

THE SCHOLARS' MONTHLY

Aut non tentaris, aut perforce.—Ovid.

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From Over the Waters.

BY A GRADUATE OF THE HIGH SCHOOL.

I

In pensive mood I chanced to stray,
Unthinking from my grassy way,
Down to the ocean's land-kissed side,—
Where ran in playful mood the sands,
Borne silently on unseen hands,
From out the deep on flood of tide.

II

Beyond the ocean's broadening face
I chanced to look, and sought to trace
The living outlines of that spot
That held those dearest to my heart—
Those of my life the sweeter part—
Yet tracing of it there was not.

III

Far out beyond the sinking view,
Faith swept its horizon, and drew
Not one faint sketch to living light.
Each roll of tide and sigh of wind,
Seemed but to break upon the mind
In mists that dimmed its keener sight.

IV

But rolling at my feet came sands
That cast, as if from those far lands,
Upon my faith a strengthening spell;
And whispered rest to my unrest;
Sweet calm, that saw the future blest,
And breathed a silent, "All is well."

FINLAY ARNON GRANT.

LITTLE STROKES FELL GREAT OAKS.

A curious motto certainly, and a casual reader would say rather an insignificant one. But pause relentless critic, consider for a moment, and behold multitudes of instances are called even to your narrow mind, in which seemingly small and unimport-

ant circumstances have given rise to some of the greatest events of History. I have only space for a mere item of the long list which could be compiled. Take for instance, the "Reformation in England." It seems a small thing indeed that a man, even though a king, should dislike his wife, especially when, (quoting Bryce) "Nostri ingenium mulierum nolunt, ubi velis,—ubi nolis, copiant ultro." Yet indirectly, it caused King Henry to abolish papal supremacy, and sever England forever from the dominion of the Church of Rome. Certainly, this separation did not make England a totally Protestant country, but it dealt a fatal blow at the ancient superstitions of the people which were before supported by the Church of Rome, and paved the way for the complete Reformation which was in due time effected by his successors and their wise advisors. Permit me to give another example. James Watt, the man who made his name famous by the discovery of the steam engine, while sitting by his mother's stove, noticed that the lid of a pot was lifted by the steam, and this simple occurrence, which would hardly have been noticed by an ordinary man, set his energetic mind to work; and as a result of his labors, he discovered the wonderful properties of steam when applied to machinery. Certainly, his engine would appear very rude and simple if compared