TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1880. THE SYDNEY EXPRESS,

Poetru.

IT MAY NOT BE

EY JOHN G. WHITTIE! may not be our lot to wield Le sickle in the ripened field : or ours to hear on summer ev he reaper's song aniong the sho et where out duty's task is wr

nd ours the grateful service who

nd were this life the utmost span, ie only end and aim of man, tter the toil of fields like these man waking dreams and slothful er

t life, though failing like our grain, ke that revives and springs again ! ad early called, how blest are they ho wait in Heaven their harvest day

Select Literature.

"Chalk Your Own Door.

Ilis proper name was Jeremiah Marden ; but he had not been in the milage ressing I will reckon it up ! It is pressing; and I shall be very a week before everybody called him it is," returned the poor woman, was indeed nale and in Jerry Marden, and within six weeks he was known as Jerry Muddler. But it is, why Muddler? Who gave him that was i instituti the title of "skeleton," which name, and why was it given? The

nuch is it

The subject was dismiss

erry lorgotten in the noise and bustle of the usual evening business. About nine o'clock Jerry's wife, to the aston-

isliment of both Mr. Rewitt and his wife, appeared in the bar; but not

as they supposed, for drink, "My husband tells me," she se

that he has a heavy score here. How

"I'm almost too busy to tell you,"

five shiftings was paid; latel then har

He resolved to look up Jerry as soon a

All the littles to

giver is unknown—for whoever knows the giver of nicknames?—but the reason tor its toring bestowed was that Jerry was always muddled with drink. amount of f 2 175 4d. Jerry's wife re He was a very good shoemaker, but meement with a loo he stood no chance with George Stevens, a sober man, and so drifted into becoming a cobbler. "I suppose she is thinking of making

Jerry's one idea was to get a job. an effort to pay it off," said Mr. Rewitt, and having done it, to invest the proceeds in drink at his favorite beer addressing his better half, . " and hope she will; but I fancy it will be too shep, "The Oram Arms." The conse-quence was, that Jerry was seldom For a whole week nothi sober, and had he not possessed an iron constitution, two years of such a or heard of Jerry ; but at the end o life must have killed him; but he that time his wife appeared and pu dragged on, working to-day and idling to-morrow, and drinking whenever ... Will you please take that off the drink could be got, and finally he amount, sir, and be kind enough to give drifted into debt.

His score at "The Oram Arms" was This was done with a gracio a large one, and the chalks stood up smile, and Jerry's wife departed. Mr against him like files of soldiers: but Rewitt announced his having hit the Jerry ignored their existence-paying, right nail on the head. The wife of the off a little now and then, and drinking cobbler was making on effort 'to clean more, each time increasing the army of her husband's debt. of debt against him, until one evening

Mr. Richard Rewitt, the landlord of the aforesaid " Oram Arms," cried out vest came on + truly a harvest to th " halt." " I can't go any longer, Jerry," he

said. " The last sum I had of you wa three shillings, and you have paid noth ing for a fortnight."

"Work is slack," murmured Jerry, "but the harvest is coming on, and then everybody will have their soling" and heeling done, and I shall be abl to pay you off."

Perhaps so," returned Mr. Rewitt " but you will have as much as you can do to square of what is up there Look at them. Those chalks are standing disgrace to any man. Yo ought to be ashamed of yoursell." Jerry looked at the accusing mari

and really felt aghast at the long list against him. The inner door of the bar was a regular blackboard, and h trembled before it.

Now when Jerry first came to "" The ficetal Oram Arms," the landlord was very polite, and spoke as softly as you please to him. No spider, courteously he money-it was quietly done-b the happy light in the woman's eyes a entreating a fly to enter into his parlor, could have been more ofy-tongued she took the receipt, spoke more the or smiled a more persuasive smile-

that is presuming that spider smile, which is just possible ; but when Jerry got into the toils, and had been well confined in the web, mine host

has tried it on, and failed, and so I've cracked efforts he used occasionally to come out with in the tap-room a the song of the raven. Raising th got him. If the does not ray up I'll

Tarch, the landlord of "The Oram " peeped in. Good morning, Jerry," Richard I've heard that there "Ab! is that you, Mr. Rewitt?" replied Jerry, looking up. "Come chair for them to sit down upo and Jerry's wild-clean and tidy the manages to keep herseff-loo Terry looked wondrous clean, and ore like a skeleton than a woman." A

ad even been shaved that very but is called by that to which be norming. His blue shirt looked entitled to by tright of birth, viz., the lean, too, and he actually had a of Marden, has not jouched a drop Mr.⁴ Rewitt was so overcome by e change that he stood still with e boots under his arm forgetting

e change under his arm forgetting which he records in his own favor at they formed part of his great ission. at last.

'I've got a bit of a cold," replied "Chalk your own door." ive not seen you?"

"Well the fact is, sir" said Jerry, "Well—the fact is, sir" solid ferty, rubbing his chin, "I've been busy working off your score." "But it is done,man," said Mr. Re-witt, cheerfully; "the door is quite clean, as far as you are concerned." "I am glad of that."

of dismay, thanked the landlord and could make room for you, if you

look us up." "No, thanky, sir," returned Jerry, " Ive had enough of chalking on other people's doors, and how I chalk on iny owg." " Chalk on your own!"

"Yes, sir; have the goodness to urn round and look behind you There's my door half full." "It's a wise thing to keep the ac-count yourself," said the landlord, who hardly knew what to make of it,

"for mistakes will happen ; but —" "No mistake can happen; sir," in-terrupted Jerry, "for 1 am the only party as keeps that account." " But who trasts you to do that?" " But who trasts you to do that?" " Nobody—I trusts myself," said Jerry'. "The marks that were on your door showed what I did drink, d them marks on mine show what

A little light had got into the land lords brain, and he had a pretty good idea of what was coming, but he said

That night when you spoke to about the chalks on the door cing a standing disgrace to me as the night of waking," continued " No man could have lecture e better than you did, and I thank ou for it from the bottom of my cart. As I left your house I vowed

touch drink no more, and I can nd told my wife so, and we bot and told my wile so, and we both joined in earnest prayer that I might have strength to keep my vow. The next morting I went over to George Stevens and asked him how I could go about signing the pledge. He helped me like a man—an it was

With his eyes wandering to and fro between Jerry and the chalks up-on the door, the amazed landlord still remained silent. Jerry went My wife wanted to work herself death to keep me," he said; " but iid ' No. You do what you can keep the children until my debts re paid, and then I'll keep you and

children too.' So I went to c paying right and left; and a all was paid off, I began to do

hat I ought to have done years ag-feed my wife and children. I had ugh and to spare, and I would Mr Rewitt was unable to make Tended him, and The Green Goose ny particular remarks ; but he men mured in a confused manner, "You have got a lot of 'em." "Yes, there's a large family," 'réne our Tom's boots; they want a plied Jerry, complacently, " and the more I looks at 'em the better I like excuse for my dropping in upon em. There's not much standir race about that lot ; credit if any "That isn't much of a job for hmi, eeing that you give George Stevens he best of the work," said Mrs. Re-

4" What" is the matter, Richard?" SHERIFF'S SALE. ie asked. "Nothing particular," he replied, "except that Jerry Muddler has joined the temperance lot, and he seems so firm in it that I don't be-CAPE BRETON, S. In the County Court A.D. 1830. William H. McAlpine, PltT, ieve he will over touch a drop

USE James McLellan and

rong drink

"You look very well; Jerr," said of a comfortable home, a respectable LAND amount in the saving "Never felt better in my life," re-goodly investment in a- but society. "I wished, sir, I could being freely interpreted means word to react means word to react means 8

word to you, my reader, e other, " and I've been shut up a bod deal with business lately. Absummons Server at the Alkor rade's been brisk; but how is it we The story of a shaft service of The story of a shart service of a

way compa "I am glad of that." "Others have got their slfare," tend the trial at Enverpoor. The aid the landlord; "but I' think we witness, who resided in a Yorkshire town, did not wish to give evidence. ind so kept out of the way that it ? as impossible to serve him with

ummons. The legal advise of the com that this gentleme hurch just in time to with

ceremony. When it was concluded and as the bride and bridegroom were receiving the congratu of their friends 28 they left the the lawyer ap couple. Thinking that this was another friend come to felicitate him

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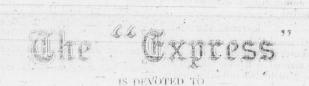
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put on another face and tone. " If you drink," he said, " you must expect to pay for it. My brewer would stand no nonsense from m and I must have my money from jou " Only one pint," pleaded poor lerry.

"Not half a pint," replied the land excuse lord. "Go home and work, and pay him."your debts like a man." The entrance of a customer withready money cut short the conversa-

tion, and Jerry stood back a pace of two while the other was being served replied her husband; "you alway can trust him to do his work when When that was done, and the beer drunk and the stranger gone, Jerry

drunk and the stranger gone, Jerry made a final appeal. "Pre been a good customer to you: Mr. Rewitt. Almost every penny free carned has come into your till. Twe nigh lived on beer, if living it can be called, and my wife and child of have " Pil take both," said Richard Re-vitt, "nothing like baiting your work while you are about it." had to shift how they could for their bread.

"That's nothing to me," said the landlord. " Let me have a pint."

"Have you the impudence to ask for it with that shameful lot of chalks staring you in the face ? Jerry did not reply, but he took long aud carnest look at the recording files, and drawing his hands across his dry mouth, hurried out of " The Gram

ferry's cottage was in the middle of the village, standing back about fifty feet from the road; and although its inside property had been well known, the outside, thanks to his wife, looked as well as its neighbors. Therefore Mr. Rewitt was not in the biast surprised to soch back beide "Who is that you've been talking, "Who is that you've been talking, to, Richard?" inquired Mrs. Rewitt, entering the bar from a room belvind, "Jerry Muddler," was the reply.

"I've stopped his drink until he pays up.'

"Then he will go to ' The Green-

" Oh ! - yes-yes," returned the "On 1 - yes...yes," returned the landlord; "but—dear me—this cold in my head is quite distressing. You must have a large box for all your twopences." "When I gets six together I takes them to the post office," replied Jerry; "there's a bank there better they are util. They are nothing Herry: "there's a bank there better than any till. They=give nothing out, but banks like that returns you more than you put in. Until I be gan to keep my own chalks I had no idea how much your till swallowed up. You would not trust me for :

up. You would not trust me for pint; but I can have my money ou of the bank whenever I want it "That's something," said Mr. Re

Armed for the reconquest of Jerry re landlord set forth' in the mornin "That's something," said Mr. Re-witt, tartly. "It'is everything to a man who has a wife and children to keep," re-plied Jerry. "The best of us have sickness and trouble and rainy days, and then it's a great thing to have something to fall back upon. It is better to be able to keep yourself than to go to the parisht There's another thing, too, about these chalks of mine—yours went down before my-wife and children were fed; mine .go down after that's done; and 'I think that my chalks are the better of the-two. So I say to all, 'Chalk your -that being a slack, time when h ould be easily spared from home butside were a couple of logfest with no money and no credit, when itt favored them with a nod of lofty

least surprised to see it look bright and gay on that beautiful autumn Mr. Rewitt bed and and set of the Mr. Rewitt bed and set of the set of t

"Then he will go to ' The Green Gobse,' and get his drink there,' said Mrs. Rewitt. "They won't trust him a penary, returned her husband with a zerin-the

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