

all the information.) In Cleveland hundreds of women and girls are employed at making shirts at 3 cents apiece, giving them 36 cents daily for the 12 shirts they can make. The shirts are sold at 50 and 60 cents. In the New York garrets 2 cents is the price paid for making a shirt. In Toronto shirts that are sold for 60 to 75 cents are made by girls whose wages go as low as \$2 weekly. Many more instances could be brought forward to show that however worthy the labourer may be of his hire he seldom gets more than half of it. There are ways, too, of diverting back into the employer's pocket some even of the amount paid to the workmen. It is quite a common thing for the proprietor of a factory to own the houses where the labourers live and the shop where they get their provisions, and then to take as a matter of course the highest rental for dwellings and the largest profits possible upon the articles sold. This makes him practically the owner of his men, and renders them little better than slaves. Better in a way, perhaps, for they can go away if they choose. But where? To the very same condition somewhere else. Worse than slaves in another way, for the owner of chattel slaves knew enough to feed and house them well for fear of losing some of his property. In the newer slavery the people may die if they choose; there are thousands more ready to jump into their place rather than starve altogether. "The cut-throat struggle to see who shall live and who shall starve" will always keep the tenements full and the rents high. Why improve the houses?

The Royal Commission on the Housing of the Poor in its report says: "That 88 per cent. of the poor population pay more than one-fifth of their income in rent, 42 per cent. pay from one-quarter to one-third, and only 12 per cent. pay less than one-fifth of their weekly wages in rent." And for what sort of dwelling places? "In South S. Pancras, for instance, four shillings a week was paid for one room ten feet by seven feet. * * * An underground kitchen commanded a rent of 2s. 6d.; 5s. for a single room in a state of great decay." "Rents in the congested districts of London are getting gradually higher, and wages are not rising, and there is a prospect therefore of the disproportion between rent and wages growing still greater. (1st Report p. 17.)

(Concluded in our next.)

TENNYSON'S "IN MEMORIAM."

It is said that Tennyson occupied ten years in writing this poem; and when we examine it closely, we can well believe it, for each time we take it up we find new beauties in it. Some stanza or some phrase strikes us as so appropriate, and opens up new regions of thought which had before escaped our notice. It is one of those poems which require to be read amid certain circumstances to be properly appreciated. For example, on a river, in the summer

evening, floating lazily down the stream, while a gentle breeze rustles the arching foliage, and a sort of dreamy feeling seems to pervade the air; or else, stretched before a cheerful fire, with the curtains drawn close, and the wind outside shaking the leafless trees with weird creakings. Then when all things lend to produce, as Longfellow says, that "feeling of sadness which is not akin to pain," we can best throw ourselves into the musings of another's mind, and can follow the mental history of the poet during the ten years subsequent to his friend's death.

Perhaps here, before entering upon an examination of the poem itself, it would not be amiss to give a slight sketch of the A. H. H. of the title. Arthur Henry Hallam was the son of the historian Henry Hallam, and was born at Bedford Place, London, in February, 1811. We learn from his biography by his father, that, during his early boyhood, he gave promise of brilliant ability, for before his eighth year he was acquainted with the French language; and a year later he could "read Latin with tolerable fluency." In 1820 he was sent to a school at Putney, and remained there for two years; after which he went to Eton. During his stay here, which was until 1827, he did not distinguish himself in the composition of Eton Latin verses, but devoted himself chiefly to the study of dramatic and lyric poetry. He also contributed largely to the "Eton Miscellany."

After leaving Eton he spent eight months in Italy for his health; and it was during this time that he acquired his fondness for Italian literature, especially its master, Dante. In October, 1828, he entered Trinity College, Cambridge, and almost immediately became the head and centre of a band of young men "eminent for ability, and for love of truth, and perception of beauty." Among these was Alfred Tennyson, though whether they now met for the first time, or merely renewed their acquaintance, I do not know. This group probably included also, Spedding, Maurice, and Hare. We can imagine what delight such minds as these would have in mutual intercourse. During his course here he competed with Tennyson in a contest for a prize poem, but was worsted. His mind was not suited to the composition of poetry, although eminently adapted to criticism of it. In 1832 he took his degree, and devoted himself to the study of law, entering on the books of the Inner Temple. In the intervals of his law studies, he kept up his literary work; contributing to several magazines, and making considerable progress with his translation of Dante's "Vita Nuova." In the spring of 1833 he had an attack of fever, and was compelled to go abroad for his health. In August while journeying from Pesth to Venice, in company with his father, a second attack of the fever, accompanied by a rush of blood to the head, speedily put an end to his life. His remains were brought to England and interred in the Chancel of Clevedon Church, Somersetshire, January 3rd, 1834.

A volume of his literary remains have been collected and published; and the deep insight and thought they