

## POETRY.

## JUST TOO LATE.

I knew a man, a worthy man  
Few were his faults and small,  
Who kept his temper and his word,  
Whatever might befall;  
But that he had—one little sad,  
With deep regret I state;  
For ever and anon had he  
To make his trite apology,  
That he was—just too late;

This was his fault when he was young,  
A bonny boy at school;  
Nor e'er could dame or pedagogue  
Conform him to their rule;  
Yet it is sad, that brude and maid  
Were both compelled to wait;  
When on his wedding morn, (strange crime!)  
Instead of long before the time,  
He came—but just too late!

How oft to dine, to sport, to bathe,  
Receive accounts, or pay;  
Go with his children, wife, or friend,  
Or meet them on the way;  
His aid to lend, to help a friend,  
Or purchase an estate;  
To go by horse, or coach, or sea,  
How oft, with all his haste, would he  
Be just—but just too late.

To field, to market, or to church,  
As all his friends well know,  
Though sure as every duty calls,  
Is he so sure to go;  
But then alas! it comes to pass,  
Sure as a thing of fate,  
That he, whatever be the hour  
With every means within his power;  
Is always—just too late!

## MISCELLANY.

**THE WILD BOY OF THE WOODS.**—The following account of a boy found wild in the state of Indiana, is from the *Canton (Ill.) Herald*.

We have seen in several papers an account of a boy, apparently thirteen or fourteen years old, who was found in the woods in the vicinity of Chatham Primitives, in the State of Indiana. It is said the boy is now in the family of Col. Clark Clarkson, of Bush Hill, a place not far from the spot where he was found.—He is handsomely formed, has fine limbs, very elastic in his movements, stout, with clear, full and intelligent black eyes. He has been several months with the Colonel's family, during which time he has uttered no articulate sound, expressed no wish by any sign, though he evidently pays particular attention to things and events around him. He sometimes gives a piercing screech, which by its being always at a measured elevation, and after which he seems to listen with care, affords grounds for the conclusion, that the poor fellow has been accustomed to some sort of answer from a source to us unknown. He chooses the naked earth for his bed, and utterly rejects all covering save a deer skin, which he wraps round his body. He takes his food in a raw state—principally beef, poultry, potatoes and nuts. It is astonishing with what voraciousness, he consumes small birds. He will strip off its feathers and entrails, and devour it with a relish amounting to an extacy. He has thus far evinced a melancholy temperament, choosing to be much alone, and makes for the woods whenever an opportunity is presented, but when found attempts no escape but passively

returns. He manifests no attachment for any human being, save for a servant girl of the family. By her request he has occasionally eat a little corn bread, and sat down for a moment on a chair. Wheat bread he peremptorily refuses. He has made comparatively no advancement towards civilization.

**ADVANTAGES OF LOW PRICE.**—A gentleman in one of the steam-boats asked the steward when he came round to collect the passage-money, (one shilling each for the best cabin,) if there was no danger of being blown up. The steward promptly replied, "No sir, not the least; we can't afford to blow people up at a shilling a head."

**RETORT.**—A very loquacious female witness, whom the opposing council could not silence, so far kept him at bay, that, by way of browbeating her, he exclaimed, "Why, woman, there is brass enough in your face to make a kettle!" "And sauce enough in your's (she instantly rejoined) to fill it."

**IDLENESS.**—There is no character in society more despicable than the idler. He is not only unhappy, but in a fair way to become a criminal being. Bishop Taylor observed to a lady, who neglected the education of her son, on the plea that he was too young to be confined to study, "Madam, if you don't fill his head with something believe me the devil will."

On the decease of a certain great man, not much beloved, the following was inscribed in chalk, upon his coach-house door: "He that giveth unto the poor, lendeth unto the Lord." N. B. The Lord oweth this man nothing.

A Dutchman describing the appearance of his two horses, said that—

"They were so much alike, that when you saw the one you would think it was the other. One was a plack horse mid a white spot in his face, and the other was a white horse mid a plack spot in his face."

A an officer in the Dublin garrison recently advertized for a wife, who must be possessed of £10,000, because he possessed nothing but his commission.

**FEMALE HEROISM.**—A lady lately boasted that she had trod on a kitten and crushed it to death without screaming.—*Boston Herald*.

## COLUMN FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

## LETTING AND HIRING.—PART II. CONCLUDED.

Land is desired, therefore, on account of the crops that may be raised from it; and rent is paid for it, because it cannot be had without rent. You can have land for nothing in the Arabian deserts; but no one desires it there, because it will produce nothing. But, again, in many of the uncleared parts of America, land may be had for nothing, though the soil is good and will bear plentiful crops. But there the land is so abundant, and the people so few, that any one may have as much as he chooses to clear. In this Country, therefore, land that will produce any crops is of value, because the supply of it is limited; in the wilds of America it is of no value; not because (like the Arabian deserts) it will produce nothing, but because, though it is fertile, there is enough, and much more than enough, for every one who wants it. But even in the newly settled parts of America, the land becomes of some value, as soon as it is cleared of wood, and has roads made through or near it, and many persons are willing to buy, or pay rent for, such land, even when they might have land for nothing in the depth of the forests. But then they would have to clear the ground of trees, and would

be obliged perhaps to send some hundreds of miles to market, to sell their corn and to buy what they wanted.

But as land grows scarcer in proportion to the number of people (that is as the people multiply), the owners of it find that they can obtain a higher and higher rent. This, as I have explained, is because every thing that is useful becomes an article of value (that is, will fetch a price), when it is limited in quantity.

Some persons fancy that the reason why land fetches a rent, is because the food and other things, produced by land, afford the necessary support of man's life, but they do not consider that air, which we do not pay for, is as necessary to life as food; and no one would pay for any thing which he might have without payment. If good land were as abundant in this country, in proportion to the people, as it is in some of the wilds of America, every one might take as much as he pleased for nothing. It would produce corn and other necessaries, as it does now; yet he would pay nothing but the labour of cultivation. Here on the contrary, the only kind of land for which no one would pay rent, is that which will produce nothing, and is of no use at all? like the shingles of the beach on many parts of the coast. However scarce either land or any other article may be, no one will pay for that which is useless; and however useful it may be, he will not pay for that which is so plentiful as to be had for nothing. As was explained in a former Lesson, the value of any thing is not caused by its scarcity alone, or by its usefulness alone, but by both together.

Some, again, fancy that the rent is paid on account of the expense which the owner of the soil (or Landlord, as he is called,) has laid out in enclosing the land, manuring it, and bringing it into cultivation.—And most of our land certainly has in this way cost the Landlord a great expense; which he would not have bestowed, if he did not expect to be repaid by the rent. But it is not this expense that is the cause of the rent's being paid. For if he had laid out over so much in trying to improve the land, still if he did not bring it to produce the more, he would not obtain the higher rent. And on the other hand, though your land may have cost you nothing, still if it will produce any thing, and there is not enough of it for every body, you may always obtain a rent for it.—There are chalk-downs, and other hilly pastures, of great extent in some parts of this country, which have never had any expense laid out on them. But they naturally produce grass for sheep; and farmers accordingly pay rent for them.

Again there are, on some parts of the coast, rocks which are bare only at low water, and are covered with the sea at every tide. On these grows naturally a kind of sea-weed called kelp; which is regularly cut and carried away to be dried and burnt, for the sake of the ashes, which are used in making soap or glass. These rocks are let by the owners of them to those who make a trade of gathering this kelp for sale.—Now you see by this, that the rent cannot depend on the land's producing food for man, or on the expenses laid out in bringing it into cultivation. For there is rent paid for these rocks, though they produce no food, and though they never have been, or can be cultivated.

Sometimes, again, rent is paid for a piece of ground on account of its situation, even though nothing grows on it. A fisherman, for instance, may be glad to rent a piece of sea-beach, in a spot where it is convenient for him to draw up his boat, and spread his nets to dry, and build his cottage and store houses.

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