POETRY.

THE BELLS.

How fair the Sabbath morning Dawns on the quiet town ; On hands from labor resting, On week-day work laid down.

And weary hearts turn heavenward, In gratitude and love ; And earth-bound aims soar upward, Into the light above.

O bells, how sweet your voices Ring through the Sabbath air ; How welcome your glad summons Unto the house of prayer.

What mem'ries dear and tender Ye waken, Sabbath bells: What wealth of heartfelt praises Your happy tune foretells.

Ye soothe like sweetest music, Ye calm the restless will ; How drear the Sabbath morning Were your sweet voices still.

When in your hearts, ye grumblers A selfish interest swells, Go learn in quiet the lesson Taught by the Sabbath bells

LITERATURE.

Jack Browne's Mistake.

ANNIE S. SWAM

this precaution, which, however, recon-Jack Browne and a select few of his ciled him to the idea of carrying out his Jack's bosom in consequence of his people said they drank on account of the project of deception. brother officers sat in solemn conclave He had no difficulty in securing the ment, overshadowed by mingled telief the Irishman who wrote home that in the mess-room one evening after their seniors had retired, discussing the des- co-operation of his namesake, and by ar- and excitement. The vital importance Scotchmen came out to Ceylon, and the rangement with this fatally good natured of the sad event as regarded his private ate, and they drank, and they drank, and perate condition of his affairs. Jack was a foolish, extravagant young subaltern in young gentleman he succeeded in secur. affairs not unnaturally pre-occupied his then they died; and after they were a line regiment, who had contrived to ing the best part of the money which his mind. If, as he not unreasonably be- dead they wrote home to their friend get deeply in debt vithout the slightest aunt advanced for his outfit. The old lieved, he was the old lady's heir, he and blamed the climate for it. (Laughchance of extricating himself from his lady little suspected that she was paying would be able to pay off his debts and ter.) Other people put down the cause difficulties. His only relative was the bills and the passage-money of a per- make a fresh start un ler favorable con- of drunkenness to the cu strong-minded aunt, who not only refused | fect stranger, and that the latter handed | ditions. to assist him, but even threatened to to Jack the amount he had intended to He hurried up to town without a mo They had drunk other people's health withdraw the allowance she had made devote to that purpose.

him since he entered the army. Jack Jack suffered considerable qualms of office of his aunt's legal adviser. He own. (Laughter.) He was told by some considered he was very hardly treated, conscience while hatching his conspiracy. knew that this gentleman was her execufor the truth is he did not properly ap- IIis necessities, however, were so press- tor and had the management of her But it was notorious that drink created for him. There was no doubt, however, of getting a little ready money. Had to the suspense and uncertainty regard- knew that the drouthiest customers we that he was in an awkward predicament, he anticipated that his aunt would ing his future prospects. In his eager- always the hardest drinkers. He was for on the one hand he could not possibly have manifested genuine emotion when ness he forgot the surprise his sudden told that the tea kettle on the platform remain in the regiment unless his debts, he went to bid her farewell, he would appearance was likely to cause, and con- had run dry that evening. He did not were paid, and, on the other, his aunt probably have abandoned his scheme. sequently felt rather abashed when the believe it. The only thing that ran when declared that if he resigned his commis- But by that time it was too late, for he lawyer started back on seeing him. sion she would have nothing more to do had paid away the £200 among his hunwith him. Jack did not at all relish the gry creditors, and the date of his suppos- old gentleman, as soon as he could speak, ter.) Most people's reasons for drinking prospect of being compelled to earn his ed departure was fixed for the next day. "Why, I-1-and everybody else, thought were invariably unreasonable. Whisky living, especially as he had no idea how Jack applied for three months' leave you had died in Egypt the other day." to set about it. Moreover, he was ex- of absence from his regiment to obviate tremely popular in his regiment, and was the risk of his presence in England com- said Jack, in a shamefaced manner. consequently loth to leave it. His ing to his aunt's ears. The Colonel,

suggesting various expedients for raising granted his request without asking in. eyes on the young man's face. convenient questions. Jack's brother money, none of which were practicable. "I should try the old lady again," urged one of his friends; "make a clean of them-the incorrigible Charlie Bash-

brother officers, unfortunately, could only

feelings.

fully. "Her venerable bosom is insensible to tender emotions." "I suppose you haven't concealed what

another.

it's no go.' "Won't Isaacs do a post obit ?" suggested somebody.

"My dear fellow, the only possible way furnished his fellow-conspirator with a blamed herself for being the cause of upon moderate drinkers was that they

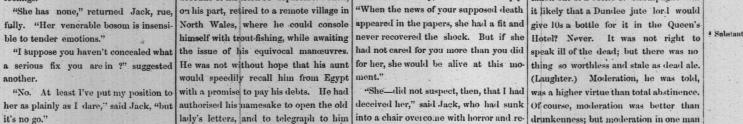
respondence, that my departure will be "An escape !" repeated Jack, vaguely. _the strength of the drink and the a source of concern to you, but, at all events, I shall always gratefully remem-ber your many kindnesses. My outfit means a matter of $\pounds 200$, but whether "Yes. The poor old lady is dead, so, strength of the man. Moderation d as I said before, there is no harm done to pended not on the quantity of drink a your prospects. The announcement was man had, but on the amount of drink he you care to assist me in getting it is a question which you alone can decide. Hoping your rheumatusm is better,— Believe me, your affectionate nephew, in this morning's paper, and I thought I could carry. (Laughter.) What, he would be the first to congratulate you," asked, was drink worth? It was worth said Charlie, seizing his hand. less than nothing, and vanity. In buying J. L. BROWNE.

Under the circumstances, it is perhaps a bottle of whisky what did the working All the company had a hand in proexcusable that Jack's first sensation was man get in return for his half-crown? ducing this master-piece of composition, which was universally admired. The a feeling of intense relief. A moment He got 5d worth of barley, a shilling's general opinion was that the old lady ago he was fairly horrified at learning the worth of water, a shilling went to the would be entirely overcome. Jack was awkward position in which he was placed Queen, the bottle cost a penny, and the by the death of his namesake. Consid- buyer got the cork into the bargain easily persuaded to indulge in hopeless anticipations, though he had secret mis. ering that his future prospects depended (Laughter.) When he was told that whisky entirely upon his aunt's goodwill, it seem- was a good creature of God, to be received

Unfortunately his forebodings turned ed as though ruin stared him in the face. with thankfulness, he had three answer out to be well founded, for his aunt did Exposure of the trick he had played to the statement. First, that it would not not attempt to dissuade him from going. upon her was apparently inevitable, and hold water nor bear examination; second Her reply was so cold and formal that her forgiveness could hardly have been that if it were a creature (which he de Jack could not help suspecting that she hoped for. Of course, he had known all nied, although the Irishmen called it a doubted his good faith, the more especi. along that he had run this risk, but he "craytur") it was not a good creature, be ally as, in consenting to pay for his out had never anticipated the sad event cause it was the result of Sabbath labor; fit, she stipulated that the bills should which upset all his calculations and had and third, if alcohol was a creature of be sent in to her for settlement. Jack considered himself tolerably secure from God it was not to be received with thank was somewhat unreasonably aggrieved at detection, whatever else happened. fulness any more than a boa constrictor The grief and remorse which lurked in or a rattlesnake. (Applause.) Som

aunt's death were therefore, at the mo- climate. That remark reminded him of country. Unfortunately it was too true.

ment's delay, and went straight to the until they had near y drunk away their persons that they drank to cure thirst it was dry was the old toper, and the "What, Mr. Browne!" exclaimed the drier he was the faster he ran. (Laughprompted languige, he was told. He "No. The fact is, it was all a mistake," was happy he did not require it for that. (Laughter.) If they wanted to hear low "Oh! Then I suppose you never went talk they had just to go to a public house. knowing nothing of his plans, but sympa there at all," said the lawyer, after a short There was only one reason why people assist him by their sympathy, and by thizing with his peruniary troubles, pause, during which he fixed his sharp drank, and that was because they liked it, and the reason they liked it was be-"No; I did not," said Jack, overcome cause of the alcohol that was in it, and officers were pledged to secrecy, and one with confusion, "I-I am very sorry." the reason they liked the alcohol and "Well, so you ought to be, sir, for you the drink was because it intoxicated breast of everything and work upon her ford-wrote the old lady a pathetic killed your aunt. Ah! you did, indeed? them. If the intoxicating property were count of his triend's departure. Jack, I mean what I say," he added sharply. taken out of a bottle of champagne wa





I could raise a shilling would be by paw ing my boots, and as they are not paid for I might get into difficulty over that,' said Jack, as he plunged his hands deep er into his pockets. "Besides, I've no evidence that I'm named in her will." "I've an idea!" exclaimed his partic

lar friend, Charlie Bashford. "Why don't you volunteer for service in Egypt ?" "Volunteer to catch cholers! No

thanks," said Jack making a grimace. "Besides, there is no fighting going or now; so what would be the use ?"

"There is a devilish deal more dange now than there was during the war." remarked Charlie, sagely.

of penitence which considerably damped her kindness." "Yes, but no glory. If I wanted to exchange I would go to India; but the his satisfaction at the success of his exfact is I'm past that dodge. My creditors periment. He even felt te npte l at tim 's . would be down on me directly if they to aban lon the deception he was practisheard I was off. They are down on m ing, but before he had arrived at any

enough already," he added, despondently, determination to do so he was surprised "What I meant was that you might at receiving a visit fron his friend Charlie

bamboozle the old lady. Hang it all, Bashford. Jack! She must care for you, or she Hullo! What brings you here?" de would have thrown you over long ago,' nanded Jack, apprehensively, as they said his friend with charming candor. shook hands. "Perhaps if she heard you had determin "You've heard the news, haven't you?" ed, in desperation, to go to Egypt, at the said Charlie, mysteriously. risk of your life, she might relent." "What about ?" said Jack.

"Well, there's something in that," said Jack, brightening up; "at all events she might give me a cheque for an outfit. The worst of it is I don't want to go." "I know a namesake of yours in the -th, Jack, who is going out next month." thought you knew of it, or I would have

interposed another. "If the worst came to the worst, you might go by proxy." "By Jove! I really think that might be managed," exclaimed Jack, excitedly. "It is just possible, as Charlie says, that the old girl would pay my debts to keep me in England. If she doesn't, seeins the other fellow's name in the paper she will imagine I have gone."

"You can easily keep up the joke by getting your namesake over there to post some letters for you," chimed in Charlie Bashford. "If she doesn't beg you to return after a week or two, you can pretend to be laid up with cholera. That will bring the old lady up to time, if anything will ; but in case it doesn't, you

can be ordered home_see ?" "Meanwhile I shall have to keep quiet,

and will go away on sick leave," added Jack, in a great state of excitement "Here; give me a pen and paper. I'll fire off a letter at once." Impulsiveness was one of Jack's failings, and on the spur of the moment he sat down and wrote the following heart.

rending epistle :-

growled Jack. I can't be perdu for ever, My dear Aunt .- Your refusal to assist and the matter must come to my aunt's to quit my native shores for ever. I have volunteered for service in Egypt, where, as you know, the cholera is raging. I that there might be a mist ke, you would ears. If you had written and hinted up. But they could do without whisky, I that there might be a mist ike, you would and were far better without it. Whisky as you know, the choice is taging. I start on the 2nd of next month per P. and the _th, which is stationed in the centre of the most infected district. It would be useless to attempt to conceal the fact that there might be a mistake, you would have done me a good turn. As it is, you've only made matters worse." "We thought you would be in a devil of a stew when you heard the news, and standings below; it was a perfect footthe dire disease, but the desire to serve my country at a post of real danger is no less an inducement to me than the pros-pect of being released by the hand of death from my debts and einbarrassments. I can hardly hope, from our recent cor

from time to time, and these contained shock," said the lawyer, somewhat softenmoderation as an example. They might uch harrowing details of the ravages of ed at Jack's evident distress. "IIad she drink until they died, but they dared not holera that his aunt could hardly fail to followed her own inclination she would say to young men in ther midst that they have made any pecuniary sacrifice to set a good example. (Applause.") come seriously alarmed and uneasy. Jack remained a month or six weeks keep you out of danger. But she thought,

tunately for you, she never doubted you

"Why unfortunatel y?" inquired Jack,

"Because she sent for me at the las

then you were her residuary legatee."_

Mr. James Guthrie on Tem

perance.

Mr. Jas. Guthrie, son of the late Rev

Dr. Guthrie, who like his father is a

strong temperance advocate, addressed a

rime, to induce health, and to produce

wealth. (Applause.) The end of these

meetings was to teach them that the

cure of idleness was work, the cure of

selfishness was sacrifice, the cure of sin

was the Gospel, and the cure of drunke

ness was total abstinence. Mr. Guthrie

proceeded to say that whisky was like

nothing else. People said they migh

take too much of anything. He supposed

that was possible. But if they took too

another should go without clothes ; and

that because a man spoiled his digestion

with eating too much that was no reason

why another man should not have hi

breakfast. In answer to that he had to

say that there was no analogy between

the question of food and clothing and

strong drink. People must dress, o

Provost Moncur would have them locked

neeting in Dundee a few weeks ago.

for your own sake, you had better do a n Wales, during which his scheme worklittle campaigning; and besides, she was ed without a hitch. His aunt was com pletely deceived, and even forwarded his inclined to suspect-rightly,-as it nov appears_that you did not really intend first letter from Egypt to his friend,

yould speedily recall him from Egypt ment."

immediately in case his anticipations morse.

"Haven't you seen the papers lately?"

"Not for a week or ten days. What

"Then you don't know poor Browne is

ad," said Charlie. "We all of us

written. It was in all the papers a week

"What ! you d on't mean the man who

vent to Egypt the other day?" gasped

"Yes_your alter eqo, or double, o

what ever you like to call him," said

Charlie, unable to repress a grin at hi

"Well, but this is devilish awkward fo

ne! My aunt must be under the im-

pression that 1 am dead. What the deuce

"I wrote the poor lady a letter of con

dolence to keep up the deception," said

"What an infernal fool you were, then!"

xclaimed Jack, vigorously. "What on

"Well, I did it for a joke, but I wa

sorry for it afterwards. In fact, as far as

the poor old lady was concerned, I've re-

nented it ever since. However, there is

no harm done as far as you are concern-

I'm not by any means sure of that,"

ed," added Charley, cheerfully.

earth did you want to do that for?"

shall I do ?" exclaimed Jack.

ago. He died of cholera, poor fellow."

asked Charlie, opening his eyes.

s it ?"

friend's dismay.

Charlie.

Charlie Bashford, to read. The note in to go." "I'm glad, at all events, that she neve which she enclosed the letter plainly found me out," said Jack, wiping away howed that her heart was softening to

the beads of perspiration that had gath vards him, and Jack began to feel a ered on his forehead. "She did not susgood deal ashane 1 of himself. During his solitary walks and rambles he had fits pect what a brute I was in return for all

were dead."

absently.

Truth.

"No," said the lawyer, fixing his keen CURRANTS, &c. glance upon Jack's face again. "Unfor

45 & 47 DOCK STREET.

SAINT JOHN, N. B

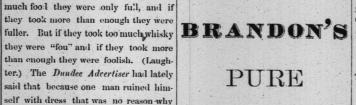
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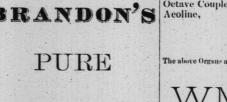


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