

A MERRY HEART.
BY CHARLES SWAID.

'Tis well to have a merry heart,
How ever short we stay;
There's window in a merry heart,
What's the world may say;
Philosophy may lift its head—
And find one many a flaw,
But gives me the philosophy
That's happy with a straw!

If life but brings us happiness—
It brings us, we are told,
What's hard to buy, though rich ones try—
With all their heaps of gold!
Then laugh away—let others say
What's their will of mirth;
Who laughs the most may truly boast
He's got the wealth of earth!

There's beauty in a merry laugh,
A mortal beauty, too—
It shows the heart an honest heart,
That's paid each man his due;
And lends a share of what's to spare,
Despite of wisdom's frown;
And made the cheek less sorrow speak,
The eye weep fewer tears.

The sun may shroud itself in cloud,
And tempest wrath begin;
It finds a spark to cheer the dark,
Its sunlight is within,
Then laugh away, let others say
What's their will of mirth;
Who laughs the most may truly boast
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DESTRUCTION OF THE AMERICAN SHIP ST. GEORGE BY FIRE.

The Orlando, Captain White, arrived at Havre, on Tuesday, with a number of passengers belonging to the American ship St. George, Captain Bairson, which had been destroyed by fire at sea. The St. George, it appears, left Liverpool for New York on the 24th of November, with 127 passengers and 25 crew, the former chiefly Irish, and among them many women and children. The voyage was favourable enough up to the 24th of December, when, in 46 deg. 12 min. lat., and 25 deg. 30 min. lon., the hold of the ship was discovered to be on fire. The captain caused one of the hatchways to be opened, and set the fire-engine at play, but the smoke was so thick between decks that the passengers were obliged to leave. The flames spread to the part of the vessel between the main and mizen-masts, and were accompanied with such thick smoke that seven or eight persons were suffocated. It was now found that it was impossible to check the progress of the flames, and the captain assembled all the passengers on deck. Rain was falling, and the horizon was overhung with clouds; but, fortunately, a vessel passed sufficiently near to perceive the signals of distress. This vessel turned out to be the Orlando, and she approached as near the St. George as it was safe to do. Unfortunately she had lost her sails and boats in a violent gale. The captain of the St. George caused his two boats to be let down, and they conveyed as many passengers as they could hold to the Orlando; but the violence of the sea was such that one of them was knocked to pieces against that vessel. The life-boat only remained to remove 150 persons, but it could not take more than four or five at a time. Meantime the flames continued to progress, and the wind blew furiously. The sea, too, became so violent that the only means the passengers had of entering the boat was to leap into the sea, and let themselves be picked up. At length, after 94 times passing to and fro, the boat succeeded in placing 76 of the passengers in safety on board the Orlando. Of the remaining 51, 15 were drowned, 8 as already stated, were suffocated between decks, and 28 principally women and children, fearing to throw themselves into the sea, refused to leave the burning vessel. All the crew were rescued. Eventually the Orlando, fearing for its own safety, from the progress of the flames and the violence of the sea and wind, was obliged to sheer off, leaving the 28 unfortunate creatures to their wretched fate. The rescued persons were almost without clothing, but the captain and crew of the Orlando did everything they possibly could to provide for their comfort. It was feared that a famine would arise in the ship from the unexpected demand on her stores, and as the Orlando had lost her sails, there were small hopes of her reaching land in time. But, fortunately, the wind was in her favor, and after 11 days' voyage she arrived safe at Havre. Her provisions by this time were completely exhausted, and she had only a few gallons of water. Food was immediately procured for the passengers and crews, who had already begun to feel the pangs of hunger, but they were afterwards sent to different lodging-houses, where they will be taken care of. It is the intention of some shipowners of Havre to raise a subscription for their relief.

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Fade and die, and let the world go by.

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