

POETRY

THE FAMILY SEPULCHRE.

FROM THE DREAM AND OTHER POEMS BY
MRS. G. L. CONYNGHAM.

Close by a grave three mourners prayed,
When day was almost done;
And on a tombstone newly laid,
Beside the departing sun.

One wore a recent widow's dress,
Her face was pale and fair,
And very sad;—but there was less
Of grief than patience there.

Two youths were kneeling by her side,
In early boyhood's flush;
And through their veins, in life's first pride,
The pure blood seemed to rush.

Her arms were reverently crossed
Upon each strapping breast:
The father they had lately lost,
Was in that place of rest.

Their prayer was ended: as they rose,
The widow joined their hands;
"My sons," she said, "Let this world's
woes,
Draw closer friendship's bonds.

We three have prayed upon the grave
For us and curs designed;
It holdeth one so true and brave,
His like is not behind.

I feel I have not long to stay
Before I too shall be
Reposing here;—then come and pray,
My children over me."

Years passed away, and in that time,
The brothers were estranged;
And mutual doubt and conscious crime
Each clouded spirit changed.

Two old men in a burying place,
Kneelt by a moss clad stone;
One in his hands concealed his face,
And thought himself alone:

But wistfully the other gazed;—
Hoped,—dreaded,—hoped again!
The downcast eyes at length were raised,
They knew each other then.

Those aged men had both returned
From countries far away,
Because their softened souls had yearned
Upon that grave to pray.

They prayed,—and thought of her who
slept
The sepulchre within;
And heart to heart the brothers wept
O'er years of pride and sin.

Together in that tomb they lie,
And mingle dust with dust:
They lived too long in enmity;—
They died in love and trust.

FAITHFUL LOVE.

A BALLAD.

Young Edward owned a generous flame,
From sordid impulse pure,
But rigid hearts forbade his claim,
Since the brave youth was poor!

"Go gain thee wealth," the parents cried,
"Where toil and danger lies,
With poverty love ne'er will hide,
But from the window flies.

One parting kiss, and that was all,
One sigh, and all was done,
He went at love and glory's call,
And fame and fortune won!

Returned with pride the prize to win,
He sighed at Time's sad doom,
For now his once prized locks were thin;
His love had lost her bloom!

Affection shed the silent tear
For charms that now seemed o'er,
Till cherub hope—Love's friend sincere,
Told of the Kalydor!

The Maccassar of power could speak
By thousands own'd ere now;
And soon the roses graced her cheek,
And glossy locks his brow.

MILITARY REFORMS IN TURKEY.

At a small wooden building, near the water's edge, where we stopped to take pipes and coffee, we witnessed a scene which, to veterans like ourselves in the New York militia, was extremely diverting. Two soldiers were stationed on guard on this spot, and as their duty was not particularly burdensome, they were quickly kicking their heels over the bank, and endeavouring to inveigle some small fish (smaris) about the size of our kill-fish, out of the water. They could not,

however, be accused of deserting their post for their muskets were stuck in the grass some two or three hundred yards off, doing duty for their masters. As the reports are very general that discontent exists among the soldiers, we requested our guide to sound these amateur fishermen on the subject.—They acknowledged that they were dissatisfied but not on account of their pay, which they considered handsome enough—whenever they were so lucky to obtain it. But what they did grumble at, was to be compelled to mount guard with no other provision than their ration of bread, and they were then endeavouring to supply the deficiency by fishing. Their tour of duty, however, they said would expire in a few days, and upon their return to barracks they would be perfectly happy, for they would then receive their full ration of bread and meat. These soldiers must have been luxurious dogs, to complain about the want of meat, for the labouring class, whose toil would seem to require a very substantial fare, are satisfied with one meal a day, consisting of a small loaf of bread, and a piece of water-melon, or a few black and bitter olives. Upon examining the muskets of the soldiers, which they permitted us to do freely, we found them to be of Turkish manufacture. There was little to criticize, except that the stock of one musket was broken directly across, and held together by the extemporary aid of a piece of rope, while the other was perfect in every respect except that it wanted a trigger. Neither had flints, but as the country is now in a state of profound peace, these would be quite superfluous. One of the greatest difficulties to be overcome under the new army regulations, was to conquer the aversion of the soldiery to mounting guard. Nothing appeared to them more ridiculous than to be compelled to walk backwards and forwards with a gun on their shoulders just like the restless Franks; and what to them appeared to be the climax of absurdity was, to keep up the same farce every night. In the good old times of the Janisaries, such puerilities as mounting guard, was never dreamed of. Indeed guards could then have been of no earthly use, for all the plunderings and murders were monopolized by those cut throats themselves. The dress of the modern Turkish soldier has partaken of the general change which has occurred within the last ten years; and whatever it may have lost in the picturesque effect, it has certainly gained in effectiveness for military duty. Instead of loose slipshod slippers, he now wears stout serviceable shoes, securely fastened by leather shoe-strings. The huge balloon chaskeers which impeded his every movement, having given place to woollen trowsers, still rather ample about the nether man, but not so large as to prevent him from making a rapid charge on the enemy or from running away. The glittering and flowing jubbe and bayneesh, are well exchanged for a smart tight bodied blue jacket, closely hooked in front, and allowing perfect freedom to the limbs; while the turban infinitely varied in shape and colour, often ragged, and frequently dirty, suggesting the idea of walking toadstools, has for ever disappeared. In its place the soldier sports a tidy red cap, with a blue tassel gracefully depending from its crown. With the exception of the cap, and the still lingering amplitude of the trowsers, the Turkish soldiers could scarcely be distinguished from the regulars of any European nation. The topagees, or artillery, wear a cylindrical military cap, and it was the wish of the Sultan to have furnished it with a small rim in front, to protect the eye from the glare of the sun. This daring innovation was opposed, and successfully too, by the ulemah, that learned corps from whence emanate all the law, physic, and religion of the country. It was argued that no true Mussulman could perform his devotions without touching his forehead to the ground, and the proposed leathern projection would render this impracticable. As no one happened to hit upon the idea that the cap might be turned round while at prayers, the sultan was compelled to give up the point, as he had previously done when it was attempted to induce the ulemah themselves to abandon the turban. They replied that they were not boys, nor would they wear boys' caps, and accordingly stuck manfully to the turbans, in despite of the supposed absolute power of the Padir shah. Such anecdotes, would lead one to believe that the sultan was far from being a perfect despot, whose word is law, and who takes no other council than his own caprice. The learned Ali Bey, himself a Mussulman, and of course better acquainted with the interior affairs of this government, wrote in the following manner twenty five years ago, during the reign of Mustapha the predecessor of the present sultan:—"There is no greater slave in the world, than the grand seignor. His steps, his movements, his words, throughout the whole of the year, and in all the events of his life, are measured and determined by the code of the court. He can do neither more nor less than is prescribed for him. Reduced to the condition of an automaton, his actions are determined like the result of mechanical impulse, by the code, the divan, and the janisaries." Circumstances, have however, entirely changed since that period. The

sultan now on the throne, has displayed a resolution and energy of character totally different from the timid and irresolute policy pursued by his predecessors. The janisaries have been exterminated. The code, the divan, and the ulemah, still remain; but the latter occupy, as if ominous of their future destiny, the ancient palace of the janisaries, and except upon unimportant points, the sultan has made them understand that he is not to be trifled with. The divan has likewise undergone some modifications, and under the name of Council of state, assists in determining and arranging the affairs of the empire.

How to get Rich.—If the following excellent rules, were generally observed, we should have less complaints of "hard times."

Never be in bed at six in the morning, or out it at ten at night. The early riser is always in time with his business, while the sluggish runner is all the day, and never can overtake it.

Mind your own business; if you have not enough endeavour to get more, and do not intermeddle with that of other people.

Out of every dollar you get, save one half, if you can—certainly one third.

If you hope for independence, keep out of debt. The honour, the reputation, and the liberty of the debtor lie at the mercy of his creditor.

Be just before you are generous; never waste, nor go in debt to make entertainments. "Fools make feasts, and wise men eat them."

Plenty is but a degree short of profusion. Decent frugality is the best method to attain the confidence of wise men.

Credit is often a dangerous temptation, and the means of destroying itself. Like health, it is only to be preserved by prudence and moderation.

THE MARCH OF INTELLECT.—It is not scholarship alone, says Dr. Chalmers, but scholarship impregnated with religion, that tells on the great mass of society. We have no faith in the efficacy of mechanics institutes, or even of primary or elementary schools, for building up a virtuous and well-conditioned people, so long as they stand dissevered from the lessons of christian piety.—There is a charm ascribed to the scholastic system of Scotland: and the sanguine imagination is, that by importing its machinery into England and Ireland, it will work the same marvellous transformation there on the character of their people, that was experienced among ourselves. But it is forgotten, that a warm and earnest christianity was the animating spirit of all our peculiar institutions, for generations after they were framed; and that wanting this, they can no more perform the function of moralizing the people, than skeletons can perform the functions or put forth the faculties of living men. The scholastic is incorporated with the ecclesiastical system of Scotland; and that, not for the purpose of intolerance and seclusion, but for the purpose of sanctifying education and plying the boyhood of our land with the lessons of the bible. Scholarship of more letters might, to a certain extent, have diffused intelligence amongst the people; but it is mainly to the presence of religious ingredients, that the moral greatness of our peasantry is owing.

ROMANCE IN REAL LIFE.—There has lately returned to Paris, a Lieutenant of the French army, who was taken prisoner in the disastrous campaign undertaken by Napoleon against Russia. He was sent into Siberia, and during twenty years of his captivity never found an opportunity of making any communication of his existence to his family, who believed him to be dead. Consequently, on presenting himself, his father and mother both rejected him as an impostor, for in addition to the changes effected by time and suffering, he had several scars on his face, which was still further disfigured by a false nose made of metal. A peculiar mark on the left arm, however, being recognized by the mother, fully identified him, and secured him acknowledgment and the reinvestment of his property, the possession of which had been delivered over to his relations upon the presumption of his death. His wife during his absence, had taken to herself another husband, and has pertinaciously refused to return to his arms. This circumstance will, it is said, afford occupation for the tribunals.

A SHARK, WITH A YOUNG CHILD IN ITS BELLY.—Some fishermen, in drawing up their net, opposite the Burra Bazar Ghaut found, to their utter astonishment, a shark, about four cubits long and three-quarters broad, which they brought to the Police-office, and exposed in the compound, in the hope of being rewarded. A constable, on perceiving the shark's belly in a state of protuberance, ripped it open, and a female infant was seen entire, with the exception of the eyes, nose, and mouth, which appeared to have been eaten.—*Calcutta pap.*

THE RHINOCEROS.—One of these extremely rare animals has arrived in England from Calcutta, and is to be deposited in the Surrey Zoological Gardens.

PRISONS.—They manage these places better in America; our country magistrates will perhaps be surprised at the following facts:—At Auburn the earnings of the convicts for the last year amount to 41,833 dollars, and the expenses for the general support of the prison to 38,305, leaving a profit to the state of 3,528! At Maine, the earnings were 20,000 dollars, the expenses 18,700, leaving a profit of 3,700.

The largest guns ever fired are the Turkish cannon at the Dardanelles, the diameter of one of which is two feet three inches, and a stone shot from which struck the Windsor Castle, of 98 guns, and cut her mainmast almost in two, and nearly knocked her two decks into one. Our young Midshipmen used to crawl into these guns on their hands and knees. A gun almost as large, was found at Algiers. But the largest shot of any sort ever fired by Europeans, was that from the new mortar used by the French at Antwerp. This shell was two feet in diameter, and weighed, when empty 916 lbs.—It contained 99 lbs of powder, and its total weight was consequently 1,015 lbs. The mortar from which it was discharged weighed 3,700 lbs. and the gunpowder to load it was 30 lbs. This is really prodigious. We must add, that at the Dardanelles one of the great Turkish shot struck the bows of that magnificent first rate ship the Royal George, and wonderful to relate that one shot alone nearly sunk her. According to Baron de Tot, the weight of the Turkish shot was 1,100 lbs. and the charge of gunpowder 330 lbs.

REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE.—The most extraordinary example of the meaning of proper names that can be deduced from any book either ancient or modern, is the following which is to be found in the fifth chapter of Genesis:—"The names of the ten antediluvian patriarchs from Adam to Noah inclusive, are there given; and when these ten names are literally translated, and placed in the order in which they occur, form altogether the following very remarkable sentence in English:—"Man, appointed, miserable, lamenting, the God of glory shall descend to instruct, his death sends to the afflicted, consolation!"

THE EARTH'S DIURNAL MOTION.—If a line were carried round and round the globe it would require to be the length of 24,855 miles; hence this is the actual space which any given point on the earth's surface travels over in the course of twenty four hours, a rate exceeding somewhat 1,000 miles in the hour. This velocity, with which every person moves continually, is greater by 140 times, than that with which a cannon ball issues from the mouth of a cannon; and yet we do not perceive it because the earth, the air, and every thing around is carried with us.

A HINT FOR BRIDES.—A few days since a couple went to Thames church to be married. The ceremony went on very well until the words "with this ring I thee wed," when the bride essayed for the last time to take her glove off her maiden hand. Whether it was heat, agitation, or nervousness, the leather clung to her hand and would not part company. The bride blushed and pulled, but in vain. The bridegroom laughed outright; so did father, so did mother, so did the bride's maids, so did all the spectators except the clergyman, and he (the Rev. Mr Lee,) exclaimed, "I do not come here to be laughed at," and shutting his book, left the ceremony half finished, the bride half married, and the glove—half off! We add for the satisfaction of sympathisers that the bride went to church the next day with her hand uncovered, and the nuptial knot was then tied "as tight as a glove."

Doctor Bushby, whose figure was much under the common size, was one day accosted in a coffee-room by an Irish baronet of colossal stature, with "May I pass to my seat, O giant?" when the doctor, politely making way, replied, "Pass, O pigmy!" "Oh, Sir," said the baronet, "my expression referred to the size of your intellect."—"And my expression, Sir," said the doctor, "to the size of yours."

Once on a time it happened that a poor wight married a shrew, who led him a piteous life; she fell ill, the doctor was called in, and the anxious, affectionate husband inquired of him how his dear spouse was.—Galien shook his head, and told him to prepare for the worst "What," said he, "is she likely to get over it?"

A celebrated writer has the following pertinent remarks upon love:—"As hope and love are born together, so they can only die together." Uncommon pains, therefore, in curing love, to extinguish every spark of hope in a lover. This advice is given with singular good sense and humanity, by Dr Gregory, in his legacy to his daughters, upon the subject of courtship and marriage.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—There are now forty seven ministers of the Presbyterian Church in the Canadian provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland—fifteen years ago there were but four.