

POETRY.

"NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP."

The fire upon the hearth is low,
And there is stillness everywhere;

GRINGO JOE'S STORY.

We were camping in the Dragon Moun-
tains in Southern Arizona, and had en-
joyed great success during our fortnight's hunt.

All day under the whispering red-
woods, resting after a hard day's tramp,
worn out physically, but unwilling to lose

GRINGO JOE'S STORY.

The half-dozen members of our little
party were stretched in every conceivable
shape upon our thick, gray army blankets,

Herculean in form, bold and resolute in
action, a celebrated guide in these regions,
a keen hunter, and a terrible Indian

Not that Gringo Joe did not use the
uncouth dialect of the Southwest, follow
the prevailing fashion as to dress, and fall into

But there was a reserve about Joe, a
refinement cropping out here and there,
a correctness of speech at odd moments

As the red glow of the crackling oak
logs fell upon Gringo Joe's bronzed face,

Tall, straight, powerfully built, with a
deep chest that rolled out in a rich, mellow

Add to this a finely poised head, a flow-
ing mane of dark brown, glossy locks, and

I have often observed to learn Joe's his-
tory, but delicacy restrained me; but this

"No, Joe, tell us about yours." I in-
terrupted; and the others vigorously ac-
companied me.

In an instant a cloud came over Gringo
Joe's face, and he knitted his brows.
There was a far-away look in the keen

"I saw that I had touched a tender spot,

"No, Joe, tell us about yours." I in-
terrupted; and the others vigorously ac-
companied me.

"That was not so long ago either—only
ten years—and yet at times it seems an

"I am a Virginian. Was born on the old
plantation of the James river, and in my

"The governor was accounted one of the
richest men in the county. Our home

"As a child she was a vision of grace and
sweetness, the wonder of the county.

"Although I was several years the older,
we were constant companions. Mine was

"I have said that my father was wealthy.

"After those terrible days the governor
scrapped together what remained, and by

"I was sent to college and Anita was edu-
cated in the best schools of the South.

"Ah, what a change! I had left her a
child, sweet, tender, and artless. I re-
turned from college to find her grown in-

"She wrote me long weekly letters, and
I noticed, at first indifferently, and then

"At length the time came when I was
to return. Anita met me at the depot.

"We passed a glorious evening. Anita
had never appeared so beautiful. She

"During the week that followed I be-
came conscious of a vague uneasiness. I

"We had been childish lovers all our
lives. When we were too young to know

"I felt her form tremble, and she tried
to escape, but I detained her and pressed

"For fully a minute she made no an-
swer, and then looking up with a face

"If I wish it! Could the girl be mad?
If I wished the consummation of all

"Somewhat the dark handsome face of
the young Mississippian came up before

"It was an hour before I calmed my
wounded spirit and felt that I could re-
turn."

"As I turned in at the gate I saw a
figure reclining upon a bench.

"She allowed me to lead her into the

"There was no sleep for me that night.

"The young man spoke in accents of
excitation.

"Anita," he pleaded, "why this ex-
position? Why this inexplicable change?"

"Oh, the terrible blow of feeling that
one's heart's idol does not reciprocate his

"The thought maddened me, and govern-
ed by an irresistible rage, I rushed for-
ward and felt Waldo to the ground with

"How long I remained in that condi-
tion I know not. By and by reason reas-
serted its sway, and I was able to think

"I was in a trance for hours. My whole
life passed before me in a panorama."

"I walked the floor until the first gray
streaks of dawn warned me of the ap-
proach of day.

"My mind was made up. I had deter-
mined upon a great sacrifice.

"I sat down and wrote Anita a note,

"By that time the dawn was breaking,

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FERRY MINSTRELS.

Queer Characters Who Make a Living
by their Wits.

Of the many curious classes of charities
in the vicinity of New York city, the
ferryboat fakirs come very near being

Probably the most interesting and wel-
come character on the boats is an old
negro. He begins operations with the

He takes a seat in the rear of the men's
cabin, and just after the boat starts he

Old men put down their papers and lis-
ten intently. The conversation becomes

Finally he launches off into a series of
sweet toned notes, and a look of mingled
interest and admiration steals over the

The old negro then walks to the end of
the cabin and, holding his hat out, bows

"The attention of the passengers has
been attracted by a deformed boy, who

When the boat is well out in the river
the boy enters the forward door of the

"The fact is a picture of despair, and my
dime and nickel are dropped into his

"Gentlemen, if you have not got any
objections we would like to entertain you

Among the most interesting characters
are two brothers between the ages of 14

"Gentlemen, if you have not got any
objections we would like to entertain you

"The Scotchman glories in the thistle. The
Englishman boasts of the rose. The

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A CUBAN MOON.

"The ugliest woman I ever saw," said
the raconteur, "was a Cuban, and she was

"It takes the exception to prove the
rule," said his vis-a-vis. "Tell me about

"She was a woman of the humber class,
and it was at Havana that I first saw

"Love goes where it is sent," said one
of the after diners who had just

"Yes, and the charcoal burner married
for love. But he never would have won

"Brute," exclaimed one of the party
with that quick sympathy that the sor-

"She did not go to her lover, nor did she
fly to the refuge of some adobe roof

"And the brigands came and carried
her off to their fastnesses?" suggested one

"None of the kind. When her pil-
low, the little Cuban, rolled over in the

"But you will hear the Cuban mother
calling her young daughter into the house

There was a long silence, then one of
the listeners said: "I don't believe in

"It's a matter of history; take it or leave
it," said the raconteur, blowing

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

"Exchange."

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