

THE BOOKLOVER'S CORNER

Selected Poems of Francis Thompson.

In our last book notes we spoke at some length of Thompson's essay on Shelley, seeing that it was an appeal to Catholics for a greater appreciation of poetry, for the reunion of sanctity and song, and a better understanding of Shelley, whom the essayist defends with fine power.

Shelley is a poet for a poet, and he won a great meed of appreciation from Thompson; Thompson is a poet for a poet, and he was happy in receiving judgment from contemporary poets, who recognized his worth at once.

"I was taught in Paradise To ease my breast of melodies." So it is with every poet in the true sense of the word.

"Therefore must my song-bower lone be That my tone be Fresh with dewy pain alway."

"We speak a lesson taught we know not how, And what is it that from us flows The hearer better than the utterer knows."

"We did then Divinely stand, not knowing yet against us Sentence had passed of life, nor commutation Petitioning into death."

"Look for me in the nurseries of Heaven." After a rough and trying time in London and Manchester, Thompson retired (having shown his gifts as

"Oh, but the heavenly grammar did I hold Of that high speech which angel's tongues turn gold So should her deathless beauty take no wrong Praised in her own great kindred's fit and cognate tongue, Or if that language yet with us abode Which Adam in the garden talked with God!

"With hasty tarnished pieceage negligent, Snippets and waste From old ancestral wearings, That have seen sorrier usage; remainder flesh After our father's surfeits; nay with chains Some of us, that if speech may have free leave, Our souls go out at elbows."

"That is a question often asked and perhaps by all. What indeed! Thompson's resignation to the paths of it all is almost pagan."

In all his robes pontifical exspect, Liffeth slowly, liffeth sweetly, From out its Orient tabernacle drawn, Yon orbéd sacrament confessed, Which sprinkles benediction from the dawn;

Thompson's best piece is perhaps "The Hound of Heaven," pronounced by Coventry Patmore to be "one of the very few 'great' odes of which the language can boast."

"Ah, fondest, blindest, weakest, I am He, Whom thou seekest, Thou drawest love from Thee, who drawest Me!"

"I fled Him down the nights and down the days; I fled Him down the arches of the years; I fled him down the labyrinthine ways Of my own mind; and in the midst of tears I hid from Him, and under running laughter, Up vistaed hopes I sped; And shot, precipitated Adown Titanic glooms of chasmed fear"

"Summer set lips to earth's bosom bare, And left the flushed print of a poppy there; Like a yawn of fire from the grass it came, And the fanning wind puffed it to flapping flame."

"Oh, but the heavenly grammar did I hold Of that high speech which angel's tongues turn gold So should her deathless beauty take no wrong Praised in her own great kindred's fit and cognate tongue, Or if that language yet with us abode Which Adam in the garden talked with God!

"An Anthem of Earth" deals with the exalted theme of Life and Death. It is the picture of short-lived man-we, the "nos morturi," saluting the earth, our "Roma immortalis"; the picture of mysterious man, filled with ambitions, hopes and ceaseless longings—and yet at the end,

"But patrimony of a little mould, And entail of four planks" The earth gives us not the lilies, glory; "not even Solomon in all his glory was arrayed as one of these," No; we are foisted off

"With hasty tarnished pieceage negligent, Snippets and waste From old ancestral wearings, That have seen sorrier usage; remainder flesh After our father's surfeits; nay with chains Some of us, that if speech may have free leave, Our souls go out at elbows."

"What is this Man, thy darling kissed, and cuffed, Then lustily engendered, To sweat, and make his brag, and rot, Crowned with all honor and all shamefuliness!"

"That is a question often asked and perhaps by all. What indeed! Thompson's resignation to the paths of it all is almost pagan."

"Death at the last!"

WE PRINT Letterheads, Billheads and General Commercial Work at the Right Prices. IF PRINTED BY US IT'S DONE RIGHT.

The True Witness Printing Co. An office thoroughly equipped for the production of finely printed work. Phone Main 5072. 316 Lagachetiere Street W., Montreal.

NORTHERN Assurance Co'y OF LONDON, Eng. "Strong as the Strongest" INCOME AND FUNDS, 1908 Capital and Accumulated Funds \$49,490,000 Annual Revenue from Fire and Life etc. Premiums and from Interest on Invested Funds \$ 9,015,000 Deposited with Dominion Government for Security of Canadian Policy Holders \$ 465,580

Time Proves All Things One roof may look much the same as another when put on, but a few years' wear will show up the weak spots. "Our Work Survives" the test of time. GEO. W. REED & CO., Ltd MONTREAL.

Chive's Preparations Are The Best. Specialties in Guaranteed French Trusses. For Colds use Chive's Cough Syrup In use for Twenty Years with the Best Results.

WHEN YOU BUY FLOUR It is just as easy to get the BEST as to get the next best. The most skilful baking can't make good bread out of poor flour, but any housewife by using PURITY FLOUR can bake bread that will come from the oven JUST RIGHT. If you want "more bread and better bread," bake with Purity Flour. Try it to-day. At all grocers.

J. E. GARREAU LTD. Successor to C. B. LANCOT. Importers of Church Ornaments, Bronzes and Altar Wines. Manufacturers of Banners, Flags, Linens, Way of the Cross and Statues.

Disappearing Difference. Mr. Birrell, in one of those phrases which cling to memory, defined the differences between the Protestant denominations and the Catholic church by saying "It is the Mass that makes the difference."

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS HAVING DESIGNS ENGRAVINGS DONE - SHOULD APPLY TO LA PRESSE PUB. CO. PHOTO ENG. DEPT. EXPERT ILLUSTRATORS. Engravers to the TRUE WITNESS.

Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Colic and Cramps. Nearly every one is troubled with bowel complaint during the summer months. But, do they know what to do to cure it. Thousands do, many don't. WE CAN TELL YOU! DR. FOWLER'S Extract of Wild Strawberry WILL DO IT!

PAGE WHITE FENCES Get the Best. Styles for Lawns, Farms and Ranches. Made of high carbon wire, galvanized and then painted white. THE PAGE WINE FENCE CO., LIMITED Largest fence and gate manufacturers in Canada.