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#### THE SONG OF THE SEA.

The song of the sea was an ancient song. In the days when the earth was young; The waves were gossiping loud and long. Ere mortals had found a tongto; The heart of the waves with wrath was wrung. Or soothed to a circu strain, As they tossed the primitive isles among. Or slept in the open main.

Such was the song and its changes free. Such was the song of the sea.

The song of the sea took a human tone
In the days of the coming of man;
A mournfuler meaning swelled her mean,
And fiercer her riots ran;
Because that her stately voice began
To speak of our human wees;
With music mighty to grasp and span
Life's tale and its passion-threes.
Such was the song that it grew to be,
Such was the song of the sea.

The song of the sea was a hungry sound
As the human years unrolled;
For the notes were hoarse with the doomed and drowned,
Or choked with a shipwreck's gold;
Till it seemed no dirge above the mould
So sorry a story said
As the midnight cry of the waters old
Calling above their dead.
Such is the song and its threnody,
Such is the song of the sea.

The song of the sea is a wondrous lay,
For it mirrors human life;
It is grave and great as the judgment day.
It is torn with the thought of strife:
Yet under the stars it is smooth and rife
With lovelights everywhere,
When the sky has taken the deep to wife
And their wedding day is fair—
Such is the ocean's mystery,
Such is the song of the sea.

R. E. BURTON in O

R. E. BURTON in Ottawa Evening Journal.

#### LETTER TO COUSIN CARYL.

Dear Cousin Caryl,-Here are some unpretending verses I have come across, written estensibly for little people, that to my mind contain half the philosophy of life:-

"I'm only in the country for a stay,"
Said he (a little town bird,)
To her (a little brown bird,)
In course of conversation one fine day.

'I think a country life is very slow:
There's really no variety,
You never see society,
You might as well be buried, don't you know.

In town there are so many things to do; You cut a thousand capers,
You see the daily papers—
I think I'd live in town if I were you."

Said she—"I don't envy you town life;
The village children love me,
The blue sky is above me,
And every day is free from care and strife.
I think," said she, "it is a thousand pities
That little birds should live in great big cities."

Man is truly gregarious, as we learned to say in the little red school house or in the big brick school house, according to where we sat at the feet of learning. In commoner words, most of us are not less fond of playing at "follow your leader" after we come into man's—or woman's—estate that we were of "tag" when we were yet urchins. Why indeed should little we were of "tag" when we were yet urchins. Why indeed should little brown birds among humanity live where the storks and the peacocks find their greatest satisfaction? It would be politer but less than true to call this average disposition to live just as somebody else does unselfishness it really is, I suppose we must admit, the under-valuation of individuality. If we are suited to London or New York, and they are suited to us, then we belong there, but if we by nature belong to the hamlet with one shop and no post office why indeed should we be content to let our discriminating powen lie dormant, and be cajoled into living and moving and not having our real being where we do not belong? We are fond of saving "order is Heaven's being where we do not belong? We are fond of saying "order is Heaven's first law," but we surely make it apply too often to the arrangement of closets and chissonier drawers, and seldom, if ever, to the broad interests of

With the multiplication of newspapers confronting one—to change the subject—it is well to review the many ends other than the original one that they may be made to serve. To preserve house plants through a cold night, stand the pots on the floor, or better still on a table, in a circle; put a light lamp in the centre of the ring thus made, far enough from the leaves to prevent withering them, and all around outside of the plants pin a couple of layers of newspapers. A soft, old newspaper crumpled up is a capital thing wherewith to "rub off" a stove at intervals between the black-leading processes. Newspapers spread between two quilts of a frosty night are warmer than any blanket. Spread under a carpet of wool, straw or oil cloth they even up irregularities in the floors, save the carpet, and keep out the draughts that work otherwise through poorly-laid floors. A newpaper or two folded and laid between one's shoulders back and front, under Drhousestolet.

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Printing donequickly,
and for wrapping up garments to be seen and for wrapping up garments to be seen and for wrapping up garments to be seen at 161 Hollis Street. one's coat, are equal to an extra wrap in a cold ride. Moths do not like printer's ink, and newspapers are therefore valuable for lining trunks, etc. and for wrapping up garments to be stored away. And so on; so be duly