

revelations of the Divorce Court and the loves of Guinevere and Sir Launcelot, of la beale Isond and Sir Tristram, unlawful as these were, there is a step as wide as from weakness to shame, from frailty to dishonour.—Mrs. Linton in the *Fortnightly*.

AN AFTERTHOUGHT.

I did not miss the glance you lent—
One-half reproof, one-half consent ;
I whispered, " May I ? " and you chose
To answer ne'er a word—which shows
You knew exactly what I meant.

By sly design (or accident)
Your head was lifted—mine was bent—
I took good aim, and Cupid knows
I did not miss.

I never made a boast ament
That little bit of sentiment,
But, since you tell your other beaux
I missed your *lips* and kissed your *nose*,
My indignation must find vent :
I did not, Miss !

—Boston Pilot.

ADVICE TO AUTHORS.

" Whatever you have to say, my friend—
Whether witty, or grave, or gay—
Condense as much as ever you can,
And say in the readiest way ;
And whether you write on rural affairs,
Or particular things in town—
Just a word of friendly advice—
Boil it down.

" For if you go spluttering over a page,
When a couple of lines will do,
Your butter is spread so much, you see,
That the bread looks plainly through.
So when you have a story to tell,
And would like a little renown,
To make quite sure of your wish, my friend—
Boil it down.

" When writing an article for the press,
Whether prose or verse, just try
To utter your thoughts in the fewest words,
And let it be crisp and dry ;
And when it is finished, and you suppose
It is done exactly brown,
Just look it over again, and then—
Boil it down.

" For editors do not like to print
An article lazily long,

And the general reader does not care
For a couple of yards of song,
So gather your wits in the smallest space,
If you'd win the author's crown,
And every time you write, my friend—
Boil it down."

—The Tablet

AN EXAMPLE OF THE POWER OF THE HOLY ROSARY.

Before the breaking out of the revolution in Venezuela, a widow with her young children lived on a farm near Puerto Cabello. One evening two Spanish soldiers stopped at the house, and asked shelter for the night, declaring that they had lost their way, and expressing the hope of being able to rejoin their battalion early next morning. The lady received them kindly, and ordered her servants to prepare a room with two beds in it. Meanwhile a good supper was set before the two travellers.

It was a practice with this lady to assemble her household to recite the Rosary before retiring. When the devotion was over, she noticed the two soldiers remaining motionless behind the servants, and she even thought that she saw traces of tears in their eyes. Bidding them good-night, she said : " Rest well ; you must be tired. May our Blessed Mother protect you always ! " She charged the cook to have breakfast ready for them at daybreak ; and, in order to make sure of this, she herself rose at the first sign of dawn.

Her guests seemed deeply moved at her kindness, and before taking their departure the bolder of the two thus addressed her :—" Madam, we are miserable wretches, altogether unworthy of your hospitality. We deserted from the army, and came here with the intention of robbing your house ; but the consideration of your kindness to us, and especially the recitation of the Rosary—which, bad as we are, we sometimes recite ourselves, taught by our mothers in better days,—changed our hearts, and caused us to repent of our wicked intention."

Then the other added :—" We give you our word of honour that henceforth we will be different men. Our absence can hardly have been noticed yet, nor is it likely to be if we get back to our quarters before the *reville*, so we have concluded to return to our battalion. If we succeed, we will try by our future conduct to repair the past."

" But this will not be enough," said the lady, calmly. " You have a chaplain in your battalion, of course ; if you are truly repentant, you must go to him and confess your sins, so that, being absolved, and receiving Holy Communion, you may have the blessing of God on your good resolutions."

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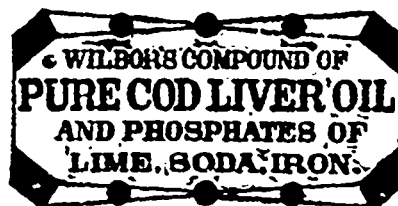
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