The Poet's Corner.

The Christmas Gift.

Around the Christmas tree we stood,
And watched the children's faces,
As they their little gifts received
With childish airs and graces.
We grown folks had our share of fun
In making wee ones merry,
And laughed to see the juveniles
Kiss 'neath the "holly berry."
Beside me sat sweet Bessy Moore,
A lovely dark-eyed maiden,
When near her stood our little Eve,
Her arms with love gifts laden;
Until around the room she went,
The blue-eyed baby, shyly,
And blushing red, into each lap
Her offerings dropped shyly.

But when to me the darling came
All empty handed was she,
And when I asked, "Why slight me thus?"
She answered, "Oh, because we—
We dinna know you tumming here!"
And then with blue eyes shining,
To Bessie's side she went, her arms
Her sister's neck entwining.
"But something I must have," said I,
"My Christmas night to gladden."
A shade of thought the baby's face
Seemed presently to sadden:
'Till all at once, with gleefnl laugh—
"Oh! I know what I'll do sir!
I've only sister Bessie left,
But I'll div her to you, sir;"

Amid the laughter that came from all
I drew my new love to me,
While with flushed cheeks her eyes met mine
And sent a thrill all through me
"Oh! blessed little Eve!" cried I,
"Your gift I welcome gladly!"
The little one looked up at me,
Half wonderingly, half sadly,
Then to her father straight I turned,
And humbly asked his blessing
Upon my Christmas rift, the while
My long stored hopes confessing
And as his aged hands were raised,
Above our heads, bowed lowly,
The blessed time of Christmas ne'er
Had seemed to me so holy.

The Razor-Back Hog.

To the traveller through Texas one of the strangest and most peculiar features of the place is the razor-back hog. He is of the Swiss cottage style of architecture, His physical outline is angular to a degree unknown outside of a text book on the science of geometry. His ears—or the few rags and tatters of them that the dogs have left—are furled back with a knowing, vagabondish air. His tail has no curl in it—but it hangs aft, limp as a wet dish-rag hung out of a back window to dry. The highest peak of his corrugated back is six inches above the level of the root of his tail. He does not walk with the slow and stately step of the patrician Berkshire, but usually goes in a lively trot. He leaves the impression that he was late starting in the morning and is making up for lost time; or that he is in doubt about the payment of that check, and is hurrying to get it crashed before the bank closes.

The country razor-dack prowls around in the woods and lives on acorns, pecan nuts and roots; when he can spare time he climbs under his owner's fence and assists in harvesting the corn crop. In this respect he is neighbourly to a fault, and, when his duty to his owner's crop will allow, he will readily turn in and assist the neighbors, even working at night rather than to see the crop spoil for the want of attention.

He does not know the luxury of a sty. He never gets fat, and, from the day of his birth, sometimes two years roll into eternity before he is big enough to kill.

Crossing a razor-back with blue-blooded stock makes but little improvement. The only effective way to improve him is to cross him with a railroad train. He then becomes an imported Berkshire or Polan-China hog, and if he does not knock the train off the track, the railroad company pays for him at about the rate of one dollar a pound, for which they are allowed the mournful privilege of shovelling him off the track.

The ham of the country rasor-back is more juicy than the hind leg of an iron fire dog, but not quite so fat as a pine knot.

The city razor-back differs from his country relative only in the matter of the quality of his food and the length of his tail. The city species prey on the roots of tropical plants and other garden luxuries instead of corn, and eat cinders and old type in the back alley instead of the acorns and pecans of the breezy woodlands, that are assimilated in the digestive organs of the country sus-per.

The tail of the city hog has usually been chewed off in early life by dogs; in other words, it has been curtailed. This, and the and patches on his back, where the hair has been scalded off by the enraged boarding house cook, adds much to the picturesque appearance of the brute.

A man once told us that a razor-back hog was the only bird of prey that was amphibious in its habits, and that could lift a gate off its hinges without ruffling a feather.

As the novelists say, much might be said on this very interesting subject, but time is money, and we are forced to conclude briefly with the following 'pome' by one of the old masters:

Ye pigge he is a pretty fowl,
And wond'rous good to eat:
Hys ham is good, likewise his jowl,
And eke his little feete.
But if you try a thousand yeare
I trow you still will fayle
To make e silk purse of hys eare
Or wissel of his tayle.

Don't you forget it—that on feeling an aching pain in the hollow of your back to go to your Druggist and get Dr. VanBuren's Kidney Cure. It will remove the trouble in a few doses Sold by J. Wilson. Goderich

Muscular Christianity.

I was much amused the other day by an exhibition of muscular Christianity entirely unlooked for. For a week or two the Hallelujah lasses and the men of the Salvation Army have been in the habit of assembling on the steps of the City Hall about five o'clock in the afternoon, when business is ended and the gates closed, and indulging in their quaint exhortations, and quainter songs. A few afternoons ago the army was singing their soul-inspiring hymn—

"All hail! I'm saved;
Oh, come and join the Hallelujah Band!"

when the captain noticed a young rough, uttering filthy language at one of the lasses. Without stopping in his singing, he quietly descended the marble steps, caught the ruffian by the collar and when he resisted gave him a twist, and marched him over to a policeman, thirty yards away, to whom he gave the offender in charge. Then, never losing the strain, he retraced his steps and commenced beating time with his outstretched hand. The act was so cool that the crowd of amused idle lookers-on involuntarily applauded.—N. Y. correspondent.

Fifty-one metals are known to exist, thirty of which have been discovered within the present centuary. Four hundred years ago but seven were known.

The popular game in Indiana this fall is betting on the weight of a stranger. The said stranger has a lead jacket under his coat, and his pal rakes in a heap of half dollars.

The friends of Mr. W. J. McCutcheon, Wingham, will be pleased to learn that the suit, Smith vs. McCutcheon, in which he was interested to the amount of $5,400 was finally decided at Winnipeg on Tuesday last in his favor, and the money ordered to be paid into Court forthwith.

Cheerfulness is just as natural to the heart of a man in strong health as colour to his cheek; and wherever there is habitual gloom, there must be either bad air, unwholesome food, improperly severe labour, or erring habits of life.

As the tree is fertilized by its own broken branches and fallen leaves, and grows out of its own decay, so men and nations are bettered and improved by trial, and refined out of broken hopes and blighted expectations.

EARN your own bread, and see how sweet it will be! Work, and see how well you will be! Work, and see how independent you will be! Work and see how happy your family will be! Work, and see how religious you will be!—for before you know where you are, instead of repining at Providence, you will find yourself offering up thanks for all the numerous blessings.

Do Not be Discouraged.

In these times of quack medicine advertisements everywhere, it is truly gratifying to find one remedy that is worthy of praise, and which really does as recommended. Electric Bitters we can vouch for as being a true and reliable remedy, and one that will do as recommended. They invariably cure Stomach and Liver Complaints, Diseases of the Kidneys and Urinary difficulties. We know whereof we speak, and can readily say, give them a trial. Sold at 50 cents a bottle, by Jas. Wilson. [3]

CINGALESE.—A name well known in onnection with the Hair Renewer, which estores grey hair to its natural color by a few weeks use. Sold at 50 cents per bottle by James Wilson. 2m

A youth just launching out in trade,
Unto a wealthy merchant said:
"Pray tell me what you profess
To call the secret of success?"
The nabob's eye with pleasure shone,
As he replied in earnest tone:
"The secret simply is, I think,
You'll find it, sir, in printer's ink."

Lost His Best Man.

When Mr. Meredith lost Mr. MacMaster he lost the best debater he had. There has been nobody elected competent to take his place in the discussions that come before the House.—[Toronto Telegram.

Don't suffer with kidney disease when you can buy at your Druggist's a positive cure. Dr. VanBuren's Kidney Cure is the only scientific remedial agent for these distressing complaints ever introduced. All Druggists keep it. Sold by J. Wilson, Goderich.

A Good Offer

The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Company has just issued an illustrated treatise, "The Heart of the Continent," describing the wonderful growth of the six Great States. The book is beautifully printed, and numerous engravings of high merit adorn its pages. Any one sending their name aud address with two three-cent postage stamps Will receive a copy by return mail, by applying to Perceval Lowell, General Passenger Agent, Chicago Illinois. 5t

Thousands have used Dr. Van Buren's Kidney Cure and willingly have testified to the immediate relief it gives after a few doses in Kidney troubles, and how a few bottles always effect a permanent cure. No one can afford to be without it. Sold by J. Wilson, Goderich.

Free of Charge.

All persons suffering from Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, Loss of Voice, or any affection of the Throat and Lungs, are requested to call at Wilson's Drug Store and get a Trial Bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, free of charge, which will convince them of wonderful merits and show what a regular dollar-size bottle will do. Call early. (3)

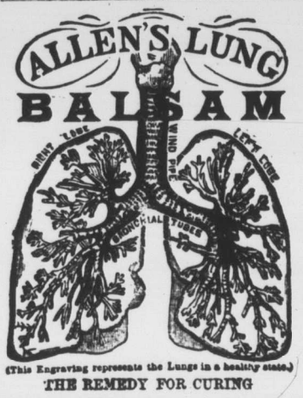
An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, and a few doses of Dr. VanBuren's Kidney Cure taken on the first sensation of pain in the region of the kidneys will effectually ward off Bright's disease and stone in the kidneys and bladder All Druggists keep it. Sold by J. Wilson, Goderich.

Bad temper is oftener the result of unhappy circumstances than of unhappy organization; it frequently, however, has a physical cause, and a peevish child often needs dieting more than correcting.

The experience of thousands has shown that the Stomach, Liver and Bowels may be kept in a perfectly healthy condition—the attacks of disease warded off and a vigorous state of health maintained by the use of Dr. Carson's Stomach and Constipation Bitters. Are you troubled with Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Biliousness or Constipation? If so, try this remedy and be cured. For sale by all Druggists in large bottles at 50 cts, For sale by Geo. Rhynas.

Let every good citizen make one resolution now and stick to it. Vote for the best men who run, and get the best men in town to come out. The good of the town should be the only aim of municipal government.

ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM



(This Engraving represents the Lungs in a healthy state.)

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When other Remedies and Physicians have failed to effect a cure.

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As an EXPECTORANT it has no Equal.

It is harmless to the Most Delicate Child.

It contains no OPIUM in any Form.

Directions accompany each bottle.
For sale by all Druggists.

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

CURE

Sick Headache and relieve all the troubles incident to a bilious state of the system, such as Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Distress after eating, Pain in the Side, &c. While their most remarkable success has been shown in curing

SICK

Headache, yet Carter's Little Liver Pills are equally valuable in Constipation, curing and preventing this annoying complaint, while they also correct all disorders of the stomach, stimulate the liver and regulate the bowels. Even if they only cured

HEAD

Ache they would be almost priceless to those who suffer from this distressing complaint; but fortunately their goodness does not end here, and those who once try them will find these little pills valuable in so many ways that they will not be willing to do without them. But after all sick head

ACHE

Is the bane of so many lives that here is where we make our great boast. Our pills cure it while others do not.

Carter's Little Liver Pills are very small and very easy to take. One or two pills make a dose. They are strictly vegetable and do not gripe or purge, but by their gentle action please all who use them. In vials at 25 cents; five for $1. Sold by druggists everywhere, or sent by mail.

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It is sold by all responsible druggists at one dollar for a quart bottle, or six bottles for five dollars.

Those who cannot obtain a bottle of this medicine from their druggist may send us one dollar, and we will send it to them.

T. JOHNSTON & CO., Manufacturers, AMHERSTBURG ONT.

For sale by JAS. WILSON.

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