nae thank's tae Luke Briar for that. Sae far as he knows or cares either, little Phil may hae dee'd o' starvation, or he may be prowlin' about the street thievin' and stealing—' it' a' ane tae him.'

'I'll better so—a thousand times better so,' said Marah. 'I fervently hope that he may never see Phil again.'

'He wadna ken him if he did,' responded Willie. 'Little Phil is safe tae meet him anywhere, for Luke wad ne'er recognise him in that bonnie bloomin', well-dressed laddie the miserable little waif that he deserted at the Toon Hall.'

'Did you ask how he came to possess him?' inquired Marah, her heart palpitating as she put the question in a manner which the other little suspected.

'He wad gie me little information about that,' was the answer; 'but sae far as I cud mak' oot frae what he did say the laddie had a limmer o' a mither, wha proved untrue tae her ain guidman, and he, when he fauld it oot, left her and took the bairn wi' him. Believin' it no tae be his ain, he put it into the hands of Luke Briar, and paid him some siller for takin' it. Then he gaed awa' abroad, and has ne'er been heard o' since. Sae there's nae fear, yesee, that little Phil will be socht after by ony body. Ye'll hae him a' tae yersel', Marah, lass, but is it no wacs 'o me tae think that sic a fine wean had sic a bad mither?'

'Oh, Willie, do not say so—do not believe she was guilty. She was innocent—innocent,' burst out Marah, with a sudden vehemence which astonished the other. His amazed look instantly warned Marah of her indiscretion. 'I mean it is impossible to believe that Phil', mother could be such a base, abandoned woman. She must have been foully lied against.'

'Guid kens; ane wad thinks ae,' observed Willie. 'But her guidman believed, it wad appear, and surely he could not be deceived.'

In the dimness of the twilight, Marah gasped for breath, and pressed her hand on her bosom to keep back the rising sob, which, had it found vent, would have been the precursor of an uncontrollable burst of emotion which might have awakened suspicion in Willie's mind. The apprehension of this was sufficient to enable her to repress her emotion. As the surge receded she heaved a long sigh, and answered—

'Given he—her husband may have been deceived, and I cannot—no, Willie, I cannot—no, believe that Phil's mother was—guilty.'

'Lee us hope she waana,' responded Willie; 'and at nae rate maun Phil, when he grows aulder and oan understand things, hear sic a suspicion breathed.'

'Oh, never, never,' said Marah, with intense emphasis, 'I will keep her memory as sacred in his eyes as I would have my own. I fervently hope that he will forget all about Lake Briar, and all that preceded his coming into my care.'

'That is just my feelin' in regard to Ella,' said Willie, in a low tone. 'I want her never to ken aboot her puir mither, her sufferings and her wrongs.

'Oh, Willie,' rejoined Marah, 'I have often longed to know how you came to possess Ella.

'It's a sad story, and I never speak o't, but I'll tell it tae you some time when she's aleepin.'

'Was she, too, in the hands of a man like Luke Briar?'

'Na; thank Providence the wee thing was never in waur hands than her puir mither's and mine Speakin' o' Luke Briar he seems after some dark ploy i' the noo. He was about tae cross in the boat tae Newport 'whan I saw him, and he turned as muckle to me as tha the was followin' and watchin' a man that was there, and ane that him and me saw ken a queer thing amang the yews at Forgan.' For my part, though I did think it a queer transaction we saw him perform there, it wad ne'er hae occurred tae me tae seek tae ken onything aboot it. But Luke Briar is ane that plays a kinds o' gaines for stakes. He suspected that the man was after some secret matter, 'and has been huntin' after him ever since, and he has come tae learn what he says gies him the poor tae mak' his ain o' him—tae, pit on the screw, as he ca's it—and he was followin' him tae Newport for that purpose. I wonder wha the man is, but I'll sune learn that, when anoe I see Barney Doyle, for he cam' to the boat wi' him carryin' a big parcel.'

Scarcely had Willie pronounced Barney Doyle's nature when the door was open, and its owner made its appearance. His entrance was greeted by a shout from Phil, who sprung to him as Ella had done to Willie. The share Barney had in saving the boy had made them fast friends. and Barney was never prouder than when he had little Phil riding on his shoulder or perched on his knee.

'Och, thin, an' it's yerself, it is, that's glad to see the ould man and give him welcome!' cried Barney, as he lifted him high in the air. 'Shure yer a brave and purty little boughal intirely, and when I saw you and Ella at the window I thought as how ye were a pair o' the finest swate-hearts as ever passed the blarney atwixt each other. And, praise God, when you grow up ye may be swatchearts o' that sort, too. But was it my name I heard spoken when I opened the dure, or is it a single name ones as I have?'

'It was just your name, Barney,' cried Willie, 'and ye are just in time tae tell me something that I am a wee curious aboot. Dae ye ken the name o' you man ye was at the Newport wi' this afternoon?'

'Know him! And by the powers I should know him purty well. Man alive, yon was Misther Willox, that both of you heard me speakin' so often about!'

'Maister Willox!' echoed Willie, with a start which almost brought him from his seat. 'The new manager at Mayhew's, mill, that cam' sae mysteriously the day Maister Lawrence left!'

'Thrue for it,' assented Barney.

'My gracious me,' ejaculated Willie, starting fairly up now, and pacing the room with every appearance of consternation.

Barney regarded him with dumb astonishment, and Marah with an excited interest which had its own secret cause of production. She knew all about the rupture between her cousin and his son, and was naturally deeply concerned in all that related to Varley Mayhew.

Therefore she was too much moved by Willie's excitement, for it was evident that it meant something of great importance, and she eagerly waited to know what it was.

Oh, if she could only have divined it, the thoughts which had begun to work in Willie's mind were going in a direction of tremendous importance for him.

CHAPTER XVIII.

A DISCOVERY WHICH GIVES RISE TO FRUITLESS CONJECTURES — WILLIE TELLS THE STORY OF ELLA'S MOTHER—A SHADOW FALLS.

The unusual excitement into which Willie had been thrown is easily explained. It arose from finding that the "Mister Willox,' of wohm he had heard Barney Doyle speak so much of late in connection with Mayhew's mill, was the same man whom they had seen so mysteriously occupied in the yew tree enclosure. Willie had, along with Luke Briar, seen him digging up the parchment and carrying it off with evident triumph, and though it did strike him as a very singular proceeding, and one that had a very peculiar and perhaps nefarious meaning under it, it had not occurred to him, as it had to Luke Briar, to ferret out that meaning, even for curiosity, and still less with a view to his own personal interest. But now that he was aware that Luke was doing this, and was obviously finding it of immense importance to do so, and, further, that the mysterious stranger against whom he was playing the game was the same man who had come into Mayhew's works under circumstances so peculiar as to excite universal attention and remark, his interest in the affair grew not only strong but painful. He could not but connect his doings among the yew trees with his entrance into the mill, and that again spoke to a secret power which he had obtained over Varley Mayhew.

What would be the nature of that power? and must its source not be the document which he had been seen to secure?

To the latter conclusion Willie could not but come. He was morally certain that it must be the possession of the document which gave Willox his obvious hold on Mayhew; but this conviction did not go far to solve the mystery, for immediately along with it came the question. What kind of a document could it be which produced such an effect? and to this question came no reply. Many things might be conjectured and he and Barney Doyle occupied themselves for some time in such conjectures—the most feasible being one which the gatekeeper threw out, that it had reference to the partnership between Varley Mayhew and Stephen Berge. It was more than believed that Mayhew had done infinite injustice to Berge, and perchance this was a document which proved it. If so, it was of importance to Mayhew that it should be suppressed, hence he was paying Willox to keep it secret. At the same time, why such a document should have been hidden underground among the yews at Forgan, and found there by Sam Willox, was a thing to them altogether inscrutable; so that after all, beyond having their curiosity strangely aroused, and a suspicion of the existence of SOMETHING unfair, Willie and Barney were unable to make anything of it.

Lake Briar was the only man able to enlighten them, but it was vain to expect the slightest information from him.

Marah had mingled but little in the conversation, but her interest in the matter, though concealed, was far deeper than theirs, and silently engaged in making tea for her guests, conjectures were also passing through her mind, but equally fruitless, and like them, dismissed the subject from her thoughts, and they all sat down to the simple meal which she had prepared.

Ay, simple enough, and poor and plain, was the repast, but it was partaken of with as much true enjoyment as if costly viands had graced the board. When it was over they drew around the fire, and soon the children fell fast asleep—little Phil on a stool at Marah's feet, and Ella nestled in Willie's bosom.

Marah had resumed her sewing. She could not refrain from that even for one evening, for the work had to be done in order to procure bread for herself and Phil on the morrow. So with the candle drawn close to her, she diligently plied the needle as, at her request, Willie told the story that he had promised to relate concerning the way in which he had come to be possessed of Ella. We tell it here in his own words as nearly as we can:—

'I hae travelled the country now for money a year. The trade I was broucht up tae wisna a healthy ane—at least, I didna find it sae—and was obleeged tae gie it up. I was weak and ill, and like tae fa' into consumption, and as I had nacbody tae look tae, there was nae ither prospect but to gang intae the puir's house and die. Unweel though I was, I couldn's bear the thocht o' that; sae, as I was coontit a guid fiddler, and had a fine violin o' my ain, I ventured oot tae the streets and the villages tae see if I couldna get a bawbee or twa frae the folk by playin' them tunes. The result was better than I houped, and I sane fand that I could earn a leevin' in that way—no a great ane, but still a leevin'.

'And sune, bit by bit I went oot mair by mair and farer and farer, till I became a regular travellin' fiddler, and had my ither rounds 'through a' the country. I liked it, and my health cam' back, for the fresh air and the fresh breezes were lukesome and strengthenin; and though mony a time I wasna very weel aff, yet somehow I aye made a fend, and was happy and contentit.

'Bein' aye in the road, an sleepin' at night in the various lodgin' houses I cam' tae ken the tramps, an' struck up an acquaintance wi some o' them. Only wi' some, though, for mony o' them were neither honest nor respectable an' though it wad hae been bad policy tae quarrel wi' them or show my dislike, I never got on mair than terms o' common civility wi' them o' Luke Briar's kind. It was just 'Guid day' in passin', and that was a

'It will be gaun eicht years this summer sin' ae hot day, in June along a dusty pairt o' the country far frae this, I met a young woman carryin' a basket o' sma' wares. She was a stranger to me—I ne'er had seen her on the road afore—an' that an her appearance ither wise made me tak' notice o' her. For, oh, she was waeful' like and heartbroken. A bonnie, weel-faured lassie she I be, and yet still, wi' glossy golden hair an' a fair, sweet face, in which the deepest sadness and sorrow were stamped.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Wee News.

THURSDAY.

A St. Petersburg correspondent reports [illegible] from Turkish Armenia. Great despondency prevails among the troops in consequence. Gen. Melikoff tendered his resignation, and requested a court-martial a fortnight ago. The Turks have [illegible] completely victorious in Asia Minor.

Belgium is reported preparing to mobilize its army, and the war fever is spreading in Holland.

Prince Hohenlohe, German Ambassador in France, will be present at the meeting of Emperors of Austria, Russia and Germany, on the 8th of August.

The Turks are pushing forward a large force to Shumla, and the Russians at Sistova now being well provided cannot longer delay offensive operations.

A London dispatch says it is now known that an understanding has been arrived at between Russia, Germany and England, and each nation is to have its share of the spoils of the sick man.—France cannot join, as she fears Germany, and Austria is now crippled, so she dare not fight without Great Britain at her back. It is understood that Russia will be satisfied with Armenia and the independence of the principalities on the Danube. England is to receive Egypt and Cyprus. Crete is to be handed over to Greece. Germany's share of the spoils is supposed to be the Baltic Provinces of Russia. Others apprehend that Germany will be allowed to further dismember Austria, adding the 8,000,000 of Germans to the rule of Kaiser William. The open revolt in the streets of Constantinople is due to the knowledge on the part of the Turks that they have been betrayed. The Turks are especially angry against the English, whom they say delnded them into the war and then deserted them. The prediction is made here that it will be over before a month's time, temporarily, at least, until Germany gets ready to claim her share by an agreement between the three Powers. The above comes from a New York source, and is to be taken with a grain of salt.

Our Sphinx.

BY UNCLE ED.

Goderich, July 18, 1877.

DECAPITATION.

Behead and curtail a small person and leave something which should be avoided; substitute another head and get a river in Europe.

SOL.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

Dead, weariness, hurtful, with a crook, an abyss, something ideal, a satire, a plea of being elsewhere, part of the eye. Primals, native; finals, a thirst for alcoholic stimulants.

ST. NICK.

WORD SQUARE

A game of cards, to deserve, a hound 5-6 of riches, what fills space.

ST. NICK.

DIAMOND PUZZLE.

A consonant, to dart, a cuttle-fish, the box in which the host is kept, a consonant.

ST. NICK.

ANSWERS TO SPHINX.

JULY 4.

WORD SQUARES—

1. YAST	2. RIDE
AWAY	ITEM
SACK	DEMI
TYER	EMIR

DOUBLE ACROSTICS—1 Nourish, Nyighan, thus—Nutation, OchlocracY, UtensilL, RinG, ImpeachI, SeanaHindU. 2 Natural History then—Ncerlolf, Alkalf, TreeS, UIT., RiO JaneiRO, AsteR, LivelY.

CHARADE—Satisfaction.

ENIGMA—Strawberries.

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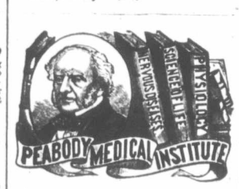

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