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Poetry.

THE PRAYER OF THE BEREAVED.

BY ISABELLA BIRD.

Saviour, whose crown'd humanity
Still stoops to wipe the tearful eye,
Unto whose ear the voiceless sigh,
Thou who the broken heart hast heal'd,
Look on the woe that tears reveal'd,
The burning fount of tears unceas'd,
This bitter pain.

If blindly on a mortal head
With lavish hand I fondly shed
Gifts on Thy shrine more fitly laid,
Saviour, forgive!
With earthly love compelled to part,
Stricken by sorrow's keenest dart,
Have mercy on this wounded heart,
And healing give.

If mortal accents all too dear
With their deep music filled my ear,
So that Thy voice I failed to hear,
O Christ, forgive!
Turn not this human heart to stone,
But once again with magic tone,
Thrill through its chambers dark and lone,
Building it live.

If I have made a mortal eye
The star of my idolatry,
In whose dear light I hope to die,
O longed to live—
If one low'd image ever seen
Thy glory and my soul between,
Forbade my trust on Thee to lean—
Jesus, forgive!

For thou for man didst bend the knee,
Anguish'd, in dark Gethsemane,
Nor scorn'd, in Thine extremity,
A servant's aid;
And on our dreariest wastes below
Thy human footprints left to show
That every storm of mortal woe
Broke o'er Thy head.

Touched with our infirmity,
Rich in all human sympathy,
Brother of our humanity,
Oh, Royal Priest!
This heart I on Thee altar lay,
A bleeding sacrifice to-day,
And from its quivering depths, I pray,
Be Thou my rest.

Sustain the trembling soul that dies,
Raise to Thyself these dreaming eyes,
And to its home within the skies
Call back my love.
Anchor my hope within the veil,
That when this flesh and heart shall fail,
I may with joy Thy summons hail,
To Heaven above.

Fresh from over the sea, in a volume just
from the press, comes the following anecdote
of the late Lord Brougham, which is not, tho'
it ought to be, found in his memoirs:
During the legal absence of Mr. (afterward
Lord) Campbell on his matrimonial trip with
the elegant Miss Scarlett, Mr. Justice Ab-
bott observed, when a cause was called on in
the Court of King's Bench, "I thought, Mr.
Brougham, that Mr. Campbell was in the
case."
"Yes, my lord," replied Mr. Brougham,
"with that sarcastic look peculiarly his own."
"He was, my lord; but I understand he is
ill."
"I am sorry to hear that," said the judge,
"taking snuff."
"My lord," replied Mr. Brougham, "it is
unfortunate that the cause of my learned friend's
absence is the 'Scarlet' fever."

THE POOR SOLDIER OF FLENS- BURG.

Some years ago, some soldiers were quartered
at Flensburg, in Schleswig, foreigners who during
the many years of peace had little to do. Some
of them had married, of whom the majority, es-
pecially those who had large families, were re-
duced to great poverty. Poverty is hard to bear,
and when it amounts to hunger and nakedness it
is indeed like a sword. God help those who are
thus tempted! For he alone can help. Of this the
following story is a striking example.

One of those soldiers was sent with a despatch,
as an orderly, several miles across the country.
As he returned during the night, he passed about
midnight a bleaching-mill, and perceived a quan-
tity of linen placed upon a hedge to bleach, but
which the owners had forgotten to take in at night-
fall.

He rode very slowly, and thought, with a sigh,
"Oh, what an abundance!—Could it be really a
great harm to take out of this large quantity a
piece to sell for my poor children? The owner
would scarcely feel the loss of it, and it would be
a great help in my poverty, the injustice could not
be so very great."

He stopped his horse and dismounted. But
when he came to the hedge, a voice within seemed
to say to him, "It is a sin. Till now thou hast
never stolen, and now thou shouldst not do it."

He left the hedge, and quickly mounted his
horse. But he soon looked round again; the tem-
ptation rose before him with greater power; the
sorrow in his home, his many hungry children
stood before his mind. He again dismounted, and
again stood before the hedge. But his conscience
a second time awoke. The struggle was hard, but
the power of the inner voice overcame, and with-
out having taken the linen, a second time he
mounted his horse. One would now suppose that
he had conquered the temptation; but it was not
long before the soldier again looked back, and
more powerfully than ever did the thought of his
distress and misery take possession of him.

The tempter now approached him on another
side. He began to argue with himself, and to
place the affair before him in every possible light.
He thought, "What is the whole of it? what then
can one piece of linen be to such a man? A trifle;
but which would be the greatest relief and com-
fort to me in my misery. Here a great evil
can be alleviated by a mere trifle; so such a deed
plainly cannot be so very wicked. And for what
purpose did it so happen that the linen should have
been forgotten to be taken in on that very night
when my road led me close by it? Was not this
opportunity for help placed purposely in my
path?"

One moment, and the thing is done!
He quickly dismounted from his horse, and
climbed up to the hedge; but just as he was
putting out his hand to take the linen, conscience
again spoke: "What art thou doing? Whether
art thou going?" it cried within him. "It is sin;
say what thou wilt, represent it to thyself as thou
wilt, still it is a theft, if thou takest any of it
away." Then he believed his poor children again,
when in the previous winter he had not been able
to protect against famine and frost. As a father,
he reflected he should care for his children, and
here was a means placed in his way—but a sinful
means; and as I shall have to give an account
for every deed, for this action I must give account
in the judgment-day."

He was now in the most painful state of excite-
ment; the struggle was at its height; he took off
his hat, raised his hands and his eyes to heaven,
and prayed aloud, "Oh, Lord, look down gra-
tiously upon me, help me and control me! For
the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy beloved Son, look
down upon me, poor sinner! Be gracious to me,
and help me!"

His prayer was heard. Like chaff before the
wind, the temptation fled from him. With joy
and freedom he mounted his horse, and inwardly
thanked the Lord, who had helped him out of this
temptation, which would have brought a curse and
destruction upon him; indeed he now felt in his
heart an inexpressible joy that he had turned to
the Lord in faith. But before he rode further he
turned his horse on one side, and trotted quickly
into the miller's courtyard.

When he knocked at the door, the miller opened
a window, and called out, "What's there?"
"An orderly from Flensburg," was the answer.
"I want only a couple of words with you."
But the miller had already closed the window,
for he thought an orderly from Flensburg at mid-
night must have something important to communi-
cate. He quickly dressed himself, and exclaiming
"What is it?" opened the door.

"My dear miller," said the soldier, "as I was
riding by, I perceived that you had forgotten to
take in your linen which was left on the hedge to
bleach. This is no business of mine, but I will
conceal nothing from you. I am a very poor sol-
dier, and have a wife and five little children, who
are nearly naked and starving. My miserable
condition, and the abundant stock which I saw

here displayed, induced me to stop, and I was
grievously and severely tempted to approach it
too nearly. Three times I dismounted from my
horse; my great distress, and the good opportu-
nity of relieving it on the one side, and conscience,
the thought of sin and judgment on the other,
exerted within me a violent struggle; I was as-
saulted on all sides, and it seemed as if I must sub-
mit. Then I looked up to heaven, and I prayed
to the Almighty. He heard me, he gave me new
confidence, new power of resistance. I gave up
my sinful design, and with free and joyful heart
mounted my horse. Now I might have gone on
my way, but, friend miller, this is a high road,
along which many pass; others may come after
me during the night and be similarly tempted,
and perhaps fall. This would be a bad thing;
therefore I am come to ask you to take in your
linen. And now I will wish you a good night."

"My good soldier," said the miller, "come in, and
take a little refreshment. The air is cold to-
night."

The offer was not unacceptable to the soldier,
for he was hungry and thirsty. He dismounted,
and went into the house with the miller, who
brought out bread and butter, cheese and bacon,
which he set before him, together with a jug of
beer, all welcome provisions to a poor, hungry
soldier, and told him to make a good meal, while
in the meantime he went and awoke the servants,
who then went out and brought in the linen, of
which not a piece was missing. The soldier, as he
enjoyed his good fare, said to himself, "Oh, God,
thou hast hitherto helped me, thou hast helped me
now again, thou wilt help me in the future." So
he sat down, and rejoiced in the Lord, and when
he had finished he devoutly clasped his hands,
bent his head reverently, and silently uttered a
short thanksgiving; then he stood up, gave the
miller his hand, and thanked him heartily for the
refreshment, and wishing him God's blessing, was
about to depart.

But the miller brought out a piece of linen, and
said, "Look here, my good soldier, this is the
largest and best piece of all these which were left
to bleach; because in the fear of God you so
steadfastly resisted sin, and sought help from the
Lord in prayer, take it as a remembrance, take it
in all honor. If you are ever in great distress, or
if in any way should lead you here again, do not
forget to come and see me."

The heart of the bearded veteran was deeply
touched; the tears rolled down his sun-burnt
cheeks; this was too unexpected, too much for
him. He could not speak, but he took the piece
of linen with a look which spoke more distinctly
than all words of gratitude.

This, dear reader, is a circumstance which really
happened, many years ago, and contains the im-
portant lesson that prayer, in the name of Jesus,
is a helper in distress, and a protection in tempta-
tion. The soldier listened to the voice of his con-
science, and resisted when he was tempted. He
cried unto the Lord in his trouble, when his
strength failed him. And this adventure was of
use to the worthy soldier ever after. It led him
on every occasion of difficulty to lift up his heart
in prayer. In his inward conflicts, as well as out-
ward temptations, he said, "I come as a poor sin-
ner to thee, O Lord; I am not worthy of thy
mercy, and can only plead with thee, through the
merits of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, that thou wilt
be gracious unto me; and by the Holy Spirit
strengthen and help me!"

Scientific Piscatory Ingenuity.
An English missionary to China, the Rev.
George Smith, says that, on one of his aquatic
excursions, he saw some Chinese fishermen at
their vocation in a way to excite his admiration.
They had a model of a fish made of bright tin,
which was slowly dragged along at the end of a
line fastened to the boat. The fish in all
directions swam towards the decoy. It seemed
to possess a peculiar fascination. Far back in
the rear was another boat, carrying a net;
when it was judged there were fish enough
congregated about the object of their attraction,
the oarsmen slackened a little while the net men
approached and dropped the net, widely ex-
tended; they then gradually brought the exten-
sive net together, and generally made a suc-
cessful haul.

Those same people with long hair practice
another adroit method of fishing, which might
be practiced here with equal advantage. They
hang a highly bright varnished strip of board
along the outside of the gunwale of a boat, at
an angle about that of the roof of a house.
When ready on the fishing ground, torches are
lighted. The varnished board intensifies the
light and throws it at an angle far off into the
water. Curiosity, or some other sentiment,
prompts the fish to follow up the rays. They
rush on with such speed that when they see
the boat, which seems to be an obstruction,
they leap over the rowlocks inside, just where
they are wanted.

Another method practiced, which the ob-
servant missionary often saw, was by trained
cormorants. They dived down from the boat
and rarely failed to bring up fishes in their

bills. To prevent them from swallowing the
captured prey, each had a metallic ring on its
neck, through which nothing could pass. Occa-
sionally it was removed that the birds might
be encouraged with a few morsels of food.
Both science and art are recognized in
these bland and childlike piscatory processes.

Fight with a Kangaroo.

Kangaroo hunting, though not altogether
lacking the spice of danger which gives the
greatest zest to active sports, is, however,
usually limited for it to the natural diffi-
culties of the country—hidden over, and goodness,
a quick eye for overhanging branches, and a
staunch and knowing horse to deal with fall-
en timber are, in fact, generally sufficient to
enable the sportsman to bag his game and en-
sure him against a spill—the only danger to
which his anticipations carry him when setting
forth on his excursion. But the gentle and
harmless kangaroo sometimes assumes the as-
pect of a formidable old man, and then the
chase becomes a very different matter, involv-
ing such little unpleasantness as squeezed and
nipped dogs, scratched horses, and torn gar-
ments, perhaps skins.

Such an experience of catching a 'Tartar'
was furnished to the Inglewood sportsman
while out kangarooing on Mount Run. They
found a large mob of the animals and killed
one, and then turned their attention to a
regular boomer, standing nearly seven feet
high, which they cut off from the rest, for, so
far from making any disposition to make off,
he appeared as eager for a fray as his asso-
ciates, and fearlessly rushed upon the three
horsemen and five dogs opposed to him. Two
of the dogs were kangaroo dogs, two others
were collies, and the fifth was a small terrier,
which was the only one of the hunting party
that did not seem to have too much of the
bite before the fight was closed. The
kangaroo dogs and collies were successively
taken up as they dashed at the 'old man's'
throat, and it was not till a squeeze, which
effectually damped their ardour, and they
slunk away into high-road security, while the
little terrier—too small to be hugged and too
quick to be ripped—was worried and teased to the
end.

In the meantime the horsemen were not
idle but used the sticks with which they had
armed themselves to good purpose; but they
had a rough antagonist to deal with, and
when he got rid of the canine enemies he seem-
ed to be quite able and willing to return the
favours they were so pleasantly bestowing
upon him. He caught one round the waist
and tried to pull him off his horse, but luckily
his grip failed, and he only succeeded in tear-
ing trousers and thigh. He then caught the
horse round the neck, and was with difficulty
beaten off. He then made a rush at another
of the horses and only succeeded in dashing
his claws into his hind quarters, and the star-
dled animal went off at racing speed.

After an hour and a half of this kind of
work the hunters were completely fagged out
and drew off their forces, and had to confess
themselves beaten.

The Printer's Estate.

The printer's dollars—where are they? A
dollar here, a dollar there, scattered over
countless small towns all over the country,
miles and miles apart—how shall they be
gathered together?—The paper-maker, the
building owner, the journeyman compositor,
the Greaser, the tailor, and assistants to aid
him in carrying on his business, have their
demands, hardly ever so small as a single dol-
lar. But the miles from here and there must
be diligently gathered and patiently hoarded,
or the wherewith to discharge the liabilities
will never become sufficiently bulky. We
imagine the printer will have to get up and
address to those widely scattered dollars some-
thing like the following:

"Dollars, halves, quarters, dimes, and all
manner of fractions into which ye are divided,
cult of yourselves, and come home! Ye are
wanted! Combinations of all sorts of men
that help the printer to become proprietor,
gather such force and demand with such good
reasons your appearance at his counter, that
nothing short of a sight of you will appease
them. Collect yourselves, for valuable as
you are in the aggregate, single you will never
pay the cost of gathering. Come in here, in
single file, that the printer may form you
into a battalion, and send you forth again, to
battle for him and vindicate his credit."

Reader, are you sure you haven't a couple
of the printers' dollars about you?

A certain judge in Illinois, not only dispen-
sath justice with an even hand, but at times
indulgeth in the joke. During the progress
of a certain trial involving the ownership of a
calf, it became of importance that the jury,
in order to arrive at a just conclusion, should be
sent to view for themselves the chattel in dis-
pute. The plaintiff who had the animal in
charge lived some two miles from the Court
House and one of the elderly jurymen demur-
red at the idea of being sent so far. The
judge in his usual, full voice, replied, "Gentle-

men, I anticipated this objection, and had the
calf brought to the court yard. I thought it
less trouble to bring in one calf than to send
out twelve." The jury emerged into the open
air, and, in presence of the calf, deliberated.

School Discipline in the "Good Old Times."

The "American Education Monthly," de-
scribing "A school in the 'Olden Times,'" gives
the following description:—

"But the most remarkable part of the school
exercise was the punishments. In this de-
partment of their profession, most of the teach-
ers were adepts, however deficient they might
be in book-learning. Some of them were so-
ber, and showed an ingenuity and skill in
punishing the poor children, which
would have made Torquemada welcome them
as thoroughly qualified to administer the tor-
ture of the Inquisition or to devise new ones.
There were three Lovells, the father, son, and
grandson, from about 1760 to 1820. The elder
Lovell, John, and his son James, were very
cruel and tyrannical.

The venerable Dr. Cooper, a celebrated
minister of Boston about the Revolutionary
period, was one of John Lovell's pupils, and
he told a friend, a short time before his death,
that all through his life he had dreams of the
school and of the torments he endured there.
Lovell's favorite mode of punishing was what
he called 'trouncing'; this was performed by
stripping the boy, mounting him on another
boy's back, and whipping him very severely
with birch rods in the presence of the school.
At one time he flogged his own grandson so
cruelly in this way, that his son, the boy's fa-
ther, who was his assistant in the school, rose
and said, 'Sir, you have flogged that boy
enough.' The boys in his school were so
fearful of Master Lovell, that they could not
study. Proctor, another Boston teacher
of the same period, was equally cruel in his
discipline. In New York and Philadelphia
the same severity prevailed.

A Small-Pox Fumigator.

The following from the Boston Herald
deserves consideration at the present moment:
Some years ago Mr. Porter, who now has
charge of the Mass. Gardens at Nahant, was
living in Boston and had a household of young
and old people as boarders and lodgers. All
of a sudden a young man in the house was
taken down with the regular black small-pox.
Of course the case was great consternation in
that house, but possibly nothing like what
there would be to-day under the same circum-
stances. Mr. Porter, though he had never had
the disease himself, neither had any of the
other inmates of the house, took entire charge
of the young man. He put him in a room of
the ground floor, and carefully nursed him
with his own hands. The disease took strong
hold of the young man, and medical men gave
him up, saying that he could not live; but Mr.
Porter thought differ not, and still carefully
nursed him. In the meantime none of the
boarders left the house, while during the
young man's sickness Mr. Porter went daily to
and from his house attending to his business,
and eventually the young man recovered. No
other person in the house was taken down
with the disease, and no person took the dis-
ease outside the house by coming in contact
with Mr. Porter, and the only precaution
that he used about the house to prevent him-
self or others from taking the disease was the
following: In the sick room, in the front hall
and other parts of the house he placed small
plates of coarse salt and upon this salt he daily
poured about a large spoonful of the oil of
vitriol. This created a vapor which permeated
the whole house. It was a perfect fumiga-
tor and rat attended with any unpleasant
smell. Mr. Porter, before leaving the sick
room, always thoroughly fumigated himself
with this vapor, and thus did he prevent the
spread of the disease, while he is quite con-
fident that it was also beneficial to the sick man;
and to-day he is confident in his own mind
that if the same fumigator was used in houses
where persons are sick with the small-pox
that it would prevent the spread of the disease.
As we now have a Board of Health composed
of gentlemen who are willing to receive sug-
gestions and if of any worth to adopt them, to
stop the spread of this terrible disease, this
information is most respectfully submitted.
Certainly, it is worth trying.—[Telegraph.]

Do, it Nor.—Don't live a single hour of
your life without doing exactly what it is to be
done in it, and going straight thro' it from
beginning to end. Work, play, study, what-
ever it is—take hold at once and finish it up
squarely and cleanly; and then the next thing,
without letting any moments drop out between.
It is worthful to see how many hours these
prompt people make of a day; it is as if they
pick up the minutes that the dawdlers lost.
And if every you find yourself where you have
so many things pressing upon you that you
hardly know how to begin, let me tell you a
secret; take hold of the very first one that
(continued on last page)