

For even granting, that all the cases cited by him, are fairly stated, the conclusions at which he arrives, are neither logical nor legitimate. If we could find difficulties arising out of difference of opinion among married people only, that is to say, between husband and wife, then might Matrimony be fairly charged with being the cause of misery and strife, as laid in the indictment which Mr. "F." has drawn. But I need not say, that such is not the case; and, if I were to substitute experience for argument, I declare, that I have seen more quarrels and bickerings among the unmarried than among the married. But, surely, it would be a strange argument that celibacy produces this state of things. No, Sir, it is the contact of uncongenial minds, that produces it in either case. But my single opponent seems to be afflicted with a singleness of ideas, which the dread of becoming united to one of the other sex may have produced, and he is, in consequence, incapable of perceiving the relation, between cause and effect. He has found out, that some great men like Milton were unhappy in the married state, and not being able to discover the cause, and being ignorant of the fact that men who are highly distinguished for one quality, are generally as remarkable for the absence of another, he jumps at the conclusion, that "Matrimony" must be a dreadful thing. On the other hand, he has discovered a few cases in which maids and bachelors have distinguished themselves by their literary labours, and by the same process of reasoning he arrives at the conclusion, that theirs must necessarily be a "pure and delicious state"—that they are the special repositories of science, literature and, indeed, of every virtue which dignifies and adorns mankind. Indeed, "F." seems to think, that old bachelors are the veritable "salt of the earth." This mode of arriving at conclusions, however, I cannot envy, and will not imitate. I dare say, however pedantic, it is very harmless, but it should not be too obtrusive.

Where the marriage tie is a legitimate subject of ridicule, I feel myself compelled to postpone further remarks on this subject till your next issue, and shall subscribe myself as before,

Your obedient servant,

A BENEDICT.

September 1, 1846.

MARRIAGE.

Benevolence and prudence may make marriage happy; but what can be expected but disappointment and repentance from a choice made in the immaturity of youth, in the ardour of desire, without judgment, without foresight, without inquiry into conformity of opinions, similarity of manners, rectitude of judgment, or purity of sentiment? Such is the common process of marriage. A youth and maiden meeting by chance, or brought together by artifice, exchange glances, reciprocate civilities, go home and dream of one another; and having little to divert attention or diversify thought, they find themselves uneasy when they are apart, and therefore conclude they shall be happy together. They marry, and discover what nothing but voluntary blindness before had concealed. They wear out life with altercations, and charge nature with cruelty.—*Johnson.*

SONNETS FOR THE ORDER.

(For the Odd Fellows' Record.)

AN ANNIVERSARY SONG.

AIR—"Taste Life's Glad Moments."

Emblem of Unity,

Type of our noble band,

Test of Odd Fellowship,

Heart must go with the hand.

May *Friendship, Love and Truth* unite,

And reign triumphant here to-night;

While joys and smiles and reason's might

Keep down discord and railing.

Emblem of Unity, &c.

Temperance for ever

Keeps the heart's affections clear,

And nothing e'er shall sever

Our sympathies sincere.

Let loose thy stream, Odd Fellowship!

Thy aims are pure—thy laurels bright;

May jealousy and strife take flight,

True happiness prevailing;

Emblem of Unity, &c.

Fortitude in virtue,

Mysterious though our actions be;

Ne'er fears the tongue of scandal—

Though *Odd*, we're kind and free.

The mystic symbols of our tribe,

None can denounce—none can deride,

Whilst *Charity and Hope* preside,

To soothe the widow's wailing.

Emblem of Unity, &c.

Prudence still will dictate

Our actions should be void of blame—

Then East and West will praise long

The Order's honored name.

Then may we keep our Order pure,

And in our hearts her secrets sure;

While in misfortunes wounds we pour

The balm of consolation.

Emblem of Unity, &c.

Justice our pride is;

'Tis worthy of our fondest care,—

Our bond built on love is,—

And nought shall it impair.

Then Brethren come—give heart and hand,

Success attend our gallant band;

Our Order spread from land to land,

Till each we meet's a Brother.

Emblem of Unity, &c.

Montreal, 1846.

Y-LE.

MIND what you run after! Never be content with a bubble that will burst, or a firework that will end in smoke and darkness. Get that which you can keep, and which is worth keeping.

Something sterling that will stay,
When gold and silver fly away.

"NEVER be cast down by trifles." If a spider breaks his thread twenty times, twenty times will he mend it again. Make up your mind to do a thing, and you will surely do it. Fear not if trouble comes upon you; keep up your spirits, though the day be a dark one.

Troubles never stop forever,
The darkest day will pass away.