ERIN TO HER CHILDREN.

"The fate that could not conquer doth bereave me,
And adverse stars prevail;
My children," Erin cries, "my children leave me—
No help can more avail!
I loved them well; and, strong in full reliance
On tender hearts and true,
To Fortune's utmost race would bid defiance
Till this worst grief I knew."

Now see, as men forsake a land plague-stricken,
When panic guides their hosts,
In streams that, rolling onward, swell and quicken,
They leave their native coasts;
Dispeopled wastes and ruins are behind them,—
Homes where life's voice is stilled—
Whose walls know but the gadding briars that bind them,
Cold hearths, and fields untilled

"Not by our will," they say "our country loses
The help her sons should give;
By aliens ruled, the land we love refuses
Her own the leave to live;
We vanish, swift as morning exhalations,
For, oh! the power is strong
That builds secure 'a city with foundations
Laid deep in chartered wrong.'

"Within his stately mansion, Wealth presiding
O'er pomp and sumptuous fare,
Disdains the hut where famine is abiding,
With cold and gaunt Despair;
For work the young and strong are vainly sighing—
Vainly the old ask bread,
Our lords may rear—for all who live are flying—
Their thrones among the dead."

And Erin knows how idle 'tis complaining;
Yet with despairing moan
She marks their flight, her tear-dimmed vision straining,
Who leave her thus alone;
Her aching heart throbs back each word of parting;—
In every wild farewell,
She hears too sure, with dreadful forecast starting,
Of all their hopes the knell.

She wept—then, for the heart was hot within her,
She spoke and raised her hand;
"Shall sacrifice be vain, and wrong a winner
Triumphant in the land?
The steadfast soul that made the sires so glorious,
The faith wherein they met
Power's onset fierce, and rose o'er death victorious—
Say, can the sons forget?

"What are the fleeting troubles of the present
To storms that wrecked the past,
That we should see to-day the humblest peasant
His birthright from him cast?
See! through misfortune's sullen cloud appearing,
A ray of hope's fair sun—
Nay! courage! Stand but firm, each other cheering,
And soon the field is won.

"The past—that old, old story of endurance
No pain, nor fear, could shake—
Each word that cheers the present with assurance
Of morn about to break—
The future, which its harvest shall be reaping,
In freedom's happier lot—
By these, my children," falters Erin, weeping,
"I charge you, leave me not!"

—*Dublin Nation.* VERA.

Wit and Humor.

A Nevada Indian is going through life with the sweetly beautiful name of Drifting Goose.

"HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY."—In the present day a life insurance policy is considered better, for you can borrow money on it!

SOMETHING LIKE A ONE.—Why is a man who kicks out right and left like an ancient robber? Because, don't you see, he is a *free booter*!

GOODNESS!—When a volunteer goes to Wimbledon to which of the law courts does he direct the cabman to drive him? Why, of course, "*to the Common, please!*"

The pastor of a church in America is reported to have prayed the other Sunday for the absent members who were "prostrate on beds of sickness and chairs of wellness."

THE GENTLE ANSWER.—Have you got the rent ready at last? No, sir; mother's gone out washing, and forgot to put it out for you.—Did she tell you she'd forgotten? Yes, sir!

"It seems to me," said a traveller beyond the Mississippi, "that a very large proportion of the inhabitants in this region are military officers." "Yes," responded one of the bystanders, "the major part of them are."

A member of a school-board not a thousand miles away visited a school under his jurisdiction. When asked to make some remarks, he said:—"Well, children, you spells well and reads well, but you hain't got still."

YOUTHFUL OBJECTION TO SOAP AND WATER.—Master Jack: How often are the clothes washed, Emma? Laundry maid: Once a week, Master Jack; Only once a week!—then the clothes are much luckier than sis and me, if that's all the washing they get.

THE GOLDEN RULE.—"Would you like me to give you a shilling?" asked a little boy of a gentleman he met in the street. "To be sure I would," was the reply. "Very well then," said the boy, "do unto others as you would others should do unto you."

SAFE.—A Dutchman was relating his marvellous escape from drowning when thirteen of his companions were lost by the upsetting of a boat, and he alone was saved. "And how did you escape their fate?" asked one of his hearers. "I tid not co in te tam pote!" was the Dutchman's placid answer.

GOING FOR THE "BRUSH."—People are going into ecstacies now about the excellence of the "Brush" electric light. But surely they don't forget that a new broom, and we suppose a new "Brush" also, sweeps clean! We shall see, though, whether the "Brush" Light will long continue *comb-il-faut.*

A young lady, who has been married a short time, lately told a "bosom friend" that there was only one thing more astonishing than the readiness with which Ned gave up smoking when they became engaged, and that was the rapidity with which he took to it again after they were married.

VERY HEROIC.—Like the generality of kings and conquerors, Frederic the Great had a most philosophic indifference to death—in others. In one of his battles a battalion of veterans having taken to their heels, he galloped after them, bawling out, "Why do you run away, you old blackguards? Do you want to live for ever?"

THE PLACE FOR MEDDLESOME ONES.—A man having announced that he was once in a community where they all minded their own business, his statement was doubted, and he was called upon to tell where it was. "It was on board a ship at sea," he said; "and the passengers were all too sick to meddle with one another's affairs."

A CLEVER BOY.—A farmer's wife, in speaking of the smartness, aptness, and intelligence of her son, a lad six years old, to a lady acquaintance, said—"He can read fluently in any part of the Bible, repeat the whole catechism, and weed onions as well as his father." "Yes, mother," added the young Hopeful, "and yesterday I licked Ned Rawson, throwed the cat into the well, and stole old Hinckley's gimlet."

TELLING THE TRUTH.—A reader of the *New York Journal of Commerce* who desired an opinion in regard to the propriety of telling a lie, under certain circumstances, got the following reply:—Even a person who asks an impertinent question is entitled to the truth. That truth may be that the one addressed does not wish to give the information sought, and this would be a very proper answer. An impertinent busybody importuned a young lady with the question, "What shall I say to people who ask me if you are going to be married?" "Say the truth," the girl promptly replied. "Yes, and what is the truth?" continued the questioner eagerly. "That you know nothing about it!" was the conducive answer.

Medical.

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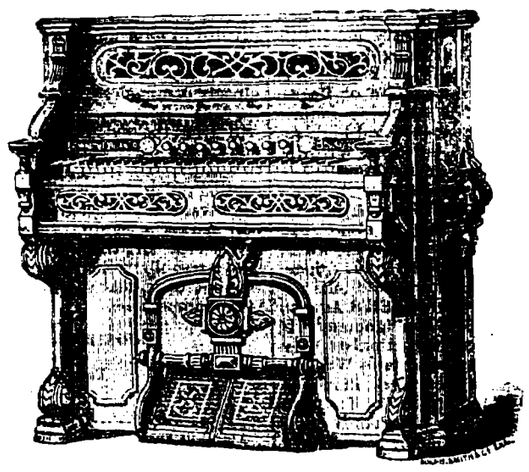

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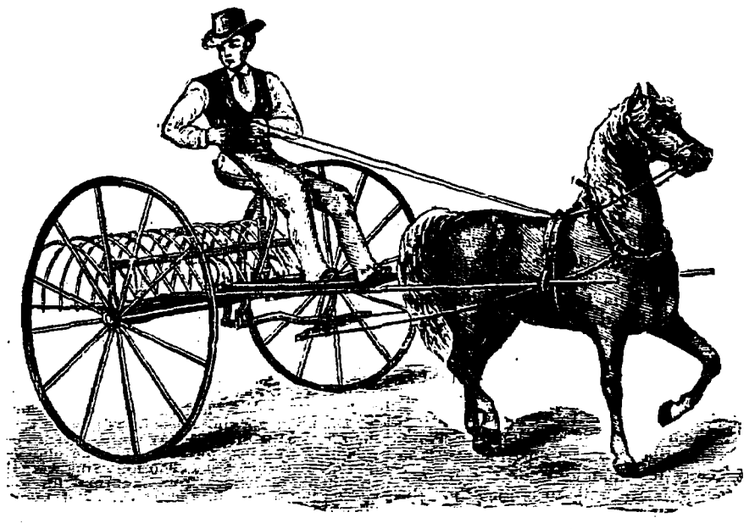

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