

Poetry.

Keep the Heart as Light as You Can.

We have always enough to bear—
We have always a something to do—
We have never to seek for care
When we have the world to get through!
But what, though Adversity test
The courage and vigour of man,
They get through misfortune the best
Who keep the heart light as they can.

If we shake not the load from the mind,
Our energy's sure to be gone;
We must wrestle with Care—or we'll find
Two loads are less easy than one!
To sit in disconsolate mood
Is a poor and a profitless plan;
The true heart is never subdued,
If we keep it as light as we can.

There's nothing that Sorrow can yield,
Excepting a harvest of pain;
Far better to seek Fortune's field,
And till it and plow it again!
The weight that *Exertion* can move—
The gloom that *Decision* can span,
The manhood within us but prove!
Then keep the heart light as you can.

CHARLES SWAIN, in the *British Journal*.

A DANGEROUS POSITION.—I have said the *Mur de la Cote* is some hundred feet high, and is an all but perpendicular iceberg. At one point you can reach it from the snow, but immediately after you begin to ascend it, obliquely, there is nothing below but a chasm in the ice more frightful than anything yet passed. Should the foot slip, or the baton give way, there is no chance for life—you would glide like lightening from one frozen crag to another, and finally be dashed to pieces, hundreds and hundreds of feet below, in the horrible depths of the glacier. Were it in the valley, simply rising up from a glacier moraine, its ascent would require great nerve and caution; but here, placed fourteen thousand feet above the level of the sea, terminating in a icy abyss so deep that the bottom is lost in obscurity; exposed, in a highly rarified atmosphere, to a wind cold and violent beyond all conception; assailed, with muscular powers already taxed far beyond their strength, and nerves shaken by constantly increasing excitement and want of rest—with blood-shot eyes, and raging thirst, and a pulse leaping rather than beating—with all this, it may be imagined that the frightful *Mur de la Cote* calls for no ordinary determination to mount it. Of course, every footstep had to be cut with the adzes: and my blood ran colder still, as I saw the first guides creeping like flies upon its smooth glistening surface.—*Albert Smith's "Mont Blanc," in Blackwood's Magazine.*

A PRAIRIE.—One of the most novel as well as enchanting scenes in nature is the prairie, or delta, extending to a distance of many miles between the two great rivers. It is for a considerable portion of the year one sea of flowers, one wide region of fragrance: and its features differ from those of any lands in any other country. Not a tree is to be seen except upon its outer edge, and the blue horizon meets it everywhere, forming a long straight line, without the least appearance of irregularity or undulation. As you cast your eye over it, it is all one series of decep-

tions. Sometimes, owing to a particular state of the atmosphere, or the position of the sun, distances and objects are increased or diminished, like the vagaries of the phantasmagoria; things that are near will appear as if at a great distance, and those at a distance at other times seem as if you could almost touch them. Now a bird will seem as if touching the sky with its head, and anon the herds appear like an assemblage of insects.—*America Described.*

AN EXAMPLE FOR YOUTH.—Those young men whose evenings are spent in dissipation and idleness, may learn a wholesome lesson from reading the following:—"I leaned grammar," said William Cobbett, who became an eminent printer and writer, "when I was a private soldier on six-pence a day. The edge of my guard-bed was my seat to study on; my knapsack was my book-case, and a board lying on my lap was my desk. I had no money to buy candles or oil; in winter it was rarely that I could get any light but that of the fire, and only my turn even at that. To buy a pen or a sheet of paper, I was compelled to forego a portion of food though in a state of starvation. I had no moment at that time that I could call my own, and I had to read and write amid the talking, singing, whistling and bawling of at least half a score of the most thoughtless of men, and that, too, in hours of freedom from control, and I say, if I, under circumstances like these, could encounter and overcome the task, can there be in the whole world a youth who can find excuse for non performance?"

NOVEL EMPLOYMENT OF INDIA-RUBBER.—An ingenious discovery, by which india-rubber and gutta-percha are rendered applicable to the formation of artificial features and to the covering of artificial limbs, has been made by Mr. F. Gray, of Cork-street, London. By this discovery, the necessity of what is called the *Tallacotian operation*, in supplying the place of a lost nose to a face, is removed, for that feature can be formed, and, as if it were grafted on the integuments in such a manner as closely to resemble nature. The human ear can also be closely imitated by the substance, which perfectly resembles the natural skin and is almost equally flexible. So complete is the deception, that, without the closest inspection, it is nearly impossible to discover that art has superceded nature. This invention is among those which prove the variety of uses to which the materials employed in it can be applied.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF ENGLAND.

From the report submitted by the Council at the recent annual meeting, the condition and prospects of this great national society would appear prosperous and cheering. The total number of members was 5,084, and the surplus yielded by the Exhibition in Windsor Park last summer was larger than on any previous occasion. The Railways carried stock to and from the Show free of charge. At the request of the Council, Her Majesty's Government were using their influence in augmenting the supply and cheapening the price of Guano, which has become an indispensable fertilizer to the British farmer. All Captains of ships in the Royal Navy will be instructed to search for deposits of this valuable manure in the rainless regions within the tropics, and the surgeons of such ships are to ascertain on the spot the quality