

THE FADED VIOLET.

You gave it me long years ago
In the shadowy evening time,
While the clouds stole round the mountain side
And the bells rang out a merry chime,
The blossoms listened at our feet,
The trees stoop'd from above;
You said, "This flower will say to me
All that my heart says—'Love.'"
'Tis long ago; but I have yet
That little faded violet.

And life was at its blithest then;
The world no'er seemed so bright
For the sweetest story ever told
I listened to that night;
And often, often, when alone
I've kissed my violet blue,
And said, "E'en as I keep my flower
So will my love be true."
Ah, me; I have it hidden yet,
That little faded violet.

We parted long, long months ago,
With not a sign to tell
That once in far-off happy days,
We two had loved so well.
We parted with a few cold words—
We two who oft had said
Not all the world should come between,
Ah, well; the love was dead—
The love was dead; but yet, but yet,
I keep my faded violet.

—St. James's Magazine.

Our neighbors of the United States claim to be the foremost in civilization, and political institutions. The following detailed narrative from the *Army and Navy Journal* will not tend to support the claim of superior civilization, and betrays a total laxity of legal administration, with a want of Executive force, disgraceful in the highest degree.

If anything could shew the superiority of monarchical institutions, it would be the difference of law and order in the border Provinces within 300 miles of which the following outrages occurred, where life and limb is as safe as in London:

Fort Gibson.—A despatch from Chicago April 21, announces that Lieutenant General Sheridan has ordered General Grierson with two companies of infantry to occupy Fort Gibson, and capture and drive out the murderers and marauders in Indian Territory. It is expected that this action of the Government will restore confidence between the settlers and the peaceable Indians on the borders of Arkansas. The Fort was abandoned by the order of General Pope, but the terrible affray reported from Fort Smith shows the necessity of soldiers in that section. The affray referred to occurred on April 15th. On the 11th instant a white man named J. J. Kesterson, living in the Cherokee nation, filed information before United States Commissioner Churchill against one Proctor, who, he stated without provocation shot his wife dead, and then fired his revolver at Kesterson, the ball striking just above the left eye, before he could fire again Kesterson escaped. It is further stated that Proctor was undergoing trial for the murder of his wife at the Court house in the Snake district at about fifty-seven miles northwest of here. A writ was issued and the Deputy Marshals were instructed to go to the Court house and remain till the trial was over, and if he was not convicted, to arrest him on the other charge. Proctor is known to be a desperado and it being in the neighborhood where Deputy Marshal Bentz was killed a little over a month ago—where, in fact a Deputy Marshal is shot almost "on sight," it was necessary that a strong posse should be sent. The party also had writs for the murderers

of United States Deputy Marshal Bentz, who are supposed to be in the immediate vicinity, and intended to resist arrest. Monday morning April 15, Deputy Marshals with a posse of nine men arrived at the Indian Court house near Duchtown, dismounted, hitched their horses, and quietly walked toward the east end of the house in file by twos. They stopped at the corner, and Beck, one of the posse, stepped around to the front door and looked in. Seeing a large number of people inside armed to the teeth he turned immediately to come away; but not before he was fired upon and dangerously wounded. At the same time a volley was poured from the court house upon the Marshal's force without, who then commenced to return the fire. They were at great disadvantage, as the attacking party were under shelter inside the Court house. It appears that Beck had some friends inside the Court-house, who, when they saw him fall, opened fire on his (Beck's) enemies inside, and presently the fighting was general. It was brief, but terrible in its result. Of the Marshal's force, seven out of the eleven lay dead, and of the assailants three. Some sixteen or seventeen are reported wounded—some mortally, including Marshal Owens, Proctor, the woman killer and desperado was guarded by eleven of his personal friends, who would not see him convicted. The Sheriff was killed and the Judge received three buckshots in the knee. Indeed, it appears from the sudden and fierce assault upon the Marshals force, that the people inside the Court house had been fully informed of their approach and were prepared for them. The officials had instructions to make a demand for Proctor in case of his acquittal, and expected some resistance should they attempt to arrest Proctor after his acquittal. But for the murderous volley on their first approach, they were not prepared, hence their slaughter. Immediately upon receipt of this information at Fort Smith, Ark., a reinforcement of thirty mounted men was sent out.

The following description of the constitution and decorations of the "Order of St. Michael and St. George" will be interesting to many of our readers as they may possibly attain the honor of earning the distinction, which has already been conferred on several Canadian officers for meritorious services in the field.

It is copied from the *European Mail* of the 1st May:

The Order consists of three classes, and is at present restricted, the first class to twenty five, the second to sixty, and the third to one hundred. Either class, however, can be supplemented by legislative enactment, if occasion should require. The reigning sovereign is the chief of the Order, and a prince of the royal blood, descended from George I., is to be nominated Grand Master of the Order. The Duke of Cambridge now holds this most important office. It is ordained that in all solemn ceremonies the Knights Grand Cross, and the second and third class in their degree, of this order shall have place and precedence next that, and immediately after the Knights Grand Commanders, &c. of the most exalted Order of the Star of India.

The following relates to the qualifications for the Order:—

It is ordained, that the persons to be admitted into this most distinguished order

shall be such natural born subjects of our Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland as may have held or shall hereafter hold, high and confidential offices within any of our colonial possessions, or such other natural born subjects of our Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, as may have held or shall hereafter hold high and confidential offices, or may render extraordinary and important services to us as Sovereign of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in relation to any of our colonial possessions or who may become eminently distinguished therein by their talents, virtues, loyalty or services, or who now are, or hereafter may be appointed officers of this most distinguished Order."

The following will give you some idea of the character of the insignia of the Order:—

The Knights Grand Cross shall upon all great and solemn occasions and at all investitures of the Order appointed by the sovereign, wear mantles of Saxon blue satin, lined with scarlet silk, and tied with two cordons of blue and scarlet silk and gold, on the left side of which mantles shall be embroidered a representation of the Star of a Knight Grand Cross of the Order, which shall be composed of seven rays of silver, between each of which shall issue a small ray of gold, over all, the Cross of St. George, Gules; and in the centre of the said star, within a circle azure, whereon is inscribed in letters of gold the motto "Auspicium Melioris Aevi," a representation of the archangel St. Michael holding in his dexter hand a flaming sword and encountering Satan. The Knights Grand Cross shall on these solemn occasions also wear round chapeaux which shall be of blue satin lined with scarlet, turned up in front, and embroidered thereon the Star of the Order heretofore described, which chapeaux shall be adorned and surmounted by three white ostrich feathers, and in the centre one large black ostrich feather. And we do further command that on all other occasions whatsoever, the Knights Grand Cross shall wear the Star of the said order embroidered upon the left side of their coats or outer garments and that they shall also wear at all investitures and other solemn ceremonies of the Order, as well as on all days usually termed "Collar Days," a collar of gold, composed alternately of lions of England royally crowned, of Maltese crosses, and of the cyphers S. M. and S. G.; having in the centre of the said collar, our Imperial Crown over two winged lions, passant gardant, each holding in his forepaw a book and seven arrows; and at the opposite end there shall be two similar lions, all of which shall be of gold, excepting the crosses, which are to be enamelled white, the whole linked together by small gold chains. To the said collar shall hang the badge of the order, which shall be a gold cross of fourteen points, enamelled, argent, edged, gold, having on one side thereof in the centre within a circle, azure, whereon is inscribed the motto "Auspicium Melioris Aevi," in letters of gold, a representation of the archangel St. Michael, holding in his dexter hand a flaming sword and encountering Satan; and on the reverse within the said circle and motto, a representation of Saint George armed on horseback, with a spear, encountering a dragon, which badge shall be ensigned by our Royal and Imperial Crown, gold. On all other occasions the said Knights Grand Cross shall wear the said badge suspended to a richly watered Saxon blue ribband, of the width of four inches, with a scarlet stripe passing from the right shoulder to the left side.