

[Written for the Canadian Illustrated News.]

DON'T FORGET ME.

"Don't forget me!" Sweet and sad
Were those parting words of thine,
Like the voice of flowers at eve,
When they fold o'er little leaf,
And to sleep their life resign
Till the sun awakes them glad.
Ah! but I am not to thee
As the sun is to the flowers!
They live only in his light,
They live only in his might,
Of the brightness that he showers
From his golden majesty.

Bright and gentle, pure and good,
Ever in my eyes thou art,
Far too good and pure for me—
I can only worship thee,
Keeping thee within my heart,
Goddess of its solitude.

"Don't forget me!"—I will not.
While there lives one spark divine
In this soul that God has given,
While I have one thought of heaven,
While the power to think is mine,
Thou shalt never be forgot.

JOHN READE.

(Written for the "Canadian Illustrated News.")

THE TERRORS OF DEATH.

(Written on the walls of a Carthusian Monastery.)

Translated from Theophile Gautier.

Thou who dost pace this cloistered hall,
Reflect on death! Thou canst not know
If e'er again thy form shall throw
Its changeful shadow on the wall.

It may be that these very stones
Which thou, regardless of the dead,
To-day with sandal'd foot dost tread,
Shall press to-morrow on thy bones.

Life, like a frail, thin plank, conceals
Eternity's abyss profound:
A gulf yawns suddenly around—
The panic-stricken sinner reels:

The earth recedes on which he trod—
What finds he now? Heav'n, blue and calm,
Or Hell's red blaze? The victor's palm,
Or torment? Lucifer, or God?

Oh! ponder well the thought of dread!
And let thy prescient spirit view
Thyself, as, with cadaverous hue,
Thou liest stretched upon a bed,

Between two sheets, whereof the one
Shall form the shroud to wrap thy clay—
Sad raiment all must wear some day,
Albeit coveted by none!

By fever parched, or numbed by cold,
Writhing like green wood in the fire,
While inarticulate words expire
Upon thy lips—thyself behold!

Thou pantest, like a stag at bay—
Death rattles hoarsely in thy throat,
Foreboding with sepulchral note
The soul's desertion of the clay.

Dark-vestured priests in silence steal
Within thy room, with oil and pix:
And, bearing each a crucifix,
Around thy lowly pallet kneel.

Behold, too, praying for thy soul
Thy wife and children, loved so well!
The ringer of the passing-bell
Hangs on the rope, thy knell to tell.

The sexton hollows with his spade
A narrow bed, thy bones to hold.
And soon the fresh, brown, crumbling mould
Shall fill the pit where thou art laid.

Thy flesh, so delicate and fair,
Shall serve the charnel-worms to feed,
And brightly tint each flower and weed
Upon thy grave with verdure rare.

Fit, then, thy soul that hour to meet
When thou shalt draw thy latest breath!
My brother! bitter is the death
Of him whose life hath been too sweet!

Montreal, January 2nd 1871.

GEORGE MURRAY.

BASE BALL.

Some idea of the popularity of this excellent out-door amusement may be gathered from the following report of the manufacture of these balls and bats, which we find in the New York Times:

No less than sixteen kinds of balls are in use, from the regulation ball to the children's or fancy ball, and prices vary from \$18 to 35 cents a dozen. Some half-dozen regular manufacturing of base balls alone exist in this city, the largest producing just now seventy-five dozen balls per diem. The town of Natick, however, in Massachusetts, is the greatest ball manufacturing perhaps in the world, many hundreds of people being employed in producing these articles, and it is not uncommon for houses in this line of business to order thence 6,000 balls at a time. Their manufacture entails nothing of very special interest, the inside being of wound rubber, and the wrapping of woollen yarn, save that the winding of the yarn around the ball is principally done by men. One would suppose from the nicely shaped spheres women make when winding up worsted, they would be most adapted to the kind of work, but it seems to require a certain amount of physical strength which the weaker sex is not endowed with. The cover of horse hide is put on entirely by women, who use a saddler's needle and saddler's thread. Dark, the famous English ball maker, is an artist in his way, and, according to the best authorities, employs thirty-five workmen all the year round, and uses up one and a half tons of worsted, and covers them with the hides of five hundred cows and oxen. The method of securing the cover to the English ball with the triple seam, is superior to the American method. This plan is said to have made the fortune of its inventor, a certain John Small.

The total number of balls made and sold in New York is immense, one manufacturer alone having supplied 162,000 balls last year. Perhaps the United States will bat to pieces half a million of balls this season. Bats form an important business alone. They run through a dozen different varieties. It sounds somewhat preposterous to think of mills running all the year round, turning out bats. As more bats are

used than balls, one can form some idea of the enormous quantity of material consumed. Orders for all base ball implements are just now at their height, and the supply is barely up to the demand.

LEFT-HANDEDNESS.

Various attempts have been made to account satisfactorily for the use of the left in preference to the right hand in those in whom this peculiarity exists, but, according to the *Lancet*, without success. Dr. Pye Smith takes up the question, and, disposing of the theories that left-handedness is to be accounted for by transposition of the viscera, as asserted by Von Baer and others, or by an abnormal origin of the primary branches of the aorta, proceeds to argue that right-handedness arose from modes of fighting adopted, from being found to be followed by the least serious consequences. "If a hundred of our fighting ambidexterous ancestors made the step in civilization of inventing a shield, we may suppose that half would carry it on the right arm, and fight with the left; the other half on the left, and fight with the right. The latter would certainly, in the long run, escape mortal wounds better than the former, and thus a race of men who fought with the right hand, would gradually be developed by a process of natural selection." Of course the habit once acquired, of using the right hand more than the left, would be hereditarily transmitted from parent to child.

MISCELLANEA.

Mr. Henry Kingsley, after an experience of a year and a half, has retired from the editorship of the *Edinburgh Daily Review*.

The Marquis of Lorne has taken a house in Moray-place, Edinburgh, which his lordship and the Princess will occupy next autumn, when the season begins in the Scottish capital.

The new German imperial eagle will be represented with only one head and spread wings, wearing on the place of the heart the Prussian eagle, which again will wear on the same spot the Hohenzollern eagle.

The Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne are expected at Inverary in August, where their visit, it is said in Scotland, will be regarded as quite domestic, and free from state ceremony of any kind. The Princess will not, on that occasion, be attended by any lady-in-waiting.

We are pleased to hear that the ex-Empress of the French has, with a kindness of heart that does her great credit, decided on adopting the little son of Madame Bonne, the well-known French milliner, who was so brutally murdered last month in Paris by the National Guards. He is now at Chislehurst.

Here is a statement of the military supplies which have been forwarded from New York to France between September 3rd and March 1st:—91 batteries, 609,531 muskets, 94,400 rifles, 35,800 pistols, 11,000 sabres, 37,750 carbines, 117,032, 379 cartridges, 80,040 knapsacks, 21,760 revolvers, and 13,315 boxes of ammunition, "besides other goods."

Many of the Frenchmen who have been driven over to England for the second time in six months, declare that they will not return to Paris, but will settle in that country and become naturalized. Among them is a very distinguished oculist, a German by birth, who had been residing in Paris for many years before the war. He will now practise in London.

ARCTIC EXPLORATION.—A further investigation of the geography and phenomena of the ice regions of the Northern frigid zone will be made in the summer of the present year. A government vessel, the "Polaris," schooner rigged steam tug, is to leave the port of New York about the middle of May, under the command of Capt. S. O. Burdington, of Groton, Conn. A three years' voyage is contemplated, a crew of twelve picked sailors being engaged. The "Polaris" has boiler furnaces specially constructed for burning oil, so that, in the regions of the seal and whale fisheries, she will always have fuel at hand. A body of well-known scientific men will sail in her.

A Paris journal which has been publishing as a *feuilleton* a popular novel, began to fear that in consequence of the prevalent excitement the public would lose all interest in it. The author was sent for and the editor said to him, "Your novel is well written, and our subscribers are interested; but—" "But what?" asked the author.—"But," continued the editor, "Your novel, which treats of the First Revolution, has a defect."—"Well, what does it want?"—"A Prussian, sir."—"A Prussian?"—"Yes, a Prussian. You must, at all hazards, contrive to smuggle into it a Prussian monster—a fellow who is ready to swallow all France like a raw over. This will take, my dear sir, and I depend on you to accomplish it." The author assented.

There is nothing more puzzling to ordinary minds than "bookkeeping by double entry," and it is advisable that no one should ever attempt to keep his accounts on this system unless he fully understands it. A well-meaning public accountant in India has, it appears, lately come to trouble owing to misunderstanding the nature of this simple process. A certain gentleman, says a Lahore paper, was recently appointed to a station not a thousand miles from the capital of the Punjab. After a short time he submitted his accounts according to rule to the head office. The various bills of receipts and expenditure were being rapidly passed, when a clerk of unnatural brilliance pounced on a bill in which 20,000 bricks were charged for twice over. The question was at once sent to the gentleman, whether he had got altogether forty thousand bricks on such a date, and, if so, why he had divided the item into two? "Oh, dear no," he said, "I only got twenty thousand bricks, but you told me to put everything down by double entry, so I put the bricks down twice. All the other charges are the same." To the horror of the whole department it was found only too true. The receipt side was then examined, but it was consoling to find that with an instinctive acumen worthy of a higher appointment, the gentleman had here limited himself to single entry.

The Bishop of Manchester concluded his sermon at the consecration of a church on the 28th ult. with the following anecdote:—A few weeks ago they had in Manchester a week of special services, held in six churches in the most densely

populated parts of the city, and at these services all seats were free to those who chose to occupy them. One evening a gentleman at one of these meetings saw two working men, and told them to go to any pew in which they could get seats. They took their places in a pew, and soon afterward a lady came and asked them, "What do you want there? that's my seat." One of the men said to the other, "Come along, Bill; let's be off. I told you this was too swell a place." He (the Bishop) left his audience to draw their own inference.

ORIGIN OF DIAMONDS.—The following is from *The Academy*: "Professor Morris has started a new theory as to the source whence diamonds are derived. Hitherto they have been looked upon as coming from igneous and metamorphic rocks, like garnets, rubies, and many other precious stones; a better knowledge of the geology of the diamond district of South Africa, leads us to conclude that these stones come from certain stratified beds containing, besides reptilian remains, numerous plants and much fossil wood. These beds are known as the "Karoo" or *Dicynodon* beds. Professor Morris calls to mind the remarkable fact (well known to botanists and mineralogists) that in the stems of the bamboo small crystals of quartz are found, known by the name of *tabasheer*; he suggests, whether it may not be possible that the diamonds yielded by these old plant beds similarly owe their origin to vegetable growth."

A GOOD STORY APROPOS OF THE FLY'S EYE.—A Cambridge undergraduate, cramming for his natural history examination, and desiring to ventilate his newly-acquired knowledge, assailed a college don with some remarks on the enormous size of the eye of the fly in proportion to the dimensions of its body. "Sir," said the doctor, "I cannot assent to your proposition." "But, surely, sir," answered Mr. Freshman, "you will not dispute a fact well known and generally accepted by naturalists?" With stern emphasis and dictatorial gruffness, the dignitary replied, "I regret to see, sir, that you have, apparently, forgotten one of the lessons which you must have learned in your earliest youth. I refer, sir, to the authentic and pathetic narrative of the unfortunate decease of 'Cock Robin.' You will remember, sir, that when the sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) acknowledged that the death of the unhappy bird had been occasioned by his own sagittarian missile, and evidence was called for to corroborate the truth of his statement, the following testimony was adduced:—

"I," said the fly,
"With my little eye,
I saw him die!"

You will perceive, sir, that the fly itself speaks of his little eye; how, then, can it be so extraordinarily large?" N.B.—Undergraduate "shut up!"—*Land and Water*.

CHARADES, &c.

NUMBERED CHARADE, No. 19.

Consisting of 21 letters.

My 12, 2, 14, 17, 15, 3 is a bird of prey.
My 21, 5, 11, 8 is used by bricklayers and plasterers.
My 4, 13, 1, 6 is an animal, very common in the South.
My 20, 7, 9, 16 is a natural phenomenon.
My 17, 18, 10 is grateful to the weary.

And my whole is a source of pride and honour to the Dominion.
F. G. S., Ascot Corner.

NUMBERED CHARADE, No. 20.

Composed of 25 letters.

My 3, 23, 7, is a tropical fruit.
My 19, 9, 13, 4, 11 is a country of Southern India.
My 10, 1, 6, 22 is a place where birds are kept.
My 21, 5, 16, 7, 14, 20 is a term in geometry.
My 24, 8, 15, 2 is decomposed quartz.
My 17, 18, 25, 4, 12, 22 is a kind of wood mentioned in the New Testament.
And my whole will give the dying words of a celebrated man whose name is given in the Rebus below.

REBUS.

An article of food.
A political division of South America.
A mineral oil.
An island east of Asia.
A celebrated place of safety.
An American Senator and Protectionist.
A Scripture proper name.
A celebrated English Admiral.

The initial letters of these words give the Christian, and the final the surname.

S. W., Kingston, Ont.

SOLUTION TO CHARADE No. 13.

William Ewart Gladstone.

Thus:—Land. Winsome. Garnet. Walter. Tiger. Elegant.

SOLUTION TO CHARADE No. 14.

Her Royal Highness Princess Louise.

Thus:—Lyon. Glass. Hen. Sun. Hero. Rice. Psyche. Isle.

SOLUTION TO CHARADE No. 15.

WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

Transposition thus:

WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE.

9 5 3 14 2 10 7 21 1 6 11 15 13 4 15 16 17 13 19 20 5

SOLUTION TO CHARADE No. 16.

Chislehurst and Wilhelmshohe.

Thus:—Esther. Claret. Seine. Hide. William. Shoe. Soul. Cheltenham.

SOLUTION TO CHARADE No. 17.

The battle of Salamanca.

Thus:—Tell. Hat. Bet. Sala. Fan. Mac. O.

ANSWER TO ARITHOREM, No. 18.

CoMet.

Crone.

Maxia.

Satin.

More.

NEXT.

Shall.

Molke.

Ans. Montreal.

SOLUTIONS RECEIVED.

No. 12.—Wm. Ronald, Toronto.
No. 13.—J. W. Liddell, Cornwall; Jas. K. Annett, Montreal; Augustin, Collingwood; F. G. Stacey, Ascot Corner, Q.; J. M., Toronto; Wm. Ronald, Toronto.
No. 14.—J. W. Liddell, Cornwall; Augusta, Collingwood; F. G. Stacey, Ascot Corner, Q.; J. M., Toronto.