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CARD THE FIRST.
The Public-Tarnt: the juggler introduces:-the Juggler, as who is better known to the public?
Tarot is not with the matter-of-fact procession, he will wander over the Public's highwiry hut is in no hurry : into the private fields of Art and Literature that skirt it; hut he cures not to settle down and build fencers
A vagrant who has ideals, who would like all mankind to breathe freely and deeply, and to live intensely : who is criticul, but from the standpoint of the neglected.

TAROT
page

## THE MERRY-GO-ROUND.

Into the mystical coasm of vight-Course-true, as the stag-scenting hound:
Dizzily whirled,
Gripped and hurled,
Yet, free, in its strong, Titan bound; Breastiag and cresting each billow of night, Swung hy the rychmical fingers of lightThe world is a merry-go-round.

Slowly, the scroll of th' en.olding gloom Unclasps, and, with shuddering bound, Into the death, Quivers a breath The master-key, inystory tound! Cleaving the close-fiting wall of the womb, Weaving its close-webhing pall for the tombLife, too, is a merry-go-mond.

Comedy, tiagedy, parit y, crime, Leashed, nerik and neck. through each round; Champ and rattle, Tramp and battleA way, in the fair-glare, drowned. Way! for the shame, in the glitter begilt : Way! for the Name, that to-morrow, will tilt : Way! Why! for the Merry-go-ronnd. Guynne Serfen.


TAROT
PAOF:

## THE OMADHALN.

Old and lonely and crazy ! he was a strange-looking creature. Long ragged hair hung about his shoulders, his figure was tall and gannt and on his face there was a whated look. The old frieze coat had a groy fringe flying about wrisi and neck. Most of the bright pewter buttons were gone from it and long threads straggled in their place. It was n poor shelter against the raw winds of winter. His hat, riniless, rusty, shockingly shabby, rested far back or the gray head, above the haggard eyes that had more than a hint of madness in them. His lean hand was always thrust in his breasi, whence issued at intervals soft. cooing sounds. His brigues red for want of greasing, creaked when he moved, like ancient engines out of gean. Poor Shamus ! with his peasart's face lighted with the strenge greatness of madness, with spiritual fires burning deep in his blue eyes, with all his white. country soul shining through those wonderful, crazy orbs. Poor old Shamus! tired, hungry, gloriously happy, asking a "charity" at this door and that. never denied food or shelter among the strangely hospitable people of a forlorn little island.

And so he came one night to the wediting. The priest and the landlord and the "quality" were there in "the roor" eating roast goose and potatoes. A live gocse carkled her hopes from a hamper under the bed, and a hen chorussed a maternal ode from her nest in a distant corner. Outside in the kitchen the couples were dancing to the drone of the hagpipes, and a young man, undaunted, was raising his voice

TAROT

Page

in the twenty-seven verses of "The Red-haired Man's Wife." Suddenly the strange, soul-tortured face of the Omadhaun appeared in the doorway. Gaunt nunger stared from his hoilow eyes and quaked upon his lips. The suddest sight he was in that place of merriment and youth, that ever merriment and youth had looked upon.
A hush fell over the people, the pipes stcpped dioning.

- Tis Shamus, the crathur! God be good to us! Come in alanna. Shure 'tis wolcome you are an' the doves is, entirely "
But he shook his head.
"Thank ge kindly ma'am," he said in his queer rusty voice "but Hhwmis has more to attind to this n'ght than he has the time for. There's the hurds," he added timidly. "The crathurs can't ax for theirselves. They do be hungry."
A dozen hands went to his help.
" Nay, now," said the old creature, " lave their food to ine. I'll be afther feedin' thim outside. I'm comfortable ma'an, thank ye" he added to agood woman who wanted hin to sit to $n$ full dish of bacon and greeus. "Shure I'm God's Omadhaun, the priest kays, sn' safe enough thanks he to (rod."
And they danced the night out and the dawn in and forgot him.
As the day broke greyly someone gring ontside baw Shamus leaning up against the hay stack.
" Shamus," said he.
But the daft inan was sleeping. The doves were wheeling softly above, all but one tender creature, who, more luving than the rest peered timidly from

TAROT
PAGE
4
the sleeper's breast.
"Shamus," said the man again, and he touched him. Then he lifted his hat.
"God be merciful to the dead," he said.
And that was ail. And only-ef all Shamus' little world -the doves were lonely. There, at last, in the .ad nigat-time, forgotten and uncared for by all others, frod had remembered, and had stooped to 1 lis Fool.

Kathleen Blake Watking.


WOODI AND.
FLIEANOK DOUGEAS.
BREATH FROM THE WOODIAND.
Comes to me in the city's crowded street, Or, mid the struggles of the busy mart, Like touch of some cool hand upon my heart, An odorous memory of the woodland sweet, Once riore I wandel far from haunts of men. And. in the glades I monn, a child again.
Ifor Ryys.
TAROT

## THE LAKE OF THE DEVILS.

Darkness pregnant with mystery, shade glooming on shade.
Hushed in its cradle of primeval rocks; calm after its forgotten ages of tempest, lies the Lake of the Devils.
The vault of heaven is darkly luminous; the surface of the waters catches the reflection of the myriad stars: the tiny ripples pass them one to the other in quiet play, or murinur on the pebhly heach.
Slowly the full moon swings clear of the black and ragged piunacles which challenge beaven to the eastward. Fantastic craigs steal into view as the weird light illumines the silent expanses. Now the wavelets forsake their play with the tiny stars ; they suize the bright reflection of the great round moon: they scatter it like quicksilver ; they bear it, i! long procession to the watcher's ieet.
A ghostly moving amid the tall dead trees; a murmur from the gloomy forests on the farther shore; a whispering frou the soaring craigs, where the silent glaciers turn their cold white faces to the stars. The mists slowly cirole, borne on the wings of the night wind, then pass in pallid show to he lost in the gaping jaws of some still unillumined canyon.
Brighter grows the light, cheerily blow the breezes; merrily the waters splash, flinging spray of emeruld and brilliants on the whispering shore. Passing beautiful is the Lake of the Devils.
In days long gone, when the white men werefew and the Indians lived in plenty, young White Horses left his lodge in the mountains, to ride alone out unts

the plains, where stood the villages of his people. White Horses was contented as he drummed with his moccasined heels the fat sides of his pinto and swung his quirt to and fro. He croosed it quaint cadenceas he rode, for his heart was big with things. The soft clouds drifted for White Horses; the breeze sang to White Horses; the game oll the mountains was for White Horses, and the world wis very good. Hotter blazed the midday sun: the breeze was hushed: As he drew nigh the lake the sky was darkened, a distant rumble shook the mountains. White Horses shuddered ha knew not why. There was a slipping. a rushing, a crash and a blackness. When he rwoke. the world spun round with pain, the blood from an open wound blinded his eyes, the pinto was dead from the fall. White Horses staggered on, up and ever up the rocky trail that wound above the glowmy waters of the lake. The heavy sky settled down, the air was dead, the rain fell in hig drops, phut! phut! Of a sudden there was a great light amd a roar that stunned. The furious winds tore the tender leaves from the young shrubs, the driving rain blinded and hissed, the lightnings flickered, the thunder crashed, the Indian cowered in terror. There was a lull, the tumbling mists beneath were rent in sunder, revealing fearful shapes that held high curuival upon the seething waters. Blacker grew the storm ouce more, fiercer fiashed the lightnings, faster swirled the mists They irse and rose; they grew and grew ; they took shape, a nameless shape, which reached out a cold hand toward White Horses. He tried to shriek, but no voice came; mocking laughter mingled with the storm roat. Thedarkness swallowed him uputterly

TAROT
page

When his soul returned the sum was sinking behind the mountains and the suirits of peace and silence blessed the earth.
Passing berutiful is the Lake of the Devils. The breezes rutfle the surface the sun shines down; emerald and purple, opal and ruby steal in rainbow pircession over the deep. The great trees nod anll bow, rs they whisper one to the other on the mighty slopes: of mysteries too deep for mortals; the scarted rocks still hold their secret. Only the Indian knows that the soul of $a$ devil often lurks under beantiful things, The white men build their huts there, despite the legead-but white men are fools. John Clarke Inne.s.


TAROT
PATE

## THE RFALM OF VAIN REGRET.

A sojoumier in the realm of Vain-regret, Which lieth near the country Might-hatve-been. I wander, where the woodland branches green In sunkissed arches o'er my head are met, While all the pathway dancing shadows fret. The stream flowe, singing on its way unseen, And ever, its sweet cadences between, 1 hear a voice which says, "Forget. forget."

The day's bright sun is soon obscured by night, The stream sings always of the and grey sea To whose embrace it must return at last; The ghosts of long-past days crowd on my sight. From whose drear presence I can never flee Till over every scene a glonm is cast. John Kel.lick-Bathuret.


TAROT
PAGE


PAST.
" Bomething is lost Io me," she mid, "that nevermore will be my very orrn,
Something nas swiftly slippid through my hert's door and to the winds has flown.

- Loss was the kindest thing that fate could sendsome jiys we may not keep--
And yet because this is the vely end. I needs." she said " must weep.
" Feeling my heart so empty and so chill- there is no glow to-right,
No wakening of the old time, tender thrill, no pulsiug of cielight.
". When drath hides from our eyes a much-lowed face wo let our tears fall fast,
And then, we take ench sigu, each ling'ring trace tund seal it up-s:, --• Past.'
"Aad I most put the memories awry - the toys love left behind;
The sweets we shared upoll ia summer day; the kiss, : he faith so blind-
I was so proud, so rich, a while ago, and now I am so poor,
Ob, empty heart! there's nothing now to do" she maid. " but close the door."
Jfan Blefufert.
TAROT
page



## AN AMISH WOOING.

In a Dutch muse, with his hands far down in his capacious pockets, trudged Amish Johannes Hockelkexser. Crunching the snow, his heavy cowhides, well greased, made music on the frosty night air -at least so it sremed to Johannes: for Johannea was in love. Hannah! Hanmah! crunched the boots, wnile visions of the great brick fireplace with its tlazing logs and Hannah beside it, rose before him. At last, after a walk of about a mile, Johannes arri ved at the home of Amish Hinnnah Baum. The sheep dog runs to meet him and licks the half hours labor off his boots, as "Dad" and " Mam" Brum welcome him to a place beside the fire. Hannah, the while has brought him a good cup of coffee and some coffee cake-"Es ist heute kalt, gel Johrnnes?" asked Dad Baum. "Ja" replies Johannes with his mouth full of coffee cake and of Hannah's baking too-ard his big Dutch heart. thumping like a drum. And why not? Hannah was looking at him from under her dark eyelashes; for Hannah was comely, so was Johannes for that matter, although his hair was cut around the rim of crock, and his clothes ill-fitting ay made by Main Hockelkesser. "Ich gehe zu Bett" said Mam Baum. "Ich Auch" zaid Dad. "Gute nacht" said all, and the big tire cracked and blazed, giving light as well as warnth, for Mani Baum had taken the candle. The uneasy creak of Mam's rocking chair, now occupied by Hannah. the grit of Johannes' cowhides on the stones in front of the fireplace, and an occasional splutter of the fire, for quite a time, were the only sounds heard. Hannah thumbed her apron, while Johanues searched his brain for subject matter. At last, after half an hour of silence. "Dad got some pigs to-day," said Johannes. "That is gord," said soft-voiced Hannah. "yee, and Dad will give me some, and a hundred acres of land tor," con-

tinued Johannes, determined not to let the conversation lag, and at the same time put his future prospects in the very best light. "Say Hannah," went on Johannes, sumewhat shyly, "how do you like my new ciothes? Mam wade them, and all froun my own sheep's woul." "I like them,' said Hannsh, wishing, in her heart, that it would soon be her task if only to put on the hooks and eyes : for it hai come to her ゃars that. Nancy Ktantz had sewred them on, while on t visit to Mam Hockelkesser's, and she wondered if Johannes inad a soft spot in his heart for Naucy. "Drd and Mam said that I was to go and see you," went on Johannes, growing bolder. "Did you want to conse?" venturad Hannah. "Yés, said Johannes. getting very red, "are you glad, Hannah s" "Yes Johannes." At last, the ice was broken, and the way for Johannes was clear ; so, while he piled some more logs on the fire, Hannah went into her chamber, adjoining the hig kitchen. Right merrily biazed the flre, the flames leaping bigh into the air, cansing the shadow of Man's old rocking chair to dance on the wall. A quiet, dreaury smile was on the face of Johannes, and a vision of home, occupied ly himself and $H$ innat, with his farm well stocked. and all, yes, all for him and Hannah! "Come Iohannes," said a bashful voice, and Johannes went to court as only Amish do. The logs nad almost burned away, and the grey dawn was stealing through the window, as Johannes starterd acrose the fields for home. Hannah sleepily, felt a warm liss on her lips, and dreamed of Johennes. And Johannes was glad, and the cocks crowed right joyously, at least, so thought Johannes. as he stole into the house, wakened Man Hockelkesser and told her the news. And glad was tine day in a year, as Mam Hoctelkesser aud Mam Raum sang an Amish lullaby and welcoraed the leginning of a new generation.
Carl Ahriens.
TAROT
PAGE


## PACH

STEPNIAK :
GOKE PERBONAL AND UTHKH NOTES.
Sergius Michaelovitch Kravchinsky, better known as Sergius Stepniak, was born in 1852 in South Eiussia. One of his parents was White Russian, the othor Ukranian. While he was still young his parents migrated to Italy and there Stepniak acquired some at least, of the revolutiondry ideas with which afterwards his mind was filied.
At twenty, Stepniak returned to Russia and became an officer of artillery. He quickly iıstituted a propaganda of liberal idens, and succeeded in forming a grcup of artillery officers who becisme an imporcant force in the Revolutionary movement. Later he carried his propaganda among the workingmen if St. Petersburg, lectured to them on history and indoctrinated them with Marxist economics. With his friend Rogachoff, also a man of powerful physique, he made a walking tour among the Russia: peasan-try--" a tour which has passed into a legend of how two giants preached liberty to the persants.' In 1878 he took an active part in the Revolutionary movement ; and he was selected by the Teriorist organization which preceded the formation of the Narrdnaia Volis and the Expcutive Committee, to execute General Mesentzef, chief of the political police. On August 4th, 1878, Stepniak shot General Mesentzef witis a revolver in the forenoon and in the open stree' ia St. Petershurg. Oblivious of personal risk; Stapniak did not seek to leave the country; but his comrades, for the purpose of ensuring his safety, induced him to go ahroad on an unimportant mission. He visited Russia surreptitiously several times during subsequent years. He lived in Switzerland, in Paris. and in Italy where he wrote his Underground Russia in Italian and published it in an Italian Conservative newspaper. While in Italy, he identified himself with the popular novement there, and interested him-

TAROT
FAGE

self also in the Servian revolt against the Turkz. He went to England in 1854, and a few years later succeeded in forming the Society of the Friends of Russian Freedom, and later the Russian Free Press Fund. These organizations Stepniak employed for the puspose of disseminating information about Russian domestic affairs. This was done by means of a sinall newspaper called Free Russia, printed for and sent tc uewspapers. Stepniak had latterly two political aims; first, to urge upon the Russian people the necessity of securing popular representation in the Government, and second, to arouse public opinion in England to the point of bringing moral pressure to bear upon the Central Government of Russia. He held the riew that the Russian Government was by no means indifferent to the public opinion of Europe, and that eventually a constitution would be gained wbich would admit the Russian people to a share of the Centrai Government. In 1890 or 1891. Stepniak made a lecturing tour in the United States. The little colony of Russian political exiles in London forms an interesting and able group. It is now reduced to four, Prince Pierre Kropotkin, Tchaykovsky, Lazareff, and Felix Volkhovsky. Volkhovaky crossed Siberin and escaped by Vladivostock, passing through Canada and visiting Toronto on his way to England. WhileStepniak lived, heand Kropotkin were the best known and perhaps the most notable figures in the group. Kropotkin is a man of science and a philosopher. 'The range of tus scientific interest and his power of acute and profound generalization are diaplayed in his remarkable series of articles on Modern Science in the Nineternth rentury. His strenuous irstellectual honesty sul inis intense insight do not suffer him to entertain illusions about either autocracy or democracy. Stepniak was altogether different. He lived in a world of dreams which his imagination iurested with reality. The con-
stitution he imagined for Russia, was rather that of an artist then that of a politician. Py no means a typical agitator, he had none of the gifts of a demagogue, nor had he any capacity for intrigue. He was a single-minded and high-souled enthusiast whese lust thought was of himself. That he became involved in politics was an aceident of his time. It was his romantic and artistic temperament which led him to make history at five and twenty. It was the same temperament matured and mellowed, which at forty made him dream of a Russian constitution. It is as literary artist that Stepnick has most interest for us at the moment. To artistic instincts and a grave oriental innagination, he added rigorous method and a merciless faculty for criticism. His technical dexterity was growing steadily and he might have been trusted one day to produce a great drama or a great novel which would have in all probability entitled him to rank with Turgenief, Dostoyersky and Tolstoi. His canacity for artistic production is by no means represented in the too few writings in wh ch he gave play to this side of his nature. He had leonine powers of endurance; but sixtepu hous a day steadils emplosed in severe intellectual labor, chiefly in journalism, did not renduce to the making of works of ast. Yet he found time to write one novel of note and at least two dramas, one of which, written in German, was produced ai Vienna in 1891. His novel "The Career of a Nihilist," is not a pamphlet, it is a work of art into which he put much of his real soul. Here one sees the restraint and sheer skill characteristic of all good literary work and perhaps characteristic of Russian literary art ahove that of any other country. The novel was not and may never be popular: for the people do not understand reticence. They like the gaping statue, and death on the stage; while the artist is always best judged by what he refrains from saying and doing.

Not the least marvellous thing rixut this novel is that alone amung Stepniak's importunt writings, it was written in English and was not revised hy anybody. The quaintress of the idiom adds to its charm, and it is unfortunate that Stepniak, sensitive and easily discoaraged as the genaine artist is apt to be, should have yielded to the opinion of an usually good critic and ardent friend, W. E. Henley, and made up his mind not to repent the experiment. He decided to write his novels in Russian, French or Italian and to have them translated into English by some other hand. This was every wav unfortunate, ss it prevented him from immediately attacking another novel, and monpover would have inevitably resulted in loss, for what his work might have gained in merely formal accuracy of expression, it must have lost in verve and sportaniety.
Stepniak's principal works are "Underground Russia," "The Russian Pestsantry," "Russia Under the Tsars," "The Russian Storm Cloud," " The Career of a Nihilist," "Nihilism as it is," "King Stork and King Log: A Study of Modern Russia," "The Cottage by the Volga," a short stoty which recently appeared in The Golden Penny.
Apart from the blow to the Russian movement, especially on its constitutional side, the death of Stepniak by accident at. Christmas tide was a great loss to the intellectual life of London. Stepniak had many attached friends, and no one who knew him can ever forget his magnetic sympathy and extraordinary power of vividly interesting himself in the concerns of others even while his own were most engrossing. He was full to overflowing of fertile. suggestions about literary work with the keenest criticism of it. He was indeed a most generous, tender and benignant soul.

James Mayor.

## THE SYNTHESIS OF THE POEM.

There is scarcely anything of human art more universally admired and superficially praised, more atrociously libelled, or more generally inisunderstood than the poem. To many, the word "Poetry" is a synonym for whatever is emasculate, ephemeral, and utterly dissociated from our work-day worries. In the common estimate, an analysis and definition of poetry are as impossible as a description of the stuff of which imaginings are spun; and yet, I shall hazard the assertion that the Poem is the instrument of our highest and deepest instruction.
Our teacherx, and the books we love may be prosaic : hut still, what we cannot individually poetize, we cannot understand -we never know, nor have sympathy with, the skeleton of a trutis; its dry hones must be clothed and humanized.
The supposition that there can be more truth than pretry in a statement, is grounded in an entire misconception of what constitutes poetry. The dictum of Poe, that "all that, which is so indispensable in song, is precisely all that with which she (Truth) has nothing whatever to do," shows a perreption of only the limitations, which finite and sluggish minds have put upon the truth. There may be more of reason than of rhyme or rhythm, but it is this very reason which is the soul of all the verbiage; and, when we understand, it is that something of the truth, unites itself with what is true and unperverted in ourseives-that this soul-tone, vibrating from the strings and tubes of physical terms, comes wooing our reason-loving minds-knitting itself with our

truest self, and drawing us out to see, even in the ab. stract, problems of a Eucid, analogies that measure the height and depth and curvatures of human character.
To man there are no abstract truths-nothing can be true to us that is not truth for us. Our outlook is from our own, always central consciousness, do what we will, we conceive no iden, but in terms that picture a relation of the thing we contemplate, to otirselves.
The greatest, gravest truths, though at first the possession of only him who could stand and talk with God, have serried down to become the common property of all, and in their descent, have called to evers human capacity and faculty-
"- Deep calleth unto deep,"
So has the depth of the infinite above, called to the depth fashioned in man. Life calls and reverberates down every cranny and cavern of our Death, and echoes rise, and clothe the voice with something from our human emptiness. But, to take this recognizable shape, and to gain this living hold on man, it has ceased to be what it was to the prophet and seer high up on the mountain of God; it is not inspirational but resultant-springing back from something of our own consciousness-it has sprung into life and association with all our interests; and only in this humanly sympathetic way can truth be companionable to man.
To be continued.
A. Jno. ©leare.

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